

speech for the defense to the jury following a five days' opening speech for the prosecution. The defense rests upon the theory that only three of the defendants were concerned in the conspiracy, and that they are the three witnesses for the prosecution (including McManigal) who have pleaded guilty. The taking of testimony began on the 9th. [See current volume, page 973.]



Home Rule Campaign in California.

To defeat the pending amendment initiated in California and to be voted on at the general election in November, which provides for municipal home rule in taxation, California real estate interests have organized an "Anti-Singletax League." Since the people of localities would be empowered by this amendment to exempt property from taxation for local purposes, and as—to quote their declaration—"the men back of the movement to secure the adoption of the amendment are those engaged in promulgating the theory of Singletax," the Anti-Singletax League opposes local option in taxation lest localities take advantage of it to exempt all property values except land values. [See current volume, pages 754, 843.]



Important Municipal Elections in Great Britain.

Associated Press reports of the 12th from London tell of an active campaign now in progress in Great Britain between the various political parties in anticipation of municipal elections to be held in November. The issue, say these dispatches—

between the Moderates, who now control most of the boroughs, and the Progressives has become so sharp that the campaign is as exciting as a Parliamentary contest. Each borough has its own particular pet problem, but running through all of them is the feeling that the Moderates represent the privately controlled interests while the Progressives stand for the public control of utilities.

[See vol. x, pp. 34, 369; vol. xiii, pp. 218, 228.]



Italo-Turkish Peace Reported.

Italy on the 12th gave Turkey three days' grace to decide whether a peace should be settled between them, or the war continued. On the 15th, the Italian and Turkish representatives in session at Ouchy, Switzerland, signed the protocol of a peace treaty which ends the war between Italy and Turkey. The terms are thus summed up in the dispatch of the Associated Press:

The treaty will provide for absolute sovereignty of Italy in Libya, without formal recognition there of Italy by Turkey; free exercise of religious authority by the Khalif; Turkey to withdraw her regular troops from Libya; Italy to pay an indemnity equivalent to Libya contributions to the Ottoman treasury; restitution of the captured islands to Turkey, with guaran-

tees for the Christian people; no indemnity payable by either side toward the cost of the war, and re-establishment of former diplomatic and commercial relations.

[See current volume, pages 922, 948.]



The Balkan War.

War broke in the Balkan peninsula on the 8th, as reported last week, when a warning issued by Austria and Russia in the name of the great Powers was forestalled by only a few hours by a declaration of war issued by the tiny little kingdom of Montenegro (the Black Mountain country looking down on the Adriatic). The Montenegrins under their old King Nicholas proceeded to attack a strong Turkish position opposite the Montenegrin town of Podgoritz, the headquarters of the Montenegrin troops. The conflict resulted in the capture on the 9th by the Montenegrins of the Turkish position on Detchitch mountain, commanding the road to Scutari, with the surrender of the Turkish commander and his officers and the bulk of his troops. The Montenegrins have followed this victory with a series of like successes, one point after another falling into their hands, but not without serious losses to themselves. It is said that these Montenegrin successes are regarded as unimportant in Constantinople, where directions are being given to bring over troops from Asia, with the expectation that in a few days the effective fighting force of European Turkey will be brought up to 400,000 men. While up to date no other of the allied Balkan states has formally declared war on Turkey, intervention has been rejected, and Greece, Servia and Bulgaria are mobilizing rapidly, and irregular fighting, with massacres and the burning of villages, occurring all along the frontiers. By the 13th Greece had 125,000 men under arms, with Greeks arriving daily from abroad. A large contingent had already reached there from America. Greeks and Bulgarians from all parts of the United States continue to hasten to their home countries. In the meantime, 80,000 Russians have been collected on the Russian frontier, further threatening the peace of Europe; and the Austrian foreign minister, Mr. Von Berchtold, said for his own country on the 10th: "We have important interests which we will protect at any cost." [See vol. xiv, p. 828; current volume, page 947.]



The representatives of the great Powers handed a collective note to the Turkish government on the 10th, as follows, according to the Associated Press dispatches:

The undersigned Ambassadors of Austria-Hungary, Great Britain, France, Russia and Germany have been instructed by their respective governments to inform the Sublime Porte that the five Powers take

note of the intention of Turkey, publicly announced, to introduce reforms, and they will immediately discuss with the Porte, in the spirit of article XXIII of the treaty of Berlin and the law of 1880, the reforms required in the administration of European Turkey and the measures capable of assuring their realization in the interest of the populations, it being understood that the reforms will not affect the territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire.

