

enough to suppose that Johnson would dread the single tax issue.

Hanna and Herrick have ploughed the ground all over the State of Ohio, and Johnson and his single tax friends may be trusted to sow the seed. In Ohio the single tax policy is henceforth in practical politics.

And it needs only to be discussed to win. For it is grounded in justice, and like all just policies it would improve the condition of everyone who lives by his own industry. It would injure none but those who live in the sweat of other men's faces. Nor, indeed, would it injure even them. It would make them men instead of parasites.

This is the coming issue in American politics. It cannot be confined to Ohio. Wherever monopoly flourishes, this simple and just method of undermining and abolishing monopoly will be discussed. Let good citizens but familiarize themselves with the question, and the power of the privileged will quickly be dissipated.

Three possibilities present themselves: (1) The plutocratic-socialism of the trusts, with their ship subsidies and plundering taxation, their land-grabbing expansion and imperialistic colonies; (2) democratic socialism, with its submergence of the individual; (3) the policy of natural and beneficent evolution proposed by "Johnsonism," with its socialization, as public property, of land values and public utilities, and its more complete individualization of private affairs and private property.

From these three possibilities the choice must be made, and the day for making it is even now at hand.

A CONDEMNATORY CONDONATION.

A man's gift maketh room for him and bringeth him before great men.—Bible.

And thou shalt take no gift; for the gift blindeth the wise, and perverteth the words of the righteous.—Ibid.

Mr. Bengough's recent cartoon (p. 464), in which a Janus-faced monopolist is pictured as offering a railroad pass, which "Theodore Roosevelt, as Theodore Roosevelt," on his right, has rejected,

but which "the personage who happens at the present time to occupy the position of President of the United States," on his left, is in the act of accepting, is (oh, the pity of it!), a graphic representation of fact.

During President Roosevelt's recent trip it was charged that the railroads were carrying him free.

Instantly Republican newspapers indignantly denied the charge. They repelled with scorn the allegation that the President of the United States of America—"Time's noblest offspring;" the land of Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln—should have accepted a gift that even malice might regard as a political bribe.

But now it appears that the railroads did carry him free. Do these Republican editors, so recently shocked at the bare aspersion, now hang their heads in shame when confronted by the undeniable fact?

So revolting was the act charged against the President that his political adherents hastened to assure the country that none but a base demagogue would be guilty of so vile an accusation. Now that the charge is known to be true, do these high-minded sons of a glorious ancestry repudiate the guilty and disgraced offender?

No! (publish it not in Gath!) they seek to exculpate him!

And on what ground? Hear, oh my countrymen! On the ground that the gift-taker is a public official!

Could infamy search out, in the whole realm of sophistry, a more disgusting refuge?

Could political degeneracy find a lower depth?

The very defense offered by his friends defines with inevitable precision the President's act.

When does a gift become a potential bribe? Is it when the recipient is a private individual, and as such merely, incapable of rendering valuable service in re-

turn; or is it when the recipient is a public official, and as such, clothed with ample power to reward the donors?

The Lord, instructing Moses, as governor of Israel, said: "And thou shalt take no gift; for the gift blindeth the wise, and perverteth the words of the righteous."

All human experience has proved the wisdom of the above words; and "the personage who happens at the present time to occupy the position of President of the United States" may read with profit a part of the twentieth verse of the ninth chapter of Job, which says: "If I justify myself, mine own mouth shall condemn me."

Republican editors, in their attempts to justify the President, have but emphasized his condemnation.

EDWARD HOWELL PUTNAM.

NEWS

Week ending Thursday, Nov. 12.

Events in connection with the Panama revolt and the relation thereto of the United States government (p. 486), have come in rapid succession. At the present time the revolutionists have acquired control of Panama, the Colombian troops having departed at the request of the American naval commander; the United States has formally recognized the provisional government of the republic of Panama; and the Colombian government has been authoritatively advised from Washington that it will not be allowed to recover its authority over its seceding member.

Panama has been a part of the territory now known as Colombia for two centuries. It was originally part of the Spanish vice-royalty of New Granada, which included Ecuador and Venezuela. Having achieved independence, 1811-24, the vice-royalty of New Granada established the Republic of Colombia. This republic being dissolved in 1829-32, by the withdrawal of Ecuador and Venezuela, the re-

public of New Granada was organized with Panama as one of its Provinces. After several alterations in the constitution of New Granada, one was made in 1858 whereby the Provinces were erected into the States of a federal republic, and in 1863 the name of this federation was changed from New Granada to the "United States of Colombia." Another change occurred in 1886. The domestic sovereignty of the States being then abolished, they became Departments of the general government, with governors appointed by the President. The name of the general government was at the same time changed to the Republic of Colombia.

