

no mistaken lead on this matter, and let our citizens pull together for its actual fulfilment.

It has frequently been the history of civic bodies and improvement clubs that they only take action negatively, that is to say in objecting to steps proposed by the City Council. The brief outline of municipal policy herewith suggested if unanimously supported by the Council should afford to the Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Trade and the several Improvement Clubs, definite objects for enthusiastic work in the years immediately before us.

It is time for Berkeley to move as never before. Rumors are heard to the effect that everything will be done in some quarters to hamper the new Socialist administration of Berkeley in order to fasten the eyes of critics on our failure. Gentlemen of the Council, we are here to work for Berkeley and her citizens. Whoever strikes at us, strikes at the City of Berkeley. We have no private or personal or partisan interests to conserve. But better things than these rumors might indicate are in store for us. We are expecting the heartiest co-operation of all the civic bodies and improvement clubs. . . .

Berkeley is pre-eminently a seat of culture and education. She is the Athens of the West. It is around the University of California that the city has been built. It is in relation to this noted seat of learning that we are so widely and favorably known throughout the State and the nation. The city cannot be indifferent to this supreme fact in the growth, development and significance of our civic affairs. Develop as we may, this is the genius of Berkeley.

The Socialists of Milwaukee, immediately upon their entrance upon the administration of that city, sought the co-operation of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, in order that the ablest scientific research and assistance might be secured in the various city departments. And a bureau was established for the purpose of affording scientific data to the city administration on various important civic questions.

President Wheeler of our State University was one of the first citizens of Berkeley to proffer assistance to the new administration, now installed in office. This is as it should be. . . .

If the city of Berkeley actually undertakes to do what ought to be done for herself, she must come out of her village state of mind. You can't run a progressive city on a village tax. There is an economy that is penny-wise and pound-foolish. There is an economy that is parsimony and a saving that actually impoverishes. . . .

In this connection we would be wise to make Berkeley the center of a movement for an amendment of the State Constitution providing for local option in taxation and the taxation of land values. By this method we shall not be forever confronted with pressing civic necessities and meager resources in the city treasuries. Thus justice and utility will be served. The principle of taxation of land values is far past the period of mere experiment, and it is our business as city officials not only to operate the machinery at hand but to work for such more perfect municipal machinery as the crying needs of the municipality demand.

The program herewith suggested for our action, I feel sure, will command the civic wisdom and civic pride of the Council and all Civic Voices, the press,

and all our citizens generally. It is not a big program, but it is enough for our immediate contemplation and aggressive constructive action.

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Improved Taxation in Pittsburg.

An explanation is given by Shelby M. Harrison in The Survey for July 1 of two improved tax laws for Pittsburg. One does away with a landlordistic system of tax classification and the other abolishes separate taxing districts for schools. Mr. Harrison's credit for the movement for doing away with the classification system goes to Mayor Magee, Thomas J. Hawkins and Thomas C. McMahon (president and secretary of the city assessors), to Allen T. Burns, James R. Park and, "in marked degree, W. D. George." Among the Pittsburg organizations in the fight to pass the school code which abolished the district system for school taxation he names the Pittsburg Teachers' Association, Pittsburg Principals' Association, Schoolmasters' Club of Western Pennsylvania and Federation of Women's Clubs. David B. Oliver and Thomas O'Shell, who spoke before the committee in favor of the code in behalf of the Junior O. A. M., are also mentioned.

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Under the classification system, Pittsburg, to quote Mr. Harrison, "has been divided into three parts. These divisions class all real estate into 'agricultural' property, paying one-half the tax rate prevailing in its ward; 'rural,' paying two-thirds; and 'full city' paying the full tax rate. . . . Whole districts, similarly located and otherwise much alike, were placed in different classes; and in the same way individual holdings, often in the same ward, were inequitably classified." This antiquated tax system, Mr. Harrison continues—made it easy for individuals and estates to hold great areas unimproved, because of favorable discriminations; but on the other hand, it has gone gunning for the person who bought and improved a small tract, and has leveled at him a double rate. The first has been rewarded by the city for doing nothing further than holding his land while the community's growth increased its value, but the second has been penalized for doing something which directly increased other land values as well as his own. Moreover, the definitions of "rural" and "full city" property laid down by the court reduced the tax by one-third on expensive homes surrounded by large lawns, shrubbery, trees, and flowers—property owned by precisely the people who are best able to support the government—while homes surrounded by a mere ribbon of grass, or none at all, and tenements that crowd block after block on both street and alley, have paid the highest rate. These disproportions have been further accentuated and complicated by the local practice of levying separate tax rates for each of sixty-three different tax districts within the city limits. Although the boundaries have been extended from time to time incorporating suburban properties as integral parts of

the city, taxation was not put on a unified basis, particularly with reference to the building and maintenance of public schools; each ward has constituted one, some of them two, separate tax districts. . . . The low rates have been paid almost entirely by large "agricultural" holdings and expensive residence property, while the high rates have been saddled upon small business realty, small residences, and congested tenement neighborhoods.

