

the single tax movement in England by the constantly increasing revenues of the country, due in so large measure to the taxation upon private incomes."

Later reports from Paris show that the result of the French elections noted last week (p. 56) is an emphatic endorsement of the already long-lived Waldeck-Rousseau ministry. The total vote cast was 8,000,000, and out of the 584 deputies to be chosen 414 were elected at this first ballot. Of these only 164 are anti-ministerialists, the other 250 being supporters of Waldeck-Rousseau. They are composed of Republicans, Radicals, Radical Socialists and Socialists. There remain 170 seats to fill at the second elections to be held on the 12th, and it is estimated that 130 of these are safe for the ministry.

Domestic disturbances in Russia (p. 56) are reported as growing and spreading. The movement among the impoverished peasants appears to be distinctly agrarian—an uprising for "the land for the people." Apparently it is not an organized conspiracy, so far as the peasants are concerned, but is a spontaneous outbreak among them due to a sense of injustice which has been cleverly played upon by means of a forged proclamation or ukase purporting to come from the Czar. This document is as follows:

My grandfather, who is now resting in God, Emperor Alexander, by abolishing serfdom gave you peasants liberty and at the same time divided the land among you. The magnates of the land, however, were discontented with this, and they have brought the land again into their possession and thus robbed you. The country which for needy wage you cultivate in the sweat of your brows is your own land, and the corn in the barns of your oppressors is your corn. I love you, and as I desire to be a just emperor I allow and command you to demand back your property and to divide it among yourselves as your legal possessions. If they refuse to give it to you peaceably then take it from them by force, together with the cattle in their stalls and the corn in their barns.

The proclamation also directs the peasants to disregard officials who interfere, reminding them that officials are always trying to thwart the Czar's good intentions. "In the peasants' eyes," reads the inspired dispatch, "this is simple justice;" and, indeed, when the fact is understood that the Czar is to Russian peasants not only the puissant head of the state

but the divine head of the church, whom they worship as the "Little Father," and in whose name wicked officials do wicked things, the forged proclamation accounts for the insurrection. Events, also, are in harmony with the inference that it has been precipitated in some such way, for all over the provinces of Paltova and Kharbov, and probably throughout southern Russia, the peasants have demanded the lands of the stewards who manage them for the great landlords; and, upon being refused, they have seized any arms they could find and proceeded to destroy the chateaux. The stewards flee for their lives, and the local officials temporize with the mob until troops arrive. Sometimes the troops refuse to fire, and this is the disturbing fact in government circles. One detachment of troops has already been punished for that appalling breach of discipline.

A revolt on our own side of the ocean, in San Domingo, culminated a few days ago in the overthrow of the government of President Juan I. Jimenez. He himself came into power through a revolution in 1898 (vol. i., No. 11, p. 9), when as a rebel he succeeded in deposing President Heucreaux. News of the present successful revolution against Jimenez began to reach this country early in the spring. Martial law was declared by the congress of the little republic in March; and at about the same time the town of Borahona, on the south coast, was captured by the revolutionists after a severe battle. Within a month a large region in the north also had been wrested from the government, and on the 2d of May the revolutionary forces were reported to be marching upon the capital. The whole republic except Porto Plata and the capital, San Domingo, was then in the hands of the rebels. On the 4th the capital capitulated, and Vice President Horatio Vasquez, the leader of the revolution, entered the city at the head of his troops, President Jimenez taking refuge in the French consulate.

And now the republic of Cuba comes upon the threshold of sovereignty, subject to the suzerainty of the United States. The Cuban senate and house of representatives assembled at Havana on the 5th pursuant to the call (p. 27) of Gov. Gen. Wood. Salvador Cisneros was elected president of the senate and Pedro Albarron president of the lower house. Gov. Gen. Wood addressed the two

houses, welcoming them "in the name of the President of the United States," and admonishing them that they could exercise no legislative power until after the formal transfer, to take place on the 20th at noon.

The president-elect, Tomas Estrada Palma, arrived in Cuba from the United States on the 20th of April, and is now preparing his inaugural address.

Orders from the American war department for the evacuation of Cuba by the United States on the 20th of May were issued on the 25th of last March, and on the 5th of May President Roosevelt appointed Herbert C. Squires, now first secretary of the American legation at Peking, to be American minister to Cuba, and Gen. Edward S. Bragg, of Wisconsin, formerly a Democrat, and famous for having invented the phrase "we love him for the enemies he has made," to be American consul general at Havana.

"Ripper" legislation in Ohio is becoming a burning question in that state. One of the cities "ripped" is Toledo, of which Samuel M. Jones has been Mayor for several years. He was elected originally as a Republican, but during his first term he cut loose from the political machine and, abandoning parties altogether, pledged his service to the people as a whole. So satisfactory has his administration been that with an overwhelming majority he has been re-elected twice as an independent candidate. To obstruct his administration and serve the party machine the legislature has legislated the police commission, of which Mayor Jones is ex-officio president, out of office, and authorized the governor to appoint a police board in its place. At first Mayor Jones seemed disposed to submit. At any rate he was so reported (p. 42) in the press dispatches. But if he had any such intention he has abandoned it. When on the 5th the new police board of Toledo, appointed by the governor, applied for possession of the police department, Mayor Jones refused to surrender it. In his formal written reply to the demand, he said:

I positively refuse to comply with your request and decline to recognize your authority or the authority that assumes to confer your authority. The board of police commissioners have been elected to their positions by the voters of the people of Toledo at a regular election, and I have been elect-