

vice, crime and misery resulting therefrom. The adoption of the resolution would have been construed as implying that the conference felt sympathetically toward such a position. Clearly those who do not feel so were right in objecting. Those who do not stand for social and economic justice should not be forced to appear as though they do. Those who tolerate Oppression should not be asked to give a perfunctory, apparent endorsement to Freedom. If Rabbi Stephen Wise was right in saying, "You are afraid of what the rich may say," then the conference took the only course it should have taken in tabling all resolutions. Insincere praise would be no honor—rather the reverse.

S. D.



Joseph Chamberlain.

The passing of Joseph Chamberlain arrests attention because of his connection with the reactionary movement in restraint of trade. And the fact that such a brilliant leader was unable to revive the protective tariff is good evidence that the British have made a distinct advance on the road toward direct taxation. While Americans, having a protective tariff, have resisted fifty years of campaigning to convince them that the tariff is a tax and that the foreigner does not pay it Mr. Chamberlain with all the power of the Unionist party and Tory landlords behind him was unable to persuade the English workingmen, lacking protection, that a tariff is not a tax, and that the foreigner pays it. In that significant fact lies great hope for economic progress. England was compelled to raise more revenue, and it was a question as to whether it should be raised by direct or by indirect taxation; in other words, whether it should fall upon the bent back of labor, or be drawn from the coffers of idle landlords. Mr. Chamberlain failed; Mr. Lloyd George has succeeded.



Just how much Mr. Chamberlain's course was due to conviction, and how much to overweening ambition may never be known. The fact that he should say in defending his tariff proposals that all direct taxes are either shifted to the consumer or drive the property taxed out of the country showed an utter lack of understanding of the incidence of taxation. The English landlord has not been able to shift to the tenant the land tax of the Lloyd George Budget; and there is very little likelihood of their taking their land out of the country. On the other hand, Mr. Chamberlain's surpassing qualifications for leadership might well

arouse in him aspirations that could not be satisfied while serving under Mr. Gladstone. It was unlikely that he should supplant his chief within the Liberal party; while it was possible, by means of clever political machinations, to ride into power at the head of a new party. Mr. Gladstone began his political career as a Conservative, and changed to the Liberals. Mr. Chamberlain started as a Liberal, and became Conservative. Their paths crossed, but were not long parallel; and the success of the one, and the failure of the other may be taken as an indication of the trend of the times. As Thomas Carlyle and Rudyard Kipling have failed with their Tory preaching to make an impression on the world commensurate with their literary ability, so Joseph Chamberlain, by his espousal of Toryism, has been unable to stay the march toward democracy.

S. C.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

CONNECTICUT'S PROGRESSIVES AT WORK.

Lake Compounce, Conn., June 27, 1914.

Breakers ahead for the Bourbons! More than a hundred militant Democrats assembled here this afternoon, to demand progressive measures and forward looking candidates from their party in this State. Harmony, independence and determination were the dominant notes of the convention. The terms direct primary, initiative and referendum, recall, preferential ballot, home rule in taxation, etc., echoed and re-echoed through it all. The event was without parallel in the political annals of Connecticut, and some of the old-time singletaxers here had to fairly rub their eyes open, to make sure that they were in the Nutmeg State. George M. Wallace of New Haven, chairman of the meeting and a democrat of the most fundamental sort, was finally authorized to appoint a committee of ten to organize the movement and lay plans for the coming campaign. The appointments will be announced later in the week. Another conference will be held within the next six weeks, in accordance with a unanimous vote of those present.

CHRISTOPHER M. GALLUP.



NEWS FROM ONTARIO.

Toronto, July 1.

We have just concluded a big fight. We have been defeated, but not vanquished. The enemy has won and the downtrodden are rejoicing that their oppressors are still in the saddle.

Eighteen months ago the people of this city by a direct vote of four to one declared in favor of local option in taxation. The city council prepared a bill to give effect to that vote; but when it reached the parliament, it never passed the committee stage, the eight representatives of the city utterly ignored the bill, and yesterday, at the elec-