

on June 12. The amendments modify especially the provisions regarding life-saving appliances. They provide that during the summer months on the Great Lakes only enough life boats need be carried to accomodate 50 per cent of those aboard ship. The provision in the bill, as it passed the Senate, requiring two able seamen for each lifeboat was eliminated. [See vol. xvi, p. 1043.]



A further move toward impeachment proceedings against Judge Alston G. Dayton of West Virginia, was made by Congressman Neeley of the same state, in the House on June 12. Mr. Neeley charged Judge Dayton with using his office to aid the coal operators in their fight against the United Mine Workers of America. He also charged him with partiality to his son, a lawyer, in the trial of cases in his court, with denouncing the President from the bench, with conspiring to form a trust, and with refusing to enforce laws. The impeachment resolution was referred to the Judiciary Committee. [See current volume, page 491.]



A brief was filed on June 13 with Chairman Martin Foster, of the House Committee on Mines, by attorneys for the Colorado mining interests involved in the present strike. It takes practically the same position assumed by John D. Rockefeller Jr. It declares that there is no strike but "an armed insurrection against the sovereign authority of Colorado." Both Federal and State authorities are declared to have failed in their duty to enforce laws and protect property, and the following warning is given:

If the State will not furnish to the owners of property the protection to which they are entitled, it is left to them to defend themselves and their property by whatever means they can find. Today with our idle armies marching through the country, overriding the laws and breaking the peace of communities and agitators, calling themselves hoarse with charges of violated statutes, abusing every privilege guaranteed them in the freedom of press and speech, we certainly have a sufficient premonition of what is to come and a sufficient admonition of timely action to prevent it.

[See current volume, pages 437, 540.]



Nominations of the members of the Federal Reserve Board were sent to the Senate by President Wilson on June 15. In place of Richard Olney and Harry A. Wheeler, who had declined proffered appointments, the President named Thomas D. Jones of Chicago for the six-year term and Charles S. Hamlin of Boston for the two-year term. Prior to appointing Mr. Hamlin the place had been offered to E. C. Simmons of St. Louis, who declined. The other members named are Paul Warburg for the four-year term, W. P.

G. Harding for the eight-year term and A. C. Miller for the ten-year term. [See current volume, page 491.]



Another Plot to Block Legislation.

The existence of a conspiracy to hasten adjournment of Congress and block passage of the anti-trust bills was charged on June 15 by President Wilson in a statement to the press. In proof of his charge he submitted copies of a letter sent broadcast by the Pictorial Review Company of New York, and of a similar letter circulated in the same way by the Simmons Hardware Company of St. Louis, of which E. C. Simmons is a member, who had declined appointment on the Federal Reserve Board. The Pictorial Review letter signed by W. P. Ahnelt, president, submitted a form for the recipient to adopt as his own and mail to Senators, Congressmen and the President. The form letter protested against "experimental legislation" and said further that "The granting of the petition of the eastern railroads for a five per cent freight increase will do more for the prosperity and development of the country than all legislation against unlawful restraints and monopolies."



The Simmons letter was sent to all customers of the concern. It declared the obstacles to prosperity to be the Mexican situation, the awaited advance in freight rates and continued hostile legislation in Congress. The recipients were urged to write to Congressmen urging them "to shut up shop and go home."



Industrial Relations Commission.

The Industrial Relations Commission heard on June 10 at New York the testimony of Miss Gertrude B. Beeks of the National Civic Federation concerning her study of department store conditions in New York and Brooklyn. Miss Beeks declared that conditions in these stores varied. In some, excellent conditions prevailed, while against others severe indictments could be drawn. The minimum wage on which a woman can live in New York in decency, she said, is \$8 a week. Testimony concerning wages paid employees in various stores was given by employers or their representatives. In one store \$9 was the average weekly income of sales women, including commissions. The minimum wage for employees under 16 was \$4. In another store the average wage for saleswomen was \$13.50. [See current volume, page 562.]



Pinchot Attacks Perkins.

