

attention to the situation more successfully than all the conferences, and he is now paying the penalty of effective action on behalf of the working class.

The International Workers' Defense Conference proposes to appeal the case.

We who have justice and fair play at heart must give the money for this appeal. Don't content yourself with sending to the treasurer of the Conference only what you can spare. This boy is suffering every imaginable deprivation and humiliation for his class. Are you not ready to make some sacrifice, even of personal comfort?

Should the appeal be denied the League further announces that it will use the money to pay the fine. [See current volume page 326.]



The Panama Canal Open.

The Panama Canal was officially opened to the commerce of the world on August 15. The steamship Ancon of the United States War Department passed thorough from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The canal thus becomes open to all vessels drawing no more than thirty feet of water and up to 10,000 tons register. The charge for passage is \$1.25 a ton. A more formal opening will take place in the spring. [See current volume, page 735.]

NEWS NOTES

—The nomination of Carl Schurz Vrooman as Assistant Secretary of Agriculture was confirmed by the Senate on August 12. [See current volume, page 757.]

—Ben J. Salmon of Denver, secretary of the Colorado Singletax Association, is a candidate for the Democratic legislative nomination at the primaries on September 8.

—Dr. Roque Saenz Pena, President of the Argentine Republic since March 12, 1910, died on August 9 at Buenos Aires. Vice President Victorino de la Plaza will be his successor. [See vol. xiii, p. 1000.]

—Both Governor Martin H. Glynn of New York and former Governor William Sulzer announced their candidacy on August 16 for the Democratic nomination for Governor. [See current volume, page 735.]

—The City Council of San Anselmo, California, endorsed the pending Home Rule in Taxtion Amendment on August 7. This makes 31 municipalities which have approved it. [See current volume, page 686.]

—The Secretary of the Navy announced on August 12 that all the big ships of the Atlantic fleet will be withdrawn from Mexican waters before September 1, leaving only small craft for patrol duty or for crossing the Gulf to Dominican or Haitian waters.

—Investigation of the high cost of food has been ordered by the Department of Justice in many centers. In Chicago the Federal grand jury is conducting an inquiry. In Brooklyn the Federal district attorney has issued subpoenas for a grand jury to meet on August 19. The Baltimore district attorney

has asked for three special agents to assist in investigation. In Philadelphia complaints are being made to the district attorney.

—In spite of the war, the 19th Interparliamentary Conference is to be held at Stockholm, Sweden, on August 19-22. The program announced includes reports on various subjects by Belgian, Austrian and French delegates, as well as by delegates from neutral countries.

—Ex-Governor Franklin Fort of New Jersey, Charles C. Smith of Boston and James M. Sullivan, Minister to the Dominican Republic comprising a special commission sent by President Wilson to present a peace plan to warring factions in San Domingo, sailed for Puerto Plata on August 15.

—Of 294 local taxing bodies in New Zealand, 132 raise all local revenue through taxation of land values exclusively. The population of the 132 Single-tax districts has increased twenty-five per cent since the law granting local option in taxation was adopted in 1896. The population of the remainder of the colony has increased but five-eighths of one per cent.

—A new treaty with Nicaragua was signed on August 5 by Secretary Bryan and the Nicaraguan Minister, General Chamorra. Under it the United States agrees to pay Nicaragua \$3,000,000 for perpetual interoceanic canal rights and for naval bases in Fonseca Bay and Little and Big Corn Islands. The clause was omitted, contained in previous treaties, granting to the United States the right to intervene in case of internal disorder. [See current volume, pages 86, 601.]

—The Federal Commission on Industrial Relations heard stories at Seattle on August 15 of ill treatment of men in the lumber camps. Reverend O. H. McGill declared that the men live under most miserable conditions and receive as little pay as possible. Referring to testimony previously given to the effect that the men frequently throw away their mattresses he said: "If you could see some of those mattresses you would not be surprised. I know of a camp where the men fight each other for the privilege of sleeping on the table in preference to their bunks." [See current volume, page 783.]

PRESS OPINIONS

Europe Needs a Schoolmaster.

Boston Post, August 2.—As these lines are written all Europe is an armed camp. . . . A general war, with all its horrors, seems very near. In the face of this threat of a terror that would tear Europe to pieces and have its grim reflection over here in the rapidly advancing prices for the necessaries of life, let us stop to think for a brief moment of the situation in our own country but a few months ago. They named the President of the United States the "Schoolmaster" then—the men and newspapers that were shouting for war with the Mexicans. They sneered at his policy of "watchful waiting." They called loudly for a "strong man" to deal with the problem. And a good many of the newspapers, they must now be ashamed to remember, roared, "On to Mexico City!" in big type and prated about putting out the fire when it started—in short urged the ad-