

they read Perkins out they will have to read me out, too." [See current volume, pages 587, 609.]



Although ordered by his physician to take a four-months' rest and drop all political activities, Colonel Roosevelt declared this to be impossible, and that he will deliver a promised address at Pittsburgh on June 30 in favor of Gifford Pinchot and other Progressive candidates in Pennsylvania. He declined to indorse the candidacy of District Attorney Charles S. Whitman for the governorship of New York, and opposed fusion with the Republicans.



In reply to Roosevelt's defense of Perkins, Amos Pinchot formally stated on June 25:

"The Progressive party is pledged by its platform to strengthen the Sherman law and fight private monopoly. Mr. Roosevelt in his confession-of-faith speech said: 'The anti-trust law should be kept on the statute books and strengthened so as to make it genuinely and thoroughly effective against every big concern tending to monopoly or guilty of anti-social practices.'

Mr. Perkins, on the other hand, is enthusiastically committed to killing off the Sherman law and protecting monopolies. There seems to be an irreconcilable conflict with Mr. Perkins on the one side and the party and the colonel on the other.

"If it were the consensus of opinion among Progressives that the party should side with the trusts against the public Mr. Perkins' leadership would be appropriate. It is absurd to place the reins of leadership in his hands."

[See current volume, page 587.]



### Commission on Industrial Relations.

The Federal Commission on Industrial Relations began hearings at Philadelphia on June 22. Professor Scott Nearing of the University of Pennsylvania was the first witness, and his testimony is thus reported in the Philadelphia North American:

"The total income derived from the cotton industry in Massachusetts last year," said Professor Nearing, "added \$81,000,000 in value to raw cotton. The salaries to officials totaled \$2,500,000. The salaries to wage-earners amounted to \$41,000,000. There is nearly \$30,000,000 remaining.

"A small part goes to machinery and repairs. A large part to rentals and dividends. Of the \$81,000,000, the people who did the work got only about five-eighths, and the other three-eighths went some place else.

"When I described this condition in Fall River some time ago the board of trade there got hot about it. I have nothing against Fall River, but it is the only example we have to draw from.

"I do not believe the situation in Fall River is any different from that in the Mohawk Valley and every other textile town in the northeast,

"As regards other industries, I think we can safely say, from federal investigations, that half of the adult wage-earners in the United States get less than \$500 a year; that three-fourths get less than \$750 a year, and that nine-tenths get less than \$1,000 a year.

"Rarely do we find a wage-earner getting \$1,500 a year. There are exceptions in the allied building trades, telephone companies, etc., but we must consider industries as a whole."

"What would you suggest as a remedy?" asked Commissioner O'Connell

"As I see it," replied Professor Nearing, "we must stop this exploiting of the many for the benefit of the few. The people who hold mortgages and stock certificates and flaunt them before the eyes of civilization are contributing to this great unrest which is sweeping the country.

"At no time have the privileged few had such an effective scheme of living on the labor of the many."

Asked if he believed the establishment of a minimum wage would offer a solution, Professor Nearing replied:

"The thing to do, as I see it, is to establish a relation between wages and the standard of living. When a man applies for a job, his prospective employer never inquires the number of his children. He offers the married man just the same wages as he does to the single man, and no more.

"Every child after the second is an economic calamity, according to the New York board for the bettering of the conditions of the poor. Every child in the city is an economic liability. In the country children used to be an asset. Now they are liabilities."

Professor Nearing was applauded when he intimated that the workers would not stand for the continuance of the present system. He showed his conviction on that point when Commissioner Weinstock asked:

"If such conditions go on, what forecast would you make for the worker thirty or forty years hence?"

"If he stands for it, you mean?" inquired Professor Nearing, with a significant inflection in his voice. Then he said that, in his opinion, if such a condition did continue to exist, 50 per cent of the net product would go into dividends for the privileged few.

"What suggestions would you make for a remedy to conditions?" asked one of the commissioners.

"Every man is entitled to what he earns," replied Professor Nearing, "and if I had anything to do with this investigation I would start it right there. The blatant evil of monopoly should be wiped out."

"Are you a believer in the doctrine of socialism?" asked Commissioner Weinstock.

"What are the doctrines of socialism?" asked Professor Nearing.

