

# The Public

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a Weekly Narrative of History in the Making.

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## EDITORIAL

### A Glorious Victory.

Huerta's resignation was not needed to justify the policy of watchful waiting. No good reason for any other policy at any time existed. But his hold on office prolonged conditions in Mexico, which have been held up to the American people by designing interests as provocation for war. Now that he has gone peace in Mexico can not be far off, and there is ground for hope that when order has been established it will not be the kind that prevailed in Warsaw. In passing, Huerta honored President Wilson with his abuse. And, in spite of the Vera Cruz affair, to President Wilson belongs the glory of having accomplished more for Mexico and for honest foreign interests in Mexico, through some months of patience than could have been obtained through a bloody conquest. It is something new in the history, of the world. Theorists have long claimed that aggressive warfare is not the most effective way to secure a righteous object. A practical demonstration of the correctness of this theory has now been furnished. There will probably occur perplexing situations in the future for which hotheads will urge war as the solution. But the peaceful ending of the Mexican incident will always serve as a convincing illustration of the needlessness of an aggressive policy. The American people may well be proud of this achievement.

S. D.



### Watchful Waiting Wins.

Seldom has a specific state policy been crowned with such complete success as has the President's Mexican policy. So exalted were his ideals, and so far-flung his appeals to the human conscience, that many who sympathized with his purpose questioned his judgment, and few of his most ardent admirers expected to see such signal success. To have failed would have cost him the respect of no reasonable person, for all accorded him honesty of purpose; but to succeed, and succeed in such measure, is to raise international relations to a new plane.

A year and a half ago our attention was arrested by internecine strife in a "savage" nation on our southern border. "Bandits," "guerillas," and "adventurers" sprang up on every hand. Every American who had a dollar invested in Mexico demanded that we go in and restore order. Many would have us stay there to keep order. And not a few gloated over the Jingo maps showing the United States extended to the Panama Canal. The soldiers and sailors were eager to go, and the chauvinistic patriots clamored for action. It would have been a popular war. There was every justification that underlay any foreign war. But a firm hand was on the helm; and despite the abuse of the Jingo press, and the nagging of the Little Congressmen, he steered serenely on. Mr. Wilson's handling of Congress in a way to secure constructive legislation marks him as a clever politician; his management of the Mexican problem proclaims him a great statesman.



Americans can congratulate themselves on the fact that their country has vindicated itself in the eyes of the world; but in a deeper sense they can rejoice in the thought that their country has opened the way for a sorely stricken neighbor to find justice. Had we recognized General Huerta's government, and aided him in raising money for war purposes there might have been temporary peace; but it would have been the peace of an armed camp, to be broken by the next bloody-minded adventurer, or by a new generation of groaning peons. Justice was absent from every department of government, and from every phase of society. Permanent peace was impossible. Now we see the head of that government a fugitive from his own country, seeking asylum abroad where, if report and circumstantial evidence be trusted, a fortune awaits him. At no time during his exercise of authority did he betray evidence of capacity or inclination to do aught but serve the parasitical oligarchy that has so long ridden on the backs of the peons. He had the dogged determination of the soldier, and might have repeated, had he been permitted to make terms with foreign capital, the regime of Diaz; but President Wilson stood in his way.



People are asking, What next? After Huerta, what? To begin with, too much should not be expected. When we consider the amount of injustice in our country, despite fifty years of internal peace, it is unreasonable to expect ideal conditions to follow immediately the incoming govern-

ment in Mexico. Liberty is not a thing made to order. It cannot be imposed upon a people from without. It must grow. Not until a people has learned to know its rights, and to exercise the self-restraint necessary to stop at those rights can a just government be established. General Carranza may or may not be the man of the hour; but the spirit back of him gives hope of success. Madero had the right impulse, but he lacked the strength to withstand the influence of vested interests. Animated by high ideals in the field, he was helpless when confronted with the beneficiaries of privilege in Mexico City. The Constitutionals hope to avoid Madero's mistake by confiscation, repudiation, and execution. This is the crucial test. It remains to be seen how far they will be permitted to go in completing the revolution before outside interference takes place. Moderation may well be counselled by our government, but no exercise of force should be used to deprive the people of their triumph. Mexico must be restored to the Mexicans.

S. C.



#### Inconsistent Land Grabbers.

Advocates of wholesale land grabbing will be the ones to utter the loudest protests against proposed confiscation of the big estates in Mexico. Hearst, Taft, Otis and others, who want to make the Panama Canal the southern boundary of the United States, do not relish the idea of having their own logic applied by the new Mexican government to their haciendas. It is all right, say these reactionaries, to grab land that does not belong to us, but all wrong to restore land to the people who have a natural right to its use. But it is not reasonable to look for consistency in reactionaries.

S. D.



#### The Extent of Land Monopoly.

The exact extent of land monopoly in the United States has not been officially determined. While the census of 1910 showed the extent of ownership and tenantry of farms, it went no further. Whatever may have been the reason for this limitation, its effect has been to shut off from the people official information regarding concentration of land ownership. But there is much reliable information on this matter which the census does not give. A year ago the Department of Agriculture issued a report showing only twenty-seven per cent of the tillable land of the country to be in use. This year a report issued by Commissioner Davies of the federal Bureau of Corporations shows that of the timber lands of the United States 105,600,000 acres are owned by 1,694 holders. That is, one-

twentieth of the country's area has but 1,694 owners. That such concentration is not confined to timber lands seems certain. The next census should gather complete information concerning that matter. In the meantime such investigations as Commissioner Davies has just made are to be commended and should be extended to take in all classes of land ownership. s. d.



### Methods of Propaganda.

Mr. C. B. Fillebrown presents in the *Christian Science Monitor* of July 11, under the caption "Thirty Years of Henry George," a review of the *Singletax* movement of the world, and endeavors to show why the idea has made so little progress in this country, and how the difficulty can be overcome. The alleged lack of progress, he charges, is due to the unwise course of the American *Singletaxers* in connecting the idea of Henry George with numerous kindred ideas, and particularly to their efforts to ally with various current political movements. "The political method, as a means of putting the single tax on the statute books," he says in conclusion, "has been abundantly tried and found wanting. . . . Voters cannot be persuaded to decree an important legislative innovation which they do not fully understand and concerning which it is easy for the opposition in the heat of the campaign to deceive or confuse." And he declares "that the sum total of experience in the 30 years under review enforces the conviction that persistent education of the masses and the classes—by word of mouth and still more effectively by the printing press—upon the pure issue of the single tax as the normal and just basis for obtaining public revenue, is the true means and method of advancing this or any other great reform."



Thus is raised again the old question as to the relative merits of an independent movement, or a joining hands with political movements most nearly in accord. Theoretically, the question might be debated indefinitely; practically, it insists upon settling itself. The way has been open for an independent, purely propaganda movement ever since the first appearance of "Progress and Poverty," and some strong and forceful individuals have persisted in that course; but the mass continually resorts to the other method. But is it not possible that Mr. Fillebrown has made a distinction without a difference? He would persistently educate "the masses and the classes . . . upon the pure issue of the single tax as the normal and just basis for obtaining public revenue." Is

not this the very purpose of the political-action advocates? Instead of trying to teach the masses and classes in the way they ought to be taught, they have undertaken to teach them in the way they are accustomed to being taught, which, presumably, is the way they wish to be taught. In short, it is a question of rubbing the fur the right way. Proclaim a naked truth bodily, and it will be instantly accepted by a few whose minds are ripe for it. But when all those advanced minds have been reached, there is an end of converts. No more will accept it until they have reached that higher plane. What is the most efficient method of procedure?



If the independent course be chosen it involves the presentation of an idea to a man who does not wish to consider it. And when prejudice and obstinacy and indifference have been overcome and the man has been converted there must be political action to put it on the statute book. On the other hand, if the advance be along the line of political action the idea enjoys the advantage of a ready-made organization and a sympathetic disposition on the part of the radical party. It may not be known for certain that this is the better method, but it is the one men persist in following. When Mr. Fillebrown speaks of Canada as being at the head of the single tax column, he doubtless means Western Canada. Eastern Canada shows no more progress than the United States. Western Canada enjoyed the advantage of opening government land for settlement after the single tax was widely known. And when he summed legislative progress in this country in the one half exemption of improvements in Pittsburgh and Scranton in 1925, he overlooked the emphatic vote of Pueblo, Colorado, on the straight issue. But the sum of progress is not to be measured in this way. Both the Democratic and the Progressive parties are permeated from top to bottom with the single tax; and there is a good deal of it in the Republican party. It has in fact become a part of the thought of the day. Men still hesitate to take such a radical step, but the logic of events compels them to it, and they cannot much longer delay. Finally, the field is so large that there is room for all to labor; and the need is so great that neither Mr. Fillebrown nor the political-actionists should waste one ounce of energy in discussing the relative merits of methods. s. c.



### Progressive Victory in Winnipeg.

There will be at least one thorough representative of democracy in the newly elected legislature

of Manitoba. The voters of Winnipeg have had the good sense to choose F. J. Dixon as their member by a large majority. Mr. Dixon has for years been an active propagandist of democratic principles. His campaign was energetically carried on in behalf of such measures as Initiative, Referendum, Recall, Home Rule, Woman Suffrage, Public Ownership and Singletax. His work in the legislature—in which there is an almost even division between the two parties—will be to push these measures forward, and may reasonably be expected to hasten their final adoption. Winnipeg has done the province of Manitoba a splendid service.

S. D.



### Economizing in the Wrong Place.

One might have more respect for the Senators who tried to cripple the work of the Federal Commission of Industrial Relations if they had not offered the plea of economy for their action. The sincerity of that plea may properly be questioned when one considers the vast sums wasted in pork barrel appropriations, and worse than wasted in large army and navy appropriations. The Commission has done good work in putting the stamp of an official investigation on facts of which too many Congressmen and Senators prefer to be ignorant. The conditions disclosed were pretty well known before, but an official investigation was necessary to make voluntary ignorance less excusable. Further investigations are sure to make more disagreeable truths officially known. To prevent this was probably the true reason for the attempt to cut down the Commission's appropriation. The economy plea, if sincere, would mark the Senate as being as foolish in practising economy as it is in authorizing waste. The sum of \$150,000 which Senator Martin and other Senators said they wanted to save could have been more properly taken off of the many millions appropriated for battleships.

