

body the strikers are maintaining order and giving no occasion for police or military interference. The only aggressive movement on their part is a boycott, centering in Wilkesbarre, and directed at retail merchants, wholesalers and employees who lend their influence to the coal operators' interests. One factory, for instance, has closed down because the great majority of the employees refused to work with five who were relatives of non-union employees of the coal mines. A "citizens' union" has been formed in Wilkesbarre to prosecute the boycotters. But while the body of the strikers are keeping the peace, there are instances here and there of rioting. This is attributed to the "coal and iron police," a private police force employed and paid by the coal owners and under their orders, pursuant to a special law of the state. The companies began to recruit and arm this private force in May, before there were any indications of disorder. As early as May 29, over 1,600 had been commissioned, and within three days the number was doubled. Speaking of this force, President Mitchell, of the Mine Workers' union, was reported on the 4th as saying:

It is queer to see a lot of men, the majority of whom are absolutely irresponsible persons, garbed in the blue and brass of coal and iron police, stalking about the mines with guns on their arms, while the strikers have no thought of damaging the property of their employers. The power vested in the coal and iron police is not generally known. They are as much the private standing army of the operators as were the serfs of feudal barons. A ridiculous state law has made it possible for them, at such a time as this, to arm a mob of disreputable men, who will incite more trouble than they will prevent. In the strike two years ago these men actually visited the homes of strikers and compelled the poor, ignorant fellows by a show of authority and brass buttons to report to work at collieries against their will. The state fosters this system that might well shame the most tyrannical Russian laws.

Whether from irritation by this private police or other cause, some of the strikers appear from the reports to have become disorderly and riotous. Numerous instances are telegraphed of stoning nonunion workmen and shooting at "iron and coal" policemen by strikers or their sympathizers. In one case of shooting at Wilkesbarre the chief of the Wilkesbarre police made an investi-

gation and placed the blame on four of the guards employed by one of the collieries. On the 13th it was reported that peace then reigned throughout the anthracite region, and but little contrary to this has been reported since. The fifth week of the strike closed on the 14th, with 165,000 men and boys out. Some of the companies have begun eviction proceedings against their tenants who are on strike.

With a view to bringing the strike to a close, the New York Board of Trade requested President Roosevelt to appoint an arbitration committee to act under a law of Congress of 1888. The subject was discussed at a cabinet meeting on the 6th, when it was decided that the President could take no such action because the law in question had been repealed in 1898. But he directed the labor commissioner, Carroll D. Wright, to investigate the strike. Mr. Wright proceeded at once to make the investigation, and on the 12th delivered his report to the President. The nature of the report has not yet been disclosed.

Instead of coming to an early close, this strike now bids fair to extend so as to embrace all the coal mining interests of the country, bituminous as well as anthracite. As stated at page 119, enough organizations had united several weeks ago to compel President Mitchell to call a national conference of the United Mine Workers' Union of America to consider the question of a general strike. He has at length issued the call. The conference will meet at Indianapolis on the 17th of July. From present appearances the conference will have a majority of delegates in favor of striking.

Another strike, and one in which serious trouble has been reported, is that of the street car employees of Rhode Island (p. 140), which they are making against the companies to compel the latter to obey the 10-hour law of the state. The first acts of violence occurred on the 11th at Pawtucket, when a crowd attacked and demolished a car guarded by special deputy sheriffs. The governor thereupon sent a detachment of militia to Pawtucket, and on the 12th a car escorted by militia and guarded by special deputy sheriffs was bombarded by a mob with stones. The special deputies fired a volley in reply and

killed a boy of 12, who was in the crowd. It appears that the rioting was due primarily to the use of deputies. The mayor, following the successful example of the mayor of San Francisco (p. 56), had refused to man the cars with police, but the sheriff swore in employees of the company as special deputies and the governor supported them with militia. After the rioting of the 12th representations were made to the sheriff by citizens that the deputies accomplished no good purpose but only incited the crowds to violence, and on the 13th he withdrew them. The city became quiet immediately. But the militia remained, and disorder broke out anew on the 15th. In the course of the day the militia inadvertently invaded the neighboring city of Central Falls and threatened the inhabitants there, but withdrew upon the protest of the mayor who objected that he had not requested their services.

