

of this year. A working woman, one of the striking operatives, was shot and killed in a crowd during the progress of the strike; but by whom the shot was fired does not appear. The prosecution proceeded upon the theory that the three defendants named above were criminally responsible for that woman's death, no matter who fired the fatal shot. At the trial, Mr. Ettor was allowed to address the jury after the prosecuting attorney and the attorney for the defense had concluded their appeals to the jury. He is reported by the dispatches to have made an extraordinarily able appeal, in which he demanded a verdict of murder in the first degree, or acquittal. In delivering the case to the jury Judge Joseph Quinn instructed the jury against finding Ettor or Giovannitti guilty of murder in the first degree, "because," as he explained, "it is not contended that either of them premeditated the death of any one"; but as to Caruso, the Judge gave the jury full liberty to find a verdict of murder in the first or second degree, or acquittal, in their discretion. The jury returned a verdict of acquittal of all three defendants on the 26th. Addressing the court upon his release, Mr. Ettor said:

May it please the court, I thank you not only for myself but in the name of my companions. I also feel impelled to thank the court for the fair manner this trial has been conducted. The thanks we offer are not only ours but thanks in the name of the working class.

[See current volume, page 973.]



The Balkan War.

"The shortest great European war in history" is waiting on settlement. Fighting has been only intermittent. [See current volume, page 1140.]



The Greeks have continued to occupy islands, having landed on Chios, in the Aegean, by the 25th, and having taken Sasseno, in the Adriatic, on the 29th. They are also besieging Janina in Epirus.



The Montenegrins have continued to besiege Scutari, with reinforced artillery.



The Servians have pressed on to obtain a port on the Adriatic, and on the 28th occupied Durazzo which holds such a position. "We have occupied Durazzo for perpetuity," was the telegraphic announcement made by the Servian General Jankovitch to his government at Belgrade. The Servians were welcomed by the inhabitants of Durazzo, but a permanent occupation would not only anger Austria, as explained last week, but would contravene the desires of the Albanians them-

selves, since they have set their heart on Albanian autonomy, and have proclaimed their independence. An independent provisional government for Albania has been launched at Avlona, with Ismail Kamel Bey, a Musselman, as President, and a Catholic vice-president. The Albanian flag has been raised, and Albania proclaimed a neutral state under the protection of the Powers. This new government advised the inhabitants of Durazzo and Elassona not to oppose Servian entry. Relative to the relation of the Triple Alliance to a war between Austria and Servia, it is reported that the German Chancellor, Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, speaking in the Reichstag on the 2nd, bound Germany to stand with Austria-Hungary in any war growing out of the Balkan situation, and he maintained that it was to the interest of Germany to preserve Turkey as a powerful economic and political factor.



The Bulgarians have continued to besiege Adrianople and to press against the Turkish line of defenses before Constantinople. Bulgarian aeroplanes have dropped pyroxylin bombs into Adrianople, setting disastrous fires. Leaflets in the Turkish language have also been dropped from the aeroplanes, telling of the victories of the allies, and calling for surrender. The Turks have fired upon the aviators but their shells fall short. On the 29th 9,000 Turks, comprising two reserve divisions, were taken prisoners by the Bulgarians between Dedeaghat and Demotica.



Plenipotentiaries from the Allied Balkan States and from Turkey have been meeting during the week in the private car of the Sultan of Turkey, stationed at the village of Beghtche in the center of a small zone before Constantinople which has been declared neutral for the purposes of truce negotiations. While the preliminaries of an armistice have not yet been signed, the violence of the hostilities have somewhat diminished in expectancy of one. Delay is laid at the door of Greece, which is said not to be satisfied with the arrangements that the other allies are ready to agree to.



The International Socialist Congress, in session at Basel, Switzerland, issued a manifesto to the Socialists of Europe and America on the 25th, calling upon them to resist any war measures advocated by their governments. The declaration, which was drawn up by Jean Jaurès, leader of the French Socialists, says that if the Balkan war should spread to other countries it would be one of the greatest scandals in history. Therefore the Socialists in the Balkans should hasten the end of the war; those in Austria-Hungary should oppose

~~of Columbia by the sub-committee of which he is~~
any contemplated attack upon Serbia; those in Italy should prevent the sacrifice of Albania to Italian ambitions; and those in England, France, and Germany should force their governments to refuse any help to Austria-Hungary and Russia, and should guard absolute neutrality. The manifesto concludes:

The time has passed when the working classes of the world should shoot down one another for the profit of capitalists, and the pride of dynasties, or the exigencies of secret treaties. If the Governments suppress the possibility of evolution and force the proletariat to desperate measures, the responsibility for what happens will rest on the shoulders of the Governments.

