

# Attacks Testimony of Jno. D. Rockefeller, Jr.

## M. W. of A Board Member Tells of the Shooting of Striking Miners in Colorado, the Shattering of Miners' Homes and of How Hundreds Were Turned Out Into the Desert Without Food or Water.

(By Associated Press.)  
NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—John R. Lawson, executive board member for Colorado of the United Mine Workers of America, testifying today before the industrial relations commission, attacked the testimony of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and the methods and purposes of the Rockefeller foundation.

Mr. Lawson told of the shooting of striking miners in Colorado and the shattering of miners' homes and of how hundreds were turned out into the desert in 1903 without food or water, while others were driven over the snow-covered mountains. He vigorously arraigned Mr. Rockefeller for his confessed knowledge of conditions among the workers of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company.

men, women and children who starved in Colorado, for the widows robbed of husbands; children of their fathers. There are thousands of Mr. Rockefeller's employes in Colorado who wish to God they were in Belgium to be fed, or a bird to be tenderly cared for.

Reviewing that part of Mr. Rockefeller's testimony in which he said he had received only \$371,000 in dividends in all on his stock in the Colorado company, Mr. Lawson said:

"It was only under questioning that he confessed that his father had received \$8,889,000 from his bonds, and that the assets of the company were \$23,000,000 in excess of liabilities and that this item did not take in the property values of some \$19,000,000.

"Whatever appearance of poverty clings to the company is not due to anything but its own stupid and corrupt policy. Had it taken the money it has spent in controlling officials and the electorate, purchasing machine guns, employing gunmen and crushing the aspirations of human beings, and spent it in wages and the

improvement of working conditions, it would have had rich returns.

"These are vital causes of industrial discontent, an employer who never is seen and whose power is handed down from man to man until there is a chain that no individual can climb; our lives and our liberties passed over as a birthday gift or by will; our energies and talents capitalized by financiers in distant cities; our masters too often men who never have seen us, who care nothing for us and who will not or can not hear the cry of our despair.

"There is not one of these foundations, now spreading their millions over the world in showy generosity, that does not draw those millions from some form of industrial injustice. It is not their money that these lords of commercial virtue are spending, but the withheld wages of the American working class."

Mr. Lawson referred to the Rockefeller Foundation's appropriation of \$1,000,000 for investigation into the cause of industrial unrest as "what this commission was appointed to do."

"Who are the directors of this foundation out of which comes this investigation?" Mr. Lawson asked.

"The two Rockefellers; their professional advisers, Murphy, Gates, Green and Heydt; their secretaries, Flexner and Rose, on the Rockefeller pay-roll; and three others, Elliot, Hepburn and Judson, who furnished an outward appearance of independence—the same control that has directed affairs of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company; the same voice that declared through young Rockefeller that the defeat of the union in Colorado was a great American principle for which he was willing to sacrifice his money and the lives of his workers. And they ask the laboring class to believe that what they will feel as coal company directors they will not feel as directors of the foundation."

"Who is the man chosen to conduct this million-dollar investigation into industrial unrest? One Mackenzie King, an alien, whose contribution to the industrial problem is a law that prescribes a jail sentence for the worker who dares to lay down his tools. If labor had any doubt as to his real intent, that doubt was removed by the letter read at this hearing."

Here Mr. Lawson quoted what purported to be a copy of a letter written by Mr. King August 16, 1911, to John D. Rockefeller, Jr., in which Mr. King said:

"It will not be long before the inevitable effects of the European war are certain to make themselves felt, and once this becomes apparent, the unions will have to revise considerably some of their present policies. There is, generally speaking, going to be a large amount of unemployment as a consequence of the war and unions will be confronted with a new problem. Here, it seems to me, lies a possible avenue of approach toward restoring normal conditions in Colorado."

Mr. Lawson continued:

"Mr. Rockefeller, Sr., is quoted as saying that God must be brought to New York. In Colorado there is a suffering multitude that asks only for a little of the spirit of the Christ who died for human brotherhood.

"Nothing has been more clearly shown by your investigation than that workers are unable to protect themselves as individuals, but can only gain protection through organization.

"In theory at least, Mr. Rockefeller agrees to the principle of unionism. All that remains is to give this theory purpose and effect. The United Mine Workers is the one organization that represents labor in this great industry. I insist that Mr. Rockefeller can not give effect to this new point of view except with the cooperation of the United Mine Workers. Our own great desire is for lasting industrial peace. We rejoice that after all those who heard Mr. Rockefeller is disposed to consider and confer with the workers his company officials have despised, ignored and endeavored to crush."

Rockefeller donations to educational institutions have influenced policies of presidents of universities and colleges in many instances, but the influence has always been good, said Charles W. Elliot, president-emeritus of Harvard, who also testified today at the industrial commission's inquiry.

Donations, Dr. Elliot said, to which he referred, were made by the general education board.

