

who is wise enough to understand and brave enough to advocate the theory which reveals the means by which we shall make real progress.

LIZZIE NYE NORTHROP.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

London, England, July 24.—We are beginning to reap the first fruits of the flood of reactionary thought which has steadily made headway during the past 25 years. Education, of a sort, and freedom to combine, to speak and to think, were wrested from the privileged classes at the beginning of the last century; and the people were getting out of hand, were commencing, to use Thorold Rogers's words, "to think of their natural rights." Henry George's immortal works quickened the pace; and the clever men of the privileged classes began to fear for the continuance of their privileges. As they know full well, his inspiring thoughts have gained headway in the minds and hearts of the thoughtful amongst the disinherited, and cannot be met and overthrown in a fair fight.

This sense of insecurity, to which Lord Salisbury so successfully appealed, has consciously or unconsciously impelled the privileged to unite in defense of their privileges. The passions and prejudices, as well as the ignorance, of the masses had to be appealed to; for they realized that anything they could do would have to be done in the guise or name of democracy, and, of course, in the interest of "the working man", without whose aid they were indeed helpless. Hence it is that the enthusiasm for democracy, for the brotherhood of man, for equal rights and equal opportunities to all, regardless of color or of race, has gradually been supplanted in the public mind by imperialism, by nationalism, by a studious disregard of principles, and an appeal to selfishness and materialism.

Imperialism! What crimes have been committed in its name both by you Americans and we Englishmen. But it cannot last, unless, indeed, the masses may be induced to forge fresh fetters for their own enslavement. And this is the immediate aim of the reactionaries on this side of the water.

Protectionism and conscription, of course under new names and new pretenses, these are the trump cards of the reactionaries. Chamberlain has led the first suit; and his lead cannot be countered by the old weapons, with which the ordinary official Liberals are meeting it, and will continue to meet it unless we can stop them. If we cannot, they must lose—some of them, I suspect, would be quite glad to lose—and the coming gen-

eration will find itself enslaved and helpless in the hands of its oppressors.

There is no doubt in my mind that much ground we once thought won forever, has already been lost; and I look around in vain for men in the orthodox Liberal party capable of leading the nation on to recover it. Land reform is the "joker" (you will, I think, understand the allusion) which could win the trick; but this card the Liberal party as at present constituted will not play—though, to suit their own ends, they may play *with* it, and flourish it in the eyes of their official enemies.

In view of the present situation, we are bringing out and selling through the trade, at half price, sixpence (12 cents), a special issue of the authorized edition of Henry George's "Protection or Free Trade." So far, we have ordered 17,000 copies, and if only we can secure the necessary financial support, we shall sell 50,000 and possibly 100,000 during the coming 12 months. We shall have large double crown placards, advertising the book, all over London; and we are in treaty to have similar placards at all railway bookstalls. There is, as you well know, no better antidote to the Chamberlain poison; and we shall do our best and strain our financial resources to the breaking point to get it as widely diffused as possible.

It will be heavy and most trying work, more especially as the financial resources at our disposal are most meager; but we must take advantage of the opportunity now presented. It may be that after all the Tories are playing into our hands; for every real struggle in the past has been fought out over fiscal questions—I mean in England; and it is into the field of fiscal politics that their move will force the taxation of land values. The opportunity for really effective propaganda work has come; and unless funds fail us we shall take the fullest advantage of it.

LEWIS H. BERENS.

NEWS

Week ending Thursday, Aug. 6.

To the great Roman Catholic world, the event of the week has been the election of a successor to the late Pope Leo XIII. (p. 264) as head of their Church. The conclave of cardinals was assembled for the election in the Sistine chapel at Rome on the 31st, the number in attendance being 62, and on the 1st the voting began. The regulation two ballots were

taken, but without result. On the 2d the next two were also without result. Likewise with the two ballots of the 3d. But on the 4th a unanimous choice was made on the first ballot, the successful candidate being Giuseppe Sarto, patriarch of Venice, who has become Pope under the title of Pius X.

Pius X. is an Italian, born at Riese in 1835. He was of peasant birth, and his brother is postman and a small storekeeper in a village in Mantua. The pope was educated at Treviso and Padua. At 23 he was consecrated a priest at Castel Franco; and for 9 years following he acted as coadjutor to the parish priest of Tombolo in the province of Padua, going thence in 1867 as parish priest to the parish of Salzano. In 1875 he was elected chancellor of the bishopric of Treviso, and in 1884 Pope Leo appointed him bishop of Mantua, a place he held until 1893, when he was raised to the cardinalate and appointed patriarch of Venice.

Somewhat more definite news of the persecution of reformers in China than that which was briefly referred to editorially last week (p. 260) has since been received. It seems that the Chinese reform newspaper at Shanghai, the "Supao," is being prosecuted by the local Chinese authorities for sedition, warrants having been issued against the editor and his staff, seven persons in all, with a view to turning them over to the Chinese government for capital punishment. The editors have thus far been able to prevent the consummation of this purpose by appealing to the foreign ministers to assume jurisdiction of the matter. The ministers have not decided to comply. On the contrary, the Russian, French and American ministers favor surrendering the editors to the Chinese government. But the British minister is opposed to doing this, and upon his application to his government has received instructions in accordance with his wishes. The fact was announced in the House of Commons on the 5th, by Mr. Balfour, who said that the British minister at Peking had been telegraphically instructed that it was the opinion of the

British government that the Chinese journalists should not be surrendered.

