LABOR LEADERS SEE PRESIDENT.

All Important Organizations of The Country Were Represented.

EIGHT-HOUR LAW DISCUSSED.

Petition Failed to Specify Infractions, And Didn't Segregate Complaints.

Washington, March 21 .- President Roosevelt received a large body of representatives of organized labor this afternoon at the White House and talked to them about their urgent request for the enactment of labor measures now pending before Congress.

Samuel Gompers, president, and Frank Morrison, secretary, of the American Federation of Labor, headed the delegation which consisted of about a hundred members of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor and officials of the organizations which comprise the federation. Practically all of the important labor organizations of the country were rep-

resented.

Secy. Morrison read to the president a memorial of the executive council of the American federation, urging action on the various demands for legisla-tion being made by the organized labor interests of the country. The mem-orial dwelt particularly on the eight-hour law and its expent on govour law and its the Panama pecially the Chinese a ... clusion laws,

GOMPERS DELIVERS ADDRESS. President Gompers and James Dun-can of Quiney, Mass., first vice presi-dent of the federation and president of the Granite Cutters' union, followed with brief addresses on the lines of the

there were 20 years ago.

"Unquestionably some scores of cases occur each year where Chinese laborers get in, either by being smuggled over the Mexican and Canadian borders, or by coming in under false certificates, but the steps that we have taken, the changes in the consuls that have been made within the last few years in the crient and the effort to conduct exami-President Roosevelt, after listening t the statements, replied in an extended address. On the subjects of genera, immigration and the exclusion of Chinese labor the president indicated that he was in practical accord with them. made within the last few years in the orient and the effort to conduct examinations in China before the immigrants are allowed to come here, are materially reducing even the small number of cases that do occur.

"But even as it is, the number of these cases is insignificant. There is no appreciable influx of Chinese laborers and there is not the slightest por on some other matters he differed

with them radically.
The text of the president's remarks given out at the White House this eve-

PRESIDENT'S REPLY.

"Mr. Gompers: If your body objects to the passage of the proposed antiinjunction bill I have no question that that you can stop it, for there is not a capitalist concerned who simply as capitalist is not against it; though I believe that a goodly number both of capitalists and wage workers who are concerned primarily as citizens favor it

capitalists and wage workers who are concerned primarily as citizens favor it. "The law was worked over and substantially whipped into its present shape at a number of conferences between representatives of the railroad organizations and the department of justice and the bureau of corporations with me. It goes as far as I personally think it should go, in limiting the rights of injunction; at any rate no arguments of injunction; at any rate no arguments have hitherto been advanced which make me think it should go farther. It do not believe it has any chance of passing, because there has been great criticism in both houses of Congress against the attitude of the administration in tion in going so far as we have gone, and if you think it is not far enough, why, you will have no earthly difficulty

"Personally, I think the proposed law a most admirable one, and I very sincerely wish it would be put through.

INJUNCTIONS NECESSARY.

"As for the right of injunction, it is absolutely necessary to have tals power lodged in the courts; though of course any abuse of the power is strongly to be reprobated. During the four and a pe reprobated. During the four and a half years that I have been president do not remember an instance where the government has invoked the right of injunction against combinations of We have invoked it certain ly a score of times against combina-tions of capital, I think possibly oft-ener. Thus, though we have secured the issuance of injunctions in a num-ber of cases control of the control of cases against capitalistic binations it has happened that we have never tried to secure an injunction against a combination of labor. But understand me, gentlemen, if I ever understand me, gentlemen, if I ever thought it necessary; if I thought a combination of laborers were doing wrong, I would apply for an injunction against them just as quick as against so many capitalists. so many capitalists.

PETITION IS MIXED.

Now I come to the general subject of your petition. I wish in the first place to state my regret that you did not divorce so much of the petition as refers to the action of the executive from so much as refers to the action of the legislative branch, because I cannot consider any petition that you make that reflects upon the co-ordinate cannot consider any petition that you make that reflects upon the co-ordinate branch of the government, or that makes any charges whatever against it. I would not even receive it save for the fact that in part it affects the executive. Therefore in what I have to say I shall limit myself solely to what you assert in reference to the acts of the executive.

