

Until the roar of the cannon has ceased and the war fever subsided, better things cannot get a hearing.

The land-value taxation leagues are all fairly well started on their winter campaign. A new one at Huddersfield has already arranged some thirty meetings throughout their "diocese", and the Political Economy classes are at work all over the ground.

Parliament is engaged in putting through the Home Rule Bill. Yet we have an almost daily skirmish on the land question. The Tories seem determined to drag out of Lloyd George what his intentions are, and there is a good deal of intellectual "sparring" between the Tories and the hero of "Limehouse."

At Cardiff we are on the way to a thoroughly good organization of our forces. There is a band of young fellows in Wales who are determined to have something done. A representative meeting is to be held at Cardiff on the 9th of November. They want an agent or organizer, a competent man to deal with the Welsh men in the valleys and on the hillsides, almost entirely a mining population ready and eager for our ideas. Of course we have to balance this demand for an organizer against the demand in other places in view of the financial support we can command. There is little or no money in Wales—nothing to speak of for us; but there is a glorious opportunity of cultivating most fertile and inviting ground. It is the case all over. I sometimes get weary waiting on men to match Joseph Fels's generous offer, but we must make the best of it.

JOHN PAUL.

NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of *The Public* for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Tuesday, November 12, 1912.

Election Results—The Presidency.

No official declaration of election returns has yet been made, but the unofficial reports show such decisive results on the Presidency as to preclude the possibility of important changes in the official count. [See current volume, page 1063.]

The unofficial returns (incomplete) give Woodrow Wilson (Democrat) a popular vote of 5,740,332, Theodore Roosevelt (Progressive) 3,856,708, William H. Taft (Republican) 3,329,849, Eugene V. Debs (Socialist) 832,700, Eugene W. Chafin (Prohibitionist) 301,321. On the basis of these reports, the electoral vote will be 413 for Wilson, 77 for Roosevelt and 11 for Taft. In comparison with the Presidential election of 1908 the above returns for Roosevelt and Taft fall nearly 500,000 short of Taft's vote in 1908; Wilson's falls more

than 600,000 short of Bryan's, Debs's is more than doubled, and Chafin's is increased by about 50,000.

Election Results—Congress.

The respective parties in the next House of Representatives will be divided about as follows: Republicans 132, Democrats 292, Progressives 11.

One Socialist who holds a seat in the present Congress, Victor L. Berger, is displaced in the next by a Republican nominated on the Democratic ticket—the result of a virtual fusion against the Socialists. Mr. Berger's vote is larger this year of his defeat than two years ago when he was elected.

Henry George, Jr., and David J. Lewis, the only pronounced Singletaxers in the present Congress, both of whom are re-elected, will be reinforced in the next Congress by seven others at the least, making the Singletax group in the next Congress as follows:

Henry George, Jr., New York (Democrat).
David J. Lewis, Maryland (Democrat).
Warren Worth Bailey, Pennsylvania (Democrat).
George L. Record, New Jersey (Progressive).
Robert G. Bremner, New Jersey (Democrat).
Stanley Bowdle, Ohio (Democrat).
Robert Crosser, Ohio (Democrat).
R. E. Dowdell, South Dakota (Progressive).
Edward Keating, Colorado (Progressive).

Among the other successful candidates for Congress are—

William Kent (independent), California.
Frank Buchanan (Democrat), Illinois.
Clyde H. Tavenner (Democrat), Illinois.
H. T. Rainey (Democrat), Illinois.
Martin D. Foster (Democrat), Illinois.
J. M. Graham (Democrat), Illinois.
Charles M. Thomson (Progressive), Illinois.
Victor Murdock (Republican), Kansas.
Thomas C. Thacher (Democrat), Massachusetts.
Edward Frensdorf (Democrat), Michigan.
James Manahan (Progressive), Minnesota.
Champ Clark (Democrat), Missouri.

Although the point is not yet settled, there is fair probability of a majority of two Democrats in the Senate. [See current volume, page 1063.]

Election Results—Governors of States.

