

speech for the defense to the jury following a five days' opening speech for the prosecution. The defense rests upon the theory that only three of the defendants were concerned in the conspiracy, and that they are the three witnesses for the prosecution (including McManigal) who have pleaded guilty. The taking of testimony began on the 9th. [See current volume, page 973.]



Home Rule Campaign in California.

To defeat the pending amendment initiated in California and to be voted on at the general election in November, which provides for municipal home rule in taxation, California real estate interests have organized an "Anti-Singletax League." Since the people of localities would be empowered by this amendment to exempt property from taxation for local purposes, and as—to quote their declaration—"the men back of the movement to secure the adoption of the amendment are those engaged in promulgating the theory of Singletax," the Anti-Singletax League opposes local option in taxation lest localities take advantage of it to exempt all property values except land values. [See current volume, pages 754, 843.]



Important Municipal Elections in Great Britain.

Associated Press reports of the 12th from London tell of an active campaign now in progress in Great Britain between the various political parties in anticipation of municipal elections to be held in November. The issue, say these dispatches—

between the Moderates, who now control most of the boroughs, and the Progressives has become so sharp that the campaign is as exciting as a Parliamentary contest. Each borough has its own particular pet problem, but running through all of them is the feeling that the Moderates represent the privately controlled interests while the Progressives stand for the public control of utilities.

[See vol. x, pp. 34, 369; vol. xiii, pp. 218, 228.]



Italo-Turkish Peace Reported.

Italy on the 12th gave Turkey three days' grace to decide whether a peace should be settled between them, or the war continued. On the 15th, the Italian and Turkish representatives in session at Ouchy, Switzerland, signed the protocol of a peace treaty which ends the war between Italy and Turkey. The terms are thus summed up in the dispatch of the Associated Press:

The treaty will provide for absolute sovereignty of Italy in Libya, without formal recognition there of Italy by Turkey; free exercise of religious authority by the Khalif; Turkey to withdraw her regular troops from Libya; Italy to pay an indemnity equivalent to Libya contributions to the Ottoman treasury; restitution of the captured islands to Turkey, with guaran-

tees for the Christian people; no indemnity payable by either side toward the cost of the war, and re-establishment of former diplomatic and commercial relations.

[See current volume, pages 922, 948.]



The Balkan War.

War broke in the Balkan peninsula on the 8th, as reported last week, when a warning issued by Austria and Russia in the name of the great Powers was forestalled by only a few hours by a declaration of war issued by the tiny little kingdom of Montenegro (the Black Mountain country looking down on the Adriatic). The Montenegrins under their old King Nicholas proceeded to attack a strong Turkish position opposite the Montenegrin town of Podgoritz, the headquarters of the Montenegrin troops. The conflict resulted in the capture on the 9th by the Montenegrins of the Turkish position on Detchitch mountain, commanding the road to Scutari, with the surrender of the Turkish commander and his officers and the bulk of his troops. The Montenegrins have followed this victory with a series of like successes, one point after another falling into their hands, but not without serious losses to themselves. It is said that these Montenegrin successes are regarded as unimportant in Constantinople, where directions are being given to bring over troops from Asia, with the expectation that in a few days the effective fighting force of European Turkey will be brought up to 400,000 men. While up to date no other of the allied Balkan states has formally declared war on Turkey, intervention has been rejected, and Greece, Servia and Bulgaria are mobilizing rapidly, and irregular fighting, with massacres and the burning of villages, occurring all along the frontiers. By the 13th Greece had 125,000 men under arms, with Greeks arriving daily from abroad. A large contingent had already reached there from America. Greeks and Bulgarians from all parts of the United States continue to hasten to their home countries. In the meantime, 80,000 Russians have been collected on the Russian frontier, further threatening the peace of Europe; and the Austrian foreign minister, Mr. Von Berchtold, said for his own country on the 10th: "We have important interests which we will protect at any cost." [See vol. xiv, p. 828; current volume, page 947.]



The representatives of the great Powers handed a collective note to the Turkish government on the 10th, as follows, according to the Associated Press dispatches:

The undersigned Ambassadors of Austria-Hungary, Great Britain, France, Russia and Germany have been instructed by their respective governments to inform the Sublime Porte that the five Powers take