"You speak of the eight-hour law. Your criticism, so far as it relates to the executive, bears upon the signature of the appropriation bill containing the money for expenditure on the Panama canal, with the proviso that the eighthour law shall not there apply. If your statement is intended to mean that no opportunity was given for a hearing, then the statement is not in accordance with the facts. There was ample opwith the facts. There was ample op-portunity that any one could be heard, but not a single request for such a hearing came to me.

"I received, however, some hundreds of telegrams and letters requesting the veto of the entire appropriation bill because it contained that proviso. Frankly, I found it difficult to believe that you were writing and telegraphing with any kind of knowledge of the conditions in the case. in the case.

"I believe emphatically in the eight-hour law for our own people in our own country. But the conditions of labor such as we have to work with in the transactors. the tropics are so absolutely different that there is no possible analogy be-tween them and an eight-hour law for the Panama canal is an absurdity.

LABOR ON CANAL.

'Every one of you know that we cannot get white labor; cannot get labor of the United States to go down to Panama to work. We are driven to extremities in the effort to get any kind of labor at all. Just at the moment we are working chiefly with negro labor from the West Indies. The usual result in the employment of these mea is that Monday and Tuesday they work fairly well. Wednesday and Thursday there is a marked falling off, and by Friday and Saturday not more than a half, sometimes less than a fourth, of the laborers will be at work.

"The conditions that make the eighthour law proper here have no possible reference to the conditions that make the eight-hour law entirely improper

the eight-hour law entirely improper

Chamberlain's FUNDAMENTAL LAW OF RUSSIAN EMPIRE

Provisions For a National Assembly Are Disappointing In Many Respects.

ENTRENCH THE GOVERNMENT.

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different on the isthmus as compared to here that it is impossible to draw conclusions affecting the one from what

conclusions affecting the one from what is true about the other. You hamper me in the effort to get for you what I think you ought to have in connection with the eight-hour law when you make a request that is indefensible, and to grant which would mean indefinite delay and injury to the work on the isthmus.

PETITION DOESN'T SPECIFY.

"As to the violations of the eight-hour law, Mr. Morrison, you give me no specifications. At your earliest convenience, please lay before me in detail any complaints you have of violations of the eight-hour law. Where I have power I will see that the law is obeyed. All I ask is that you give me the cases. I will take them up, and if they prove to be sustained by the facts I shall see that the law is enforced.

that the law is enforced.
"Now, about the Chinese exclusion.
The number of Chinese new in this

fact is that the number has steadily decreased. There are fewer Chinese than

ers, and there is not the slightest nor the remotest danger of any; the whole scare that has been worked up on the subject is a pure chimera.

MUST KEEP OUT CHINESE.

od American citizens, to support that

good American citizens, to support policy, and in any event I shall stand unflinchingly for it; and no man can say with sincerity that on this or, indeed, on any other point, he has any excuse for misunderstanding my policy

SYMPATHY MUSTN'T RULE.

any one else.

here were 20 years ago.

on the isthmus.

The conditions are so utterly

Great Victory For People is Czar's Powerlessness to Revoke Rights Granted.

St. Petersburg, March 21 .- The imperial manifesto and the ukases of March 8, which incorporate in the fundamental law of the empire the provisions for a national assembly in Russia, promised in the manifesto last fall, are disappointing in many respects. They constitute neither a constitution nor a "bill of rights" for the Russian people. They do create a popular assembly, but the promises granted to it are so hedged about with restrictions and conditions that it will be rather a presentment in name than in fact. Nevertheless, by the terms of the man-ifesto, the emperor himself is powerlss to revoke what he has now given. This constitutes the great victory which the people have won. They at last have an authoritative medium through which they can make their voice heard, and it is in this assembly probably that the great historical struggle against prerogative and privi-

lege will be fought out.

