

Those arrested had been in attendance before the grand jury as witnesses and at the time of their arrest were in the witness room. They are Olaf A. Tvietsmoe, secretary-treasurer of the California Building Trades Council; J. E. Munsey, head of the Salt Lake Union of Structural Iron Workers, and Anton Johannsen, organizer of the California Building Trades Council. The indictments are for conspiring to transport explosives between States for criminal purposes. The arrested men were at once released on \$5,000 bail. Specifically the charge is that they were concerned in supplying the explosives with which the Lewellyn Iron Works at Los Angeles were dynamited December 25, 1910, and for which the elder McNamara is serving a fifteen year sentence upon his plea of guilty. [See vol. xiv, page 1281.]



### The Singletax in the State of Washington.

In the face of the popular vote, the Everett City Commission in the State of Washington decided on the 27th by 9 to 4 to exclude the Singletax from the proposed new charter, but agreed to submit it as a separate proposition when the new charter goes before the people for adoption. [See vol. xiv, p. 1194.]



A Singletax amendment to the Seattle charter was adopted on the 27th by the City Council for submission to the people of Seattle at the municipal election on the 5th of March. It is the amendment proposed by Councilman Oliver T. Erickson, and if adopted will exempt all personal property and real estate improvements after July 12, 1912, and abolish all other sources of city revenue except land values. [See vol. xiv, pp. 1053, 1245.]



### China's Revolution.

Mongolia, the vast dependency of China to the north, and Chinese Turkestan to the northwest, proclaimed their independence on the 29th—an independence nominally autonomous, but manifestly demanded under Russian influence and leading to Russian control.



The Premier, Yuan Shi Kai, who has continued to refuse to yield to the Republican program proposed at the Peace conference at Shanghai, has succeeded in raising temporary funds for the Imperial troops from the Empress Dowager. On the 28th the Throne agreed to the Premier's suggestion—a suggestion entirely agreeable to the Republicans—that the question of future government of China be left to a national representative convention. On the 30th the Peace conference at Shanghai made the following suggestions

for the composition of such a convention: Each of the eighteen Provinces of China proper will, according to the scheme adopted, form one section; inner and outer Mongolia will each compose one section, and eastern and western Tibet also one section each. Each section to be entitled to send three delegates to the convention. Each section to have three votes in the convention, even if the full delegation from the section is not present. The delegates to be summoned to attend by telegraph, partly in the name of the Provisional Republican government, and partly in the name of the Imperial government. The Premier has refused assent to these plans, and has called for the resignation of his representative at the Peace Conference, Tang Shao Yi, who had agreed to them. [See volume xiv, page 1312.]



In the meantime a Republican delegate convention claiming to represent the eighteen Provinces of China proper, but called by conservatives only a military committee, in session at Nanking, on the 28th elected Dr. Sun Yat Sen President (or Provisional President) of the United Provinces. Dr. Sun was inaugurated on the 1st at Nanking, the new Republican capital, as it was the ancient capital before the subjugation of the Chinese by the Manchus. One of the first acts of the new President was to send word to the Chinese all over the world that with the day of the inauguration, January 1, 1912, China was to begin to reckon her dates by the Gregorian calendar of the Western world, thus advancing the Chinese new year by about six weeks, and dispensing with a calendar claiming twenty-five centuries of antiquity.

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## NEWS NOTES

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—The Toledo City Council passed a street railway franchise under suspension of the rules on the 3d, which provides for 3-cent fares on every line in the city, with universal transfers.

—An Executive order, issued by President Taft on the 26th, has modified a previous Executive order in such manner as to permit Christian Scientists to practice healing in the Zone of the Panama Canal.

—At the trial on the 27th of Isaac Harris and Max Blanck for manslaughter in connection with the fire of March 25, 1911, in which 147 of their employees—workers in the factory of the Triangle Waist Co.—lost their lives, the jury acquitted the accused. [See vol. xiv, page 371.]

—The Maine Tax Reform League adopted a program at its Lewiston meeting in December in favor of enforcing a new law in Maine for recording land values separately from improvement values and for securing a Constitutional amendment permitting scientific property classifications for taxing purposes. The officers elected are as follows: President, Will-