

The report adds, however: Many impartial observers are reaching the view that much of the real responsibility for these disorders rests with the people themselves and with the government for not adequately controlling monopolies and corporations, and for failing reasonably to protect the rights of labor and redress its wrongs. No one asserts that laws can completely remedy contentions as to wages, etc., but many do insist that something substantial can be accomplished in this direction if made honestly and reasonably in good faith.

In conclusion, the report says:

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 complaints of shippers they demanded, and the 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 commission to investigate and report suggested dangers the people have the same right to provide a government commission on differences between railways and their employees to the end that interstate commerce and public order may be less disturbed by strikes and boycotts.

The commission contends that law should make it obligatory upon such public tribunal to intervene by means of investigation and conciliation and to report whenever a difficulty of the character of that occurring during the season at Chicago arises. The commission therefore recommends:

I.

First—That there be a permanent United States strike commission of three members with duties and powers of investigation and recommendation as to disputes between railways and their employees; similar to those vested in the interstate commerce commission as to rates, etc.

Second—That chapter 567 of the United States statutes of 1885-86 be amended so as to require national trades unions to provide in their articles of incorporation and in their constitutions, rules and by-laws that a member shall cease to be such and forfeit all rights and privileges conferred on him by law as such, by participating in or by instigating force or violence against persons or property during strikes or boycotts, or by seeking to prevent others from working through violence, threats or intimidation; also that members shall be no more personally liable for corporate acts than are stockholders in corporations.

Third—The commission does not feel warranted, with the study it has been able to give the subject, to recommend positively the establishment of a license system, by which the higher employees or others of railways engaged in interstate commerce, should be licensed under due and proper examination, but it would recommend, and most urgently, that this subject be carefully and fully considered by the proper committee of Congress.

New York railway employees and some railway officials examined and many others, who filed their suggestions in writing, are in favor of some system.

II.

First—The commission would suggest the consideration by the states of the adoption of some system of conciliation and arbitration like that, for instance, of Massachusetts.

Second—Contracts requiring men not to join labor organizations, or to leave them as conditions of employment, should be made illegal, as is already done in some of our states.

III.

First—The commission urges employers to recognize labor organizations, that such organizations be dealt with through representatives with special reference to reconciliation and arbitration when difficulties are threatened or arise.

Second—The commission is satisfied that if employers everywhere will endeavor to act in concert with labor; that if when wages can be raised under economic conditions they be raised voluntarily, and that when there are reductions, reasons be given for the reduction, much friction can be avoided. It is also satisfied that if employers will consider employees as thoroughly essential to industrial success as capital and thus take labor into consultation at the proper times, much of the severity of strikes can be tempered and their number reduced.

STAR VALLEY CONFERENCE.

Ten ninth quarterly conference of the Star Valley Stake of Zion convened in Afton, November 10 and 11, 1894. The attendance Saturday was not as large as desired by the presidency of the Stake, but on Sunday the commodious meeting house of Afton was filled with Saints anxious to hear the word of God. The teachings of the Elders who spoke during conference were of a nature to encourage the Saints to greater diligence in the performance of their duties. The various wards were all represented by the Bishops, and the reports were favorable considering the scattered condition of the people, the Saints generally trying to keep the commandments of God, and all feel willing to acknowledge the hand of God in the bounteous harvest of the past season and for the good health prevailing throughout the Stake. The speakers encouraged all to observe the Word of Wisdom, and to be charitable to all mankind, and not stir up strife, but exercise a spirit of love towards all.

The health of the people is good and the weather is remarkably mild for this high altitude.

WM. H. KENNINGTON,
Stake Clerk.

ELDERS IN MISSOURI.

BLACKBIRD, Putnam Co.,
Mo., Nov. 12, 1894.

Thinking a few lines from this section of the country might be of interest to your many readers, we pen the following for their perusal: This part of the Lord's vineyard was opened up to the servants of the Lord last April. Brother Austin Kearns of Gunnison having been called on a mission to the northwestern states, received permission to come here and visit his many relatives in this land before entering

upon his labors. After arriving here among his relatives and conversing with them he found an earnest inquiry among them for the truth. He reported the condition to the president of the mission, and Brother George A. Beal, of Richfield, was sent here to assist him in opening up a new field in this part. They succeeded in baptizing five of Brother Kearns's relatives and causing many more to stop and consider their situation.

At our conference held on the 22nd of September at Council Bluffs Brother Beal was released to return home to his family and friends, after having been an earnest, hard worker in the vineyard for two years, and I was appointed to take his place and labor in connection with Brother Kearns in Putnam county and vicinity. We accordingly left Council Bluffs on the evening of the 26th of September, and after passing a sleepless night in a crowded car where one could hardly find a seat we arrived at our present quarters, where we received a warm welcome from the Saints in this part, where doors are always open to us when returning from a visit among the good people of Missouri. Since arriving here we have held seventeen meetings and have generally had full houses and have been treated with kindness and respect. We have had the doors of four churches opened to us, for which we feel very thankful to the good people of the county and also to our Heavenly Father, that we might deliver our message to the people and disseminate the principles of the everlasting Gospel among them.

We find most of the people anxious to hear us, either through curiosity or other reasons; many who have never seen a Mormon Elder before nor heard one speak; and after they hear us give our reasons for the hope we have within us and get acquainted with us, they almost universally have a better opinion of us as a people, and we feel quite sure that the seeds that we are now sowing will yet bring forth fruit some thirty, some sixty and some a hundred fold. While we have some opposition among the professed teachers of Christ, who sometimes try to induce the people to shut the school houses against us, we find generally on the board of directors men of honor who say, "doors open to all religious demonstrations or closed to all;" and many of them are now professors of religion. We have had the privilege of listening to two of the noted politicians of this state, one ex-Governor Crittenden, of the state of Missouri, now United States consul to the City of Mexico; the other Hon. J. H. Flanigan, known as the silver-tongued Republican orator of the state of Missouri. The latter paid the Mormon people a high compliment in holding them up as an example to the American people. Surely the Saints are beginning to be seen in their true light, and we are led to exclaim with the psalmist that the set time to favor Zion is come.

The weather is dry and November's chilly blasts are here.

Ever praying for the welfare of Zion we are your co-laborers in the cause of truth,
S. A. BUNKER,
AUSTIN KEARNES.