According to a dispatch of the 14th from Paris, the Balkan allies have semi-officially replied to the warnings and representations of the Powers. After thanking the Powers for their interest in the reforms demanded in European Turkey they declare that the repeated promises given by Turkey in connection with the reforms have remained a dead letter. The situation of the Christians in Macedonia has, therefore, become intolerable, and the Balkan states believe it to be their duty to ask the Ottoman government directly to make the solemn engagements contained in the note attached by the allies. They therefore ask Turkey to grant without delay:

Division of the provinces of European Turkey into ethnical circumscriptions.

Nominating of Belgian or Swiss Christian governors.

Equality of schools of whatever faith.

Equality of representation in the Turkish parliament.

Admission of Christians into every branch of administration of the empire.

Formation of Christian military divisions.

These reforms the Balkan states demand should be put into execution by a commission of Christians and Mussulmen under the auspices of representatives of the Powers.

The enumeration of the reforms is preceded by a demand that Turkey demobilize her army.



An interview with Charles R. Crane of Chicago, now temporarily resident in New York as one of the managers of the Wilson campaign, appeared in the Chicago Tribune of the 14th. Mr. Crane, who is well acquainted with the East and has recently traveled extensively in the Balkan states, making careful inquiry into their political and economic conditions, said that—

If war has any justification in the hearts of men it would be found in the conditions existing in the Balkan states today—those states not yet freed from the domination of the Turk. The world cannot conceive, despite the wide dissemination of information, the actual horrible situation to which the Turks have subjected the Balkan citizens. . . .

There is no semblance of any sort of freedom. It is slavery and slaughter, and it is growing worse all the time. The Young Turks are cruel masters. For instance, all schools and institutions of learning of all kinds have been wiped out under the Young Turks' regime. . . .

There is only one way to solve it, in my opinion,

and that is to drive the Turk out. I believe this is what will happen. The Turkish population of Turkey in Europe is only 20 per cent. of the total population of these states, and it is the great crime of the larger Powers to allow the Turk to continue to oppress Christian people. . . .

Montenegro, Servia, Roumania and Bulgaria have all made great advancement since they freed themselves from the Turkish yoke. The development of Bulgaria has been as remarkable as that of Japan. In the thirty-four years of their history, succeeding 500 years of Turkish oppression, the Bulgars have developed into a thoroughly modern people. They have adopted compulsory education and excel in commerce and industry. They are among the best gardeners in Europe; they are fine statesmen, capable of instruction and assimilation, and if given an opportunity, unhampered by oppression, would bring their country to rank high among nations of that size.

The leaders of the people are leaders in every sense of the word; intelligent, far-seeing, noble men, inspired by dreams of liberty. Every one of them speaks American English and has the American point of view. They are all graduates of the American college at Constantinople. The wonderful effect of this instruction by an American institution could be paralleled nowhere else in the world.

The women, too, are, many of them, graduates of the American college for girls in Constantinople, and their influence, based upon this teaching, is far-reaching and beneficent. . . .

There can be no prolonged peace in the Balkans until Macedonia and Albania have both been given freedom and autonomy. It is their inalienable right, and they are possessed of sufficient ability and intelligence to handle their own affairs. Certainly they could do this infinitely better than the Turks can do it for them.

NEWS NOTES

—The British Parliament reopened on the 8th. [See current volume, page 779.]

—The New York inheritance tax paid by the Astor estate on the 11th amounted to \$3,150,000, indicating an appraisal of the estate at \$77,826,000. [See current volume, page 367.]

—The Chicago Inter Ocean passed on the 9th from the nominal ownership of George Wheeler Hinman to that of Herman H. Kohlsaat, the editor and nominal owner of the Record-Herald.

—A suit to test the Constitutionality of the recent Act of Congress requiring periodicals to publish information about themselves, was brought in the Federal courts at New York on the 9th by the Journal of Commerce.

—As the memorial to Tom L. Johnson, the Cleveland committee in charge decided on the 25th to erect a bronze statue in the Public Square where Mayor Johnson established three public rostrums in the interest of unrestricted free speech. [See current volume, page 851.]

—Walter William Skeat, professor of Anglo-Saxon at the English University of Cambridge since 1878,