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EDITORIAL

Sympathy.

President Wilson has, as few men have had, the sympathy of the world. That the man whose wise statesmanship has kept the grim messenger from so many American homes, should himself have had to entertain him gives peculiar poignancy to his loss. In the presence of such affliction man feels his helplessness. Yet, confronted by such companionship of man and woman, such devotion of purpose, such union of effort, and such accord of aspirations, we realize the possibilities of the home. America has achieved distinction in many fields, but in none has she surpassed that beautiful home life, in which is found that sweet devotion that is common alike to the laborer's cottage and the President's mansion. And the President, as the laborer, will find as he takes up his heavy burden, that his own sorrows will lessen as he continues to lessen the sorrows of others.

s. c.



A Change of Heart.

What has become of those blood-thirsty individuals who a year ago were so clamorous for war with Mexico? How plain then was our duty to Americans in Mexico, to property interests, to foreign interests, to our own self-respect. War was hell, to be sure, but duty called upon us to raise it at any cost. Alas, the perverseness of events! More than a year has gone by and we haven't raised "it" yet. On the contrary, such a pacific spirit has come over our erstwhile jingoes that they have taken to preaching peace to our warring brethren across the sea. Why the change? Is it not due to the mellowing influence of time? Does it not vindicate the wiser "second thought?" Who ever struck a blow in anger, or said a sharp word, but regretted it when the heat had passed? Who ever held his hand, or curbed his tongue, in the heat of passion, but at a future time rejoiced. A little time for reflection is a wonderful pacifier. Had the European nations waited a month after reaching the fighting point, before beginning hos-

ilities, there would have been no war. The treaties negotiated by Mr. Bryan and now before the Senate, provide for this very thing—the mellowing influence of time. The war in Europe, and the avoided war here are unanswerable arguments in behalf of these treaties.

s. c.



Satan Rebuking Sin.

“War, the wild beast of civilization, is loose. Dreadful anxiety oppresses the hearts of men. Civilization has declared war against itself, and because a few choose to set millions at the game of murder, progress stops and the world goes back.” So runs the leading editorial in the Hearst papers of August 9. Is it possible to use stronger language in condemnation of William Randolph Hearst’s urging of war against Mexico? To paraphrase his own words: “Because a few American monopolists wish to save their titles to Mexican lands, they would set millions at the game of murder.”

s. D.



Modernizing the Navy.

Should any of the old Sea Dogs escape from Davy Jones’ Locker long enough to pay a visit to the American navy it is to be feared he would feel little at home on board ship. The substitution of steam for sail propulsion doubtless would surprise him, and loading cannon from the breech instead of the muzzle might impress him as a distinct improvement. But his first real jolt would come when he heard an officer direct a man to do something on the “right” side of the ship. To be told that the seaman’s “port” and “starboard” had given place to “left” and “right” would send him below for a glass of grog. Here would come his second jolt, for to his mind a ship needed grog inside as much as water outside. But both of these surprises would be forgotten when the old fellow was told that imprisonment for desertion had been abolished.



Secretary Daniels seems to have as little respect for precedent as President Wilson. Being a civilian, he looks matters over with an omni-critical eye, and when he sees something that looks out of harmony he calls in the liveliest Sea Dog he knows and finds out about it. If the seaman’s opinion and the landsman’s opinion coincide, swift action follows. Most of the men on modern battleships are not sailors at all, but machinists, and soldiers; so why chance confusion by requiring landsmen to think “right” and “left” when they hear “starboard” and “port”? The same practical mind saw

the advantage of selling two outgrown battleships just before their time for being scrapped, but while still of service to a smaller country in enclosed waters. And now the Secretary has grappled with the desertion problem in the same fearless way. Most of the causes of desertion are unintentional acts, which, though deserving of some punishment are encouraged, rather than discouraged by imprisonment. A prison is about the poorest place on earth for the growth of character, and people should be put there only when all better means have failed. The very fact that this stigma has been removed, and that the men wishing to quit the service may have an honorable discharge by merely refunding certain enlistment allowances, will go far to make the men satisfied to stay their term of enlistment. Let the men in the army and navy quit with the least possible disabilities, and there will be far less desertions than formerly. Under such conditions if there be many quitting the service it will be time to look into the conduct of the officers in charge.

s. o.



Any Way But the Right Way.

Many years ago this country heard the campaign cry of Free Ships and Sailors’ Rights; but like many another euphonic slogan, it did not survive the campaign. The term might serve in a new sense. The sailor still awaits the action of Congress to enjoy the rights of all other workmen; and free ships are begrudged us by the same body. Old Captain John Codman and David A. Wells showed beyond any question or doubt that the one indispensable thing to revive American shipping was to allow American ship masters to buy ships in the same market as their competitors. But in those days Congressmen stood on their heads to see things and everything was upside-down. One word from John Roach, the ship-builder, was more impressive in Washington than a long argument from an actual sailor like John Codman. We did not get free ships, and American shipping did disappear from the high seas. But a break was made in the protectionist defenses when the Panama Tolls bill granted American registry to foreign ships under certain restrictions. It was not to be expected that a wrong policy that had outlived two generations could be completely righted by one act. Congress took one step, and then stopped.



But an unexpected condition confronts us. The war in Europe has driven a large number of ships from the sea. It is a great opportunity for Amer-

ica. If American registry is extended to foreign ships without limit, we shall soon have a merchant marine. But the Senate hesitates to pass the bill that went through the House. The Senate seems to have an incorrigible habit of hesitating when a meritorious measure is up for consideration. Meanwhile suggestions pour in to relieve our predicament. And like the attempt of Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn to get the imprisoned "nigger" out of the smoke-house, in which all plans are considered, except the obvious one of taking him out through the door, our lawmakers are determined to give us anything but free ships. A leading Chicago banker—and the bankers cannot be accused of neglecting their part in making the laws of this country—proposes that the Federal government appropriate \$100,000,000 to buy ships to take the place of those driven out by hostile cruisers.



Aside from the general proposition that it would be better to invest that amount of money in merchantmen rather than in men-o'-war, the question arises: Why invest that amount of the people's money, when private capital stands ready to supply the need? If, after all restrictions have been removed, private companies do not enter the field, it will be time enough for the Federal government to take action. But how does it come that this noted banker has gone into the Socialist camp? It is not so very long ago that a great outcry was raised by the bankers because the Federal government proposed to open postal savings banks. When it was suggested that the government establish savings banks at points where there were no private ones, or where the super-timid had no faith in the commercial savings banks, the idea was condemned in banking circles as socialistic. As Tom and Huck, instead of considering plans for tunnelling under the smokehouse walls, or breaking through the roof, could have liberated the prisoner by opening the door, so Congress, if it will, can restore the American flag to the high seas by removing the restrictions that drove it off. And in restoring the flag to its rightful place, let it be over free men. Once more, Gentlemen of Congress, please pass the Seamen's bill. s. c.



Blind Protectionists.

Protectionists are not predicting that the European war will bring us prosperity. Why not? Is not the war restricting imports even as a protective tariff would do? Don't protectionists recognize their own doctrine? s. d.

Money to Burn.

A common objection to the various plans for bettering social conditions and making the world more habitable is lack of money. Is it proposed to give the children better education, the answer is, no money. Should there be better roads, no money; old age pensions, no money; more parks, playgrounds, gymnasiums, libraries and museums, no money. But scarcely had the first shot been fired in the present war than the nations involved appropriated a billion dollars each to be offered up on the altars of patriotism. s. c.



How to Meet the Deficit.

Prospective loss of revenue due to decrease of imports resulting from the European war, has brought forth the inexcusable suggestion of a stamp tax to make up the deficit. Is there not enough statesmanship in Washington to see the needlessness and harm of new taxes on business? The deficit gives Congress an opportunity to help industry and to take measures to counteract the increasing cost of living. The request of the meat dealers of the United States that Congress help in opening unused lands for stockraising can be met by levying a land value tax. This will not only end the deficit but will force unused lands into use. That would be far better than burdening industry with a stamp tax.



Possibly there may be some doubt as to the constitutionality of such a measure. The power assumed by the Supreme court to nullify acts of Congress makes more or less doubtful the constitutionality of every measure that the court has not passed upon. Congress should give the public interest the benefit of the doubt, and let the Supreme court take the responsibility, if it so desires, of blocking a beneficial measure, and embarrassing the government. Ordinarily there is not enough courage in Congress to make such a course thinkable. But the present necessity should drive congressmen to it. s. d.



Meat Prices and Land Monopoly.

The connection between land monopoly and scarcity of meat, is noted by the butchers of the United States in resolutions adopted by their National Conference at Chicago on August 5. Their resolutions demand that the federal government acquire land for stock raisers to use and that it assist them in improving it. Congress and State legislatures can do better than that. They can legislate

so as to make it unprofitable to withhold from use land that is needed for stockraising. They can further help improvement of such land by exempting all improvements, live stock and all other personal property from taxation. That will help the stock raising industry without taxing any other industry. The butchers should insist on such legislation.

S. D.



A Bishop's Opportunity.

Bishop Busch of Lead, S. D., knows that the miners of that locality are not free men. He realized this when the employing corporation kept them from attending religious services. His protests have brought about an investigation by the Commission on Industrial Relations. According to newspaper accounts the bishop confined his complaints to the fact that the men were denied Sunday rest. Surely he must see that the wrong done is far more serious than that. If, as a result of his complaints the mines hereafter shut down on Sunday, he will surely not consider his duty done. He must realize that Mrs. Hearst and the Homestake Mining Company are not so much to blame for conditions at Lead, as the monopoly of natural resources through which they control the men who must use these resources in order to live. Through similar monopolies workers throughout the nation are deprived of freedom to the same extent as at Lead. Monopoly's power is not always used to interfere with church attendance. Ordinarily that would be poor policy. Very frequently the monopolists are kind and generous to their men. This the manager of the Homestake Mining Company at Lead claims to be in denying Bishop Busch's charge. Does the Bishop merely dispute his statement, or is he able to see that even though the industrial despotism at Lead be a benevolent one it does not justify a system that gives some men control of the livelihood of others? Does he ask that the monopoly be destroyed on which the Homestake corporation's power is based, or does he only ask that it be forced to be less harsh in the exercise of its power? The Bishop is in a position to do a great service, not merely to the miners of his own denomination at Lead, but to wealth-producers of all denominations or of none, throughout the nation. Let him make clear to others—what must be plain to him—that wherever natural resources are monopolized, as at Lead, there the workers must be enslaved. Let him use the influence his position gives him to help in abolishing this wrong. Perhaps he will.

