

to read another out of the Republican party. He reads himself out if he is disloyal, and if he cannot by his own works show his colors. We want no schisms in the Republican party. It is the time for doing things, and after Congress has adjourned the Republican party will have formed its lines of attack.

Mr. Wickersham was more pointed. He said in his speech:

I am sure I voice your thought when I say the time of running with the hare and hunting with the hounds is over, and everyone must choose whether or not he is for the President and the Republican party. He that "hath no stomach for the fight" let him depart. Treason has ever consisted in giving aid and comfort to the enemy. If anyone wishes to join the Democratic party let him do so. But let him not claim to be a Republican and in and out of season work to defeat Republican measures and to subvert the influence of the Republican President.

In a Chicago interview the following day (printed in the Chicago Tribune of the 11th) Mr. Wickersham indicated in these words the purpose of the Standpatters to nominate Mr. Taft for a second term:

So much has been accomplished by the administration in the period of President Taft's incumbency that I believe the remainder of his term will suffice to accomplish much or most of what he has mapped out as desirable. There is the certainty, however, that before his term expires other questions of great importance, some of which I have in mind, will develop and will demand disposition. Under those circumstances there would or might arise the desirability of another term for the present Executive.

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Pullman Car Extortion.

Upon a report of Commissioner Franklin K. Lane, the Interstate Commerce Commission has decided (Commissioners Knapp and Harlan dissenting) that Pullman sleeping-car charges must be substantially less for upper than for lower berths, and that on several routes both must be lowered. It puts a night's journey at \$1.50 for lower and \$1.10 for upper berths. The investigation upon which this report is based showed annual dividends of nearly \$60,000,000 from 1899 to 1908, inclusive, and that in 1898, a cash dividend of \$7,200,000 was paid out of accumulated surplus; that in 1899 a special stock dividend of 50 per cent, amounting to \$18,000,000, was declared; that in 1907 there was another of 36 per cent, amounting to \$26,015,256; and that in 1898 the stock of the company was increased from \$36,000,000 to \$100,000,000, of which \$20,000,000 is accounted for by the acquisition of the Wagner Palace Car Company, but the remainder represents capitalization of surplus. No additional capital was put in.

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Three Cent Fares in Cleveland.

Notwithstanding that the gross earnings of the

Cleveland Traction Company under the first month of the full 3-cent fare regime (pp. 207, 244) were \$33,999.15 less in March 1910 than in the same month of 1909 (when only one-third of the lines were under 3-cent fares) the earnings for March 1910 yield a surplus, over and above all charges, including 6 per cent on the investment.

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British Politics.

In committee of the whole the British House of Commons (p. 320) on the 7th adopted the resolution denying to the House of Lords the right of veto on financial legislation. The vote was 339 to 237, a majority of 102. The second resolution, limiting the Lords' veto on general legislation, is now under debate in committee of the whole.

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The Taxation of the Unearned Increment of Land Values in Germany.

The Reichstag, the Imperial German Parliament, last July adopted a resolution requiring that a bill should be introduced by the Government by April 1, 1911, formulating a method for the taxation of the "unearned increment" (p. 245) of land values. The resolution was passed in connection with the adoption of a tax on real estate transfers in a general fiscal reform measure. The Public of July 16 (p. 682), thus described the situation:

A ministerial memorandum on this subject had been submitted to the Reichstag on the 15th of June as embodying the views of the treasury department. This memorandum declared that a measure for the taxation of increased land values for purposes of Imperial finance would not be feasible at present, because it would interfere with municipal taxation. In summing up the results of the investigation of the treasury department, however, the memorandum declared that the taxation of unearned increment is justifiable, and is very suitable for local purposes, but cannot be considered for the purposes of the present Imperial finance reform, as it is still too obscure both in theory and practice to enable the scheme to be worked out within the time at the government's disposal. It is apparently in deference to the final suggestion that the Reichstag has now directed the government to bring in two years hence, a measure for unearned increment taxation.

In November (vol. xii, p. 1066) the Imperial Government asked the governments of the federated States to hasten their reports concerning the introduction of an unearned increment land tax, coupling this request with the explanation that the Government will allow the municipalities a rebate for five years of the average amount raised by the unearned increment tax during the period of its operation.

