

The Railroad Shopmen's Strike.

An injunction issued on the 11th by a Federal judge, J. Otis Humphrey, in connection with the railroad shopmen's strike, is reported to be of sweeping character. There were reports of the imprisonment by Judge Foster of the Federal court at New Orleans, of Frank Grotzsch for contempt of court in having, as alleged, uncoupled a car from a locomotive. Of course there was no jury trial of the accused man on the question of guilt or innocence, nor any other trial except such as the Federal judge chose to give him. Also without jury trial William J. Mason was similarly sentenced to prison by the Federal court at New Orleans on the 13th for inciting a riot, and Philip Nugent for assault. Members of the International Association of Car Workers employed by the Illinois Central were reported on the 13th to have joined in the strike notwithstanding that their Association is not affiliated with the System federation and in spite of protests from their general officers. [See current volume, p. 1,053.]

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Lakes-to-Gulf Deep Waterway Convention.

At the sixth Deep Waterway Convention, which met at Chicago on the 12th and adjourned on the 14th, William K. Kavanaugh was re-elected as president; and after sessions in which an open outbreak of the factions was avoided, Leo Rassieuer as chairman of the resolutions committee reported a platform which was adopted unanimously. It repeats the Association's demand for a 14-foot minimum depth for the proposed waterway channel. The seventh convention is to be held at Little Rock, Arkansas, next year. [See current volume, pages 1,019, 1,045.]

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Progressive Republicans for La Follette.

Under the auspices of the National Progressive Campaign Committee, of which Walter L. Houser is secretary, a conference of Progressive Republicans began at the LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, on the 15th. It was called to order by George L. Record of New Jersey, who made a thrilling and unreservedly radical speech over which the enthusiasm of the other conferees had not subsided after adjournment. Senator Clapp was another of the speakers who aroused special enthusiasm by the frankness of his utterances. Other speakers were Senator Crawford of South Dakota, Walter Clyde Jones of Illinois, James Manahan of Minnesota, James R. Garfield and H. M. Rickey of Ohio. The conference was for the purpose of considering the advisability of naming a progressive candidate for the Republican nomination for President in order to meet the campaigning of President Taft for that place. It was a strongly representative body. Among those present in addition to the speakers named were

Fremont Older of California, C. E. Merriam of Illinois, Amos Pinchot of New York, Richard Crane III of Connecticut, Frederic C. Howe of New York, State Senator Sanborn and Representative Lenroot of Wisconsin. Thirty States were represented. Following are the resolutions adopted, without dissent:

The Progressive movement is a struggle to wrest the control of government in the nation and States from the representatives of Special Privilege and restore it to the control of the people. The issue is the same in all the States of the Union, although the problem may be presented in different ways. In the national field the control of government by Special Privilege is evidenced by the influence and the power of the reactionary leaders of both parties in checking or preventing the enactment of the Progressive policies pledged by the Republican party. The Progressive movement aims to nominate and elect as candidates of the Republican party men who will with sincerity and singleness of purpose represent its rank and file and carry out their will. The present condition of uncertainty in business is intolerable and destructive of industrial prosperity. It is worse than idle to leave the question of whether great business enterprises are legal merely to judicial determination. Industrial corporations should by affirmative legislative enactment be given definite rules of conduct, by which business conducted in accordance therewith shall be made safe and stable, while at the same time the interests of the public shall be fully safeguarded. We seek constructive legislation, not destructive litigation. We favor the ascertainment of the choice of Republican voters as to candidates for President by a Direct Primary vote held in each State, pursuant to statute; and, where no such statute exists, we urge that the Republican State committees provide that the people be given the right to express their choice for President. Constructive leadership being the urgent need of the time, it is necessary that Republicans support a candidate for President whose record gives the fullest assurance of the enactment and enforcement of sound progressive policies. La Follette of Wisconsin years ago found conditions in his State not unlike those of the nation to day. Under his leadership all opposition was overcome and there has been enacted in Wisconsin a system of laws that stand as models for legislation in all States in the Union. Laws have been passed in that State adequately regulating all public service corporations, equalizing the burdens of taxation, providing for direct nominations by the people, protecting legitimate business and capital honestly invested, promoting the welfare of labor—in short, real representative government has been restored. The record of Senator La Follette in State and nation makes him a logical candidate for President of the United States. His experience, his character, his courage, his record of constructive legislation and administrative ability meet the requirements for leadership such as present conditions demand. This Conference indorses him as a candidate for the Republican nomination for President and urges that in all States organizations be formed to promote his nomination.

[See current volume, page 804.]