S. D.

Business and Privilege.

There are many business men whose economic education has been so badly neglected that they mistake attack on privilege for an attack on business. Monopolists may be and frequently are business men also, but it does not follow that all business men are monopolists. On the contrary to the extent that a man is a monopolist, to that extent is he an impediment to business. Information along this line was given recently to a group badly in need of it, by a leading manufacturer of Fort Wayne, Indiana, Mr. Theo. F. Thieme. The information was imparted by Mr. Thieme to the National Association of Manufacturers in the following letter:

Your circular letter, with assorted lot of stickers, received. These, in connection with certain impressions I gained while attending the United States Chamber of Commerce meeting at Washington in February of this year, suggest to me that the line between "monopoly" business and "competitive" business is as marked as the line between the corrupt machine politician and the sincere, honest citizen politician. Competitive business suffers from the misdeeds of monopoly business, the same as the honest politician suffers from the misdeeds of the corrupt machine politician.

The government is not after such business as I am engaged in, nor the 95% of retail and wholesale merchants who are in competitive business, but it is after "big business," which is monopoly business, i. e., public utilities, railroads, trusts, etc., and it is these perverters of the word business who are asking honest, competitive business to protect them in their exploitation of the public. I am commencing to realize that it is not a matter of too much interference, but not enough, and of the right kind. Any thinking man must realize by this time that we must curb monopoly business, which is today operating its gigantic financial deals at the expense of the manufacturer and the "competitive" business man.

Unless I can be shown differently, I am opposed to all this agitation for inveigling competitive business into a scrap to protect monopoly business. I appreciate also that, as a result of monopoly business owning the government, we have corrupt politicians, and are strangled with all kinds of fool legislation against business of all kinds, small and large. But, after all, the real issue is the curbing of "big business," something entirely independent of and separate from business which is competitive business.



If the members of the National Association of Manufacturers, most of whom are engaged in competitive business, would carefully consider what Mr. Thieme has told them, they will realize that abolition of privilege is as much to their interest as it is to the interest of other wealth producers. Useful business works against itself when it tries to defend monopoly.

S. D.

The Missouri Senatorship.

In a choice between two evils for a Senatorial candidate at the Missouri Democratic primary Senator Stone was selected. Since his defeated opponent was Judge William H. Wallace of Kansas City it is no great compliment to Stone that he was considered the lesser evil. If one were to take a logical and unsentimental view of the situation it would have been a stroke of luck to the Singletax cause in Missouri and throughout the nation had Judge Wallace been successful. The best help a cause can have, next to an ardent advocate, is a bigoted, unfair and injudicious opponent. Wallace is that kind of help to the Singletax movement. Had he gone to the Senate the whole nation would have had forced on its attention the kind of talk and tactics resorted to by Missouri opponents of the Singletax in 1912. Wallace's misrepresentations and his appeals to ignorance and prejudice would have been looked upon as typical of the methods of anti-Singletaxers everywhere. Resulting disgust of all fairminded and decent citizens with him, would have been reflected on the opposition to Singletax, and the Singletax movement would have got the benefit.



But human nature sometimes enables sentiment to overcome logic. Aside from natural resentment caused by Wallace's slanders, Missouri Singletaxers have their share of State pride and were repelled by the idea of Missouri becoming the laughing stock of the nation. Besides, as fairminded men and women, they have no desire to see their honest opponents shamed and misrepresented. Moreover a kindly feeling for the Wilson administration made them disapprove of sending to the Senate a politician whose support must cause more harm than his opposition. So they largely voted against him. But had Wallace's ridiculous appeals to bigotry and ignorance brought him the senatorship, any regret for the result felt by Singletaxers would have been due to other reasons than anxiety for their cause.

S. D.



Detroit's Opportunity.

The nomination on the Democratic ticket of Frederick F. Ingram for Mayor of Detroit gives the voters of that city an enviable opportunity. It gives them a chance to get a mayor of the Tom L. Johnson kind. Mr. Ingram makes clear in his campaign statement that what every city needs is something more than mere replacing of professional politicians with honest, independent citizens. Such efforts must fail to produce permanent

results as long as the system of government is unworkable. A change of system is necessary to establish self government and eliminate boss rule, and Mr. Ingram has long been known as a strong advocate of all the progressive measures needed to accomplish that result.

S. D.



John A. Warburton.

In the death at San Antonio, Texas, on August 8, of John A. Warburton, there passed away a veteran of two wars: of the Civil war of the 60's and of the present war for economic freedom. Mr. Warburton was born in Manchester, England, 76 years ago, came to America while a young man and lived in San Antonio for the past 50 years. He served as a Confederate, in the Civil war, in Green's company of the Texas Rangers. He was one of the early disciples of Henry George and until the day of his death had all the zeal and fervor of a crusader in behalf of the singletax doctrine. His widow, two daughters and three sons survive him.

S. D.



AMERICANS AWAY FROM HOME.

In his recent address before the American-Asiatic Association, Secretary of State Bryan uttered a truth more fundamental than perhaps even the great Democrat himself realized, when he said:

It will not be difficult to protect American interests (in foreign countries) so long as those who go abroad to assist in the development of other countries remember that they should give a dollar's worth of service for every dollar collected by them.

Seriously, however, to propose to those American exploiters—developers, if you prefer—who invade foreign countries that they should render a "dollar's worth of service for each dollar collected by them" would be reckoned a monumental jest. Nor need we affect surprise at this, for at present we offer about ninety-five cents in plunder for every nickel invested in the various forms of special privilege; land privileges, more specifically, which these exploiters have keenest relish for; and the offer is accepted, naturally enough.

Any American who has traveled beyond our national boundaries, into Mexico, for instance, and who has any conception of the unrighteousness of large getting and small giving, has had the blush of shame brought to his cheeks by the exploiting maneuvers and manipulations of his countrymen who are "developing other countries." The wooden nutmeg artists, thimble riggers and three-card monte gentlemen are crude and clumsy, but honest souls by comparison. The only sem-

blance of a return of dollar for dollar has been in the reflected lustre of a few gigantic private fortunes and the smoke of a few reckless extravagances of burned money, and, for a truth, these constitute rather meager returns to an exploited country; they make rather light provender for a plundered people.

Pay the laundry bill, the grocer bill; meet your small obligations and your pay roll, and—get all you can, no matter how. That is the approved, unwritten law, the popular idea of giving dollar for dollar. The excellence of the first four tenets is not open to question, but the unbridled, wanton exercise of the last by a few makes the proper observation of the others impossible for quite too many people.



The question as to how it happens that so many of our citizens find it necessary to go to foreign lands to do their "developing," while millions upon millions of acres of our own country and thousands upon thousands of its natural opportunities await proper and needed use is neither impertinent nor irrelevant. But it leads beyond the Secretary's injunction that our citizens abroad should render a "dollar's worth of service for each dollar collected."

That they should do so is true enough, indeed. And it is equally true that our government will have no difficulty in protecting them when that is done. But what they should do and what they will do will, very naturally, remain widely divergent until the more imperative word, "must," is substituted for the preceptive "should." And mere statutory or legal declarations to that end, either at home or abroad, would be futile and fruitless even if those at whom they were aimed did not defeat their enactment in advance or their nominal enforcement after they were enacted.

Exploiters, whether at home or abroad, will continue to exploit and to utterly fail to "render a dollar's worth of service for every dollar collected"—nor can we particularly blame them—until society awakens to the fact that the real value, the social value of the great natural opportunities which large exploiters seek everywhere, belongs to itself, to the society that creates it. Incidentally, when that hour comes, the great natural opportunities at home will become available and large and worthy individual enterprise will not need to seek foreign fields, if that so jars our patriotism and conduces to diplomatic and international difficulties.

ROBERT S. DOUBLEDAY.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

THE TEXAS ELECTION.

Dallas, Texas, August 3.

In Texas, Ferguson's victory is considered a victory for the reactionary forces of the State. He was lined up with the reactionary wing of the Texas Democratic delegation at Baltimore. His past record is that of a man opposed to labor unions, his conception of our penitentiary problems do not rest upon a sane, humanitarian basis. In fact, he is a cold, hard-headed business man, with his own pocketbook and that of his friends as his god. On the other hand, Ball's record is as clear as it can be on the main essentials, and though he is a corporation lawyer the moral forces and the progressives of the State almost without exception lined up with him. Though Ball was not quite so demonstrative in his love for the dear people as gauged by the immediate relief which his land plank promised as was Ferguson with his plan to "settle the land question," still I do not think that any one will gainsay me the statement that Ferguson's land plank was simply a scheme to catch votes of the ignorant tenant farmer, who was ready to catch at any straw which promised any sort of relief. The real issue was whether corporate greed or the moral and progressive forces should direct the affairs of our State. Ferguson stood for the former, and the Texas Business Men's Association, a kind of N. M. A., for Texas, composed of the railroads, big corporations, public service utilities, etc., did everything possible to secure his election. The Dallas Dispatch, our local Scripps paper (very loyal to the cause of the people, both local and State), fought and worked for Ball to the best of its ability.

CARL P. BRANNIN.



PROGRESS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Pittsburgh, July 24.

The results of the Democratic primaries in Pennsylvania ought to be gratifying to Singletaxers. Among the names of those nominated for various offices are found many "old time Singletax" workers, and some of the young men who have been active in that cause.

In the 19th District, Congressman W. W. Bailey was re-nominated, and as he faces a divided opposition, chances are very good that he will be returned to Congress to continue his effective work for the Singletax.

In the 31st District, comprising the North Side of Pittsburgh, John M. Henry, a young attorney, who has recently begun advocating the taxation of land values, and who made a great reputation as a speaker in the Wilson campaign, is a Democratic candidate for Congress.

In the 40th Senatorial District, one of the younger members of the Pittsburgh Singletax Club, Carl D. Smith, is a candidate for State Senator.

In the eastern end of the State, at Mifflinburg, Lee Francis Lybarger, is a candidate for Legisla-

ture, and the voters of his district will listen to some fundamental economic truths from their candidate, during the coming campaign.

