

while operators in an adjoining room took down what he said. One suspect, Allen Johnson, went insane after he had finally been released. Another one, Nels Nelson, committed suicide. A. B. McKenzie, district attorney of Contra Costa county, told of the case of Alfred Nelson, one of the suspects arrested by private detectives. To prevent Nelson's release on habeas corpus, he had been transferred from one city to another in order to keep him hidden. While in jail at one of these places, R. D. Cradlebaugh, a detective, in sweating him, tried to get Nelson to say that he had seen District Attorney Manwell shot by Blackie Ford, later convicted of murder in the second degree. On his refusal Nelson was beaten up by Cradlebaugh. Eventually Nelson was released, and through Mackenzie's efforts Cradlebaugh was convicted of assault and sentenced to a year in prison. Robert H. Royce, an attorney, declared that the release of suspects on habeas corpus proceedings was rendered difficult by the practice of hiding prisoners. Austin Lewis, attorney for the accused rioters, told how the case offered an example of solidarity which disregarded race lines. The Japanese employed at Wheatland had quit in a body after Ford and Suhr were arrested, and an advertisement appeared in all Japanese newspapers requesting Japanese laborers to keep away from the hopfields until the trouble was settled. Lewis denied that the trouble was due to agitators. Twenty-seven languages were spoken on the Durst ranch and when the trouble occurred the camp had been in existence only from Thursday to Saturday.



The Labor War.

Governor S. V. Stewart, of Montana, ordered mobilization of the entire State militia on August 31, as a result of the factional troubles among the miners at Butte. [See current volume, page 637.]



The phosphate mines in Florida near Ocala and Tampa closed on August 29. The stoggage of importations of potash from Germany, owing to the war, is given as the cause. Several thousand workers have been thrown out of employment. Under local ordinances ordering arrest as vagrants of all unemployed, the former mine employes who have not found work elsewhere, are reported as being arrested.



Arrests of strike leaders at Trinidad, Colorado, owing to the troubles which culminated in the Ludlow massacre, began on September 2 when twenty-two men were taken to jail. Warrants are said to be out for several hundred more. [See current volume, pages 586, 637, 830.]



A tentative basis for adjustment of the Colorado

strike was suggested on September 7 by President Wilson. It was in accordance with a plan drawn by the Commission on Conciliation of the Federal Department of Labor. The suggestion was sent to the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, the Victor-American Fuel Company, Rocky Mountain Fuel Company and the United Mine Workers of America. Under the proposed agreement, a commission would consider all claims and grievances and pending its decision no mine guards will be employed, the Federal troops would be withdrawn, picketing and parading in the strike district would be stopped and the claim for contractual relations would be waived. The expense of the commission would be divided between employers and employes. A basis for agreement is suggested as follows:

The establishment of a three-year truce, subject to the enforcement of the mining and labor laws of Colorado; return to work of miners who have not been convicted of law violations; prohibition of intimidation of union or non-union men; publication of current scale of wages and rules, and the appointment of a grievance committee by the employes. A further provision is that in cases where the officials of the company or the grievance committee cannot settle difficulties, a commission of three men named by the President shall act as the final referee.



In his letter containing these suggestions the President said:

As you know, federal troops have been in the state for the purpose of maintaining order now for a long time. I have been hoping every day during that time that some light would come out of the perplexities of the situation, some indication that the mine operators and the miners who are now on strike were willing to consider proposals of accommodation and settlement, but no such indication has reached me.

I am now obliged to determine whether I am justified in using the army of the United States indefinitely for police purposes.

Many things may come out of this situation if it is not handled with public spirit and with a sincere desire to safeguard the public as well as all others concerned; perhaps the most serious of them all the feeling which is generated and the impression of the public that no one is willing to act, no one willing to yield anything, no one willing even to consider terms of accommodation.

As you know, two representatives of the government of the United States have been actively engaged in investigating the whole situation and in trying to reach a dispassionate conclusion as to what it is possible to do in justice to both sides not only but also in the interest of the public.

The result of their investigations and of their very thoughtful consideration in the matter has been the drafting of the inclosed "tentative basis for the adjustment" of the strike. I recommend it to you for your most serious consideration.

I hope that you will consider it as if you were acting for the whole country.

Judge Dever of Chicago on September 4 enjoined the Sheet Metal Contractors' Association from locking out members of the Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers' local union.

