

matter. At about 9 o'clock on the morning of the 6th, an automobile of the publishers' union stopped in front of the Belmont avenue station of the Northwestern Elevated railroad. There were six "huskies" in it, and one more rode on a motorcycle behind. From this automobile, armfuls of Record-Heralds, Tribunes, etc., were carried into the station and piled upon the newsstand table without a word to the lessee. He had not ordered the papers and he cleared his table of them as soon as the "huskies" had gone, throwing them into a far corner of the station. In answer to questions elicited by personal observation of this whole affair, he said that he paid rent for this newsstand, that it was his property, that he was a member of the newsmen's union, and that he would not handle "scab papers." The only papers he had then on his table were The Chicago World and The Daily Socialist, which are distinguished by the newsmen as "union papers." Further inquiries drew from this dealer the statement that on the 4th and the 5th the same "huskies," or men like them, had covered his newsstand in the same manner with bundles of the "scab papers," and had placed there a representative of their own to sell them from his stand, in spite of his protest, and that two policemen stationed themselves near the front of the station on the street to protect the intruder and enforce the sale of the "scab papers." The owner of the stand, an industrious and peaceable and apparently truthful young man, who has served papers at the Belmont station for a year or more, asserts that all the news dealers on the Elevated system are, like himself, lessees of their stands and members of the newsmen's union, that they voluntarily refuse to handle the "scab papers," and that they are subjected to coercive efforts similar to those described above in his own case, by the publishers' union. As to street stands, many of which command high premiums for some obscure reason, it appears to be true that the police are preventing their use as far as possible for sales of The Chicago World and The Daily Socialist exclusively. They have taken away large numbers of street corner tables and forbidden the use of the places for newsstands. There appear also to have been a good many arbitrary arrests by the police, some of them justified, some of them not, and many of them discriminatory in favor of the publishers' union.



Railroad Strike.

A strike of Chicago freight handlers began on the 4th. In anticipation of the expiration of their contract with the Rock Island Railroad on the 1st of May, those employed by that road applied six months ago for an increase of wages, in order that the matter might be considered in time for renewal of contract. As no adjustment was made by the appointed time, the strike began; and when it began it included the entire force of freight

handlers on all the roads at Chicago, including checkers and receiving clerks. The General Managers' Association, which controls all the 24 roads centering at Chicago, had at the last moment offered an increase in wages of half a cent an hour. This was overwhelmingly rejected on referendum. An increase of ten cents a day had been asked for, besides a half holiday on Saturdays and double pay for Sunday work. Non-union freight handlers to the number of 600 joined the strikers on the 6th. Meanwhile, according to the Record-Herald of the 6th, "more than a thousand non-union men were imported" on the 5th, "to take the places of the 6,000 men who walked out Saturday noon," and "more are coming as rapidly as they can be engaged by local agents of the railroads throughout the Middle West. [See current volume, page 398.]



The Ohio Constitutional Convention.

The Thomas Fitzsimons plan of municipal government was adopted by the Ohio Constitutional convention on the 30th by 104 to 7. This plan provides for general laws for the incorporation of cities and villages, and additional laws operative in a municipality when approved at a referendum. All powers of self-government, inside the general law of the State, are given. Municipalities may construct, own, buy, lease or operate any public utilities, and issue bonds in payment, or may contract for public utility service. There can be no franchises, however, without approval of a local referendum. And municipalities may frame their own charters, subject to the general law of the State, if the citizens so decide at a referendum; the charter when completed to be also approved at referendum, as must be all subsequent amendments. "Excess condemnation" is allowed for the purpose of enabling the city adopting it to reap the "unearned increment" of land adjacent to public improvements, the bonds for such excess to be a charge upon the lands condemned and not an addition to the city debt. In the purchase or erection of a public utility, bonds issued above the limit of the city's debt are not to be a lien on the city property but only upon the utility. [See current volume, page 397.]



A hard fought controversy over taxation began on the 1st and continued through the 2nd. At a late hour that night the principle of the uniform rule as opposed to classification of property for taxation appeared to have a complete majority on the question of engrossing the uniform-rule proposal, which was carried by 65 to 25.



The New Mexican Revolution.

Fighting continues in Mexico between the Madero government and the insurrectionists. Emilio