

They claim to hold the Carpathian passes, and to have advanced to Przemysl and Lemberg, but the Russians appear to have the stronger force. The campaign in Bosnia has resulted in nothing conclusive. Claims of success by the Austrians are offset by like claims of the Servians and Montenegrins. Turkey, which has long been suspected of a desire to aid Germany, has given renewed assurances that she will remain neutral. Her war preparations, however, continue. The court sitting at Sarajevo, Bosnia, is reported to have found guilty of treason Gavrio Prinzip, the assassin, and Grabez, a student, Nedeljo Gabrinovics, and 21 of Prinzip's accomplices for the killing of Archduke Francis Ferdinand and his wife. This assassination precipitated the present war.

Belgium.

Brand Whitlock, the American minister to Belgium, says that less than two weeks' supply of food remains in the cities, and that the rural districts have still less. Nearly 7,000,000 people will face famine unless relief comes quickly from the outside world. Though the Germans seized the food in some of the cities for their troops, they disclaim all responsibility for feeding the Belgians. Reports received by Mr. Whitlock from Louvain, Liege, Namur and Termonde say that the conditions are worse than in Brussels. The beet and cabbage crops have been lost, and meat and milk supplies have been cut off by the invaders, who took all the cattle. People whose homes have been ruined are wandering helplessly from place to place. One hundred soup kitchens are feeding 100,000 destitute in Brussels. The American commission was unable to ship its first cargo of food from England, amounting to 2,500 tons, until the 28th. This food from England must be replaced, and future supplies will have to come from neutral countries. The Belgian Minister at Washington, Mr. Havenith, is bending all his efforts to the securing of relief for his destitute countrymen.

South Africa.

Colonel Maritz, the Boer officer who deserted the Union of South African forces to join the Germans in German Southwest Africa, is officially reported defeated at Kakamas, Gordonia district of Bechuanaland, by the Union forces. Colonel Maritz is said to have been wounded in the engagement, and have fled to German territory. His forces are put at 1,000, several hundred of whom were Germans. This is Maritz' second defeat, the first not having been given to the press.

Japan.

Having possessed themselves of the islands in the Pacific archipelagoes that served as bases for the German war ships, the Japanese navy patrols the routes of trade. No headway is announced by

Japan in its campaign against Kia-Chau. Repeated attacks have been made on the German fortifications, but without success.

On the Sea.

The only important naval activities reported are the operations of the British and French warships off the coast of Belgium in co-operation with the Allies on short. Light draught warships have been able to approach near enough to the land to drive the German forces three to four miles inland. Great Britain has released the three American vessels that had been seized. The tank steamer, John D. Rockefeller, was released upon the showing that her cargo would not be reshipped to Germany. The Brindilla and the Platuria, German ships transferred to the American flag since the beginning of hostilities, have also been released. Great Britain accepts the doctrine of "ultimate destination" and urges shippers to show the real destination of their goods. The declaration that cotton was not even conditional contraband, and might be shipped in neutral vessels either to neutral nations or to belligerents has been followed by large purchases of American cotton by the Germans. The question of transferring foreign ships to American registry during hostilities was not raised.

Mexico and the United States.

Reports from Mexico are contradictory and very confusing. The Aguas Calientes Convention voted to place the government in the hands of a committee of five. It also instructed General Carranza to give the assurances asked by the United States that Mexicans employed by the American Government in Vera Cruz would not be molested after the withdrawal of troops, and that importers would not be levied upon a second time for goods imported during American occupancy. General Carranza refused to issue such a proclamation, but said he would give oral assurances. Conflicting reports come to this country regarding General Carranza's retirement. The Washington administration considers the prospects for a peaceable settlement to be bright. [See current volume, page 1017.]

The armistice was broken by General Herrera, a Carranza follower, who attacked the Villa garrison at Parral, Chihuahua. The fight is reported to have lasted five hours, and to have resulted in a loss of 300 killed. The Villa men hold the town.

The Labor War.

