

Russia.

Elections to the second Douma (p. 1115) continue to increase the strength of the radicals. The total number of members elected up to the 22nd was 410, with 108 yet to be elected. The returns up to that date have been tabulated as follows:

Monarchists	75
Octoberists and Moderates	35
Progressives	23
Constitutional Democrats (Cadets)	74
Members of the Left	152
Nationalists	40
Indefinites	11

Counted in the party of the "Left" are members of the "Group of Toil," Social Democrats, and Social Revolutionists.

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From the twenty provinces now suffering from famine (pp. 872, 1090) pitiful conditions are reported. Scurvy, "ergotism" from eating rotten grain, and other diseases caused by malnutrition, combine with insufficient warmth through lack of fuel, to produce extreme misery as well as lingering death. There is wide complaint of the misuse of Government relief, one form of abuse being the use of the rations by local officers to influence the elections. In addition to the issuance of rations by the central Government, the Zemstvos and the Red Cross organization maintain free kitchens at which hundreds of thousands of persons are fed.

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Canada's Resources in the North.

A great petroleum field, perhaps the greatest in the world, has been described to a special committee of the Canadian Senate sitting at Ottawa, in the course of an inquiry respecting the Hudson Bay route, and the resources of the North. The oil region is reported as lying between the Athabasca river and the Peace river, in the Province of Athabasca. This portion of Athabasca lies north of the Province of Alberta and east of the northern half of British Columbia. The reports included statements in regard to "the greatest gas well in the world," situated at Pelican Portage. The Government here had sunk a hole 860 feet deep when testing for oil eleven years ago. Boring was suddenly stopped by a great rush of gas, which subsequently took fire and has been blowing out and burning continuously ever since. Mr. Elihu Stuart, superintendent of forestry, testified that on the Slave river, near Fort Norman, he had passed a bank of burning coal about twenty miles in length, which Mackenzie had reported burning in 1789, and which has been burning ever since. Alleged American designs on the territory north of Canada, up to the Pole, has been a subject of discussion in the Canadian Senate, and a motion has been before the chamber asking for announcement that the time has come for Canada to make formal declaration of possession of all lands and islands situated in the north of the Dominion, and extending to the North Pole.

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One reason why we, as a people, roll in wealth, is that we haven't had time, as yet, to find out anything better to do with it.—Puck.

NEWS NOTES

—The question of woman suffrage was debated in the Italian Chamber of Deputies on the 25th.

—Ex-President Grover Cleveland delivered the Union League Club oration at Chicago on Washington's birthday.

—The engagement of Tom L. Johnson's daughter, Elizabeth Flournoy Johnson, is reported, her fiancé being Frederico Mariani, of Milan, Italy.

—Otto Goldschmidt, the husband of Jenny Lind the great singer, died in London on the 25th, at the age of 78. Mme. Goldschmidt died in 1887.

—By a vote of 163 to 14 the lower house of the State legislature of Massachusetts voted on the 20th to take the word "male" out of the Massachusetts election law.

—Reed Smoot, the Senator from Utah and a Mormon apostle, was retained in his seat in the United States Senate on the 20th by a vote of 42 to 28 against expulsion.

—Another earthquake shock was reported from Kingston, Jamaica, on the 22nd, the heaviest since the great earthquake of Jan. 14 (p. 995). Many damaged buildings collapsed.

—Senator Bailey has been acquitted by the Texas legislature of charges of corrupt relations with the Standard Oil Trust (p. 1016). The vote was 16 to 11 in the Senate and 70 to 40 in the House.

—Somewhere between \$175,000 and \$200,000 was stolen from the United States Subtreasury at Chicago some time during the third week in February. All the money taken was in bills of denominations running from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

—The immigration bill, the bill which contains the Root amendment controlling the entry into the United States of Japanese coolie labor from other countries used as half-way stations (p. 1113), was signed by the President on the 20th.

—Harry Pratt Judson, dean of the faculties of arts, literature and science at the University of Chicago, was elected to the presidency of the university on the 20th, in succession to President William Rainey Harper, who died January 10, 1906 (vol. viii, p. 674).

—A proposed constitutional amendment giving women the right to vote at all elections, which was defeated in both houses of the California legislature on the 19th, was reconsidered on the 20th in the Assembly, and adopted by the required two-thirds vote.

—The Senate of Nebraska adopted a joint memorial to Congress on the 20th in favor of an amendment to the Federal Constitution permitting women to vote. The vote on adoption was 16 to 16, and Lieutenant-Governor Hopewell decided in favor of the memorial.

—A dozen of the English woman suffragists (p. 1112) were released from prison on the morning of the 20th, and subsequently were entertained at luncheon by their associates. Much enthusiasm was aroused by the reading of congratulatory messages from the woman suffrage leagues of New York, and from the National American Woman