Edward F. Dunne (Democrat) was elected in Illinois by a plurality of 110,654, receiving 406,293 to 295,639 for Charles S. Deneen (Republican) and 277,886 for Frank H. Funk (Progressive). In Michigan, Woodbridge N. Ferris (Democrat) was elected by a plurality of about 10,000; but James W. Helme, his running mate for Lieutenant-Gov-

ernor, was defeated. William Sulzer (Democrat) was elected in *New York* by a larger plurality than Wilson's. James M. Cox (Democrat) was elected in *Ohio*, also by a larger plurality than Wilson's.



Election Results—State Legislatures.

For members of State legislatures it is impossible here to name all the candidates whose election must be particularly gratifying to readers of *The Public*; but the election to the legislature of Ohio of Herbert S. Bigelow, who was president of the recent Constitutional Convention of that State, is of national interest. He was elected at the top of the poll for the Hamilton county delegation, his vote being 44,029, the next highest being 43,025. Upon his election Mr. Bigelow published an address, announcing his candidacy for Speaker, in which he said:

The discrimination of the voters of Hamilton County in favor of the Democratic legislative ticket can have but one meaning. The Democrats were publicly committed to the program of carrying into effect all of the Constitutional amendments. The next State legislature, under the leadership of Mr. Cox, is, I am confident, going to perform its great task to the complete satisfaction of the progressives of all parties. In view of the unusual amount of legislation to be enacted I favor an early meeting of the elected members, in order that the biggest subjects of legislation may be assigned to provisional committees for special work during the next two months. Workmen's compensation, minimum wage, State-wide primary, franchise, income and inheritance taxes, good roads, physical valuation of public utilities, and other matters of major importance should be receiving during the next two months much consideration by citizens and civic bodies. Something like our united Constitution committees should be revived at once to hold regular sessions, so that the best talent in the community may be brought to the assistance of the legislature. To the Cleveland delegation might be assigned the work of preparing the home rule legislation. Cincinnati might specialize on workmen's compensation and the public utility question. Toledo, Columbus and Dayton might be put to work on other subjects. This is a new order of things, and the people ought to be invited in to help in the making of their own laws. The game of the corporation lobby will be to work under cover for the election of a Speaker of the House, through whom committees can be named and legislation controlled. Prompt steps should be taken to prevent this. I therefore announce that I am a candidate for Speaker of the House.



In New Jersey Charles O'Connor Hennessy was re-elected to the lower house of the legislature, where he made a fine democratic Democracy record last year. At his re-election he led his county ticket (Bergen county) by several hundred votes.

In Illinois the legislature will lack a majority for any party. From present appearances it will consist in the lower house of 75 Democrats, 53 Republicans, 22 Progressives, and 3 Socialists, and in the Senate of 25 Democrats, 25 Republicans and 1 Progressive. One of the three Socialists is Seymour Stedman, long a well known Socialist of Chicago and a lawyer in active practice. The others are Christian Madsen and Joseph M. Mason, both of Chicago. All three were elected under the minority representation law, which allows "plumping;" that is, every ballot for legislative candidates counts 1, 1½ or 3 for each, according to whether 3, 2 or 1 of the candidates for the 3 seats from a legislative district may be voted for on the ballot.



One of the candidates for the lower house in Wisconsin, whose election calls for special attention, is E. Nordman of Polar. He was elected by a three-to-one vote upon this platform:

I stand for permitting (not forcing) towns, cities and villages to exempt personal property and improvements from taxes. This is proposed frankly for the purpose of putting a check on the evils of land speculation and for encouraging improvements on land and the development of the country.



Election Results—Woman Suffrage.

Under the Initiative and Referendum, woman suffrage was adopted in Oregon (after five unsuccessful attempts), Arizona, Kansas and Michigan, and was defeated in Wisconsin. The States in which suffrage is now conceded to women, therefore number 10, being Wyoming, Colorado, Washington, California, Idaho, Utah, Kansas, Oregon, Arizona and Michigan. Their combined Electoral vote is 70. [See current volume, page 1067.]



Mrs. Harriet Stanton Blatch, president of the Women's Political Union, announced at New York on the 9th that 83 of the new members of the New York legislature in the lower House, and 43 in the Senate, have pledged themselves to work and vote for an equal suffrage bill at the first session.



Election Results—Judicial Recall.

The Constitutional provision for recall of judges, which President Taft eliminated from the Arizona Constitution on the application of Arizona for Statehood, was restored by referendum at the recent election. [See vol. xiv, pp. 866, 875, 1292; current volume, pages 181, 419, 553.]



