

dress Mr. Rockefeller again. He describes interviews he had with victims of the Ludlow battle and refers to articles published in the New York Evening Post, to statements by Professor E. R. A. Seligman, and to official records to show the responsibility of the operators for the occurrences. He further quotes from George Creel's article in the June number of Everybody's Magazine, telling of illegal arrests and mistreatment of imprisoned strikers and sympathizers. He further declares that the Federal troops tried to prevent re-establishment of the tent colony at Ludlow, have tried to censor the miners' papers and have forbidden peaceful picketing. Yet in spite of these acts of injustice, the strikers have been peaceful. Commenting on Mr. Rockefeller's disclaimer of responsibility for what has occurred, Mr. Sinclair says:

If you step forward and say that you are ashamed of what has happened and that you will use your influence in the councils of the coal operators in favor of a just settlement, the public will then acquit you and turn its attention upon the men, whoever they may be, who continue to hold out.

The public understands that you are young, that you have not had any practical experience with strikes; the country will be prepared to believe you if you state you have been ill advised. But I assure you, on the other hand, that if in the face of the mass of evidence that has been produced you still continue to harden your heart, to set your face against all change, if you refuse to pay attention to the constantly growing indignation, you will find the public less willing every day to make excuses for you.

A month has passed since this storm of denunciation began; and in that month it was your business to find out the truth. You have better opportunities than the public to do this; and you cannot be forgiven for being ignorant of what everybody else has managed to learn.

Mr. Sinclair then goes on to make a strong appeal to Mr. Rockefeller to assume a progressive attitude. He says:

You will go back to the older men of your family and they will endeavor to hold you to their way. But you must realize, Mr. Rockefeller, that these men belong to a different generation from you; they got their ideas in a time when commercial cruelty was universal.

These old men can have but a few more years to live, while you have perhaps several decades before you, and I assure you that those decades will see vast changes in public thought; changes that will make your present attitude seem abominable beyond words, that will leave you in your later years an object of execration. You are young, and growth and change belong to the young.

I beg you to realize this, to cast in your lot with the future.

Take your stand publicly, be honest and fair with the people, and do not permit other men to use you as a bait.

In conclusion, Mr. Sinclair quoted the biblical story of the Rich Young Man containing the illus-

tration of the camel and the needle's eye. To this he adds:

I feel almost like apologizing to you for the lack of consideration in these words. This is not my creed, either theological or economic; but it is the creed which you publicly profess and teach. So the world has the right to look for some faint sign of an effect of it upon your handling of the Colorado situation.



#### Hearings of Commission on Industrial Relations.

Testimony concerning the affair at Ludlow was given before the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations at New York on May 27. Mrs. Pearl Jolly and Mrs. Mary Thomas, wives of strikers, appeared as witnesses. Both repeated the accounts that have been previously reported of events leading up to the battle, of burning of the tents, and killing of women and children. On May 28 Major Edward J. Boughton testified. He was Judge Advocate in the military zone during the strike. Major Boughton entered a complete denial of all stories of atrocities by the militia. Whatever the militia did at Ludlow, he said, was committed in self defense. He said that the laws of Colorado forbid picketing, interfering with workmen or persuading them to quit, and it was partly because the strikers had violated these laws that the militia had been sent to the district. He believed that the federal troops could now be safely withdrawn and that there would be no further clash. He denied that machine guns had been used on the tents at Ludlow, or that women and children had been shot. Louis Tikas, the Greek strike leader, he said, had been taken prisoner by the militia, and while under arrest, had been struck on the head with a rifle by one of the militia officers, but stories of his death were conflicting. In answer to questions by the commissioners Major Boughton explained that he is attorney for the Mine Owners' Association in the Cripple Creek district, and has no business relations with the coal mine operators, except insofar as some of these may also be interested in Cripple Creek. He further said that he did not think permanent peace in the district to be possible while the system prevails of making deputy sheriffs of company employes. He had come east as representative of Governor Ammons and before testifying had visited Rockefeller's office at 26 Broadway. [See current volume, p. 515.]



