

doubtless lost some from Singletaxers. He was not making a Singletax campaign. His small majority was therefore an almost certain indication of defeat for the amendments. When the vote on these had been counted, the result was announced as follows:

Griffith amendment (progressive exemption of improvements and increase of land value taxation):

Against	31,450
For	8,032

Adverse majority.....	23,418
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Erickson amendment (immediate abolition of all municipal taxation except upon land values):

Against	27,820
For	12,191

Adverse majority.....	15,629
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An interesting report upon the campaign and its result will be found in Editorial Correspondence over the signature of Margaret A. Haley of Chicago. [Also see current volume, page 225.]



Another Singletax Campaign in Seattle.

Immediately after the defeat of the Singletax amendment to the city charter of Seattle by 27,820 to 12,191 on the 5th, the active workers for the amendment organized for submitting the same amendment at the councilmanic election next year. The name of the organization is The Singletax Club. Councilman Oliver T. Erickson is president; Thorwald Siegfried is secretary, and Mary O'Meara is treasurer. The identical amendment of this year is to be proposed next year, and a comprehensive personal canvass of the polling list is to begin at once.



The Singletax in Vancouver.

Owing to the defeat of Mr. Taylor for reelection as Mayor of Vancouver, it was widely reported a few weeks ago that the Singletax, which gave world-wide distinction to his administrations, had been repudiated. There has never been any reason for such an inference, and the inference is now discredited by the action of the City Council. On motion of Alderman Ramsey, and without a dissenting vote, although Tories control the Council, that body adopted a by-law or ordinance on the 4th which exempts real estate improvements from taxation for 1912. To understand the limitations of this action, it must be remembered that the fiscal method in Vancouver is unlike that in the United States, under which the sources of taxation once decided upon continue until altered. In Vancouver the sources as well as the expenditures of public revenues are decided upon anew each year. What the Vancouver Council has done, therefore, is to reenact the Singletax. Explaining it, the Vancouver World (ex-Mayor Taylor's paper) says:

This means that the progressive policy inaugurated in 1910 and the plank to cover which figured so prominently in former-Mayor Taylor's platform on both the occasions when he was elected, will be continued. Consequently, as far as city taxes are concerned, Vancouver retains the position of being one of the few metropolitan cities of the American continent to derive its general revenue entirely from a tax on land, and continues to be "a city set upon a hill—whose light cannot be hid," as a well known politico-economic writer declared last year.

[See current volume, page 127.]



In Memory of Altgeld.

At Orchestra Hall, Chicago, on the 10th, the tenth anniversary of the death of John P. Altgeld, Governor of Illinois from 1892 to 1896, was observed by a large audience assembled under the auspices of the Altgeld Memorial Association at a meeting arranged and managed by Governor Altgeld's friend, Joseph S. Martin, who organized and managed all the preceding memorial meetings. Daniel Cruice presided; Father Cox made the invocation; the singing was by the Sinai Congregation choir; addresses were made by ex-State Senator Samuel Alschuler, ex-Mayor Edward F. Dunne, Herbert S. Bigelow (president of the Ohio Constitutional Convention), and William Jennings Bryan. [See vol. ix., pp. 1154, 1163, 1177, 1183, 1191; vol. x., 97; vol. xiii., pp. 853, 857; and current volume, pages 206, 219.]



The Mexican Insurrection.

The vanguard of the insurrectos in Mexico left Chihuahua on the 8th, headed southward as a beginning to General Pascual Orozco's threatened campaign against the City of Mexico. The Madero government is sending troops northwest to Torreón to meet the insurrectos. Shaken by the growing strength of opposition, the government has obtained confidence from a monster demonstration in favor of peace and in support of the constituted government held in the City of Mexico on the 10th. [See current volume, page 228.]



The United States war department is strengthening its forces on the Mexican frontier, sent there for the enforcement of the neutrality laws. [See current volume, page 159.]



China Reorganizing.

Looting and rioting on the part of the unpaid soldiery of north China, lately of Imperial affiliation, continues, and is only partly controlled by Yuan Shi Kai's government. Also a revolt of 8,000 soldiers at one point in south China—Canton—is reported, on what ground is not stated.

Though foreigners are seldom molested the foreign nations protect their legations carefully, and police certain sections of the railways. More American troops are being hurried from Manila to Peking on call of Minister Calhoun. [See current volume, page 227.]



