

taken irrespective of strikes and without recognition of the employes' organizations. On the next night, the 30th, the waiters, cooks and kitchen help at the Plaza, the St. Regis, the Astor, the Prince George, the Imperial and the Gotham hotels, and Shanley's and Louis Martin's restaurants and the Elks' Club, joined in the strike. Some of the employers forthwith sent to the registrars of Eastern colleges inviting students who are working their way through college and need additional funds, to act as waiters. Arrangements were made by others to bring Negro waiters from the winter resort hotels in Florida, Georgia and the Carolinas, and by others to employ girls. On the 31st the cooks and waiters at Sherry's, the Calumet Club, the Hotel Seville, the Marie Antoinette and the Great Northern walked out. The number of strikers out on the 31st was estimated at 4,000, and there were expectations of a spread of the strike to other cities, especially Chicago and Baltimore at the time of the Presidential conventions.



After his recent visit to San Diego, California, the Attorney General of the State was reported in the newspapers to have said that a special grand jury would be convened and that in his opinion both sides were now satisfied to let the law take its course. [See current volume, page 512.]



#### Presidential Campaigning.

The most important popular campaigning for the Presidential nominations closed with the primaries in New Jersey on the 28th. On the Republican side Roosevelt won all of the 28 delegates; on the Democratic side Wilson won all but four. The popular plurality for Roosevelt was about 16,000, and that for Wilson about the same. Mr. Roosevelt published a signed statement on the 3rd, in which he asserts it to be "the absolute duty of every progressive Republican to oppose the selection as temporary chairman at Chicago of any man put forward in the interests of the supporters of Mr. Taft in this contest." In the same connection and statement he says of Elihu Root, the candidate of the committee for temporary chairman:

In the past Mr. Root has rendered distinguished service as Secretary of State and Secretary of War. But in this contest Mr. Root ranged himself against the men who stand for progressive principles within the Republican party, that is, against the men who stand for making the Republican party in relation to the issues of the present day what it was in the days of Abraham Lincoln. He stands as the representative of the men and the policies of reaction. He is put forward by the bosses and the representatives of special privileges.

[See current volume, page 511.]

#### The Tariff Question in Congress.

Sixteen reactionary Senators absented themselves from the United States Senate on the 30th, in order to give the Democrats a majority on the House bill revising the iron and steel schedule of the protective tariff law. Their object was strategical. Regarding the Democratic revision of this schedule as having ignored the Republican principle of tariff revision—"differences in cost of production abroad and at home"—to which President Taft is committed, they desired to give the President an opportunity to write a veto message that would serve as a campaign document. Some of the progressive Republican Senators, on the other hand, wished to amend the House bill so as to make it a revision downward but with reference to differences in cost of production, thereby forcing the Democratic House to conform to the Republican principle or vote against revision and giving the President an opportunity to veto. In consequence of the absence of the reactionary Republican Senators, who if present would have been obliged to vote for the amendment or else against the bill (thereby casting the onus of defeating tariff revision upon the President's faction in the Republican party), the bill was carried in the Senate by 35 to 22. The absentees for tactical purposes were—

Brandegge (Conn.), Briggs (N. J.), Catron (N. M.), Crane (Mass.), Du Pont (Del.), Fall (N. M.), Gamble (S. D.), Guggenheim (Colo.), Lodge (Mass.), Nixon (Nev.), Penrose (Pa.), Richardson (Del.), Root (N. Y.), Stephenson (Wis.), Sutherland (Utah), Wetmore (R. I.).

The progressive Republicans who voted against the bill were—

Borah (Ida.), Bourne (Ore.), Bristow (Kan.), Cummins (Iowa), and Works (Cal.).

Senator Gronna of North Dakota, a progressive Republican, voted for the bill. Senator La Follette was absent from Washington.



On the preceding day the Republicans of the Senate had carried an amendment to this bill by 37 to 27, which would repeal the Canadian reciprocity law, under which print paper is admitted into the United States from Canada free. [See vol. xiv, pages 1001, 1028; current volume, page 324.]



#### American Report on the Titanic Disaster.

The United States Senate Committee for investigation of the loss of the steamship Titanic at sea, April 15, reported to the Senate on the 28th. Immediate responsibility for the disaster was laid to the captain of the ship, who went down in her, and who seems to have steamed at full speed through a region in which he had been warned that he would encounter ice. Responsi-