

Court to decide that any legislation is unconstitutional.

Eliminating the word "white" from the elective franchise clauses of the present Constitution.

Abolishing capital punishment.

Allowing legislation regulating hours of labor, fixing minimum wages, and providing for the comfort, health and general welfare of hired workers.

Establishing rights of home rule in cities, including ownership and operation of public utilities.

Prohibiting injunctions in industrial disputes except to protect physical property, and providing that in contempt proceedings growing out of labor disputes the defendant shall have a trial by jury.

Prohibiting contract labor in prisons and the sale of prison-made goods, products of prisoners' labor to be disposed of to State and municipal institutions only.

These amendments, to be voted on at the election of September 3rd next, are separately submitted so that any one or more of them may be defeated though the others be adopted. If adopted the Initiative and Referendum amendment will take effect October 1, 1912; the municipal home rule amendment November 15, 1912; the others January 1, 1913. A majority of the popular vote is required to adopt. [See current volume, page 441.]



Convention of Women Singletaxers.

The eleventh annual convention of the Women's National Singletax League, held at Washington, D. C., on the 27th, 28th and 29th of May, is reported in our column of Editorial Correspondence. Preceding the convention Miss Charlotte O. Schetter of New Jersey spoke at the People's Church on the 26th on "The Truth Shall Make Us Free." Miss Grace Isabel Colbron of New York spoke on the same evening at the Socialist local organization on "The New Morality." [See current volume, page 399.]



Land Value Taxation in Great Britain.

Under the auspices of the United Committees for the Taxation of Land Values and in conjunction with local associations of the Liberal party, petitions are in circulation in Great Britain in favor of the taxation of agricultural land values. The petitions are addressed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Of those in circulation in Wiltshire, the London Daily News of April 27 says that—

it is pointed out in the petition that the wage of the Wiltshire agricultural laborer is a miserable pittance, that his cottage is often damp, dismal, and even hard to obtain, that the land is monopolized and withheld from full use, and that the census of 1901 showed that during the previous ten years 22,000 people had migrated from the rural districts of the county. Finally the petitioners pray that such a tax should be levied on the value of all land, whether in town or country, as would compel its

full use, so that a demand for labor may be created that will ensure a just wage both to town and rural workers.

The object of these petitions, as stated by the News, is "to show that rural England, like rural Scotland, is preparing to support the industrial centers in their demand for a national land value tax."



The Negro Uprising in Cuba.

The status of the Cuban insurrection seems to be in doubt. Newspaper dispatches are contradictory as to its strength and its suppression. The United States War Department on the 3rd sold the Cuban government 5,000 rifles and 1,000,000 rounds of ammunition, which are to be used to arm the volunteers and the guards organized by plantation owners to protect their property against the insurrectos. [See current volume, page 514.]



The question as to whether the President of the United States has authority under the Platt amendment to intervene in Cuba if the Island government cannot maintain order, has been under discussion in the United States Senate. The Senate on the 25th adopted a resolution introduced by Senator Bacon of Georgia calling upon the committee on Cuban relations to report what legislation is necessary to enable intervention under the Platt amendment. Senator Bacon declared that the resolution was not designed particularly in reference to the present situation. He felt that there should be some official definitely clothed with the authority of determining the necessity of intervention. The Platt amendment, which governs the United States in its relations to Cuba, does not provide this in the opinion of the Senator. In the past this office has been arbitrarily assumed by the President because his was the only available decision to appeal to in a case of intervention. Senator Bacon wants the committee to recommend legislation which will remedy this. President Taft holds the view that the Executive, without further legislation by Congress, has ample authority for intervention in Cuba when necessary. He so advised the Cuban relations committee of the Senate on the 31st in connection with the Bacon resolution.



Progress with the Chinese Republic.

Slowly orderly conditions are working out in China. The most pressing need is the financial one, and the Great Powers are deliberating the conditions upon which money will be advanced. For some years China has been financed by a syndicate representing the banks of Great Britain, France, Germany and the United States. Since the establishment of the Republic Russia and

Japan have forced their way into this syndicate, and are bringing pressure to bear to attach to the loan political conditions in the way of the disbanding of the Army of the South, which would leave the Chinese helpless against any possible aggressions from their northern neighbors, and in effect make Russia and Japan free to absorb Mongolia and Manchuria. The Chinese Premier, Mr. Tang Shao Yi, very wisely is refusing such conditions. The amount of the foreign loan required to get the new government properly established is \$300,000,000. [See current volume, page 515.]



