

Monroe streets, under the auspices of the Henry George Lecture Association.

—Three hundred men, women and children, members of the Free Christian Society, gathered from several States at their little church near Duxbury, Mass., on the 23d, in preparation for the end of the world, which they expected would occur at ten o'clock on the morning of the 24th. During the 24th, the 25th and the 26th they waited expectantly, thinking that their certainty as to time was subject to slight variation; but as nothing had come off by the evening of the 26th, they dispersed.

—The exports and imports of the United States (p. 829) for the eight months ending August 31, 1909, as given by the statistical sheet of the Department of Commerce and Labor for August were as follows:

	Exports.	Imports.	Balance.
Merchandise ...	\$1,007,433,801	\$ 946,511,582	\$ 60,922,219 exp.
Gold	89,724,653	28,754,235	60,970,418 exp.
Silver	39,368,789	29,979,133	9,389,656 exp.

	\$1,136,527,243	\$1,005,244,950	\$131,282,293 exp.
July 1, 1897, to June 30, 1909.....			\$6,023,025,213 exp.
1834 to June 30, 1909.....			8,645,644,530 exp.

—The Swedish strike, in spite of official reports (p. 877), holds on. The landlords of Stockholm, in conference on the 21st, discussed a proposal to give the needy strikers among their tenants an extension of time for the payment of their quarterly rent, due Oct. 1. The bakers have referred their dispute to arbitration, and have returned to work. The International Metal Workers' Confederation, with headquarters at Berlin, an organization numbering more than 1,000,000 members, has decided to contribute \$125,000 to the Swedish strikers. Contributions are being sent from America to Sweden.

—Two leaders in the suffragette disturbance at the Asquith meeting at Birmingham, England, on the 17th (pp. 731, 882) were sentenced on the 22nd to imprisonment for two and three months respectively at hard labor. They were Máry Leigh and Charlotte Marsh. Another was sentenced to one month at hard labor, and others to various terms of simple imprisonment. Their suffragette friends who were present acknowledged the sentences by breaking the windows of the courtroom with missiles. On the 24th these prisoners having refused food were forcibly fed with stomach pumps. They resisted violently and were handcuffed and placed in solitary confinement. Lawsuits are contemplated in their behalf on the ground that forcible feeding is illegal; and the affair was brought to the attention of Parliament on the 27th by Keir Hardie.

—A massacre of Jews (vol. xi, p. 300), with horrible details of torture, was reported through London and Berlin news agencies as having taken place at Kieff, Russia, on the 16th, 17th and 18th of September, the opening days of the Jewish new year. The movement was reported to have originated with the "Reactionary League of Patriots," with the assistance of peasants called into the town from the outlying districts. Eighteen Jews were said to have been killed; eleven died later from their wounds; one hundred and fifty were seriously injured, and more than a thousand severely hurt. A Jewish deputation finally persuaded the Governor to send troops to disperse the mob. None of the rioters was

arrested. News correspondents at St. Petersburg and Kieff deny the massacre, and assert that a local fight between a few reactionaries and Jews, in which no one was killed, forms the only basis for the reported massacre.

—The Mercantile Trust Company of Pittsburg and the Land Trust Company of Pittsburg failed on the 27th. There was a heavy run on the Land Trust Company on the 25th, the cause of which was not then announced by the State bank officials, and depositors were lining up on the 26th for another rush on the 27th. It was therefore decided to apply for a receiver. One year ago the Land Trust Company decided to take over the Mercantile Trust Company. Suits in connection with the Luster Mining Company are said to have affected these banking houses. The Mercantile Company was capitalized at \$750,000 and the Land Trust Company at \$500,000.

PRESS OPINIONS

Prosperity.*

Dun's Review (business) Sept. 25.—While there are a few bad or uncertain spots in the business situation, they are not sufficient to change the generally cheerful, and in some respects, brilliant outlook. . . . The movement in iron and steel is so tremendous, reaching at some points to practically full capacity, and resulting in instances of premiums paid for prompt delivery, that the only doubt cast upon it by anybody is that the pace may be too fast.

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Anarchy and What It Stands For.

The New Haven Union (ind. Dem.) Sept. 22.—Harmless as a suckling dove. Let her talk. Let her talk!! That is our opinion after hearing Emma Goldman last night lecture for over an hour upon "Anarchy and What It Stands For." As we expected, Miss Goldman said nothing that by the greatest stretch of the imagination could be construed as prompting or condoning violence. Quite to the contrary, she showed that anarchy instead of urging, really condemned violence, and would, if possible, put a stop to it in our social life today. . . . Miss Goldman's lecture was a scholarly treatise on anarchy. She declared that the institutions of property and government are the greatest drawbacks to the establishment of harmony between the individual and the social order. Miss Goldman argued logically from these two false premises and during the course of her remarks said many things that find a firm footing in verity.

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President Taft and Tariff Juggling.