NEWS NOTES

—October 4 was designated by President Wilson on September 8 as a day of prayer for peace.

—The Georgia Democratic State convention on September 2 nominated Thomas W. Hardwick for Senator to fill the unexpired term of the late Senator Bacon.

—Under the new registry law three British vessels received American registry on September 3. These are the Moldegaard, the Robert Dollar and the Wind Rush, all engaged in South American trade. [See current volume, page 805].

—Former Governor Sulzer filed on September 3 as a candidate for the Progressive party nomination for Governor of New York. He is also registered as a candidate of the Prohibition party and the American party. [See current volume, page 807].

—The Interstate Commerce Commission on August 31 ordered a 33 1-3 per cent reduction on carload freights on pig iron from Virginia furnaces to Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston. The order goes into effect on October 15. [See current volume, page 756].

—Theodore Roosevelt, in a speech at New Orleans on September 3 is reported to have denounced repeal of the sugar tariff. He further suggested that the \$25,000,000 proposed to be paid to Colombia, had better be used in developing the Mississippi. [See current volume, pages 693, 831.]

—The Republican and Democratic parties in Nebraska endorsed at their primaries on August 18 the pending constitutional amendment increasing the power of the legislature in matters relating to taxation. This entitles it to be placed in both party columns and every straight vote will count in its favor at the November election. [See current volume, page 854].

—The Ohio Republican State convention on August 26 declared in regard to taxation: "We pledge ourselves to home rule in the valuation and assessment of all property for taxation; to the selection of county, township and precinct assessors by the people of their respective communities, either by direct election or by appointment by elective county officials and to enact a just and efficient system of taxation which will insure the full and honest return of property." [See vol. XVI., page 1164].

—Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the Commission on Industrial Relations, addressed the San Francisco branch of the California League for Home Rule on Taxation on August 28. He is reported to have said that at the bottom of industrial unrest is the fact that industry is burdened by taxes and that the cry to untax industry is one that should be heard. Referring to the fact that he himself owns 200 acres of land near Kansas City, Mr. Walsh said that in all the years he has owned it he only did eleven hours

of work on it, which he spent in trying to clear twenty-five acres of timber with his own hands. He quit because he found the work too hard and hired "a free and independent workingman to clean it for \$30 a month."

PRESS OPINIONS

Where Sympathy Belongs.

Johnstown (Pa) Democrat, September 1.—"With whom does The Democrat sympathize in the pending war?" writes a correspondent. We'll answer that. With the German, French, Belgian and English boys who man the trenches. With the German, French, English and Belgian boys who crowd the hospitals. With the mothers who bore these boys. With the fathers who saw them grow to manhood and loved them as they grew. With the women who were wedded to those boys. With the children they left when they marched to the front. With the poor peasant woman who struggles against the press of war—engendered poverty. With those who in the cities cry out for food. With the men who fight for fatherland hating war in their hearts. With the great artists like Kreisler who must turn their marvelous melody-producing fingers to works of destruction. With the people who must live out their days with lives forever blighted by this war. With the innocent whose fields have been trampled under foot by marching armies. With all the host of those who under the press of a mistaken patriotism must offer up their lives. Those are the ones with whom we sympathize.



The Censorship Abuse.

Cleveland Plain Dealer, September 2.—Censorship in Chicago may be cited as an example of pernicious overzealousness. Films are slashed ruthlessly and indiscriminately. Essential parts of stories are cut out because they might, in some obscure way, be an incentive to crime or immorality. Such action is an offense against a large part of the people of Chicago. The moving picture theater is the place of amusement frequented by the less opulent, who are the majority in American cities, and they have the right to demand that their pleasure be not spoiled by prudes and theorists in official positions. . . . Practically all films shown in Ohio are passed by the National Board of Censorship, a volunteer body composed of expert sociologists, and its judgment may be considered superior to those of the official boards which have been created here and elsewhere. . . . Constant tinkering with films produced by the reputable concerns and already approved by the national board is unjustifiable and not beneficial.



Canada Was Not Consulted.

Grain Growers Guide (Winnipeg) August 5.—The war demon is abroad in Europe and thousands of men are engaged in the slaughter of their fellow men. Those who ordered the war will be comfortably located far beyond the danger zone. But homes will be desolated, crops destroyed, children orphaned,