

telephones, etc., that exist only by special permission of the state, must be controlled by the state; but all free businesses, whether shoe-shining or the great trading companies, can have no other restraining influence so effective as the competition of their rivals.

S. C.

Organized Labor's Case.

Prejudice against labor organizations is by no means confined to monopolistic quarters. Even many workers for social justice, who realize that existing conditions are unfair, withhold their sympathy. They find cause for this in the misconduct of individuals connected with trade unions and in enforcement by the organizations of unjust and tyrannical regulations. That such evils exist is undeniable, but their existence is more an indictment of the system that forces laborers to organize for self-protection than of the labor organizations. So long as the number of jobs is less than the number of men anxious to fill them, so long must it be to the interest of laborers to organize. To make such an organization even partially effective, some if not all of the apparently absurd and certainly oppressive rules are necessary. Industrial warfare is as incapable of refinement as military warfare. Labor organizations can be rendered unnecessary for the protection of labor only through abolition of monopoly of natural opportunities. If that were done there would be jobs open to all and laborers could get their entire product without organization. As long as monopoly of Nature's resources is allowed to exist laborers will be driven to organize and to do much that is unethical in self-defense. These facts must be borne in mind in judging the labor unions' case.

S. D.

Distorting News.

The movement by Denver's so-called Law and Order League to recall Judge Lindsey is thus explained in the Chicago Evening Post of May 27:

The interview on Colorado which Judge Ben B. Lindsey gave the Post during his recent passage through Chicago reached Denver in a distorted form. Upon this inaccurate report Lindsey's old foes decided at once to start another movement for his recall from the bench.

This is an explanation that needs explaining. What news agency was responsible for reprinting the interview "in a distorted form"? It is quite possible for a correspondent to misunderstand spoken words and to unintentionally misrepresent what he has heard. But this does not apply to a report of a published interview. How can a

news agency which sends such a distorted report clear itself of suspicion of intentional coloring of news?

S. D.

Amortisation and Farm Tenantry.

Speaking of the increase in farm tenantry, so noticeable in Kansas and other States, the Omaha World-Herald of May 25 says: "This increase in the number of tenant farmers must be stopped and the only scheme that promises to do that so far advanced is the long time amortisation plan, which enables the landless to become landowners." What the World-Herald seems to overlook is that the introduction of a plan to encourage buying of land without discouraging speculation must further inflate prices. In order to succeed, the amortisation plan must be coupled with a plan to discourage withholding of land from use. There is an additional reason in so coupling it in the fact that such discouragement would probably make the amortisation plan less necessary than it now seems to be.

S. D.

Iowa's Lost Population.

Speaking of Iowa's loss of population the Chicago Record-Herald remarks, "how rising land values can drive out farmers who own their acres no one has explained." This may be because many of these farmers move out voluntarily. Congressman Vollmer of Iowa in a speech in the House on March 19 said: "There is not a town of any size in the Middle West which has not its quota of retired farmers who have grown wealthy by reason of the increase in the value of lands. In my home town we have one street on which the residents are mostly of this class." Of course some of these retired farmers must have been replaced, temporarily at least, by rack-rented tenants or mortgaged purchasers. Why these should sooner or later feel encouraged to emigrate must be evident, even to the Record-Herald. As land values increase universal experience shows that ownership of land becomes more concentrated. There is nothing particularly strange or surprising about Iowa's loss. A similar tendency is observable in Missouri's agricultural districts, and in other places also, though perhaps not to the same extent as in Iowa.

S. D.

The Poll Tax in California.

The Los Angeles Graphic of May 23, in arguing against the proposed abolition of the poll tax, says "the class that will thereby dodge about the