

the engineering rule under which we estimate the future population of a city, or the future earnings of a railroad, by the percentage of increase shown in preceding years,—applying this rule to the increase in the value of land within the city (not considering improvements), and we find that within 16 years the present value of the land of the whole greater city, namely, 4,555 million dollars, will have doubled, and that in sixteen years more the value will again double.

Such a continuance of increase as this would, of course be ridiculous to expect. If the rent were figured at 5 per cent, and were to equal, as it would, 225 million dollars per year, and if that rent were to be double this amount in sixteen years, and double again in thirty-two years, it is obvious that, notwithstanding that this has been the history of the development of land values in New York City, it could not so continue.

Somewhere the increase in land value must stop. And it would in fact stop with a panic caused by the removal of the business of the city to communities where the burden would be less.



Is it not evident that, without appealing to ethical considerations, the business community must protect itself from an increase in the expense of doing business which is driving business away? Or shall we wait until the exodus of business from New York assumes proportions sufficiently large to stop the growth of the city?

FREDERICK L. CRANFORD.

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## NEWS NARRATIVE

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

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Week ending Tuesday, April 16, 1912.

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### A Great Ocean Disaster.

Word was sent out from Newfoundland in the early morning of the 15th that wireless calls for help had been received from the White Star Steamer *Titanic*, which had struck an iceberg at 10:25 on the evening before. The *Titanic* was the largest steamship afloat. She had left Southampton for New York on the 10th on her maiden voyage, carrying 325 first-class passengers, 285 second-class passengers, 710 steerage passengers, and a crew and service of 860 persons. Wireless appeals and directions as to location had been sent out from the sinking ship, and were caught by the *Carpathia* of the Cunard line, by the *Virginian* and the *Parisian* of the Allan line; by the *Olympic* of the White Star line, only second in size to the *Titanic*; by the *Baltic*, and four steamers of the two German lines. Later dispatches state that the *Titanic* sank at 2:20 on the morning of the 15th, barely four hours after she was struck—at

a point just south of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, and 600 miles southeast of Halifax. None of the steamers arrived before the great ship went down. The *Carpathia* reached the spot three hours later, and rescued 868 persons from tossing lifeboats—most of them women and children. The loss of life as we go to press is estimated at 1,312 persons. Of the 328 persons reported by name as having been saved, 79 are men, 233 are women, and 16 are children. Among the passengers who were probably not saved were W. T. Stead, the English editor and author; F. D. Millet, the artist; Major Archibald Butt, aide to President Taft; John Jacob Astor (Mrs. Astor being probably among the saved) and Benjamin Guggenheim of New York, and J. G. Widener of Philadelphia.



### Home Rule for Ireland.

The long expected bill on Irish home rule was introduced in the British House of Commons on the 11th by the Prime Minister, who said of the cardinal principle of the bill that it retains "the supreme authority of the Imperial parliament, while at the same time real autonomy is conferred on Ireland in regard to Irish concerns." The bill is reported by cable as providing for the establishment of an Irish parliament consisting of a Senate and a House of Commons, with power to make laws for Ireland, the Senate to consist of 40 members and the House of 164, of which Ulster is to have 59 and the universities 2. The Senate is to be composed of nominated members. In the first instance the Imperial executive is to control the nominations with a view of assuring representation for the minority, but the nominations are to be for a fixed term, and as the members retire by rotation the vacancies will be filled by the Irish executive. In case of disagreement the two houses are to sit in joint session. The Lord Lieutenant is to be head of the executive. There will be no religious bar and he will hold office for a fixed term. The authority of the executive is to be co-extensive with that of the Irish Parliament. The 164 representatives are to be elected by the existing constituencies, but no constituency is to have less than 27,000 population. The bill also provides that the questions to be excluded from the control of the Irish Parliament are the Crown, the army and the navy, Imperial affairs, the Irish land purchase and the old age pensions and national insurance acts, the Irish constabulary, the postoffice savings bank and public loans in addition to those excluded by the home rule bill of 1893, which left the customs under the control of the Imperial government. [See current volume, page 179.]



