

government in and for the city of Chicago.

No law based upon this amendment to the Constitution, affecting the municipal government of the city of Chicago, shall take effect until such law shall be consented to by a majority of the legal voters of said city voting on the question at any election, municipal, general or special; and no local or special law based upon this amendment affecting specially any part of the city of Chicago shall take effect until consented to by a majority of the legal voters of such part of said city voting on the question at any election, general, municipal or special. Nothing in this section contained shall be construed to repeal, amend or affect Section four (4) of Article XI. of the Constitution of this State.

Relative to the charter amendment, just quoted, the Chicago Board of Education, at its meeting on the 12th, at the solicitation of the Civic Federation, with which the amendment originated, has directed a general distribution through the public school pupils of the literature prepared in support of the amendment by the committee which is agitating for its adoption. Upon learning of this, the Federation of Labor, on the 15th instructed its legislative committee to apply to the Board of Education to direct a similar distribution on like conditions of its literature in support of the three "public policy" questions quoted above. This committee was authorized, in the event of its request being refused, to institute legal proceedings to prevent distribution of any election literature through the schools.

Parliamentary elections in Italy are reported as approaching, at which a determined stand is to be made by conservatives against what the dispatches catalogue indiscriminately as "socialists, republicans, and anarchists," (vol. iii, pp. 92, 121, 136, 187, 427, 713, 729; iv, pp. 172, 202, 524, 745; vol. 394). The Italian parliament is divided into two houses, a senate and a chamber of deputies. The senate is composed of the princes of the royal house who are of age, and an unlimited number of members above 40 years old and with certain other qualifications, who are named by the king for life. Members of the chamber of deputies are elected by all citizens 21 years of age and having certain additional qualifications. Rad-

icalism of various types, including socialism, is strongly represented in the present parliament.

The great battle in the Russian-Japanese war, which we reported last week (p. 442) as having been brought on by the Russians taking the aggressive and moving southward from Mukden was still being fiercely fought as late as the 19th. On the 14th the tide of battle was reported as having turned in favor of the Japanese, and the Russian lines as shattered. On the 15th a Japanese victory was reported as complete. But the news of the 16th described the Russians as having rallied for a last stand on the banks of the Shakhe river, about ten miles south of Mukden. By the 17th they had resumed the offensive and retaken some lost ground, according to Mukden reports; but according to Tokio reports of the 18th, in the morning, all the Russian attacks had been repulsed. It now appears that this long and bloody battle ended on the 19th with the repulse of the Russian movement and a gain to the Japanese of about 15 miles of ground northward. The armies face each other at the Shakhe river, ten miles south of Mukden. The number of men engaged in the battle just ended is reported as 500,000; the estimated number of killed as 15,000, and of wounded as 40,000—a total of 55,000 casualties. It began on the 9th and ended on the 19th, the fighting meanwhile being incessant.

NEWS NOTES.

—King George of Saxony died at Pillnitz on the 15th, at the age of 72.

—Thomas E. Watson is to be the only speaker at a People's party mass meeting at the Grand Central Palace, New York City, on the 24th, at 8 p. m.

—Alonzo B. Cornell, Republican governor of New York 1880-83, and son of Ezra Cornell, the founder of Cornell university, died at Ithaca on the 15th at the age of 72.

—Philip Weinsimer, former president of the Building Trades Alliance, was found guilty on the 18th at New York City, on the charge of extorting \$2,700 from George J. Essig for calling off a strike. He is to be sentenced on the 28th.

—A meeting of the Socialist Party at Chicago on the 17th packed the Auditorium to listen to Debs and Hanford, the party candidates respectively for President and Vice-President of the

United States. J. B. Smiley presided. An admission fee was charged and paid.

—A 75-cent dinner is to be tendered Alfred J. Boulton, People's party candidate for Governor of New York at the Labor Lyceum, at Willoughby and Myrtle avenues, Brooklyn, on the 30th at 7 p. m., at which Judge Samuel Seabury is to preside. The arrangements are in charge of Edwin Hammond, 357 Fulton St., Brooklyn.

—The statistics of exports and imports of the United States (p. 411) for the three months ending September 30, 1904, as given by the statistical sheet of the Department of Commerce and Labor for September, were as follow (M standing for merchandise, G for gold and S for silver):

	Exports.	Imports.	Balance.
M	\$311,838,627	\$242,767,712	\$69,070,915 exp.
G	14,590,515	20,927,824	6,337,309 im.p.
S	12,762,221	5,897,603	6,864,618 exp.
	\$339,191,363	\$269,593,139	\$69,598,224 exp.

—Stephen Dudley Field, nephew of the Atlantic cable inventor, has recorded successfully the Morse alphabet on paper tape by means of wireless telegraphy. The experiment was carried out on the 16th, in the presence of a few friends of Mr. Field at his electrical laboratory in Stockbridge, Mass., with the aid of Mr. Field's invention of what he calls an amplifier. It is an electrically delicate machine of wire coils and magnets so adjusted as to record all variations in the electric current which passes through it. It occupies less than half a cubic foot of space, and Mr. Field says it is nothing but a mechanical microscope for electricity.

PRESS OPINIONS.

THE POLITICAL CALM.

(Minneapolis) Farm, Stock and Home (agr'l), Oct. 15.—Now we are enjoying the political calm that precedes the inevitable storm. And the coming storm will be violent and epoch-making, for the present dissatisfied, faction-riven partisans, and the great army of "political orphans" as well will then be aligned on one side or the other of the momentous question of whether this is to be a government of the man or the dollar, whether it is to be a democracy or a plutocracy. There will be no dearth of "issues" then, and it is dead certain that neither of the contending sides will be "safe and sane" in the estimation of the other. Radicalism will be in the saddle, and may it be radicalism safely tempered with sane conservatism, is the wish of all lovers of the truly republican form of government.

BRYAN'S CAMPAIGNING.

Chicago, Daily News (Ind.), Oct. 19.—Mr. Bryan certainly draws crowds like a live one.

Nashville Daily News (Dem.), Oct. 13.—Bryan by his loyal and manly course at St. Louis did himself everlasting credit and set an example to his followers which is worth thousands of votes for the party. In not bolting the convention, he forever silenced the critics who charged him with a "rule or ruin" policy, bitterly disappointed the Republicans, and intrenched himself more firmly in the confidence and respect of the people than ever before.

Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat (Dem.), Oct. 18.—Mr. Bryan may not save Indiana. But