S. D.



### Buncombe and Prosperity.

A rather obscure press dispatch of July 17 from Philadelphia says that "the Pennsylvania railroad has quietly ordered all the men laid off in its various departments several months ago to return for duty." Considering the noisy manner in which the laying off of these men was announced, one wonders why their return to duty was not considered equally deserving of prominent mention. Not that it is at all important that it should be loudly proclaimed or even publicly announced at

all. But the loudness of the laying off and the quietness of the reinstatement show a desire on the part of railroads and press to spread a false impression in regard to industrial conditions. This desire is due to the false notion that people can be made to believe themselves prosperous or otherwise by merely insisting, regardless of fact, that they are or are not so. It is this same false view which induces Republican Congressmen to waste breath, printers' ink and valuable time in calamity speeches, and causes Democratic Congressmen to make themselves ridiculous through still more preposterous and wasteful talk concerning alleged widespread prosperity. A little more reliance on natural law and less on buncombe would lead to wonderful improvements in economic conditions.

S. D.



### Hard Times and "Fool Law Making."

Frederick D. Underwood, president of the Erie railroad, stated a fact when in an interview published on July 17, he attributed hard times to "fool law making." He went astray, however, in naming the particular laws he had in mind. The anti-railroad laws to which he objects may be properly classified by him, since they are efforts to avoid the consequences of railroad monopoly without abolishing it. Yet they can not be justly blamed for bringing on hard times. Control of public highways is a proper public function. It is legislation of a far more foolish nature that deserves first blame. There are, for instance, the fool laws levying tariffs and other taxes on labor and its products; the fool laws that farm out to private corporations, functions which properly belong to the Government; the fool laws by which the Government, in endeavoring to escape the consequences of other fool laws, enacts set after set of arbitrary and unreasonable rules for business men and other producers; the fool laws that even now make appear to poor perplexed congressmen as a deep, abstruse problem, the very simple question of how to permit laboring men to combine to better their condition; the fool laws under which Government meddles in all sorts of affairs that do not properly concern it and keeps hands off of matters that should have its attention; and the fool laws that make a boon to be thankful for of what should be a right to be exercised by every man as a matter of course—the right to earn his own living regardless of the permission of others. Let President Underwood put some of his energy and talent at work attacking these fool laws and he will help to abolish the cause of hard times.

S. D.

### President Wilson's Mistake.

Every day adds to the magnitude of the President's mistake in his treatment of the women who called upon him in behalf of the suffrage movement. It was not in keeping with his high ideals, nor in harmony with the political wisdom he has shown, to dodge or evade so plain an issue. We can accept his action as a frailty that marks him as human, but it is strangely inconsistent with the great achievements that have signalized his course. Woman's right to the ballot has long ceased to be a debatable question. It is now merely a question of how long it will take the conservative mind to grasp an axiomatic truth. That the President's declaration that the suffrage is a state issue does not mean that he is opposed to the suffrage itself, may be taken for granted; but he should have declared himself in no equivocal terms. It has taken some of the Democratic statesmen an unconscionable time to arrive at the simple truth that their wives are entitled to the same rights as themselves. Time passes; the world moves forward. It is no longer a question of whether the women will have votes, but which party will get them.

S. C.

### Cincinnati's Charter Fight.

Cincinnati has just voted down a new charter containing many excellent provisions, the need of which in the city's government has long been felt. At first glance it would thus seem that the voters made a mistake. But closer investigation will make matters appear differently, for in the one thing that made the charter chiefly desirable it was defective, and was deliberately made so by the charter framers. It was so drawn that it would have given the city all the superficial reforms that good government advocates usually demand, while provisions regarding more important matters—such as municipal ownership—were so drawn as to make unavoidable the conclusion that deception was intended.

The new charter movement was the outcome of the fight led by Herbert S. Bigelow for municipal ownership. But when it came to electing a charter commission the successful candidates were the favored ones of local monopolistic interests. These candidates in order to draw support from their opponents, on what was known as the Bigelow ticket, had claimed to be also in favor of municipal ownership. They kept their pledge by putting in the charter a municipal ownership provision, and

then made it unworkable by tacking on a requirement for a two-thirds vote to put it in effect. The tricky nature of this paragraph did not only consist in the blocking of municipal ownership, but in a chance it gave to the traction company to escape an awkward provision of its franchise. This franchise allows a revision of street railway fares in 1916, and until that year has been safely passed the company's position will be a somewhat uncomfortable one. The unworkable municipal ownership provision would have offered a good opportunity to divert the voters until the danger of a radical downward revision of fares had passed. In rejecting the charter this trick was blocked.

There is a lesson in this for other cities than Cincinnati which suffer from inefficient government. In this case the original mistake was made in electing as charter commissioners the choice of monopolistic corporations. The pledges of such candidates in favor of municipal ownership should not be considered. Had the so-called Bigelow ticket been elected, the candidates on which stood sincerely for municipal ownership, as well as for minor reforms—a charter would have been framed free from jokers and other suspicious features. Such a charter would probably have been bitterly opposed by predatory interests, but it would have received more than half hearted support from fundamental reformers, and this would probably have carried it to victory. But even defeat under such circumstances would have been honorable. As it is, the rejection of the charter means only condemnation of a disgraceful attempt at deception.

S. D.

### Sweet Reasonableness.

Before the editorial on letters to the editor, in last week's issue could reach its readers, two letters were received that offer too good a contrast to be overlooked. The first was written on the shores of the Pacific, where freedom and liberality are supposed to have achieved their greatest triumphs. The writer peremptorily orders his Public stopped, without waiting for the date of expiration of the subscription. And to make the emphasis still stronger he announces that he has been a reader of The Public since its first issue. "On page 578," says the writer, "Woman's Emancipation, second paragraph, you mention priestcraft. This is not the first time in a roundabout way, The Public has tried to insult every Catholic reader of the paper." The objectionable word occurred in the sentence: "Emancipation is the everlasting cry of the soul

struggling toward freedom: emancipation from priestcraft, from kingcraft, and from social, economic, and political tyranny." There was no reference of any kind to religion, church or creed. Why should any Catholic assume that the word "priestcraft" referred in any way to Catholic priests, or to the Catholic Church? The world is full of priests, and has been since the first man let his neighbor know he was afraid of the dark. The Bible tells of the priests of Baal, the priests of Moloch, and the priests of all manner of gods; and all these priests were said to be oppressors and betrayers of the people. Nor were the races and nations that came in contact with the ancient Hebrews different from the ancient races of any other part of the world in the matter of religion and priestcraft. Church and state were one; priests and king were close allies; and the story of the world is the struggle of the people to free themselves from this oppression. Why should a reference to this be considered a reflection upon the Catholic Church?

But it was not necessary for The Public to make this statement. From Kansas, "Bleeding Kansas," Kansas thrice consecrated to liberty and fraternity, comes the following: "'Intemperate Criticism' in July 10th Public. Why can't your newspaper people come out flatfooted and state things plain? Say that all the Presidents of these United States were murdered by Roman Catholics. The scum of southern Europe is being, and has been for years, dumped on America. While you are more outspoken than all the rest I complain at the muzzled press and this priest-ridden people for a purpose by the Pope of Rome. This is an issue that America has got to meet, and it is time to be alive to the situation." There! Isn't that delightful? One can almost see the tall form of the iron-nerved John Brown looming through the mist. There is nothing mealy-mouthed about Kansas. She votes as she talks, and she shoots as she votes. Every Kansan tells his neighbor what he thinks, and tells it hard, and it makes no difference whether it is Wall Street, the trusts, or the Pope; he speaks right out.

The first thought that will occur to many is: Let the Catholic and the anti-Catholic get together and fight it out. But that is not the best advice. They might do each other bodily harm, and bodily chastisement would not influence the mind, save to make it more determined not to yield. No, it is not a question to be settled by fighting, nor yet

by argument. This infirmity yields to but one thing—laughter. What our two good friends lack is a sense of humor. And now that each sees himself as the other sees him it is devoutly to be hoped that both will break into a great laugh that will drive away all this miasma of the soul, and leave it sweet and clean and wholesome. Now, then, gentlemen, both together: One, two, three—Laugh.



There! Now we can give our attention to something worth while. What has The Public to do with the religious or non-religious belief of the men who murdered our Presidents? And suppose, in referring to the age-long struggle of man for liberty, priestcraft is named as one of the things he had to contend with? What has this to do with our struggle for economic justice? We are all human beings with similar wants and common necessities. We have no place to live except on the earth, and the earth was reduced to private ownership before we came upon it. Those of us who were careless in choosing ancestors are forced to pay to the forethoughted for the privilege of using their earth. As a consequence poverty stalks abreast of progress. Want rears its head in the midst of plenty. And civilization halts in its march. Were these the visitations of a wrathful deity, or the shufflings of blind fate, we might relieve our feelings by engaging in religious controversy. And for those who know no better, such may continue to be a natural occupation. But upon us who have been privileged to see the cause of our trouble, and the remedy, rests a sacred duty. The sailors off watch may dispute and quarrel in the fore-castle, but the steersman at the wheel, and the man at the lookout must attend to business.



The Public is neither pro-Catholic nor anti-Catholic; it is neither Jew nor Gentile; it is simply for humanity. It is not today, nor has it been at any time since the first issue, published in the interest of any religion, sect or creed. It stands now, as it has always stood, for justice, for the economic, political, and social rights of man. It goes to every country in the world, and it is read by adherents of all religions, because it stands for the rights of all. If any there are who can read intolerance between the lines, or who see bigotry in word or phrase, they have our sympathy. And as for those who wish their paper stopped; that is their affair. We shall try to go on without them, for we are still a part of a host; but it may not be so well for those who leave us, for they thereby cut

themselves off from one of the finest fellowships that ever enlisted in the cause of human freedom. Go, if you must, gentlemen, but be sure that the cause of your going is adequate. Remember, it is a discreet man who takes no offense unless he is sure offense was intended; it is a generous man who accords his fellows the same motives as his own; and it is a wise man who can separate the essential from the non-essential.



Once more, now, let us laugh long and loud and deep; and then let us get to work in the cause of justice.

S. C.

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## EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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### AFFAIRS IN MISSISSIPPI.

Jackson, Miss., July 15.

