

ties. Single taxers should work for it, because it would enable them to bring their theory to the forum of popular opinion and probably to local tests; and they should work for it with good judgment, having in view primarily the adoption of this permissive measure, rather than loose agitation in behalf of the mere label which distinguishes their cause, or even of the profound principles that underlie it. That labor organizations should work for it, is sufficiently attested by the action at its recent convention of the Colorado State Federation of Labor, which has coupled it with the eight-hour amendment in a series of resolutions urging "all unions and labor organizations, and all members thereof, to support these amendments with their votes at the next state election, so that a unanimous vote may be cast by organized labor, assuring the enactment into law of these beneficent measures." Last, but by not means least, every person should support the "Bucklin bill" who is opposed to government by monopoly corporations. This is a negative reason, to be sure, but at a time when corporations are reaching out to "grab everything in sight," it is not a bad plan, if in doubt, to work against what these corporations want and in favor of what they oppose. The monopoly corporations fought the "Bucklin bill" in the legislature bitterly though hopelessly; and such opposition as it may meet before the people will come from them. That fact alone is a high tribute to the merits of the bill. What may endanger the monopoly corporations is pretty certain to benefit the people.

Since in all these respects, and in others that have escaped enumeration, the result of the vote on the Bucklin bill will be national in its effects and influence, the campaign should be national in the support it receives.

**NEWS**

The steel strike has furnished abundant material during the week for gossippy newspaper articles, but no important change in the situation has yet been made public, except that a

vote upon peace propositions is being taken by mail through the lodges of the Amalgamated association. The propositions submitted are given out as follows:

1. That the New York offer of July 27, made by Messrs. Schwab and Morgan, be accepted. [This provided that the tin-plate mills resume under the scale signed for the year beginning July 1; that the hoop company sign for all mills signed for last year, and that the sheet steel company sign for all mills signed for last year, except Old Meadow and Saltsburg.]

2. That a provisional scale be arranged, but not signed, for Painter's, Lindsay & McCutcheon's and the Clark mill, leaving recognition of the union open.

3. That the United States Steel corporation formally declare its attitude toward organized labor, this declaration to take such form as will have a reassuring effect upon the men in mills.

It is understood that these propositions have been assented to by President Shaffer. If approved by the referendum vote, the American Civic Federation, which has interested itself in bringing the strike to an amicable settlement, purposes to endeavor to secure their adoption by the steel trust. In a speech at Pittsburg on the 27th, Mr. Shaffer seemed to allude to this phase of the situation when, as reported, he said:

We will settle the strike if the trust signs the scale for all mills signed for last year, agreeing not to discriminate against men who left the mills on strike and guaranteeing to pay union rates in those mills in which the men have proved they want to organize.

"Government by injunction" has been invoked in behalf of the Allis-Chalmers concern against the machinists, whose strike was last referred to in these columns at page 298. The injunction was granted ex parte, on the 23d, at Chicago, by Judge Kohlsaot, of the United States circuit court, the 28th being fixed by him for the first hearing. It forbids the strikers—

from in any manner hindering by violence or threats of violence, or interfering with any of the business of the—

Allis-Chalmers plant; also from—compelling or inducing or attempting to compel or induce, by use of threats or intimidation of any sort, or violence, any person to leave the employment of said company or not

to enter its employ if desirous of so doing.

Also from—

congregating at or near the premises of the company with the purpose or in such manner as to intimidate any of the employes or said company or persons seeking employment from it, in going to, remaining at or coming from the premises of said company.

Also from—

picketing, besetting or controlling the streets, alleys, or approaches to the premises of said company, with the purpose to intimidate, threaten, surround or coerce any of the employes.

Since the granting of this injunction the striking machinists are reported to have been "picketing" the Allis-Chalmers plant by taking photographic snap-shots of nonunion workmen as they go into or come out of the place. The hearing upon the injunction, originally set for the 28th, has been postponed until September 16.

On the 24th another strike injunction was reported. This was issued at Goshen, Ind., by Judge Baker, of the United States circuit court, in connection with a local strike of long duration, which is still in operation against the W. B. Conkey Co., a printing concern at Hammond, Ind. It restrains the strikers and all their abettors—

from in any manner interfering with, hindering, obstructing, or stopping any of the business—

of the Conkey company. Also—

from entering upon the grounds, factory or premises of said W. B. Conkey company for the purpose of interfering with the business of the said company.

Also—

from compelling or inducing, or attempting to compel or induce, by threats, intimidation, persuasion, force or violence, any of the employes of said W. B. Conkey company to refuse or fail to do their work, or discharge their duties as such employes; and also from compelling or inducing, or attempting to compel or induce, by threats, intimidation force, or violence any of the employes of the said W. B. Conkey company to leave the service of said company; and also from attempting or attempting to prevent any person or persons by threats, intimidation, force or violence from freely entering into the service and employment, or continuing in the service and em-

ployment of the W. B. Conkey company.