There was only one condition attached to the board's endowments; that condition was that a part of the money should be spent in teaching theology. The board made that condition, Dr. Elliot said, because it did not care to be placed in the light of assisting or supporting any sect or religion.

## Announcement Dividends of 1915

THE regular dividends to be credited by the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company to its members on participating premium paying Life and Endowment policies upon their anniversaries in 1915 show a substantial increase over the regular dividends credited in 1914. Such increase results from the fact that it has become unnecessary for the Company to retain for expenses and contingencies as large a portion of that part of the stipulated premiums provided therefor as has heretofore been retained for such purpose.

This is the third increase in the regular dividend scale of the Mutual Benefit since the present premium rates and reserve basis were adopted in 1900. The regular dividend scale adopted in 1900 was continued through 1909. The increased scale adopted in 1912 has been continued up to this time. The new increased scale for 1915 became effective January 1st.

## Absolute Security! Liberal Policy Contract! Lowest Possible!

IN connection with the above announcement that dividends for 1915 on premium paying life and endowment policies have been increased very substantially over those payable on similar policies in 1914 it is worth while to call attention to the following record of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company covering the past seven years. To our knowledge the record is one which has not been equaled by any other life insurance company.

In 1907 the Mutual Benefit still further liberalized, for both old and new policies, its non-forfeiture system adopted in 1879 and modified in 1895 and 1900.

In 1908 the Company established a Suspended Mortality fund, which relieves the Company of the necessity of changing its dividend scale to meet fluctuations in death losses from year to year.

In 1909 the Company increased its dividend scale for 1910 and declared a special dividend of \$675,000.00 payable in 1910 in addition to the increased dividend.

In 1910 the Company established a Real Estate Depreciation fund.

In 1911 it established a Security Fluctuation fund and made a further increase in its dividend scale for 1912.

In 1912 the Company established higher reserves for policies issued prior to 1900, and provided that thereafter the loan and surrender values of such policies should be based upon such higher reserves.

In 1913 the Company declared a special dividend of \$861,000.00 in addition to the regular dividend, and adopted an increased dividend scale for the year 1915.

In 1914 the Company declared a special dividend of \$861,000.00 in addition to the regular dividend, and adopted an increased dividend scale for the year 1915.

It will be noted that the several increases in the Mutual Benefit's dividend scale and the declaration of special dividends have followed the establishment of contingency reserves computed upon a mathematical basis, and which, in the light of past experience, are amply sufficient to protect the Mutual Benefit against those contingencies to which all life insurance companies are liable.

The first concern of the Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company has been the absolute security of its outstanding policy contracts. Secondly, it has endeavored to liberalize its policy contracts to the fullest possible extent and to furnish insurance thereunder at the lowest possible cost. Inasmuch as it has been established that the earnings of the Company are sufficient to maintain the contingency reserves upon the bases adopted and to provide for increased dividends, such increase has been made.

The Mutual Benefit confidently presents its claims to the patronage of the insuring public upon the above record, which is unique in the history of life insurance.

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C. W. WEBB, District Agent.  
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### REVENUE CUT SERVICE NO MORE

#### Passes Out of Existence and Is Replaced by United States Coast Guard.

(By Associated Press.)  
NEW YORK, Jan. 29.—The United States revenue cutter service, organized when Alexander Hamilton was secretary of the treasury, passed out of existence today and replaced by the United States coast guard.

All along the Atlantic coast, the former cutter officers were informed by wireless today that they were now coast guard officers, although their rank was unchanged, and that their vessels henceforth would be known as coast guard cutters. The change carries into effect a measure recently passed by congress and signed yesterday by President Wilson, merging the revenue cutter service and the life saving service. The new service becomes a part of the country's regular military establishment and in time of war passes under direct control of

the navy department.

All life saving stations will be controlled by the coast guard and all saving crews will be made up of regularly enlisted men. Heretofore the life saving service has been carried on the civil lists.

The coast guard comes into being with a total personnel of 4,300 combining high educated officers and trained seamen from the revenue cutter service and expert surfmen from the life savers. Training and development will devolve upon the former revenue cutter officers, and active management will be directed by a captain commandant, corresponding to the same office which controlled the revenue cutter service.

tioners are Geo. B. Reeves, Lewis A. Emerson and Lillian I. Emerson. The Charleston Tire and Supply company has been commissioned with a capital of \$1,000. The petitioners are Allen Macfarland and J. P. Gaillard.

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Notice to Teachers.  
Public school teachers in the county are asked to take note of the fact that the annual meeting of the State Teachers' Association will be held in Florence, March 25-27.

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### Several Southerners Under Consideration

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—President Wilson today reduced the list of names he is considering in connection with the make-up of the new federal trade commission to a few men.

The five men considered most likely to be appointed are Joseph E. Davies, of Wisconsin; E. N. Hurley, of Illinois; Will H. Barry, of Washington State; George L. Record, of Iowa; and William J. Harris, of Georgia. Samuel Rogers, of North Carolina; Thomas S. Felder, Georgia, and several other Southern men were said to be still under consideration.

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