A definition was given on October 15 of the order of the President forbidding employment in the Colorado coal fields where Federal soldiers are stationed, of persons not citizens of Colorado. In

a letter to Colonel Lockett in command, Secretary of War Garrison wrote that the term "citizens of Colorado" should apply to bonafide workmen who come to work in the mines and not to professional strike breakers who have no intention of becoming permanent citizens. [See current volume pages 466, 947.]



Concerning the reported confession at Martinez, California, of J. P. Emerson, that he had been employed by the Merchants, Manufacturers and Employers Association of Stockton to plant dynamite, the following statement was made in a letter dated October 23 by L. D. Calkins, secretary-manager of this association:

On Saturday night, October 3, Emerson voluntarily made a second "confession," repudiating all of his statements implicating the Association and those of its officers and employes he had previously accused of conspiring with him. In this latter statement he says that a man whom he designated as Kowsky, but of whom the Association knows nothing, stole the dynamite found in Emerson's possession from box cars in transit. Emerson says he himself planted it, and then pretending to discover it, reported his prowess to the Association in order to show the Association that he was a clever detective. On the 20th instant Emerson was held to answer at Martinez on a charge of burglary. He will also have to answer to a charge of having high explosives in his possession.

[See current volume, page 974.]



The American Bar Association at Washington on October 21 passed resolutions denouncing the labor exemption clause of the Clayton law, and condemning the judicial recall.



Congress Adjourns.

The Conference Committee on the emergency revenue bill reduced the beer tax provision to \$1.50 a barrel and eliminated the tax of five cents a gallon on rectified spirits. In this shape the bill was adopted by both houses on October 22 and was signed by the President on the same day. Both houses were kept in session until October 24 by holding up of a motion to adjourn through a filibuster led by Representative Henry of Texas. The object of the filibuster was to force consideration of measures for the relief of the cotton situation in the South. Mr. Henry was finally induced on October 24 to permit adjournment. This ends what was practically a 567 day session. [See current volume, page 1018.]



Interstate Commerce Commission.

The hearing by the Interstate Commerce Commission on the proposed rate increase closed on October 23 with the testimony of Samuel Rea,

president of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Mr. Rea repeated the arguments advanced by other witnesses for the railroads. Louis Brandeis, counsel for the Commission, asked Mr. Rea whether anything had happened since the previous decision of the Commission to cause any change in conditions on which that decision was based. Mr. Rea admitted that he knew of nothing. Mr. Clifford Thorne, Railroad Commissioner of Iowa, drew from Mr. Rea on cross-examination the admission that the net revenue of the railroads in 1913 equaled 7.61 per cent on all outstanding stock. In his argument to the Commission, Mr. Thorne pointed out that this is the third time that the railroads have asked to be allowed to increase rates on the plea that a crisis existed. The two previous times were in 1910 and 1913. In both cases the plea was found on investigation to be false. Further arguments will be heard by the Commission on October 30 and 31, but no testimony will be taken. [See current volume, page 1019.]



Governor's Conference.

The seventh annual conference of Governors will be held at Madison, Wisconsin, at the new Park Hotel from Tuesday, November 10, to Saturday, November 14. The program includes discussions of rural credits, State control of national resources, uniform laws for foreign corporations, extradition and safety and sanitation legislation. Among the speakers on the program are Governors McGovern of Wisconsin, O'Neal of Alabama, Spry of Utah, Miller of Delaware, Stewart of Montana, Byrne of South Dakota and Dunne of Illinois.



Malicious Attempt to Injure Fairhope.

A clean bill of health was given to the People's Railway Corporation of the colony of Fairhope, Alabama, by the Post Office Department after a thorough investigation on October 8. The investigation resulted from an evidently malicious complaint by some unknown enemy of the corporation. The inspector found the complaint groundless. The People's Railway Corporation was formed to secure direct railway connections for Fairhope with the outside world. It is composed entirely of friends of the colony. It has obtained funds through sale of stock with which to build a railway from Fairhope to the nearest point on the Louisville and Nashville railroad. Work on the road has actually begun.



Teachers Federation and Taxation.

The Chicago Teachers' Federation sent the following questions to candidates for the Board of Review and Board of Assessors:

If elected, will you vote to secure at the quadren-