

warded to the Prime Minister, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and to all members of Parliament.

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In opening the discussion which resulted in the adoption of the latter resolution Mr. Ure said that—

he was present with the idea of demonstrating how reasonable and necessary was the filling up of Form IV [which requires particulars of ownership, interest, liabilities, etc., and if desired by the person making the return, the particulars of value], unless the land clauses of the Government were to become wholly ineffectual and farcical. He thought, too, that he might have been able to demonstrate, even to landowners, the sweet reasonableness of this revolutionary Government; but the necessity for that had entirely passed away. The agitation had abated, the storm had ceased, and a great calm prevailed, and the fury and frenzy of Form IV had positively died of inanition, in spite of the rather feeble attempt to fan the flickering flames and impart a few faltering breaths to the agitation raised by Mr. Balfour in his foolish telegram to Captain Pretzman, in which he referred to the impenetrable mystery of valuation, and spoke of the movement as likely to fall to pieces of its own weight amidst universal derision. Impenetrable to Mr. Balfour perhaps!

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Joseph Fels in France.

An extension into France of the work in favor of land value taxation which Joseph Fels has promoted in Great Britain, the United States, Canada, Australia and Denmark, is reported in the London Evening Mail of September 20th. It began at a meeting of the newly formed League for the unification of French taxation, held at the Grand Hotel, Paris, on the 18th for the purpose of welcoming Mr. Fels. In responding, Mr. Fels said, as reported by the Mail, that—

as a practical business man he was convinced that no more equitable and effective system of taxation could be devised than that of levying all charges on land-values. It was not a violent measure. Its main effect was to force idle land into use and to stimulate both industry and commerce. He had been the means of inaugurating a movement in Denmark which was meeting with much success. He offered to give a donation of \$250 to the funds of the French League, and to guarantee to duplicate any sum which they raised by their own efforts within a given time. The first work of the League, he pointed out, should be to study local conditions. The existence of a large class of peasant proprietors in France would no doubt call for certain modifications, but the single tax was just, logical and simple, and could be adapted to the needs of any nation.

The chairman of the meeting was George Darien, who remarked that—

it was strange that the idea of imposing all the taxes of a country on all the land value of a country, and on that alone, which was first advocated by the French Physiocrats, should have been perfected by

an American citizen, Henry George, and that it should be another American, Mr. Fels, whose aid would no doubt lead to a re-adoption of the single tax idea in France. Mr. Darien claimed that the unification proposed would ensure considerable economy, would free industry from many charges which at present impeded progress, and would be a benefit to every class of society.

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Railroad Strike in France.

A railroad strike in France, which began on the 11th, was settled on the 15th by concessions to the strikers made through the mediation of the Ministry. The principal fact about this strike which makes it an event of general interest has reference to its character as an "industrial" or "syndical" strike. As explained by Keir Hardie, M. P., in one of the news dispatches—

during the past five years, what is known as "syndicalism" in France and as "industrial" unionism in America has grown in France. It originated in Italy, and is socialistic and in the main anti-political. It seeks the destruction of capitalism by the direct revolutionary "general" strike instead of constitutional, parliamentary, or political methods. By "general" strike is meant strikes on general industrial rather than trade lines. This means, in effect, that a general strike of nearly all trades might accompany every dispute in any particular trade.

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The strike in question began on the privately owned Northern railroad system, and extended to the Western, the Eastern and other government owned systems, besides ramifying kindred vocations. The French government made a military call for men liable to military duty to take the place of strikers, ordering even the strikers themselves to do industrial service as a military duty. Their call was ignored on the ground that proceedings for desertion under the military law could not begin for fifteen days. The Ministry held it to be three, and Premier Briand, distinguished as the first socialist prime minister (vol. xii, p. 730), denounced the strike as revolutionary. On the 15th Paris dispatches stated that—

the directors of the companies involved had agreed to grant a minimum wage of \$1 a day to the employes of all lines running out of Paris, the new scale to go into effect on Jan. 1. The decision was reached at a conference in which the Minister of Public Works, Posts, and Telegraphs took part. The strike was formally called off on the 17th.

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An Appeal for Free Trade.

Deeming this an opportune time, the American Council of the International Free Trade League makes the following appeal to American citizenship "concerning the fundamental injustice of the policy of Protection":

Sixty years ago there was a world movement