

to have followed this procedure. Kent did not make an active campaign, but remained at Washington until the primaries were nearly at hand. The campaign against him was based mainly on his support of the Underwood tariff bill. But he received twenty-five per cent of the Republican party vote. "Real conservation" is the chief plank in Kent's platform. Concerning which he is reported in the Sacramento Bee to have said:

In addition to the great achievement of providing for the Alaska railroad as a public enterprise, and instead of giving away all of that country's resources to those who would subsequently put in a railroad and take the wealth of the country as their pay, we have recognized this enterprise as a proper accomplishment for the nation. There will be no land grabbing or scandals in connection with the opening of Alaska.

Water power bills relating to the public domain and navigable waters have been passed with due regard to control in the public interest. From the Public Lands Committee are coming other bills for the proper development of Alaska coal and of the mineral resources of the United States under lease with due protection for the tenant and due control in the public interest by Uncle Sam, the landlord.

Had Colorado and West Virginia been operating under such a system there would have been no possibility of the abuses of labor, the uncertainty for capital and the practical civil war which have resulted.

[See current volume, page 471.]



Wisconsin Reactionaries Win.

At the Wisconsin State wide primary on September 1, Emanuel L. Philipp, reactionary, secured the Republican nomination for Governor. The opposition to him was scattered over five different candidates. The Democrats nominated John C. Karel, a reactionary, over Joseph E. Davies, United States Commissioner of Corporations, supporter of Wilson's policies and generally progressive. For Senator the Republicans selected Governor Francis McGovern, defeating Thomas Morris, Senator La Follette's candidate. McGovern was a La Follette supporter up to 1912, when he went over to Roosevelt. In addition to Morris he had an opponent for the senatorial nomination in Levi Bancroft, an avowed reactionary. The Democrats appear to have nominated for Senator Paul O. Hustung, said to be a progressive, over T. M. Kearney, reactionary. [See current volume, page 639.]



Commission on Industrial Relations.

The Federal Commission on Industrial Relations in session at San Francisco received further information on August 27 concerning the fight against union labor waged by the Merchants, Manufacturers and Employers' Association of Stockton, California. Reverend J. W. Byrd testified that

when he announced his intention of delivering a sermon on the strike he was summoned before the association and urged to abandon the idea. He offered to do so provided the association would agree to arbitrate all questions of dispute with the union except the open shop. His offer was not even considered. Fred L. Kincaid, a land dealer, told of pressure brought by the Merchants' Manufacturers and Employers' Association to coerce business men, not members, into joining. A man named Eaves, manager of the new method laundry, on refusing to join was called upon by his bank to pay at once \$1,900 due. Eaves appealed to Kincaid for aid, who took him to another bank which had several times asked him to bring business to it. But on explaining the situation the banker informed him that the bankers had an agreement not to take on accounts of that sort. Eaves submitted to the inevitable and joined the association and later told Kincaid that he had received the desired help from the bank. [See current volume, page 854.]



On August 28 the commission took testimony regarding conditions in the California hop fields, and regarding the Wheatland riots of last August. Wylie Gillen, a fruit grower and packer of Fresno, California, said that collective bargaining had been practiced for years between ranchers and Hindoo, Japanese and Chinese laborers, through an agent for each nationality, who is responsible for the performance of the men's duties. The system has been a success, and he believed that it would work as well with white laborers. "I have come to this conclusion against my will," Gillen said, "but I realize that only by organization can farm laborers ever elevate their standards. We employers are likely not to do things for the betterment of our employes until we are forced to, and organization alone will force us into action, generally speaking. Only those workers who have organized have been successful in most cases in obtaining advanced wages and conditions for themselves." He had himself started to work as a farm laborer thirty years ago, but he did not believe the chances of a worker advancing today to be as good as then owing to increased prices for land and increased cost of living.



