

THE STRIKE COMMISSION.

Pullman Company and Railway Managers Condemned.

Recommendations.

CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 12.—The United States Government report on the great railroad strike in connection with the Pullman trouble was made public today. The report, which is signed by the Federal Labor Committee, Carroll D. Wright and his fellow investigators, John D. Kernan of New York, and Nicholas B. Worthington of Illinois, is addressed to President Cleveland, and abounds in passages which will attract wide attention, particularly the portion referring to the now famous "General Managers' Association," the organization of high railway officials that encompassed the memorable defeat of the A. R. U.

The report says the capitalization of the twenty-four railroads directly represented in the General Managers' Association was \$2,108,562,617. The number of employes was 221,097.

"The commission questions whether any legal authority, statutory or otherwise, can be found to justify some of the features of the association which have come to light in an investigation. If we regard its practical workings, rather than its professions, as expressed in its constitution, the General Manager's Association has no more standing in law than the old trunk line pool: It cannot incorporate, because railroad charters do not authorize roads to form corporations or associations to fix rates for services and wages, nor to force their acceptance not to battle with strikers. It is usurpation of power not granted. If such an association is necessary from a business or economic standpoint, the right to form and maintain it must come from the State that granted its charter. In theory, corporations are limited to the powers granted either directly or by clear inference. We do not think the power has been granted in either way in this case. The association is an illustration of the persistent and shrewdly devised plan of corporations to overreach their limitations, and to usurp indirectly power and rights not contemplated in their charters and not obtainable from the people or their Legislatures. An extension of this association, as above suggested, and the proposed legislation of 'pooling,' would result in an aggregation of power and capital dangerous to the people and their liberties, as well as to employees and their rights. The question would then certainly arise as to which shall control, the Government or the railroads. And the end would inevitably be Government ownership. Unless ready for that result and all it implies, the Government must restrain corporations within the law, and prevent them from forming unlawful and dangerous combinations. At least, so long as railroads are thus permitted to combine to fix wages, and for their joint protection, it would be rank injustice to deny the right of all labor upon railroads to unite for similar purposes.

"It should be noted that until the railroads set the example a general union of railroad employes was never attempted. The unions had not gone beyond enlisting the men upon different systems in separate trade organizations. These neutralize and check each other to some extent, and have no such scope or capacity for good or evil as is possible under the universal combination idea inaugurated by the railroads and followed by the A. R. U. The refusal of the General Managers' Association to recognize and deal with such a combination of labor as the American Railway Union seems arrogant and absurd when you consider its standing before the law, its assumptions and its past, and obviously contemplated action."

The exactions practiced at Pullman are also detailed and the system upon

which Pullman deals with the lives of his employes in regard to all necessities is frooly condemned.

CAPITAL AND LABOR.

In conclusion the report says:—"Since nations have grown to the wisdom of avoiding disputes by conciliation, and even of settling them by arbitration, why should capital and labor, in their dependence upon each other, persist in cutting each other's throats as a settlement of differences? Official reports show that much progress has been made in the more sane direction of conciliation and arbitration, even in America. Abroad they are in advance of us in this policy. Were our population as dense and opportunities as limited as abroad, present industrial conditions would keep us much more disturbed than we now are by contests between capital and labor. Some of our courts, however, are still poring over the law reports of antiquity in order to construe conspiracy out of labor unions. We also have employers who obstruct progress by perverting and misapplying the law of supply and demand, and who, while insisting on individualism for workmen, demand that they shall be let alone to combine as they please, and that society and all its forces shall protect them in all their resulting contentions. The rapid concentration of power and wealth, understimulating legislative conditions in persons, corporations and monopolies has greatly changed the business and industrial situation. Our cities were constructed upon the theory that the competition would amply protect shippers as to rates and employes as to wages and labor conditions. Combination has largely destroyed this theory, and has seriously disturbed the natural working of the law of supply and demand, which, in theory, are based upon competition for labor between those who demand it, as well as among those who supply it. For instance, as we have shown, there is no longer any competitive demand among the twenty-four railroads at Chicago for switchmen. They have ceased competing with each other; they are no longer twenty-four separate and competing employers; they are virtually one.

