

stated. On the 1st a band of Indians of about the same size as the other captured a wagon loaded with 3,000 pounds of flour and supplies intended for the Tenth and Sixth cavalry troops. The driver was held up at the point of a rifle while the entire load was sacked, after which he was allowed to proceed with his empty wagon. The soldiers had to go on short rations. James J. Callahan, a ranchman of Arvada, Wyoming (p. 730), on his way East to see the Dartmouth-Princeton football game, reported at St. Paul that his old college mate at Dartmouth, Billie Bird's Eye, son of Chief Kannapap, was one of the leaders of the Utes. Billie Bird's Eye had given him two good seats for the football game, since he could not get away to use them himself.

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On the 3d a temporary settlement with the tribe was effected. They are to be taken back to their reservation in Utah, after a stay at Fort Meade, South Dakota. And the question of giving them new hunting grounds is to be settled later. Chiefs Red Cap and Black Whiskers are to go to Washington to confer with the President relative to their grievances. The President has approved of the arrangements, and has promised to give the chiefs a hearing on his return from Panama.

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A sympathetic comment on the Indian news of the past fortnight appeared in the form of a letter published in the Chicago Chronicle of the 3d, and written by the son of a Potawatamy chief living in Michigan. We give it exactly as printed, composed as it was by a man of alien tongue, though with a heart not very different from that of the white man:

I read in your paper today about the bloodless fite with the Utes, 100 injuns surround the U. S. cavalry who had got 100 of their ponies, and by shooting and making a big noise warhooping they got back all their ponies but 5, which them troops killed from getting away. You say injuns did not fire at them soldiers and that them soldiers did not tack them Utes as injuns were more than soldiers men and that them soldiers tell they tink them Utes will fite with little cause. Now, let me tells you I have bin wid them Utes and if white army aint careful all of men will get scalp—so them the sky fall down. Them Utes are starvng—they can't live on sand alone. When injun gets starved in one place he hunts anoder, so white men do—so them Utes be doing and so wood you and so wood I if we were in their places. It is too bad. No good man will chase a starvng deer and I can't see why a great army should hunt them poor starvng Utes. I want to read in your paper of an awful battle and that them Utes may get around the white army and kill all of men.

F. WESS,

Son of Chief Wess, Potawatamy.

Hartford, Mich., Nov. 1.

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Politics in the Hawaiian Islands.

There comes by mail from the Territory of Hawaii, the Democratic platform of that Territory, adopted in convention September 24, 1906. Some of its declarations are of peculiar importance and national interest. The principal ones of this character we report in full:

We again declare the policy of the Republican party in this Territory, whereby large areas of land and valuable water rights are still being alienated from the

public domain for the sole use of corporations or persons already possessed of large tracts of land and privileges, a positive menace to the upbuilding of an untrammelled electorate in these islands. . . . We believe the system of taxation in vogue in this Territory is increasingly iniquitous and burdensome, unscientific and expensive in its application. . . . We favor limiting sources of taxation to land values, and a graduated income tax, believing these to be the simplest of application and least expensive in collection, while they tax industry in ratio as it is benefited. . . . We pledge our candidates for the legislature to the enactment of a Direct Primary law, the Initiative and Referendum including the "Recall" and such other legislation as may be needed to put the quietus on "graft" and the "machine" in this Territory.

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British Politics.

That the House of Lords has precipitated a crisis in its own history (p. 731) becomes increasingly evident. A dispatch of the 3d thus concretely states the issue under discussion: "The Education bill as proposed by the Commons abolishes religious instruction in the public elementary schools; the amendment voted by the Lords makes such instruction compulsory during a certain number of hours each week." But of course the bare fact of the obstruction offered by the Lords to the execution of the popular will, is the issue which produces the crisis. Mr. David Lloyd-George, Member of Parliament, speaking at Spalding on the 31st, declared that it was absolutely intolerable that the House of Lords should override the decisions of the people at the last election. The government was determined to persevere with the bill. The people had outgrown the old system of catechisms and the old teachings that they were to be humble and lowly before their betters, and would no longer be content with lessons in class humility.

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The triennial London Borough Council elections occurred on the 1st, and resulted in victory for the "Municipal Reformers," formerly called "Moderates," over the more radical "Progressives." The former won 1,011 seats to the latter's 351. Some misunderstanding of this contest seems to obtain on this side of the Atlantic. The London Government Act of 1899 was passed by a Tory administration as a hostile move against the wonderful democratic development of the London County Council. By this act the county was divided into 28 Boroughs, to each of which was given a mayor, aldermen and councillors. In conjunction with the County Council this naturally produced divided and overlapping jurisdictions, resulting in extravagant administration, and in friction with the central body. A common policy is of course impossible. Moreover, as the London Speaker points out, such a metropolis of small Londons is the ideal place for the operation of private companies handling public utilities. And here we have the key to the situation. The private companies, as well as other conservative interests, have supported the Municipal Reformers at this election; and the Speaker asserts that they are already working hard to secure at the County Council elections next March the election of Councillors pledged to oppose the County Council scheme, already before

Parliament, for a municipally owned electric supply for all London. It may be added that the Municipal Reformers raised the old cry of "Reduce the Rates," but they were silent as to the means that might be adopted to achieve that very desirable end. The Progressives, on the other hand, advocated the further extension of the equalization principle, and their ultimate ideal is one rate for all London. They also advocate the taxation of land values as a means of rate relief, a proposal which the Municipal Reformers have either opposed or endeavored to postpone.