E. D. Schleiter of Beaver, and John T. Ennis of Pittsburgh, are also candidates for the Legislature. On the State ticket, one of the candidates was nominated on a Singletax platform, William N. McNair, who is running for Secretary of Internal Affairs. He is making an open air campaign, with the assistance of local Singletaxers in various parts of the State. The newspapers reported large meetings last week in various parts of Cambria County, where he was assisted by a number of Johnstown Singletaxers, among them M. J. Boyle, Prof. H. F. Bender and P. H. Mahaffey.

The result of the Pittsburgh plan for gradually reducing the assessment of improvements gives these candidates something practical to talk about on the "stump." They have arguments that are more than mere theory. And so the voters are beginning to show an unusual interest in their campaign.

If the next Legislature contains men who are Singletaxers, the movement for the extension of the Pittsburgh Tax Plan to boroughs will be greatly encouraged; as it is now, the boroughs surrounding Pittsburgh, are beginning to feel the situation. The Secretary of the Board of Tax Revision in Allegheny County is receiving many complaints from manufacturers in the towns surrounding Pittsburgh. They say that it is not just to them that machinery is taxed in boroughs and not in the city. They are beginning to realize the advantage which the factories in Pittsburgh have with their machinery exempt from taxation; and, no doubt, will soon start a movement, even though they know nothing of Singletax, to have a similar law in the boroughs, by which machinery will be relieved from taxation.

This year there was only a 10 per cent reduction on the assessments of buildings in Pittsburgh. At the next assessment there will be further 10 per cent reduction. Whether it is merely a coincidence or not, it is remarkable that the city is experiencing a great building boom. The Pittsburgh "Press" of the 20th inst., had an editorial showing that the large buildings in the course of erection in the city totaled about fifteen millions of dollars.

Some of the political leaders in Pittsburgh are considering amending the Stein bill so as to make the reduction of assessments of buildings more rapid. Some of the members of the City Council are beginning to see this and are advocating that a greater percentage of the assessment be reduced, than as is now provided for in the bill.

Whether these Singletaxers are elected or not, a great deal of propaganda work is being done. People are being told in a most effective manner that the way to better the conditions of the common people is by the taxation of land values. In all these open air meetings, good seed is being sown, the truth is being told to the people and the future battles in this State for economic freedom will be easier, because of the work that is being now carried on by the Singletax candidates in Pennsylvania.

R. E. SMITH.

NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND.

Wellington, N. Z., July 5.

During the financial year ending March 31, 1914, we have carried twelve places for rating on unimproved values (local single tax as they call it in Canada), two counties, seven boroughs and three town boards, etc. This year no less than 132 places will be rating on unimproved values in New Zealand. But for the strike last year, I believe we should have carried nearer two dozen instead of only one dozen places. We hope to do better this year, but as we have a general election in November more attention will probably be given to national than to local politics.

Our prospects in national politics this year are probably not good. The Honorable George Fowlds is sure to win back his old seat, and Mr. J. P. O'Regan, who is being pressed to stand for the Buller, will be returned if he can see his way to stand, but the general position is not bright.

The Second Ballot, as you will remember, proved an utter failure at the last general election. The Massey Government went into power, although, counting the votes cast for four "Liberals" who now support him, he received little more than one-third (thirty-eight per cent) of the votes cast in the first ballot, which shows the true feeling of the people. The result of the 1911 election was:

Masseytes	37
Liberals	35
Labor	4

But in proportion to the votes cast for each party the result should have been:

Masseytes	27
Liberals	37
Labor	10
Independents	2

Now Massey has abolished the Second Ballot, reverting to the old "first past the post" system, which means that if the Government put up only one candidate for each seat, while the progressive vote is divided among two or three candidates, the Massey Minority Ministry may get a fresh lease of power. Under Proportional Representation, the only scientific and honest electoral system, they would be beaten by two to one.

Sir Joseph Ward has not yet learned the lesson of the 1911 elections. If in his last session he had taken Mr. Fowld's advice and carried Proportional Representation and added another one penny in the pound, without exemption, to the Land Tax and reduced Customs taxes by the amount so raised (this would have meant reducing the cost of living at least £1,000,000 a year—£1 per head, £5 per family of five, man, wife and three children), he would have been returned hands down. But he has not yet declared for Proportional Representation, although he has for the reduction of Customs taxes and putting more of the tax burden on the community—created values. Mr. Fowlds, however, returns in September and we will then have a big campaign.

ARTHUR WITHY.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

TAXATION IN CALIFORNIA.

San Diego, Calif, August 1.

Section 1. Article XIII of the constitution of the State of California reads in part as follows: All property in the State, not exempt under the laws of the United States, shall be taxed in proportion to its value, to be ascertained as provided by law. The word "property," as used in this article and section, is hereby declared to include moneys, credits, bonds, stocks, dues, franchises, and all other matters and things, real, personal and mixed, capable of private ownership.

No assessor in the State dare, even though he could, enforce the clear provision of the constitution. In the year 1913 the total money and solvent credits in the state, returned for taxation, amounted to \$34,620,769, or about \$14.50 per capita. The deposits of the banks of Los Angeles alone are over \$80,000,000! Many counties show less than \$2 per capita money and credits. Every taxpayer is required to make oath that he has rendered a true statement of his property, and that he has concealed nothing. In the face of the returns but one conclusion is possible—some taxpayers have lied. Of course they have lied—few would deny it, and if money and credits could be taxed successfully, and the law of California was enforced, money would be driven out of the State, and business would be paralyzed.

When a State has a fundamental law, which would bankrupt its citizens, if enforced, it is time to make a change. How can that change be made? By adopting Amendment No. 7, providing for Home Rule, or Local Option in taxation. Then any city, town or county in California may do some needed experimenting without involving the rest of the State. Wherever the people understand this proposed amendment they are for it. In this connection it is interesting to note that the assessed land values of Los Angeles, Alameda and San Francisco counties, with a combined area of 4,842 square miles, is \$355,160,780, or \$51,114,997 more than the assessed value of the rest of the lands of the State, consisting of 150,810 square miles. The assessed value of the personal property in the three counties named is \$143,271,440, or \$14,805,783 less than the rest of the State, proving conclusively that personal property escapes taxation in the large cities. The three counties named contain the cities of San Francisco, Oakland, Alameda and Los Angeles.

Section 2, of Article XIII, of the California constitution provides that cultivated and uncultivated land of the same quality, and similarly situated, shall be assessed at the same value.

Section 2, of Article XVII, provides that the holding of large tracts of land, uncultivated and unimproved by individuals or corporations, is against the public interest, and should be discouraged by all means not inconsistent with the rights of private property.

R. E. CHADWICK.

NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of The Public for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Tuesday, August 11, 1914.

The European War.

On Friday, July 31, all Europe was shouldering arms. On Tuesday, August 11, only two short weeks after Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, the five great Powers were actually on the battle-field. To the east, Germany and Austria-Hungary had declared war on Russia. In the west, Great Britain and France, besides Belgium, were warring against Germany, and France was formally arrayed against Austria. [See current volume, page 753.]

Germany.

On the 26th of July Russia had told Germany through her Ambassador that Russia would not be able to remain indifferent if Serbia were invaded. On the 28th, while Russia and the Austrian ambassadors were negotiating to "localize" the Austrian-Servian conflict, Germany refused Great Britain's proposal that France, Italy, Great Britain and Germany should enter into a council of peace to mediate between Russia and Austria, stating as her reason—it was reported—that Austria and Russia were now in communication and that it would be unwarrantable interference. An official communication published in the North German Gazette stated that the Russian emperor, on July 29, telegraphed to Emperor William urgently requesting him to help in averting the misfortune of a European war and to try to restrain his ally, Austria-Hungary, from going too far; that Emperor William replied that he would willingly take up the task of mediator, and accordingly diplomatic action was initiated in Vienna; that while this was in progress the news that Russia was mobilizing reached Berlin and Emperor William telegraphed to the Emperor of Russia that his role as mediator was by this endangered, if not made impossible. The communication added that a decision was to have been taken in Vienna that day in regard to the mediation proposals in which Great Britain had joined Germany, but that meanwhile Russia had ordered the full mobilization of her forces. Upon this Emperor William addressed a last telegram to Emperor Nicholas emphatically declaring that his own responsibility for the safety of the German Empire had forced him to take defensive measures. On July 31 the Kaiser sent to the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs a twenty-

four hour ultimatum demanding that mobilization cease. Meantime, an Imperial decree proclaimed martial law throughout the German Empire; established strict censorship over military news; announced military measures on the frontiers, such as armed protection of the railroads and restriction of wires and railroads to military purposes; and prohibited the export of food, fuel and autos. The Imperial railroad administration on the same day informed the Belgian State railroad management that all international trains into Germany had been suspended. The ultimatum to Russia having expired at noon of August 1, Kaiser Wilhelm signed a mobilization order that afternoon, and at 7:30 the same evening the German Ambassador at St. Petersburg delivered a declaration of war to the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs and immediately left St. Petersburg. The German-Russian border was promptly crossed by both armies, and their ships met in the Baltic Sea.



On August 4 the German Ambassador to France declared to the French Premier at Paris that a state of war existed between Germany and France. On the same day the British Ambassador at Berlin announced to the German Foreign Office that a state of war existed between Great Britain and Germany, and asked for his passports. Next day and at later dates Germany was in communication with her former ally, Italy, against her attitude of neutrality, and on the 8th, with Portugal to ask her intentions. Italy maintained her position of neutrality and Portugal replied in favor of her treaty obligations with Great Britain. Early on August 5 the German-Atlantic cable was cut east of the Azores and all news thereafter could reach the United States only through the medium of countries hostile to Germany.



Three general movements of the German armies have been in progress: one has crossed into Belgium, headed for the French frontier; another is reported to be concentrating at the Swiss-French border; and the third is operating against Russia on the Polish border and probably the coast of Finland.



Russia.

All Russian army reservists were called to the colors by an Imperial Ukase on July 31. German and Russian Poland, immediately after the German declaration of war, became objects of invasion, small troops of cavalry only being reported as engaged and the Germans on the whole the victors. Next day after Austria-Hungary declared war, ukases were issued calling out the whole arm-bearing population of Russia, and on the 8th Austrian troops crossed the Russian bor-

der. On August 3 the Czar had issued a manifesto in the course of which he said:

The fraternal sentiments of the Russian people for the Slavs have been awakened with perfect unanimity and extraordinary force in these last few days when Austria-Hungary knowingly addressed to Serbia claims unacceptable for an independent state.