LABOR UNIONS' RIGHTS.

"However men may differ about the propriety and legality of labor unions, we must all recognize the fact that we have them with us to stay and to grow more numerous and powerful. Is it not wise to fully recognize them by law; to admit their necessity as labor guides and protectors, to conserve their usefulness, increase their responsibility and prevent their follies and aggressions by conferring upon them the privileges enjoyed by corporations, with like proper restrictions and regulations? The growth of corporate power and wealth has been the marvel of the past fifty years. Corporations have undoubtedly benefited the country, and thus brought its resources to our doors. It will not be surprising if the marvel of the next fifty years be the advancement of labor to a position of like power and responsibility. We have heretofore encouraged the one and comparatively neglected the other. Does not wisdom demand that each be encouraged to prosper legitimately and to grow into harmonious relations of equal standing and responsibility before the law? This involves nothing hostile to the true interests and rights of either. The commission deems recommendations of specific remedies premature. Such a problem, for instance, as universal government ownership of railroads is too vast, many sided and far-away, if attempted, to be considered as an immediate, practical remedy. It belongs to the socialistic group of public questions where government ownership is advocated of monopolies, such as telegraph, telephones, express companies and municipal ownership of water works, gas and electric lighting and

street railways. Those questions are pressing more urgently as time goes on. They need to be well studied and considered in every aspect by all citizens.

EXPERIMENT NECESSARY.

"Should continued combinations and consolidations result in half a dozen or less ownerships of our railroads within a few years, as is by no means unlikely, the question of Government ownership will be forced to the front, and we need to be ready to dispose of it intelligently. We need to fear every thing revolutionary and wrong, but we need fear nothing that any nation can successfully attempt in directions made necessary by changed economic or industrial conditions. Other nations, under their conditions, own and operate telegraphs and railroads, with varying results. Whether it is practicable for this nation to do so successfully when it becomes necessary to save an investment, or when the people determine it shall be done, is an open and serious question which can not be answered fully except by actual experiment.

"We ought now to inaugurate a permanent system of investigation into the relations between railroads and employes in order to prepare to deal with them intelligently, and that we may conservatively adopt such remedies as are sustained by public opinion by defects or wrongs that may from time to time appear.

"The question of what shall be done is, therefore, one of expediency and not of power. When railroads acted as judge and jury in passing upon the complaints of shippers, the people demanded, and Congress granted, a government tribunal, where shippers and railroads could meet on equal terms and have the law adjust their differences. In view of the Chicago strike and its suggestive dangers, the people have the same right to provide a Government commission to investigate and report on differences between railways and their employes, to the end that interstate commerce and public order may be less disturbed by strikes and boycotts.

"When railway employes secure greater certainty of their positions, and of the right to promotion, compensation for injuries, etc., it will be time enough to consider such strict regulation for them as we can now justly apply to railroads, whose rights are protected by laws, and guarded by all the advantages of greater resources and more concentrated control."

Costly Pipes.

The Turkish hookah and Persian nargile are the most magnificent and expensive of all pipes.

The tubes through which the smoke is drawn are made of leather covered with velvet, or with gold or silver among the very wealthy, richly ornamented with precious stones, while the receptacle for the water is usually formed of glass handsomely cut, or engraved and gilt, or of precious metals decorated with enamels.

The liquid in this bowl is frequently rosewater or other delicately perfumed distillation, adding considerably to the fragrance of the smoke. The tobacco is lighted in a receptacle at the summit of the pipe, which is also formed of gold or silver and studded with magnificent diamonds and other gems. The tubes vary in length from five to ten yards, and the whole paraphernalia is often borne behind a nobleman on horseback, so that by this means he can continue his smoke as the inclination takes him.—*Atlanta Constitution*.

