# The Public

the real business cornerstone of its monopoly, and then bring the full strength of the government directly against it. We propose to do away with all unfair practices by big business or little business.

We propose heartily to encourage honest business and to give full scope to efficiency, provided the efficiency is used for the benefit and not to the detriment of the people as a whole.

Concerning Senator Penrose, Colonel Roosevelt held him responsible, together with Barnes, Root and other Republican leaders, for the election of Wilson. "They stole from the rank and file of the Republican party," he said, "the right to govern themselves; to nominate their own candidates and promulgate their own platform. They took this action with the deliberate purpose of electing a Democratic President." In reply to this denunciation, Senator Penrose, in an interview, quoted a letter of congratulation he had received from Roosevelt on the occasion of the great majority rolled up in Pennsylvania in 1904. The Senator stated further that during Roosevelt's whole administration their relations were cordial.

In a statement given to the press on July 2, Colonel Rosevelt denounced the treaty with Colombia. He declared the payment of \$25,000,000 to be "a naked payment of belated blackmail." He characterized the transaction as "discreditable," and further said that "it will forfeit the right to the respect of the people of the United States." "There is small wonder," he said, "that many hundreds of Americans in Mexico have been endeavoring to become British, German or French subjects in order to get some protection from some government." [See current volume, page 609.]

This statement by Colonel Roosevelt followed one made on the preceding day by James T. Du Bois of Hallstead, Pennsylvania, who had been minister to Colombia during Taft's administration. In this statement Mr. Du Bois endorsed the pending treaty. "The public men of Colombia," he said, "compare favorably with those of other countries and are neither blackmailers nor bandits." Concerning the Panama revolution, Mr. Du Bois said:

A handful of men, who were to be the direct beneficiaries of the revolution, conceived it and not the hundredth part of the inhabitants of the isthmus knew of the revolt until an American officer, in the uniform of the United States army, raised the flag of the new republic.

Mr. Du Bois declared that negotiations under the Taft administration failed because of excessive care to avoid impugning the motives of ex-Pi dent Roosevelt. He further said:

While negotiating for a treaty I made the Combian authorities understand that under no circumstances would the United States apologize to any nation for a political act—that was our unwinden law that never had been and never would be broken. I suggested that a chivalrous expression of regret that our friendship had in any way been marred might later be embodied in the treaty as a balm for the wounded feelings of a once friendly nation which had been humiliated before the world, whose credit had been destroyed in foreign countries, whose borrowing ability had been annihilated, and whose persistent appeals for arbitration had been ignored.

That Colonel Roosevelt will be able to resume public speaking in six weeks was the assurance given on July 1 by his physician, Dr. H. Holbrook Curtis, a throat specialist. [See current volume, page 635.]

#### Commission on Industrial Relations.

The Federal Industrial Commission heard on June 27 at Philadelphia the testimony of James H. Maurer, president of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor and a Socialist member of the legislature. Mr. Maurer declared that union men were justified in arming themselves under such conditions as prevail in Colorado, Michigan and West Virginia. When asked about the McNamaras he disclaimed sympathy with them but said that they "were victims of your own system of individualism. If their pleas were true, and I believe they were, they tried to protect their class by employing the methods of this idiotic age." As an immediate relief measure Mr. Maurer suggested the minimum wage. [See current volume, page 636.]

The action of the Senate Appropriation Committee on July 6, in cutting down the appropriation for the Industrial Relations Commission from \$200,000 to \$50,000 will, if not corrected, cripple the work of the commission. The explanation offered for the action is that the commission offended in letting facts become known regarding the prevalence of unemployment.