Of the business situation in China during the revolution the American Consul at Hongkong, George E. Anderson, states in the Daily Consular and Trade Reports of June 1, that "on the whole the revolution has produced much less disturbance financially than might have been expected. The worst effect commercially has been that foreign middlemen were forced to withdraw credit from Chinese buyers, and this restricted business more than any other single element. Banks, as a rule, paid their usual dividends, though with more difficulty than usual."



The present republican government in China is of course provisional. A constitutional convention is to meet this summer to draw up a Constitution and draft an election law. In the meantime the following Bill of Rights from the provisional Constitution is of interest:

1. The citizens of the Republic of China shall be equal, irrespective of race, class or religion.
2. No person shall be arrested, detained, tried or punished without due process of law.
3. Every citizen shall have the right to own property and follow his occupation.
4. Every citizen shall enjoy liberty of speech, writing, publication, calling meetings and forming societies.
5. Every citizen shall enjoy the right of privacy in correspondence.
6. Every citizen shall have the right to reside in or to remove to any place at pleasure.
7. Every citizen shall enjoy the liberty of religious belief.
8. Citizens shall have the right to petition provincial assemblies.
9. Citizens shall have the right to petition administrative offices.
10. Citizens shall have the right to sue and be tried in the courts of justice.
11. Citizens shall have the right to appeal to the administrative court when officials of the government have illegally infringed their rights.
12. Citizens shall have the right to pass government service examinations.
13. Citizens shall have the right to vote and to be elected to public offices.

NEWS NOTES

—Under the management of Mrs. John Sherwin Crosby, president of the Women's Democratic Club of New York City, a National Democratic Women's League was formed at Washington on the 1st.

—At the Senatorial primaries in Iowa on the 3d, Senator W. S. Kenyon defeated ex-Senator LaFayette Young, for the Republican nomination for United States Senator by 50,000 votes. [See vol. xiv, p. 371.]

—Thomas E. Watson, of Georgia, was arrested at his home on the 3d upon a Federal warrant based upon charges of publishing in his magazine through the mails, an article on the Catholic church, containing obscene statements.

—Wilbur Wright, inventor with his younger brother Orville of the first practicable heavier-than-air flying machines, died at his home at Dayton, Ohio, of typhoid fever, on the 30th, at the age of 45. [See vol. xi, p. 181, 470, 589, 613; xii, p. 973.]

—At the instance of Congressman Berger, Attorney General Wickersham has begun an official investigation of Judge Hanford of Seattle with reference to his denaturalizing of a citizen for advocating Socialist amendments to the Federal Constitution. [See current volume, page 460.]

—The sixth annual Sagamore Sociological Conference meets at Sagamore Beach, Cape Cod Bay, on the 26th under the direction of George W. Coleman, to remain in session to and including the 28th. Among the speakers on the program are Charles Zueblin and Livy S. Richard of Boston, and Mayor Lunn of Schenectady. [See vol. xiv, pp. 494, 654.]

—As no one could be found to risk his money in a moving picture show in the small town of Haven, in Reno county, Kansas, and as nevertheless every one in the place enjoyed moving pictures, a "show" has been started on the municipal ownership plan, which has proved a great success. When the receipts are larger than the expenses, free shows are given.

—A preliminary injunction in the civil suit of the government against the coffee trust was denied on the 28th by Judges Lacombe, Coxe, Noyes and Ward in the Federal court at New York; and on the same day the Secretary of State, Mr. Knox, recommended to President Taft that the suit be withdrawn because of possible complications with Brazil. [See current volume, page 491.]

—In their subjugation of Morocco the French are having a long struggle. Fez, which has been the center of disturbance for months, is now dominated by a new French resident Governor, General Hubert Lyautey, who on the 3d announced a successful battle against the investing tribesmen. The Sultan, Mulai Hafid, is reported as desirous of abdicating a throne upon which he is only a figurehead. [See current volume, page 398.]

—In the lower house of Congress on the 28th, the Naval appropriation bill was passed without providing for any new battleships, but with a requirement that government contracts must in future come