Election Results—Direct Legislation in Wyoming.

An amendment adopting the Initiative and

Referendum in Wyoming was carried by an overwhelming majority.



Election Results—Prohibition.

State-wide prohibition of intoxicants, both manufacture and sale, was carried in West Virginia by 75,000 majority. Prohibition in Colorado was defeated.



Election Results—The Singletax.

Singletax measures voted on under Initiative and Referendum in Missouri and Oregon were defeated in each State by large majorities. [See current volume, page 1065.]



In Kansas City, *Missouri*, the vote for Amendment No. 6 (the Singletax) was 12,364 for, to 21,575 against; on Amendment No. 7 for a tax commission it was 13,878 for, to 18,057 against. In St. Louis the vote on No. 6 was 47,628 for, to 64,778 against; on No. 7 it was 53,446 for, to 59,014 against. Reports for the State as a whole are not yet at hand; but the affirmative vote in country districts was small relatively to the negative.



In *Oregon* the three county measures appear to have polled about one-third of the vote; the State-wide measure somewhat more. Definite figures are not yet reported. Following the report of probable results, William S. U'Ren announced his candidacy for Governor at the next election. The *Portland Oregonian* of the 7th quoted him as saying:

You can say right now that I am a candidate for the Governorship. I realize that the election does not take place until 1914, but I am getting in on the ground floor early. The Singletax, abolition of the State Senate, and Proportional Representation in the election of the legislature, the short ballot and the minimum wage law, will be the main planks in my platform. I am mightily satisfied and encouraged with the result of the election yesterday. The reactionaries, with the cunningly prepared "majority amendments," attacked the Initiative of the people. Today's results show how badly they were defeated. It has been an election of the greatest satisfaction to us Progressives. We saved the county home tax, but we didn't get the Singletax. There are many things, however, that we didn't get, but we are not worrying about them. While we didn't win the Singletax proposition, we did get a big vote on it, and it was the vote of the intelligent people. There will be more of them next time, and you can rest assured that the Initiative petitions to get this and other measures on the ballot next time will be in circulation before the end of the year. It is no new thing with us not to get everything we work for. It took us ten years to get

the Initiative, and we are not going to get discouraged because we lost out on a few things this time.

The *Daily News* of Portland for November 6th, quoting Mr. U'Ren's announcement of his candidacy for Governor, declared itself for "U'Ren from the jump-off."



A taxation home-rule amendment before the voters of *California*, intended to permit municipalities to adopt the Singletax for local purposes, was defeated. Full figures are not yet reported, but the favorable majority was about 9,596 in San Francisco and about 10,000 in Los Angeles. The adverse majorities appear to have been in the country districts. With 20 counties yet to hear from, the negative plurality was 28,196 in a total of 305,266. [See current volume, pages 1062, 1065.]



In Everett, the fourth city in size of *Washington* State, the Singletax, after having been once adopted by a small majority and subsequently defeated, was re-adopted on the 5th by a vote of 2 to 1. In form, the measure provides for exempting personal property and improvements progressively at the rate of 25 per cent a year until total exemption of such property for local taxes is reached. The measure carried every ward and in round numbers the vote was 4,200 for to 2,200 against. [See current volume, pages 15, 422.]



Kaufman's Election in Washington.

W. H. Kaufman, an avowed Singletaxer, leads the successful State ticket in Washington for the office of State Land Commissioner. His platform demanded that all future increase in what he calls "the population-value of natural resources" be kept for all the people by collecting a fair royalty from every one who controls any natural resource for private profit, these royalties to be distributed to the people in annual dividends after deducting the necessary expenses of the State. Here are some of his campaign slogans: "Tax stumps, exempt cows; then watch the country grow." "Land for use, not for speculation." "Idle land makes idle men; taxing idle land into use will guarantee two jobs to the man and will also enable the State, like any other well managed corporation, to declare dividends." "Every dollar speculators get without creating, you and I have created without getting." "Merchants get no trade from idle land, nor from crab-infested tide flats." Mr. Kaufman was first elected to the assessorship of Whatcom county, Washington, two years ago. [See vol. xiii, p. 1130; vol. xiv, p. 124.]



The Progressive Party in Illinois.

At the first meeting after election, of the