One of the great strikes has been settled, the victory being with the strikers. It is that of the International machinists in the Allis-Chalmers shop of Chicago, which was last referred to in these columns in vol. iv, at page 458. This strike was begun May 20, 1901, by the machinists of the United States and Canada. They demanded a nine-hour day with an increase of wages, 12½ per cent. (vol. iv, pp. 90, 105, etc.), sufficient to make the wages for nine hours the same as they had been for ten. In many shops settlements substantially on this basis were soon effected, but the Allis-Chalmers establishment held out. They had already conceded the nine-hour day, but were willing to increase wages only five per cent. So the strike dragged on for 13 months, with its long record of picketing, injunctions, assaults, etc., two persons having been killed, and was not settled until the 11th. In the settlement the employers have allowed a 55-hour week instead of a nine-hour day, have increased wages 11 per cent., and have recognized the union.

Once more it becomes necessary to report operations of the Mexican army against the Yaqui Indians. This Indian war, which began in the summer of 1899 (Vol. ii., No. 71 p. 8), is likely to culminate in the complete extermination of the Yaquis. The Yaquis are a remnant of the Aztec race. They live in the Mexican state

of Sonora, in the valley of the Yaqui, which empties into the Gulf of California, and are not savages, but in religion are Christian converts of Spanish priests and economically are industrious farmers and miners. Though physically strong and brave, they are a docile people. But they have never submitted to Mexican sovereignty, having retained their own laws and customs; and they have been resisting Spanish aggression for three centuries. In the effort to subjugate them the Mexican government is said to have lost 35,000 soldiers and spent millions of dollars. In July, 1897, they for the first time laid down their defensive arms and made a treaty with Mexico, in which they were guaranteed peaceable possession of the Yaqui valley. In return, outlying lands which they had claimed were to be thrown open to settlement under Mexican authority. This caused the present war. Mexican and American miners and land grabbers, with Mexican authority to enter these lands, encroached upon the rich mining regions of the Yaqui valley, and in consequence the Yaquis again revolted. The Mexican government has been engaged ever since in trying to subjugate them, and from time to time morsels of news about the war have leaked into this country around the Mexican censorship. The story may be followed in these columns in Nos. 71 p. 8, 72 p. 10, 73 p. 10, 78 p. 10, 94 p. 10, 102 p. 9, vol. iii, pp. 153, 602. The latest item, coming by way of Tucson, Ariz., on the 12th, is to the effect that troops of Gen. Torres' army have attacked a Yaqui village, guarded by 80 men, and massacred every one of the guard and 106 women and children. Only a few days before, there were reports of a battle between 2,000 Mexicans and 500 Yaquis, in which nearly all the Yaquis were killed. Col. Christy, the president of a Phoenix, Ariz., bank, who is recently from Sonora, is authority for the statement that all the Yaqui men and boys falling into the hands of the Mexican army are shot.

European news is meager and incomplete. The only important event with definite outline is the institution of legal proceedings against leaders of the new Irish movement—the United Irish league. As reported in April (p. 41), the British government had "proclaimed" nine Irish counties and two cities, which means that in these places public meetings were for-

bidden and trial by jury suspended. This move seems to have been ineffectual to suppress the "no-rent" agitation, and the landlords' association, in the name of Lord De Freyne, whose tenants in Roscommon county refuse to pay rent and have consequently caused him great loss, has taken out writs for conspiracy against John Redmond, John Dillon, W. J. O'Brien, Michael Davitt and others connected with the United Irish league's "no-rent" movement. The accusation is that the members of the league have conspired to injure De Freyne in his property rights. By the Irish leaders these proceedings are looked upon and welcomed as a concerted movement on the part of the Irish landlords; and they are so declared to be by prominent Irish landlords themselves.

NEWS NOTES.

