

as a reasonable figure. Such unheard of expenditure for the purpose of maintaining vast armies of human beings caged up like wild beasts!—W. C. Owen, in "Crime and Criminals."

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## NEWS NARRATIVE

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The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of *The Public* for earlier information on the same subject.

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Week ending Tuesday, April 4, 1911.

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### Special Session of Congress.

For the first time in nearly twenty years, the Democrats are in control of the lower house of Congress, which assembled in special session on the 4th upon call of President Taft. The Speaker and the ways and means committee had already been chosen at party conference, and upon authority of the conference had planned the other committees; so that when the Democratic caucus assembled on the 1st, nothing remained to do but to organize it formally and confirm the appointments. [See vol. xiv, p. 226.]

Albert S. Burleson of Texas, with twelve years' experience in the House, was elected permanent chairman of the Democratic caucus; and among the selections for committees of the House were the following members:

Henry George, Jr., of New York, for the committee on public lands, the committee on expenditures in the Interior Department, and the committee on affairs of the District of Columbia.

David J. Lewis, of Maryland, for the committee on military affairs and the committee on labor.

Frank J. Buchanan, of Illinois, for the committee on naval affairs and the committee on labor.

William Sulzer, of New York, for chairman of the committee on foreign affairs.

Martin D. Foster, of Illinois, for chairman of the committee on mines and mining.

James M. Graham, of Illinois, for chairman of the committee on expenditures in the Interior Department and as a member of the committee on public lands and of the judiciary committee.

Adolph J. Sabath, of Illinois, for the committee on interstate and foreign commerce and the committee on liquor traffic.

John A. Martin, of Colorado, for the committee on interstate and foreign commerce, the committee on Territories, and the committee on War Department expenditures.

Committees are to be appointed by the House and not by the Speaker as heretofore. [See vol. xiii, pp. 274, 289.]

A Democratic program adopted on the 1st by

the caucus is reported to comprise action on Canadian reciprocity, general tariff revision, election of Senators by direct vote of the people, admission of New Mexico and Arizona to Statehood, publication of campaign expenses in advance of election, re-apportionment, and District of Columbia affairs; also resolutions for investigation of different departments of the government.

At the Republican caucus held on the 3rd, Frank D. Currier of New Hampshire was re-elected chairman, Nathan E. Kendall of Iowa (a progressive) was elected secretary, and on motion of ex-Speaker Cannon, James R. Mann of Illinois was unanimously nominated as the Republican candidate for Speaker, which makes him minority leader in the House. James W. Good of Iowa (a progressive) moved the appointment by the caucus of a committee of seven to select Republican committee members for appointment by the Speaker as minority members; but the motion was defeated, and the old Republican rule prevails, under which the Speaker (in this Congress the minority leader) makes committee selections. Some progressives were at the caucus, such Republicans as Good, Madison, Hays, Kendall, Volstead, Kinkaid and Mitchell; but many were absent, such as Lenroot, Hubbard, Cooper, Nelson, Haugen, Kent and Murdock. At a progressive Republican caucus held on the 3rd in advance of the regular caucus, 42 Representatives were present in person or by proxy, over 30 of them being there in person. A Senatorial caucus of progressive Republicans held at about the same time was attended by Senators La Follette, Clapp, Borah, Bourne, Brown, Dixon, Cummins, Bristow, Crawford, Gronna, Poindexter and Works.

Upon the assembling of Congress at noon on the 4th Champ Clark (Democrat) was elected Speaker by 217 votes, against 131 for James R. Mann (Republican), 16 for Henry A. Cooper (progressive Republican), and 1 for George W. Norris (progressive Republican). Victor Berger (Socialist) refused to vote. Speaker Clark, in taking the chair, outlined the Democratic program as agreed upon in caucus and stated above.

### Dean Worcester and the Anti-Imperialist League.

In connection with the Congressional investigation of American maladministration in the Philippines, which has been vigorously carried on by Congressman John A. Martin of Colorado, an open letter from Dean C. Worcester, U. S. Philippine Commissioner, to the Anti-Imperialist League, was recently published in pamphlet form, in which Mr. Worcester made charges against Erving Winslow of Boston, secretary of the League, and Jackson H. Ralston of Washington, its coun-

sel, for publishing "false" allegations. The executive committee of the League has taken the matter into consideration, and voted that Mr. Winslow— was fully justified in making public certain evidence obtained by the Hon. John A. Martin and used by him in the House of Representatives to expose the abuses in the administration of the land laws by the Philippine Commissioners, and also in making public a brief prepared upon the hearing before the Congressional committee on insular affairs by the Hon. J. H. Ralston, counsel for the League, which had been ordered to be printed by the committee of the League.

