

At a conference of the heads of International labor unions, closely allied with the freight handlers, held in the headquarters of the Chicago Federation of Labor, on the 12th, it was decided to support the railway clerks and freight handlers in their present strike against the railroads. The meeting was called by President John Fitzpatrick of the Chicago Federation of Labor, in compliance with a resolution passed by that body at its regular meeting, June 2. The international unions represented at the conference were the telegraphers, carmen, teamsters, switchmen, machinists, steamfitters, blacksmiths and freight handlers. After the meeting President Fitzpatrick stated that organized labor will lend every ounce of support at its disposal to the strikers, and that the railroads will be fought to a finish, in the present strike. When asked about the plans decided upon at the conference, he said:

We are not in position to say at this time what assistance will be given the clerks and freight handlers. That will have to be decided later. The meeting today was for the purpose of getting the several organizations into conference for concerted support. It is concerted action that will bring the greatest results and it is results that the strikers want. I understand that the strike of the clerks and freight handlers has paralyzed freight traffic. What the railroads had hoped was that the men would desert their cause and go back to work. But they are putting up a brave fight and by standing firm they will force the railroads to make an honorable settlement.

[See current volume, page 565.]



In a strike at the Perth Amboy works of the American Smelting and Refining Company and of the Barber Asphalt Company, a battle between strikers and special deputies was fought on the 14th, the strikers armed with stones, the special deputies with repeating rifles and automatic revolvers firing what the Associated Press reports describe as "deadly soft-nosed bullets." The battle lasted over two hours and more than 200 shots were fired. One strike sympathizer, one strike breaker, and a night watchman, were killed, and six strikers were wounded. The sheriff was hurt with stones thrown at him as he patrolled the strike district in his automobile. The county authorities offered rewards on the 14th for the arrest of William Haywood and Arnoff Linds, as leaders of the "I. W. W.," said to be in charge of the strike.



#### The Charities and Correction Conference.

Industrial conditions and their causes have received special consideration at the Thirty-ninth National Conference on Charities and Correction, which began its sessions at Cleveland on the 12th under the presidency of Judge Julian Mack, and

is to close them on the 19th. The most notable feature of the proceedings was the report of a committee of investigation appointed three years ago. The committee consisted of Owen R. Lovejoy, Mrs. Raymond Robins, Dr. John B. Andrews, Julius Henry Cohen, John Golden, W. B. Wilson, M. C., Mrs. Florence Kelley and the Rev. C. S. MacFarland; and its report recommends a "living wage," sufficient for a normal standard of existence, with forty consecutive rest hours each week, education, recreation, support for immature members of the family, sickness and old age. To gain these ends minimum-wage commissions are urged. In addition the report recommends an eight-hour day, abolition of night work for women and children, minimizing of night work for men, publication by employers of wages they pay, prohibition of the manufacturers' use of poisons dangerous to workers when harmless substitutes are possible, no child under 16 to drudge, insurance against unemployment, a workmen's compensation act, women not to work steadily in standing positions.



At the meeting in the auditorium of Engineers' Hall on Monday at 11 o'clock, Louis F. Post read a paper on "The Distribution of Industry in Relation to Congestion, Rent, Taxes," which was discussed by Warren D. Foster of Boston, Alexander Johnson of Indiana, John R. Shillady of Buffalo, Congressman W. B. Wilson and Mrs. Florence Kelley. At 1 o'clock Mayor Newton D. Baker gave a luncheon to the Conference at Weber's Restaurant, with Mr. Lovejoy in the chair. The subject of discussion was "The Responsibility of the City for Industrial Conditions." Alexander Johnson made a straight-out Singletax speech, and Harris R. Cooley an eloquent speech on the sanitary and correction responsibilities of cities, and their responsibilities for the co-operative industries they permit. Mayor Baker held the large audience literally spellbound with his narrative of how Tom Johnson had given Cleveland a "civic mind."



The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, an affiliated conference organization, held a meeting at Engineers' hall in the afternoon of Tuesday. Among the announced speakers were Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, Miss Mary Ovington and President Thwing of the Western Reserve University. [See current volume, page 420.]



#### The Anti-Imperialist League Commends Non-Intervention.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Anti-Imperialist League, held in Boston on the 6th, the following minute was adopted:

The Executive Committee of the Anti-Imperialist

League records its emphatic approval of the policy of non-interference with the internal affairs of foreign countries, including those of the American continent; any sort of responsibility for them having ceased with the outgrowth of the Monroe doctrine. The Committee especially desires to commend the dignified abstention of the President of the United States from intervention in Mexico. Urgency has doubtless been resisted for forcible interference to protect pecuniary investments, by interests similar to those which half a century ago were demanding action from European powers looking to the enforced termination of our Civil War.