The Milwaukee Journal (Rep.) Sept. 20.—Those who desire relief from the evil condition that ultra-protection has created and which the Aldrich-Payne tariff law continues ought to rejoice over President Taft's utterances at Winona; for, while he sides with Cannon and Aldrich, he unwittingly points the way

*See page 926.

out of the labyrinth of tariff juggling and scheming and dishonesty. The Chicago Tribune, which is the leading Republican paper of the West, sums up the situation when it says that the question is now for the people to decide. This is the whole thing in a nutshell. The people demand tariff revision downward. It is within their power to get tariff revision downward and there is every indication that at last they are in earnest about the matter. They have come to realize in large measure that it is more than an economic question. It is essentially a moral question. It involves the right of government to rob the many in order to enrich the few. Thus not only is the self interest of the masses aroused as never before, but their moral sense is awakened. And on a moral question let it be understood the American people seldom or never go wrong. . . . The central West is in revolt against Taft and the Republican bosses at Washington. It is no state of temporary discontent. It will not die out. It is open, determined rebellion. If anybody doubts this, let him read the views expressed by the Republican press of any of these States. He should not be deceived by trickery, such as the expressions of opinions of Wisconsin newspapers which a Chicago paper published Sunday. The list of these papers, which extolled Taft's speech, was headed by the Milwaukee Sentinel. You know The Sentinel. There followed The Sentinel's trailer, the Evening Wisconsin, whose opinion is generally ignored anyhow. Then there was The Free Press, Senator Stephenson's personally owned organ—Stephenson voted with Aldrich and of course it upheld his side of the controversy. In the list was the Marinette Eagle-Star, Senator Stephenson's home organ. Its editor got part of Uncle Ike's campaign money and its policy can always be accurately anticipated. There was the Janesville Gazette, one of whose editors got part of Senator Stephenson's campaign fund. And so on. Everybody here knows that the opinions of these newspapers is not the sentiment among the Republicans of Wisconsin. The overwhelming numbers of the Republicans of Wisconsin stand with the overwhelming number of the Republicans of Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, the Dakotas and other Western States in opposition to the Aldrich-Payne tariff bill and all that it represents. In due time President Taft will undoubtedly realize that this is the case.

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Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat (dem. Dem.) Sept. 27.—Practically every speech Mr. Taft has made has been a partisan one. His tour is one of defense and explanation. In some States it has been one of defiance. In others it has been one of apology. In all it has been so obviously devoted to purely personal and partisan ends that when we pause to consider the fact that all of us are paying the bills, it really wears the aspect of indecency. We think no other personal and partisan campaign was ever financed out of the public treasury.

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British Politics.

The (London and Manchester) Daily News (Lib.), Sept. 16.—The reasoned and dispassionate statement signed by many distinguished business men that we

publish today is a signal testimony to the wisdom and fairness to industry of the finance bill. The effect of a tax on land values is so well known, not only in theory but in practice, that no business man can ignore it. The signatories to this new manifesto find that, "so far from inflicting any burden on enterprise or industry, a rate or tax on the value of land would afford them stimulus and encouragement." . . . The Chairman of Mather and Platt and his co-signatories note that the land taxes will cheapen land, raw materials, and buildings. Any Australian who has seen this thing done will say the same. There is nothing else to be said—by a business man.

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Labour Leader (Socialist), September 17.—"Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad," runs the proverb. Have the gods decided to lynch the dukes? How else could our feudal barons be incited to make such sorry and pitiful exhibition of themselves? How, after recent happenings, can we be expected to keep alive our superstitious reverence for a lord? Have we not heard them bleating like sheep awaiting the shears, seen them descend to scurvy devices that would disgrace a mountebank? . . . Alas! for the faded glories of our old aristocracy. Aristocracy once had virtue and valour, meaning and purpose. It now discharges no function, accepts no responsibility—ranges itself merely as a parasitic vested interest, hindering national development. . . . It may well be that the Budget, little as its promoters intended it, will strike the death-blow of aristocracy.

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The (London) Nation (Rad. Lib.), Sept. 11.—The House of Lords is being urged by its friends to seize the supreme power in the Constitution, and is likely to follow their advice. It is called on to set itself up above the Crown, which for two hundred years has ceased to exercise a veto on the acts of the responsible Government, and to aim at the destruction of the House of Commons in the historic function which the representative assembly has established after three hundred years of conflict with the Crown and with the aristocracy. This is revolution. It dissolves the established theory and the continual, unvaried practice of British Government. It sets up a state of war between taxpayers and the taxing authority, between traders and their customers. It may compel the Crown to choose between the claims of the Peers and the cause of the People. It displaces law by anarchy, obliterating the group of understandings under which the three governing authorities in the realm act harmoniously, or at least peaceably, together. If such a course of action succeed, it must destroy Liberalism, and put an end to the party system, leaving Conservatism mainly faced by avowedly revolutionary forces. If it fails, the House of Lords must cease to exist. . . . The moment the Lords reject the Budget, we are in the sphere of revolution. Liberal statesmanship, stopped from legislating on land, liquor, education, the franchise, and now at last forbidden even to tax a nobleman, has come to the end of its resources; and the people must be called in to say who shall govern England and how.