

witnesses were ably cross-examined by Mr. Clarence Darrow, for the strike leaders. The criminal proceedings actually went to trial and a jury had been selected for the purpose. One of the jurors fell ill, however, and the case was never brought to a second hearing. I was, by reason of my newspaper connection, the principal witness for the government, and I wish to add, as a former member of the Chicago bar, my belief that my testimony, though the most important and essential upon which the prosecution had to rely, was wholly insufficient to warrant either the verdict as given in the contempt proceedings, or any verdict except that of acquittal in the criminal case.

WALLACE RICE.

---

## NEWS NARRATIVE

---

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of *The Public* for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Monday, May 25, 1914.

---

### English Politics.

The Home Rule bill passed the House of Commons on May 25 by a vote of 351 to 274. The Unionists refused to debate. Having passed the House twice before in separate sessions, it now becomes law without consent of the Lords.

The Welsh church disestablishment bill passed the House of Commons on the 20th by a vote of 328 to 251. This bill, which has been a source of bitter contention, enjoys the distinction of being the first bill, aside from the budgets, to go upon the statute books under the new parliament act, which permits a bill, when passed three times by the Commons, to become a law in spite of the opposition of the Lords. The non-conformist denominations in Wales have long outnumbered the church people, but the national government has up to this time maintained the state church. [See current volume, page 487.]

The Unionists gained a seat in the Commons for Northeast Derby on the 20th. The Unionist received 6,469 votes, as against 6,155 for the Liberal, and 3,669 for the Laborite. This was a victory for Home Rule, but a defeat for the party. The bye election at Ipswich on the 23d resulted in a clear majority for the Unionist candidate. The Unionist received 6,406, the Liberal 5,784, and the Socialist 395.

### Mexico and the United States.

Representatives of Mexico and the United States gathered at Niagara Falls, Canada, on the 20th, under the auspices of the A. B. C. Mediators, the

Ministers of Argentina and Chile, and the Ambassador of Brazil. The Mediators presented to the American delegates for consideration a plan involving: 1. The elimination of Huerta, Carranza and Zapata from the government of Mexico. 2. Creation of a provisional government of a commission character in which shall be represented all the factions to the present conflict. 3. Agreement for a cessation of hostilities. 4. An election to be called and held under the auspices of the provisional government, at which none of the leaders of the factions now contending shall be candidates. [See current volume, page 488.]

The American delegates were disappointed that the land question had not been included. But the Mediators held this to be an internal question with which they had no concern. They were willing to make it a part of the subject if the American and Mexican delegates could agree upon a solution. President Wilson's general directions to the delegates are interpreted in the light of a published interview in which it was said the settled policy of the President in regard to Mexico includes: First. The United States, so long as Mr. Wilson is President, will not seek to gain a foot of Mexican territory in any way or under any pretext. Second. No personal aggrandizement by American investors or adventurers or capitalists, or exploitation of that country will be permitted. Third. A settlement of the agrarian land question by constitutional means—such as that followed in New Zealand, for example—will be insisted on.

The first full conference of the delegates was called on the 23d by the Mediators, at the request of the Mexican delegates. No definite conclusions have been arrived at, but there is a growing feeling of confidence that tangible results will follow. The Mexican delegates seem eager for an early agreement, before the Constitutionalist menace the Capital. All negotiations are conducted in a friendly spirit. The elimination of Huerta, and the inclusion of the land question, seem to be taken for granted.

General Villa, commanding 4,000 men, defeated 4,500 Federals at Pasadon on his way to Saltillo. Nine hundred prisoners were taken, together with 9 pieces of artillery and 1,000,000 rounds of ammunition. The casualties were 49 killed and 109 wounded. Saltillo was evacuated by the Federals on the 20th, after looting the city. Reports are to the effect that the Federals will gather at Queretaro for a final stand. Queretaro, a city of about 40,000, and 110 miles northwest of the City of Mexico, was the scene of Emperor Maximilian's overthrow and execution. It was there also that