

decision on the ground it was contrary to the principles of international law. After prolonged negotiations between Washington and Caracas it was agreed to submit the whole matter to The Hague." The Hague court has now declared the Barge award null on four points, and the American company is awarded \$46,867 with 3 per cent interest since June 16, 1903, and \$7,000 costs. The judgment is to be paid by Venezuela within two months. The tribunal rejected the American contentions on the other points in dispute.

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The New Republic of Portugal.

José Relvas, Minister of Finance for the Republic of Portugal, has announced war to the knife against corruption and special privilege abuses. Taxes on necessities are to be reduced, and those on luxuries increased. The richer classes, who have been evading taxes, are to be closely watched. The provisional government has promulgated decrees establishing the separation of church and state, and the freedom of the press; it has also approved a decree granting the right to strike, and has named a commission of arbitration for labor disputes. J. F. C. Franco, Premier of Portugal during the latter part of the reign of the late King Carlos, and who fled from Portugal (vol. x, p. 1091) a few days after the assassination of Carlos and his eldest son (vol. x, p. 1068), had evidently returned to Portugal at some time during King Manuel's reign, for his arrest was reported from Lisbon on the 30th, on the charge of abuse of power during his incumbency as Premier. The government declares that this arrest was not inspired by politics, but was the natural result of a judicial investigation. Mr. Franco was released on bail of \$200,000. The charges against him include the issuance of seventy illegal decrees and the liquidation of King Carlos' debts, amounting to \$500,000, with crown funds, on the pretext of augmenting the civil list.

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Aftermath of the French Railway Strike.

As a result of the part played by the French government in putting down the recent railway strike (pp. 985, 998), the Socialists in the Chamber of Deputies have bitterly assailed the government, and especially the Premier, Mr. Briand, who has a Socialist record of his own. In the most violent session in the history of the French parliament, Mr. Briand, on the 29th, defended the government's suppression of the strike as a revolutionary outbreak, and exclaimed: "If the actual laws had been insufficient we would not have hesitated to resort even to illegality for the purpose of preserving the fatherland." An uproar followed and the session closed in tumult. On the following day Mr. Briand, in a fuller address of defence, declared that his statement of the day before had

been misunderstood, explaining that what he had tried to say was that in grave hours of national peril exceptional measures were justified. Nevertheless, the government was proud that it had kept within the limits of legality. The Chamber closed the crisis with a vote of confidence in the government—329 to 183. Mr. Briand's attitude toward the strike from the beginning has been that it was not a true strike, and should not be handled as a strike. The Chicago Tribune's correspondent "Holland" says in the Tribune of the 1st: "The instant the railway employes went upon strike Briand realized that the issue at stake was far different from a mere disagreement between railway employes and employers. Briand said: 'This is not a strike, but an insurrection. It is the first step in what is intended to be a revolution.'" Briand's "intuition," as the Tribune's correspondent calls it, was probably due to the fact that, having been a political Socialist himself, he recognized in the strike the tactics of "industrial" as opposed to "political" socialism.*

NEWS NOTES

—The fourth session of the present Russian Douma (p. 564) opened on the 28th.

—A new corporation organized in Illinois on the 28th with a capital of \$36,000,000 is reported as designed to be a rival of the Standard Oil trust.

—Chicago's right to charge rental for the use of space under the public sidewalks was upheld on the 28th by the Supreme Court of Illinois.

—Senator and Mrs. Robert La Follette left Rochester on the 26th for their home. The Senator had completely recovered from the effects of the surgical operation (p. 973) he underwent.

—Planters established in island of Mindanao in the Philippines are suffering from raids of the Manobos tribesmen (p. 685). Several planters have been killed, buildings have been burned and stock killed.

—In a little Wright machine of only 35 horsepower, Ralph Johnstone flew up 9,714 feet above the earth, at New York on the 31st, thereby making a new record for altitude in a heavier than air machine (p. 855).

—Police Inspector McCann of Chicago was not given a new trial by the Supreme Court of the State as reported recently (p. 973). On the contrary the court decided on the 28th, with one judge dissenting, to affirm his conviction and sentence.

—The balloon America II, last to come down in the international balloon race which started from St. Louis on the 17th (p. 1022), landed far up in the Saguenay district in Canada, and it took the two navigators, A. R. Hawley and Augustus Post, a week to get into touch with civilization. The distance covered by the balloon was approximately 1,350

*For further explanation see the editorial on "Socialism and 'Industrialism'" in The Public of October 21, page 985.