

which the single taxers reduced the Government's majority to 13, the lowest in the history of the present ministry, as a significant test. The vote is a record for England on the single-tax question. The bill, the second reading of which was rejected by so slim a margin, was framed on Henry George lines and bore the indorsement of all the single-tax propagandists in the country. It proposed to give discretionary power to local urban authorities to levy a rate on the capital value of land, whether occupied or not, and distinct from the value of any structures thereon.

The political significance of the vote is described as follows by Lewis Henry Berens, a distinguished single tax advocate of Great Britain:

The vote shows nothing can stop this movement. The Liberals now stand definitely pledged to taxation of land values and must bring in a bill providing therefor whenever they succeed to power. Ordinarily the movers of private measures are compelled to appoint private tellers, but last night the official Liberal whips told for Macnamara's bill and the leader of the Liberal party and the whole front Opposition bench supported it. Mr. Soares, solicitor general for Scotland in the late Liberal administration, made a rattling single-tax speech, and many Tories and Liberal-Unionists voted against the government. Others, especially the urban members, disappeared rather than face the music. Liberals are proverbially more sensitive to public opinion than Conservatives, and it may be accepted as certain that the single-tax sentiment is even stronger in the country than appears in the House of Commons' vote. Indeed, almost every constituency with large centers of population petitioned its representatives in Parliament to support taxation of land values.

In France a vote was taken in the Chamber of Deputies on the 26th with reference to the enforcement of the law for the suppression of the Catholic orders. The Carthusian monks had applied for permission to remain in France on the ground that they were engaged in industrial pursuits as well as charities and were a class apart from the other orders. It was urged among other things that their removal would cause serious financial loss to the Department of Isere, in which their monastery is situated; and, further, that they do not meddle with politics. Replying to the first point, the premier, M. Combes, argued that it is debasing to associate religion with commercial enterprises. Regarding the

second, he asserted that while it is true that the Carthusians have not meddled in politics openly with drums and trumpets, like the other orders, they have conducted an active propaganda against the Republic. The Chamber rejected the Carthusian application by a vote of 338 to 231.

On the 27th the French ministry formulated their programme for executing the law for the suppression of the Catholic orders. Official notification is to be sent to each congregation of every order, and all that refuse to disband are to be prosecuted in the courts. The courts will be called upon also to appoint receivers to take charge of the property of the dissolved orders. Each case will be examined separately, with a view to considering special circumstances. The teaching orders will be allowed to delay their departure until the end of the school year, in July, if no governmental schools are available. Where such schools are available these orders also must wind up their affairs within one month.

The Dominican revolution (p. 809) is reported to be still in the heated stage, a battle having been fought on the 28th at Juan Calvo, in which the government forces were defeated with a loss of 27 killed and 43 wounded. The revolutionist loss was 3 killed and 11 wounded. Nevertheless government authorities insist that the revolution, at no time general, is nearly subdued. Gov. Caseres, of Santiago, telegraphed the Dominican consul at New York on the 30th as follows:

Gen. Horacio Vasquez captured the cruiser *Independencia* at Macoris; all the chiefs of revolution on board imprisoned. Revolution confined to San Domingo city, where they are besieged by government troops. Rest of country is with the government.

Cuba has ratified the reciprocity treaty with the United States (p. 809) as amended by the American Senate. A majority of the foreign relations committee of the Cuban Senate, to which the amended treaty had been referred on the 24th (p. 809), reported on the 26th in favor of ratification, but with a proviso that the interchange of ratifications must be completed before December 31, 1903. When the question came finally before the Cuban Senate, how-

ever, which was on the 28th, that body ratified the amended treaty absolutely without conditions, by a vote of 12 to 9. The time limit proposed by the committee was dispensed with by the Senate upon the positive assurance of Secretary Hay that President Roosevelt will call a special session of the American Congress before December 1. On that point the American minister to Cuba, Mr. Squiers, was reported on the 28th to have said:

The ratification of the treaty without amendment is due almost entirely to the assurances given by President Roosevelt that he will call an extra session of Congress before December 1. This action of the President will be appreciated and accepted by the Cuban government and people as an additional evidence of the most sincere friendship and interest on the part of a man in whom they have ever had unbounded faith and confidence. Having ratified the treaty, the special session of the Cuban Senate at once adjourned sine die.

A decision has been rendered in the Wabash railroad strike injunction case (p. 775) by Judge Adams, the Federal judge who granted the injunction. His decision appears to be a sweeping one in favor of the strikers. Judge Adams explains in his opinion that the railroad lawyers had laid before him charges of what appeared to be a conspiracy to precipitate a strike undesired by the men, and thereby to interfere with interstate commerce and the mail service of the United States. For that reason he granted the preliminary injunction. But the strikers have met these charges, says Judge Adams: and after fully considering all the proof on both sides he finds that the statements of the complaint, to the effect that the employes were satisfied with their wages and conditions of service, are not supported; that irrespective of the question of whether the men of the committee of the brotherhoods representing them first suggested the increase of wages and change of rules, the employes themselves, at and for a long time prior to the injunction were dissatisfied with their wages and conditions of service; that a real difference of opinion existed between the railroad and a large majority of its employes, members of the brotherhood, with respect to their wages; that the defendants as officers and committees of the brotherhood were fully au-