We have some very serious situations here in Mississippi which the singletax would solve. One is, we have a great iron and coal mine which the people refuse to turn over to the big interests. They are trying to find some way that the people can get their share of the proceeds of these mineral deposits. At the last legislature the legislators flatly refused to let some Boston bankers come into the State and work this mine. Another situation we have is that all the vast southern part of Mississippi, the richest country in the whole world, is in the hands of three or four corporations. This land is perfectly wild, no one on it. The corporations will not allow any one to come on it, but are waiting for a rise in land values. They say they are trying to "colonize" it. If you will look into the Acts of the Legislature since 1906 you will see that the Legislature has made constant war on the corporations, and all to no effect, of course. And the corporations have made constant war on the people of the State. We have one British corporation which owns about 500,000 acres of the finest cotton land of the Delta, the greatest cotton country in the world. The whole people of the State were infuriated when they found out that our laws permitted such a thing to happen as this. So we go ahead and make a law prohibiting corporations from owning land for agricultural purposes. The result is that the great corporations are buying land and holding it in the names of individuals. And I am lawyer enough to know that there is absolutely no way in the world to check these holdings save by way of the singletax.

ROBERT S. PHIFER, JR.



### PROGRESSIVE ADDRESS ENTHUSES CATHOLIC GATHERING.

Erie, Pa., July 16.

The Pennsylvania branch of the American Federation of Catholic Societies has been convening here, and on Sunday evening last a public meeting was held in the Majestic Theater. The theater was crowded, many being obliged to stand, and the audience numbered fourteen or fifteen hundred.

The main address was by Hon. James Manahan, Congressman-at-Large from Minnesota. A Catholic himself, and speaking before an almost exclusively Catholic audience (several prominent priests and bishops being present also), Mr. Manahan delivered an eloquent and convincing address which would satisfy the most exacting Singletax critic.

Although he occupied more than an hour, he held the interest of his hearers to the end, and on the way out several remarked that they wished he had spoken even longer.

The Bishop of the local diocese, before pronouncing the benediction, expressed briefly his approval of and thanks for what had been said. The address was a logical argument for progressive, democratic Singletax principles from beginning to end, although the term "Singletax" was not used, and he did not mention Henry George.

Among other things he said that being a Westerner he did not realize what poverty meant in large cities until he came East. He contrasted the crowded conditions of London and New York with the millions of acres of lands in the West that are idle. There is something wrong. He then said:

"We all need the necessaries of life—food, clothing and shelter. Let us see that these material things are supplied as a first requisite. We can then expect progress forward and upward along moral and spiritual lines.

"We are dependent upon the natural resources, and yet we have given away the most of our public domain.

"The main point of my message to you is the importance that all of us (non-Catholic as well as Catholic) give more attention to the affairs of government, to our laws and legislation.

"Some feel it a disgrace to be involved in politics, but politics should concern us all. Government and morals cannot be dealt with apart from each other. If we as citizens at the ballot-box vote for bad laws, the effects come back to us in our home and social environment.

"It is idle for us to waste our energies in combatting Socialism. Socialism is only one indication of injustice and unrest. We should give less attention to such symptoms. We should get at the bottom cause and remove that."

The speaker then described how his eyes came to be opened to the actual state of things.

As attorney for some Minnesota farmers, he was fighting the railroads for a reduction of rates. Examining a prominent railroad official, he was fortunate enough to obtain from him in open court, an admission that his railroad and others had been using money in Wisconsin and Minnesota to influence legislation. It was just the sort of evidence that he needed, and on the strength of it he subpoenaed J. J. Hill, and was actually able to get Hill present in the court to testify. When court opened the judge stated that the case had developed beyond the jurisdiction of that court, and had been placed in the hands of the Attorney General of the State. What it amounted to was that Hill controlled the legislature and courts of Minnesota, and the people's will was thus subjugated. Representative government had ceased to be.

This revelation led Manahan to investigate further

to discover how it was that this one man should possess such power. He found it was because the people had voted away their privileges and had allowed "the powers of taxation" to pass largely into the hands of individuals of whom Hill was an example. As the owner of the Great Northern System he was able absolutely to exercise "the taxing power" by manipulation of freight rates as he chose. Those who were loyal to Hill were called statesmen and prominent citizens. Those who opposed him were demagogues and disturbers. Mr. Manahan was one of the demagogues.

The above is one example of how "the taxing power" is used to collect tribute from all the working people of the country and to pass it along to the few. The taxes we pay into the public treasury are only a small part of the whole. We pay a tax in the form of a monopoly freight rate, for instance, on about everything we buy in the store, only we don't realize it. It applies to beef shipped from the plains to Chicago, and from there to our home towns. All such taxes are ultimately paid by the final consumer.

The people of this nation have by the ballot, voted the taxing power into the hands of a few, and this is responsible for our widespread poverty and our general unrest. But the people, by using that power of ballot, can bring the taxing power back where it belongs, in the hands of the people, so that all will get the benefit. Hence the need that we all realize the importance of law, of taking more interest in current legislation. The spirit that actuates the people, determines the conditions under which they shall live, and the welfare of mankind.

In connection with the Hill case, Mr. Manahan declared that he studied law in college and then practised for twenty years before he realized that really he had not known anything about law.

In closing, the speaker advocated votes for women as a matter of course, and paid a beautiful compliment to the women as having ever been a decided influence for good, as being the embodiment of sympathy and devotion to ideals.



This outline of Mr. Manahan's address shows his courage and straightforwardness in presenting what he believes to be the truth and his firm stand for right and justice. These together with the very favorable reception of his ideas by his audience, convince me that the occasion is worthy of more than mere casual notice.

The predominating idea, as expressed by Mr. Manahan, and by the other speakers as well, was that all should get together for the betterment of all and for the application of Christian principles. The duty of ministering to man's material and moral needs, as well as to his spiritual needs, was emphasized, and also that Catholics, while remaining true to their religious faith, can and should at the same time, be patriotic American citizens.

JAMES B. ELLERY.



Some men are such slaves to precedent that they are willing to follow it to the jumping-off place.—The Caxton.

## INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

### RABBIS' CONFERENCE PASSED FELS RESOLUTION.

Cincinnati, July 14.

The comment on the action taken by the Central Conference of American Rabbis, with regard to the death of Joseph Fels, on page 655 of *The Public*, rests on incorrect information. The resolution expressing admiration for his work was not tabled, but adopted by a large majority. The question whether the theory for which he stood was right or wrong, never came up for discussion. The opponents claimed that as Fels was not connected with any synagogue, and as he had often expressed his view that churches, as they are, are useless institutions, it was not proper for a ministerial body to claim him for the religious organization, to which he, by birth, belonged. The resolution as submitted by the undersigned, as chairman of the committee on contemporaneous history, follows:

An expression of gratitude is also due to the memory of Joseph Fels, the noted philanthropist, who died at Philadelphia, February 22, 1914. The main work of Fels lay in a field on which this Conference can and will not express a definite opinion. Whether the economic ideas which he advocated, and for which he spent so liberally from his means, will, or will not, be the panacea, as which they are proclaimed, is not for this Conference to judge. It remains a fact, however, that Fels, as well as his much admired master, Henry George, were inspired by the economic theories of Moses, who declared: "The land shall not be sold in perpetuity, for the land is mine," and by the fiery preachments of Isaiah, who denounced those "that join house to house, that lay field to field till there be no room." In addition, Joseph Fels was active in aiding the unfortunate of his people by his generous support of the Jewish Territorial Organization. Your committee suggests that this Conference express its sorrow at the untimely demise of Joseph Fels, and convey its expression of sympathy to the widow.

GOTTHARD DEUTSCH.



Shreveport, La., July 17.

An injustice was done to the Central Conference of American Rabbis in referring to Dr. Stephen S. Wise's remarks about their timidity in expressing themselves on the subject of employers and employees. The report of a committee on this question was a vague and weak philosophy of the subject and was in such a form that no self-respecting body could possibly accept it. It was while this report was threatened with defeat that Dr. Wise uttered his passionate strictures. However, as I pointed out at the time, the question was not whether or not the rabbis were willing to place themselves definitely on record as to this question but simply as to whether this particular report could be endorsed. I called Dr. Wise's attention to the fact that it was his privilege, in lieu of the report, to formulate any definite proposition or resolution he might see fit and that he would find that the rabbis would rise to any height of courage demanded by any cause of truth, righteousness or justice. The report was defeated, and as no one was prepared then and there to act upon my suggestion and present any definite proposition to be acted upon, a commission was appointed to study the social and economic question in all its bearings and report at the next conference.

The rabbis of reform Judaism are not afraid of expressing themselves on any question that

touches on the domain of morality, righteousness, justice or human brotherhood and equality. They have the fullest sympathy with the classes who are suffering from our present ill-regulated social system. They recognize that in our present social system there are many things requiring correction, elimination and supplementation. They are eager to align themselves with all movements that promise betterment and progress. But they wisely refuse to commit themselves and their constituencies to any ill-digested philosophy or hasty recommendations on the subject.

On the question of Singletax many of the rabbis are evidently with you—possibly the majority of them are. But even this majority do not think it right as yet to force the minority to an acquiescence on this subject.

MOSES P. JACOBSON.

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## NEWS NARRATIVE

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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, July 21, 1914.

### Mexico and the United States.

General Victoriano Huerta appeared before the Mexican Chamber of Deputies, the afternoon of the 15th, and presented his resignation in the following words:

Deputies and Senators: Public necessity admitted by the chamber of deputies, by the senate and the supreme court, called me to the supreme magistracy of the republic. Later, when in this same hall I had the honor of addressing you in compliance with the Constitutional precept, I promised at all costs to bring about peace.

Seventeen months have passed, and in that brief period of time I have formed an army with which to carry out that solemn promise.

You all know the immense difficulties which my government has encountered owing to a scarcity of funds, as well as to the manifest and decided protection which a great power of this continent has afforded to the rebels—so much so that when the revolution had been broken up, seeing that its chief leaders were and continued to be divided, the power in question sought a pretext to intervene directly in the conflict, and the result of this was the outrage committed at Vera Cruz by the American fleet.

Success was had, as you know, in adjusting honorably, through our delegates at Niagara Falls, the petty Tampico incident, but the revolution continued with the support of whom we all know.

Yet, after the highly patriotic work achieved by our delegates at Niagara Falls, there are still some who say that I, come what may, seek my personal interest and not that of the republic. And as I need to refute this allegation with facts, I tender my formal resignation of the presidency of the republic.

The national congress must know that the republic, through its government, has labored in entire good faith and with the fullest energy, having suc-

ceeded in doing away with the party which in the United States called itself Democratic, and having shown how the right should be defended.

To be more explicit, I will say that the action of the government of the republic during its short life has dealt death blows to an unjust Power. Later on, stronger workers will come, using implements that undoubtedly will end that Power, which has done so much harm and committed so many outrages on this continent.

