em for the public benefit This places

ing and operating them for the public benefit. This proves what the people of your village think of the course you have taken in this matter.

Another meeting at Tarrytown was attempted on June 22, but was broken up by a mob which assaulted the speakers. The police did not interfere with the rioters until their actions resulted in obstructing street railway traffic. The news dispatches say nothing concerning arrests. [See current volume, page 562.]

o o

Mexico and the United States.

Conferences at Niagara Falls continue in spite of deadlocks and rumors of breakups. President Wilson maintains his stand that the provisional Mexican president must be a Constitutionalist, and friendly to the peons. The Huerta delegates contend for a neutral, and the Carranza delegates declare an armistice at this time would cause the disintegration of their army. As a result of Minister Naon's visit to Washington the Mediators have modified their demands that the Constitutionalists declare an armistice as a prerequisite to admission to the conference. It is now proposed that the Carranza delegates be admitted "unofficially" to the Conference. [See current volume, page 588.]

ø

General Carranza reiterates in his last note to the Mediators that he is willing to participate in the conferences whose sole object is the pacification of Mexico. To discuss internal affairs is futile. Among the subjects that must not be discussed are the proposed armistice, the military movements of the Constitutionalists, the agrarian question, and the designation of a provisional president of Mexico. The Constitutionalists alone, General Carranza holds, can decide what is best for their country. Luis Cabrera, one of the three delegates appointed by General Carranza, says in a statement issued on the 21st:

All attempts to convince Huerta and Carranza that they should abandon their pretenses and agree on a neutral candidate who would call new elections are very dangerous.

In the present struggle in Mexico we find on one side the moneyed elements, deeply conservative and reactionary and interested in the continuation of a regime that has the hatred of the masses, and on the other hand we find the revolutionary elements deeply interested in the complete transformation of the country.

Under these circumstances, no possible compromise can take place.

The constitutionalists mean to begin immediately such economic reforms, and especially such agrarian reforms, as are necessary to offer the lower classes an opportunity of improving their conditions—division of large estates, equalization of taxation and in places where it would be necessary the re-establish-

ment of the egides or communal land system.

Quickened interest in the Mexican situation was aroused by reports on the 17th that General Carranza and General Villa had quarreled. These were afterwards denied, but circumstances point to strained relations between the two men, and a rearrangement of duties and responsibilities. General Villa now commands the central department of the North, with General Gonzales commanding operations on the East Coast; and General Obregon in command on the West Coast. Fighting at Zacatecas has been resumed under direct command of General Villa. The city is reported to be entirely surrounded by the Constitutionalists, and though enjoying strong natural defenses, can easily be starved out. The Federals are said to have 15,000 men, while the Constitutionalists have 25,000.

General Obregon has invested and is ready to attack Guadalajara, the capital of Jalisco, a city of 118,79, situated 275 miles W N W. of Mexico City.

English Affairs.

The latest exploit at gun-running by the National Volunteers, when they landed on the Connemara coast a large consignment of arms from America, was so bold and determined as to provoke protests from the Unionists and Tories in Parliament. These protests from the men who have been taunting the government with its inability to control the Ulster Volunteers lent a tinge of humor that was enjoyed by the Liberals. Sir Edward Carson announces that he will have nothing to do with the amending bill introduced in the Commons on the 23d, and embodying the government's original offer of temporary exclusion for such of the Ulster counties as may vote for exclusion. [See current volume, page 590.]

1

The comparative lull in Home Rule agitation gives prominence to Sylvia Parkhurst's feat in securing an audience from the Prime Minister for a delegation of East End working women. After taking up a position on Parliament House steps where she declared she would remain without food or water until the audience was granted, Mr. Asquith surrendered. To the delegation of six women who waited on him on the 20th, the Prime Minister said that while the government would suppress organized violence, it had no desire to interfere with free speech, or with proper organization of opinion. He promised consideration of the women's representations, and said he would present to Reginald McKenna,

612