An examination of the documents shows clearly that their purpose has been to intrench the government at every point against the assaults of the country is, if I remember aright, about 60,000 or 70,000. So far from there be-ing a great influx of the Chinese, the people. The council of the empire or upper chamber, as reorganized, provides for the election of only half the members, and these are chosen by the nobility, clergy, zemstvos and commercial interests, so that, with the other half directly nominated by the crown, the government can always interpose a decision of the council as a buffer between it and the direct representatives of the people in the douma, or lower house. Beside certain important questions, notably malfeasance in office for members of the council of the empire, the cabinet, the provincial general gov-ernments and other functionaries of the government belonging to three highest ranks in the Russian hier-archy, are excluded entirely from the jurisdiction of the parliament and are consigned to committees, or "commis-sions" as they are called, of the council of the empire. But the composition of such committees is restricted to the members appointed by the emperor. Other questions which go to similar committees are those relating to the "It is my deep conviction that we must keep out of this country every Chinese laborer, skilled or unskilled—every Chinese laborer, skilled or unskilled—every Chinaman of the coolie class. This is what the proposed law will do; it will be done as effectively as under the present law, and the present law is being handled with the utmost efficiency. But I will do everything in my power to make it easier and desirable for the Chinese of the business and professional class; the Chinese travelers and students to come here, and I will do all I can to secure their good treatment when they come; and no laboring man has anything whatever to fear from that policy.

"I have a right to challenge you, as good American citizens, to support that reports of the minister of finance on the cash in the treasury and sayings banks, reports on the state pawnshops and matters relating to the law of primogeniture and to titles conferred by the crown. These are all subjects which the representatives of the people will probably want to inquire into The main weapon retained by the em-peror is his power to dissolve parliament at will. This, coupled with the government's ability to promulgate "temporary laws," leaves the govern-ment master of the situation whenever it cares to employ this means of ridling itself of parliament when the latter has grown too inquisitive or trou-

blesome Instead of leaving to the chambers the creation of the rules and questions of procedure which are to govern them, they are carefully prescribed in deed, on any other point, he has any excuse for misunderstanding my policy "You have spoken of the immigration laws. I believe merely that not only all proper steps should be taken to prevent the importation of laborers under any form, but that this country ought to make a resolute effort from now on to prevent the coming to this country of men with a standard of living so low that they tend, by entering into unfair competition with, to reduce the standard of living of our own people.

"Not one of you can go further than I will go in the effort steadily to raise the status of the American wageworker so long as while doing it I can retain a clear conscience and the certainty that I am doing what is right. I will do all in my power for the laboring man except to do what is wrong; and I will not do that for him or for any one else. the ukases, and it only needs a perusal of the documents by the foreign stu-dent of parliamentary institutions and procedure to make it apparent that the cumbersome and complicated ministry devised is largely for the purpose of crippling it in its struggle against the government. Enormous power is con-centrated in the hands of the presi-dents of each house, only the president of the lower house being elected. They have the authority to adjourn sessions, order the closing of the doors during a debate, and to a large measure con-trol the publication of the reports of the sittings. They also act as the in-termediary for the transmission of re-ports to the emperor.

The work of all committees is done in secret. Bills, instead of being introduced on the initiative of a single member and referred automatically to committees, as in the American Congress, must be supported by the signature of at least 30 members, and accompanied by an explanatory statement, to compel the president to start them on their way through the legislative gristmill.

All idea that the cabinet would be responsible to parliament, which was feasly intimated after the publication "We must not let our natural sentiment for succoring the oppressed and unfortunate of other lands lead us into that warped moral and mental attitude of trying to succor them at the ex-

them on their way through the legislative gristmill.

