

the laying out and establishing of a park or playground, but also any land within 200 feet of the limits or sides of such street, park or playground; and shall pay such compensation for any land so taken or injuriously affected by the exercise of any power conferred by this section as may be agreed upon, or in default of agreement as may be determined by arbitration under the provisions of the Consolidated Municipal Act of 1903. Provided that the corporation shall sell and dispose of so much of the said lands as are not required for such work, within seven years, or within such further time as may be fixed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

This is the first time in the Province of Ontario, and probably the first time anywhere, that a city has been allowed by law to expropriate land for the special purpose of securing the added value given to it by public work. It appears to be one form of the movement for securing unearned increment for public use—interpreting the term “unearned increment” in the narrow sense in which it is most commonly employed, namely, that increase of value which attaches to land during the period between its purchase and its sale. [See vol. xiii, p. 949.]

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#### The Ferrer Question in Spain.

After more turbulent and threatening debating in the Cortes over the trial and execution of Francisco Ferrer last year, the Chamber of Deputies on the 8th rejected by a vote of 129 to 23 a Republican motion demanding that the Government introduce a bill modifying the code of military justice and abrogating the law of jurisdiction. The dispatches report that the Premier, Mr. Canalejas, announced that the modification of the military code was already on the program of the Government and that the law of jurisdiction could not be abrogated before the military code was modified. The protracted debate thus ended as anticipated, in a noncommittal verdict. [See vol. xiv, p. 323.]

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An incipient Republican revolt was reported from the Province of Malaga in the south of Spain on the 10th.

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#### The Russian Constitutional Crisis.

Mr. Rodzianko was elected President of the Douma on the 4th, in place of Mr. Guchkoff whose resignation was reported two weeks ago. Mr. Rodzianko is classed as a Conservative, and was the candidate of the Octoberists. [See vol. xiv, p. 301.]

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For the first time in its history the Council of the Empire, the upper house of the Russian parliament, on the 6th adopted an interpellation attacking the Government, by a vote of 98 to 52. The interpellation related to the action of the Government in promulgating the Zemstvo bill by Im-

perial ukase during a forced proroguing of the parliament, as reported last month. The dispatches report that the galleries were crowded for the discussion of the interpellation. Prince Troubetsky declared the government had violated the normal course of legislation and the stability of the fundamental laws reposing in solemn Imperial ukases. Senator Naryshkin, spokesman for the Conservatives, said the members of his party were not worried over the constitutional guarantees, but the Government's action had shaken the trust of the people in the Czar's word. Prof. Kovalevsky, representing the left wing, declared that the council of ministers had usurped legislative functions; its action meant that the council of ministers claimed a decisive voice in case of disagreement between the upper and the lower chamber. [See vol. xiv, p. 301.]

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## NEWS NOTES

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—A conflagration in Tokio, the capital of Japan, on the 9th, swept over four square miles and destroyed about \$3,000,000 of property.

—One hundred and twenty-eight men, most of them Negro convicts, perished in a coal mine explosion at the Banner mines, near Littleton, Ala., on the 8th.

—Mr. James McCarthy will address the Chicago Single Tax Club (508 Schiller Bldg.), Friday, April 14, on “The Opportunities of Single Taxers in the Organized Labor Movement.”

—A bill which is reported in effect to provide for direct nomination of United States Senators, was passed on the 7th by the Minnesota Senate. A similar bill has been passed by the House.

—Governor Wilson, of New Jersey, sent a message to the legislature on the 11th, urging the establishment of the commission form of government for New Jersey cities, with initiative, referendum and recall provisions.

—A \$25,000 monument in Chicago to the memory of Governor John P. Altgeld is proposed in a bill introduced in the Illinois Senate on the 6th by Senator Waage. The bill was referred to the committee on appropriations.

—Men teachers in the elementary schools of New York city appointed hereafter will receive no more pay than women, the Board of Education having adopted that method of equal pay for equal work. [See vol. xii, pp. 494, 1095.]

—Senators Borah, Bristow and Culberson introduced resolutions in the United States Senate on the 6th for amending the Constitution so as to provide for election of United States Senators directly by the people. [See vol. xiv, p. 206.]

—Cornelius McAuliff, for many years managing editor of the Chicago Record-Herald, died on the 10th at the age of 61. Mr. McAuliff, though intense in his devotion to newspaper work as a profession, was independent in opinion and of radical mind as a citizen.

—Without a dissenting vote the Senate of Iowa adopted, on the 6th, a House bill providing for the