

DEFYING ROCKEFELLER SENT LAWSON TO PEN —WALSH ASSAILS COLORADO COURTS

The mask of hypocrisy was torn from the weazened face of John D. Rockefeller by Frank P. Walsh, chairman of the U. S. commission on industrial relations, who spoke at a mass meeting held yesterday to protest against the conviction of John R. Lawson, head of the United Mine Workers, who was sent to a Colorado prison for life on a charge of murder.

Walsh cited reams of testimony given before the commission. He said that the Rockefeller family was responsible for the outrages which took place in Colorado. And he exposed the flaw in the act which created the commission on industrial relations.

"This commission is empowered to compel witnesses to appear before it, but was not granted the power to punish witnesses for contempt when they refused to answer pertinent questions," Walsh said. "If the next congress represents the people, their first act upon reading the report of the commission will be will to cite John D. Rockefeller and his son and Mackenzie King, Canada's labor commissioner and Rockefeller's hired tool, to appear before the bar of the house of representatives to answer certain questions which they refused to answer at the public hearings of this body. Then if they still refuse to answer they should be tried for crime against the government and sent to the penitentiary."

Mere handclapping could not show the appreciation of the crowd, so they stood up and yelled. It was some minutes before order could be restored.

In introducing Walsh, John W. Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, told him he had been the victim of underhand attacks in the trust press and how attempts had been made to intimidate him.

"The last thing I want to do is to pose as a martyr," Walsh said. "The year has been the happiest of my

life. I have been enjoying myself tremendously and the comments I make here are made by a free American citizen.

"The conviction of Lawson is but an incident in this struggle for the principle of a government for the people. Lawson's case is the case of the American working people.

"Lawson was not sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of John Mingo. He was sentenced for his defiance of the Rockefeller interests.

"Rockefeller does not only own the mining property of that state, but he owns the courts, the legislature, the governor and the majority of the people.

"Before me his son called him 'the largest retired investor in the world.' This was proven untrue by correspondence between Lemont Bowers, head of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Co., and himself.

"A telegram, given this commission by a union operator in Denver, exposed a chain of letters which proved conclusively that Rockefeller took a deep and active interest in everything which occurred during the strike. I want to say to the editors of the trust press who have attacked me that if they will read this letters and still deny that Rockefeller did not take an active interest in the strike and conviction of Lawson that they would pay \$5 for a bottle of hair restorer to a bald-headed barber.

"I am not animated by a personal enmity against Rockefeller. I pity him from the bottom of my heart. On his 76th birthday he doubled the guard about his home at Pontico Hills and erected a new barrier inside of the old one. There he lives in a prison of his own making.

"Look at Mother Jones here. An agitator, loved and respected by thousands and then think of Rockefeller.

"Whether or not the congress of