

will advise contentment with poverty; will denounce the poor for their unrest, on the one hand, and on the other will fly to the defense of the rich oppressor, while always his grovelling soul is drunk with the contemplation of the golden streets and jasper walls of the New Jerusalem! a city whose boundless wealth he dearly hopes to share; wealth that he is striving for, tooth and nail, by hook or by crook, to capture.

Justice demands that the social mechanism deliver to every one the equivalent of his contribution to the total of product. Or, to state it in another way: Justice demands that the social mechanism deliver to no one more than the equivalent of his contribution to the total of product. But the prevailing social mechanism delivers countless millions to some individuals, and leaves multitudes in abject poverty.

Some of the sheep are grazing in green pastures, beside the still waters, while many are famishing in the desert. But the shepherd dares not interfere, except to adjure the hungry bleaters to "be content with that condition in life to which," etc., ending with an infamous blasphemy!

And then he wonders why the poor don't go to church!

EDWARD HOWELL PUTNAM.

## EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

### CLEVELAND.

Cleveland, Oct. 28.—Have you ever seen a prize fight where towards the close one fighter gains the ascendancy over his wily dodging opponent, and sends him to the ropes? Well, I witnessed such a contest last evening between the two candidates for the mayoralty, Tom L. Johnson and his opponent, W. H. Boyd. Boyd is an intellectual contortionist, who can duck and dodge, who can twist himself up into all kinds of knots, and while unraveling himself spit all kinds of intellectual fire, which would be more or less edifying did the crowd come simply to be entertained in a frivolous way. But when an audience assembles on serious business such antics are as painful as a joke at a funeral.

Boyd is a criminal lawyer, earning his bread and butter as a jawsmith before jurors, trying, as Johnson said, "to make them believe that his client is an angel, when as a matter of fact he ought to be in the penitentiary wearing stripes." This blandishment,

acquired by force of habit, sticks to him through this campaign. Criminal lawyers, when handling a bad case, kick up a lot of dust, make heaps of noise, and paint linguistic colors, in the hope that the jurors' minds may be diverted from the cold facts they are called upon to consider and weigh.

Such was Boyd last evening compared with the staid and ponderous personality of Tom L. Johnson. It was an exhibition of a rapid-firing machine gun going up against a 13-inch gun. Johnson, composed, fearless, without artifice, went direct to the meat of things, and with resistless force repelled the wholesale charges that his administration was one of graft. Had Boyd left out of his campaign these charges of graft he would have stood a better show; but this community will never elect a man who has such a cheap estimate of its citizens as to try to make them believe what he does not believe himself—namely, that Tom L. Johnson is a sordid grafter.

There is something truly great about the personality of Tom Johnson. Shining through his broad face there are lines indicating that he is as gentle as a child, yet interblended with these are other lines showing that he has all the fearless courage of the lion. To be gentle, to be good, to desire the right, and to have the courage of a hero to do battle for one's ideals, is the greatest gift from God to man. Such is Tom Johnson. And as the years come and go, may both his love and his strength filter through the souls of men, and become incarnate in the life of our nation.

GEORGE A. SCHILLING.

### AUSTRALIA.

Corowa, N. S. W., Sept. 30.—Several bills have been introduced in the Federal parliament (p. 307), some of which are very objectionable as tending to restrict personal freedom. Among them is one for the protection of trademarks, which includes a clause providing for the union label, and is arousing most discussion and opposition.

The most important bills before the State parliament of New South Wales relate to local government.

In this respect New South Wales is more backward than Victoria. The whole of Victoria is under local government, the towns being called "boroughs," "towns" or "cities," according to size, and the country districts "shires."

But in New South Wales, while most towns of 500 inhabitants and upwards are incorporated as municipalities, there is nothing corresponding to shires. Outside of the municipalities there is no local government, the roads and bridges being made and maintained by the State government and

paid for out of the general State revenue. Consequently one of the principal duties of members of parliament for country districts is to get as much money as possible expended in their electorates.

This is, of course, demoralizing both to members and constituents. Every ministry in New South Wales for the last 20 years has promised to bring in full local government, and a number of bills have been introduced, but none passed. The present ministry has introduced bills to amend the present local government act, and to bring the whole State (except the western division, where there is very little population) under municipal government.

Under the present law, local taxes (called rates) are levied on land and improvements (not on property generally). The occupier of the property, whether owner or tenant, is the person taxed. Only tax payers are allowed to vote at municipal elections, the number of votes varying from one to four, according to the value of the property taxed. Municipal elections are not influenced in any way by State or Federal politics. The mayor is elected by the council, and has no special powers, being merely the chairman. The council appoints all officials except auditors, who are elected by the tax payers. Judges, magistrates, police and public school teachers are all appointed and controlled by the State government, and the buildings and land used by them are owned by the State, so the municipal government has nothing to do with them whatever. In these respects the local government system of Victoria is very similar.

The most important alteration proposed by the New South Wales ministry is that, both in the present municipalities, and in the new shires proposed to be formed, the local taxes are to be levied on land values only, exempting improvements.

The maximum tax which a council will be allowed to levy is twopence-half penny in the pound. In any municipality or shire where the local tax is one penny or upwards, the present State tax of one penny in the pound will cease to be collected.

By the present State tax, land values to the amount of £240 are exempt, and there is also an exemption in the case of mortgaged land; an attempt, often successful, being made to tax the mortgagee by means of the income tax.