Having paid no attention to the pacific and conciliatory reply of the Servian government and having rejected the benevolent intervention of Russia, Austria-Hungary made haste to proceed to an armed attack and began to bombard Belgrade, an open place.

Forced by the situation thus created to take necessary measures of precaution, we ordered the army and navy put on a war footing, at the same time using every endeavor to obtain a peaceful solution. Pourparlers were begun amid friendly relations with Germany and her ally, Austria, for the blood and the property of our subjects were dear to us. Contrary to our hopes in our good neighborly relations of long date, and disregarding our assurances that the mobilization measures taken were in pursuance of no object hostile to her, Germany demanded their immediate cessation. Being rebuffed in this demand, Germany suddenly declared war on Russia.

It was announced on the 7th at St. Petersburg that not a single newspaper correspondent would be allowed with the Czar's armies.



Austria, Servia and Montenegro.

Two days after Austria-Hungary announced on July 28 that she considered herself "from that moment in a state of war with Servia" the bombardment of Servia's capital, Belgrade, an open city, was begun from the Austrian bank of the Danube. The Servians were subsequently reported to be offering everywhere stubborn and sometimes successful resistance to the Austrian invasion, both on their north and west boundaries, and Montenegro, as was announced on August 1, took up arms for her next door neighbor, Servia, and by August 10 had crossed over into Bosnia, Austrian territory. On August 1 after Russia had made her intention to support Servia plain to the Powers, Russia and Austria were reported to be again in diplomatic communication; but next day Austria began to move her troops eastward apparently to guard her Russian boundary. On August 6, war on Russia was declared by Austria-Hungary. Next day Austrian soldiers crossed into Russia and Servian dispatches reported less activity on her borders. On the 9th large bodies of troops from Austria-Hungary were reported to have crossed into Germany, and on August 10 the French government proclaimed a state of war to exist between Austria-Hungary and France.



France.

On the evening of July 31, as reported in press dispatches, Baron von Schoen, the German Ambas-

sador to France, informed the French Premier of Germany's ultimatum to Russia the time limit of which would expire at noon next day, and asked what would be the attitude of France in case of a German-Russian war, requesting an answer before one o'clock on August 1. France asked in reply whether Germany could not avert war. The German Ambassador said he would communicate with Berlin and return to the French foreign office at four o'clock that afternoon. This he did; and immediately after his visit there was ordered the mobilization of the entire French army to be complete at midnight of August 2. This order was accompanied by a joint proclamation from President Poincaré and the members of his Cabinet explaining that the other states of Europe, even the neutral ones had already taken "this measure as a precaution" and saying that—

The powers whose constitutional or military legislation differs from ours have, without issuing a decree of mobilization, begun and carried on preparations which in reality are equivalent to mobilization and are but the anticipated execution of it. . . . But our legislation does not permit the completion of these preparations without a decree of mobilization. Conscious of its high responsibility and feeling that it would fall in its sacred duty if it did not take this measure, the Government has signed the decree. Mobilization is not war. Under the present circumstances it would appear, on the contrary, to be the best means of assuring peace with honor. Strong in its ardent desire of arriving at a peaceful solution of this crisis the Government, under cover of these essential precautions, will continue its diplomatic efforts and still hopes to succeed.

Martial law was declared through France and Algeria on August 3 and Parliament was summoned to convene in two days. On August 4 the French Minister of War issued the following note:

The German Ambassador has demanded his passports and diplomatic relations between France and Germany have been broken off. War is declared.

Jules Cambon, French Ambassador to Germany, was instructed to ask for his passports and before leaving Berlin to protest to the German government against its violation of Luxemburg and against its presentation of an ultimatum to Belgium. General Joseph Joffre was appointed commander-in-chief of the French army. For days previous to this there had been circulated conflicting reports of military activities at the Franco-German border on the part of both nations. The Germans semi-officially charged that French airmen had dropped bombs near Nuremberg on August 2, that on the same day "French troops crossed the German border in upper Alsace near Belfort," and at various other places. The French war office declared on August 4 that "the only instance within a week of a French soldier having been on German soil was in the case of a military aviator who descended at Muehlhausen and resumed his flight without reporting to the local authorities."

Each nation's high officials continued to charge the other with provoking the war. The French Deputies, upon the convening of Parliament on August 5, ratified martial law and unanimously passed a bill conferring French nationality on any natives of Alsace and Lorraine enlisting in the French army. French troops advanced into those Provinces on the 7th, occupying several villages and taking possession of the town of Muelhausen on the 9th. On the 10th, France declared a state of war to exist with Austria-Hungary, the French Foreign office giving out the following statement in explanation:

Contrary to assurances given by Austria to the French minister of foreign affairs that no Austrian troops were taking part in the Franco-German war. the French government has ascertained beyond any possible doubt that certain Austrian troops are at present in Germany, outside the Austrian frontier. These troops, which have set free certain German troops destined to be employed in fighting the French, ought indubitably de facto and de jure, to be considered as acting against France.



Belgium.

On July 31 Great Britain asked France and Germany simultaneously whether they would respect the neutrality of Belgium guaranteed by Great Britain, France, Austria, Russia and Prussia in the Treaty of London, 1831. France promptly answered "Yes." But Germany's Foreign Secretary declined to say. The Belgian government on this same day ordered complete mobilization. On August 2 Germany marched into and occupied the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, a small territory the neutrality of which was guaranteed by the five great Powers in the London treaty of 1867. Next day, August 3, Belgium received from Germany a twelve-hour ultimatum demanding that German troops be suffered to cross Belgium to the French frontier and promising in return that at the end of the war, Belgian territory should stay unimpaired and Belgium compensated. Germany stated as the reason for her request that she had learned of the presence of large bodies of French troops on the west Belgian border ready to operate via Namur [a Belgian fortified city] and that Germany must defend herself. This communication further stated that if Belgium adopted a hostile attitude against the German troops and put difficulties in the way of their advance, Germany would be obliged to consider Belgium as an enemy. In that case Germany would not enter into any undertaking with Belgium, but "would leave the final relations of the two states to the decision of arms." The reply of Belgium expressed her surprise at Germany's statements since France had just given reassurance of her intention to respect Belgian neutrality. Belgium it said, had too high sense of her dignity and interest to accede to such demands as Germany's and therefore refused them

definitely and, protesting against any violation of her territory, was resolved to defend her neutrality. It was officially announced that evening that France, in the event of hostilities, had undertaken to fulfill her obligations to preserve Belgian neutrality. King Albert of Belgium presided over a joint session of Parliament which had been hurriedly convened; and Emil Vandervelde, the Socialist leader, joined the Cabinet so that all parties might be represented. Throughout the day of August 3, Germany had continued to pour troops into Luxemburg and mass them along the Belgian border. Next day, August 4, the German soldiers crossed into Belgian territory at several places, taking small towns on the way to Liege, evidently their objective point. Liege, the first fortified city in the way of the Germans across Belgium, is an important industrial and educational center, a French-speaking city noted for its beautiful mediaeval cathedral. It is strongly protected by twelve forts, sweeping both banks of the river Meuse, "the principal weakness of which is," as explained by an official of the Paris war office, "that they cannot see each other, a fault that would facilitate the entrance of an enemy into the city." This city the Germans attacked in force on August 5 and were met with two days' determined and decimating resistance by its Belgian garrisons. The Germans whose infantry had advanced upon the city in absolutely close order between the firing forts and had been mown down by thousands, asked on the morning of August 7 for an armistice of twenty-four hours in which to care for their dead and wounded. This was refused by the Belgian general, because, he said, it would give the German reinforcements time to arrive. So the Germans immediately continued their attack and on the 7th and 8th German troops effected entrance and made a peaceable occupation of the city of Liege. The forts still held out. General Emmich, the German commander, according to a dispatch from Brussels in the London Daily News, "immediately issued a proclamation warning civilians not to fire upon soldiers and announcing that should the offense be repeated the city would be bombarded by artillery stationed in the citadel. . . . The Germans having taken up their abode in the university, schools and other public buildings. They do not intrude into private dwellings and are conducting themselves in every way well, paying for everything they want in the few shops that are still open."

By August 11 the French and Belgian armies had joined somewhere near Namur, and British troops were on Belgian soil; the German force in Belgium, after falling back for a day's rest had resumed its attack on the Liege forts.



Great Britain.

Premier Asquith announced in the British

House of Commons on July 30 that by the consent of all Parties—including Irish Nationalists and Ulster Covenanters—the second reading of the Irish Home Rule Amending Bill would be postponed "for the present, without prejudice to its future, in the hope that by the postponement of this discussion the patriotism of all parties will contribute to what lies in our power if not to avert, to at least circumscribe, the calamity which threatens the whole world." Sir Edward Carson announced next day that a majority of the Ulster volunteers were ready for home service; and on August 4 John E. Redmond, the Irish Nationalist leader, declared in the House of Commons: "Every soldier in Ireland may be withdrawn tomorrow. The coasts of Ireland will be defended by her armed sons, the Catholics of the south and the Protestants of Ulster." The headquarters of the Women's Social and Political Union, the militant suffragist organization, had sent on July 31 a proclamation to all its branches in the United Kingdom ordering the cessation of all acts of militancy during the continuance of the international crisis.



After Great Britain failed to receive from Germany on July 31 an assurance of her intention to respect Belgian neutrality, mobilization was begun, and on August 2 the naval reservists and territorials were called out. August 3, Sir Edward Grey announced the governmental policy in the House of Commons. On August 4 Premier Asquith addressed the House of Commons. He said:

We understand that Belgium categorically refused to assent to a flagrant violation of the law of nations.

His Majesty's government was bound to protest against this violation of a treaty to which Germany was a party in common with England and must request an assurance that the demand made upon Belgium by Germany be not proceeded with and that Belgium's neutrality be respected by Germany, and we have asked for an immediate reply. We received this morning from our minister in Brussels the following telegram:

"The German minister has this morning addressed a note to the Belgian minister for foreign affairs stating that as the Belgian government has declined a well intentioned proposal submitted to it by the imperial German government the latter, deeply to its regret, will be compelled to carry out, if necessary by force of arms, the measures considered indispensable in view of the French menace."