In conclusion, I will say that I abandon the presidency of the republic, carrying with me the highest sum of human wealth, for I declare that I have arraigned at the bar of Universal Conscience the honor of a puritan, whom I, as a gentleman, challenge to wrest from me that possession.

May God bless you and me.

[See current volume, page 685.]

Congress accepted the resignation, and called Licentiate Francisco Carbajal, Minister of Foreign Relations, to the Presidency. General Aureliano Blanquet, Minister of War, and General Huerta's strong man in the cabinet, together with other generals and cabinet officers, offered their resignations and left the capital. Generals Huerta and Blanquet proceeded to Puerto Mexico, where they were joined by families and friends, and sailed on the German cruiser *Dresden* on the 20th for Jamaica. No violence or unusual disturbance marked the transfer of power. General Huerta took the oath of office as provisional president February 19, 1913, after the uprising that overthrew the administration of President Francisco I. Madero, Jr. Civil war broke out at once. General Zapata, with an irregular force, operated in the territory south of Mexico City, but never was strong enough to meet the Federal troops in a pitched battle. General Carranza denounced the Huerta government, and raised the standard of revolt in the north, with General Villa as his chief military officer. Under the name of Constitution- alists General Carranza and General Villa prosecuted a vigorous campaign for the restoration of constitutional government in Mexico. President Wilson refused to recognize the Huerta government because of the murder of President Madero, and lent the moral support of the American government to the Constitutionalist cause. The military campaign was pushed with vigor, and marked by many bloody battles, as the Constitutionalist forces converged upon Mexico City. General Huerta resigned when it became evident that the Capital could no longer be defended against his opponents. The chief cause of his downfall was the passive resistance of the American government, whose refusal of recognition prevented his raising money abroad, and whose occupation of Vera Cruz helped to destroy his prestige at home.

Francisco Carbajal announced upon taking the oath of office that his sole purpose was to restore

peace, and immediately appointed a commission to confer with General Carranza on the transfer of the government to the Constitutionalists. His demands of General Carranza were a general amnesty, and a recognition of the acts of the Huerta government. These were met by the demand for unconditional surrender. Large bodies of Constitutionalist troops are within striking distance of the City of Mexico, and as nearly all the Federal troops have withdrawn, there is little doubt that General Carranza will have his way. Hostilities have practically ceased upon all hands, and an armistice is in process of negotiation.



The policy of the Washington administration, unofficially outlined, embraces a recognition of the Constitutionalist government as soon as set up in Mexico City; assistance in raising funds; insistence that the new government create a commission to arbitrate all foreign claims; requirement that the new government protect foreign life and property; refusal on the part of the United States to recognize the validity of the concessions granted by the Huerta government; waiving of claims of indemnity for cost or army and naval operations by United States; withdrawal from Vera Cruz when the permanency of the new government is established; and restoration to the agents of the new government of the customs house at Vera Cruz.



#### Woman Suffrage Declarations.

The Secretary of State, Mr. Bryan, issued on July 16 a formal statement declaring himself for woman suffrage. The statement began as follows:

The voters of Nebraska will at the election next November adopt or reject a proposed amendment extending suffrage to women on equal terms with men. As a citizen of that State it will be my duty to participate in the decision to be rendered at the polls. I have delayed expressing an opinion on this subject, partly because I have been seeking information and partly because my time has been occupied with national questions upon which the entire country was acting; but now that the issue is presented in my State I take my position. I shall support the amendment. I shall ask no political rights for myself that I am not willing to grant to my wife. As man and woman are co-tenants of the earth and must work out their destiny together, the presumption is on the side of equality of treatment in all that pertains to their joint life and its opportunities. The burden of proof is on those who claim for one an advantage over the other in determining the conditions under which both shall live. This claim has not been established in the matter of suffrage. On the contrary, the objections raised to woman suffrage appear to me to be invalid, while the arguments advanced in support of the proposition are, in my judgment, convincing.

Several objections to equal suffrage were analyzed and answered by Mr. Bryan, and the right of the

mother to the vote in the care of her children was emphasized:

The mother can justly claim the right to employ every weapon which can be made effective for the protection of those whose interests she guards, and the ballot will put within her reach all the instrumentalities of government, including the police power. If she is a widow there is no one who is in a position to speak for her in this matter of supreme importance; if her husband is living she can supplement this influence if they agree as to what is best for those under their joint care; if they do not agree, who will say that only the father should be consulted?

For a time I was impressed by the suggestion that the question should be left to the women to decide—a majority to determine whether the franchise should be extended to women; but I find myself less and less disposed to indorse this test. Samuel Johnson coined an epigram which is in point here, namely, that “No man’s conscience can tell him the right of another man.” Responsibility for the child’s welfare rests primarily upon the parent; the parent receives in largest measure the blessings that flow from the child’s life, if that life is nobly employed, and upon the parent falls the blow with severest force if the child’s life is misspent. Why should any mother, therefore, be denied the use of the franchise to safeguard the welfare of her child merely because another mother may not view her duty in the same light?

[See current volume, pages 327, 658, 682.]



One June 27, the day when in his home State of Missouri petitions for submission at the November election of a woman suffrage amendment to the State constitution were filed, Mr. Champ Clark, Speaker of the House, declared himself in favor of the enfranchisement of women to a delegation from the National Woman Suffrage Association and the Washington Suffrage Council which waited upon him, according to press reports, “to urge his support for Federal legislation insuring to women equal political rights with men” and for the “most feasible and practical” action by Congress. “The only question for you to consider,” Mr. Clark is reported to have said, “is how you can expeditiously get what you want, because I think you are going to get it. My own judgment is that you can get it quicker through the States than through Congress. At the rate you are going now, it looks to me as if you might get in three or four or five years. My own position, and I might as well make that clear now, because I have got to do it some time, is that I think women should vote. Whenever it is submitted in Missouri I am going to vote for it.”

[See current volume, page 613.]



#### Doings in Congress.

The Senate judiciary committee finally agreed on July 20 on all changes in the Clayton anti-trust

bill, but the bill will not be reported out for several days. The prohibition of price discrimination was modified to apply only to efforts to create monopoly. Fraternal and consumers' associations have been eliminated from the provision exempting labor and farmers' organizations from trust prosecution. Instead a provision has been put in forbidding restraining of members of such organizations from lawfully carrying out their purposes. Another change makes orders of the Interstate Commerce Commission or of the proposed Interstate Trade Commission subject to appeal to the courts. Originally the courts were requested to enforce the orders of the commission. [See current volume, page 683.]

The House Committee on Patents ordered a favorable report on July 18 on the Oldfield bill regulating the patent monopoly. This bill puts a stop to the practice by which applicants for patents hold up their applications indefinitely, and thus practically extend the life of the patent far beyond the legal limit of seventeen years. The bill provides that the term of patents granted more than two years after filing of an application shall be considered as starting at the expiration of this two year period. The two year period thus becomes the longest time possible for which a patent may through subterfuge be extended. Mr. Oldfield calls attention to the fact that applications for patents are now pending which were filed from fifteen to thirty years ago. Another section forbids the fixing of standard prices for retailers, and renders void all contracts requiring users of the patent to purchase unpatented articles of the holder of the patent. Another clause is designed to prevent deliberate suppression of the use of inventions. It allows any person to apply to the Federal court for a license to manufacture the patented article whenever it appears that the intention of the patent holder is to suppress the invention.

The Senate Committee investigating the use of Senate stationery in promotion projects reported on July 14. It exonerates all Senators concerned in the investigation. [See current volume, page 659.]

#### The Interstate Commerce Commission.

Under the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court declaring pipe line companies to be common carriers, the Interstate Commerce Commission on July 17 issued notice to all of these companies doing an interstate business to file their tariffs of rates and charges for carrying oil. They were given until July 22 to comply. The Standard Oil Company and all of its subsidiary organizations are included in this order, as well as the companies presumed to be inde-

pendent. The Commission will also make arrangements for a physical valuation of the lines. [See current volume, page 610.]

In response to a Senate resolution passed in 1906, the Interstate Commerce Commission on July 20 made a report regarding connection of railroads with coal mining corporation in the Illinois and Indiana coal fields. The report shows ownership by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad of all of the bonds but none of the stock of the Toluca Coal Company. The Chicago and Northwestern owns all of the stock of the Superior Coal Company and of the Macoupin County Railway Company. The Chicago, Indianapolis and Louisville owns nearly all of the stock of the Chicago and Indianapolis Coal Company which is leased to the Monon Coal Company. The Missouri Pacific owns the Western Coal and Mining Company. The Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul owns all of the St. Paul Coal Company. The Illinois Central owns the Madison Coal Corporation. The Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific owns the Coal Valley Mining Company. The Chicago and Eastern Illinois owns the Brazil Block Coal Company and The West Jackson Coal Mining Company. The Cleveland, Chicago, Cincinnati and St. Louis owns the Chicago and Harrisburg Coal Company. The Illinois Traction Company owns the Danville Consumers Company and the Kerns-Donewald Company. The Vandalia owns the Vandalia Mineral Company. The Chicago and Alton is indirectly interested in coal acquired by subsidiaries of the Union Pacific, the Union Pacific Coal Company and the Illinois Union Coal Company. Nearly 400,000 acres of land in Illinois and Indiana is shown to be under railroad control of which about half is coal land. The report further tells of the payment of a \$60,000 rebate to the O'Gara Coal Company of Illinois by the New York Central and of discriminations against independent coal mines.

A report that the Interstate Commerce Commission will partly grant the request of the railroads for a rate increase was published by many papers on July 19. The report is that on certain commodities an increase will be allowed but will be denied on others. The increase to be allowed is said to amount to \$16,000,000 while a complete grant of the railroad's request would have amounted to \$50,000,000. The Commission has not confirmed this report.

#### The Price of Beef.

In a letter on July 17 to the acting Secretary of Agriculture, Dr. B. T. Galloway, and also to the Interstate Commerce Commission, A. H. Benjamin, a New York representative of South American independent packers, charged that the condition of the beef market is "due to the manipulation

of the bigger interests aided by the railroads." This manipulation, he describes, consists in sending large shipments to England. These extra large shipments have caused a drop in the price there. The packers buy the surplus in the open market and ship it back to this country where they sell it as chilled beef. His own concerns had endeavored to send beef directly to this country from Argentine but "some of the big interests have refused absolutely to send steamships direct to the United States with large cargoes of ours, because as an independent concern we were undesirable and interfered with the price of meat." Continuing he declares:

We are in a position to supply beef at 3 to 5 cents per pound under the domestic prices ruling today, and I am willing to give you from five to ten cars for any State in the Union, provided you will give me the transportation facilities for chilled and frozen meat.