The local government bills are now being discussed by the State parliament, and may be altered, but the ministry seems to be determined to try to pass them.

A woman's franchise bill was passed by the lower house of Victoria in July, but rejected by the upper house. Victoria is the only State which does

not allow women to vote. Queensland adopted adult suffrage early this year. The first woman lawyer was admitted to practice in Victoria on August 1.

ERNEST BRAY.

## NEWS NARRATIVE

How 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 so 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.

Week ending Thursday, Nov. 2.

### The Russian revolution.

A great labor strike in Russia (p. 474) has developed, as was expected last week, into a full-fledged political revolution.

Previous to this strike the important Russian news had related to the action of the Zemstvos congress (p. 409) upon the Czar's call for a Douma or national assembly. Since then, indications of popular unrest over this half way measure of the Czar's have characterized all the Russian dispatches. The signs of an uprising were at first, as already stated, industrial. Workingmen were striking in various places for shorter hours and better labor conditions, and instances of rioting were reported as results. A little later the dispatches suggested political motives for these strikes. They were said to be part of a general scheme attributed to the Social Democrats to compel the Czar to grant universal suffrage and full political freedom. One of the strikes was on the railroads, and on the 24th this was reported to have progressed so far as to have caused complete suspension of operations on several railroad lines, and to threaten railroad communication throughout the Empire. The congress of railroad employes in session at St. Petersburg had on the 23d indicated the political nature of the strike by adopting a resolution in favor of universal suffrage, political freedom, amnesty, the right to organize strikes, the liberation of the arrested strikers, an eight-hour day, school for the employes' children, and the abolition of martial law, the railroad gendarmerie and cap-

ital punishment. Nor did the other strikes subside. So extensive were these manifestations at this time that it was surmised that "the general strike in all branches of labor which the Socialists planned for the end of this year was probably bursting forth." This situation led to the adoption on the 24th by the League of Leagues of resolutions declaring the moment favorable for a general strike of all the professions and recommending doctors, lawyers, engineers, etc., to cease professional activities. Revolutionary tendencies moved so much faster than the cable reported them that on this side of the world news of concessions by the Czar was at hand before any special necessity for that action was understood.

The Czar was reported on the 26th to have made these concessions by signing an Imperial manifesto granting Russia a constitution guaranteeing liberty of the press, free speech, freedom of worship, and equal political rights. The manifesto was not published until the 30th, when it was cabled as follows:

We, Nicholas the Second, by the grace of God Emperor and Autocrat of All the Russias, Grand Duke of Finland, etc., declare to all our faithful subjects that the troubles and agitation in our capitals and in numerous other places fill our heart with excessive pain and sorrow. The happiness of the Russian sovereign is indissolubly bound up with the happiness of our people, and the sorrow of our people is the sorrow of the sovereign. From the present disorders may arise great national disruption. They menace the integrity and unity of our empire. The supreme duty imposed upon us by our sovereign office requires us to efface ourself and to use all the force and reason at our command to hasten in securing the unity and co-ordination of the power of the central government and to assure the success of measures for pacification in all circles of public life which are essential to the well-being of our people. We therefore direct our government to carry out our inflexible will in the following manner:

1. To extend to the population the immutable foundations of civic liberty, based on the real inviolability of person, freedom of conscience, speech, union and association.

2. Without suspending the already ordered elections to the state Douma, to invite to participation in the Douma, so far as the limited time before the convocation of the Douma will permit,

those classes of the population now completely deprived of electoral rights, leaving the ultimate development of the principle of the electoral right in general to the newly established legislative order of things.

3. To establish as an unchangeable rule that no law shall be enforceable without the approval of the state Douma, and that it shall be possible for the elected of the people to exercise real participation in the supervision of the legality of the acts of the authorities appointed by us.

We appeal to all faithful sons of Russia to remember their duty toward the fatherland, to aid in terminating these unprecedented troubles and to apply their forces, in co-operation with us, to the restoration of calm and peace upon our natal soil. Given at Peterhof, October 30, in the eleventh year of our reign.

This action by the Czar is attributed to the influence of Count Witte, to whom it is understood the Czar has confided the task of organizing a ministry on the usual parliamentary model. It has caused the resignation of Pobiedonostseff, the procurator of the holy synod, who has been the ecclesiastical support of Russian autocracy and is unwilling to remain in that office under a parliamentary government. Count Witte has organized a cabinet composed of friends in whom he has personal confidence rather than of leaders of parties or factions. It is as follows:

Foreign Affairs—Count Lamsdorf.  
 Marine—Vice Admiral Birilleff.  
 War—Gen. Redeger.  
 Interior—Prince Alexis Obolensky.  
 Finance—Mr. Romanoff.  
 Railroads—Mr. Zeigler.  
 Justice—Mr. Koni.  
 Education—Mr. Kroskovsky.

From the latest dispatches it is evident that the Czar had not signed the grant of a constitution on the 26th, and that there is good reason for fearing that his signing it on the 30th came too late to prevent a bloody revolution. Count Witte had been in conference with the Czar and his reactionary advisers urging a grant of constitutional rights. He did not succeed until the 30th. Meanwhile the fires of revolution were blazing higher and higher. The mere announcement of a constitution on the 26th did not smother them, as it was doubtless intended to do. Throughout the Empire the people had risen, and they were mani-