

tality of peace and make strife of the kind which has threatened the order and prosperity of the great State of Colorado a thing of the past, impossible of repetition so long as everything is done in good temper and with the genuine purpose to do justice and observe every public as well as every private obligation.

[See current volume, pages 947, 987, 1044.]



In a report to the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, published on November 23, Reverend Henry A. Atkinson, who investigated the Colorado trouble for the council, declared that the coal companies control the government of the counties where their mines are located. "They have brought about the election of the judges, sheriffs, coroners and assessors." Jefferson Farr, sheriff of Huerfano County, has been in office fifteen years, is known as "king of the county" and orders things in accordance with the wishes of the coal companies which have secured his election. It is impossible to enforce the law since the courts are practically closed to those who have incurred the enmity of the coal companies. Thirty years of such oppression has taught the miners that their only hope is the union. Individually the men can do nothing. A man who protests will be discharged and if he makes too much trouble will be dealt with by gunmen. Concerning the militia, Mr. Atkinson says:

The soldiers were gladly received by the strikers, for they expected they would have some protection, but their hopes were in vain. It soon became evident that the militia was under the control of the coal companies.

Men and women were thrown into jail without any charge being lodged against them and held incommunicado.

The militia, instead of aiming to maintain order and secure justice, was used to break the strike.

Speaking of the unions Mr. Atkinson declares:

The right of workmen to organize has been and is being denied by the un-American and un-Christian attitude of the mine operators, who thus deprive their employes of an essential means of self-defense, the right to bargain collectively for their labor.



Objection was raised on November 24 by Governor Ammons of Colorado and Governor-elect Carlson to investigation of labor conditions in the coal fields of the State by the Commission on Industrial Relations. In a joint telegram sent to the Commission and to President Wilson they asked that the inquiry scheduled to begin on December 1 be postponed. The Commission took no action on the protest. [See current volume, page 1115.]



The board of arbitration chosen to settle the

controversy between 98 western railroads and 64,000 employes began its hearings at Chicago on November 30. The arbitrators for the railroads are H. E. Byram and W. L. Park; for the unions are F. A. Burgess and Timothy Shea, and for the Government Charles Nagel, former Secretary of Commerce and Labor, and Federal Judge Jeter C. Pritchard. [See current volume, page 756.]



Commission on Industrial Relations.

The date for the public hearing on the American land question by the United States Commission on Industrial Relations has been fixed as December 14-17, inclusive. The hearing will take place in Dallas, Texas. The members of the commission will hear testimony of representative renters, landlords and students of the land question. Among the subjects that will come up for consideration are the growth of a feeling of unrest among the rural population and the work that is being done by the Renters' Union of America. This organization of land renters has been very active in the southwest for the past three years. Taxation as a means of destroying land monopoly will also have consideration. Rural credit plans and organization for the marketing of farm products will be important topics. [See current volume, page 1115.]



Capital Punishment in Arizona.

Eleven men are to be executed at Phoenix, Arizona, on December 11, unless Governor Hunt intervenes. The carrying out of the death penalty had been delayed pending the popular vote on abolition of capital punishment on November 3. The measure was defeated by a small majority. Governor Hunt has been overwhelmed with requests to intervene, many of which came from individuals who voted against abolition, but was reported on November 24 to have expressed himself as follows:

The people of Arizona wished the death of these men. I intend to see to it that they have their wish. I may even decree a hanging bee in the public square. If what the voter intended was an object lesson, it had better be as thorough a one as possible, since there must be a carnival of death, it will be better to hold it where every man, woman and child will be able to see the whole ghastly proceeding. When we have sent eleven men to death together, I hope that every voter who voted against the amendment on November 3 will feel a sense of personal guilt. If Arizona stands before the world as a barbarous State, it is they who will be responsible.

[See current volume, page 1143.]



Chicago's Telephone Fight.

An attempt seems to have come to naught to shut out representatives of civic organizations of