The injunction restrains the men also from compelling the company, by threats, intimidation, force or violence, to employ or discharge any person whatsoever against its will; and forbids them—

from congregating or being upon or about the sidewalks, streets, alleys, approaches, places adjoining or places adjacent to said factory, and the premises of said complainant in the city of Hammond for the purpose of interfering with the business of the said firm.

The order further restrains the pressmen from gathering, singly or in small bodies, about the approaches to the factory "for the purpose of picketing or patrolling or guarding the streets, avenues, gates and approaches to the property of the W. B. Conkey company with the intention of intimidating or hindering persons from seeking employment at the factory or of interfering with the employes in the shop;" and in closing it reads:

And that said defendant and each and all of them be, and they are, and each of them is hereby enjoined and restrained from going either singly or collectively, to the homes of employes of said W. B. Conkey company, or any or either of them, for the purpose of intimidating or coercing any and all of said employes to leave the employment or service of said W. B. Conkey company or from entering into the employment or service of said W. B. Conkey company, and, as well, from intimidating or threatening in any manner the wives and families of said employes at their homes or elsewhere.

It was suggested by some papers that the restraint upon efforts at "persuasion," embodied in this injunction, had slipped into the order by accident; but in an interview published in the Chicago Tribune of the 25th the Conkey company's lawyer killed this suggestion by saying—

That "persuasion" means just what it says. I put it in for that purpose and Judge Baker copied my words. It means just this—that if anyone of those strikers should go to the house of any employe or stop him on the street or any other place and endeavor to talk him or her into joining the strike that person or persons is in contempt of court.

A different method from the process of injunction has been adopted in Florida for fighting strikes. It is used against the cigar makers' strike

at Tampa. We referred to this strike two weeks ago at page 298. All the strike leaders had then been kidnaped and secreted. This was done under the direction of a local business men's vigilance committee—"Citizens' Committee," as it is called. But the place of the missing leaders was supplied by the substitution of Alejandro Rodriguez for the kidnaped J. C. Padilla, as secretary of the union, and the appointment of Amelio Valdez to the vacant editorial chair of La Federacion, the union organ. These men were promptly notified, however, by the vigilance committee, to leave the city within 24 hours. They neglected to obey, and an officer of the vigilance committee arrested the secretary while he was at dinner in a restaurant. Later in the day the editor also was arrested. "Both men," says the news dispatch, "have been secreted in the woods, and it is not known what will be done with them." Of the 13 leaders previously kidnaped only one has yet been heard from.

In American politics the only facts to record for the week are that the "middle-of-the-road" populists of Iowa have nominated ex-Congressman L. H. Weller for governor; that the chairman of the state committee of the populist party of Pennsylvania announces that the party will not nominate a state ticket this year, but will ask its members to vote against the republican machine; and that the republican convention of Nebraska, meeting at Lincoln on the 28th, has named S. H. Sedgwick for supreme court judge, which office is the head of the Nebraska ticket this year.

War news from South America is contradictory, each party having representatives in this country who furnish their own kind of news. The Liberal agent for Colombia, located at New York, gives out a dispatch from the Liberal agent at Quito, Ecuador, saying that a battle was fought on the 17th near Pasto, just north of the Ecuador line, between the forces of the Colombian government and those of the Colombian Liberals, which resulted in a great victory for the latter. On the other hand, the Colombian minister at Washington gives out an official dispatch from the Colombian minister at Quito, which reports a defeat of the Liberals near Tomaco. A later

dispatch, a special news dispatch of the 24th, tells of an announcement of that day at Caracas, capital of Venezuela, that the Colombian government forces had been completely defeated by the revolutionist forces in the department of Cauca. Still another news dispatch, dated the 22d, and coming from Curacao, off Venezuela, states that Venezuela has sent war vessels with troops upon an expedition in aid of the Colombian revolutionists. But this is doubted by the Colombian minister at Washington, war not having been declared; and expectations of continued peace between Colombia and Venezuela are held out. The reports noted last week, that Ecuador was about to join with Venezuela in a war upon Colombia are also discredited. On the 26th the United States gunboat "Machias" arrived at Colon, on the northern coast of the Isthmus of Panama, for the protection of traffic across the Isthmus.

While this war cloud at the south of us looms up, the stubborn resistance of the Boers in South Africa to British occupation not only continues, but strengthens, and evidence accumulates that the British government is worse baffled than ever. Enlistments for South African service fall far below the mark, notwithstanding the high pay offered for "rough riders" to chase the Boers; and of the recruits that arrive in South Africa, Lord Kitchener complains that large numbers are physically incompetent for army life and work. Yet the Boers have carried the war far down into Cape Colony. One dispatch tells of a British proclamation of martial law, closing all the country stores in the Queenstown district, and "requiring that all goods likely to be useful to the enemy shall be taken to certain specified towns, and forbidding country residents to have in their possession more than a week's provisions." The significance of this is obvious when it is explained that Queenstown is a district of Cape Colony far south of the Orange Free State boundary. It is about midway between that boundary and the coast. Other dispatches give still further indications that the British colonies themselves are aflame with revolt. One tells of a Boer force having almost reached the coast at a point about midway between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth. Another reports an attack upon a British convoy on the way from Kimberley to Griqua-