

To the Congressional investigating committee at Trinidad, Colorado, Gustav Yeskensi, aged eleven, testified on February 25 that on February 10, while his parents were absent, two militia men visited the house, searching for arms, beat him and his younger sisters and brother and inflicted damage on the household goods. Complaint was made to General Chase, who promised to investigate. Attorneys for the United Mine Workers have decided not to call Mother Jones as a witness, at present, for fear that it might jeopardize her appeal from the decision of the Colorado court denying a writ of habeas corpus. [See current volume, page 204.]



A statement has been issued by the Women's Trade Union League of Chicago, concerning a strike of bakers, cooks and waitresses. Their demands are as follows: The bakers ask for a six day week of nine hours a day, with a weekly wage of \$22 for the foreman, \$20 for the second hand and \$17 for the third hand. The cooks ask for a six day week of ten hours a day or less and wages of not less than \$14.50 per week. The waitresses demand a six day week of ten hours a day or less, wage of \$8 a week and that the employer furnish and launder the working linen of the employes. On account of the refusal of some concerns to sign the agreement to this effect, a vigorous boycott has been conducted against them for several weeks. The grievances of waitresses are that wages are but seven dollars a week of seven days' work. Out of this five cents a day is said to be taken for laundering aprons and an average of 30 cents a day is paid by each waitress to a "bus" boy to remove the dishes. In addition complaints are made of heavy fines for real or alleged mistakes, and of requirement to do heavy work which should be done by porters. Union pickets posted since the strike in front of the restaurant of the Philip Henrici Company have been subjected to much brutal treatment by the police, which the Women's Trade Union League describes as follows:

Peaceful picketing is allowed by the laws of the State of Illinois, and the Waitresses' Union has delegated some of its members to pass up and down in front of Henrici's to call attention of his customers to the fact that the strike and lock-out is on. No one of these pickets has at any time violated any law or been guilty of doing anything that she has not a perfect right under the law to do. In spite of this, thirty-nine arrests have been made by these private detectives and subservient police. In twelve cases a trumped up charge of conspiracy was made. This charge is utterly without foundation. Besides these unlawful arrests the conduct of the private detectives and police has been brutal in the extreme. These men have used foul and profane language in addressing the girls, have tramped on their feet as they were passing along the street and when arresting them have used the same methods that they would use on a strong man who is resisting arrest. Jerry Laughlin, notorious for such practices, jerked,

pulled and twisted the arm of Dora Duree until it was dislocated and is now in such condition that it is doubtful whether she will ever have the full use of it again. There is no excuse for this violence or brutality. The girls have made not the slightest resistance to arrest, but each one has gone along quietly with the officer. The statements made that some of the girls resisted and even went so far as to sit down on the sidewalk in the slush and snow are untrue.

As the result of a protest against this treatment by a committee of women representing various organizations, the assignment of policewomen to strike duty, as demanded by the Women's Trade Union League, was ordered on February 25 by Chief Gleason. The cases of the arrested pickets were all postponed in the municipal court at the request of the Restaurant Owners' Association and against the protest of the defendants.



#### Mexico and the United States.

The Benton affair, the killing of William S. Benton, a British citizen residing in Mexico, by General Villa, continues to be the chief point of interest. Villa's statement to the American government was that Benton attempted his life, for which he was tried by court martial and executed. A request that Benton's body be delivered to his wife was refused; but permission was given Mrs. Benton and representatives of England and America to view it at the cemetery. As the body had been removed from Juarez, where the execution took place, to Chihuahua, General Villa promised to place a special train at the disposal of the family and the representatives. [See current volume, page 203.]



While the case of Benton, which the English government placed entirely in the hands of the United States, was progressing smoothly, reports were received of the hanging of Clemento Vergara by Federals near Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. Vergara, a Texas ranchman, was decoyed to an island in the Rio Grande, where he was captured by the Mexicans. Federal officials deny his execution, saying that he escaped, and joined the Constitutionalists.



General Carranza on the 1st injected a new element by denying the American government's right to inquire into the death of a British subject, and rebuking the Secretary of State for addressing its communications to General Villa instead of to himself. Following this stand of the Constitutionalist head, General Villa withdrew permission for the American and British representatives to examine Benton's body.



