

Brooklyn was elected chairman, and Joseph Dana Miller, editor of the Single Tax Review, secretary. Daniel Kiefer, chairman of the Commission, stated the purposes of the Fund, and reported on the work of the Commission, saying incidentally that he wanted no pecuniary recognition of his own services. W. S. U'Ren reported on the work of the Commission in Oregon; former Governor L. F. C. Garvin, on the work in Rhode Island; and Dr. Wm. P. Hill for Missouri. Daniel Kiefer reported on *The Public*, in extending the influence of which the Commission had had a hand. John Z. White reported on work in New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado. Letters more or less critical of the work of the Commission, and mostly favoring a policy of pure Single Tax propaganda in place of political preparation for the Single Tax, were read from Lawson Purdy, A. C. Pleydell, Edward Polak and Wm. Lustgarten. Speeches to this question were made by the Hon. Tom L. Johnson, Western Starr, George Wallace, and C. S. Prizer, winding up with one from Jackson H. Ralston, representing the Commission. Later, speeches criticising the Commission were made by E. L. Heydecker, F. C. Leubuscher, Jos. Dana Miller, Wm. Ryan, Benjamin Doblin and J. J. Murphy; responses being made by Will L. Price, Joseph Fels and John Z. White; with pacific remarks from John S. Crosby and C. H. Ingersoll. Lincoln Steffens closed for the Commission, asking that definite plans for better lines of work should be submitted to the Commission by its critics.

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On the following day, Sunday, a general explanatory discussion included remarks from W. S. U'Ren, Dr. Mary D. Hussey, Miss Grace Isabel Colbron, Miss Amy Mali Hicks, James W. Bucklin, Dr. Florence Leigh Jones, W. G. Eggleston, L. S. Dickey and Warren Worth Bailey, with Frederic C. Howe closing for the Commission. The conference ended its sessions with adopting a resolution commemorative of the death on this day, in Russia, of Leo Tolstoy. The resolution was offered by Joseph Dana Miller, and was seconded by Congressman-elect Henry George, Jr., in an eloquent address.

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Others present at the sessions were George A. Briggs of Indiana, Professor Lewis J. Johnson of Harvard University, Theodore J. Amberg of Chicago, W. A. Somers of Cleveland, Dr. M. R. Leverison and Byron W. Holt of New York, Frank Stephens of Arden, Del., James R. Carret of Boston, and Bolton Hall of New York.

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Strike of the Chicago Garment Workers.

A commissary system on a large scale has been organized by the Chicago Federation of Labor,

working in co-operation with the Women's Trade Union League, for the relief of the needy among the striking garment workers. By a card system, milk, coal, meat and groceries are being furnished from a number of commissary stations, in place of the cash payments usually attempted under such conditions. The huge proportions of this strike, involving 40,000 workers, and the unusually helpless character of the labor in the garment trades, renders this plan imperative. The essentially organic character of labor becomes apparent when the labor army has to be fed on a large scale. The gigantic tasks devolving upon this commissariat may be measured from the appeal sent out by the Women's Trade Union League on the 15th, for milk for the 7,500 babies in the strikers' families. The Chicago Federation of Labor voted on the 20th to assess each of its members 25 cents a week during the continuance of the strike, for the benefit of the strikers. A sale of a special edition of the *Daily Socialist*, donated for the purpose, on the streets on Saturday evening, by an organized corps of strikers, brought \$3,300 into the strike fund. The introduction of non-union workers into some of the shops where the regular workers are on strike produced rioting in the streets on several days of the past week.

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The Illinois Women's Clubs Endorse the Unionization of the Garment Workers.

The Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs, in session last week at Peoria, elected Mrs. Minnie Starr Grainger of Belvidere for president for the ensuing year. The cause of the striking garment workers of Chicago was presented to the Federation on the 18th by Dr. Rachele S. Yarros and Miss Alice Henry. The Federation adopted the report of its committee on the strike matter, of which Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin was chairman, without a dissenting vote. The last paragraph of this report reads as follows:

The natural method of removing the causes of irritation in the shops and of making a more healthful social life possible is some form of organization among the workers which will mediate between the worker and the employer in order that minute grievances may find a natural expression instead of being piled up so as to cause widespread industrial disturbances as now prevail in Chicago, and this is especially necessary in order that the manufacturers may insure themselves against the recurrence of such disturbances and deal with their employes through committees of shop representatives.

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Unrest in Mexico.