Judge Ben B. Lindsey was next called to testify at his own request. He took issue with Major Boughton. He declared the mining corporations of Colorado to be the most lawless in the country. He referred to the opposition of E. A. Colburn, president of the Mine Owners' Association, to the passage of child labor laws, although he is also president of the Children's Aid Society and of the State Board for Child and Animal Protection. As

judge of the children's court, Lindsey said, he knew of 700 children who had been orphaned through easily preventable explosions in the mines. He said further that there are three times as many men killed by explosions in Colorado mines than in other states. Judges of the Colorado Supreme Court, he said, have been owned by the public utility corporations "as they owned their office boys." They have also controlled district attorneys and governors, he declared. But conditions are now improving. Some judges and district attorneys have acted independently although they know that they are "booked for political slaughter." When the federal troops are withdrawn, he declared, the contending parties will be at each other's throats with possibility of repetition of Ludlow. The constitutional guarantee of a republican form of government to the states, he held, would justify the President in forcing consent to arbitration. When asked by Commissioner Garretson about the effect on the public mind of the report of the military commission, Judge Lindsey replied: "We regard that report and the commission as a huge joke. It was men judging themselves, and it caused public indignation."



The Commission on Industrial Relations has delegated to Professor John R. Commons the work of drafting legislation extending Federal activity in mediation and conciliation of industrial disputes. On conclusion of the hearings in New York City, hearings in other industrial centers are to be held, including Paterson, Philadelphia, Boston and Chicago.



#### Supreme Court Decisions.

The Supreme Court of the United States on May 25 overruled the Interstate Commerce Commission which had forbidden the division of rates between railroads and owners of tap lines, who are also owners of industrial plants, the products of which these tap lines are used to transport. On the same day the court held all claims for damages due to loss of the Titanic, limited to the salvage from the wreck and the passenger and freight money collected. The decision is based on the fact that the Titanic disaster was due to striking an iceberg rather than another British ship. Claims filed, amounting to \$13,000,000, are thus reduced to \$91,000.



#### A Monopolistic Victory.

At Los Angeles on June 1, Judge Maurice T. Dooling of the Federal District Court declared invalid an order issued in 1909 by President Taft, withdrawing from entry 3,000,000 acres of oil lands in California. The decision gives undisputed possession to the Standard Oil Company and the Midway Oil Company. The lands are esti-

mated to be worth from \$250,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000. The press dispatch says that since this decision is in effect the same as one rendered by the court in Wyoming, the government will not appeal.



#### More Disclosures in Railroad Financiering.

Testifying before the Interstate Commerce Commission on May 29, J. H. Willard, president of the Baltimore and Ohio, added to the story of frenzied finance. He said that in 1909, J. P. Morgan sold the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton railroad to the B. and O. When Mr. Morgan took over the C. H. and D. there were outstanding obligations amounting to \$23,000,000 constituting a first lien against it. Additional obligations were then incurred, bringing the total to \$50,000,000, and in this condition the road was sold to the B. and O., which agreed to assume responsibility for this indebtedness and to buy by the year 1916 the 80,000 shares of C. H. and D. common stock held by J. P. Morgan & Co. at a minimum price of \$34 a share and a maximum of \$44, in accordance with the decision of a board of arbitration. There is furthermore a legal question to be settled of the responsibility of the B. and O. for \$7,500,000 of obligations of the Pere Marquette road now in the hands of a receiver. The C. H. and D. has been unable to meet interest on its obligations for the past year and the stock for which the B. and O. must pay \$34 a share has at present no value. The transaction occurred before Mr. Willard became president of the B. and O. The road was represented in the deal at the time by a committee containing its then president, Oscar Murray, and Samuel Rea, now president of the Pennsylvania. Since Willard became president the B. and O. has borrowed \$81,000,000 of which \$23,000,000 has been used to rehabilitate the C. H. and D. [See current volume, page 514.]



Mr. J. P. Morgan, Jr., is reported in a newspaper interview on May 25 to have denounced as untrue assertions regarding his father made by Charles S. Mellen to the Interstate Commerce Commission. Mr. Mellen had charged J. P. Morgan, Sr., with withholding facts from him concerning the New Haven road, which as president of the road he should have known. [See current volume, page 514.]



#### Roosevelt's Public Statements.

That he would have seized the anthracite coal mines during the strike of 1902, had arbitration not been agreed to, was asserted in the course of testifying in a law suit on May 27 in New York City by former President Roosevelt. The law suit was one brought by A. D. Wales against the United Mine Workers for \$200,000 on the ground