He charged that the railroads running out of New York city had refused to furnish refrigerator cars to his clients, claiming inadequacy of supply. When he had made arrangements to get refrigerator cars, American packers protested to the railroad against the use of the cars by his clients. The railroads therefor declined to allow the independents to load the cars even after a float with the cars had been tied to the ship which had arrived in port with the beef.



Dr. A. D. Melvin, chief of the bureau of animal industry of the Department of Agriculture, stated on July 17 regarding the price of beef:

The high prices are due to the actual scarcity of beef cattle in this country, and under present conditions there is little prospect of increasing the supply. The beef that is coming in from Argentina, about 44,000,000 pounds last month, seems to have little or no effect on the sale price.

An investigation is said to be now under way by the Department of Agriculture.



#### Commission on Industrial Relations.

The Federal Commission on Industrial Relations met at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago on July 21 to begin investigation of local industrial conditions. In a published announcement the chairman of the Commission, Mr. Frank P. Walsh, declared that no member of the commission "has any panacea for all our industrial ills." "In the advanced civilization of today," he said, "we apply science to everything except our dealings one with another in the industrial field. There it sometimes seems that we are only a little removed from the caveman." He denied that putting down of lawless violence by force is any solution of labor troubles and said "we must get down to the root, find out what are the underlying causes and try to remove them." Speaking of what the Commission has so far accomplished, he said:

The public hearings which this commission is holding throughout the country are helping to let the light break through. Employers and employees are seeing each other as men, and learning that they are just human beings, very much alike after all. The average employer is not a tyrant. Usually he is humane and anxious to do justice to those employed by him. The average worker is not a dynamiter, or a slugger, or a grafter. He is just an ordinary human being who wants to do what is right.

The good resulting from the hearings of the commission in Paterson, N. J., already has been attested to on the floor of the United States Senate by Senator Hughes of New Jersey. It brought together men on opposite sides who discovered that most of their previous troubles were due to a lack of understanding of each other's position.

In the Chicago hearings, which will begin Tuesday morning, we will bring together men and women holding opposite views on the industrial problem. Leaders of thought on all sides of the question will be heard. The commission expects to learn much from the discussion, and hopes that the different witnesses also will learn something of value.

[See current volume, page 682.]



#### Finding Jobs for the Disemployed.

Attempts to find jobs for the men thrown out of employment by the fire at Salem are being made by the United States Department of Labor. Secretary Wilson sent on July 13 the following telegram to the Massachusetts State Board of Labor:

This Department has been asked by John L. Sals-tonstall, on behalf of committee at Salem, to assist in finding employment for some of the people now homeless and idle as a result of the fire. I am sending the following telegram to all of the textile and boot and shoe manufacturers in New England, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia, and Maryland:

"Great fire at Salem has destroyed mills in that city. Thousands of textile workers (and shoe workers) are homeless and idle. Can you give any of these people employment if they apply? If so, how many? Please wire answer."

Kindly advise me in what way this Department can co-operate with the State board in such places as it may have in connection with the situation.

W. B. WILSON, Secretary.

Secretary Wilson also asked the Massachusetts Congressmen to obtain a classification of the lines of employment best fitted for the unemployed to enable him to further carry out this plan. The Congressmen promised their co-operation.



#### The Labor War.

A threatened strike of engineers and firemen of ninety-eight Western railroads was averted on July 17 by the United States Board of Mediation and Conciliation. The offer of mediation was at first declined by the men, but finally agreed to in the following letter to William L. Chambers, chairman of the board, from W. S. Carter, president, and

W. S. Stone, chief engineer of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers:

We have refused to join the managers' committee in request for mediation because we feared that it would be an implied acceptance of arbitration. No one knows better than yourself and other members of the Federal Board of Mediation and Conciliation the manner in which railroads have repudiated arbitration awards. We recognize, however, that we cannot afford to refuse your courteous proffer of your friendly offices, therefore we accept same. We believe it is unfair to ask us to wait four days before mediation begins in view of the present strained relations.

The hearing began at the Congress Hotel, Chicago, on July 20.



Rioting and violence by the men engaged in a strike at Fort Smith, Arkansas, against the Mammoth Vein Coal Company were reported on July 17. Much property was destroyed and two men were reported killed. The trouble is said to be the culmination of a series of disturbances, including the shooting up of a union camp. These disturbances have occurred at intervals since last March, when the company is said to have broken its contract with the United Mine Workers.



As a counter move against the silent picketing of his restaurants by striking waitresses, George Knab of Chicago placed some of his girl employes in front of his establishments, alongside of the pickets, carrying cards on which were printed statements of his side of the controversy. Silent picketing has been upheld by the courts, but trouble resulting from thus establishing rival pickets has caused a number of arrests to be made, the greater number of which are of union pickets. [See current volume, page 562.]



#### New York Politics.

That former Governor William Sulzer of New York will be a candidate for the Progressive gubernatorial nomination regardless of Roosevelt's attitude was announced on July 17. This recalls Mr. Sulzer's previous announcement that he would not be a candidate should Roosevelt run. "Colonel Roosevelt's attitude," he is reported to have said, "shows that he is playing into the hands of Charles F. Murphy." [See vol. xvi, p. 1062; current volume, page 684.]



Colonel Roosevelt has entered into a vigorous fight against the candidacy of District Attorney Charles S. Whitman for the governorship. Mr. Roosevelt had originally felt friendly toward Whitman and consented to support him provided he would publicly denounce William Barnes and Charles F. Murphy. Mr. Whitman evaded this and

accordingly lost Roosevelt's support. A newspaper dispatch of July 16 reported Roosevelt as now favoring nomination by the Progressives for governor of John A. Hennessy, who in Governor Sulzer's behalf had investigated and exposed many of Tammany's grafting operations.



#### George Fowlds' American Tour.

Honorable George Fowlds of Auckland, New Zealand, former Minister of Education and former Minister of Customs of that colony, is due to arrive in New York on July 29 and will visit a number of cities in the United States and Canada, in some of which he will address meetings. Mr. Fowlds is well known to Singletaxers throughout the world as one of their ablest co-workers. His itinerary has been tentatively announced as follows by Daniel Kiefer of Cincinnati:

New York, July 29, 30, 31; Lonaconing, Maryland, August 1, 2, 3; Washington, August 4, 5; New York, August 6, 7; Boston, August 8, 9; Canadian ports—Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Nigara—August 10 to 16; Chicago, August 17, 18; Milwaukee, August 19, 20; Arco, Minnesota, August 21, 22, 23; Minneapolis, August 24; Winnipeg, August 25; Shellmouth, August 26; Calgary, August 27; Edmonton, August 28, 29; Vancouver, August 31, September 1, 2. From Vancouver Mr. Fowlds returns to New Zealand.



#### Cincinnati's Charter Campaign.

By a vote of 27,823 to 21,253, Cincinnati on July 14 rejected a proposed new charter. A separate proposition for the recall, the adoption of which depended on adoption of the charter, received 21,849 votes in favor and 25,287 against. A number of bond issue propositions were also defeated. [See vol. xvi, pages 750, 756.]



The charter campaign was a development of the fight led by Herbert S. Bigelow for revocation of the Cincinnati Traction Company's fifty-year franchise, and for municipal ownership. To institute municipal ownership the city required a new charter especially authorizing that measure. Accordingly initiative petitions were circulated to submit the question of framing a new charter. The question was ordered submitted at a special election to be held on July 30 of last year. A ticket composed of municipal ownership advocates was nominated for a charter commission. On account of Bigelow's prominence in the fight this ticket was known as the "Bigelow" ticket. This ticket was opposed by one more to the liking of the public utility corporations. This was known as the "Knight" ticket from the candidate most conspicuous upon it. These candidates pledged themselves also to put municipal ownership in the

charter. The traction company, electric light company and other local monopolies directed their efforts to first securing defeat of the proposition to frame a charter, and second, in the event of a charter framing proposition carrying, to elect the Knight ticket. At the election the charter proposition carried but the Knight ticket was elected, so that the charter framers were the ones favored by the local monopolies.



The charter framed and submitted contained many of the conventional reform features. The members construed their municipal ownership pledge to allow making adoption of the measure depend on receipt of a two-thirds affirmative vote of the people and put a provision to that effect in the charter. This provision and others were denounced as jokers. One provision, which was said to require strict enforcement of the State laws regarding Sunday observance, further increased the charter's unpopularity.



#### Manitoba Speaks.

F. J. Dixon, the Winnipeg candidate for the Manitoba legislature who made the Single Tax the most conspicuous feature of his campaign, has, according to mail advices, achieved a notable victory. Of his campaign the Manitoba Free Press of July 11 says:

Perhaps the most spectacular feature of the election is the return of F. J. Dixon, Independent candidate in Centre Winnipeg, by a majority of over 1,500, far the largest majority ever achieved in the history of Manitoba. It is interesting to recall that Premier Roblin, in his usual "knightly" speech, predicted that there wouldn't be "even a smell" left of Dixon after July 10th.

And this in a district deliberately gerrymandered by the Conservatives for the purpose of defeating the Liberal candidates. [See current volume, page 639.]



#### Canada and the Hindus.

A crisis occurred on the 19th in the contention over the landing of Hindus at Vancouver. Canada undertook to exclude them by a law that admitted only such as came direct from India, there being no direct line of ships between the two countries. Gurdit Singh, a Hindu leader, with 350 Sikhs, attempted to prove the right of a British citizen to pass to and fro in any part of the Empire by going in the Japanese ship Komagata Maru direct from India to Vancouver, where they arrived May 23. The Dominion authorities refused them admission, and their case was carried to the court of appeal, which decided adversely on the 6th. The captain of the Komagata Maru was ordered to take the Sikhs—who had been confined on the ship for three months—out of the country. But his pas-

sengers refused to let him raise steam; and when, on the 19th, he appealed to the port authorities for protection, one hundred and sixty policemen and immigration officials attempted to board the ship but were prevented by a shower of coal, iron bars, pieces of machinery, hatchets and clubs. The government has instructed its agents to deport the Hindus on the Empress of Japan on the 23rd. [See vol. xvi, p. 1166.]