T. P. O'Connor, M. P., says of the bill and its

introduction, in a cable dispatch to the Chicago Tribune of the 12th that—

while customs and excise are fixed primarily and in theory by the Imperial parliament, power is given the Irish parliament to abolish, raise, or decrease most of these taxes. The new assembly is not called by such names as "legislature," but boldly and frankly the Irish Parliament, and the popular chamber gets the good old name of the Irish House of Commons. The government of Ireland will be carried out by a Cabinet just as England is governed. The veto of the Lord Lieutenant is just the same as in all English colonies and of course is only to be employed in Ireland if some impossible or ridiculous proposal is carried by the Irish parliament. Appointment of judges passes to Ireland at once. The constabulary force passes after six years from the Imperial to the Irish government. An even more welcome provision gives control of the metropolitan police force of Dublin to the Irish government immediately it is constituted. In short, the home rule measure is hailed as the boldest, most generous, and most practical measure of self-government ever yet brought forward. There is jubilation among all the Irish Nationalists and the Liberals are equally delighted, while the Tories are dumfounded that their first night's attack ended in a disastrous fizzle. Premier Asquith and National Leader Redmond carried the highest honors of the evening. Ramsay MacDonald, the Labour party leader, made a splendid speech in favor of the bill. Having seen three home rule bills, I find an extraordinary difference in the reception as well as the character of this third from the other two. The Liberals as well as the Irish Nationalists showed none of the critical spirit displayed in Gladstone's measures. There is no sign whatever of any such a fissure in the Liberal ranks as on the two previous occasions, and Asquith's extraordinarily lucid, powerful, and eloquent exposition of the bill made all its details at once understood and produced a tremendous effect. The first night of the great battle leaves Ireland complete in her possession of the field, with fears dispelled and hope raised and a general feeling that at last, and this time, Ireland must win the final victory.



Mr. Asquith indicated in his speech on the floor of the House that this bill is the forerunner of a similar measure for Scotland.



The Ulster Liberal-Unionist Association issued a manifesto on the 12th declaring that the bill "warrants the worst fears of the disastrous results home rule in Ireland would have on the agricultural, commercial, and industrial prosperity of Ireland, and that it only confirms Ulster's stern resolve that under no circumstances will she be relegated to the control of such a Parliament."



#### The Presidential Contest.

As convention time approaches, Presidential

politics boils harder in both parties. [See current volume, page 347.]



On the Democratic side in Illinois, computations up to the 12th gave Speaker Clark 189,002 and Governor Wilson 65,036. In Pennsylvania on the 13th, Governor Wilson won all the delegates but two who are reported to be for Speaker Clark. Official returns from Wisconsin on the 13th give Wilson 45,504 and Clark 36,251, with 19 delegates pledged for Wilson, 6 pledged for Clark and 1 unpledged.



On the Republican side in Illinois, computations up to the 12th gave ex-President Roosevelt 228,842, President Taft 115,331, and Senator LaFollette 37,139. In Pennsylvania on the 13th, ex-President Roosevelt won two-thirds of the delegates. Official returns from Wisconsin on the 13th give LaFollette 131,920 and Taft 47,629, with a delegation unanimously pledged for LaFollette.



The Michigan legislature having prevented the going into immediate effect of the preferential primary law, the Republican convention at Bay City on the 11th was taken possession of by Taft managers, and under the riotous conditions thereby precipitated Roosevelt delegates were excluded and two conventions were held, one naming Taft delegates and the other naming Roosevelt delegates.



#### Bryan in Ohio.

Upon the invitation of democratic Democrats of Ohio, William J. Bryan is making a week's campaign in that State against the nomination of Governor Harmon for the Presidency by the Democratic party. His opening speech was at Ravenna on the 15th.



#### Woman Suffrage in Chicago.

Complete returns on the advisory vote in Chicago on woman suffrage at the primaries of the 9th give the affirmative vote as 71,354 and the negative as 135,410. [See current volume, pages 277, 289.]



#### Judicial War in Chicago.

A judicial conflict of possible moment came to a climax in Chicago on the 15th. The County Judge, John E. Owens, in order to secure a fair organization of the Democratic and the Republican county conventions, appointed the Republican member of the Board of Elections to call to order the Democratic delegates elected at the official