The rioting against Americans in Mexico, recited last week (p. 1097), seems to have been preliminary to a vague insurrectionary movement, which is reported uncertainly and with many contradictions. Rioting which took on the propor-

tions of a battle was reported from Puebla on the 18th. A hundred persons—soldiers, citizens and police, including the chief of police—were reported as killed. The movement is believed to be under some direction from Francesco I. Madero, who was a candidate for the Presidency at the last elections (p. 731) against the "perpetual" President, Porfirio Diaz. During the election period Pres. Diaz kept Mr. Madero in prison on a charge of having aroused sedition (p. 613). Liberated last month, Madero fled to Texas, whence it is believed, he has been engineering an uprising. He is reported as saying that revolution is inevitable, and as having set the period between the 20th and the 30th of this month as the time for its first manifestations. Mexicans are said to be pouring across the borders from Texas into Mexico. United States troops are massing on the border to prevent the smuggling of weapons across the frontier. Little outbreaks are reported from various points in Mexico, but apparently the Diaz government is suppressing them with a heavy hand.

NEWS NOTES

—The National Civil Service Reform League is to hold its annual meeting in Baltimore, December 15 and 16.

—The United States Land and Irrigation Exposition (vol. xii, p. 997) opened at the Coliseum in Chicago on the 19th.

—Former Governor G. M. Terrell has been appointed by Governor Brown of Georgia as United States Senator in the place of Senator Clay, who died on the 13th (p. 1097).

—Robin J. Cooper, who with his father (since pardoned—see page 369) was convicted of assassinating the late Senator Carmack of Tennessee, and who was given a new trial by the State Supreme Court (p. 369), was given a verdict of "not guilty" on the 15th.

—Mrs. Charles E. Lees has just been selected as Mayor of the English town of Oldham, according to a dispatch of the 20th. The report says that "a couple of very small boroughs have vested this executive honor in women, but Oldham takes the lead among the big towns of England."

—Penny lunches, consisting of an unlimited amount of hot, thick soup and bread and butter, are to be furnished experimentally in six of the Chicago public schools. The domestic science departments of the schools will prepare the food. It is especially desired that the younger and poorer children shall get nourishment.

—Guthrie is to remain for the present the capital of the State of Oklahoma, the Supreme Court of the State (p. 733) having decided that the election on the amendment to remove the capital to Oklahoma City was void because of defects in the title of the ballot. Governor Haskell has announced that he will call a special session of the Legislature to authorize a new referendum on the question of the

State capital. Other cities will now contest with Oklahoma City for the site.

—Ralph Johnstone, holder of the world's record for altitude in a heavier than air machine (p. 1045), attempted a "spiral glide" while flying at Denver on the 17th, when through some accident, or because of the small carrying power of the rare air of the high Colorado country, the machine fell from a height of 500 feet, and Johnstone was instantly killed.

—The official date for the opening of the Panama canal (vol. xii, pp. 206, 267) has been January 1, 1915; but the engineers report that the canal will actually be finished on December 1, 1913. Lieut. Colonel Goethals, chief engineer, declares that the canal will be completed with the sums of money already authorized by Congress, without further appropriation.

—The Chinese Imperial Senate (p. 1073) is adopting the filibustering tactics of the older parliamentary bodies of the younger nations. On the 9th several of the members, resenting the refusal of the grand councilors to attend and explain in person the reason for the Throne's failure to punish the governor of Hunan for contracting a loan without consulting the Provincial Assembly, blocked the business of the house for four hours.

—Madame Catherine Breshkovsky (p. 880), well known in America, who was sentenced last March in St. Petersburg to perpetual exile in Siberia, reached Lower Ilmsk, her appointed place of exile, August 27, according to a report in a recent *The Outlook*. The *Outlook* says of the "wretched East Siberian village" of Lower Ilmsk that it "is situated nearly four thousand miles east of St. Petersburg, on the upper Tunguska River, in about the latitude of northern Labrador, and its climate is so severe that it has an average temperature of twenty-eight degrees below zero Fahrenheit for the three winter months."

—Benjamin Fay Mills, who delivered several series of lectures in Chicago the latter part of October and the early part of November, has been invited to occupy a regular platform in Chicago on Sunday mornings and afternoons, commencing January 1st, at the Whitney Opera House, and Mr. Mills has accepted for January. In the mornings his address will be of a spiritual type, and in the afternoons he will discuss sociological topics. The chairman of the committee is Francis G. Hanchett, the treasurer is J. H. Topping of the Mutual Life Insurance Co., and the secretary is Miss Frances L. Dusenberry, 40 Randolph St., from whom further information can be obtained.

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And is it possible, after all, that there may be a flaw in the title-deeds? Is, or is not, the system wrong that gives one married pair so immense a superfluity of luxurious home, and shuts out a million others from any home whatever? One day or another, safe as they deem themselves, and safe as the hereditary temper of the people really tends to make them, the gentlemen of England will be compelled to face this question.—"Our Old Home," by Nathaniel Hawthorne.