

American registry for American-owned foreign-built ships engaged exclusively in foreign trade.

No tariff on foreign ship-building materials for use in this country.

Trust-owned ships prohibited from the canal.

Railroads prohibited from owning competing water way lines operating "through the canal or elsewhere," when such ownership is detrimental to the public welfare.

Interstate Commerce Commission authorized to investigate ownership of water lines by railways and sanction it where it is beneficial.

One-man government for Panama Canal and zone.

The Senate adopted the conference report on the 16th by 48 to 18. On that day the House adjourned in the midst of a strong fight against the report, but passed it on the 17th. It is now before the President. [See current volume, page 778.]



President Taft sent a message on the subject to Congress on the 19th, in which, while he does not say he will veto the bill because of the provision exempting American vessels engaged in the coastwise trade from toll charges, he leaves it uncertain as to whether he will or not if Congress fails to follow his recommendation that a provision be inserted declaring that—nothing contained in the bill shall be deemed to repeal any provision of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, or to affect the judicial construction thereof, or in any wise to impair any rights or privileges which have been or may be acquired by any foreign nation under the treaties of the United States relative to tolls or other charges for the passage of vessels through the Panama Canal, and that when any alien, whether natural person, partnership company or corporation, considers that the charging of tolls or the enforcement of any other regulation under and pursuant to the provisions of this act violates in any way such treaty rights or privileges, such alien shall have the right to bring an action against the United States for a redress of the injury which he considers himself to have suffered, and the District Courts of the United States are hereby given jurisdiction to hear and determine such cases and to decree the appropriate relief, and from the decision of such District Courts there shall be an appeal by either party to the action to the Supreme Court of the United States.



Federal Investigation of Labor Questions.

A Labor investigation bill, of which Senator Borah is the sponsor, was adopted by the Senate on the 15th. It provides for a commission of nine persons to be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, with full powers of investigation along the following lines:

General condition of labor in the principal industries, especially in those carried on in corporate forms; existing relations between employers and employees; effect of industrial conditions on public welfare, and the rights and powers of the community to deal therewith; conditions of sanitation and safety of employees and provisions for protecting their lives,

limbs and health; growth of associations of employers and wage earners and the effect of such associations upon the relations between employers and employees; methods tried in any State or foreign countries for maintaining mutually satisfactory relations between employers and employees; methods for avoiding or adjusting labor disputes through peaceful and conciliatory mediation and negotiations; scope, methods and resources of existing bureaus of labor and possible ways of increasing their usefulness; smuggling or other illegal entry of Asiatics into the United States or its Insular possessions; and the underlying causes of dissatisfaction in the industrial situation.

The Commission is to make its final report in three years from the enactment of the law.



Reactionary Executions in China.

Fears of the sincerity of the republican professions of Yuan Kai Shi, expressed at the time he was elected President of the new Chinese Republic last February, seem not to have been unfounded. Reports have come during the past week in regard to the execution of several generals of southern China, concerned in the opening of the late revolution at Hankow, and belonging to the more radical group of new China, headed by Dr. Sun Yat Sen. It is asserted that the generals were seized by order of President Yuan Shi Kai on the charge of being implicated in an alleged conspiracy against the Peking government; and that two were tried by drumhead court-martial at Peking and shot, while others were sent to Hankow in chains and there executed. The number of officers thus dealt with is not given. Upon dissemination of the news a great outcry rose throughout China, as a result of which Yuan Shi Kai is trying to fasten the blame on the Vice-President, Li Yuen Hung, and, fearing assassination, is surrounding himself with troops. [See current volume, pages 178, 706, 708, 709.]



After a stormy meeting on the 19th the National Assembly, sitting in Peking, resolved by a vote of 52 to 11 to petition President Yuan Shi Kai for a further explanation of the evidence on which General Chang Chen Wu and General Aeng Wei were seized and summarily executed. The petition set forth five of the charges which the government alleged in a manifesto had been proved, and then added rebutting comment. The Assembly requested President Yuan to answer within three days, and said that if his reply were unsatisfactory it would summon him to explain in person. If his personal explanation should prove unsatisfactory, the petition added, the House would impeach President Yuan or the whole Chinese government.



Upon learning of the executions Dr. Sun Yat Sen, radical leader and former provisional Presi-

dent of China, disregarding the warnings of friends who feared for his safety, left Shanghai on the 18th for Peking. General Huang Sing, who commanded the southern republican army during the revolution, and who first intended to accompany Dr. Sen, abandoned the journey because of its risks.

NEWS NOTES

—The Union of Canadian Municipalities is to hold its annual convention at Windsor, Ontario, on the 27th, 28th and 29th.