Negotiations between Colombia and the United States for an interoceanic canal through the Department of Panama resulted in the rejection last August by Colombia of the treaty authorized by the United States (p. 311), and immediately thereupon rumors of the probable secession of Panama became current. It was more than hinted, also, that the United States would encourage the secession movement with a view to securing canal concessions from the seceding Department when it should have been established as a nation. The United States government, however, is not yet known to have done more at first than to cable the American minister to Colombia late in July, 1903, a message of instructions, made public September 4, the concluding words of which were as follows:

If Colombia neglects to ratify the treaty unamended, the United States will be forced to take measures that will be a source of regret to all friends of Colombia.

The treaty having been rejected, signs of a secession movement in Panama were observed about the time of the publication of the above message, and on the 3d of November a proclamation of Panama independence was promulgated from the city of Panama, of which the seceders had then acquired possession. Meanwhile the United States had dispatched several war ships to the Isthmus, and on the 4th Commander Hubbard, of the U. S. gunboat "Nashville," warned the Co-

lombian authorities at Colon that the use of the Isthmian railroad for the transportation of troops to suppress the rebellion would not be permitted. A body of U. S. marines was landed from the "Nashville" on the 5th to prevent a conflict between Colombian troops and seceders at Colon, and on the same day the Colombian troops abandoned Colon and embarked for Cartagena. They did this upon the urgent advice of the American naval commander, Hubbard, of Superintendent Shaler, of the Panama Railroad company, and of Assistant Superintendent Prescott, of that company. Coincidentally with their departure the United States government at Washington received a formal announcement by cable, from the city of Panama, of the establishment of the Republic of Panama. This announcement was signed by the three consuls constituting a provisional government—Frederico Boyd, Jose Augustin Arango, and Tomas Arias. Phillipe Bunan-Varilla is accredited to the United States as minister from Panama.

On the following day, the 6th, these instructions were cabled from Washington to the American minister to Colombia at Bogota:

The people of Panama, having by an apparently unanimous movement dissolved their political connection with the Republic of Colombia and resumed their independence, and having adopted a government of their own, republican in form, with which the government of the United States of America has entered into relations, the President of the United States, in accordance with the ties of friendship which have so long and so happily existed between the respective nations, most earnestly commends to the governments of Colombia and Panama the peaceful and equitable settlement of all questions at issue between them. He holds that he is bound not merely by treaty obligations but by the interests of civilization to see that the peaceful traffic of the world across the isthmus of Panama shall not longer be disturbed by a constant succession of unnecessary and wasteful civil wars.

This recognition of the Republic of Panama was agreed upon at a protracted session of the cabinet on the 6th, with all members in attendance except Root and Wilson. France has since followed the American example, though

with a less formal recognition of the seceding government.

It appears, however, that the government of Colombia has not yet acquiesced in the Panama secession. Colombian troops are being embarked on British ships to enforce the authority of the general government. Upon learning of this the Washington authorities cabled instructions on the 9th to the American war vessels at the Isthmus to prevent the embarkation, and otherwise to stop any attempt on the part of the Colombian government to despatch troops from any of the Atlantic or Pacific ports of Colombia to Panama. These instructions were soon discovered, however, to be a dangerous blunder. To have carried them out would have been an act of war against Colombia, in which Great Britain would have been concerned on account of its interference with the legitimate traffic of the British merchant vessels which have undertaken to transport the Colombian troops. The instructions were therefore withdrawn on the 10th. In their place instructions are now given to the naval commanders to prevent the disembarkation of Colombian troops in the vicinity of the Panama railroad. The American government rests its right to enforce such instructions upon its treaty of 1846 with New Granada, under which it guarantees peaceable transport across the Isthmus.

The government of Colombia has protested strongly to the government at Washington against its hostile interpretation of the treaty of 1846 and its attitude toward the secession of Panama.

Another revolution in Santo Domingo, or more accurately, perhaps, a renewal of the one which ended last Spring (p. 59) in the seating of Wos y Gil as president, appears to have culminated in the return to power of ex-President Jiminez. A manifesto of October 24th, signed by Gen. Calos Morales and others, charged many details of mismanagement as the cause of the revolt, one of them being a project to make "Dominion waters neutral and to make the Republic's ports free in case of war." On the 10th a Cape Hay-

tien dispatch told of a report from Monte Cristo that the city of Santo Domingo had capitulated to the revolutionists, and that General Jiminez, the former president, had been proclaimed president of the republic. Another dispatch of the same date, coming by way of Paris, stated that after three days' of fighting President Wos y Gil had taken refuge in the German consulate in the city of Santo Domingo, the capital, and that the revolution was considered at an end. Later advices indicate that the capital is still under siege, but certain to fall unless foreign interests intervene.

Pursuant to President Roosevelt's proclamation convening Congress in special session for the consideration of the reciprocity treaty with Cuba (p. 458), both Houses of the 58th Congress met on the 9th. At the Republican caucus on the 7th Joseph G. Cannon, of Illinois, was nominated for Speaker. The Democrats, holding their caucus on the same day, gave the speakership nomination to John S. Williams, of Mississippi.