The Congress adopted a resolution to hold anti-war meetings in the big cities of Europe on Dec. 16. Because of its publication of this manifesto in its issue of the 26th, the Arbeiter Zeitung of Vienna suffered confiscation of that issue.



National Singletax Conference at Boston.

In connection with the fourth annual meeting of the Joseph Fels Fund Commission of America, the third annual unofficial Conference of Singletaxers of the United States was held at Boston, Mass., on the 29th and 30th of November and the 1st of December. [See vol. xiv, pp. 1194, 1209, 1215, 1261; current volume, page 1117.]



Assembled at the Twentieth Century Club on the 28th, the Conference elected Charles S. Millett, M. D., of Brockton, Mass., as chairman; Carroll W. Doten, professor of economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as vice-chairman, and Reginald Mott Hull of Cambridge as secretary. Frank H. Thomas, president of F. H. Thomas & Co., Boston, acted as chairman part of the time. Early in the proceedings, the Conference was welcomed by Mayor Fitzgerald in an address in the course of which he made concrete applications of Singletax principles so pointedly and forcibly that the Conference adopted with unanimous enthusiasm a unique resolution offered by ex-Congressman Baker of New York. Mr. Baker's resolution stated that as the Mayor's speech was not perfunctory, the Conference wished to acknowledge it in no perfunctory way.



This day's business consisted in the presentation of reports. Daniel Kiefer reported fully for the Fels Fund Commission. For Oregon, reports were made by Wm. S. U'Ren, W. G. Eggleston and J. W. Bengough. The reports for Missouri were by S. L. Moser, Dr. Wm. P. Hill, John Z. White and W. A. Black. For Ohio Herbert S. Bigelow reported. Messages from Canada and

France were brought by Robert L. Scott from the former and by S. Richard Fuller from the latter. Resolutions were submitted by Prof. Lewis J. Johnson embodying advisory proposals by the Conference with reference to the activities of the Commission and the desirability of taking advantage of the opportunity afforded by the large affirmative votes directly on the Singletax in Missouri, California, Oregon and Washington. Action was deferred until the 29th.



Following is the report of the Joseph Fels Fund Commission, presented by its chairman, Daniel Kiefer, as stated above:

At the Conference of last year the principal work laid out was to give what help we could to the Singletaxers of Oregon and of Missouri in the fight they had in contemplation for the adoption of Singletax measures.

In Missouri, a State-wide measure providing for gradual adoption of the Singletax was submitted. In Oregon the workers submitted a graduated tax measure providing in addition to regular taxes a sur-tax on all lands exceeding \$10,000 in value owned by one individual or corporation. It also provided that the straight Singletax for local purposes should prevail in every county in the State except where the voters should order otherwise. While the graduated tax feature could not be correctly called Singletax and was only called so by our enemies, yet its adoption would have disarmed much of the opposition to our principles. In three of the counties local Singletax measures were submitted under the home-rule Amendment.

We were furthermore interested in trying to defeat a repealer of the Oregon home-rule Amendment adopted two years ago, and also an Amendment submitted by plutocratic interests to render further use of the Initiative and Referendum useless.

The Commission was also called upon to aid campaigns in California and Washington. In California a home-rule in taxation Amendment was submitted through the Initiative. In two cities of Washington, Seattle and Everett, there were local contests for the Singletax.

In Ohio a successful fight was made for a new progressive Constitution, providing for the Initiative and Referendum and abolishing the requirement of a clear majority of all voters for future Amendments. The opposition to these changes was declared to be based on fear lest these measures should bring about the Singletax. Although the Initiative and Referendum Amendment had been loaded with what was intended to be an inhibition of its use for any change in taxation, it has failed of its purpose. It does not prevent use of the Initiative and Referendum for submission of Constitutional amendments providing for the Singletax or any other tax system. The State was flooded with literature denouncing the work of the Constitutional Convention as in the interest of the Singletax movement. Some quotations from this literature may be interesting. One document stated: "Allen Ripley Foote of the Ohio State Board of Commerce is distributing a limited number of discus-