Yuan Shi Kai was formally inaugurated provisional President of the Republic of China on the 10th, at Peking, in the presence of a great gathering of delegates, envoys, military and naval officers, and other prominent personages. Yuan, who was in military uniform, read a declaration promising faithfully to develop the Republic, observe the constitutional laws, and retire when the National Assembly appointed a permanent President. Most of those who assembled were attired either in uniform or European dress. The Constitution of the Republic was finally approved by the National Assembly, sitting at Nanking, on the 11th. By the Constitution the supreme power is placed in the hands of the National Assembly. A notable feature is that all the acts of the President require the approval of the Assembly, and this body also has complete control of the cabinet. The Assembly elects the President and Vice-President, and may pass any law over the Executive's veto at its pleasure. It was reported on the 11th that Dr. Sun Yat Sen will turn over the great seal of the Presidential office to Tang Shao Yi, Yuan's personal representative, and elected Premier by the Assembly on the 11th, as soon as the details of launching the Constitutional government can be accomplished. Pending this, Dr. Sun continues to hold office as actual acting President. A cable dispatch to the Chicago Tribune dated the 9th says that President Yuan Shi Kai will urge his cabinet "to impose a land or singletax in order to raise money for the government. The President believes this plan of taxation will be the best for the country."

NEWS NOTES

—In commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the settling of Florida, an exposition under the direction of the State and national governments will be held at St. Augustine in April, 1913.

—Turkey has given definiteness to her threat to close the Dardanelles on account of the Italian war for the acquisition of Tripoli, by notifying the Powers that the Dardanelles will for the present be closed at night to all navigation. [See current volume, pages 206, 228.]

—What is described as "the first representative exhibition of diversified clay products ever held," began at Chicago in the Coliseum on the 7th. It is explained that hitherto the only large display was held in London in connection with the regular building materials exposition, but that it exhibited none

of the specialized forms of clay products, and was moreover only one feature of a much more general exhibition.

—Clarence S. Darrow's counsel having been furnished the informal notes of missing testimony before the grand jury, and the Los Angeles court having ruled that this is sufficient under the law, Mr. Darrow's trial has been set for May 14th. [See current volume, page 207.]

—The Presidential preference primary bill before the Massachusetts legislature passed the Senate on the 6th by a vote of 17 to 5 without discussion. It provides for direct election of district delegates to national conventions and for popular preferential voting on Presidential candidates.

—In the lower house of the Michigan legislature on the 6th, Governor Osborne's bill for Presidential primaries in April was set aside with a bill for such primaries in June; but on the 7th this action was reversed and a preferential primaries bill for the first Monday of April was adopted. The latter bill binds delegates to national conventions to support the primary nominee of their respective parties for President. [See current volume, page 206.]

—The monthly statement of the United States Treasury Department for February, 1912, shows the following thus far for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1912 [See current volume, page 228]:

Gold reserve fund.....	\$150,000,000.00
Available cash	121,892,703.79

Total	\$271,892,703.79
On hand at close of last fiscal year, June 30, 1911	238,200,599.23

Decrease	\$ 16,307,895.44
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—More fighting in Ecuador was reported on the 6th. The Conservatives, headed by General Julio Andrade, had attempted to "rush" the government and gain control of the Republic at the capital city, Quito; but they were repulsed and Andrade was killed. The same reports stated that General Leonidas Plaza, leader of the victorious faction in the January fighting, had refused the provisional Presidency, and that Dr. Francisco Andrade Marin, president of the Chamber of Deputies, had temporarily assumed the position and was attempting to form a government. [See current volume, page 109.]

—A labor conference at Kansas City is announced for April 15, at which from 40 to 50 railway systems west of Chicago are expected to be represented, for the purpose of organizing a federation of shop employees to include all men employed in the mechanical departments of the railroads. This movement is explained as having been caused by the fact that as soon as strikes of shopmen were called on the Illinois Central and the Harriman lines, the other railroads went to the assistance of those which were crippled. One of the leaders is reported as saying that "the next time a railroad strike is called it will be a good one, and hit all the roads at once." [See current volume, page 159.]

—The suppression of a revolution in Hayti back in 1908, in the days of Nord Alexis, was followed by an unusual military execution when on the 15th of March of that year a group of men, accused of political conspiracy, were shot to death. General