#### Social Ouestions Before the Rabbis' Conference.

The Central Conference of American Rabbis at Detroit on July 6, tabled a resolution of sympathy for Joseph Fels, also one declaring against prohibition, and others declaring for the minimum wage, industrial insurance, old age pensions, prohibition of child labor, right of labor to organize and similar measures. Rabbis Alfred G. Moses of Mobile and Max Heller of New Orleans advocated the Fels resolution. "Here is a man whose name



throws luster on the Jewish race," said Rabbi Moses. "Are we to disclaim him because we feel that he was not entirely in sympathy with certain forms and ceremonies? It is to our best interests to claim him as our own." The conference was rebuked at a later session by Rabbi Stephen Wise of New York, especially for its attitude toward the palliative measures. Dr. Wise said: "What you want us to do is to cater to the wealthy employers of labor who so largely support the synagogue. You are afraid of what the rich may say if we take a stand for social and economic justice. You quote the scripture that 'Justice, justice, shalt thou pursue,' but you are afraid to practice what you preach."

## The Labor War.

The sentence of Bouck White to six months at Blackwell's Island was affirmed on June 22 by Judge Malone, in the General Sessions Court. Mayor Mitchell was reported to have announced that he would not interfere by granting a pardon. [See current volume, page 492.]

In one branch of the Westinghouse Company at Pittsburgh, the switch and signal department, the demands of the strikers were granted after a conference on June 23, with the exception of the eight-hour day which both sides agreed to submit to arbitration. The men decided to return to work in this department. In other departments the strike still remains unsettled.

An incident of the internecine fight in the miners' union at Butte was a murderous assault on Mayor Duncan on July 3. The Mayor was compelled to kill his assailant in self defense.

Investigation proceeds in Chicago of blackmailing tactics by some business agents of the unions. The investigation has not yet resulted in any indictments, or in any libel charge against the newspapers which have published names of certain agents and plainly charged them with blackmail.

#### Bomb Explosion in New York.

The explosion of a bomb in a tenement house at 1626 Lexington Avenue, New York City, on July 4 killed Arthur Caron, Carl Hanson, Charles Berg and Marie Chavez, all said to be members of the I. W. W. No satisfactory evidence has yet been produced as to who is responsible for either the bomb or the explosion. A theory reported by the press that the bomb had been made by the victims and was intended to be carried by them twenty miles to Tarrytown to be used against the Rocke-

fellers remains so far a theory unsupported by evidence.

### Reactionaries Defeated in Pueblo.

The proposition submitted by the public service corporations and other reactionary elements of Pueblo, Colorado, to abandon the commission form of government and revert to the old mayor and council system, was defeated at the election on June 30. The vote was 5219 to 1689. Had the proposition carried the act of last November providing local singletax would have been automatically repealed, as would all other policies which can under the law be undertaken only by commission-governed cities. [See current volume, page 591.]

#### Illinois Senatorial Situation.

Raymond Robins of Chicago announced on July 3 that he will be a candidate for the Progressive party nomination for United States Senator from Illinois. An unauthorized statement regarding John Z. White has appeared in papers throughout the State, saying that he has withdrawn from the Democratic race in favor of Congressman Stringer. Mr. White has denied the report and declares his position is still the same as when first announced.

# Chicago School Board Changes. .

Mayor Harrison named six members of the Board on the 29th to fill the places of members retiring July 17. Three of the appointees, Harry A. Lipsky, Jacob W. Loeb and Mrs. John Mac-Mahon, succeed themselves. Joseph A. Holpuch, John W. Eckhart and Mrs. William E. Gallagher are new members. A strong effort was made by members of the women's clubs to secure the appointment of Mrs. George Bass, former president of the Chicago Woman's Club, and chairman on public affairs, in place of the seventh retiring member, Charles O. Sethness. But the Mayor on the 2d appointed Mrs. Charles O. Sethness to succeed her husband. Mr. Sethness opposed Mrs. Young's policies; Mrs. Sethness is in favor of them. [See current volume, page 468.]

## Protest Against Segregation.

A mass meeting of colored people was held in Louisville on July 5 to protest against a segregation ordinance recently passed in the city. The principal address was by Dr. J. E. Springarn of New York, chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Dr. Springarn, in arguing against the logic of the claims that the ordinance does not discriminate because it forbids the mov-