

of which they are a part, have the further reason now to be grateful to Margaret Haley for her service in our cause on the Pacific Coast. Letters from friends in that region—some of them men of high standing in the Singletax movement throughout the United States, and justly so from their long and judicious and efficient service—are full of praise of Margaret Haley for her work in the Singletax campaign at Seattle, and we are glad of the opportunity to add our expressions of appreciation of her and her public service to theirs.

Charles Frederick Adams of New York was one of the speakers besides the guest, and George V. Wells presided.



Direct Election of United States Senators.

By a vote of 237 to 39 in the House of Representatives on the 13th, Congress completed all the preliminaries for submitting to the States for adoption an amendment to the Federal Constitution providing for the election of the Federal Senate by the people instead of the legislatures of the several States. Federal supervision of the Senatorial elections is provided for. As adopted by both Houses the Amendatory resolution reads as follows:

That in lieu of the first paragraph of Section 3 of Article 1 of the Constitution of the United States, and in lieu of so much of paragraph 2 of the same Section as relates to the filling of vacancies, the following be proposed as an Amendment to the Constitution, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the States: The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State legislature. When vacancies happen in the representation of any State in the Senate the Executive authority of such State shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies, provided that the legislature of any State may empower the Executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct. This Amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the Constitution.



Progress of the new Mexican Revolution.

Dispatches of the 9th from Washington told of the imprisonment of "Provisional President" Gomez at Juarez, and subsequent reports under date of the 11th were to the effect that he had disappeared, having left his provisional capital "as silently, unostentatiously and mysteriously as he had entered" it from El Paso (Texas) the week before. His reappearance in El Paso was reported on the 12th.

Reports of the 9th from Bermejillo, Mexico, told of skirmishing between the vanguard of Gen. Orozco's insurrectionary army and Federal troops in front of Torreon, the objective of the insurrectionists. These reports were confirmed by New York Herald dispatches of the 10th from Escalon, which stated also that the fighting had been resumed on that date with satisfaction to the Federals but without decisive advantage to either side. The line of battle was described by the Herald as extending from Conejos, on the main line of the National Railroad and north of Bermejillo, to Truhuelo, twenty miles south of Conejos. The Federal force was estimated at 4,000 and Orozco's at 6,000. Hard fighting on the plains about 300 miles south of the American border was reported on the 12th in news dispatches which stated specifically that "the fighting began at day-break, and at nightfall the sandy mesas between Conejos and Yermo, fourteen miles north, where the insurgents were gradually forced back, were covered with dead and wounded." These dispatches, which were from the Federal front, gave the victory to the Federals under Gen. Huarta. The revolutionists were at that time believed to be completely surrounded, and it was supposed that the next day's fighting would annihilate their army. Dispatches of the 13th from General Orozco's headquarters at Jiminez admitted defeat but expressed confidence in ultimate victory. He was then retreating northward. [See current volume, page 441.]



Land Values Taxation in South America.

An editorial report of progress in the use of land value taxation in the Province of Buenos Aires (Argentine Republic), is made by the Buenos Aires Standard of April 3d. From this editorial it appears that—

the important question respecting the valuation of land in the Province of Buenos Aires which produced last year strong protests from the leading estancieros of the Province has been settled by a decree issued by the Provincial government on the 1st instant making regulations for the execution of the law of the 15th of March last. The decree requires the Director-General of Revenue of the Province to propose to the Ministry of Finance the names of four resident taxpayers in every Department, who, together with the official valuer, are to form part of the valuation committee of the locality, representing its rural and urban property, its commerce, and industries. In fixing the valuations of the rural properties, the committees are to take into account what they produce or are susceptible of producing, exclusive of the value of the buildings, fences, trees, drainage, and other important works effected for improving the conditions of the land. The valuation of unused land ("baldios") in urban centers or in the immediate suburbs is to be made with a discount of 20 per cent on the selling price of land for cash down. In case no such sales

