

2. No Manchu may participate in the provisional government of China.

3. The capital of the provisional government cannot be established at Peking.

4. Premier Yuan Shi Kai cannot participate in the provisional government of China until the Republic has been recognized by the foreign powers and the country has been restored to peace and harmony.

The action was due to Premier Yuan Shi Kai's demand that Dr. Sun Yat Sen resign the presidency, permitting Yuan Shi Kai to exercise sovereign powers until the national convention which is to be called to decide on the form of government of China shall have reached a conclusion. On the 22nd President Sun Yat Sen made a statement for the Republicans in which he announced that—

Similar terms will never be offered again to the Manchus unless these are accepted. To disarm and send back to bondage the whole people of this country it is now too late. We never will submit to the dictation of the Manchus or of Yuan Shi-Kai. The republican movement is now represented by fifteen Provinces. Three hundred and fifty million people in China are heart and soul with the Republic and are implacably opposed to Manchu rule. The three remaining Provinces, Ho-Nan, Shan-Tung and Chi-Li, are certainly our adherents. The Chinese troops in the Imperial army who are now supposed to be loyal to Yuan Shi-Kai are really Republicans and will join us at the proper time. We control all the treaty ports except Tien-Tsin and Nu-Chwang, which are ice bound. The Republic, in fact, is protecting the vast majority of foreigners and foreign property. Why then should not the foreign Powers promptly recognize the Republic? This question is already being asked by the people of China, while the dread of foreign intervention, which is invited by certain persons in Peking, hangs like a pall over the country and over natives and foreigners alike. The foreign powers, especially the United States, have always spoken of their friendship for China. We pledge good will and the observance of all treaties made by and with the Manchus. We will discharge every obligation of the open door in China.

[See current volume, page 62.]



The tremendous political convulsion through which China has been passing has left in obscurity news in regard to its terrible economic condition. Owing to the devastating floods in the Yang-tse Valley and in the Province of Hunan last summer, and also to failures of crops, with the exception of one year only, since 1906, in the great Hwai region, there are said to be at the present time 3,750,000 of the Chinese starving to death. An appeal is being made through the Red Cross for aid from America. [See vol. xiv, page 957.]



#### The New Zealand Elections.

News about non-sensational matters in Aus-

tralia is slow in reaching this country, and the returns from the Parliamentary elections of December 7th are only now at hand. These are necessarily incomplete. In only 42 out of the 75 constituencies did any candidate get a majority over all. Consequently there must be second elections in 33 constituencies between the two highest candidates at the first elections. The Opposition has thus far gained 4 seats at the expense of the party in power in the last Parliament—the Liberals. What may be the effect of the second elections can only be conjectured, but the reported indications are that the Liberal majority of the last Parliament will have vanished in the next one, and that neither the old Liberals nor the old Opposition will have a working majority. In that event the opportunity of the Hon. George Fowlds will occur. Although not elected at the first election in his constituency, his election was expected at the second; and as in resigning from the Cabinet last September in order to have greater freedom to advocate land values taxation, he announced that whenever a truly democratic party arose, strong enough to form a ministry, it would have his whole-souled support, a collapse of both Liberals and Opposition would not unlikely result in his call to higher service. [See vol. xiv, pages 1100, 1294.]



#### Land Tenure in Northern Nigeria.

News from the civilizations of interior Africa travels slowly, but in time it spreads. By "The Land and Native Rights Proclamation" of the British government, which went into effect in Northern Nigeria more than a year ago, January 1, 1911, the land tenure policy of that country was established in accordance with the recommendations of the Colonial Office Committee of which Josiah C. Wedgwood,\* M. P., the British Single-taxer, was an active member. A full account of that committee and its work will be found in volume xiii of *The Public* at pages 580 to 583. According to the *London Times*, as quoted by *London Land Values* of December, 1911, this policy is—

not a measure of land nationalization, because land nationalization means state control of the land and all that is done upon it. What this measure does is to provide for the communalizing of the communal value of the land, leaving the occupier full control over the use of land and full benefit for his private enterprise upon it, with payment of rent to the community to which the land belongs, instead of to a landlord. The individual's right to all that is due to individual work and expenditure, but not to the communal value, is secured. No freehold can creep in and no monopoly profit can be made out of the land. The "holding up" of land for speculative purposes is, in effect, penalized, while the man who is industrious is not made to pay more as the outcome

\*See *The Public*, volume xiii, pp. 580, 653.

of his enterprise. At the same time the basis is laid for a land revenue which, with the years, will be the chief source of income of the government—the healthiest form of income, perhaps, for any government.

## NEWS NOTES

—Henry Labouchere, editor of London Truth, died in Florence, Italy, on the 16th at the age of 81.

