

order of things was impressed upon his hearers with emphasis, and the Canadians warmed up and joined in the applause with vim and vigor.

The address of Mr. Coulter on Direct Legislation was lucid and brilliant. It was fired with the spirit that has driven Oregon to throw off the yoke of bondage to professional politicians.

The farmers here are ready for the Initiative and Referendum and the Recall. The Provincial legislative sessions are more hopeless and expensive farces than ever the old-time Oregon sessions dared to be, and the new Province is being burdened with debt. So the farmers' organization is determined to have a say in the future policies of the new Province.

BERT HUFFMAN.

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## AUSTRALIA

Corowa, N. S. W., December 17, 1910.

The first session of the Federal parliament ended late last month. The most important measures passed were:

1. An act to substitute Commonwealth bank notes for the notes issued by private banks.
2. An act imposing a tax of 10% on notes issued by private banks after December 1st.
3. A graduated tax on land values; maximum, sixpence in the pound, with an exemption of £5,000, and an extra tax of one penny, with no exemption, on land held by absentees.
4. An act to establish next year penny postage throughout the Commonwealth.
5. An act to give effect to part of the Kitchener recommendations for the military forces.
6. An act intended to allow the Constitutionality of Federal acts to be tested by the High Court at once, without waiting until a case arises.

Among the rest are two bills for amending the Constitution, to widen the legislative powers of the Federal parliament and giving it authority to legislate for taking over industries declared by parliament to be monopolies. These will be submitted to the people probably in April, 1911, to decide by referendum whether they shall be accepted.

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State elections were held in New South Wales in November, when the Ministerial (Wade) party was defeated. The Labor party elects 46, the Wade party 36, and the Independents 8.

It appears probable that most of the Independents will support the Labor party, which has formed a Ministry with Mr. J. McGowen as premier.

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In South Australia the State (Labor) ministry proposes to remit taxation to the amount of £155,000, and make up for it by increasing the present tax on land values from one-half penny to one penny farthing in the pound. This is estimated to bring in £150,000, and the remaining £5,000 will be obtained by an increment tax, copied from the British Budget. Crawford Vaughan, formerly president and secretary of the S. A. Single Tax League, introduced the budget, including these taxes, as Treasurer in the Verran (Labor) ministry.

Last year a graduated tax on land values was passed by the Legislative Assembly (lower house) of the State of Victoria, but was thrown out by the Council. This year the government has introduced a bill providing for a tax of three farthings in the pound on land values, without graduations but with an exemption of £500. This will probably be passed by the Assembly, but its fate in the Council is as yet in doubt.

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There is a proposal before the State parliament of Tasmania to exempt improvements, thus converting the present tax on the improved value of land into one on the unimproved value.

ERNEST BRAY.

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## INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

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### A BOLD GOOD MAN.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Jan. 17.

Charles Frederick Adams of New York created a sensation in his series of lectures here during the past week. He spoke before the Americus Club, the Hungry Club, in Trinity Church Assembly Room, and at the annual Henry George dinner in the Hotel Henry. The audience at each meeting was large, representative of the diversified interests of the city, and thoroughly appreciative. His lecture on the courts to the effect that they are human and should be subject to adverse criticism called forth withering sarcasm from the plutocratic press of the city. The Gazette Times, owned by Senator George T. Oliver, was particularly bitter in its editorial denunciation of his utterances. This in itself is evidence that Mr. Adams must have hit pretty close to the mark, for the Gazette Times becomes exercised only when the sacred workings of Big Business are in danger of exposure. Of course, Mr. Adams did not please all—it seems to be his purpose not to—but his wealth of first-hand information, his scholarly, open, frank, utterly uncompromising treatment of his subjects, and the sincerity of his convictions and the boldness of his utterances, have endeared him to many Pittsburghers.

BERNARD B. MCGINNISS.

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## NEWS NARRATIVE

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To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

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Week ending Tuesday, January 24, 1911.

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Progressive Republicans Organizing Nationally.

Following the Minnesota conference of progressive Republicans (p. 34) and in line with its purposes, a national organization was launched on the