

ture of Vera Cruz, but later accounts agree that these have been grossly exaggerated, and that in reality there has been comparatively little lawlessness. Refugees fleeing from interior points were delayed and harrassed, but they are now permitted to leave Mexico City, and Secretary Bryan announces that there have been no authentic reports of deaths for several days.



Military operations have been confined mainly to the capture of Monterey by the Constitutionalists on the 24th, after five days of fighting. This was the strongest post left to the Federals in Northern Mexico. The defeated forces retreated toward Saltillo, some fifty miles to the southwest of Monterey. The Constitutionalists are also renewing their attacks on Tampico, but so far without success.



Army Bill a Law.

The Senate bill on April 24 passed the Hay army bill and on the following day it was signed by the President and became a law. The bill authorizes the creation of a volunteer army. It places under Federal control in war time or "while war is imminent," and after Congress shall have given special authority, the State militia and all other volunteer military organizations, but consent of three-fourths of the membership of any company, troop or battery, will be required before it can be taken over into the Federal service. On taking such organization over, the President may, if he sees fit, appoint an entirely new set of officers. The organizations taken over may, like the regulars, be sent on service out of the country. [See current volume, page 393.]



The Labor War.

At least twenty-nine dead, the greater number women and children, is the result of a three days' battle near Ludlow, Colorado, on April 20, 21 and 22. Details of events that led up to the fight are being reported slowly and unsatisfactorily. The most complete account was in the Chicago Day Book of April 24. According to this the trouble started on April 19. About 1,200 strikers and their families, having been evicted from the company's houses, were living in tents on land leased for them by the union. A number of these were playing ball on Sunday when the guards tried to break up the game, but were driven away. Three machine guns were then set up and trained on the tent colony. On Monday, April 20, Louis Tikas, a Greek striker, protested against pointing the guns at women and children and was promptly shot down. A different version of the occurrence was, however, given by Major P. J. Hamrock of the militia, who is reported by the Associated Press to have said that Tikas and a

crowd of strikers opened fire on his men while drilling. The battle then began in earnest. The women and children fled for safety into cellars while the fight proceeded. The experience of one woman reported in the Day Book is as follows:

All day long we lay down there without anything to eat or drink. I had six children, the oldest eleven, and they all cried. All through the camp we could hear women shrieking and calling to God and the Virgin to come and save their children. The firing continued and the bullets whistled over us hour after hour, and after a while I heard a woman cursing terribly. Later I heard that she had had her hand shot off at the wrist when she reached up from her cellar and tried to get a pail of water to give her children a drink. My children begged me for water, and finally little William—he was my eldest boy—said he was going to get them a drink. So he climbed up out of the cellar and he never came back. I know now that a bullet tore his head all away. I should have gone for the water myself, but I had to stay with the babies.

Just when it was beginning to get dark the gunmen dashed in among the tents and set fire to some of them. Our tents were all close together and the fire spread fast. All the time they kept shooting into the tents, although they knew our men, with their guns, were all away up in the hills. I took my children and ran to a deep arroyo (gully) where there were about 50 other women and babies. Lots of the others, though, were afraid to come out of their cellars and they suffocated under the burning floors and side walls which had been built up of boards.

In a cave under one tent were found after the battle the bodies of eleven children and two women. All the strikers retreated to the hills. The surviving women and children were sent to Trinidad by the militia, where they were turned over to union officials. Altogether twenty-one persons are known to have been killed on this day. [See current volume, page 393.]



On April 22 there was a clash between strikers and guards at Delagua. After a sharp fight the strikers were driven toward Aguilar. Here the Empire mine was attacked and much property destroyed. J. W. Siple, president of the mine company, and Superintendent William Waddell, with twenty men, three women and two children were forced to take refuge in the mine, where they were held prisoners. Finally an offer of release was made on condition that the imprisoned men would give up their arms. Siple rejected the offer for his men but allowed the women and children to leave. On April 24 Siple and his men were rescued by the militia. In the meantime there had been skirmishes between strikers and guards at Ludlow, Primrose, Cameron and other places in the strike district. At least eight men were killed in the fighting of the 22d and 23d, four guards and four strikers.

