

public welfare. It has cost centuries to secure popular government—the blood of millions of the best and the bravest has been poured out to establish the doctrine that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. All this struggle, all this sacrifice, has been in vain if, when we secure a representative government, the people's representatives can betray them with impunity and mock their constituents while they draw salaries from the public treasury. The Initiative and Referendum do not decrease the importance of legislative bodies, nor do they withdraw authority from those who are elected to represent the people; on the contrary, when the people have the Initiative and Referendum with which to protect themselves they can safely confer a larger authority upon their representatives. The fact that the people can act through the Initiative and Referendum makes it less likely that they will need to employ the remedy. The attacks which formerly were made upon the Initiative and the Referendum have been directed more recently against what is known as the Recall. But it will be found upon examination that the Recall is an evolution rather than a revolution. The right to terminate an official term before its legal expiration has always been recognized. I know of no public official who is not subject to impeachment at the hands of some tribunal. If impeachment had been found entirely satisfactory the Recall would not now be under discussion, but impeachment has proved unsatisfactory. In discussing the Recall, I have assumed that it would apply without discrimination against all officials, including the judiciary. The argument that a judge should be exempt from the operation of the Recall even when it is applied to other officials, has no sound foundation. A judge is as much a public servant as any one else; if it is insisted that he enjoys public confidence to a greater extent than other public officials this very argument answers itself, because that superior confidence will protect the judge against injustice. In proportion as people have confidence in the bench they will be slow to remove a judge on insufficient grounds. The judge who would be swerved by fear of a Recall would not be fit for the place, anyhow. If there is any position in which we need rigid, uncompromising uprightness it is upon the bench, and the Recall, instead of menacing the independence of the judiciary, is more likely to improve the character of those who occupy judicial positions. With the Recall official terms may with safety be made longer. And speaking of the length of terms, the tendency is toward making an Executive ineligible to re-election. His duties are so responsible and his influence is so extended that he should be free to devote his best energies to public affairs, and no one can devote his best energies to the public if his vision is clouded by political aspiration or his judgment perverted by personal considerations.



Woman Suffrage in the United States.

At a joint meeting of the Senate Committee on Woman Suffrage and the House Committee on the Judiciary, at Washington on the 13th, representatives of the National Suffrage Association and other organizations advocated a Constitutional

amendment extending the suffrage to women. Among the speakers were Anna Howard Shaw, Jane Addams, Mary E. McDowell, Leonora O'Reilly, Caroline A. Lowe, Ella S. Stewart and Elsie Cole Phillips. The opposition was represented by Ella C. Breihaut.



Taking advantage of the decision of Judge Owens to allow preferential Presidential primaries (not provided for by law) to be held in Cook County (the Chicago county) at the regular primaries in April upon payment of the extra expense by those interested, Mrs. Catharine Waugh McCulloch and other woman suffragists applied to him on the 13th for similar submission on like terms and at the same time, of the question, "Do you approve extending suffrage to women?" Judge Owens granted the request, and a campaign is now in progress. It has been learned, however, that the County Clerk, under legal advice, refuses to place the question on the official primary ballots. [See current volume, page 228.]



The Mexican Insurrection.

General Pascual Orozco has sent two envoys, Manuel Lujan and Juan Priete Quemper, attorneys of Chihuahua, to Washington to present to the President of the United States the merits of the insurrection Orozco is leading.



A joint Congressional resolution, passed by the United States Senate on the 13th, and by the House on the 14th, and immediately signed by President Taft, makes it unlawful to export arms or munitions of war to any American country where domestic violence exists. The President immediately afterward issued a proclamation declaring that since such domestic violence existed in Mexico all Federal law officers were enjoined to prevent violations of the resolution. Violation of the new law becomes a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of \$10,000 or imprisonment for two years, or both. The joint resolution is so worded that government officials will make use of it in the future to prevent filibustering expeditions to any American country where a state of revolution exists. [See current volume, page 254.]



The Disorders in China.

The city of Canton in south China still suffers from the looting of bands of revolvers and brigands, with which the regular Republican troops are fighting; and the neighboring seaport city of Swatow is now in the same case. President Yuan Shi Kai is still unable to bring his own provinces of north China into order. It is said in the dispatches that