

thies and activities of his successor, all genuine public sorrow over King Edward's death may well be swallowed up in the invigorating remembrance of his having except in name turned his accidental kingship into one of the higher types of Twentieth Century manhood.

+ +

How to Make a Great City of a Small Village.

An instance illustrating the natural effect of the recent abolition of taxes on improvements in Vancouver, British Columbia, is vouched for as absolutely true by the Everett (Washington) Tribune of April 27. It seems well worth retelling just as the Everett Tribune has told it:

An Everett citizen who owns lots on Hewitt avenue had intended to improve his property by the erection of a brick building; but he has changed his mind and gives the following reason for so doing: "I own business lots in Vancouver, B. C., and received the following response to an inquiry which I made:

Vancouver, B. C., April 20, '10.

Dear Sir:—Replying to your favor of the 18th inst. we beg to say that your information is correct. There is no tax on building or personal property in this city. Total tax for 1909 was 22 mills. Yours truly, ALLAN BROS., 509 Pender Street.

"The above information decided the matter for me. The building I had planned for Hewitt avenue will be erected in Vancouver, B. C., where improvements are exempt from taxation. In that city I will be compelled to pay no more nor less than the man who holds idle lots on either side of me. I would rather have built in Everett, but didn't like the prospect of paying an annual fine on the cost of my investment. So I am adapting myself to our system, which makes it more profitable to hold land idle and escape taxation than to use it. Some one has said that our system of taxation enables land owners to 'sleep and thrive.' I propose to build in Vancouver and sleep in Everett."

+ +

La Follette Misquoted.

Three weeks ago (p. 365) we made the following quotation in our News Narrative, from Senator La Follette's speech in the Senate on the 12th of April:

The mask is off. Mr. Mellen, Mr. Byrnes, and others of their kind are but hired megaphones through which a beefy, red-faced, thick-necked, financial bully, drunk with wealth and power, bawls his orders to stock markets, directors, courts, governments and nations. We have been listening to Mr. Morgan.

The quotation was taken from current telegraphic dispatches. They had either been poorly made at Washington or badly edited in the daily newspaper offices,—probably the former, for the report in different newspapers was the same. Our attention is now called by La Follette's Magazine, to the official report of the speech at page 4707 of the Congressional Record. It appears that

Senator La Follette, in the course of his remarks on some of the Taft legislation, dwelt at length upon railroad conditions in New England, and, as bearing upon these conditions, read to the Senate, for what it might be worth, an editorial which had been printed in the Commercial Bulletin of Boston, of February 19. Near the middle of that editorial is the language quoted above. It was Gov. Guild's language (he being the editor of the Commercial Bulletin), and not Senator La Follette's.

+ +

Land Value Taxation in Great Britain.

We are informed that at a recent conference of the Independent Labour Party of Great Britain the following resolution was adopted, and that it is being widely circulated among and adopted by different British organizations and meetings:

That this conference of the Independent Labour Party, recognizing the intimate connection between the use of land and the employment of labor, pledges itself to attack land monopoly, which is responsible for depriving labor of access to land, and with a view to this end, they call for a heavy tax on the value of land which is held out of use.

Many worse things might be done in the United States and Canada, than promoting the frequent and extensive adoption of the substance of that resolution. It is a declaration of social need and purpose which might well be made by a great number and variety of organizations and meetings—political, industrial, social, religious and educational—regardless of party or denomination, or anything else but concern for good citizenship and just government.

+ +

William Kent for Congress from California.

Newspaper dispatches from San Francisco report the candidacy for the Republican nomination for Congress from the second California district, of William Kent, formerly of Chicago but now of Kentfield, California. Mr. Kent was in the thick of the fight in Chicago against the gray wolf pack fifteen years ago, and as one of the incidents of that fight he served efficiently in the City Council. He is a Republican of the Abraham Lincoln type—a democratic Republican. If Congressman McKinlay, the present member from the second California district, is the representative of the Interests that the news dispatches describe him as being, Mr. Kent is the very kind of person to put into his place in Congress. A man of right convictions, he also has the political intelligence and the moral courage without which even the best convictions may cut but a sorry