

The vote upon Mr. Chaplin's amendment striking out from the budget bill the clause repealing the war duties on grain, being now taken, the amendment failed by 424 to 28. Some Conservatives abstained from voting and some Unionists voted for the amendment; but a majority of the Conservatives and also of the Unionists joined the Irish and the Liberals in voting against the protective tariff on grain.

German politics also are affected by the protection question. It is avowedly a landlord question there (vol. v, pp. 585, 600), the agrarian interests and influences constituting the strength of the protection movement, which has advanced so far as to have but little political opposition outside of the Socialist party. The general parliamentary campaigns began about the middle of May and are still proceeding, though but little information regarding them is cabled. At first only slight interest was manifested, but the campaigns are said now to be warming up, the fight being between the Socialists and different varieties of anti-Socialist parties. On the part of the anti-Socialists appeals are made for loyalty to the monarchy, to the church, to the stable institutions, and to the rights of property against the "Godless, lawless, propertyless, greedy disintegrators or dreamers." The Socialists, laying but little stress on doctrinal points, are making an opportunist campaign along anti-protection lines. They demand lower tariffs that there may be cheaper bread and meat. Freedom of speech is also one of the demands they emphasize.

The principal Socialist leader, August Bebel, who has long been a member of the Reichstag and is now a candidate before nine constituencies, predicts an increase in the Socialist membership of the new Reichstag to from 58 to 80, and an increase in the popular vote of 1,000,000, which would carry the aggregate up to 3,000,000. Edward Bernstein, the leader of the opportunist element in the party, makes about the same prediction. But the Socialist organ, the Berlin Vorwärts, expects the party to elect 100 members. Even the opposition concede some gain for the Socialists. There is a Socialist candidate now in every one of the 397 districts.

No matter how successful the Socialists may be at the polls, their victory will be moral rather than political in its influence and effect; for the parliamentary districts are so gerrymandered that even an overwhelming popular majority would still leave the party hopelessly in the minority in the Reichstag. These districts were mapped out in 1869, in accordance with a constitutional provision that there should be one representative for each 100,000 inhabitants (and for any residue of over 50,000 within each State), and that the constituencies should be multiplied and rearranged from time to time so as to preserve this proportion. The first requirement was carried out at the time; but the second has never been carried out. The consequences, in the concrete, are very striking. Thus, to consider only the number of representatives, Prussia has 235 where she should have 345, Hamburg 3 instead of 8, Saxony 23 instead of 42, while in some other States the divergence is slight, and Alsace-Lorraine have even a representative too many. The arrangement of the constituencies is even worse. In Berlin at the last election one constituency had 90,657 inhabitants, another 328,753, another 409,934, and another 586,926. In the Berlin neighborhood an agrarian constituency had 68,118, and a labor constituency 505,395. All the great towns suffered in the same way. In Munich 327,713 people had one representative; in Leipzig, 334,569; in Dortmund, 303,360; in Bochum-Elfenkirchen, 429,903; Elberfeld, Essen, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt, Dresden, Stuttgart, Kiel, Cologne all contained gigantic constituencies. These conditions tell with peculiar force against the Socialist party, and in favor of the agrarian and other aristocratic interests. They are perpetrated for the purpose, doubtless, of keeping the Socialists out of power in the Reichstag. Although the government is ostensibly holding aloof from the campaign now in progress, the emperor's ministers are reported by press dispatches to be using their influence for two distinct purposes—the overthrow of the Socialists and the election of candidates favorable to commercial treaties and preferential tariffs.

The French have made a destructive military raid upon Moorish tribes near the eastern boundary of Morocco. It consisted in an attack upon Figuig, in the French Soudan

region. The French governor-general, Jounart, had recently visited Figuig, which is a fortified oasis where the desert natives find refuge, and was received with rifle shots that killed several of his escort. It was with difficulty that the rest of his party escaped. To teach these natives a lesson in civilization, a punitive expedition of 4,000 troops was consequently sent out. It approached Figuig on the 8th and bombarded it for several hours, destroying a multitude of houses. Part of the French fire was concentrated upon the mosque, which was blown to pieces. This structure is described by the dispatches as "much venerated," and its destruction as "expected to have a great moral effect." The Moors replied to the French bombardment, but there was no loss on the French side. An opportunity was given by the French to the women and children to get out of the town before the bombardment began. After it was over, the French withdrew to Djenaned-Dar, there to await offers of submission, the design being, if offers of submission were not made, to bombard other towns in the Figuig oasis. To avoid misconception in Europe, France has formally notified the European powers that she has no intention of taking Moroccan territory.

As this page goes to press a startling report comes in from Servia. A little before midnight on the 10th a revolution broke out at Belgrade, the capital, under the leadership of Maj. Angikovics, whose troops shot and killed King Alexander, Queen Draga, the queen's sister, her brother Nikodem, Premier Markovitch, the ministers Petrovitch and Tudrovics, Gen. Paslovich (formerly war minister), and some members of the royal guard. Prince Karageorgevitch, a Montenegrin now in Switzerland, has been proclaimed king by the revolutionists, who have formed a new government under Jovan Avakumovics as premier, and revived the constitution of April 6, 1901. The new ministers have summoned parliament to meet at Belgrade on the 15th.

Belated reports of a massacre by Turkish troops at Smerdash were published herein on the 5th. The massacre took place on the 21st of May. It seems that the village of Smerdash was occupied by a band of insurgents, who withdrew to the mountains upon the arrival of the Turks. For this reason the inhabit-