The Committee devoutly hopes that our people generally may increasingly recognize and appreciate the fundamental necessity for respecting the inviolate sanctity of each nation's self-government and independence, as essential to the maintenance of liberty both at home and abroad. And those in power are exhorted to eternal vigilance against aggressive policies inherited from former generations which, unless reanimated by the deliberate efforts of demagogues or by those commercial interests which thrive upon the misfortunes of mankind, would naturally fall into desuetude with the changed conditions of our day.

ERVING WINSLOW, Secretary.

## NEWS NOTES

—Helen Keller, the famous blind and deaf author, has been appointed by Mayor Lunn of Schenectady, N. Y., as a member of his cabinet.

—Instead of adjourning sine die, as reported in the press dispatches, the Constitutional Convention of Ohio adjourned until August 26, 1912. [See current volume, pages 540, 555.]

—Frederic Passy, the French economist and peace advocate, died at his home at Neuilly-sur-Seine on the 11th, in his 91st year. Mr. Passy was the first recipient of the Nobel prize for peace.

—Twenty-six persons were killed and 50 injured by a tornado which tore through Bates, Johnson and Henry counties in Missouri on the evening of the 15th, mowing down trees and demolishing homes.

—The first woman in Austria to win a Provincial Diet election is Frau Vyk Kumoticka, who has been elected to the Bohemian diet at Jungbunzlau. It is reported to be doubtful whether the Bohemian Constitution will allow her to take her seat. [See current volume, page 420.]

—Petitions signed by hundreds of thousands of voters in all parts of the United States, demanding a woman suffrage amendment to the Constitution, were presented on the 14th in the House of Representatives by Congressman Victor L. Berger of Milwaukee. [See current volume, page 85.]

—Attorneys representing five citizens filed letters patent for the "Roosevelt Party" in the Common Pleas Court at Pittsburgh on the 15th. The petition recites that the signers are residents of Allegheny county and have adopted the name of "Roosevelt Party" to designate the party or policy of themselves and their associates; and the petitioners state that it is their intention to place in

nomination a full ticket for all county offices to be voted at the next November election.

—The Interstate Commerce Commission held on the 13th that pipeline companies transporting oil between the States are common carriers, with the obligations of such, and ordered thirteen of the largest oil-pipe lines to file schedules of rates by Sept. 1, and to comply with the provisions of the Interstate Commerce Act.

—George Wingfield of Reno, Nev., was appointed by the Governor of Nevada on the 12th to fill the vacancy in the United States Senate caused by the death of Senator George S. Nixen. Mr. Wingfield is head of the Goldfield Consolidated, a large corporation, and is known as "the Napoleon of Nevada finance." [See current volume, page 566.]

—The abolition of the opium trade with China proceeds on the lines determined on during the last years of the Empire, with possibly an acceleration of zeal. At the end of the year the prohibition of the importation of all non-Indian opium became operative, and December 31, 1913, is set as the last day upon which the importation of Indian opium will be permitted. [See current volume, page 178.]

—A Chinaman with a queue is rapidly becoming a rarity in South China ports, according to the American consul at Amoy. Foreign hats are now more common than Chinese hats, and foreign clothing and shoes are becoming very popular. The Japanese are shipping enormous quantities of foreign clothing into China, and Chinese tailors are booked for months ahead with orders for foreign clothing. There is also a big demand for buttons, thread, sewing machines and tailors' implements.

—By a vote of 23 Democrats and 6 Republicans in the affirmative, to 22 Republicans, the United States Senate proposed the following amendment to the House bill abolishing the Commerce Court: "So much of the Act of 1910 creating the Commerce Court, and so much of Section 9 of the General Judiciary Act of 1911 with reference to the Commerce Court which provides for five additional Circuit Court judgeships, are hereby repealed, together with so much of said Acts as authorized the President to appoint five additional Circuit judges, and the number of Circuit judges is hereby reduced to twenty-nine." [See current volume, page 567.]

—President Gomez of Cuba has assured the government of the United States that the rebellion in Cuba will be quelled in ten days. Mr. Orestes Ferrara, the speaker of the Cuban house of representatives, who is now in Washington, also says that the reports of conditions in Cuba, which have reached Washington through the American legation in Havana, have "been greatly exaggerated diplomatically." Mr. Ferrara calls attention to the feeling of unrest created in Havana by the widespread doubt as to the intentions of the United States government toward Cuba, and solicits some sort of declaration on the subject from the American government. [See current volume, page 566.]

—Prof. Frederick Starr of the University of Chicago sails from New York on the 20th for a six months' expedition to West Africa. With him are Harry Foster Dean, who has made repeated trips into different regions of Africa, and Campbell Mar-