CAN RECOMMEND IT. Mr. EGOR BORN-BERRY, Tuscarora, writes: "I am pleased to say that DR. THOMAS' ELECTRIC OIL is all that you claim it to be, as we have been using it for years, both internally and externally, and have always received benefit from its use. It is our family medicine, and I take great pleasure in recommending it.

Irish Surnames.

A distinct addition to the philology and ethnology of the Emerald Isle is (says Lloyd's) made in a British Parliamentary return just published—as an appendix to the report of the Registrar-General—on "Surnames in Ireland." It seems that the commonest name in the country is Murphy, the number of those who bear this cognomen being estimated at 72,600. The following come next in order:—Kolly, 55,000; Sullivan, 48,600; Walsh, 41,700; Smith, 34,700; O'Brien, 33,400; Byrne, 33,800; Ryan, 32,000; Connor, 31,200; O'Neill, 29,110; and Reilly, 29,000. It is interesting to compare these with the commonest names in Great Britain. These are in England and Wales: Smith, 258,600; Jones, 242,100; next following Williams, Taylor, Davis and Brown; while in Scotland they come in the order. Smith, McDonald, Brown, Thompson, Robertson, Stewart, and Campbell. In Ireland it is remarked that many of the Celtic names occur both with and without the prefixes "O" and the "Mac" in the same record—"Mac" meaning son of, an "O" descendant of. Thus McDermott is son of Diarmid, and O'Toole descendant of Tuathal. Many of these names are still localized while others are spread over the country generally; and it is added that a large number of the English families have adopted Irish surnames. It is still considered that the great bulk of the common names are Celtic, not infrequently combined with word "Giolla," servant. This root appears in Kilbride, servant of Bridget; Gilchrist, servant of Christ, and Gilfoyle servant of Paul. In addition to those of Celtic derivation, Ireland exhibits traces of Danish, Anglo-Norman, English, Cornish, Welsh, Scottish, Huguenot, German, and Jewish settlers. In regard to local distribution Murphy (ancient Mac-Murrough—from the old regal family of Leinster) is most prominent in Carlow, Wexford, and Armagh; Berne, in Dublin, Louth, and Wicklow; Kelly in Kildare, King's County, and Roscommon; Sullivan in Cork and Kerry.

Nuns May Teach.

Justice Dean of the State Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has handed down an opinion in the case of John Hysong et al. versus the school district of Gallitzin borough, an appeal from Judge Barker of the court below, who refused an injunction to prevent nuns from teaching in the public schools, dressed in the garb of the order. Justice Dean affirms Judge Barker's decision.

Justice Dean in his opinion says: "The school board committed no unlawful act in selecting these Catholic women as teachers because by moral character and certified attainments they were qualified, and their religion did not disqualify. The dress is but the announcement in part that the wearer holds a particular belief."

Justice Williams filed a dissenting opinion.

A WONDERFUL CURE.—Mr. David Smith, Coe Hill, Ont., writes: "For the benefit of others I wish to say a few words about Northrop & Lyman's VEGETABLE DISCOVERY. About a year ago I took a very severe cough, had a virulent sore on my lips, was bad with dyspepsia, constipation and general debility. I tried almost every conceivable remedy, outwardly and inwardly, to cure the sore but all to no purpose. I had often thought of trying Northrop & Lyman's VEGETABLE DISCOVERY, so I got a bottle and when I had used about one half the sore showed evident signs of healing. By the time that bottle was done it had about disappeared and my general health was improving fast. I was always of a very bilious habit and had used quinine and lemon juice with very little effect. But since using 3 bottles of the VEGETABLE DISCOVERY the biliousness is entirely gone and my general health is excellent. I am 60 years old. Parties using it should continue it for some time after they think they are cured. It is by far the best health restorer I know."