
NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before, continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Monday, November 21, 1910.



Death of Leo Tolstoy.

The aged Count Tolstoy, in his 83d year, and in very frail physical health, was reported on the 11th to be missing from his home at Yasnaya Poliana in the province of Tula. The news was vague, but it appears that he quietly left home some time in the latter part of October, accompanied by his physician, Dr. Makovetsky, and went first to the convent of Shamardino in the province of Kaluga, where his sister Maria has long been a nun. His daughter Alexandra found him there, and on the 13th proceeded with her father and his physician ostensibly toward Moscow. Later, however, the party changed cars and boarded a slow local train going in the direction of Caucasia, from which it is conjectured that Tolstoy was intending to join a colony of Tolstoyans on the shores of the Black Sea. The journey was, however, interrupted by his serious illness, and the party left the train at an obscure flag station, Astapova, where the sick old man could only be

cared for in the little station building. His fever ran into bronchial and lung inflammation, and he sank rapidly. Other physicians were summoned, and his daughter nursed him constantly. The Countess Tolstoy and several members of his family came to Astapova, but at first it was not thought advisable to excite him with their presence. As death approached, however, the Countess and others were admitted to the sick chamber. The end came early in the morning of the 21st.

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Tolstoy is to be quietly buried on the hill at his old home and birthplace, Yasnaya Poliana. The Russian Church has made efforts during these days of his passing, to have him return to the faith from which he had been excommunicated in 1901. The following telegram was addressed to him by Antonius, the Metropolitan of St. Petersburg, who is the presiding officer of the Synod:

Since the very first moment of your rupture with the church I incessantly prayed, and I pray now, that God may restore you to the church. Possibly He is soon to summon you to the judgment seat. I implore you in your sickness now to reconcile yourself with the church and the orthodox Russian people. May God bless you.

Count Vladimir Tchertkeff, Tolstoy's literary executor (vol. xii, p. 301), and others nearest to the dying man, regarded it as impossible to present the telegram. As an unreconciled excommunicate, it is considered as out of the question for the Church to grant this literal follower of the Christ, religious rites of burial, although, according to the dispatches, the Czar and the Premier, Mr. Stolypin, have indicated their desire that the great Russian should be interred with the Russian religious burial services. Though the police of Moscow gave explicit orders that the regular theatrical performances should be given on Sunday, fearing the gathering of idle persons in public places, according to the dispatches the managers were forced to close their houses because the actors refused to play on the day following the death of the great teacher "of free speech, free thought, and an equality of free men."

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Meeting of the Fels Fund Commission.

The Joseph Fels Fund Commissioners (pp. 761, 1076, 1087, 1110) have been holding their first fully representative meeting. The sessions were called for the Liberal Club, 46 East 29th St., New York City, beginning November 19. Contributors to and friends of the Fund were invited to be present, and invitations were also sent to all persons who had been known at any time as critics of the Fund, or of its administration.

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At the first session the Hon. Robert Baker of

Brooklyn was elected chairman, and Joseph Dana Miller, editor of the Single Tax Review, secretary. Daniel Kiefer, chairman of the Commission, stated the purposes of the Fund, and reported on the work of the Commission, saying incidentally that he wanted no pecuniary recognition of his own services. W. S. U'Ren reported on the work of the Commission in Oregon; former Governor L. F. C. Garvin, on the work in Rhode Island; and Dr. Wm. P. Hill for Missouri. Daniel Kiefer reported on *The Public*, in extending the influence of which the Commission had had a hand. John Z. White reported on work in New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado. Letters more or less critical of the work of the Commission, and mostly favoring a policy of pure Single Tax propaganda in place of political preparation for the Single Tax, were read from Lawson Purdy, A. C. Pleydell, Edward Polak and Wm. Lustgarten. Speeches to this question were made by the Hon. Tom L. Johnson, Western Starr, George Wallace, and C. S. Prizer, winding up with one from Jackson H. Ralston, representing the Commission. Later, speeches criticising the Commission were made by E. L. Heydecker, F. C. Leubuscher, Jos. Dana Miller, Wm. Ryan, Benjamin Doblin and J. J. Murphy; responses being made by Will L. Price, Joseph Fels and John Z. White; with pacific remarks from John S. Crosby and C. H. Ingersoll. Lincoln Steffens closed for the Commission, asking that definite plans for better lines of work should be submitted to the Commission by its critics.

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On the following day, Sunday, a general explanatory discussion included remarks from W. S. U'Ren, Dr. Mary D. Hussey, Miss Grace Isabel Colbron, Miss Amy Mali Hicks, James W. Bucklin, Dr. Florence Leigh Jones, W. G. Eggleston, L. S. Dickey and Warren Worth Bailey, with Frederic C. Howe closing for the Commission. The conference ended its sessions with adopting a resolution commemorative of the death on this day, in Russia, of Leo Tolstoy. The resolution was offered by Joseph Dana Miller, and was seconded by Congressman-elect Henry George, Jr., in an eloquent address.

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Others present at the sessions were George A. Briggs of Indiana, Professor Lewis J. Johnson of Harvard University, Theodore J. Amberg of Chicago, W. A. Somers of Cleveland, Dr. M. R. Leverison and Byron W. Holt of New York, Frank Stephens of Arden, Del., James R. Carret of Boston, and Bolton Hall of New York.

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Strike of the Chicago Garment Workers.

A commissary system on a large scale has been organized by the Chicago Federation of Labor,

working in co-operation with the Women's Trade Union League, for the relief of the needy among the striking garment workers. By a card system, milk, coal, meat and groceries are being furnished from a number of commissary stations, in place of the cash payments usually attempted under such conditions. The huge proportions of this strike, involving 40,000 workers, and the unusually helpless character of the labor in the garment trades, renders this plan imperative. The essentially organic character of labor becomes apparent when the labor army has to be fed on a large scale. The gigantic tasks devolving upon this commissariat may be measured from the appeal sent out by the Women's Trade Union League on the 15th, for milk for the 7,500 babies in the strikers' families. The Chicago Federation of Labor voted on the 20th to assess each of its members 25 cents a week during the continuance of the strike, for the benefit of the strikers. A sale of a special edition of the *Daily Socialist*, donated for the purpose, on the streets on Saturday evening, by an organized corps of strikers, brought \$3,300 into the strike fund. The introduction of non-union workers into some of the shops where the regular workers are on strike produced rioting in the streets on several days of the past week.

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The Illinois Women's Clubs Endorse the Unionization of the Garment Workers.

The Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs, in session last week at Peoria, elected Mrs. Minnie Starr Grainger of Belvidere for president for the ensuing year. The cause of the striking garment workers of Chicago was presented to the Federation on the 18th by Dr. Rachele S. Yarros and Miss Alice Henry. The Federation adopted the report of its committee on the strike matter, of which Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin was chairman, without a dissenting vote. The last paragraph of this report reads as follows:

The natural method of removing the causes of irritation in the shops and of making a more healthful social life possible is some form of organization among the workers which will mediate between the worker and the employer in order that minute grievances may find a natural expression instead of being piled up so as to cause widespread industrial disturbances as now prevail in Chicago, and this is especially necessary in order that the manufacturers may insure themselves against the recurrence of such disturbances and deal with their employes through committees of shop representatives.

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Unrest in Mexico.

The rioting against Americans in Mexico, recited last week (p. 1097), seems to have been preliminary to a vague insurrectionary movement, which is reported uncertainly and with many contradictions. Rioting which took on the propor-