A sub-committee of three of the executive committee of the League was appointed at the same meeting to examine Mr. Worcester's pamphlet, to investigate the circumstances connected with its publication, and to make report thereon. This committee consists of the president of the League, Moorfield Storey, the chairman of the executive committee, Albert S. Parsons, and the treasurer of the League, David Greene Haskins. [See vol. xiv, p. 251.]

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#### The Chicago Election.

Carter H. Harrison was elected Mayor of Chicago on the 4th by 177,923, to 160,791 for Chas. E. Merriam, a plurality of 17,132. The vote reported for W. E. Rodriguez, the Socialist candidate, was 24,759; that for Wm. A. Brubaker, the Prohibitionist, was 2,333. [See vol. xiv, pp. 290, 291, 299.] The total vote was 366,903, the largest ever cast in Chicago.

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#### A Socialist Mayor for Berkeley.

At the municipal election in Berkeley, California, on the 1st, under the commission form of government with a second elections feature, J. Stitt Wilson was elected Mayor at the second election by 2,750 to 2,466. His adversary was Beverly L. Hodghead, the incumbent. Mr. Wilson is a Socialist-party socialist. [See vol. xii, p. 470.]

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When the first election had left all candidates for Mayor without a majority, and Mr. Hodghead and Mr. Wilson as the two highest, the contest at the second election was narrowed by the terms of the charter to these two men. The issues between them were outlined by their respective partisans through the San Francisco Star of the 25th, and from those outlines we extract the following as of general interest:

In behalf of Mr. Hodghead: The campaign is unique in its chief essence. The opponents of Mayor Hodghead are of two classes: those who are members of the Socialist party, numbering about 700 in Berkeley, and those who have taken exception to various of his acts. It is to be noted that the adverse

movement is led by the Socialists and that the second party is turning to the Socialists merely to defeat Hodghead and not with any hope of securing redress of what they consider their grievances, because such redress is not a part of the Socialist program. In the furtherance of their propaganda, which was the chief reason of their entering the Berkeley campaign and not the expectation of electing their candidates, the Socialists have made several interesting criticisms of the administration of Mayor Hodghead and his associates in the Council. . . . Next to municipal ownership, their chief cry has been for an increased tax on unimproved property, known usually as the tax on the "unearned increment," or single tax. . . . In opposition to such specious promises, Mayor Hodghead's accomplishments speak for themselves. These accomplishments are offered against Socialist promises.

In behalf of Mr. Wilson: Wilson's platform is above criticism. Condensed, it calls for: (1) Municipal ownership of public utilities "as soon as the legal machinery for the change can be put in motion." (2) One dollar water rate. (3) Municipal electric lighting plant. (4) Municipal incinerator. (5) Municipal gas, telephones, etc. As all this will take time, it is proposed to immediately exercise the "provisions of the Charter to regulate the charges of public-service corporations." (6) Commutation rates on street car lines before 8 a. m. and between 5 and 7 p. m. Half rates for school children. (7) Public utilities department. (8) Kindergartens and night schools. (9) Commission to devise plans for "City Beautiful." Finally the platform emphatically favors "that most scientific and most just source of city revenue, viz.: the unearned increment of land values in its two forms of (1) site values, and (2) franchise values," and advocates a charter amendment "providing for the levying of an additional tax on all unimproved land."

The new Mayor, J. Stitt Wilson, made a phenomenal Socialist party campaign last fall for Governor of California. He was formerly an Evanston (Ill.) clergyman, and is of international reputation as a Socialist leader.

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#### Other Socialist Victories.

Socialist victories are reported also from other municipal elections. In Butte, Montana, at the election of the 3rd, the Rev. Lewis J. Duncan,\* a Unitarian minister and Socialist, was elected Mayor, along with 5 Socialists as aldermen (there are 9 aldermen in all), the police judge and the city treasurer. Mr. Duncan was elected over the Democratic candidate by a plurality of 1,834, the biggest in the history of the city, and he carried every ward but one. In Helena, Montana, 1 Socialist alderman was elected, and in Walkerville, 2; while in Flint, Michigan, the Socialist candidate for mayor, John A. C. Menton, was elected over the Republican candidate by 500 plurality.

\*An interesting letter from Mr. Duncan was printed in the department of Incidental Suggestions of The Public of May 7, 1909, vol. xii, p. 441.