It is this system which The Survey reports as having now been consigned to the legal scrap heap. [See current volume, page 581.]

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Progress of People's Power.

Senator Jonathan Bourne, Jr., of Oregon, president of the National Progressive Republican League, has made the following public statement showing progress in the movement for People's Power: "The States in which the Initiative and Referendum have been adopted as a Constitutional amendment are Oregon, Oklahoma, Nevada, Missouri, Montana, South Dakota, Arkansas and Maine. Utah has adopted an Initiative and Referendum amendment which is inoperative because of failure of the legislature to enact necessary legislation. The States in which the Initiative and Referendum amendment has been submitted by the legislatures but has not yet been voted upon by the people are California, Colorado, Washington, Wyoming, North Dakota, Nebraska, Florida and Idaho. The States that have adopted the Oregon plan of popular election of Senators are Oregon, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, Ohio, Kansas and California. The States that have adopted the Oregon plan of popular vote for candidates for President and Vice-President are Oregon, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Dakota, and Wisconsin."

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National Educational Association.

At the opening session of its forty-ninth annual convention, on the 10th at Los Angeles, the National Educational Association, Dr. Ella Flagg Young presiding, was welcomed with addresses by Hiram Johnson, Governor of California; by David Starr Jordan, president of Stanford University; by Benjamin Ide Wheeler, president of the University of California, and by Mayor McCarthy, of San Francisco. [See vol. xiii, p. 659, and current volume, page 83].

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Prior to the general session the board of directors met, with President Young in the chair, and the resignation of Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia University, New York, was presented and accepted. Dr. Butler is described in the dispatches as a leader of "the old guard" which the "insurgents" described as the inner ring that has irresponsibly "run" the organization for years.

Dr. Butler's successor, J. Stanley Brown, of Joliet, Illinois, is also of "the old guard." He was elected to fill the vacancy by 18 to 17 over James Y. Joyner, of North Carolina, an insurgent.

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The Canadian Reciprocity Agreement.

The first vote in the Senate on the Canadian reciprocity agreement was taken on the 8th, with a Senate so very empty that but a bare quorum was recorded in the vote. [See current volume, pages 582, 625.]

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This vote was taken on an amendment offered by Senator Cummins, adding meats to the free list provided for in the agreement; and the amendment was defeated by 32 to 14, as follows:

Yeas: Borah, Bourne, Bristow, Clapp, Clark (Wyo.), Cummins, Dixon, Gronna, Kenyon, Nelson and Sutherland (Republicans); Bailey, Simmons and Thornton (Democrats).

Nays: Brandegee, Burnham, Burton, Crane, Culom, Curtis, Heyburn, Jones, Lippitt, Page, Poindexter, Smoot and Wetmore (Republicans); Bryan, Chamberlain, Chilton, Fletcher, Gore, Hitchcock, Johnson, Johnston, Martin, Martine, Myers, Owen Pomerene, Reed, Shively, Smith, Stone, Swanson and Williams (Democrats).

Several other amendments offered by Senator Cummins were voted down on the 10th by votes ranging from 12 to 14 for and from 51 to 53 against.

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The Woman in Danger.

Movements are springing up everywhere in the States and in Canada for the relief of Angelina Napolitano, the woman who is to be hanged in the Province of Ontario early in August (as soon as possible after her baby is born), for having killed her husband to prevent his forcing her into a life of prostitution. [See current volume, page 626.]

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In Chicago the women heading the movement are Mrs. Charles Henrotin of the Chicago Woman's club; Mrs. LaVerne W. Noves, of the D. A. R.; Mrs. L. D. Reilly, of the Catholic Women's league; Mrs. Charles F. Fishback, of the Tuesday Art and Travel club, and Miss Julia Lathrop, of Hull House. Their campaign takes the moderate form (as reported in the Chicago Tribune of the 7th), of an appeal to every woman in Chicago to write a letter to Sir Allen Aylesworth, M. P., K. C., C. M. G., Minister of Justice of Canada, whose address is Ottawa, urging him to grant Mrs. Napolitano a respite until a month or six weeks after the child is born. Margaret E. Burlingame is promoting a movement in Indianapolis. Great quantities of mail matter in the case are reported as on the way to the Canadian authorities or as