

Promotion of violence by the use of gunmen, spies and provokers hired by employers.

National labor exchanges are advocated. It is understood that this preliminary report is to be followed later with a more complete one after the Commission's investigations have been completed.



Chicago's Trouble With Corporation Agreements.

After the committee of Chicago's city council had agreed to allow representatives of the city's civic organizations to witness the count of the automatic telephone subscribers, the Illinois Telegraph and Telephone Company, operating the system, formally admitted on December 3 that it has less than 20,000 subscribers. But its attorneys deny that this involves the forfeiture to the city of its plant as the terms of its franchise require. They construe the words "If at any time after June 1, 1911, the company shall cease to operate a telephone system serving 20,000 bona fide subscribers" to mean "ready to serve 20,000 bona fide subscribers." Since they are ready to serve this number, but have not secured them, they hold themselves secure. [See current volume, page 1162.]



Auditors employed by the city of Chicago to investigate the books of the Chicago Railway Company reported to the mayor on December 3 that the company has incorrectly charged to capital account \$6,945,130.40. This error has benefited the company in dividing profits with the city according to the contract of 1907. To rectify the error the auditors say the company should pay into the city's traction fund the sum of \$584,264.29. [See volume xvi, pages 26, 99; current volume, page 558.]



The Milwaukee Leader Wins.

The case of City Clerk Peter F. Leuch against the Milwaukee Leader, the Socialist organ, resulted on November 20 in a victory for the Leader. Judge George Clementson, who presided, directed a verdict in its favor, which put the costs of the case on Leuch. The case arose from publication in the Leader on December 9, 1912, of a story charging Leuch with violating the State law forbidding payment for overtime to public employes. Although the Supreme Court of the State had ruled that Leuch's act was illegal, he nevertheless brought suit for libel against the Leader. The case came up the first time in November, 1913, before a jury of anti-Socialists, which returned a verdict for Leuch. The Leader appealed. In the second trial the jury—which contained no member friendly to Socialism—was deadlocked, and the judge took matters into his own hands. Leuch says he will appeal. [See vol. xvi, page 1155.]

Mexico and the United States.

Direct communication with the Mexican capital, after an interruption of a week, was restored through El Paso on the 30th. Little authentic news, however, is yet to be had. General Blanco having left Mexico City in advance of the time agreed upon for the entry of General Zapata and General Villa, some disorder occurred, and the merchants begged General Zapata, who was awaiting the coming of General Villa, to take possession at once to restore order. This was done, and after provision had been made for policing the city, the General, in order to show his good faith, retired, to await the coming of Provisional President Gutierrez and General Villa. The new President, entering the city with General Villa, took possession of the national palace of the capital on the 3d. Efforts are under way by Generals Villa and Zapata to give effect to the new government, and to restore order throughout the country. [See current volume, page 1163.]



Sporadic fighting on a small scale is reported from various parts of the country where the forces of General Carranza come in conflict with those of the new government. General Carranza is reported to be at Vera Cruz, from which point he sends copious accounts to his agents in the United States for distribution. No serious campaigning appears to be under way, and little definite information of military movements is at hand. Desultory fighting continues on the Mexican border near Naco, Arizona, and complaints are made by the Americans of the danger from stray bullets. Nothing more has been reported of General Gonzales' assumption of the presidency. The Carranzistas seem to be on the defensive, and although still defiant of the new government set up by the Aguas Calientes convention, are impotent.



The European War.

The main center of interest continues in Poland where the Russian and German armies continue their indecisive struggle for the mastery, with the Germans again advancing. Russia is still making headway against Austria, and is laying siege to Cracow. Austria has taken Belgrade, the capital of Servia, and continues a slow advance into Servia. The campaign in the west favors the Allies, but marks little change in the battle line. Turkey continues an unimportant factor, the South African rebellion has collapsed. Nothing of importance is reported from the Sea. The situation as a whole shows little to encourage either side. [See current volume, page 1163.]



The Campaign in the East.

What seemed a week ago to be favorable fortune