## The Commoner.

very radius at me. Radius, a different kind of people. The radius of the hole was fifteen feet deep.

000

FOUR men who are candidates for the position of assistant engineer in the Chicago fire department were weighed and found to be too light for their height to comply with the civil service requirements. They were given to June 3 to acquire the required weight. The Chicago Chronicle points out how all but one of them failed to obtain results:

Reg. wt. Actual Gain Gain Weight May 27. June 3. wt. June 3. req. made. 145 140 Unterberg ....137 137 Walsh ......135 140 138 142 Maxwell ..... 138 140 Cannon .....135 147

The Chronicle says: "The interest in the contest is confined to Unterberg and Walsh because one succeeded and the other failed, because their methods are known and because these methods are diametrically opposite to each other, Unterberg relying on repose and Walsh on gymnastic exercise. As to Walsh, though it sounds like a joke, he actually went into training under a former prize fighter—prize fighters having no use for training except to reduce flesh-who seems to heavy instead of too light. Dumbbells and cold water were his prescription."

000 THIS was not the cause of Walsh's failure, the Chronicle thinks there is only one other way of explaining it and that is that it was after stuffing himself in every conceivable way that Walsh weighed only 125 pounds on May 7. The Chronicle says: "Of course, if that was so, Walsh would not do any more than stuff himself for the weighing on June 3. If this is not the explanation of his failure he is not fit for an engineer anyway. A man who could not engineer a little matter like increasing his weight five pounds in a week could not engineer anything. The favorite is Unterberg, who, being required to increase his weight two and one-half pounds, increased it seven and one-half, and boasted that he could just as well as not have increased it five pounds more. This champion of dietetics simply gorged himself with rich milk, preserved a masterly inactivity and took particular pains not to worry himself. In doing so he furnished another illustration of the well-known fact that nothing interferes with the assimilation of food and drink like certain states of mind, among which are anger, jealousy and anxiety."

NE result of this test, according to the Chronicle, is the rule requiring men of the fire and police department to look ridiculous. The Chronicle says: "It is possible that after all Maxwell, who was four and one-half pounds short and could not pick up a pound, might be a better engineer than Unterberg, who picked up seven and one-half pounds. On the other hand, it might be just as ridiculous to have no rule about it. The civil service commission is disgusted with this weighing incident and threatens to put a stop in the future to the stuffing process, but how it will do so is not clear to anyone but itself."

000 7 HEN Miss Alice Roosevelt visited the St. Louis fair recently she was the observed of all observers. Enormous crowds of people were eager to see the president's daughter and a member of the German commission to the exposition was prompted to say that he was amazed that so much ado should be made over a young woman who, he said, received more popular attention and adulation than a princess would receive in Germany or in any other monarchical country. Commenting upon this statement, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch says: "The Alice Roosevelt episode is merely the culmination of a series of similar vulgarities brought about by the presence in St. Louis of princes and representatives of the European and Oriental nobinty. Men and women have fought and scrambled to get a glimpse of foreign notables without regard for their feelings or our own obligations of courtesy."

THE labor disturbances in Colorado culminated June 6 by a terrible explosion at Cripple Creek in which 13 men were killed and a number of others were injured. All the killed and injured men were non-union miners employed on the night shift of the Findley mine. The Cripple Creek correspondent for the Associated press says: "The men had quit work at 2 a. m. and were waiting to board a suburban train on the Florence & Cripple Creek railroad and return to

their homes in Cripple Creek and Victor. Just after the engineer of the approaching train blew his whistle, as a signal to the miners, according to custom, a terrible explosion occurred underneath the station platform on and near which twenty-six men were gathered. The platform was blown into splinters, the station was wrecked and a hole twenty feet in circumference and about as many feet in depth was torn in the ground. Fragments of bodies were hurled through space for several hundred feet and later were picked up still quivering."

THE same correspondent, referring to this terrible catastrophe, says: "Some of the bodies dropped into the pit made by the explosion, but the head, hands, ears, legs, arms and trunks were strewn about on all sides. Pieces of flesh were found on buildings 500 feet away. The force of the explosion was felt throughout the camp and the crash awakened everybody. The approaching train was stopped and the train crew were the first men to reach the scene of the disaster. They were joined in a few minutes by hundreds of persons, and relief work was being done at once. A special train was sent from Cripple Creek, carrying physicians, nurses, officers and others, but when it reached Independence the injured had already been placed on board the suburban train and removed to the hospitals in Victor. The mangled bodies of the dead, pieced together as well as possible, were removed to the coroner's office."

S A result of this trouble, Sheriff Henry M. Robertson resigned his position and Edward Bell was selected by the county commissioners. Bell was a member of the citizens' alliance. The military authorities are in control. At Victor, Colo., rioting broke out on the evening of June 6, while a meeting was being held to discuss the killing of the non-union men in the explosion. In one riot forty shots were fired, two men were killed and several persons injured. It is announced that the Western Federation of Miners will investigate the explosion.

