

coarser than seventeen meshes to the square inch, galvanized. Admiral Walker suggests that copper and brass wire also might be utilized. For the hospitals 20,000 yards will be needed.

THE German government has called upon the Russian government for the return of the Japanese mail taken from the Prinz Heinrich on the Red sea on July 15. The czar is also asked to disavow the action of the commander of the Russian vessel Smolensk. The British ambassador at St. Petersburg has also presented the Russian government a protest against the seizure on the Red sea of the peninsular and oriental steamer, Malacca. This vessel was carrying British stores for the naval establishment at Hong Kong. Russian authorities insist that they have information that a large amount of contraband was being shipped from England through the Red sea to Japan.

LONDON cablegrams, under date of July 21, state that another British owned vessel known as the Pak Ling has been seized in the Red sea. The Pak Ling sailed from Middlesbrough, England, June 18, and from London July 2, bound for Yokohama. The London correspondent for the Associated press says that he interviewed many prominent persons in close touch with the government relative to the seizure of British vessels by the Russians and that there is a remarkably hostile feeling against Russia of a strength and bitterness almost without precedence since the Crimean war. This correspondent adds: "Even the most conservative who have been in the service of the government for many years and who openly deplored the haste with which they thought Great Britain had been plunged into the Transvaal war tonight frankly declared for a policy of reprisal against what is regarded here as Russia's violation of treaties and her piratical attack on British commerce."

IT WAS announced during the afternoon of July 20 that the great packing house strike had been settled. This strike began at noon on July 12 and affected all the large packing houses of the country. More than 60,000 workmen were idle during that time and it is estimated that the strike cost the packers in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000. Referring to the settlement of the strike, the Associated press says: "The whole controversy will be submitted to a board of arbitrators, both sides agreeing to abide by whatever decision this board may reach. Pending the decision of the arbitration board the men will be taken back to work as rapidly as possible by the packers, and it is further agreed that all the old employees shall be reinstated within forty-five days from the date work is resumed. If any of the former employees are still unemployed at the expiration of that time, such persons are to have the privilege of submitting their cases to the arbitration board for settlement. The strikers will return to work as soon as they can be notified of the peaceable adjustment of the trouble, and it is expected by Friday morning everything will be in normal shape at all the plants in the different cities where the employees were on strike. Half an hour after the decision had been reached tonight to arbitrate M. J. Donnelly, the strike leader, was in long distance telephone communication with the leaders of the strike in outside cities and had notified them that a satisfactory settlement had been reached and directed the strikers to return to work as soon as possible."

THE settlement of this strike was, according to the Associated press, brought about by the allied crafts at the stock yards who would have become involved in the controversy had it continued longer. Leaders of these unions who represent about 14,000 men sent a final appeal to the packers asking for a conference between the packers, the strikers and themselves. This appeal received a favorable response, resulting in the conference in which an agreement was reached.

THE agreement is signed by Thomas H. Connors, Thomas E. Wilson, and Edward Tilden, the committee representing the packing companies. It is approved by W. J. Donnelly, William M. Sterling, John Floersch and Thomas R. Kidd on behalf of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America. The agreement is also signed by the following representatives of the packers: Armour & Co., by Arthur

Meeker; Nelson Morris & Co., by Edward Morris; Schwartzschild & Sulzberger Co., by J. E. Maurer; Swift & Co., by L. F. Swift; National Packing Co., by J. P. Lyman; Cudahy Packing Co., by E. A. Cudahy; Libby, McNeal & Libby, by Edward Tilden.

AN AGREEMENT entered into between the representatives of the strikers and the packers is as follows: "Wages and working conditions of all employes now on strike to be submitted to arbitration, each party to this agreement having the privilege of bringing before the arbitrators for decision any question of wages or conditions or any other grievance they may have and both to abide by the decision of the arbitrators. The packing companies signing this agreement to retain all employes now at work who wish to remain and will reemploy all employes now out as fast as possible, without discrimination. Employes are to return to work at the wages received when going on strike, pending the decision of the arbitrators; arbitrators to consist of three practical packing house men, to be selected as follows: One representative of the packing companies; one representative of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America; these two to select a third member. The two first shall meet within forty-eight hours after resumption of work, proceed to elect the third member and shall meet daily for that purpose until this duty has been completed. When the third member has been selected the three shall meet daily unless adjournment be had by unanimous consent until the final conclusion has been reached and the award made. Any former employes not re-employed within forty-five days from date work is resumed to have the privilege of submitting his or her case to arbitration on questions of discrimination, decision of arbitrators to govern."