should have been made, the pieces of land which may be sub-divided in order to be sold for monthly payments of the purchase-money shall have a discount of 50 per cent. . . . The local committees are to commence and complete the valuations during the month of May. The "boletas" (notices of the particulars of the valuation) must have been completely distributed by the valuers on the 10th of June, the taxpayers may present their objections on or before the 20th of that month and on the 30th the "juntas" (committees) will have given their decisions on the objections made, which must be notified by the valuers to the taxpayers on or before the 10th of July. The latter may appeal from such decisions to the Junta till the 30th of July and within ten days afterwards the juntas must present to the central jury for final decision all the objections that have been made to the valuations accompanied by their reports on the same. The central jury referred to in Art. 9 of the law may act with three of its members, in order to take into consideration the protests presented and its decisions thereon must be given on or before the 30th of September next. . . . The regulations appear to have been carefully prepared with the view of ascertaining the real value of the land to be taxed and of enabling the owners to dispute the correctness of the valuations. . . . The committees will find it difficult to estimate what rural properties would produce (by selling or letting them, we suppose is meant by the regulations) apart from the improvements of the same which may have been effected for many years. We consider that the valuation should be made according to the present condition of the land. As to vacant land, the owners should be stimulated to utilize it by higher rather than by lower taxation, and as to land sold on the system of monthly payments for the same, the discount of one-half the tax would only benefit the sellers by enabling them to obtain higher prices.



Home Rule for Ireland.

On second reading the Irish home rule bill passed the British House of Commons on the 8th by a larger majority than on the first reading—the vote being 372 for it and 271 against it. An analysis of the vote discloses the significant fact that the bill would have had a clear majority without the votes of any Irish members. It now awaits third reading in the Commons. [See current volume, page 421.]

NEWS NOTES

—The annual meeting of the General Convention of the Church of the New Jerusalem (Swedenborgian), met at Washington, D. C., on the 11th.

—The eighteenth annual meeting of the National Municipal League will be held at Los Angeles on the 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th of July. [See vol. xiv, p. 1196.]

—John Grier Hibben was inaugurated president of Princeton University on the 11th. President Taft participated, but Governor Wilson (Dr. Hibben's im-

mediate predecessor) was unable to be present. [See current volume, page 63.]

—At the ninety-sixth annual diocesan convention of the Episcopal church of North Carolina, in session at Durham, N. C., women were given the right to vote on church affairs in the diocese.

—The second national conference on Industrial Diseases will be held under the auspices of the American Association for Labor Legislation at Atlantic City, N. J., June 3, 4 and 5. [See vol. xiii, p. 468.]

—Henry W. Thurston of Chicago, superintendent of the Illinois Children's Home and Aid Society, has been selected as head of the children's department of the New York School of Civics and Philanthropy.

—The German Reichstag adopted on the 13th the anti-dueling resolution introduced on May 9, and with an amendment proposed by the Socialist members providing that army officers who refuse to accept a challenge to a duel shall not therefore be dismissed from the army.

—Tom Mann having been convicted of inciting British troops to mutiny when called upon to shoot strikers, and consequently sentenced to six months imprisonment, an enormous popular meeting was held in Trafalgar Square, London, on the 11th to protest. [See current volume, page 324.]

—An effort is to be made to secure from Congress a Federal charter for the Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America. At a meeting of the executive committee on the 8th a sub-committee was appointed to make formal application for the charter to Congress. [See current volume, page 421.]

—The twenty-ninth annual convention of the Kansas Equal Suffrage Association met at Wichita on the 7th. The principal subject of discussion was the pending referendum vote on woman suffrage in Kansas, and the speakers included Jane Addams, the Rev. Olympia Brown Willis, Mrs. Belmont and the Rev. Anna H. Shaw.

—The judiciary committee of the Senate of the United States decided on the 13th to report favorably the Works resolution to amend the Constitution of the United States by extending the Presidential term to six years and prohibiting re-elections. A minority of the committee favor the prohibition, but with a four-year term. [See vol. xiv, p. 771.]

—Three subordinate railways of the New York Central system were fined on the 7th by Judge Carpenter in the Federal court at Chicago for having favored certain theatrical companies in transportation rates. They were the "Big Four," fined \$20,000; the Michigan Central, fined \$10,000; and the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, fined \$10,000.

—At the recent primaries in Nebraska the Republicans indorsed the Initiative and Referendum amendment, submitted by the legislature in 1911, by 41,029 to 6,658 (Douglas county not yet reported), and the Democrats indorsed it by 28,446 to 3,859. The effect of this is to credit to the affirmative at the election in November all the straight votes of both parties. [See current volume, page 395.]

—A dinner to "the old guard," participants in the campaign of Henry George for Mayor of New York in 1886, was given at Kalil's restaurant, New York City, on the 11th by the Manhattan Singletax Club.