

evening to a large audience in a theater, and the next day at a Canadian Club luncheon. Two weeks before we arrived there, the people of Victoria had given a vote of almost 6 to 1 in favor of raising municipal revenues by a land value tax, as has been stated in *The Public*.<sup>\*</sup> When that tax is put into operation, the Hudson's Bay Company will begin to use some of the vacant lots it owns in Victoria.

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Arriving in Seattle at 9 p. m. on January 26, we fell into the arms of the men employed by the United States government to discourage trade and encourage perjury and smuggling. Smuggling is pursuing happiness and gratifying desire in a moral way contrary to law. All the passengers that came on the *Princess Charlotte* from Victoria were run through a cattle chute to a corral on the dock, where Uncle Sam's round-up men awaited us with a classified list of fines. They went through our belongings with the skill of the old-time Rocky Mountain road agents, and held a caucus over two sets of mounted horns that Kiefer had bought in Canada. He bought them under the hypnotic impression that they were real buffalo horns; but it was finally decided that they were "old wearing apparel in use," and there was no fine for importing them.

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Not knowing that we were to be in their city at that time, the people of Seattle were holding some recall festivities over Mayor Gill.† Still, we had two interesting meetings in the Y. M. C. A. auditorium, one at a high school where we spoke to 1,700 students, a small meeting in a restaurant, and a very enthusiastic meeting at a luncheon. Fels also had a B'nai Brith meeting, which I didn't attend.

The most interesting fact learned in our visit to Seattle was that the exemption of improvements and personal property in Vancouver is worrying Seattle, and the worry isn't decreased by the fact that Victoria will soon adopt the same system. Carpenters and other builders are leaving Seattle for Vancouver; more will go to Victoria; and builders buy goods from merchants; therefore, the "booster" business is bad in Seattle.

In Portland, on January 31 and February 1, there were two good meetings, addressed by Fels, Scott, U'Ren and McAllister; and Kiefer and Fels left me behind, while they completed the circuit of the continent.

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I am sure the trip was more than worth while. We met many earnest workers for democracy, men whom it is profitable to know; and the unselfish earnestness and sincerity of Fels and Kiefer are "catching." The times are not so much out of joint since two such men answer "present" when democracy calls for men. They are not literally obeying the injunction, "Sell all that thou hast and give to the poor." They are doing better than that; they are giving themselves, to bring the justice that will abolish involuntary poverty.

W. G. EGGLESTON.

<sup>\*</sup>See *The Public*, page 83 of this volume.

<sup>†</sup>See *The Public*, page 134 of this volume.

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## NEWS NARRATIVE

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To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

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Week ending Tuesday, March 14, 1911.

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### United States Forces Appear to Threaten Mexico.

The precipitation of United States troops and ships toward the Mexican border and coasts, reported last week (p. 230), has continued during the days following the first announcement. San Antonio is the chief army headquarters, with Major General Wm. H. Carter commanding. The explanation of the mobilization, that it has been arranged for practice maneuvers solely, has been met with incredulity; the *Chicago Record-Herald*, for example, remarking that "troops are not assembled for 'maneuvers' with ammunition trains fully loaded with ball cartridges." The surgeon general issued an order on the 10th to have all the soldiers being mobilized in Texas vaccinated against yellow fever, which, it is noted, is prevalent in the heart of Mexico, with no appearance of it in Texas. The War Department sent invitations to all of the States to send officers to "observe the maneuvers." On the 13th it was reported that applications had been received from 1,950 officers of the National Guards of the different States who wished to participate, and that they were to be given practice stunts of two weeks each.

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Representatives of the Mexican government were at first apparently perfectly satisfied that the advance of the American forces had no sinister significance for their country, but on the 10th, Mr. de la Barra, the Mexican minister at Washington, announced that Mexico would resent any intervention in its affairs by the United States or any other nation. The Mexican minister also denied that the insurrection in Mexico has any strength or importance.

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The United States cruiser *Chester* arrived from Guantanamo, Cuba (p. 230), off Tampico, Mexico, on the morning of the 11th, and it was asserted in the dispatches that American war vessels were patrolling both Mexican coasts. It was also announced that a second detail of 15,000 troops was ready to be rushed to the Mexican border so soon as the 20,000 already massed there

should be moved on. On the 13th, however, it was stated that the warships had been recalled from patrolling Mexican waters.