All idea that the cabinet would be responsible to parliament, which was freely intimated after the publication of the manifesto of last fall, is abandoned. Even the privilege of interpellating the ministers turns out to be vague and perhaps ineffective. This right is specifically confined to inquiries relating to alleged violations of law by ministers of their subordinates. But such an inquiry, as in the case of the introduction of bills, must be backed by 30 members, and, moreover, adopted by a vote of the house before it becomes effective, and after that the minister has one month within which to furnish the information on explanations demanded, "or to inform the lower house of the causes which make it impossible for him to supply the information requested," a clause which practically invalidates the right of interpellation. Moreover, explanations can only be demanded upon subjects directly under consideration, and ministers, as in the United States, can refuse to reply on the ground that reasons of state prevent them from so "Laws should be enacted to keep out all immigrants who do not show that they have the right stuff in them to they have the right stuff in them to enter into our life on terms of decent equality with our own citizens. This is needed first in the interests of the laboring man, but furthermore in the interests of all of us as American citizens; for, gentlemen, the bonds that unite all good American citizens are stronger by far than the difference which I think you accentuate altogether too much between the men who do one kind of labor and the men who one kind of labor and the men who "As for immigrants, we cannot have too much of the right kind, and we should have none at all of the wrong kind; and they are of the right kind if we can be fairly sure that their chil-dren and grandchildren can meet on terms of equality our children and grandchildren, so as to try to be decent citizens together and to work together for the uplifting of the republic. ministers, as in the United States, can refuse to reply on the ground that reasons of state prevent them from so doing. If a minister choose to reply to interpellations he also has the right to demand the closing of the doors and the exclusion of the public. A majority of each house can close a debate.

A right of petition is specifically prohibited, either verbally or in writing.

The following are given as the questions within the jurisdiction of parliament: ABOUT PETITIONING CONGRESS. "Now, a word as to the petitioning of employes of Congress. That stands of employes of Congress. That stands in no shape or way on a par with the petitioning of men not employed by the government. I cannot have and I will not have when I can prevent it, men who are concerned in the administration of government affairs going to Congress and asking for increased pay without the permission of the heads of the department.

First-Questions relating to the pub-ication of laws; their amendment, sus-

heads of the department.
"Their business is to come through the heads of the departments. This applies to postmasters to army and navy officers, to clerks in the government pension or repeal.

Second—The budgets of the ministers and of empire and the assignters and of empire and the assign-ments to crown not provided by the budget "in accordance with the special regulations relating to the subpartments, to laborers; it applies to departments, to laborers, it applies to each and all, and must apply as a mat-ter of simple discipline to all."

The delegation remained with the president about three-quarters of an hour, and the subjects suggested were

Third-The report of the controller of the empire upon the execution of considered informally after the addresses had been delivered. It was the budget.
Fourth-Matters relating to alienaagreed that on points of difference the executive council of the federation tion of any portion of the receipts or property of the state requiring the au-thorization of the emperor. should appoint a committee of three. which should draft the views of the organization and submit them to the Fifth-Matters relating to the con-struction of state railroads and their president at a later date.

It is likely that President Compers will be the chairman of that commit-Sixth-Matters relating to stock com-

panies not covered by existing laws. Seventh-Matters submitted to the Seventh-Matters submitted to the lever house by imperial order. Parliament also has the power to consider matters ordinarily within the jurisdiction of the zemstvos where no zemstvo exists, and also to decree monetary advances to the zemstvos anda municipalities under certain conditions.

The members of the council of the THE BEST COUGH SYRUP. S. L. Apple, ex-Probate Judge, Ottawa. Co., Kansas, writes: "This is to say that I have used Ballard's Horehound Syrup for years, and that I do not hesitate to recommend it as the best cough syrup I have ever used." 25c, 50c, \$1.00. Sold by Z. C. M. I Drug Dept., 112 and 114 South Main Street. The members of the council of the

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empire are elected for nine years, and the members of the lower house for five years, but by imperial ukase, when the two houses are dissolved, the emperor can order new elections.

The following is textually the oath which members of parliament must

"I, the undersigned, promise before Almighty God to fulfill to the best of my ability the duties with which I have been charged as a member of the have been charged as a member remaining." rariament of the empire, remaining faithful to his majesty, the emperor and autocrat of all the Russias, and striving only for the happiness and welfare of Russia. In token whereof I hereto append my signature."

RAILROAD HANDS INDICTED.

Conductor of Wrecked Train and the Block Station Operator.

Peoria, Ill., March 21.—George Weath-erwax, conductor on Santa Fe train No. 6., which was wrecked at Chillicothe last January, and "Jap", Smith, the block signal station operator in the yards at Chillicothe on the night of the wreck, were today indicted by the grand jury for manslaughter. Three persons were killed in the wreck. Weatherwax is still in the employ of the Santa Fe, but is under heavy bond, and will appear for trial. Smith is in jail.