—The National Association of Credit Men met on the 12th at Nashville.

—The Republicans of Tennessee nominated H. T. Campbell for governor on the 18th.

—The National Militia association met in convention at Baltimore on the 14th.

—Spain has agreed in cabinet council to recognize the Republic of Cuba, and will send a minister to the island.

—Dr. A. A. Ames, now serving his fourth term as mayor of Minneapolis, was indicted for bribery on the 17th.

—S. G. Gould was nominated for governor of Maine by the Democratic convention sitting at Bangor on the 17th.

—The annual communion service of Christian Scientists at Boston took place on the 15th. It was attended by about 13,000 people.

—The M. A. degree was conferred by Columbia university on the 11th upon Moses L. Frazier, a Negro born in slavery 42 years ago in New Orleans.

—A labor riot of large dimensions and threatening character broke out in Paterson, N. J., on the 19th in connection with the strike of silk weavers there.

—The court of appeals of New York has affirmed the conviction of John Most (vol. iv. pp. 435, 473) for publishing an essay defending the murder of crowned heads.

—Ex-President Grover Cleveland received on the 17th from the Augustinian college of St. Thomas of Villanova (Catholic) at Philadelphia, the degree of doctor of jurisprudence.

—The Republican convention of Nebraska met at Lincoln on the 18th, and, after endorsing President Roosevelt's

policy, especially with reference to the Cuban tariff question, nominated John Mickey for governor.

—On the 13th the supreme court of Mississippi sustained the constitutionality of the Noel primary law, under which all party nominations are required to be made at primary elections, nominating conventions being abolished.

—The statistics of exports and imports of the United States for the eleven months ending May 31, 1902, as given by the May treasury sheet, are as follows (M. standing for merchandise, G. for gold and S. for silver):

| | Exports. | Imports. | Balance. |
|---------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| M. | \$1,292,422,975 | \$829,952,130 | \$462,470,845 exp |
| G. | 48,177,425 | 48,078,788 | 98,637 exp |
| S. | 46,479,824 | 26,570,138 | 19,909,186 exp |
| | \$1,387,079,724 | \$904,601,056 | \$482,478,668 |

—Col. Arthur Lynch, an author and journalist and native of Australia, who served with the Boers in the South African war and while in the field there was nominated for parliament from Galway and afterward elected, was arrested on his arrival in England from France on the 11th upon a charge of treason. A preliminary hearing before a magistrate has been begun, but has not been concluded.

PRESS OPINIONS.

STRIKE VIOLENCE.

Chicago American (Dem.), June 18.—Order must be maintained in the anthracite coal fields. When strikers resort to violence they at once reinforce their employers with the whole power of the courts, police, militia and regular army. . . . Order and the security of person and property must be preserved whenever they are assailed. There can be no argument about that. The alternative is anarchy. So when strikers grow violent the practical effect of their violence is to change their antagonist. Capital comfortably retires from the battle, and the courts, police, militia and army take the fight off its hands. Violence would mean simply that the anthracite coal workers prefer to war with the state of Pennsylvania and with the United States government rather than with the coal trust.

THE ANTI-ANARCHY BILL.

Chicago Evening Post (Rep.), June 12.—The logic of the anti-anarchy bill would seem to justify an anti-lynching bill along the lines suggested by the former attorney general of Massachusetts. There is no apparent ground for a distinction between officers and citizens. Yet the Senate judiciary committee dismissed the anti-lynching bill as a proposed violation of state rights! If the committee was right then, the anti-anarchy bill is unconstitutional. If the latter act is valid, an act of Congress to try and punish lynchers would be valid. A government which can protect its "machinery" can protect its sovereignty. If not, why not?

CHICAGO POLITICS.

Chicago Chronicle (con. Dem.), June 18.—The Chronicle performs an unpleasant duty when it asserts that the ticket nominated by Mr. Burke at the recent convention of Cook county Democrats was placed in the field to be beaten, and that neither Burke nor any of his associates had any desire to nominate a ticket that would be elected. It is a notorious fact that the relations ex-