000

THE citizens' committee of Telluride, Colo., has notified a number of labor leaders to leave the town. These labor leaders retained lawyers and announce that they do not intend to leave their homes. A telegram was sent to President Roosevelt, which telegram was as follows: "Have been ordered to leave our homes by June 7, but do not intend to go. We, as citizens of the United States, demand your protection under the constitutional rights. The civil courts would protect us, but they are powerless. The governor will not protect us.'

000

N THE same day that the rioting at Victor and the dynamiting at Cripple Creek took place, the supreme court of Colorado passed upon the application for a writ of habeas corpus made by C. H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners. It will be remembered that Moyer is held a military prisoner at Telluride. The governor declared martial law in San Miguel county, imprisoning Moyer and other union men on the ground that they had incited insurrection and rebellion, suspended the habeas corpus and refused to recognize the authority of the local courts.

N THE opinion delivered by the Colorado supreme court, Chief Justice Gabbert and Associate Justice Campbell concurred. Associate Justice Steele dissented. An Associated press report says: "The opinion of the court was given by Chief Justice Gabbert. Its main points are as follows: The governor has sole power sto determine when a state of insurrection exists in any county in the state. The courts have no power to interfere with his exercise of this prerogative. The governor has the right to use the militia force of the state to suppress insurrection. He also has the power to order the imprisonment and the killing of insurrectionists if in his opinion that extremity is necessary. He can detain military in force until he decides the insurrection is quelled. The courts of the state have no right to interfere with the military and their handling of prisoners. They have no power to attempt to discharge military prisoners. The contention of the appellant that the military prisoners should be turned over to the civil authorities is characterized by the court as absurd. The question which the court was asked to decide was of such vast importance to the state that seven prominent lawyers were asked as advisory counsel to submit opinions.

Charles Hughes, one of these, it is understood, did not send in any opinion. The other six split evenly. Those who sustained the position of the governor were: Attorneys L. M. Goddard, Platt Rogers and A. C. Field. Former Governor Chas, S. Thomas, Leroy Stevick and Harvey Riddle dissented from the opinion of the court.'

DY ANOTHER five to four decision, the United States supreme court returned an important opinion June 1. The case before the court was a libel suit in which the editors of a Manila paper had been convicted after being refused a trial by jury. Justice Day delivered the opinion of the majori'y. He said that the government of the Philippines had been expressly left by the treaty of Paris in the hands of congress and that congress, because of the incapacity of the people of the islands, had purposely withheld the right of trial by jury. The court further confirmed the conviction of the editors in the Manila court and held that the refusal of a jury trial was correct and that they were properly convicted.

THE justices dissenting were Harlan, Peckham. Brewer, and Fuller. In his dissenting opinion, Justice Harlan declared that the decision of the majority amounted to an amendment of the constitution. He considered that a most dangerous step. Justice Harlan said that the right of a trial by jury was a fundamental one and necessarily extends to any place owned by the United States, and that gives a privilege which could not be taken away by any power of congress.

200

000 NOTHER important opinion delivered by the supreme court and by a five to four vote was the case of Keppner against the United States. Keppner was tried before a lower court in Manila on the charge of embezzlement. He was acquitted. The government took an appeal to the supreme court of the islands and in that court Keppner was convicted. Keppner then appealed the case to the United States supreme court on the ground that by the process of appeal taken by the government he was put twice in jeopardy, contrary to the constitution. The court held that Keppner was put twice in jeopardy and overruled the opinion of Justices the supreme court of the Philippines. Brown, McKenna and Day dissented.

000 CURIOUS vessel has been recently built in Denmark. Referring to this vessel, the Literary Digest says: "It can travel on land as well as on water, crossing a neck of land on a railway track and then descending again into the waves. This curious boat, the Swan, runs between Lynghy Says the Revue Scientifique: and Foerum. Lynghy is a town in the neighborhood of the four lakes of Lynghy, Bagswaerd, Fure and Foerum. Only the first and third of these are connected; the others are separated by a strip of land 300 metres (about 1,000 feet) wide, which is crossed by the Swan. For this purpose lines of piling extend into the water, far apart at first, but as they near the shore approaching until they will just admit the boat between them. The boat is thus guided until it strikes the line of rails on which it crosses the isthmus. Below the water line the boat has two pairs of wheels. As soon as these touch the rails a lever stops the shaft that drives the screw and starts another that drives these wheels. After crossing the land an inverse manipulation of the lever stops the wheels and the propeller begins to turn again. The car has turned back into a boat."

000 DEPUBLICAN leaders are considerably perplexed because of the situation in Wisconsin. It will be remembered that there was a bolt in the republican convention and while there will be but one republican electoral ticket in the state there will be two state tickets. The situation is described by a correspondent for the New York Evening Post as follows: "Both conventions at Madison nominated the same electoral ticket, which was the one first selected by the La Follette people. It is clear that there will be two republican tickets in the field, which ever one the courts may decide to be "regular." Under a law of that state, a man who receives a nomination from two parties elects the one with which he shall run, and already the two electors-at-large and a majority of the other electors, have announced their decision to run on the La Follette ticket. It will thus require very careful individual marking of the ballots on election day to give Roosevelt the benefit of the full party strength in the state."