This unexpected stand of General Carranza

adds serious complications to an already muddled affair. Great Britain will not deal with Carranza, as that would in effect be a recognition of the Constitutionalists, but leaves her case in the hands of the United States. President Wilson maintains his position, and will meet the Constitutionalists, as he has the Federals, with passive resistance. He believes the United States to be big enough and powerful enough to enforce its present policy regardless of the rumors that foreign nations contem-plate interference. To jingoes and yellow journalists alike the President calmly, but firmly repeats, "We can wait."



English Politics.

Another seat has been lost to the Liberals on account of the appointment of the member from Leith Burghs, Hon. Renald Graufurd Munro-Ferguson, as Governor General of Australia. The Unionist candidate won by 16 votes in a three-cornered fight, where the vote for home rule had a majority of 3,330. The loss seems in no way to affect the determination of the government to continue with its program. The hardest hammering of the opposition has failed to force the hand of the Prime Minister. Mr. Asquith withholds the government's concessions to Ulster until Parliament is in a fit frame of mind to consider them on their merits. In all divisions called for by the Unionists the government's majority has shown a steadfast faith in its integrity. [See current volume, page 203.]



Discussion of the South African situation in Parliament and press continues. The arbitrary action of the Botha government at the Cape, in declaring martial law during the strike and deporting the labor leaders, embarrasses the home government by its denial of civil liberty. The right of self government guaranteed to the Union of South Africa leaves England no redress save that of vetoing the indemnity bill of the South African Parliament; and the home government hesitates to exercise this right lest it lead to still further friction between the colony and the mother country.



Lord Roberts, Viscount Milner, Baron Balfour of Burleigh, Rudyard Kipling, Professor Albert Venn Dicey, Sir William Ramsay and twenty other persons issued an appeal to their country-an anti-home rule declaration. While milder than *Συμβουλὴν αὐτῶν τῶν ἠδῶν* the law without being submitted to the judgment of the people at an election, "justified in taking or supporting any action that may be effective to prevent its being put in operation."

NEWS NOTES

—The Philippine assembly on March 2 adopted resolutions urging Congress to provide for independence of the islands at this session. [See volume xvi, p. 1116.]

—Governor Walsh of Massachusetts appeared on February 25, with Professor Lewis J. Johnson and Mr. Joseph Walker, before the legislative committee on constitutional amendments to argue in favor of the Initiative and Referendum.

—Up to February 24, 7465 national banks had applied for membership in the federal reserve system, eighteen had notified the organization committee that they will not apply and ten had not been heard from. [See current volume page 62.]

—The Cleveland, Ohio, Singletax Club on February 25 elected the following officers: President, Edmund Vance Cook; vice-presidents, H. P. Boynton, J. C. Lincoln and J. B. Vining; secretary, Howard M. Holmes; treasurer, O. K. Dorn..

—In response to the literacy test in the immigration law before Congress, the Minister of Public Instruction will ask the Italian parliament for an appropriation for the education of prospective emigrants to the United States. [See current volume, page 36.]

—Italy intends that its exhibits at the Panama exposition shall be such as will show Americans modern Italy in all fields of progress. Statues, corals, and mosaics, which heretofore have made up exhibits of Italian handicraft, will be ignored. [See current volume, page 36.]

—The interruption of telephone and telegraph communication with Lisbon, which gave rise to the report of another revolution in Portugal on the 27th, was due to acts of violence incident to a "revolutionary railway" strike. The strikers have been ordered back to work, and tranquillity is looked for throughout the country. [See current volume, page 157.]

—Charges of professional and private misconduct were filed on February 26 against federal Judge Daniel Thew Wright of the District of Columbia Supreme court. Wright is the judge who held Samuel Gompers and other labor leaders guilty of contempt, but the charges have no connection with that matter. They were brought by Wade A. Cooper, a Washington banker, and allege that certain corporations have been unfairly favored by Wright. Other charges of improper conduct of a more private nature are also made. [See current volume page 188.]

—Said Pasha, who fought in Syria in 1860, was grand vizier in 1879, and six times thereafter, died at Constantinople on the 1st, nearing the age of 80. He was active in Turkish affairs throughout the reign of Abdul Hamid II, retiring and returning to office according to the Sultan's whims. He was again grand vizier under Mohammed V, in 1911. The secret of his long life in the midst of intrigue is said to be due to the threat of the British government, when he sought refuge in the ambassador's house during a reverse of political fortune, that it would