That George W. Perkins be asked to resign as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Progressive party, was the demand made of the National Committee in a letter written on May 23

and published on June 10, by Amos Pinchot. A copy of the letter was also given to Colonel Roosevelt before sailing for Spain. Therein Mr. Pinchot declares that Mr. Perkins "favors the protection of private monopoly in American industry and since the party's formation has been taking active steps to commit the party to that policy." Another charge brought is that he "is actively opposed to the recognition of Labor's right to organize and deal with Capital through labor unions, and has frequently gone on record to that effect." Mr. Pinchot says further that—

Mr. Perkins has conducted an extensive pro-trust propaganda calculated to convince the party and the public that the trusts are useful and sacred institutions; that those who attack them are bent upon the destruction of all healthy industry on a large scale, and, finally, that the Progressive party fully agrees with him in these views. The result is that we have been placed in a false and fatal position. Our sincerity has been attacked. Our energy is largely expended in defending ourselves.



Some inside history of the Progressive National convention of 1912 is given in the letter. Mr. Perkins had opposed endorsement or approval of the Sherman law. In spite of this the Committee on Resolutions adopted a plank endorsing the law and recommending that it be strengthened. Although the convention adopted this plank yet, Mr. Pinchot declares, it was omitted from copies of the platform furnished the press and copies printed and issued during the campaign from Progressive headquarters. This expurgation, he does not charge Mr. Perkins with having had made. But he says that Perkins' fight against an anti-trust plank created a misunderstanding leading to the unintentional omission of the plank. After citing some public expressions of Mr. Perkins in favor of perpetuating monopoly, Mr. Pinchot suggests action as follows:

I think I am warranted in saying to you, gentlemen of the national committee, that, in view of these facts and in view of the approaching elections, the rank and file and a large majority of the leaders of the party feel that Mr. Perkins' resignation as chairman of the executive committee is necessary. I am sure that upon reflection you will agree, as will Mr. Perkins himself, that the success of the party demands such action immediately.



Progressive Connecticut Democrats to Organize.

A state conference of fundamental democrats of Connecticut has been called to meet at Lake Compounce on June 27. The call for the meeting is addressed to "you who believe in capacity of Connecticut people to govern themselves." and is as follows:

Connecticut Democracy is facing a crisis. With party lines everywhere giving way, we have unmis-

takable assurance that thousands of our fellow citizens, hitherto Democrats, will no longer submit to reactionary leadership. Determination to support only forward-looking men for State, Congressional and local office is deep and widespread. As fundamental democrats, we believe that our party can be made the most effective agency for social and political progress. To this end it needs only to stand square and honest upon the principles professed for a century. Democratic success in other States and in the nation absolutely proves this. The undersigned have, therefore, accepted the duty of summoning the progressive Democrats of central Connecticut to meet in conference at the time and place above mentioned. In the interest of genuine Democracy, with its assurance of victory in the Fall, your presence is desired.

The secretary of the committee issuing the call is Raoul W. D'Arche, 95 Barker St., Hartford. Other members are James F. Connery, Middletown; Willard C. Fisher, Middletown; Christopher M. Gallup, West Hartford; George W. Hull, Bristol; George M. Wallace, New Haven.



Mexico and the United States.

Another week's negotiations at Niagara Falls have brought a better understanding of the Mexican situation, but no definite settlement. President Wilson's insistence on a hearing for General Carranza has been the main difficulty. The tentative agreement with General Huerta's delegates involves the setting up of a provisional government composed of five commissioners. Of these the United States has held that three must be of Constitutionalist sympathies. An acceptable man for President has not yet been found. The Mexican delegates claim General Huerta's right of approval of the man chosen, and President Wilson insists that nothing shall involve a recognition by this country of General Huerta's administration. [See current volume, page 561.]



The Mediators, in deference to the Washington government, again invited General Carranza to participate in the conference, but insisted upon their original stipulation that an armistice should first be declared. General Carranza on the 12th named as the three commissioners to represent the Constitutionlists, Fernando Iglesias Calderon, leader of the liberal party, now at Saltillo, Luis Cabrera, and Jose Vasconcelos, confidential agents of the Constitutionlists in Washington. General Carranza's message was answered by the Mediators with a statement that there is no word in regard to the cessation of hostilities during the conference, and that they will give no official recognition to the Constitutionalist delegates until an armistice has been declared.



The steamship Antilla with a consignment of