Immediately afterward we received from the Belgian legation here the following telegram from the Belgian minister of foreign affairs:

"The Belgian general staff announces that Belgian territory has been violated at Verviers near Aix-La-Chapelle."

Subsequent information tends to show that a German force has penetrated still farther into Belgian territory.

We also received this note this morning from the German ambassador here:

"Please dispel any distrust that may subsist on the part of the British government with regard to our intentions by repeating most positively the formal assurance that even in case of armed conflict with Belgium Germany will under no pretensions whatever annex Belgian territory. The sincerity of this declaration is borne out by the fact that we have solemnly pledged our word to Holland strictly to respect her neutrality. It is obvious that we could not profitably annex Belgian territory without making territorial acquisition at the expense of Holland. Please impress upon Sir Edward Grey that the German army could not remain exposed to a French attack across Belgium which was planned according to absolutely unimpeachable information. Germany has as a consequence disregarded Belgian neutrality to prevent what means to her a question of life and death—a French advance through Belgium."

We cannot regard this as in any sense a satisfactory communication. We have in reply repeated the request made last week to the German government that it should give us the same assurance regarding Belgian neutrality as was given to us by France last week. We have asked that the German reply to that request and a satisfactory answer to our telegram of this morning should be given before midnight tonight.

That same day the British Foreign Office issued the following statement:

Owing to the summary rejection by the German Government of the request made by his Britannic Majesty's Government that the neutrality of Belgium should be respected, His Majesty's ambassador at Berlin has received his passports, and His Majesty's Government has declared to the German Government that a state of war exists between Great Britain and Germany from 11 o'clock p. m., August 4.

On that day, also, a proclamation by King George ordering army mobilization, was read from the steps of the Royal Exchange. An emergency fund of \$525,000,000 was voted by the Commons; Sir John Jellicoe was appointed commander of the British fleets, already mobilized; an order was issued giving the government control of all the railroads in Great Britain. Next day, Field Marshal Earl Kitchener was appointed Secretary of State for War; Earl Beauchamp was named to succeed Lord Morley as Lord President of the Council, and Walter Runciman to take John Burn's position as President of the Local Government Board, both of these officials having resigned through disagreement, it was said, with the Government's war policy. Martial law was not in force except at the military and naval stations. Premier Asquith, in his address to the Commons on August 6 said:

If Great Britain had accepted, what reply could she have made to the Belgian appeal? She could only have replied that we had bartered away to the power threatening her our obligations to keep our pledged word. What would have been Great Britain's position if she assented to this infamous proposal and what was she to get in return? Nothing but a promise given by a power which at that moment was announcing its intention of violating its own treaty. . . . The Government is confident that the nation is

unsheathing the sword in a just cause. We are fighting, first to fulfill international obligations which, if entered into by private individuals, no self-respecting man could have repudiated, and, secondly, to vindicate the principle that small nations were not to be crushed in defiance of international good faith at the arbitrary will of a strong and overmastering power.

The Commons voted unanimously a \$500,000,000 war budget—in addition to the emergency fund—and an army increase of 500,000 men, Earl Kitchener issuing an immediate call to arms for 100,000 men, this being supplemented a few days later by another call for a like number. In England as in many of the other countries all except official war news is shut off.



The British war fleet which had sailed with sealed orders for an unannounced destination before war was declared, had not been reported in action up to August 11. Various single encounters between German and British vessels in European waters were reported after August 4, one mine-laying German vessel being sunk by an English cruiser which soon after struck a mine in the North Sea and sank. On August 8 and afterward, several thousand British troops landed at Calais and other points to join the French and Belgian armies in their opposition to the German advance across Belgium.



Other European Nations.

Italy, whose semi-official decision for neutrality—despite her defensive treaty with Germany and Austria—had been ratified by the Cabinet Council on August 3, and who had called certain classes to the colors, was said to have been sent an ultimatum by Germany on the 7th, and in answer to have reaffirmed her declaration of neutrality. Switzerland, a neutral State, on July 31 ordered out every man between twenty and forty-eight years old. The Federal Parliament met on August 3; on August 4 dispatches announced that every railroad bridge and mountain pass was guarded. Germany sent official announcement to Switzerland that her neutrality would be absolutely respected. Holland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden have each proclaimed strict neutrality and are all mobilized. Sweden, it is reported, was asked by Germany and by Russia on August 2 regarding her attitude, and made no answer. Norway and Sweden have "exchanged obligatory assurances with the view of preventing hostile measures being taken by either against the other because of the war." Portugal, being asked her intention on August 8, by Germany, announced that she would fulfill her treaty with Great Britain, which involves the furnishing by Portugal of 10,000 troops to England when at war. And her Premier announced therewith that this "did not mean that Portugal intended immediately to abandon her stand of neutrality."

United States and the European War.

In proclaiming neutrality of the United States on August 3, President Wilson called attention to the existence of war between Austria-Hungary and Serbia, between Germany and Russia and between Germany and France. He warned all persons against commission of the following acts prohibited by the law approved on March 4, 1909:

1. Accepting and exercising a commission to serve either of the said belligerents by land or by sea against the other belligerent.
2. Enlisting or entering into the service of either of the said belligerents as a soldier, or as a marine, or seaman on board of any vessel of war, letter of marque, or privateer.
3. Hiring or retaining another person to enlist or enter himself in the service of either of the said belligerents as a soldier, or as a marine, or seaman on board of any vessel of war, letter of marque, or privateer.
4. Hiring another person to go beyond the limits or jurisdiction of the United States with intent to be enlisted as aforesaid.
5. Hiring another person to go beyond the limits of the United States with intent to be entered into service as aforesaid.
6. Retaining another person to go beyond the limits of the United States with intent to be enlisted as aforesaid.
7. Retaining another person to go beyond the limits of the United States with intent to be entered into service as aforesaid. (But the said act is not to be construed to extend to a citizen or subject of either belligerent who, being transiently within the United States, shall, on board of any vessel of war which, at the time of its arrival within the United States, was fitted and equipped as such vessel of war, enlist or enter himself or hire or retain another subject or citizen of the same belligerent, who is transiently within the United States, to enlist or enter himself to serve such belligerent on board such vessel of war, if the United States shall then be at peace with such belligerent.
8. Fitting out and arming, or attempting to fit out and arm, or procuring to be fitted out and armed, or knowingly being concerned in the furnishing, fitting out, or arming of any ship or vessel with intent that such ship or vessel shall be employed in the service of either of the said belligerents.
9. Issuing or delivering a commission within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States for any ship or vessel to the intent that she may be employed as aforesaid.
10. Increasing or augmenting or procuring to be increased or augmented, or knowingly being concerned in increasing or augmenting the force of any ship of war, cruiser, or other armed vessel, which at the time of her arrival within the United States was a ship of war, cruiser or armed vessel in the service of either of the said belligerents, or belonging to the subjects of either, by adding to the number of guns of such vessels or by changing those on board of her for guns of a larger caliber, or by the addition thereto of any equipment solely applicable to war.
11. Beginning or setting on foot or providing or

preparing the means for any military expedition or enterprise to be carried on from the territory or jurisdiction of the United States against the territories or dominions of either of the said belligerents.

The proclamation further declares as contrary to neutrality the use for aid to hostile operations of waters within the jurisdiction of the United States by public ships or privateers. American citizens, as well as all others within the jurisdiction of the United States, are warned against organizing military forces in aid of a belligerent, and citizens receive the additional notice that they can obtain no protection from the government in the event of getting into trouble through a violation of neutrality. [See current volume, page 753.]

A further move to enforce neutrality was an order of the President, issued on August 5, forbidding wireless stations within the jurisdiction of the United States from sending or receiving messages of an unneutral nature. Censors were placed at the stations at Sayville, Long Island and at Tuckerton, New Jersey, both owned by Germans. On August 8 a protest was sent to the President by the German-American Chamber of Commerce of New York. The protest declares that while the German wireless stations are under censorship the "English and French cables are in clear operation and not under any censorship whatever." It further charges that news of movements of German ships is being cabled to England and France and that the cables are used to disseminate false and exaggerated rumors in this country.

On August 5 President Wilson sent a note offering mediation through American representatives in Europe to all of the warring powers. The note is based on article 3 of the Hague convention which says:

"Independently of this recourse, the contracting powers deem it expedient and desirable that one or more powers, strangers to the dispute, should, on their own initiative and as far as circumstances allow, offer their good offices or mediation to the states at variance.

"Powers strangers to the dispute have the right to offer good offices or mediation even during the course of hostilities.

"The exercise of his right can never be regarded by either of the parties in dispute as an unfriendly act."

Acceptance of the offer will not interfere with hostile preparations or movements until an agreement to that effect has been made. It is not expected that any of the powers will accept the offer until a decisive battle has been fought.

Mexico and the United States.

Peace is still in abeyance in Mexico between the Constitutionalist and the Federal governments.

The reported surrender of Mazatlan was a mistake. An attack on the city was made by the Constitutionalists on August 5. Hard fighting ensued which was still going on on August 8. The Constitutionalists had by that time captured all of the outer defenses. Two minor engagements took place on August 9 near the American lines at Vera Cruz in both of which the Federals had the advantage. The capture by the Constitutionalists was announced on August 9 of Toluca, capital of the State of Mexico, and Pachuca, capital of Hidalgo. [See current volume, page 754.]



Efforts by the United States government to bring about peace resulted in dispatch of a telegram to Carbajal on August 8 by his representative at Washington, Jose Castellot. The telegram urged surrender to Carranza, provided amnesty and guarantees of safety be given. Otherwise, Castellot said, armed resistance would be inevitable. Carranza replied to urging by the State Department, that he grant the terms asked in the following message to Consul Silliman at Saltillo:

Excess will not be permitted, and the conduct of the new government will be determined by what it deems for the best interest of all those concerned, and this conduct will be in strict harmony with the laws of war and the usages of civilized nations under similar circumstances.



Mr. Charles A. Douglas, representative in Washington of General Carranza, made public on August 2, a report of conditions in northern Mexico made to him by Herbert J. Browne of New York, an economic expert. Mr. Browne reported as follows:

At Tampico the large business operations were slowly resuming. The city was clean and orderly. I did not see a single drunken or boisterous Mexican. The market place was filled with a profusion of food supplies, potatoes alone being scarce. Prices were high in Constitutional money, but moderate in American money. Retail business was brisk. I did not see a single beggar in Tampico.