TOO MUCH JOHN.

J. B. Duke Sues Wife Lillian for Di vorce Because of It.

New York, March 21 .- An affidavit made by James B. Duke, president of the American Tobacco company, in support of his suit for divorce from his wife, Lillian M. Duke, was read by Duke's counsel today in a hearing on

the case before Vice Chancellor Pit-ney in Jersey City.

Mr. Duke's counsel appeared in op-position to Mrs. Duke's application for position to Mrs. Duke's application for counsel fees. Mr. Duke, in his affidavit, declared that he did not leave his wife until he became suspicious of her fidelity. He declared that his suspicions were aroused by finding a telegram signed "John," and that he had his wife watched by detectives. He declared that his wife is defending the suit only in the hone of sections. suit only in the hope of securing a good financial settlement.

Vice Chancellor Pitney allowed Mrs. Duke \$3,000 counsel fees.

MEXICO CELEBRATING JUAREZ'S BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

El Paso, Tex. March 21.—With fir-ing of volleys by federal troops and music by bands, a three days' cele-bration of the 190th anniversary of the birth of Benito Juarez began at daybreak today in Mexico. Throughout all the public schools of Mexico, there were a second or the second of the secon

of Mexico there were exercises today in honor of Juarez, who drove Maximillian from Mexico, but El Paso school children contributed the most novel feature. In a distinctively Amernovel feature. In a distinctively Amer-ican tribute to a Mexican hero, the children, nearly 3,000 strong, marched over the river to Cludad Juarez. As-companying the children were mam-bers of the city council, the directorate

The Curse of DRINK

Thousands of good men are to-day allowing themselves to be drawn gradually within the nets of the terrible drink habit.

Unless a friendly hand is put forth to deliver them, they will, as surely as night follows day, become—drunk-ards. If you are one of those who are heart-sick because of some loved one's weak-ness for intoxicants, we offer you hope —a positive cure for this weakness—a lasting cure.

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Commons Condemn the Whipping But Refuse to Censure the Individuals.

MILNER EXPRESSED REGRET.

Chamberlain's Motion to Inquire Into Effect of Chinese Labor Rejected.

London, March 21 .- The house of commons today rejected, by 378 to 110 votes, a motion of Joseph Chamberlain, formerly colonial secretary, recommending the appointing of a royal commission to inquire into the economic and moral effect of Chinese labor in the Transvaal. The whole of the evening session of the house of commons was consumed in a debate upon the motion of William Hilliard Byles, Liberal, censuring Lord Milner, former high commissioner for Milner, former high commissioner for South Africa, for authorizing the flogging of coolies in South Africa, in contravention of the treaty with China, and on Under Colonel Secretary Churchill's amendment to that motion recording condemnation of the flogging, but in the interests of reace and constitutions. but in the interests of peace and con-ciliation in South Africa, objecting to the censure of individuals.

Joseph Chamberlain, in a speech de-fending Lord Milner, said it would be fending Lord Milner, said it would be despicable to humiliate a great public servant for a single error of judgment. The motion, he said, was vindictive. Lord Milner had frankly expressed regret for the error. If, Mr. Chamberlain said, either the motion or the government's cowardly amendment should be carried, he hoped a future presentment would expunge from the records such a disgraceful motion.

Mr. Churchill, in moving his amendment, urged that the Liberals could afford to be generous. Lord Milner had quitted the public service after 18 years of exhausting work, without either a pension or a gratuity, it was not worth while to pursue him further. Mr. Churchill appealed to the house not to adopt the motion.

Arthur J. Balfour, echoing Mr. Chambersleich.

adopt the motion.

Arthur J. Balfour, echoing Mr. Chamberlain's sentiment, said the amendment offered by Mr. Churchill was more insulting than the motion.

Eventually Mr. Byles' motion was negatived without division, and Mr. Churchill's motion was carried by a majority of 220. najority of 220.

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