



Owing to the general industrial depression in England, the approaching winter is viewed with alarm. Thousands of people in London alone are without work. The London council has been investigating the subject and finds that there is not sufficient work in the country to afford employment for the whole population, and the impending winter promises to be the worst known for years so far as concerns industrial conditions.

At the closing session of the national civic federation conference in Chicago on October 17, Samuel Gompers of the American federation made an impressive speech in favor of the workingmen. Senator Mark Hanna presided at the closing session of the conference and with other speakers advised "conservatism" and "harmony" in the relations of capital and labor.

On October 17, Jayne MacVeagh authorized an unqualified denial to the representations recently printed respecting his remarks in reference to the Venezuelan arbitration. Mr. MacVeagh was the representative of the peace nations before The Hague. These nations included the United States, France, Belgium, Holland, Spain, Denmark, and Mexico. The statement denied by Mr. MacVeagh is to the effect that he had offended the parties to the arbitration conference by disparaging the legal ability of the arbitrators.

The jury in the case of D. V. Miller and J. M. Johns, on trial in the federal court at Cincinnati, O., recently on the charge of an alleged conspiracy to extort a bribe, was unable to agree and was discharged on October 17. This is the first of the trials in the many indictments returned against officials connected with the postoffice department, as a result of the recent investigations in that branch of the federal service. A new trial of the accused has been ordered.

A big bank failure was reported from Mexico City on October 17 when a concern known as the International Bank and Trust company of America closed its doors in voluntary liquidation. The cause of the failure is said to be over-lending. It is thought that much distress will be occasioned among the depositors as a result of the failure.

In the presence of the emperor and empress and a large assembly of government officials and others, the statues of Emperor Frederick and his consort were unveiled in Berlin on October 18. This is the first statue of Emperor Frederick to be erected in Berlin.

According to advices from St. Petersburg, under date of October 18, a special commission, under the presidency of the czar, has been formed to consider affairs in the far east. This commission includes the ministers of the interior, finance, foreign affairs, war and of the navy and Viceroy Alexeff, and the commission will consider budget proposals, measures to develop trade and industry and proposed alterations in the laws.

On October 16 the report of the death of Boris Sarafov, the famous Macedonian leader, was confirmed in a cablegram from Salonica, Turkey. It is said that the leader perished in a skirmish at Pruva on October 12. He was popularly believed to be the instigator of the abduction of his

Ellen M. Stone, the American missionary, in September, 1901, in order to procure from her ransom funds to enable the Macedonian revolutionary committee to organize the present insurrection.

According to a recent dispatch to the London Standard from its Odessa, Russia, correspondent, news was received at that point that 250 lives had been lost in an earthquake at Turshiz, Persia. Thirteen villages were destroyed and some 5,000 people are homeless.

On October 19 a draft of the decision reached by the Alaskan boundary commissioners was signed by a majority of the commissioners. The Canadian commissioners refused to sign the decision, and their refusal has created a painful impression. It is stated that the period of one year will be required to have the line of boundary surveyed by this country and England, the governments of which will appoint experts to do this work.

Evidence tending to show a systematic and extensive violation of the contract labor law has been obtained by the bureau of immigration at Washington. The case involves hundreds of men from Wales, who are alleged to have been induced to come to this country under agreement to work for certain coal companies. In many cases misrepresentations were made and the situation of some of the imported miners is serious. The attorney general has been requested to institute proceedings against the violators of the contract labor law.

In consequence of the understanding recently reached between Turkey and Bulgaria, the latter country has ordered the disbandment of 10,000 troops on the frontier, and it is expected that in accordance with the agreement Turkey must now disband 20,000 of her troops.

It was announced from Washington on October 19 that the civil service commission had requested the treasury department to reinstate several workmen in the United States mint in Philadelphia, whose removals the commission has found were made for political reasons. It is said that the laborers removed were democrats and their places were taken by republicans. The report submitted in this case indicates a violation of the civil service law and it is thought that the men will be reinstated.

A call has been issued for a national negro suffrage convention to be held in Washington, D. C., December 14 and 15. According to the call, the purpose of the convention is to devise ways and means to break up southern disfranchisement and preserving to American citizens, regardless of color and race, full and equal civil and political rights.

Joseph Chamberlain returned to the tariff controversy, when he addressed a meeting of 4,000 people at Newcastle, England, on the evening of October 20. Interest in the controversy as to the tariff has not abated in England. Mr. Chamberlain declared that he has not raised a party, but rather a national question.

The Detroit, Mich., board of commerce at a general meeting on October 20 adopted a resolution favoring Canadian reciprocity and urging the immediate reconvening of the joint high

commission for the purpose of negotiating a new reciprocity treaty with Canada.

According to an Associated press cablegram from Berlin, under date of October 20, the new Russo-Chinese treaty provides that the appointment and dismissal of the governor general and commander-in-chief of the prefects in Manchuria shall be effected by the Chinese government in agreement with the Russian diplomatic representatives. The Chinese troops, stationed in three provinces of Manchuria, shall be under Russian control, but if the Chinese soldiers are incapable of maintaining order and suppressing brigandage, Russia is to have the right of using her own troops to this end. Trading in Manchuria and the exploitation of mines there is prohibited except to Russians and Chinese. The customs are to be under joint Chinese and Russian control. The railroad becomes Chinese property in mutual agreement at the end of twenty years. The posts and telegraphs are to be under Russian and Chinese control, and disputes are to be settled by a Russian referee. In the event of war with a third power, arising from the new treaty, it will be conducted by Russia and China in co-operation; should China withdraw her co-operation Russia will carry on the war alone, and in the event of victory China shall cede Manchuria to Russia and immediately withdraw all her civil and military officials. All the signatories to the treaty are given as Prince Chan Tien Wan, Chai Hun Tsi and Tchang Tchll.

It was recently reported that the steamer South Portland from Astoria for San Francisco, had been wrecked at Bandon on the Oregon coast, and thirty-one of her passengers and crew are missing. Only the captain and six others succeeded in reaching shore.

On October 20 President Roosevelt issued a proclamation calling the Fifty-eighth congress in extraordinary session on November 9. The purpose of the session is stated as being to

consider the commercial convention between the United States and Cuba, which requires the approval of congress.

On October 20 the council of the city of Chicago voted an appropriation of \$5,000 to pay the expenses of uncovering rascality, charges of which have recently been made. The action of voting this appropriation was taken upon the recommendation of Alderman Harriman.

The contention between the farmers and independent grain shippers of Nebraska on the one hand, and the allied railroads and elevator trust on the other, on October 21 found its way into the supreme court of the state. On that day Chief Justice Sullivan issued a writ of mandamus against the Burlington railway on the prayer and showing of C. W. McComb, an independent grain shipper of Furnas county, Nebraska. According to this writ, the railroad company is ordered to supply Mr. McComb with all facilities for shipping grain and to cease all discrimination against him.

According to a recent dispatch, the second trial of D. V. Miller and J. M. Johns, whose trial for conspiracy to extort a bribe resulted last week in a disagreement of the jury at Cincinnati, has been set for November 16.

The reports of extensive fraudulent practices in the securing of public lands on the Pacific coast are generally confirmed in Washington. The department of the interior is working to secure definite evidence on this point and it is claimed that the states on the Pacific coast have lost considerable sums in land transfers of a fraudulent character.

On October 21 Postmaster General Payne removed from office Michael W. Louis, superintendent of supplies of the postoffice department; Louis Kempner, chief of the registry division of the third assistant postmaster general's office, and C. H. Terry, a \$900 clerk in the postoffice department, and

Subscribers' Advertising Department

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