#### Anti-German Militarism Will Not Down.

Echoes of the army trouble in Alsace-Lorraine continue in the charges of the brutality of officers to men. It is charged by critics that the government, by its nominal punishments, encourages the officers in excessive severity. Socialists in particular have used this weapon to gain favor with the people. Rosa Luxemburg, a Polish Jewess, and one of the most intrepid critics of the government, was sentenced last winter to one year in prison for anti-militarist agitation. The specific offence was that of inciting German soldiers to refuse to fight in case of war with France. Before being called upon to begin serving her sentence she delivered a fresh and much stronger indictment. She was again brought to trial for criminal slander of the army. But when she presented a list of 1,013 witnesses, mainly former soldiers, the government adjourned the case. As this action was taken in spite of the protests of Rosa Luxemburg the Socialists and other anti-militarists look upon it as a defeat of the government, in that it was a confession that her charges were true.



#### English Affairs.

The Amending bill, supplementary to the Irish Home Rule bill, passed the House of Lords on the 14th, and was returned to the Commons. Before its final passage another amendment was added, empowering the king, by an order in council, to suspend the operation of the Home Rule act until a commission should report on the constitutional relations of Ireland to the other parts of the United Kingdom. [See current volume, page 686.]



Tension has been at high pitch during the week, with the interest centered mainly about the cabinet, and the negotiations conducted between it and the Unionist leaders. Little progress, however, was made. Mr. Redmond and the Irish members declared most emphatically that they would prefer to give up the present Home Rule bill entirely rather than to yield to the Lords' amendments excluding Ulster. The King, by the advice of the cabinet, called a conference of the leaders of the several factions to meet at Buckingham

palace on the 21st. Premier Asquith and Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lloyd George, will represent the government; the Marquis of Landsdowne and Andrew Bonar Law, the opposition; John Redmond and John Dillon, the Irish Nationalists; and Sir Edward Carson and Captain James Craig, the Ulstermen. The announcement of the conference by the Prime Minister in the Commons provoked bitter protests from the radical extremists, who charged that it was a plot on the part of the government to gain time, and prevent the organization of the Ulster provisional government until after the adjournment of Parliament.



The action of the King in attempting mediation has been the subject of sharp criticism, but upon the whole was thought to offer the most promising means of averting civil war. The Laborites felt slighted at not being invited to participate in the conference, and at a party meeting passed a resolution protesting against the King's issuing such a command "regarding any matter of political controversy as being undue interference on the part of the Crown and calculated to defeat the purposes of the Parliament Act."



Proportional representation again received recognition in connection with the Home Rule bill when the Lords amended the Amending bill to provide that Irish constituencies should be so arranged as to elect at least three members by proportional representation. This was done with a view to giving Protestants representation in Catholic territory.



Mr. Asquith in announcing the government's program in the Commons said the House would be asked to deal with the Irish Amending bill, the Indian budget and the House of Lords resolutions, in addition to the necessary financial business, before prorogation. He said he hoped the session would end in August.



#### Woman Suffrage in Great Britain.

Woman suffrage, especially the workers' demand for the franchise, has been a very prominent note in recent British politics—a note not drowned even by the noise of Home Rule and Budget disputes. Premier Asquith's reception of the deputation of five London East End working women on June 20 was considered a most important public event, both because the women so forcefully presented their case and because the Prime Minister's reply was interpreted as an unbending from his hitherto stiff opposition to the enfranchisement of women. The demand of the delegation which had been elected at great public meetings was for an immediate government measure granting the vote

to every woman over twenty-one years of age. After an able argument by their leader, Mrs. Scurr, for the vote for women as the only effective means of giving them a voice in the management of their own and their children's lives, each of her four women companions told why she herself in her situation, and thousands like her, needed the ballot. As reported in *The London Nation*:

One woman produced two brushes from her pocket and showed the Prime Minister how she had to fill the holes with bristles—two hundred holes for 2d.—and it took her nearly two hours to fill one brush, though she worked with the skill of forty-three years' practice. The brush then sold for half-a-guinea. Others described work at cigarette packing, sewing, and the labor of keeping house for oneself and husband and six children on 25s. a week. But the most touching story was told by a woman who had been driven from a jam factory because she refused to yield to the foreman, and had then taken in—"naturally, of course, sir"—a girl who had yielded and came with her baby. "But sooner than take the food out of my children's mouths, she went out one day, and I never see her again till three days afterwards, when she and the baby was dragged out of the river." Another woman exclaimed: "We women perform the dignified service of motherhood—even statesmen has mothers, I suppose, sir—and yet we're not allowed a voice in the making of the laws, and the law says we're not the parents of our own children!"

Mr. Asquith listened with deep attention to these accounts of personal experience and answered gravely that he was glad to hear directly from the East End working people of their great need for social legislation. He reminded them that already Parliament had done something for the sweated women, but admittedly not enough. He promised "careful and mature consideration" of their case; and closed with the following declaration regarding the sort of enfranchisement they asked—a vote for every woman over twenty-one:

On one point I am in complete agreement with you. I have always said that if you are going to give the franchise to women, give it to them on the same terms as to men. Make it a democratic measure. It is no good paltering with it. If the discrimination of sex does not justify the giving of the vote to one sex and withholding it from the other, it follows a fortiori that the discrimination of sex does not justify and cannot warrant giving to women a restricted form of franchise while you give to men an unrestricted form of franchise. If a change is to come, it must be democratic in its basis.

*The (London) Nation*—Liberal and strongly pro-suffrage—made extended editorial comment upon the interview, hailing it as a token of change of heart in Premier Asquith. [See current volume, page 538, 612.]



The working woman's practical need and demand for the franchise was again expressed when the Women's Co-operative Guild—a democratic organization whose annual Congress in June is re-

ported all over England as the voice of the working men's wives—approved a resolution demanding a Government bill for the full enfranchisement of "every adult woman," and recommending that all its members refrain from working for any candidate, unpledged to such a measure. This growing demand for universal womanhood as well as manhood suffrage had been expressed in April at the Conference of the Independent Labour Party—a Socialist organization—which demanded "the introduction, during the lifetime of the present Parliament, of a Government measure to enfranchise all adult men and women, with a three months' qualification."



Meanwhile the militant suffragists' destructive campaign for the franchise has gone on conspicuously. The burning of a church near Derby, and of an old mansion in Buckinghamshire on June 5 and 6 and of a railway station in Wales on June 20, and the ruinous hacking of a portrait in the Birmingham gallery June 9, were reported. A bomb, exploded in Westminster Abbey on June 11, damaged the historic Coronation Chair of Edward the Confessor, another was set off in St. George's Church, London, on June 14; and on July 8 two suffragists were caught in the act of setting a bomb to destroy the John Burns Cottage at Ayr. Interruptions by shouting, or the throwing of pamphlets have been experienced by the King and Queen on numerous formal and informal occasions and by Chancellor Lloyd George when he made his Home Rule speech on June 20 at Denmark Hill near London. Augustine Birrell, Chief of Secretary for Ireland, and Thomas McKinnon Wood, Secretary of State for Scotland, were the victims of attack on July 11 and July 15. Mrs. Pankhurst and her daughter Sylvia have each alternated in jail and out under the working of the "Cat-and-Mouse" Act. Sensational charges by militants that women suffragists—Miss Grace Roe being named as one—were being drugged by the prison authorities in order that they might the more easily be fed were answered on June 6 by the Government in the summons into court of an agent of the militants, Arthur Barnett, for conveying drugs to this same prisoner, Miss Roe. The Government's attorney produced evidence in the case when it came to trial June 13, showing that drugs were being conveyed to make the militant prisoners violently sick after they had been forcibly fed, so that they might be discharged under the "Cat-and-Mouse" Act. Mr. Barnett was found guilty and fined.



The increasing resentment against the militants' violence has been very evident, according to press dispatches. A crowd at Hampstead Heath on June 7 knocked over the platform from which a party of militant suffragists were to speak and scat-

tered the suffragists in all directions. They tried to drag two of the women to a pond for a ducking, but the police rescued them. A similar scene occurred on Clapham Common. Two church congregations on the same day, Sunday, followed women interruptors of their services into the street and treated them roughly. Three days later, sellers of the journal "Suffragette" were mobbed in London streets, and suffragist speakers at Portsmouth and in Hyde Park were only protected from angry crowds by the police. Whenever the King and Queen have been approached by violent suffragists the crowd present has shown itself dangerously hostile to the suffragists.



Measures to suppress militancy were discussed in the House of Commons, June 11. Secretary McKenna, in a long speech on the subject, dismissed the suggestion of the deportation of the militants as impracticable and declared that to let them commit suicide in jail by starvation (a course of action loudly demanded by some publicists) would likely arouse sympathy. He appealed to the newspapers to kill the agitation by ceasing to give them the advertisement which they fed upon. Many of these women, the Secretary said, were hysterical fanatics who were possessed of a courage that would risk anything. Many of them wanted to die to gain what they believed to be martyrdom. He advocated the proposed prosecutions of subscribers to the militant funds as the best deterrent and outlined his plan of making these subscribers pay damages for property loss occasioned by militants, and possibly of convicting them on a criminal charge. In speaking of the attempts of the women to reach the King, he said that all the subjects of the King had a right to petition his majesty in respectful terms, but none had the right to a personal audience to present a petition. The Council of the Women's Liberal Federation on June 10—after passing a strong suffrage resolution, and only rejecting by a narrow majority a motion that Liberal women should confine their support to the suffragist candidates—had urged the Government to take the responsibility of bringing these disorders to an end.

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## NEWS NOTES

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—Ohio prohibitionists have invoked the initiative to procure submission of a prohibition amendment. Petitions are now being circulated.

—Efforts planned by the Young Turks party to rehabilitate the Turkish nation include an extensive use of the Boy Scout movement that has proven to be so popular in England and America. It is charged that Persian and Byzantine influences have been detrimental to the Turkish character; and the new

organization will be managed with a view to imbuing the boys with a veneration for the progressive ideas of the West.

—Nellie Carlin of Chicago, now holding the position of Public Guardian, is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Associate Judge of the Municipal Court. [See vol. xvi, pp. 484, 495.]

—Upton Sinclair, whose conviction for disorderly conduct, in conducting a "free silence" demonstration, was upheld by the New York Court of General Sessions, filed notice of appeal to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court on July 17. [See current volume, page 687.]

—Dispatches from Vienna and other European capitals indicate increased tension between Austria and Serbia, over the recent assassination of Archduke Ferdinand at Serajevo. Open hostilities are now thought probable, and fears are entertained of another Balkan war. [See current volume, page 664.]