"The doctrine of socialism," said Mr. Weinstock, "is the belief that there should be one employer, and that employer the people, and that all rents, interests and profits should be abolished."

"I am a believer in such a doctrine," said Professor Nearing, "so far as the abolishment of rents and interest is concerned. The worst form of unearned profit is the ownership of land. I would take for

social uses the values arising from land ownership."

"Do you believe that the unrest of the workers is undermining our civilization?" asked Commissioner Lennon.

"I believe that the most insidious force that ever operated in civilization is the force that makes a few persons the exploiters of all the others," Professor Nearing answered. [See current volume, page 610.]



Wm. Draper Lewis, dean of the University of Pennsylvania, and Progressive candidate for governor, testified in favor of the fairness of the courts in labor cases. While the courts had declared the secondary boycott illegal, he said they had applied the decision to employers as well as laborers. He held that the secondary boycott should be permitted when the employer is unfair and refuses to arbitrate.



John Wanamaker testified that he favored labor organizations and criticized John D. Rockefeller, Jr., for placing the national government in a position where it had to send troops into Colorado. He advocated public ownership of railroads, telegraphs and other public utilities and criticized the demand for increase of freight rates. He gave a qualified endorsement of a minimum wage law, saying it should be tried, but should be a graduated law. The minimum wage for salesgirls in his store is \$8 a week and for scrubwomen \$7 a week.



Mayor Blankenburg of Philadelphia testified on the 23d. He did not think the people of the United States sufficiently educated to experiment with public ownership. On being informed by Commissioner Weinstock that San Francisco is successfully operating two dividend earning municipal street car lines, paying the men \$3 for eight-hour day, Mayor Blankenburg merely repeated his original statement. Thomas E. Mitten, executive head of Philadelphia's street railway system, declared that though free transfers are only given in the city at a very few points and an extra charge of three cents for transfer made at other points, yet the company cannot afford to pay higher wages than in other cities, and not as much as is paid in Chicago and Detroit. After the superintendent of the street railway had denied that men were discharged for belonging to unions, Secretary Kirrane of the local union testified that he had been discharged for that cause.



On June 24 Alba B. Johnson of the Baldwin Locomotive Works testified. He denied that existing economic conditions compel the majority of wage earners always to remain so, declared that

there is always room at the top and that opportunities are more plentiful today than ever. The cause of existing unrest he declared to be "the premature desire of inefficient men to forge ahead," and the remedy he suggested is that workers be instructed along lines of legitimate opportunity. 8,200 men are now employed at Baldwins as compared with 17,000 a year ago. The average wage has fluctuated from \$12.32 a week in 1900 to \$14.86 in 1914. His concern had made some experiments in welfare work, which failed.



### The Labor War.

President Wilson on June 24 commuted to expire at once the sentences of four of the structural iron workers convicted in Judge Anderson's court at Indianapolis in December, 1912, of conspiracy to dynamite. Those are Michael J. Hannon of Scranton, Frank H. Painter of Omaha, Fred J. Mooney of Duluth and William Shupe of Chicago. Pardon was refused to the other twenty, and these must serve their sentences. [See current volume, pages 493, 555.]



The court martial at Denver which tried Lieutenant K. E. Linderfelt on the charge of manslaughter in connection with the massacre at Ludlow was reported on June 16 to have found him guilty of "unsoldierly conduct." No mention has been made of verdicts in the case of others involved in the affair. [See current volume, page 515.]



The union faction fight in Butte is said to have resulted in complete disruption of the local organization of the Western Federation of Miners and formation of an independent organization. Charles H. Moyer and other officers of the federation were forced on June 23 to leave the city. Moyer appealed on the following day to Governor Stewart for state control. Mayor Duncan of Butte declared state aid to be unnecessary since it is the sheriff's duty to preserve order and he has not acted. There have been no reports of rioting since June 24 and the miners are said to be working as usual. [See current volume, page 611.]



Charges of extortion practiced on building contractors by some dishonest business agents of trades unions resulted from the shooting of George Hammond, agent of the Excavating Teamsters' Union on June 23 by a contractor, Patrick Dignan. Many complaints have since been published, especially in the Chicago Herald, of strikes threatened or called and building operations held up until blackmail was paid to union agents. In most of these published complaints the name of