Gov. Caballero I watched in his office and was struck with his grasp of business detail, and the rapidity with which he despatched business. The whole state and municipal machinery moved with little friction and an absence of red tape.

Train service to Monterey was poor. The rolling stock is in bad shape from the ravages of a fierce military campaign. Along the route I was struck with the absence of signs of serious distress among the common people such as I witnessed in Cuba just prior to the Spanish war. Every one had enough to eat. There was no gathering of half-starved and emaciated beggars.

Throughout all upper Mexico the peons have been practically free from paying rent to their former oppressive landlords for the past year and are enjoying consequent individual prosperity. Not being handicapped by a highly specialized industrial sys-

tem, they flow back to the land at the first opportunity.

Monterey, a much larger city than Tampico, was equally as orderly. Big business there was none. The large banks were closed; business of all kinds was slack, but the town was as clean as Washington. Again, the markets showed a profusion of food.

It is the day of the peon. The wealthy have suffered. Splendid mansions have been seized by the authorities. Their owners have fled across the border as was the case in France in 1789-93. You remember the French revolution changed France from a country of 130,000 landlords to one of 4,000,000 peasant proprietors in a day.

Now I can see the spring, the new life, the energy with which these peons, newly awakened to the possession of land and to economical and political freedom are meeting the situation, are fighting with the same irresistible impulse which swept the French peasant over every army in Europe.

These people all understand that the agrarian question is the main one, and the peons understand that they are to have the land and pay no more rent. Also they wish this condition to be brought about fairly.

Monterey to Saltillo is through a wonderful but narrow wheat field irrigated in a primitive but effective way. The wheat had just been cut and it is the first crop that these peons have ever gathered of which the landlord did not get at least two-thirds. Now he gets nothing, and the load of debt which has been handed down in each family for two generations has been wiped out by the strong hand of the revolution.

Saltillo looks all Indian. It is the temporary capital. I didn't see a beggar or hungry-looking person there. Carranza was distributing \$5 bills to every woman; if she were old she got \$10.

In all these places I got out and mixed with the common people. They are naturally polite and friendly. I met with invariable courtesy.

In Saltillo they have set up an actual working administration, with all the departments in operation. Very sensibly, however, the various state governments are most active and thoroughly organized. There is constant communication, consultation and advice going on between the two.

I heard Mr. Carranza say that the first important act of his administration would be a quick survey of all Mexico as a preliminary to the imposition of a land tax such as Madero had proposed; that will force the idle land into use.

Mr. Picard, a prominent merchant of Chihuahua, told me that old Louis Terraza owned over half the city of Chihuahua, and yet had paid less taxes than he (Picard) paid on the goods in his store.

In brief, the war has slid over northern Mexico and hardly left a scar, and the peons have ceased to pay rent.



Death of Mrs. Wilson.

Mrs. Ellen Axsen Wilson, wife of the President, died at the White House on August 6 of Bright's disease with complications. Funeral services were held at Washington on August 10 and the burial on August 11 at Rome, Georgia.

Washington Doings.

The President appointed on August 4, Frederic A. Delano of Chicago, member of the Federal Reserve Board, in place of Thomas D. Jones, withdrawn. The appointment was confirmed by the Senate on August 7, as was also the appointment of Paul M. Warburg. Mr. Delano is president of the Monon railroad. He was also a member of the Commission on Industrial Relations which place he resigned upon confirmation of his present appointment. The Federal Reserve Board thus consists of W. P. G. Harding of Birmingham, Adolph C. Miller of San Francisco, Charles S. Hamlin of Boston, Paul M. Warburg of New York, Frederic A. Delano of Chicago and the ex-officio members, Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and Controller of the Currency, Williams. [See current volume, page 733.]



Although Congress authorized the issue of one billion dollars emergency currency to meet the demands caused by the European war, only \$137,000,000 had been called for by the banks up to August 7. In commenting on this the Controller of the Currency, John Skelton Williams, is reported to have said "Currency is being supplied to meet the requirements of trade everywhere, by both the large and small banks. There is no reason why this should not be so, neither is there any reason why there should be any suspension of currency payments by national banks anywhere in this country." [See current volume, page 756.]



Although the House of Representatives promptly passed on August 3, the bill opening foreign built vessels to American registry, the Senate delayed until August 11. Then it amended and passed the bill. The Interstate Trade Commission bill, already passed by the House, passed the Senate on Aug. 5 with amendments empowering the Commission to enforce its recommendations and widening its power of investigation. The bill went to conference. [See current volume, page 707.]



The Adamson Waterpower bill was passed by the House on August 4 by a vote of 190 to 47. Before passage it was amended in many ways to partially meet the objections of Gifford Pinchot. It restricts leases to 50 years. It authorizes the Secretary of War to impose a tax on the power companies that may at intervals be increased or diminished and to revoke leases on violation of contract. It further provides that on taking over the property at the end of a lease no more shall be paid than a fair valuation on perishable property and the original cost of land and other non-perishable property. [See current volume, page 765.]

Commission on Industrial Relations.

The Federal Commission on Industrial Relations continued investigation of affairs at Lead, S. D., on August 4. Superintendent Grier of the Homestake Mining Company charged that Bishop Busch opposed his company because the officials refused to favor a plan that would have manned the mines with Catholics exclusively. He further told of welfare work among the employes which brought from Commissioner Garretson the remark that it was a "benevolent despotism." Professor John R. Commons, acting chairman, complimented Mr. Grier and declared labor conditions in Lead to be the best he had found in the United States. To this Commissioners Lennon, Garretson and O'Connell strongly dissented. S. R. Smith, a former merchant and member of the Lead school board, testified that he had been forced out of business for insisting on payment by the mining company of \$6,000 in school taxes. The company finally paid \$3,000. His business had been mainly with company employes, but company detectives influenced the men to deal elsewhere. G. A. Northen, chief of the company's detective force, told of the close tab kept on the political views of employes and of watch kept on their private life. He had reported and caused the discharge of many men suspected of being socialists, agitators or in sympathy with unions. He also reported on men who frequented saloons. [See current volume, page 756.]



The Commission met in Butte, Montana, on August 6. Clarence A. Smith, acting mayor, in Mayor Duncan's absence, a Socialist, declared that the Socialist administration had improved health conditions in the city, reduced the death rate, improved moral conditions, restricted vice and effected economies of administration. An indirect result of a Socialist administration had been the granting by the Anaconda Mining Company of free speech to Socialists and stopping of discrimination against their employment. C. F. Kelly, manager of the Anaconda Company, said that the company operated a closed shop. Wages were on a graduated scale with \$3.50 a day as the minimum for underground work. Loundes Maury, an attorney, testified on August 7 that the Anaconda Mining Company controlled the courts in the county. On this account it was impossible for a miner to get a verdict against the company in a personal injury suit. When judges retire from the bench they are taken care of by the company in various ways, he said, being given employment either by it or by an allied corporation. L. O. Evans, attorney for the company, denied Mr. Maury's statement, and explained the employment of retiring judges by saying that they were all able lawyers and were sought after by corporations for that reason alone. Concerning the recent disturb-

ances in Butte, testimony given by seceders from the Western Federation of Miners was to the effect that the old union officials were arbitrary and corrupt. Complaints concerning conditions in the mines were heard on August 8. One witness charged that affairs were dominated by union men who acted in the interest of the mining company. Men who protested against these "company" union officials were blacklisted. The men underground are forced to do as much work in eight hours as had formerly been done in ten. The Commission adjourned to meet in Seattle on August 10.



Federal Aid Urged for Cattle Raisers.

The conference of the United Master Butchers' Association of America and of the National Retail Butchers and Meat Dealers' Protective Association took place on August 4, 5 and 6 at the Hotel La Salle in Chicago. The decline in the cattle raising industry and resulting scarcity of meat was the principle topic of discussion. Action was finally taken in the following resolutions adopted on August 5:

Be it resolved, That we view with alarm the decrease in our cattle stock and the consequent increase in the high price of meats; that Congress set aside 10 per cent of the national income tax to be used for improving cut-over and other undeveloped lands, on condition said lands be used for live stock raising purposes; that the government have the right to condemn any lands for this purpose.

Resolved, That we recommend that Congress enact laws to prevent the slaughter of female calves for a period of five years.

Resolved, That Congress pass a law that will prevent the slaughter of any calf weighing less than 150 pounds.

Resolved, That Congress be petitioned to repeal the tax on oleomargarine, the elimination of the tariff on wrapping paper and on paper used in making paper bags.

Resolved, That local and state organizations send letters and petitions to members of state legislatures and governors recommending the necessity of raising more live stock.



Municipal Ownership Victory.

The voters of Toledo, Ohio, endorsed on August 4 a proposition to issue \$8,000,000 in bonds to take over the car lines and plants of the local street railway company. The majority in favor was about 1,200. [See current volume, page 565.]



Correction.

An error was made in the report on page 638 of the current volume of the Public regarding passage of a tax reform act by the Nova Scotia legislature. A bill for local option in taxation was introduced, but it failed to pass.

NEWS NOTES

—Senator Thomas P. Gore was nominated to succeed himself by the Democrats at the statewide primary in Oklahoma on August 5.

—Thirty-eight killed and twenty-five injured was the result of a collision on August 5 near Joplin, Mo., on the Kansas City Southern railway.

—Professor Garret A. Droppers of Williams College was nominated by President Wilson on August 4 for Minister to Greece, vice George Fred Williams, resigned.

—Judge James M. Rea of Savannah, Andrew county, Missouri, was renominated without opposition at the Democratic primary on August 4. Judge Rea is known as an active singletaxer and made speeches in the campaign of 1912 in behalf of the proposed singletax amendment.

—At the statewide direct primary in Missouri on August 4 Senator William J. Stone was nominated for re-election by the Democrats over Judge William H. Wallace of Kansas City. Congressman Michael Gill of St. Louis, recently seated after a contest, was defeated for renomination.

—The primary election in Kansas on August 4 resulted in nomination for senator by the Republicans of Charles Curtis, standpatter, over Senator Bristow, progressively inclined. Congressman George A. Neeley was nominated by the Democrats and Victor Murdock received the Progressive nomination.