—The National Federation of Catholic Societies began its annual convention at Louisville on the 18th. [See vol. xiv, p. 876.]

—Jules Emile Frederic Massenet, musical composer, died at his home in Paris on the 13th, at the age of 70. Among Massenet's operas were *Manon*, *Le Cid* and *Thais*.

—General William Booth, the founder with his wife, the late Catharine M. Booth, of the Salvation Army, died at his home near London on the 20th, at the age of 83.

—Virginia Christian, a Negro girl less than 17 years of age, was killed by electricity at Richmond, on the 17th, under the laws of Virginia. Gov. Mann refused a deluge of appeals for mercy.

—Signatures to a woman suffrage petition under the public policy Initiative of Illinois are in circulation with a view to securing a vote at the coming election. [See current volume, page 397.]

—The National Negro Business League, of which Booker T. Washington is president, will hold its 13th annual session on the 21st, 22nd and 23rd, at the Institutional Church, 3825 Dearborn Street, Chicago. [See vol. xiii, p. 805.]

—Horace Howard Furness, Shakespearian scholar and author, died at his home near Philadelphia on the 13th, in the 79th year of his age. Dr. Furness' collection of Shakespeare material was probably the best private collection in existence.

—Friel Allen, one of the mountaineers charged with complicity in the Hillsville Court House murders, pleaded guilty to murder in the second degree on the 14th and was sentenced to eighteen years in the penitentiary. [See current volume, page 733.]

—The Orozco insurrectos in northern Mexico evacuated the city of Juarez on the 15th. A citizens' vigilance committee took charge of the city until the Federal troops should arrive. A victory over the Zapata insurrectos in southern Mexico was reported from Treinta on the 15th. [See current volume, page 780.]

—Mulai Youssef was proclaimed Sultan of Morocco on the 14th, in succession to his brother, Mulai Hafid, who had abdicated, as reported last week. The tribes in the Spanish zone in Morocco refuse to acknowledge the new Sultan, who is the creature of the French protectorate. A pretender to the throne, El Hiba, has appeared, and his support has proved sufficiently strong to have forced the French troops

to abandon one town. [See current volume, page 780.]

—Earthquakes continue in the vicinity of the region where Turkey in Asia and Turkey in Europe are closely opposite each other. The fatalities caused by the first severe shock on the 8th are now reckoned at 3,000 instead of 1,000. [See current volume, page 779.]

—An ultimatum presented to the Chicago traction companies on the 17th by the employes' committee having been rejected, the joint committee of the employes voted on the 18th to appeal to Mayor Harrison. They charge that the companies are acting in bad faith. [See current volume, page 779.]

—After a trial at Los Angeles, lasting nearly three months, Clarence S. Darrow of Chicago was promptly acquitted on the 17th upon an indictment charging him with attempted bribery of a juror in the case of the McNamara brothers whom he defended as principal counsel last year. [See current volume, page 491.]

—The age-long revolt of the Albanians in western Turkey in Europe is once more aflame. The permanence and bitterness of this revolt rests upon the fact that the Albanians are Christians under Mohammedan rule, and massacres of non-combatants are a hideous feature of this almost continuous war. The destruction of villages on both sides is reported in connection with the present uprising, which is located on the southern border of Montenegro. [See current volume, page 733.]

—Berrien county, Mich., including Niles, St. Joseph and Benton Harbor, was swept by the worst storm in its history, on the 17th and 18th. Fourteen inches of rain fell in less than 23 hours. Dams and bridges were swept away, and hundreds of acres of farm land flooded. The damage is put at \$1,000,000. A few deaths from lightning were reported. The storm seems to have had the peculiar torrential character shown so widely in the United States this summer, in all latitudes. [See current volume, page 733.]

—Dr. Montague R. Levenson, noted in connection with anti-vaccination, anti-vivisection, anti-imperialism, the Singletax, woman suffrage and other reform agitations, and Miss Ethel Mary Charlton, one time principal of a girls' high school at Tamworth, England, were married at Nice last spring. After attending the Anti-Vaccination Congress at Hamburg from the 5th to the 8th of September, they intend coming to New York, Dr. Levenson's home, where he expects to complete his "Atlas of Vaccinal Pathology" for publication in France.

—The bombardment of Managua, the capital of Nicaragua, by the revolutionary generals, Mena and Zeledon, which began on the 11th, as reported last week, continued four days and ended with a victory for the defenders of the city. The government forces lost 14 men killed and 125 wounded. The insurgent casualties are estimated at between 400 and 500 killed and wounded. In addition a number of non-combatants, including women and children, lost their lives during the shelling of the city. An important feature of the government's strength was the co-operation of American marines, some of whom were sent up from the coast for the protection of American lives and property before the bombardment be-