—Samuel Alschuler has announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for Governor of Illinois.

—The fifth annual meeting of the District Judges at Kansas will be held at Topeka on the 29th at 9:30 a. m.

—Senator Cummins of Iowa announced his candidacy on the 20th for the Republican nomination for President. (See vol. xiv, page 362.)

—Robert M. La Follette was indorsed for the Presidential nomination by the North Dakota Progressive Republican league on the 16th.

—John Z. White is to speak at Milwaukee on the 1st, 2d and 3d of February; at Pittsburgh on the 5th; at Grand Rapids and Big Rapids (Mich.) on the 7th, and at Manistee on the 10th.

—A bill to amend the Constitution of Virginia by extending voting rights to women was on the 22d ordered by the committee on privileges and elections of the legislature to be reported adversely.

—The Brotherhood Welfare Association (J. Eads How of St. Louis, Chairman) will hold a national convention at Cincinnati from January 31 to February 3, of unskilled, migratory and casual workers. [See vol. xiv, page 934.]

—A Constitutional amendment for woman's suffrage was introduced on the 16th by Representative Berger of Wisconsin in the lower house of Congress. A petition is now being circulated by the Socialist party in support of the proposed amendment.

—With the signatures of a number of W. J. Bryan's personal and political friends attached thereto, a petition was sent on the 19th to the Secretary of State of Nebraska, placing Woodrow Wilson's name on the Nebraska preferential ballot for the Presidency.

—Dr. Harry E. Webster, who recently pleaded guilty at Oregon, Ill., to murder in the first degree, was on the 22d, by arrangement between the prosecuting officer, his own attorneys and the presiding judge, sentenced to life imprisonment instead of capital execution.

—Professor Frances Squire Potter will tell taxpaying women, at a meeting of the "No Vote No Tax League," at the Hotel La Salle, Chicago, on the 28th at 3 p. m., why, "as loyal and patriotic Americans, they should refuse to pay their personal taxes until women are given a voice in government."

—A law admitting women to public office on the same conditions as men was voted in the Norway Storting on the 18th. Exceptions are made in regard to cabinet positions and in the ecclesiastic,

military, diplomatic, and consular service. The Storting is the parliament of Norway. [See vol. xiii, page 469.]

—On the eastward way in his transcontinental lecture tour for the Henry George Lecture Association (Frederick H. Monroe, 538 South Dearborn St., Chicago), Charles Frederick Adams will speak at Salt Lake City, February 2, 3 and 4; at Grand Junction, February 5; at Denver, February 7, 8 and 9; and at Colorado Springs, February 10, 11, 12 and 13.

—The speech from the throne at the opening of the Swedish Riksdag on the 16th contained the announcement that a bill is to be introduced enfranchising women and making them eligible at the elections of the Riksdag on the same conditions as men—24 years of age and not under any legal disability. The Riksdag is the lower house of the Diet, which is the parliament of Sweden.

—By a decision of the Supreme Court of the United States on the 22d, railroads are required to carry intoxicating liquors into the prohibition territory of States other than those from which shipments were made, it being settled by earlier decisions of this court that those commodities are legitimate objects of Inter-State commerce and that they are not subject to local legislation until delivered to consignees.

—A General Conference on the Minimum Wage will be held under the auspices of the Chicago Woman's Club in the Fine Arts Building, 410 South Michigan avenue, on Monday evening, January 29, and on Tuesday morning, January 30. Among the speakers will be Mrs. Glendower Evans of Massachusetts, Rev. John A. Ryan of St. Paul, Mr. Elliott S. Norton and Professor John R. Commons. Both sessions will be open to the public.

—A "Book Party" will be given by the Women's City Club of Chicago at its rooms, 31 West Lake St., on Saturday afternoon, the 27th, for the replacement, as far as may be, of the library of the Women's Trade Union League which was entirely destroyed when the Open Board of Trade was burned out on December 19. The Club announces that "friends with books are welcome; friends without books are welcome." [See vol. xiv, page 1313.]

—At the convention of the United States Mine Workers of America on the 18th at Indianapolis a Socialist proposal for government ownership of all industries was adopted; but by 515 to 155 the convention adopted a substitute for a resolution committing the organization to the Socialist party as "the political party of the laboring class." The substitute declares that "it would be well if workers would unite on the political as well as the industrial field."

—The Italo-Turkish war continues, with skirmishes on land in the neighborhood of the cities of Tripoli and Derna, and a bombardment by an Italian warship of the town of Khan Yunus on the coast of Syria. Irritation has been created with France by the seizure of two French steamers, the Carthage and the Manouba, by Italian warships on what the French regard as flimsy pretexts in regard to contraband of war—the Carthage carrying an aeroplane, and the Manouba 29 Turkish nurses of the