

was forced to "advise" a "moderate increase of wages in certain ports"; finally it was forced to acknowledge its inability either to tie-up the vessels or to prevent its members from making their own terms with the seamen. . . . One of the most inspiring features of the great strike is the absence of anything approaching violence or turmoil. . . . In no other country in the world could a strike of such magnitude be carried on with so little attempt to frustrate it by overt act or unwarranted interference on the part of public authorities. If the authorities of Great Britain were disposed to overlook infractions of the law by the Federation in the matter of the provisions dealing with the manning of ships, they at least made no attempt to intimidate the men on strike.

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Is Fisher Ballinger's Alter Ego?

La Follette's, Aug. 5.—President Taft has not changed his conservation policy. It is the same "reign of law" inaugurated by Ballinger and repudiated by the public. Ballinger is now gone, crowned with Presidential laurels; but Ballingerism remains. This is the meaning of Taft's statement in the Controller Bay case. The Pinchot-Roosevelt conservation policy, so contemptuously discarded at the beginning of the present Administration, is still distasteful to the President. These lands skirting the shore of Controller Bay, should never have been thrown open to private individuals. Do not lose sight of that fact. It is the essential fact in this controversy. The manner in which Taft let Ryan get a foothold on this strategic point is important only as it illuminates the Taft method. The act itself is very important as showing how insecure are our valuable natural possessions under the Taft policy.

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Roosevelt's Umbrella for the Steel Trust.

The (New York) Nation (ind.), Aug. 10.—While four years of opportunity for contemplation have failed to reveal to Mr. Roosevelt any possibilities of defect in the little transaction of November 4, 1907, between himself and Messrs. Gary and Frick, upon other minds inconvenient doubts obtrude themselves. It took him only the brief space intervening between his breakfast on that morning and the opening of the New York Stock Exchange to decide that if in the future the steel magnates should be charged with having been actuated by any monopolistic motive, this would not represent "what could honestly be said, but what might recklessly and untruthfully be said"; and yet there are to-day great numbers of people who are not in the least either reckless or untruthful, and who think that no other supposition really fits the facts.

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Foreign "News."

The (Philadelphia) Saturday Evening Post (ind.), August 5.—We hardly expect to find in our daily paper a coherent account of any European event other than an earthquake, the assassination of a great personage, or a king's coronation. If it were not for some other sources of information we should suppose that nothing else which was of interest to

the inhabitants of the United States ever happened over there—with one notable exception. We do find periodically a long cablegram describing how this or that opulent American lady is making a tremendous figure in the élite society of the Old World. In view of this practical monopoly—believing, also, the ladies must have the good of their native land at heart—we were thinking of getting up a petition praying them to instruct their press agents to smuggle in a few lines now and then about politics or commerce. . . . We want to arrange it some way so that European news will not consist mainly of silly rot.

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The Singletax for Missouri.

The (Boston) Christian Science Monitor (religious), July 31.—Advocates of the Henry George system of taxation have long been wishing and hoping for an opportunity of trying it out on a large scale, that the world might thereby be quickly and thoroughly convinced of its practicability. It is frankly confessed by the doubters that the system has nowhere yet had a fair trial. In cases where communities have adopted it they have been compelled to comply with the general taxation laws; not only has it been incumbent upon them to provide necessary revenues under their own method of assessment, but they have been forced to meet the demands of the State. There have been efforts along the line of obtaining permission from the States to organize independent Single Tax districts, but these have failed for various reasons, mainly Constitutional. It is now proposed in Missouri, however, to amend the State Constitution. . . . There has been for over thirty years, and there is today a fear among conservatives that if the Henry George method should be adopted the rights of property, somehow or other, would be destroyed, whereas the advocates of the Single Tax system believe that these rights would be strengthened. However this may, the fact remains that some of the clearest and ablest political economists in the world have unlimited faith in the ability of the Single Tax system to produce an ample revenue by equitable means. They look to it, moreover, to bring about economic conditions of the most salutary character, to work out social problems that are now perplexing humanity, to make for constructive as well as cleaner methods in politics. Missouri is to decide before long whether it shall become the testing ground for this important economic innovation, and the decision will serve to show whether any great advance has recently been made by its advocates against the bulwarks of conservatism and prejudice that are always ready for the defense of old systems.

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In the life-long fight to be waged by every one single-handed against a host of foes, the last requisite for a good fight, the last proof and test of our courageous manfulness, must be loyalty to truth—the most rare and difficult of all human qualities. For such loyalty, as it grows in perfection asks ever more and more of us, and sets before us a standard of manliness always rising higher and higher.—Thomas Hughes.