

advertising of any kind or nature will be published on this or any other page of our paper advocating the election of any candidate of any party for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of the United States other than William H. Taft and James S. Sherman, their Electors and the Republican nominees for the different State offices.

That this kind of corruption of foreign-language papers has been fostered by Republican managers ever since Hanna's time has been an open secret. But it has never before been so well proved. That Mr. Taft was to have the almost unanimous support of papers of that class has been a boast for two or three weeks. That this support was to be secured by some such bribery was taken for granted. But now, thanks to Senator Dixon, the truth about it is out. Whenever you hear of a foreign-language paper supporting Taft, for some unknown reason, you will know the reason.



### Legality of the "Closed Shop."

At last, and conclusively, the Supreme Court of Illinois has established the legal right of labor organizations to strike in support of "the closed shop." Its decision was made last June,\* but it was not until last week that the court denied a motion for rehearing. This decision is made in a Chicago case in which Judge Julian W. Mack wrote the dissenting opinion in favor of the doctrine which the Supreme Court has now recognized as the law of Illinois. While he contended ably for that doctrine, his associates in the decision took the opposite view. The decision of the higher court is, therefore, in no sense perfunctory. It is an emphatic judicial victory for the principle of "the closed shop" as a legitimate weapon of Labor warfare. At the same time it is a tribute to Judge Mack, who had the courage to stand out against his associates in support of the principle.



### Doings in Piedmont.

Mayor Craig of Piedmont, California, is making that town famous by enforcing the existing tax laws. Finding that the laws of California require property to be appraised at full value, and that building-lots in Piedmont have been grossly under-assessed, he has set out on a crusade of tax law enforcement. "We're valuing the land at what it is worth, that's all," he is reported to have said to an indignant millionaire owner. "But it isn't worth that," the owner replied. "I'll sell it for you at that for 5 per cent commission," retorted Mayor Craig, who is a real estate dealer. "Well,

a man can't afford to have a home here, that's all," was the only reply the owner made. But Mayor Craig had his retort. "That's just where you are wrong," he said; "the man who owns a home here is going to pay less this year than he did last. He's going to pay less because the land speculators and real estate men are going to pay their just share."



### William Brothers.

Within a stone's throw of the spot where Henry George was born in Philadelphia, there was in 1830 a hatter of the name of Brothers who used his leisure time for radical writing. He was known beyond his shop in those days by a periodical called the "Radical Reformer" which he published, and by one of several books he wrote—"The Rights and Wrongs of the Poor." To this hatter in that year, almost ten before the birth of Henry George, there was born a son, William Brothers, into whose hands there came a copy of "Progress and Poverty" soon after its publication. Its message seized upon him and did not let him go. Even when second childhood came naturally in his old age, he thought and spoke of the work for that message which he had done in his mature life as if he were doing it still. This devoted man died on the 27th of September at Arden, Delaware. We tell so much of his story for its historical interest in connection with the revolution that is coming into the world through such as he, peacefully beneath the boisterous surface of affairs. The details of his story are bound up in the agitations in and about Delaware which marked the earlier years of the Singletax movement.



### CHEAP LABOR.

The Capitalist protests, with great show of disinterestedness, that a protective tariff is needed solely for the benefit of Labor. Capital can take care of itself; but Labor, beset by cheap labor abroad, must be hedged about, guarded and protected, lest it perish. And though the protection asked for goes primarily to the Capitalist, in the shape of increased prices for what he has to sell, he assures us it is merely incidental. He does not need it; indeed, he would scorn to keep it. He passes it on to his employes, in order that they may not have to descend to the level of the Chinese, the Hindu, or the Egyptian.

This solicitude of the Capitalist for the welfare of Labor is beautiful. It warms one's heart, and tends to revive one's faith in the innate goodness of man. Yet there are those who question its sin-

\*See Public of June 28, page 612.