District Attorney Stanwood of Yuba county testifying on August 29, told of the treatment of laborers alleged to be implicated in the Wheatfield riots. A large number of men were arrested on "John Doe" warrants charged with murder and conspiracy, and held incommunicado for long periods. Fred Suhr, who is now serving sentence on conviction of second degree murder, Mr. Stanwood testified, was under arrest for several weeks before allowed to see counsel. One night a private detective was placed in his cell to interrogate him

while operators in an adjoining room took down what he said. One suspect, Allen Johnson, went insane after he had finally been released. Another one, Nels Nelson, committed suicide. A. B. McKenzie, district attorney of Contra Costa county, told of the case of Alfred Nelson, one of the suspects arrested by private detectives. To prevent Nelson's release on habeas corpus, he had been transferred from one city to another in order to keep him hidden. While in jail at one of these places, R. D. Cradlebaugh, a detective, in sweating him, tried to get Nelson to say that he had seen District Attorney Manwell shot by Blackie Ford, later convicted of murder in the second degree. On his refusal Nelson was beaten up by Cradlebaugh. Eventually Nelson was released, and through Mackenzie's efforts Cradlebaugh was convicted of assault and sentenced to a year in prison. Robert H. Royce, an attorney, declared that the release of suspects on habeas corpus proceedings was rendered difficult by the practice of hiding prisoners. Austin Lewis, attorney for the accused rioters, told how the case offered an example of solidarity which disregarded race lines. The Japanese employed at Wheatland had quit in a body after Ford and Suhr were arrested, and an advertisement appeared in all Japanese newspapers requesting Japanese laborers to keep away from the hopfields until the trouble was settled. Lewis denied that the trouble was due to agitators. Twenty-seven languages were spoken on the Durst ranch and when the trouble occurred the camp had been in existence only from Thursday to Saturday.



The Labor War.

Governor S. V. Stewart, of Montana, ordered mobilization of the entire State militia on August 31, as a result of the factional troubles among the miners at Butte. [See current volume, page 637.]



The phosphate mines in Florida near Ocala and Tampa closed on August 29. The stoggage of importations of potash from Germany, owing to the war, is given as the cause. Several thousand workers have been thrown out of employment. Under local ordinances ordering arrest as vagrants of all unemployed, the former mine employes who have not found work elsewhere, are reported as being arrested.



Arrests of strike leaders at Trinidad, Colorado, owing to the troubles which culminated in the Ludlow massacre, began on September 2 when twenty-two men were taken to jail. Warrants are said to be out for several hundred more. [See current volume, pages 586, 637, 830.]



A tentative basis for adjustment of the Colorado

strike was suggested on September 7 by President Wilson. It was in accordance with a plan drawn by the Commission on Conciliation of the Federal Department of Labor. The suggestion was sent to the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, the Victor-American Fuel Company, Rocky Mountain Fuel Company and the United Mine Workers of America. Under the proposed agreement, a commission would consider all claims and grievances and pending its decision no mine guards will be employed, the Federal troops would be withdrawn, picketing and parading in the strike district would be stopped and the claim for contractual relations would be waived. The expense of the commission would be divided between employers and employes. A basis for agreement is suggested as follows:

The establishment of a three-year truce, subject to the enforcement of the mining and labor laws of Colorado; return to work of miners who have not been convicted of law violations; prohibition of intimidation of union or non-union men; publication of current scale of wages and rules, and the appointment of a grievance committee by the employes. A further provision is that in cases where the officials of the company or the grievance committee cannot settle difficulties, a commission of three men named by the President shall act as the final referee.



In his letter containing these suggestions the President said:

As you know, federal troops have been in the state for the purpose of maintaining order now for a long time. I have been hoping every day during that time that some light would come out of the perplexities of the situation, some indication that the mine operators and the miners who are now on strike were willing to consider proposals of accommodation and settlement, but no such indication has reached me.

I am now obliged to determine whether I am justified in using the army of the United States indefinitely for police purposes.

Many things may come out of this situation if it is not handled with public spirit and with a sincere desire to safeguard the public as well as all others concerned; perhaps the most serious of them all the feeling which is generated and the impression of the public that no one is willing to act, no one willing to yield anything, no one willing even to consider terms of accommodation.

As you know, two representatives of the government of the United States have been actively engaged in investigating the whole situation and in trying to reach a dispassionate conclusion as to what it is possible to do in justice to both sides not only but also in the interest of the public.

The result of their investigations and of their very thoughtful consideration in the matter has been the drafting of the inclosed "tentative basis for the adjustment" of the strike. I recommend it to you for your most serious consideration.

I hope that you will consider it as if you were acting for the whole country.