There appear also to be other indications of a revival of the persecutions of 1898 (vol. 1, No. 25, p. 9; No. 26, p. 7; No. 27, pp. 7, 11), when the Empress dowager regained control of the democratically inclined Emperor and beheaded his democratic advisers, Kang Yu Mei alone of the prominent ones escaping by fleeing the country. With the termination of the subsequent "boxer" troubles and the foreign invasion of China (vol. III, pp. 150, 167, 184, 198, 216, 232; vol. v. p. 312) a more liberal spirit marked the imperial policy, and political discussions again arose among the Chinese. To silence these, not only is the effort being made to gain the custody of the Shanghai editors and behead them, but one reformer, Shen Chien, was beheaded on the 31st, and some forty reformers in Peking are under accusation by the Chinese censor and in danger of immediate arrest and summary execution. This is reported to have had its intended effect. The liberal Chinese, especially those who have been associated with the reformers, are said to be in such fear that it is now impossible to find one who will discuss politics. The people are afraid even to mention the execution of Shen Chien.

Disquieting rumors of a revival in the Philippines of the war for independence are leaking out through returning tourists. One of them, W. C. Deering, of Chicago, who arrived at Victoria, B. C., on the 3d, predicted in a newspaper interview there that an uprising soon is certain. He said that although the people of the United States may not be aware of the fact, the Filipinos are organizing and drilling, filibusters are continually landing arms on the coasts, and the patrol is looked upon as a farce. Schooners laden with contraband goods have no difficulty, he says, in running in their cargoes. He also reports that many deserters from the United States army and broken down British and European soldiers are in the Filipino service.

News of the Negro-lynching mania in the United States (pp. 233, 263) for the current week comes from different quarters. An attempt on the 31st to seize and lynch two Negro prisoners in West Virginia failed, but through no lack of effort on the part of the white mob. The Negroes had been arrested upon suspicion of having shot and seriously injured a railroad brakeman, and were being taken to jail by railroad. The train was signaled by the mob to stop, and when it slowed up they rushed for the prisoners, but were unable to get at them, owing to the resistance of the officers, and the skill of the trainmen, who managed to get the train under way, leaving the mob behind. The mob fired several shots through the windows of the car in which the prisoners were in custody. In Albany, N. Y., on the 2d a Negro cut a white man with a razor in a brawl, and was chased by a mob of 200 men. The mob was finally held at bay by an officer who arrested the Negro. An attempt on the 2d to lynch a Negro prisoner in Statesville, N. C., while the sheriff was taking him to Charlotte, was frustrated by the sheriff. At Smyrna, Del., on the 3d a lynching mob chased a Negro who had shot a constable while resisting arrest. With a pistol he had held his pursuers at bay and effected his escape. In Ohio a mob gathered at Belle Center on the 4th to lynch a Negro prisoner on his way to the jail at Kenton. The officers having him in custody got him safely away from this mob and also from one at Kenton which lay in wait for him there. On the same day a mob in Bartholomew county, Ind., chased a Negro into the Flat Rock river, where he drowned. In Needmore, Tenn., a Negro suburb of Lewisburg, a Negro preacher and his Negro son-in-law were lynched on the 4th by a masked mob. The mob went to the Negro's house about midnight, some 20 or 30 strong. Their intended victim tried to escape, and they shot him as he ran, killing him instantly. Nine bullet holes were found in his body. His son-in-law also tried to escape, and was shot and mortally wounded by the mob. Both the preacher and his son-in-law are reported to have

born a good reputation, and no reasons for the lynching are known. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict to the effect that the Negroes had been shot by a masked mob unknown to the jury. A similar verdict was returned on the 30th by the coroner's jury at Danville, Ill., with reference to the lynching (p. 263) and brutal murder of a Negro there. It returned a verdict of "death at the hands of persons who are unknown."

The political campaign in Ohio was opened on the 30th at Canton by the Democrats. This was a surprise to the Republicans, for the Democratic state convention will not assemble until August 25th (p. 39), and it had been supposed that there would be no activity in the campaign until that time. But Mayor Johnson's campaigning is full of surprises, and this challenge to an early and long contest was one of them. He took advantage of the meeting of the Democratic senatorial convention at Canton, to sound the keynote of the State campaign in Stark and Carroll counties with two speeches which indicated that it is the legislature rather than the governorship that the Democrats will try to carry, and that the issues they will raise will be home rule and just taxation. The convention nominated Hamilton G. De Weese as the Democratic candidate for State senator. Mr. De Weese pledged himself to support the reforms Mayor Johnson is advocating, and he is reported to be a man who can be relied upon. His Republican adversary is Robert L. Pollock, of whom Mayor Johnson, in his speech, said:

I have nothing to say of his personality, but in his public record he has always voted on the wrong side. In fact, he has never voted right. When we appealed to the State legislature to equalize the taxes on steam railroads, Pollock voted no. When the Republicans overthrew the government of Cleveland and with it the government of every city and town in the State, Pollock voted for the iniquitous code. But above all Pollock voted for the infamous curative act, and for this his name should go down in shame.

The convention indorsed the Johnson policy in its platform in these terms:

We favor home rule and just and equal taxation, and denounce the action of the