THE Portland mine in Colorado, which has been closed several times by the military authorities, because the owners of the mine employed union labor, was again required to suspend operations July 21. The Denver, Colo., correspondent for the Associated press says: "The mine has been giving employment to about 500 men. Squads of soldiers have arrested forty of these, including the entire mechanical force at the three working shafts. This comprised engineers, firemen, master mechanics and skilled men in other departments. The men thus summarily removed from their labors are accused of no crime, the only accusation being that they refused to sacrifice their membership in the Western Federation of Miners and take out Mine Owners' association working cards. Six of the forty men arrested were declared to be 'all right' by the military board and were released. Twelve others were released on their own recognizance. Each of the remaining twenty-two, when questioned, admitted that he had intended to quit work on the Portland, but denied knowledge of the others' plans. It is alleged that the union men working in the mechanical department were to walk out in a body. There are said to have been about 100 union miners still at work in the Portland who have not taken out Mine Owners' association cards, and they will be required to secure such cards or leave the district."

THE packing house strike, an agreement for the settlement of which was made on July 20, was renewed at 12 o'clock, July 22. The working men claimed that the agreement had been violated by the packers in that they refused to reinstate all of their former employes and discriminated against those who had been conspicuous in the strike. President Donnelly of the Butchers' Union issued the following statement: "The packers signed an agreement that there would be no discrimination in the rehiring of the men. This was accepted by the officers of the organization in good faith. On the return of the men this morning they were lined up like cattle. The foremen and superintendents would walk through the line and pick out a man and say, 'You come up.' The next man would be pushed out of line and told that he could not be active. It was always the active union men whom they could not use. We understood the agreement perfectly and the strike was only called after the packers had violated the same. This has been their system in the past and that was our main reason for insisting on the time limit in the agreement, but in spite of this the packers' intentions were to hire only such men as were favorites. They also hired men in some of the departments who had not

been employed prior to the strike. Superintendent Pension of the Armour canning department addressed the employes in the following language this morning: 'You went away like cattle, and we will take you back like cattle.' This language was used both to men and women."

PRESIDENT DONNELLY sent out notices to all the packing centers informing the men that the packers had violated the agreement and instructing the leaders to call out all the employes of the packing houses. The order was obeyed at 12 o'clock, July 22, and the strike was renewed with increased vigor. Representatives of the packers issued the following statement: "Much to our surprise, the men, after reporting for work this morning and after getting started in nearly all the houses, were ordered out again. We thought the officers of the organization clearly understood that the business had been more or less disrupted during the strike and that some delays would be required to get started up again in anything like full capacity. It is the intention of the packers to carry out their agreement in every particular, and if any house has given cause for grievance the same can be, and future grievances will be, readily adjusted." It was announced by the representatives of the working men that they would carry out all the allied trades in all the packing houses unless the packers yield.

BYRD S. COLER, the well known New York democrat, writing in the Independent, tells this interesting story:

"A few years ago, a very few, a prominent member of congress from one of the great cities went to his party leader at home and suggested a policy to be followed by the city delegation on a great public question.

"'Will it do any good?' the leader asked.

"'I think it will help the party,' the congressman replied.

"'I don't mean that. What effect will it have on the stock market?'

"'None.'

"'Then do as you please about it.'

"The party leader who said this was never accused of personal dishonesty, yet he made a fortune in a few years. He followed the letter and spirit of commercialism in politics. The public welfare did not concern him, and he had no interest in legislation unless it benefited trade."

IN AN editorial entitled "Artistic Corruption," the Wall Street Journal, commenting upon Mr. Coler's statement, says:

"Mr. Coler used this story to illustrate the evil of commercialism in politics, which he says has reached the danger point. But it serves also to show the new methods of corruptly influencing legislation and executive acts. It is no longer necessary to pay a public official a sum of money in order to secure some special privilege or to prevent the enactment or enforcement of some troublesome law. That method is indeed still followed to some extent, but it is crude and unsatisfactory. On the part of the corporation it involves some fictitious entry in the books to cover up the transaction. On the part of the recipient of the bribe it involves the risk that always attends the handling of large bills—they can generally be traced in some way."

But there is a more artistic, a more effective method of bribery, and the Journal describes it in this way:

"It is through the facilities of the stock market. Is it desired to secure some franchise or other municipal privilege? Put the boss in some speculative deal the success of which depends upon the attaining of this privilege. Surely there is no reason why a boss may not 'invest in stocks,' and there is nothing to show the corrupt connection between his 'investment' and the corporation desiring something which it can obtain in no other way than by the short cut of corruption. A whole legislature could be let into 'a good thing' in the stock market in the same way. A number of legislators would thus be made richer and certain financial interests benefited, and at the same time the public, however, suspicious it might be, would be none the wiser. Even an inquisitive and honest district attorney would find it difficult to trace the connecting link of corruption. This kind of commercialism in politics is the most dangerous of all. There is no way, it seems to us, to diminish the evil except by the honest men in the corporations refusing absolutely to countenance such methods, and by the people insisting upon a higher type of men in public service."