—A campaign to secure for the twenty-five third class cities of Pennsylvania the same local tax system as prevails in the second class cities, Pittsburgh and Scranton, has been started by the Johnstown Chamber of Commerce. This system provides for gradual reduction of the tax rate on buildings. The Chamber is now questioning legislative candidates throughout the State and is calling on business organizations of other cities to help.

—Spokane, Washington's City Commissioner of Public Utilities, C. M. Fassett, has urged all of the 38 boards of equalization in the State to join in a campaign for amendments to the State constitution that will make it possible to "First. Abolish at once all tax on personal property. Second. Gradually reduce the tax upon improvements on realty until it, too, shall be entirely eliminated." The Spokane county board has already adopted the resolution.

PRESS OPINIONS

The Churches' Opportunity.

Chicago Evening Post, August 8.—In such an hour as this is there no voice through which the armies of the Prince of Peace can speak to the world? Their Most Christian Majesties of Russia, Austria, Germany and England have reversed the scriptural injunction. They have beaten their plowshares into shields and their pruning hooks into swords. Each of them is calling upon his peo-

ple to seek the blessing of God upon machine guns and battleships, upon bomb-carrying dirigibles and aeroplanes, upon mines beneath the sea and beneath bridges. We who have been led to look upon God as the All-Father of the human brotherhood are now asked to see in Him a magnified tribal deity whose aid may be invoked in fratricidal strife. In the cathedrals of England and of Russia prayers are being offered for the success of the allied armies. In the churches of Germany and of Austria similar entreaties go up. Is there a God of the Triple Entente and another of the Triple Alliance? Does this war that divides races divide also the followers of Christ? Or can there be found a voice that will speak for a united christendom and in the name of Him whom it has called the King of Kings appeal to Europe's monarchs to call a halt in their campaign of slaughter? It is, perhaps, a dream, but at least a splendid dream, that comes to us. In it we can see Pope Pius, head of the great Roman communion, standing with the Patriarch of the Russian Greek church and the Archbishop of Canterbury to demand a "truce of God" in behalf of a common humanity. Here would be a comity of Christian forces that would exercise tremendous influence. It would stir the imagination of the world, and refusal to heed its voice would bring upon the warring monarchs the anathema of civilization. Surely, the church universal has a responsibility and an opportunity in this crisis.



The Incidence of Mediation.

Chicago Herald, July 5.—The fact that the press of Argentina, Brazil and Chile has recently contained many expressions of good feeling for this country and has applauded our stand in availing ourselves of the good offices of our southern neighbors as mediators has prompted many papers to call attention to the further fact that, no matter what the ultimate fate of mediation, one good which has resulted therefrom has been the promotion of better understanding of ourselves by South America. This comment is not confined to that portion of the press friendly to Mr. Wilson, but appears to be general. The New York Journal of Commerce, usually in opposition to the administration, says that this is "one good thing which could not have been attained by any alternative course." The Pittsburgh Dispatch says the President "deserves great credit" for this happening, while the Indianapolis Star says that "the acceptance of the offer of mediation did much to disarm suspicion of us in the other republics of the hemisphere."



A Mystery.

Cleveland Leader, July 12.—Why is it that a free citizen of this grand and glorious country, who is forbidden to smoke in railway stations, forbidden to drink on Sundays, except by means of a silly subterfuge, forbidden to see a play on Sundays, forbidden to walk on the grass in the park, forbidden to assemble and express his opinions (if he has any) in public places unless such opinions are entirely vacuous and bromidic, forbidden to do a host of things which every European is allowed as a mat-

ter of course. Why is it that when such a valiant citizen returns from Europe the first comment that occurs to his intelligent noodle concerns the number of "Verboten" signs he saw in Berlin.

RELATED THINGS

CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

BEFORE SEDAN.

By Austin Dobson.

"The dead hand clasped a letter."—Special Correspondence.

Here in this leafy place quiet he lies,
Cold, with his sightless face turned to the skies;
'Tis but another dead;—all you can say is said.

Carry his body hence—kings must have slaves;
Kings climb to eminence over men's graves.
So this man's eye is dim; throw the earth over him.

What was the white you touched, there at his side?
Paper his hand had clutched tight ere he died;
Message or wish, maybe:—smooth out the folds and see.

Hardly the worst of us here could have smiled—
Only the tremulous words of a child;
Prattle, that had for stops just a few ruddy drops.

Look. She is sad to miss morning and night,
His—her dead father's—kiss; tries to be bright,
Good to Mamma, and sweet. That is all, "Marguerite."

Ah, if beside the dead slumbered the pain!
Ah, if the hearts that bled slept with the slain!
If the grief died! But no—Death will not have it so.



TWO PROSPECTORS: THEIR PROBLEM.

For the Public.

It was late afternoon in a canyon of the California Sierras, seven thousand feet above the sea. The sunlight, breaking through between snow-peaks on the west smote half way down a granite cliff, and flooded the whole eastern end of the canyon, leaving long shadows over the pine forests. Everywhere silence brooded across vast spaces. A solitary eagle gazing down with his marvelous vision saw two prospectors sitting in the shadows at the base of the giant cliff, where a ledge of rusty quartz cropped out before them. Turning in shorter curves, he noticed that they were desperately worn, even to the edge of endurance, and that as they sat in silence on the rock, they held each other's hands, looking downwards to where a miner's pick lay beside a newly broken notch in the quartz.

So immovable sat the two, that again and again

the great vulture swooped nearer, marking their little camp by a soring, their little bed of fir boughs, the worn outfit, the single burro grazing among the rocks; seeing at last that they moved, he rose again into the Alpine spaces, crossed a divide and swept on, over other canyons, between even mightier snow-peaks.

At last the prospectors, turning from that gleam of gold, wide and "free" in the rock, at the bottom of the prospect-hole, but still clasping hands, began to talk with each other. Said the man, with a man's aggravating insistence on the obvious:

"Wife and comrade, it has come at last, just in time, for we were sure up against it. Now we can buy back the old farm that we threw away once; we can begin to do things among the people we knew. And we are not so very old."

"Not till we think so," she said, smiling upon his wrinkled face, clasping his worn hands, looking into his granite-gray eyes under snow-white brows.

"If our strike is what it seems," she went on, "I suppose we can have all that money gives; we shall again be like other people, live in many places, on great farms, or in cities, in noises and turmoils, battered by social claims, and becoming the slaves of things. We can leave our isolation, our remoteness from everyone else, our toil together for scanty bread, our study together, as when we found that thousand-dollar pocket—and spent the winter in an assayer's office. But can we ever learn to love anything else half as much? Can we ever get the prospecting fever out of our veins? Can we ever escape from these mountains which have been our refuge? Ought we to try to escape, or move back our lives; now that we ourselves have changed so much?"

He looked at her, with his heart in his eyes, seeing the grey hair, the tired face, the beauty beyond beauty, which had made him her lover ever since they first met, thirty-five years before. How many losses and sorrows they had borne together! Far off, in a little village graveyard their two children had been laid to rest, years before.

"Wife," he said, "all that is true, and I knew it, even as you spoke. We put aside the trick of needless words long ago. We read each other's looks; we know each other's hearts, and our lives have been made one. We went down into the depths together, we dwelt in the deserts, we wintered in the snows. We have left our trail from Cape St. Lucas to the Arctic Circle, and we have played the game of outdoor life with courage all these years. And you—" His voice broke, his face lit up as he looked at her.

The woman rose and built a fire; the man deepened the prospect pit, and broke off masses of rock, rich with free gold. Soon they sat down to their supper, and rested in the dusk, watching

the stars come out, one by one in the blue-black heavens.

Again the man spoke first. "It is a real bonanza," he said. "We can hammer a hundred thousand dollars out of that hole before the snow comes. Then we can put a mill under yonder waterfall, at the head of the canyon, and in two years there will be a thousand workmen here."

"And what is its name—you Boy!" she said, yielding to his mood as they sat in the starlight beside their campfire. "Is it to be the same old name that we began with?" She paused here, with tremulous lips, and he put his arm about her.

"Not so," he answered her thought: "That has come to be our priceless memory. It can't be 'The Sally-John Mine.' Somehow, this thing has got to lift us out of ourselves. We may even decide to give it away. It must be the 'Other Fellow Mine.'"

"You also have been thinking!" she cried. "We are enough alike and enough different; our results tally in the end. Here lies the problem: How much can we yield ourselves to our fortune, and still keep hold of ourselves? Last night, when we camped five miles down the canyon, tired as we were, and excited as you felt over the prospects of finding before long the source of that 'float-rock,' you still took out your old rod and brown hackle; you caught a magnificent trout for supper. We both said, you remember, that it was almost like one of our youthful camps, when we were learning how, ages ago; when once I waited by the fire for you to climb up the trail from the Royal Gorge of the American, with your fish-and-snake stories. But tonight—tonight, you heard the trout leaping yonder, and yet you let me build the fire while you staid, deepening the prospect-hole! We missed the trout, and you are somewhat less happy this moment, than you have been for many a long day."

"Yes," the man responded, "It is just so! But we shall fish again, fear not; we shall go where we please, and be our own masters henceforth. It may well happen that we shall not care for the old life. But we can sail the New Zealand fiords, climb the Andes, dig up a few prehistoric cities, set all the inventors at work and map the under-seas from pole to pole."

"Yes," she said, "I feel that too. We can hammer at what we please. But what is it that we please to do? Let us give it shape and a name, while we are here in the mountains, while we are still able to think it out. In a year from now, if we open up our mine and congratulations pour in on us, shall we not be caught in a spider web of dull bondages, now but vaguely forecast, far off and absurd, but then become real and very hard to break?"

"I see what we shall gain," she went on, "but what shall we lose? What rights, if any, do we as individuals possess now, as against the demands

which this possible bonanza—this treasure-house of nature—makes upon us to be used for mankind, and only in small part for ourselves?"

"In one sense, I feel that we have no personal rights at all; to this result we have spent almost twenty years, and this, too, is a part of our whole life-game. But in another sense, this too must be conquered. Let us not be slaves of anything on earth—not even of our bonanza."

"In a little time," he answered her, smiling as if there was pleasure in the thought, "we could take out enough gold to live in comfort, and then we could blast the cliff over the mine so deep that it might not come to light again for centuries. But sometime, I feel sure, the avalanches and snow-rivers would bring it to light again. Who can say what evil might not then work in the hands of unscrupulous men—evil for which we should justly be held responsible when the balance sheets are cast up? Item, a certain golden ledge in the Sierras, of which two prospectors were once afraid. It was their one talent, which they buried out of sight, and left there, until, ages after, another finding, thereby made himself the unjust ruler of a people, and wrought wickedness all his days, corrupting justice at its fountain heads."