Governor Ammons of Colorado being out of the State, Lieutenant Governor Fitzgerald issued a call on April 22 for a special session of the Legislature to appropriate money to maintain the militia in the strike zone. On Governor Ammons' return on April 25 he was waited on by a delegation of the Woman's Peace Society, headed by Mrs. R. W. Steele, widow of the late Chief Justice of the State. The delegation presented resolutions demanding that the militia in the strike district be replaced by Federal troops and that charges be investigated which have been brought against Major P. J. Hamrock and Lieutenant Linderfelt. Governor Ammons sent a message to President Wilson asking, "If we cannot control the situation in the southern Colorado coal fields can we have Federal troops." The President replied:

I cannot conceive of the authority of the State of Colorado being ineffective, and earnestly suggest that renewed efforts be made to prevent hostile action on either side or any action that might provoke hostility. Congressional committee about to revisit State for conference on grounds.

The form of Governor Ammons' message, not being in accordance with his promise to the women the delegation returned, and finally he sent an unequivocal request for Federal troops.

At a mass meeting held in Denver on April 26, said to have been attended by a crowd of from 5,000 to 6,000, Governor Ammons was bitterly denounced for his course in the strike. Resolutions were introduced by George Creel, the magazine writer and former police commissioner of New York City. The resolutions demand the impeachment of Governor Ammons and Lieutenant Governor Fitzgerald at the coming extra session of the Legislature on May 4. Both the Governor and Lieutenant Governor are declared in the resolutions to be "traitors to the people and accessories to the murder of babies at Ludlow." Should the Legislature fail to impeach, the resolutions declare that "we hereby pledge ourselves to institute recall proceedings so that these servile tools of special privilege may be deprived of their power to betray the oppressed." Furthermore the instant withdrawal of the militia from the strike district was demanded, and also the arrest on murder charges of Major Hamrock and Lieutenant Linderfelt, the seizure by the State of mining lands with the purpose of operating them, repudiation of the debt incurred by keeping troops in the strike zone, and advice was given to "all justice-loving citizens of Colorado" to arm themselves for protection of their homes. At a meeting on the same day at Colorado Springs, called by the ministers of the city, a telegram was sent to President Wilson urging him to put an end to "the present terrible conditions in the southern Colorado coal fields."

President Wilson April 27 made a personal appeal to John D. Rockefeller to bring about a settlement of the Colorado strike trouble. Mr. Rockefeller declared that he had turned his interests over to his son, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Congressman Martin B. Foster, Chairman of the House Committee on Mines at once called on the younger Rockefeller and tried to impress upon him his duty to take action that would prevent further disorder and loss of life. Mr. Rockefeller, however, refused. President Wilson on April 28 called out Federal troops, and ordered the militia withdrawn and rioters to disperse.

On April 27 another battle was reported by Sheriff Jeff Farr of Huerfano County. He declared that strikers attacked and captured the McNally mine near Walsenburg, part of the property of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company. The miners and guards escaped and took refuge in the Walsen mine. This mine was then attacked. Further reports say that the strikers were using a captured machine gun, and that nine men, including two of the attacking party, had been killed. The superintendent of the mine, in escaping with his family in an automobile, was fired at. His daughter, Miss Margaret Gregory, was wounded in the arm. Still later reports tell briefly of other attacks on mines in different localities, but no satisfactory details are given.

For making addresses to strike-breakers in the mines at Colliers, West Virginia, of the West Virginia and Pittsburgh Coal Company, eleven men and one woman were found guilty of contempt of court by Federal Judge A. G. Dayton at Philippi, West Virginia, on April 25. Fines and prison sentences were imposed on all. Judge Dayton had issued an injunction several months ago forbidding even peaceable discussion with mine employees. [See current volume, pages 36, 326.]

Ford Regulates Workers' Lives.

Employees of the Ford Automobile Works of Detroit were notified on April 21 that those participating in the division of profits must conform to what is called the "American standard of living." Married men must not, under penalty of discharge, keep boarders in their homes, and single men must not live in cheap rooming houses where there are no bathing conveniences and men sleep in shifts. Men of foreign nationalities must attend a school at the plant where English is taught. The new rules were issued after Mr. Ford had received the report of sociological experts hired by the company. [See current volume, page 50.]

End of Rate Hearing.

The hearing on the proposed rate increase be-