An incident occurred at the Democratic caucus which was not on the regular programme. Robert Baker, of New York, who had already refused the railroad pass proffered him by the Baltimore and Ohio Railway company's lawyer (p. 263), offered the following resolution:

Whereas, it becomes increasingly apparent that the trusts owe their existence in large part to the fact of their having been the beneficiaries of outrageous and illegal freight rate discrimination, and it is also evident that the Republican party is controlled and directed by the railroad and trust magnates; and, whereas, it is both right and expedient for the Democratic party to boldly attack these monopolies, making it clear that no permanent relief from these oppressive conditions can be had until the illicit and criminal relations between the trusts and the railroads is terminated; and, whereas, the time has come to present to the people convincing evidence that no one charged with the formulation or putting into effect of democratic principles is in any way a party to or countenances these violations of law or morals; therefore be it resolved, that, regardless of the practice of the Republicans, it is the sense of this caucus that its members do not accept passes or other favors from the railroads.

Mr. Baker's resolution was referred to a committee of the caucus by a vote of 72 to 24. The committee consists of Baker, of New York; Livingston, of Georgia, and Gooch, of Kentucky.

Upon the assembling of Congress on the 9th Mr. Cannon was elected as Speaker in the lower House, the old rules were adopted, and a resolution calling for papers on the Panama situation was passed. No business of importance was done in the Senate. On the 10th both Houses listened to the President's message, which was confined to an argument for legislation necessary to render the Cuban treaty operative. The Senate referred both message and treaty to the committee on foreign affairs; the House referred the message to the committee on ways and means.

Ohio election returns (p. 485), as reported unofficially by the Cleveland Plain Dealer, are as follows for governor:

City of Cleveland:	
Herrick (R.).....	36,993
Johnson (D.).....	32,314
	4,679
Cuyahoga County:	
Herrick (R.).....	45,169
Johnson (D.).....	36,649
Plurality (R.).....	8,520

The plurality for Herrick in the State at large was 114,706. In Richland county, where Johnson defeated the so-called "black sheep" Democrat, Earhart (p. 113), for renomination, the Democratic candidate was defeated by 38 votes in a total poll of 10,652. Johnson carried the county as gubernatorial candidate by 446. On referendum propositions the municipal ownership of electric lighting plant for Cleveland, requiring a two-thirds vote, was defeated. Three of the constitutional amendments were carried and two defeated. Those that carried give the veto power to the governor, limit the liability of stockholders, and give each county representation in the legislature regardless of its population. The other amendments, one proposing classification of property for purposes of taxation, and the other of cities for purposes of municipal legislation, were defeated. In the legislature the Republicans have 29 in the Senate and 89 in the House and the Dem-

ocrats 4 in the Senate and 21 in the House—a Republican majority of 93 on joint ballot. The Democrats carried four more counties for Johnson for governor than for legislators.

From other States and municipalities the following reports are made:

Massachusetts:	
Bates (R.).....	199,393
Gaston (D.).....	166,554
— (Soc.).....	25,000
Pennsylvania:	
Republican plurality.....	265,000
Rhode Island:	
Garvin (D.).....	30,891
Colt (R.).....	29,364
Anguly (Soc. L.).....	970
Furlong (Soc.).....	422
Jencks (Pro.).....	1,166
Colorado:	
Republican plurality.....	7,000
People's party.....	10,000
Nebraska:	
Republican plurality.....	10,000
Kentucky:	
Democratic plurality.....	30,408
Salt Lake City, Utah:	
Democratic plurality.....	2,200
San Francisco, Cal.:	
Schmitz (Lab.).....	19,621
Crocker (R.).....	19,621
Lane (D.).....	12,578
Whitney (Soc.).....	1,094

NEWS NOTES.

—A strike in the coal mines of Colorado was begun on the 8th.

—William J. Bryan sailed for Europe from New York on the Majestic, November 11.

—Wages of the employes of the steel trust are to be reduced ten per cent.—about \$15,000,000.

—A conference of Negro leaders on the race question has been in session at Washington during the week.

—The American Federation of Labor began its annual convention at Boston, in Faneuil hall, on the 8th.

—Fall River (Mass.) cotton mills announce a ten per cent. reduction in wages, to take effect November 23.

—William L. Elkins, one of the traction magnates of the United States, died at Philadelphia on the 7th at the age of 71.

—What promises to be a bitter strike was begun at four o'clock in the morning of the 12th by the employes of the Chicago City Railway company.

—Judge Holdom, of Chicago, sentenced three trade union men on the 9th to fines of \$100 and imprisonment for 30 days on charges of violating a labor injunction. The specific accusation was assault and battery.

—The Philippine Commission at Manila has confirmed an anti-slavery law passed by the legislative council of the Moro provinces October 5. The law