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Reforms in France.

A radical program has been expected from the new Premier, M. Georges Clemenceau (pp 703, 732). Such advanced steps as the purchase of railroads and mines by the state, have been mentioned as possibilities. Parliament assembled on the 5th, and the Premier presented his program, which, though it did not include the above-mentioned possibilities, did include—

- The application of the law separating church and state.
- The realization of workmen's pensions, the extension of the law governing labor unions and the reform of the mining laws.
- The introduction of a democratic spirit in the army by the reduction of the term of service to two years.
- The suppression of courts martial.
- Relief of the wine growers.
- A progressive income tax.

The Premier declared that the ministry intended to keep the foreign policy of France as it was, and purposed in domestic affairs to definitely instal a democratic government. A motion approving the program was carried by the great majority of 395 to 96.

NEWS NOTES

—Having been given by the Grand Jury a censure of the Chicago Tribune for libeling him, when he asked an indictment (pp. 723, 729), Mayor Dunne has brought a libel suit against the Tribune for \$100,000 damages.

—Preparations for the elections to the Russian Douma are reported as advancing rapidly. The registration lists are much shorter than those of the last election, owing to the exclusion of thousands of voters under the government's ruling in October (p. 704).

—Commander Robert E. Peary has telegraphed from Labrador that in his recent dash toward the North Pole he succeeded in reaching 87 degrees, 6 minutes, of north latitude, which is 34 miles nearer to the Pole than any other explorer has advanced—at least, than any who has lived to tell the tale.

—The International Wireless Telegraph Conference which has been sitting in Berlin during October (p. 656), signed an agreement on the 3rd as to rules of inter-communication between the different systems. The term "radio-telegraphy" was selected as the one to be used officially for this new method of communication.

—Judge Joseph E. Gary died on the 31st at the age of 85. He was distinguished as the judge who presided at the so-called "anarchist" trials at Chicago

in 1887, which resulted in the hanging of some of the accused and the imprisonment of the others. Gov. Altgeld pardoned the survivors on the ground that they had been unfairly tried and falsely convicted.

—The Secretary of the Single Tax Information Bureau (134 Clarkson St., Brooklyn) reports that for several months past their principal work has been to send literature to the subscribers to Tom Watson's Magazine, which had taken strong ground against the Single Tax proposition. Quarterly receipts had been \$91.97, with expenditures, \$83.83, leaving a balance of \$8.14.

—Captain Roald Amundsen, first navigator of the famous, long sought North West Passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and explorer of the north magnetic pole region, was entertained in Chicago between the second and the 5th by the Chicago Geographical society, the Norwegian National society, and other bodies. Captain Amundsen is on his way from San Francisco to Norway.

—The speech of Professor John W. Burgess, Theodore Roosevelt Professor at the University of Berlin, in which the Monroe doctrine and the protective tariff were declared alike obsolete, as reported last week (p. 728), has aroused great indignation among the Americans in Berlin, according to the dispatches. In the meantime the German government is distributing thousands of copies of the speech, describing it as official.

—Mme. Curie, associated with her husband, the late Professor Pierre Curie (p. 80) in the discovery of radium, inaugurated her lectureship at the college of the Sorbonne of the University of Paris (p. 206) on the 5th. Press dispatches state that: "Her lectures will be on radio activity, expounding the theory that matter is not reducible to atoms but to forms of electricity. In other words, matter, as it is understood, is nonexistent; only force exists."

—Jean Jacques Rousseau, in his own day called "the virtuous citizen of Geneva," and by later generations, including our own, regarded as a poser and a hypocrite, is being rehabilitated as to character, according to correspondence of the Chicago Tribune. Mrs. Frederika Macdonald, "long recognized as an authority on the France of Voltaire and Rousseau," has discovered that the odious characterization of Rousseau in the posthumous work called "Madam d'Epinay's Memoirs," is an interpolation arranged in accordance with notes drawn up by Rousseau's two chief defamers, which notes are preserved with the original manuscripts of the Memoirs in the Paris archives. This interpolation took the place of a suppressed story of an evidently wholly different character. Apparently the personal character of the great democrat is vindicated.

—The engineer appointed by Secretary Taft to report upon the facts as to power development at Niagara has joined with the American members of the International Waterways Commission in a recommendation to permit the admission of 160,000 electrical horse-power from the Canadian side. The result of favorable action by Secretary Taft on this recommendation would be to abstract from the Niagara River above the Falls an amount of water equal in flow, in connection with the quantity now being