—The proposal to introduce the American skyscraper in Berlin, by erecting a ten-story building, has been refused by the government on the ground that such buildings would seriously impair the light and air of other buildings, and would be beyond the reach of firemen, who are prepared to go no higher than five stories.

—An international woman suffrage exhibit to be kept together permanently and sent from one exposition to another was resolved upon by the officers of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance in session at London, July 11. The exhibit, which will go to the Panama exposition, will have as a nucleus copies of 83 woman suffrage journals gathered from all parts of the world.

—The dropping of the "s" before the names of ships listed by Lloyds, to indicate steamers, marks the change that has taken place in water transportation. Twenty-five years ago sailing vessels numbered 22,402, with a tonnage of 9,496,603; while there were 10,260 steamers, with a tonnage of 7,414,954. Now the sailing vessels number 6,694, and register 3,890,836 tons; while the steamers number 23,897, and register 26,517,029 tons.

—The withdrawal of Carl S. Vrooman, progressive Democrat, from the race for the Democratic nomination for United States Senator from Illinois was announced on July 14. State Senator W. Duff Piercy and Walter Comerford who had also been candidates withdrew. The move is understood to be in favor of Congressman Lawrence B. Stringer, who has the endorsement of William J. Bryan, Governor Dunne and Senator Lewis. [See current volume, page 662.]

—Hugh Craig, mayor of Piedmont, California, who has enforced an equitable assessment in that city similar to the Houston method, is a candidate for County Assessor. His campaign card bears this announcement: "Section 3627 of the Political Code reads as follows: 'All taxable property must be assessed at its full cash value. Land and improvements thereon shall be separately assessed. Cultivated and uncultivated land of the same quality, and similarly situated, shall be assessed at the same value.' County assessors throughout the State are a law to themselves. Section quoted is so clear and mandatory that the 'wayfaring' man understands its

tenor at first reading." [See vol. xv, p. 1154; vol. xvi, p. 986.]

—Liberal organizations of Ohio are pushing an initiative petition for the following constitutional amendment: "No law shall hereafter be passed prohibiting the sale, furnishing or giving away of intoxicating liquors throughout the State, nor shall any law be passed or be in effect prohibiting the sale, furnishing or giving away of intoxicating liquors operative in a subdivision of the State upon the option of the electors thereof, or upon any other contingency, which has force within a territory larger than a municipal corporation or a township outside of a municipal corporation therein. All laws in contravention of the foregoing are hereby repealed."

—Statistics of exports and imports of the United States [see current volume, page 543] for the eleven months ending May, 1914, as given by the statistical sheet of the Department of Commerce for May, 1914, were as follows:

	Exports.	Imports.	Balance.	
Merchandise	\$2,207,424,688	\$1,735,885,740	\$471,538,948	Exp.
Gold	63,932,165	62,721,547	1,210,618	Exp.
Silver	50,325,246	28,504,299	21,820,947	Exp.
Total	\$2,321,682,099	\$1,827,111,586	\$494,570,513	Exp.

The imports of merchandise for May, 1914, were \$163,637,386, of which 62.65 per cent were entered free of duty; for May, 1913, the imports were \$133,723,713, of which 51.60 per cent were entered free of duty.

—The success of Seattle's municipal light plant is shown in the following statement by its superintendent, J. D. Ross:

"Do you know, Mr. Taxpayer, that your City Light Plant is the foremost municipal plant in America? It has made good. It is in no sense a tax burden. It has cut the rates for lighting your homes to one-third the former rates. The correct financial statement for 1913 is as follows:

Revenues.	
Sales of current to private individuals	\$659,673.08
Miscellaneous revenues	5,714.28
Municipal buildings and street lighting	245,089.99
Total revenues	\$910,477.35
Expenses.	
Operation, maintenance and reconstruction	\$358,861.32
Interest	83,625.00
Depreciation	193,332.35
Sinking fund	32,400.00
Total expenses	\$668,219.67
Net surplus earnings	242,257.68

"Mr. Taxpayer, we have invested \$1,500,000.00 of our earnings in plant extensions; we have forced a reduction in light rates amounting to a saving of \$3,000,000.00 annually on your light and power bills. This is equal to three-quarters of the taxes you pay to run your City government."

## PRESS OPINIONS

### Submitting to the Inevitable.

Ohio State Journal (Columbus), June 9.—As a result of Lloyd George's taxation and land reform schemes, the landlords of vast real estates in England are selling them off. Much of this land is in game preserves, grouse moors, and so forth, and so

devoted to the pleasures of the rich, with no concern about the wants of the poor. If God didn't intend the land for private ownership, as the Single-tax people hold, he certainly did not intend it for great game preserves, to be used simply for the pleasure of the rich. The land is held in trust to supply food to the people and no man has a right to more than he can use for this purpose. That is Lloyd George's idea. It is not Singletaxism or Socialism, but a domestic regulation looking to the common good. An account says many British landlords have given up the battle with the new ideas about what the incidence of taxation should be and prefer to get their capital in liquid form, for investment elsewhere. A similar issue is sure to come up in this country, one of these days. Free land is no more, but as a result there are vast estates in the West, held by one person. Some day the policy will be to divide them up, through the "incidence of taxation," or otherwise, so that the number of food producers will be doubled in the land. Certainly that is one sure road out of doubt and want.



### The Plight of the Railroads.

Johnstown Democrat, July 14.—Had railroads never overcapitalized the freight rates they now enjoy, there would be no present demand for an increase. It is not the operating charges that are burdening our transportation lines; it is not the interest charges upon actual investments that annoy. The pinch comes when energetic railroad managements attempt to pay dividends upon stock issues that have capitalized not only the present but the future as well. . . . That is just the position the railroads are in. They have capitalized prosperity. They have capitalized their guess as to the business that should be done this year and the next. If there is a letdown, if there is a bit of a depression they straightway find themselves in straightened circumstances. . . . The lines that are conservatively capitalized will prosper in normal times. With the systems that are overcapitalized only boom times will show dividends. The railroads are earning enough right now to put them on easy street had they been properly financed. They cry out not because of conditions, but rather because of their past financial sins. Suppose the railroads were given not a 5 per cent boost in freight rates, but a 25 per cent increase. Suppose they overcapitalized that increase. The result would be that notwithstanding the rates the transportation systems would find themselves embarrassed when the first slack period came.



### A Wrong Way to Fight Fraud.

(Ironton, Mo.) Iron County Register, June 25.—Is there no Democrat in Congress with the courage to tell one little, wholesome truth to the Postal Department—that a citizen's use of the mails is his right, and not merely "a privilege?" The lately assumed "Fraud Order" prerogative is another thing that needs looking after. It is in its nature tyrannical and oppressive, and in one notable instance, at least, has been made to work a great injustice, according to the recent Congressional report on the famous Lewis case. The States can take care of

frauds, and we need no autocrat to hold our destinies in the hollow of his hands. Does our Democratic administration stand for such?

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## RELATED THINGS

### CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

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#### THE PAGEANT OF WOMAN.

By S. Gertrude Ford in *Lyric Leaves*.

Way, make way for the marching troops of justice!  
 High, yet nigh, gleams the goal that shall be won.  
 Near we, cheer we, the hope wherein our trust is;  
 Deep the night of sleep, but we go to meet the sun.  
 Stay not, stray not! the fight shall have its sequel.  
 Spin we, win we, the robes that clothe the free!  
 Rate man's mate as his comrade and his equal,  
 All ye who call to the race that is to be!

Cede our need, ye who look on these our legions—  
 Own our throne, in each realm we seek to share!  
 Art, mill, and mart, law and lore—in all their regions,

Nigh you, and by you, behold our footsteps fare.  
 Trade counts the maid in the foremost of her armies;  
 Sage, hold thy page for the woman's eye to scan!  
 Yield we not a field, for in all the woman's charm is,  
 Shining by the side of her partner, Man.

Mile on mile we file; through the highways still we gather;

Mass we, pass we, in all our marshaled might.  
 Cede our need! free the mother as the father;  
 So, only so, shall the race be reared aright.  
 Freedom our creed; in the battle where the dust is  
 Palms we see and calms of the country that shall be—

Way, make way for the marching troops of justice!  
 Man, join the van, till the army shall be free!



### HELPMATES.

From the Address of Catherine E. Marshall, Parliamentary Secretary of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, Before the 21st Congress of the Independent Labour Party at Bradford, England, April, 1914.

Although the immediate reason for the co-operation between the Independent Labour Party and the National Union is the fact that both are working for Women's Suffrage, there are other and deeper reasons why these two movements were bound, as I personally believe, to draw together in sympathy and understanding, if not in actual co-operation. Are we not two children of one mother—the great spirit of democracy? Is not the same motive power at the back of both movements—the determination that the rights of human beings, the recognition of their place in the social scheme, should be based on their humanity, and not on their membership of this or that class, or sex, or race? . . .

I do not want to speak today of how the Independent Labour Party and the National Union can help one another in those forms of work in which we are deliberately uniting our forces; but I do want to speak of another kind of help which you men of the Independent Labour Party, and indeed of the whole Labour movement, are giving, unconsciously, perhaps, to us women of the Women's movement—a kind of help which I believe we can reciprocate if you will let us.

When any section of the community has been fettered and oppressed, whether it be a class, or a sex, or a creed, or a race, the first result of a movement towards freedom is apt to be a feeling of bitter antagonism towards those who have been responsible for the fetters and oppression. The reaction from oppression is sometimes almost as unjust in its manifestations as the oppression itself. A phase of rather ugly self-assertiveness has to be gone through before the right relations are established and a state of normal healthy balance attained. We in the Women's movement are going through this phase now. We are clamoring a great deal about our rights; about the monstrous selfishness of man-made laws; the faithlessness of male politicians; there is, in fact, a danger that the Women's movement, which came into being as a result of a generous impulse to help men in the great work of social regeneration—there is a danger that this movement may for the time express itself in the form of sex-antagonism. It is this danger that you are helping us to overcome. How can we let ourselves fall a prey to sex-bitterness when the men of the Independent Labour Party are helping us at every turn in our work in the country—when we see that you feel our wrongs as keenly as we do ourselves? Above all, when we know that you are prepared to forego any further franchise gains for yourselves until women can share in them—we realize that it is not against men we have to fight, but against a wrong system which has erected an artificial barrier between men and women, dividing into two camps those who ought to be comrades working side by side.