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That the Government is now prepared to sub-

mit a measure providing for the taxation of the unearned increment of land, was stated by an Associated Press dispatch of the 11th. The dispatch asserts that through this legislation the Government simply will take for Imperial uses 6 per cent of the taxes derived by the municipalities from unearned increment. This, it is expected, will yield \$7,500,000, as the municipalities are now collecting about \$125,000,000 from the unearned increment annually.

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Prussian Police Permit Open Air Meetings.

The recent repression by the police of Prussia of all open air meetings of protest in connection with the Government's franchise bill (p. 275), and even of "demonstrative strolls" (p. 228, 254)—a repression which included the use of mounted gendarmes who slashed the populace with their sabers—has met with such widespread popular condemnation that the repressive attitude has been countermanded from high quarters, presumably by the King of Prussia himself. On the 8th, to its own and every one else's astonishment, the Democratic Union of Berlin obtained permission to hold an open air meeting at Trep-tow park (p. 228) on the following Sunday to discuss franchise reform. And greater amazement followed when the Socialists received a similar permission on the following day. The Police President, Mr. von Jagow, stipulated that traffic was not to be hindered, that there should be no long procession, and no banners, and that the organizers should undertake to control the manifestations. These stipulations were readily agreed to. The ultra-Conservatives are reported to have been indignant at the permissions. They saw "Prussia going to the dogs, and the abandonment of everything that makes life worth living," say the dispatches. On Sunday, the 10th, the demonstrations came off. Over 120,000 Socialists and Radicals took part. Open air meetings had been sanctioned for three places. From eleven o'clock in the morning, say the reports, the streets of Berlin resounded with the tramp of earnest looking men from every precinct, marching to the meeting places. "One-third of the demonstrators were women, which was extraordinary, because the Prussian laws forbid women from participating in political meetings." The dispatches continue:

There was no shouting or singing as the crowds passed through the streets, from which the police seemed to have disappeared as if by magic. Squads arrived at the parks about 1 o'clock with military precision. There they gathered around sixteen improvised and numbered platforms, from which at the sound of a bugle, Socialist and Radical members of the Reichstag and Landtag began addresses, in which they vehemently denounced the injustices of the present system of elections. For an hour and a

half the orators continued amid deafening cheers, and at 2:30 another bugle sounded, and for one minute utter silence prevailed. Then a resolution declaring that it was the determination of those gathered together to fight for reform until victory had been won for the people, was passed by acclamation. Enthusiastic scenes ensued, and there was great cheering for the rights of the democracy, while 100,000 voices broke into the stirring strains of the workmen's "Marseillaise" and the "Song of Freedom," but they desisted on orders from the leaders. The meetings then disbanded, the original groups marching off as they had come, without the slightest disorder. The most significant features of the manifestation were the orderly manner in which it was conducted, the police in the future having no reason for refusing Socialist requests for open air assemblages; and the co-operation between the Socialists and Radicals, this being the first time in which they joined in such a demonstration, indicating the depth of feeling among the workers regarding the necessity for suffrage reform. Commissioner von Jagow, who in civilian clothes witnessed the demonstration, was utterly surprised at the discipline and good order.

Huge open air meetings were also held at Breslau, Magdeburg, Cologne, Bochum, Dortmund, Essen, Duesseldorf and Stettin, with police interference only at Breslau.

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The Philippines for the Filipinos.

At a general convention of the National Progresista party (vol. xii, pp. 512, 1095), held in Manila February 6, the United States Government was petitioned to define explicitly the political status of the Philippine Islands with a view to obtaining independence in the near future. The Progresista party believes that after a dozen years of American administration, and in view of the progress that has been made by the Filipinos in the art of self-government, this demand is quite reasonable and just, and will not impair the existing peace and order in the Islands or the trade relations between the two countries. The following preambles and resolution were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, During the last twelve years of American sovereignty in the Philippine Islands, several resolutions, among them those introduced by Senators Bacon, Tillman and Stone and by Representatives McCall, Williams, Burgess, Hardwick and Slayden, were presented to the Congress of the United States, for the purpose of obtaining from said Congress an express and definite declaration that it is not the intention of the American people to retain indefinitely the Philippine Islands, but to aid the Filipino people in establishing their national independence;

Whereas, Such resolutions have met with the unanimous approval of the whole Filipino people;

Whereas, The attitude of a great majority of American citizens residing in the Philippine Islands, maintaining that a perpetual American sovereignty over these islands is the only means to induce the investment of American as well as foreign capital, thereby impliedly asserting that the Filipino people