"Is there no other way but the beaten track?" she cried out in sudden despair. "Shall we be paid twice over for these years of joy and labor? Now, looking back, I perceive that I would rather load up Long-ear tomorrow and take a new trail, though we are old and worn, and give this mine away, and be again as we were yesterday—only yesterday, when you went fishing."

"Comrade of my heart!" he answered her. "There is always a way out. Have we not learned that? You know it far better than I, and often have you shown me the way. Let us both keep and give. For ourselves, the few thousands that are needed to secure us plain bread and simple fire when we can no longer climb the mountain trails. To you and me, then, with very heedful reserve, enough, but not one cent too much. Then, as for the rest, it can be put in trust, so that after we are gone, the authorities of that university which was ours, and was to have been our children's, will send graduates of its mining college here, and open up this new Comstock lode. Do you not think, partner, that it will keep till then? Can we not build a cabin high up by the waterfalls and lakes, and live here each summer, where we belong, guarding 'The University Bonanza?' Now and then, for old time's sake, we shall take a prospector's trail again, but this will be annual headquarters, and we shall not really leave our Sierras, nor spoil our canyon. After us, let those to whom we shall be only two silly old prospectors who loved their university, unloose the deep thunder of the stamps on that slope of pines by the waterfall, and run mine cables down here to the shaft."

He thought a little deeper. "Of course, our

Alma Mater may not be big enough to have the gift; it may be too aristocratic, too remote from the lives of common people. But some institutions, groups of healthy fellow-workers can be found whom these millions can be given in trust. This is our real job—to find the rightly radical crowd."

"It sounds possible!" she exclaimed, "but in a year we will hear of some crying need for money, down there among people. We might desire to stop an industrial war, or annul the American constitution, or create ten square miles of botanical gardens, or build a City of Happiness; forthright we shall be tempted to loose the earth-shaking roar of our stamp-mills."

"Then we shall be amused at ourselves," he answered, "and we shall stick to our main scheme."

They leaned back, watching the constellations moving overhead. "Girl of mine," he whispered, "when I was a youngster I used to want to drink out of the dipper, and sit in Cassiopea's gleaming chair, away up there!"

Soon the midnight stars shone down on these two sleeping children, who called themselves old and seasoned prospectors, and who had worked out their problem together.

CHARLES HOWARD SHINN.



WOMEN AND WAR.

By S. J. Duncan-Clark.

They have gone from the shop and field,
From city and fruitful plain,
The hammer and chisel are laid aside,
The sharp scythe rusts in the grain.
Peasant and artisan,
In the game of war mere pawns,
At the word of monarch no more than man
They march where red hell yawns.

In the door of a vine-clad cot,
On a hill that slopes to the sun,
On the curb of the street where its rays beat hot
The same grim thing is done —
Beneath the brave, set lips,
Beneath hysteric cheers,
A woman's heart feels fear that grips
And drips her blood in tears.

Hapsburg and Romanoff
And the Hohenzollern throne,
What are these names but words that scoff
As they rob her of her own?
A child is clinched to her breast,
And a child is held by the hand;
One sleeps while the other cheers with zest—
They can not understand.

But before the woman's eyes
Is a vision ghastly red
Of flames that leap to smoke-hung skies,
And war-plowed fields of dead.

She can see—oh, poignant clear—
The form of one in the heap,
The man to her pain-racked heart most near,
Shelk-kissed to endless sleep.

His eyes at least are blind,
His ears are deaf to the strife,
But, Mother of God, for her and her kind
What is there left in life?
The music dies in the air,
The cheers are silenced, and then
They turn these women to face their care,
And cry to God for their men.

For there is the child at her breast,
And there is the child at her hand,
And the heart that breaks can find no rest—
And they will not understand.
For life gives no release,
And tho' her heart be dead,
The cries of the children will not cease
If she fail to find them bread.

So, you in the vine-clad cot,
On a hill that slopes the sun,
She must toil lest the grapes in the vineyard rot
And young life be undone;
And here in the city, gray,
Where the sun beats hot on the street,
Her woman's wit must find a way
For little stumbling feet.

The day shall come when she
Will bow her head no more,
But facing her God with unbent knees
Will curse the crime called war.
And curse the men called kings
Who seek their shining goals
On a pathway paved with bleeding things
That once housed living souls.

O wombs refuse to bear,
O breasts refuse to nurse,
Until thy sons who toil shall dare
To end this age-long curse!
The world is sick of thrones,
And pride-mad monarchs' lust—
The day soon dawns when it disowns
All gilded human dust!

BOOKS

THE BUILDERS.

Town Planning for Australia. By George A. Taylor.
Published by Building, Limited, 17 Grosvenor
Street, Sydney. Price, two shillings and sixpence.

The most striking feature of this little book is the spirit in which it is written. Instead of beginning with a magnificent civic center, with broad avenues and boulevards lined with fine buildings, Mr. Taylor has an eye upon the back streets. He holds that no matter how grand the buildings on the avenues, no city can claim to be

well planned that has dirty back streets filled with congested tenements.

Mr. Taylor, himself an artist, has made free use of illustrations to trace the evolution of the city, from the Egyptian, Assyrian, Greek and Roman down to the present day. The historic cities form a setting for, and lead up to, the federal capital of Australia, Canberra. The various efforts to replace the slums and tenements of Sydney, Melbourne and other Australian cities and towns lead up to the prize-winning designs of Walter Burley Griffin, who not only planned the federal capital, but has been commissioned with its building. Mr. Taylor details the incidents of the world-contest, the granting of the three prizes, and the effort to substitute a "built-up" plan that was supposed to embrace the best features of the other plans, but in reality was a hodge-podge favored only by some politicians and a few ultra-patriotic architects. The account of this struggle—in which the author played one of the chief parts—is most dramatic. A turn of the political wheel had brought in a new prime minister, Joseph Cook, to whom the petition of unselfish architects made a moving appeal. The original design of Mr. Griffin was retained, and its author was appointed Federal Director of Design and Construction for a period of three years.

The broadness of view of "Town Planning for Australia," its fine execution and its sympathetic treatment of town planning in all countries make it a valuable book for those who are interested in this important question.

S. C.



There was a certain bishop who had a pleasant habit of chatting with anybody he might meet during his country walks. One day he came across a lad who was looking after some pigs by the roadside, and the bishop paused to ask him what he was doing, that being his usual opening to conversation.

"Moindn' swine," the lad replied, stolidly.

The bishop nodded his head thoughtfully.

"Ah, is that so?" he commented. "And how much do you earn a week?"

"Two shillin's," was the reply.

"Only two shillings?" remarked the bishop. Then he continued, pleasantly, "I too, am a shepherd, but I get more than two shillings."

The lad looked at him suspiciously for a minute, then he said, slowly:

"Mebbe you gets more swolne nor me to moind."—
Tit-Bits.



A "cheap-jack" was offering cheap clocks, finely varnished and colored, and with a looking glass in front, to a lady not remarkable for personal beauty.

"Why, it's beautiful," said the vender.

"Beautiful indeed; a look at it almost frightens me!" said the lady.

"Then, marm," replied the man, seeing a bargain

impossible, "you had better buy one that hasn't a looking glass."—Sacred Heart Review.

**HONORABLE GEORGE FOWLDS,
OF NEW ZEALAND**

will be the guest of honor at a dinner, given under the auspices of the Chicago Single Tax Club, at the City Club, Aug. 17, at 6:30 p. m. Reception at 6 o'clock. Mrs. Harriet Taylor Treadwell will preside. Readers of The Public and their friends are cordially invited to join in doing honor to the leader of our movement in New Zealand. Reservations for the dinner (75c) must be received not later than noon Saturday, 15th. Telephone Central 6083 or Harrison 7498.

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What the Postman Brings

I am mighty well pleased with The Public and wish it continued success. Allow me to suggest that since The Public is a serious, thoughtful paper it might be well to leave out the jokes and funny stories.

T. E. HAMMOND, Los Angeles.

It was a "lucky" thing for me, to get hold of The Public and its principles before I am old. I have handed out the land songs. If there is anything else for me to spread through this county send it along—any postcards to sign and mail or anything else, I am in.

FRED HUBBELING, Platte, So. Dakota.

I have just recently become interested in Single Tax through your publication. I would appreciate it if you would recommend to me any books or pamphlets which would assist me in obtaining a knowledge of its principles and the history of the movement.

G. A. EBLE, JR., Cleveland, Ohio.

As my husband and I are ardent Anti-Suffragists, we do not like the strong tone of your magazine for Women's Suffrage. So we have decided not to subscribe. As Massachusetts alone has over 20,000 women members of the Anti-Suffrage Association, I am afraid that none of that number would subscribe. That is a large number!

MRS. W. E. CLARK, Sharon, Mass.

The year in which I have read The Public has been one in which I have begun to see even the California hobo in a different light. The Public surely does not waste words in getting its facts before its readers. I wish every one would read it, not for your benefit but for theirs.

J. G. BILLER, Spadra, Calif.

Attorney Joseph W. Amis of Clinton, prominent in the Indiana Progressive Party, speaking of The Public the other day, said: "It is the one paper that I find indispensable. Its record of current history and the index makes it a paper one must keep to file away. I shall certainly renew as soon as my time is up."

Regarding your editorial in the issue of July 24, giving letter from a disgruntled Catholic subscriber, who wants to quit—don't worry! It is his loss, not yours. If he doesn't feel at home in The Public's company, where most certainly "the wind of freedom blows," he is to be pitied, that's all! I thank heaven for the fact that I am able in some degree to appreciate your splendid paper.

WM. H. REEVES, Pasadena, Calif.

For nearly three years I have read The Public regularly and find it invaluable in my own editorial work. The Public is much more than an exponent of the views of the Singletaxers. I consider it the ablest journal of fundamental democracy and the most consistent foe of Privilege and Monopoly published today in America. It should be on the exchange table of every editor who seeks, rather than fears, the whole truth.

FRED S. WALLACE,
Editor The Coshocton Morning Tribune,
Coshocton, Ohio.