



Joseph Chamberlain, former colonial secretary for Great Britain, spoke at Newport, Wales, before a mass meeting of workmen, to whom he directed the main portion of his arguments. His subject was the tariff and the fiscal policy of England.

An investigation was recently begun into the methods of the city administration in Grand Rapids, Mich., and this investigation resulted on November 21 in the issuing of warrants against seventeen former city officials charging them with accepting bribes from a company organized to supply the city with water from Lake Michigan. All of these warrants are the result of the confessions made by the former city attorney who recently was released from prison after having served a term for breaking the federal banking law in connection with the same scheme.

A fire in the quarters of over 100 Italian railroad laborers on the Pennsylvania railroad near Lilly, Pa., on November 21 caused the death of 27 persons and the severe injury of a score or more others.

On November 21 Samuel Gompers was re-elected president of the American Federation of Labor by a large majority. San Francisco, Cal., was selected as the place for the next meeting.

A severe storm in western Europe caused much damage to telegraph communications, as well as to the shipping on the rivers, according to advices under date of November 22. It is believed that several persons have perished.

Dr. R. D. Murray, a yellow fever expert of international renown and dean of the marine hospital service, died at Laredo, Tex., on November 22 from injuries recently sustained while he was engaged in his duties. Dr. Murray was a native of Ohio, and was 60 years old. He served in the civil war and has been associated with the marine service since 1872.

In an engagement between the American troops and the Moros in the province of Jolo, in the Philippine islands, about three hundred Moros were killed and many others wounded. The American troops suffered only slight losses. General Leonora Wood was in command of the Americans.

The first of the numerous reductions in wages in the cotton mills of southern New England went into effect on November 23 and about 32,000 operatives had their wages cut down, the reduction affecting seventy-eight mills in Fall River alone.

The labor troubles in Colorado were further complicated by the explosion of what is asserted by mine officials to have been an infernal machine in a mine near Cripple Creek, Colo., on November 21. The superintendent of the mine and one miner were instantly killed. In consequence of these troubles the war department has ordered Major General Bates, in command of the department of the lakes, to proceed to Colorado to investigate the labor troubles with a view to ascertaining if there is a necessity for federal troops there.

On November 22 it was announced from Salt Lake City, Utah, that the

sheriff of Carbon county had applied for state troops to protect the coal mines of that county, as he found himself unable to cope with the striking miners. The state board of arbitration has offered its services in settling the difficulty between the mine operators and the strikers. The entire national guard has been sent into the district.

On November 23 it was officially announced from Berlin that Emperor William had directed the German authorities to recognize the republic of Panama.

November 23 was characterized by fierce fighting and riots among the striking street car employes in Chicago, Ill., although so far as could be learned no one was seriously injured. The police found much difficulty in coping with the strikers and were compelled to twice resort to their revolvers. Although many conferences have been held for the purpose of securing a settlement of the difficulty, up to that date no agreement had been reached.

With the opening of the third week in the miners' strike in Colorado the shut-down was made complete by the closing in the southern coal fields of the independent mines, in accordance with a resolution to make the strike general. The difficulty in the northern mines still continues and the coming of President John Mitchell of the United Mine Workers is awaited in the hope that he will be able to force a settlement.

An Associated press dispatch from Honolulu under date of November 23 says: Governor Carter took the oath of office and was formally inaugurated today at the capitol. There was a large assembly of federal and territorial officials and members of the army and navy. Edward S. Boyd, commissioner of public lands, tendered his resignation and it will be accepted. All the other members of the governor's official staff will be retained except Henry E. Cooper, superintendent of public works, and Alexander W. Haas, jr., private secretary of the governor.

Recently there have been a large number of desertions from British vessels in port at San Francisco, and on that account the British embassy at Washington has furnished to the state department evidence against alleged "crimprofs" in that city and it is believed that a rigid investigation and possibly a number of prosecutions will take place. It is said that statistics collected by the commissioner of navigation show that there were 638 desertions from sixty-four British vessels carrying 1,778 men. British ships from Australia have suffered desertions amounting to 27 per cent, and those from Europe 43 per cent.

It was reported on November 25 that the street car strike in Chicago had been settled at a conference between the mayor, the aldermanic peace commission, the counsel for the company and the executive board of the local union of the strikers. It is said that the basis on which the settlement was reached is a complete victory for the company as far as the original demands of the men are concerned. It was agreed that all men not guilty of violence toward the com-

pany during the strike are to be taken back.

A notice was recently posted in all the mines of the Empire Steel and Iron company in Morris county, N. J., to the effect that a 10 per cent cut in wages will be made on December 1. This cut together with the 15 per cent made on October 1, reduced the wages of about 3,000 men to the amount of 25 per cent, and there is much unrest in consequence among the miners.

On November 24 it was announced from Chicago that Mayor Harrison had declared that that city would enter the electric lighting field at once in competition with the gas trust and other lighting companies of the city.

An Associated press dispatch under date of New York, November 24, says: Judge Lacombe in the United States circuit court declined to grant the injunction asked for by Cosima and Siegfried Wagner, heirs of the late Richard Wagner, restraining Manager Heinrich Conried from producing the dramatic festival play, "Parsifal." It will be remembered that, according to the wishes of the composer, this play has never been produced heretofore on any stage than that at Bayreuth, but the decision of Judge Lacombe injures its production by Manager Conried on December 24 at New York city.

Sir John Blundell Maple, baronet, M. P., is dead in London. He was born in 1845 and for many years has been famous as a business man, politician and philanthropist, at one time giving no less than \$600,000 to the University College hospital in England.

An explosion of gas in a coal mine at Bonanza, Ark., on November 24 caused the death of thirteen miners and a great amount of damage.

A storm of great violence swept over Lake Erie on November 24 and it is feared that much damage has been done to shipping along the lake.

The situation in the far east between the Japanese and the Russians seems to be quite threatening, in Japan especially the people are growing impatient on account of the inactivity of the government in its dealings with Russia. The Russians seem to carry on their plans in Manchuria and other disputed sections irrespective of the actions of Japan or any other power. On November 24 they opened Port Arthur as a trading port and in accordance with the governor's order ship dues and commercial duties will be levied.

A great demonstration took place in London on November 24 under the auspices of the Free Food league. The Duke of Devonshire presided and was the principal speaker, this being his first public speech since his resignation as lord president of the council. The following resolution was moved and carried by an overwhelming vote: "This meeting, while prepared to consider in a friendly spirit any measure the government might submit to parliament in special cases for mitigating the results of hostile tariffs, is of the opinion that strenuous opposition should be offered to any fiscal policy involving the taxation of food and the establishment of a general preferential or protective system."

Serious forest fires are raging in western Mississippi and Arkansas and large areas of timber have been destroyed. In several places the clouds of smoke are so great and dense as to seriously interfere with river traffic.

After a series of postponements consuming nineteen days, the hearing in

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the proceedings to make permanent the receivership of the United States Shipbuilding company was resumed in New York city on November 24. The examination of Lewis Nixon was again taken up by Mr. Untermyer,