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#### The Mexican Insurrection.

That the Diaz government would wage a war of extermination against the insurrectos was announced on the 11th from Mexico City, and a bill providing for the resurrection of a provision of the Mexican Constitution not used for fifteen years, by which the government should set aside for six months certain personal guarantees, was sent to the Permanent Commission of the Mexican Congress. Under such a suspension of guarantees, those detected in the act of highway robbery, of raiding a village or farm, or train wrecking, or cutting telegraph or telephone wires, or even removing a spike from a railroad track or throwing a stone at the train, will be summarily shot by those making the arrest. On the 13th the Congressional Committee approved the bill as drafted, and it proceeded to second reading. It is expected to become law this week.

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Of the status of the insurrection itself it is difficult to obtain news. Battles are reported won by both parties. On the 14th the insurrection was reported to have spread from its long-held center in the State of Chihuahua to the States of Coahuila and Morelo. A newspaper man who has been in he field with the insurrectos, writes thus from Maria, Texas:

To secure the facts from the insurgent viewpoints I joined the revolutionists in the field and was an eyewitness of one of the most determined battles of the war.

From my observations in the field I have concluded that the trouble in Mexico is a real uprising of the people against the federal government, that the sympathy of the great majority of the people is with the Liberals, and that men with brains and money are organizing and leading the fight with a determination to win.

Americans and other foreigners have been treated with exaggerated consideration and their property respected by the insurrectos. It seems to be the policy of the revolutionists to fight with bullets and kindness—bullets for the soldiers of Diaz and religious respect for the political and property rights of noncombatants.

Everywhere I went I found the people wildly enthusiastic for the new order and eager to volunteer. Every gun that has been carried into Old Mexico has found a dozen volunteers ready to use it against the army of Diaz.

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#### Peace Sentiment in the British Parliament.

When the increased naval appropriations of the 1911 budget came before the British House of Commons on the 13th, J. A. Murray Macdonald,

a Liberal member of the House and a leading free trader, made a motion to the effect that the House viewed with alarm the increased expenditure on the army and navy, and that it ought to be diminished. In behalf of the Ministry, Sir Edward Gray, in charge of this feature of the budget as foreign secretary, replied to Mr. Macdonald's motion, formally opposing it but favorably emphasizing its spirit. In his reply he said, as reported, that—

it was not to be inferred by the increase in the present estimates that Great Britain's foreign relations had become strained. He could say the high water mark of naval expansion had been reached, provided the building programs of other powers so far as known to the government were followed out. They were doing their utmost to promote good will on every hand. Sir Edward said it was a paradox that armaments were increasing while the nations were seeking good relations, but it was a greater paradox that the growth of the enormous burdens of armaments coincided with the growth of civilization. "If this tremendous expenditure and rivalry continue," he declared, "it must in the long run break down civilization. You are having this great burden piled up in times of peace and if it goes on increasing by leaps and bounds as it has done in the last generation it will become intolerable. There are those who think it will lead to war. I think it is much more likely to be dissipated by internal revolution—by a revolt of the masses of men against taxation." Sir Edward believed, however, that rivalry would not be stopped merely by one nation dropping out of the race. On the contrary, such a step might give impetus to expenditures by some other nations. He did not believe Great Britain was feeling most the burden of armaments because in this country taxation was so arranged that it was not as heavily felt by those to whom existence must always be a struggle. When they began to create hunger by taxation, as sooner or later every country would if military expenditures went on increasing, they would be within a measurable distance of stopping the evil. "What may be impossible to one generation may be possible to another. The great nations of the earth are in bondage—increasing bondage—to army and navy expenditure and it is not impossible that in some future years they will discover, as individuals have discovered, that law is a better remedy than force and that in all the time they have been in bondage the prison door has been locked on the inside." "Arbitration," Sir Edward went on, "has been increasing, but you must take a long step forward before the increase in arbitration will have an effect upon expenditures for armaments. I should perhaps have thought it unprofitable to mention arbitration had it not been that twice within the last twelve months the President of the United States has sketched out a step in advance more momentous than any one thing any statesman in his position has ventured to say before. His words are pregnant with far reaching consequences. Mr. Taft recently said he did not see any reason why matters of national honor should not be referred to a court of arbitration. He has said that if the United States