And in the same way is there not a danger in the Labour movement that the result of an oppressed class may lead to class-bitterness? Can we in the Women's movement not help you there? We have broken down class barriers in our movement, just as you have broken down the sex-barriers in yours. You place sex-equality in the forefront of your programme, and you welcome women to your ranks as comrades on the same footing as yourselves. Similarly, membership of our Union is open on equal terms to men and women of every class and occupation. Everyone has a vote, and only one vote. We welcome as a fellow-worker anyone who wants to work, even if she happens to be a duchess! Cannot we do for you in the matter of class-antagonism what you are doing for us in the mat-

ter of sex-antagonism? Do not mistake me. I am not arguing against class-consciousness; but against class-bitterness. The former is a necessary stage in the process of emancipation; but bitterness never helps any movement; it destroys the clear vision and the balance of judgment.

I believe it is by saving one another from becoming bitter in the course of the struggle we have set ourselves, that the Labour movement and the Women's movement can give each other help far more valuable than any mere co-operation in elections—help that will bring out the best in both movements, and keep them sound.



### AT A CONGRESS OF ENGLISH WORKING WOMEN.

Janet Case in The (London) Nation of June 27.

During the last thirty years the Women's Co-operative Guild has been built up by the independent efforts of the women of the co-operative movement, aided by grants of money from the governing body of the Co-operative Union and from Co-operative Societies. It has stood for a progressive policy, which included the establishment of a minimum wage for all co-operative employes, the employment of none but trade unionists and the extension of co-operation in poor districts; and as an organization of married working women it has more and more expressed their needs and wishes, and has come to be recognized by the country as the natural exponent of their views.

Among these married women's questions is Divorce Law Reform, which for the last four years has been included in the subjects for discussion and for educational work. Year by year the support in the Guild has grown stronger, and resolutions have been passed at successive congresses with increasing majorities in its favor. This year, for the first time, the right of the Guild to shape its own policy has been called in question. The Central Co-operative Board, yielding to outside pressure from the Salford Catholic Federation, made its annual money grant to the Guild conditional upon their dropping the divorce agitation, and on their taking up no work disapproved of by the United Board.

This was a direct challenge to the independence of the women, and they left the Board in no doubt about their answer.

An urgency resolution on the subject was submitted to the congress at its meeting in Birmingham last week, and from the very first the end was easy to foresee. The great hall was packed from end to end with the 800 or 900 delegates, representing the 32,000 members of the Guild. The feeling was tense. From every side delegates rose in quick succession, speaking from their places in the crowded galleries, or making their

way in quiet order down the long hall to take their turn at the rostrum in front of the platform. They did not waste their words; but they made their meaning clear. Neither did they spare the feelings of such representatives of the Central Board as were present as visitors upon the platform. They scorned to sell their independence "for a paltry £400," drawn from funds to which, it may be noted, the women, no less than the men, contribute. It is half their income, but they cheerfully faced a reduced exchequer and increased endeavors to raise the sum within the Guild as the price of their freedom. "We are out for improved conditions for women and children, yes, and for men; but we are not out to work as subordinates." "We want to work on an equal footing, but we are not prepared to be dominated." The vote was overwhelming. It was the women's Declaration of Independence.

The question of Divorce, which had raised the storm, was kept subordinate. After pointing out that there was no intention to coerce a minority, but only to allow to a majority the freedom of their consciences, speakers left this topic for the larger issue.

The turn of Divorce came later. The debate on this subject next day showed that the feeling for reform was stronger even than last year. The ideal of married life is high among Guildswomen, as is the actual standard of their married lives. They do not take marriage lightly. You could tell that from the spontaneous burst of applause that followed the reminder that men and women take one another for better, for worse. But the tragedies of broken lives that come within the range of their experience rouse them to a demand for better and humaner marriage laws to save human beings from unnecessary suffering and degradation. When the red voting tickets were held up in support of the recommendations of the majority report, the hall looked like a field of poppies. The addition of mutual consent as a ground of divorce was approved by a large majority, and the need for women assessors in court was endorsed by the whole meeting.

The Guild has naturally taken from the start great interest in the question of maternity benefit, and as an outcome of this interest it has this year brought forward a scheme for the national care of maternity, by means of maternity centers, under the care of the public health authorities, where ante-natal conditions may be studied, with opportunity for consultations on pregnancy sickness, with municipal midwives and with an increased maternity benefit, which would allow of a period of rest both before and after the confinement. On this subject the women, speaking from first-hand knowledge, speak as experts, and the backing of the Guild should give cogency to the representations on behalf of the scheme that are being made to Cabinet Ministers. But here, as

elsewhere, the women feel the lack of the driving power of the vote, and a rider was added to the resolution, which was carried with only four dissentients, urging a Government measure of parliamentary and municipal franchise for all adult women, and, what is more significant, urging all Guildswomen to refrain from working for any candidate who would not pledge himself to this reform.

The other subjects for discussion included schemes for the education of Guildswomen, and for a co-operative college, and the speeches revealed the passionate hunger of these women for educational opportunities. "We are crazed for education." . . .

We are used to hearing benevolent people tell us what, in their opinion, must be done for working women. Would it not be perhaps worth while to ask the women what they want? For it is quite certain that they know.

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## BOOKS

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### THE FEDERAL RESERVE ACT.

*The Operation of the New Bank Act.* By Thomas Conway, Jr., and Ernest Patterson. Published by J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia. 1914. Price, \$2.00 net.

This book, as the authors say in the preface, "endeavors to analyze the effects of a monumental piece of legislation, marking a distinct change of policy in one of the most important lines of business in the country." It is likely to impress the reader as a candid and impartial statement of the results reached after a careful study of the Act. The defects of the previous banking system are set forth in the first chapter, and the need of new legislation is fully recognized. The new law is examined in detail; there are summaries of the arguments of friends and foes as to the most important of the provisions which have aroused controversy.

On some points the authors reserve their opinion, holding that time alone can show the effect of the law, and that, while it is a great piece of governmental machinery, much will depend on the ability and judgment of the Federal Reserve Board and the Secretary of the Treasury. On other controverted questions, however, there is a decided expression of opinion. For example, the claim that bankers should supervise the banking system, which was frequently urged while the bill was before Congress, receives no support from the authors of this book. The presence of a banker on the Federal Reserve Board, they think, would be analogous to that of a railway official on the Interstate Commerce Commission. But they make it clear that the new law will not unduly interfere

with bankers in the management of their business. "Many have either not read carefully its provisions or else have lost sight of the most important fact in the whole problem, which is that no system can eliminate the personality of the banker. Banking law is, in all countries, far less important than banking practice."

WILLIAM E. MCKENNA.



## THE IMMIGRATION QUESTION.

*They Who Knock at Our Gates.* By Mary Antin. Published by Houghton, Mifflin Co., Boston, 1914. Price, \$1.00 net.

Mary Antin, author of "The Promised Land," takes up in her second book the question of immigration from the unusual standpoint of principle. It is not easy to argue without arousing antagonism, but Mary Antin does this by basing her thought upon the Declaration of Independence and on principles that are almost universally accepted—until we come to apply them. She clearly sees the Land Question and ought to be, if she is not already, a Singletaxer. The book has about twenty thousand words—clear and readable, and sometimes, especially in the last chapter, rising to the eloquence of simple earnestness; as for instance—"the common people, the toilers for daily bread, who give all when they give aught, because they have not enough to divide."

It is easy to get lost in considerations of percentages of delinquency, poverty, insanity, unemployment and so on, concerning our immigrants, but there is no such obscurity about the fundamental principles that this Jewish thinker states.

BOLTON HALL.

## BOOKS RECEIVED

—Within Prison Walls. By Thomas Mott Osborne. Published by D. Appleton & Co., New York. 1914. Price, \$1.50 net.

—The System of Taxation in China and in the Tsing Dynasty, 1644-1911. By Shao-Kwan Chen. Whole Number 143, Columbia University Studies in History, Economics and Public Law. Longmans, Green & Co., agents, New York. 1914. Price, paper, \$1.00 net.

—The Currency Problem in China. By Wen Pin Wel. Whole Number 144, Columbia University Studies in History, Economics and Public Law. Longmans, Green & Co., agents, New York. 1914. Price, paper, \$1.25 net.

—A History of the General Property Tax in Illinois. By Robert Murray Haig. Volume III, Nos. 1 and 2, University of Illinois Studies in the Social Sciences. Published by the University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill. 1914. Price, paper, \$1.25 net.

—The Development of Modern Turkey as Measured by its Press. By Ahmed Emin. Whole Number 142, Columbia University Studies in History, Eco-

nomics and Public Law. Longmans, Green & Co., agents, New York. 1914. Price, paper, \$1.00 net.

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The moderate element in Ireland is believed to be smuggling in guns and ammunition for the purpose of preventing a civil war between the Ulstermen and the Nationalists.—New York Evening Post.



Probably the oil interests in Greece started the Trojan war.—Wall Street Journal.



He was one of the smart men who like to show their cleverness.

"See me make him look small," he said, as the beggar approached. Then he listened solemnly to the tale of hard luck.

"That's the same old story you told me last week," he said, when the vagrant had finished.

"Is it?" was the reply. "P'raps I did, p'raps I

did," he admitted; "but I'd quite forgotten meeting you for the moment. I was doing seven days last week, and there was such a lot of us, you see."—San Francisco Star.



"Should woman vote?" The ancient Greeks said, "Nay."

Ah, ha! Where are those ancient Greeks today?



However dangerous a little knowledge may be to the possessor, it is to the observer frequently most amusing. The following list of "howlers" was sent in by long-suffering instructors to various English publications:

"Finally James II. gave birth to a son, so the people turned him off the throne."

"The courage of the Turks is explained by the

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fact that a man with more than one wife is more willing to face death than if he had only one."

"When the last French attack at Waterloo proved a failure, Napoleon turned very pale, and rode at full gallop to St. Helena."

Among "howlers" on general subjects were the following:

"Ambiguity means telling the truth when you don't mean to."

"Much butter is imported from Denmark, because Danish cows have greater enterprise and superior technical education to ours."

"A triangle is a square with only three corners."

"The principal vegetable and mineral products in America are tinned meat and borking strictors."

"The masculine of sultana is raisin; of heroine, kipper."

"The feminine of he-goat is she-went; of hero, shero."

"A corps is a dead gentleman; a corpse is a dead lady."

"To keep milk from turning sour you should leave it in the cow."—Truth Seeker.



Tommy arrived home one day with a nice new golf ball.

"Look at the lost ball I found on the links, pa," he said.

"But are you sure, Tommy," asked his father, "that it was a lost ball?"

"Oh, yes," said the boy. "I saw the man and his caddie looking for it."—Boston Transcript.

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