

All that has stood in the way of this in the present Parliament is the Lords' veto. If that is condemned by the popular vote, the veto will be abolished by act of Parliament, secured either by submission of the present majority in the Lords, or by appointment of enough new Lords to make a Liberal majority. The next step will be home rule for Ireland through a local legislature invested with full legislative power as to home affairs.



The Labor Party in British Politics.

Promises by the Asquith government are reported to the effect that upon disposing of the Lords' veto the Government will propose a bill to modify the Osborne decision (p. 949). Under this decision trades unions are denied the right to contribute from their funds to political purposes. This puts the Labor parties at a deadly disadvantage, their candidates being thereby deprived of campaign support, and also of salaries while serving in the unpaid capacity of members of Parliament. Mr. Asquith promises a Government measure authorizing political uses of labor union funds, provided individual members of labor unions are not coerced into making such payments for political parties to which they are opposed. The Labor parties are reported as dissatisfied with the proviso.



Woman Suffrage in British Politics.

Regarding the question of woman's suffrage (pp. 586, 708) Mr. Asquith announced on the 22d that if the Liberal government is returned at the approaching elections it will afford facilities for Parliamentary discussion and action on a bill for woman's suffrage so framed as to be subject to amendment. This promise is characterized by suffrage leaders as a declaration of war.



The explanation of the proviso in Mr. Asquith's promise is that the bill demanded by the militant suffragists is limited in its operation to women of property, and is unamendable. It has already been before Parliament (p. 586) under the name of the "Conciliation bill." Lloyd George, a believer in and advocate of woman suffrage, refused to vote for it at that time because, as he explained, it was limited to women of property, to whom it gives the plural vote, and therefore discriminated in favor of the reactionary vote. Subsequently, at a hearing he gave to woman suffragists in his own constituency in Wales, as reported in the London and Manchester Daily News of September 29, 1910, an interchange of views took place, which fairly outlines the character of the controversy:

Miss Lampport, who introduced the deputation, said the Chancellor's speech at Bodnant had given great dissatisfaction to some of the women in his constituency and in North Wales, believing, as they did,

that the Conciliation bill was more urgently needed than other measures which Mr. Lloyd George put before it. Miss Barrett, the next speaker, presumed Mr. Lloyd George's reason for voting against it was that he did not consider it democratic. Mr. Lloyd George replied that he voted against the bill because it was not capable—he would vote for any woman's suffrage bill which was capable—of amendment. The Prime Minister, although personally opposed to the principle of women suffrage, root and branch, was prepared to give facilities for a democratic measure. Miss Barrett said this was democratic.

Mr. Lloyd George: Well, he does not agree. Why on earth women had not given that pledge a fair chance he did not know, but all the reward Ministers had had so far for fighting the cause of woman was abuse and insult. Supposing there was as good a chance in favor of giving the franchise to the married women of the working classes, would Miss Barrett prefer the Conciliation bill?

Miss Barrett: I decline to answer the question. We support this bill because it removes sex disqualification and because it has a safe majority in the House of Commons.

Mr. Lloyd George said that was doubtful. That point could only be settled when the committee of the bill was taken. The House of Commons ought to have an opportunity of suggesting alternatives to the Conciliation bill. If the House rejected those alternatives, the men like himself, who were in favor of woman suffrage, would have to face the problem whether they preferred a limited franchise to nothing. That problem had never been put to him yet.

Coming to the question of compromise, the Chancellor said: You may take 't from me I am in favor of compromise if I cannot get a perfect bill. I have got a view as to what the best bill is. That is the view taken by the Women's Liberal Association some months ago, and I don't know that they have changed.

Miss Barrett: They support this bill.

Mr. Lloyd George: Yes, on the ground of expediency. I don't agree with them, and I think I am as good a judge as they. . . . I have not the slightest doubt it would add hundreds of thousands to the plural votes in the country. If an amendment on this point were carried it would alter very materially my view about the bill, but I feel certain the amendment would not be carried, certainly not in the House of Lords. . . . I put first of all the causes I have at heart—Welsh disestablishment, land reform, improvement of the condition of the masses. I say frankly I care far less for the cause of the Liberal party than the cause of the people from whom I have sprung. I place them before anything else.

Mrs. Yale and Mrs. Price White, interposing, said they were also interested in the solution of these problems, and they wanted to have a voice in settling them. Mr. Lloyd George asked if they would have a vote under the Conciliation bill. They replied in the negative, whereupon the Chancellor asked if a better illustration could be found of the defects of this measure.



In behalf of this Conciliation bill, their pro-

gram of violence has been resumed by the militant suffragists. As reported by the dispatches a physical assault upon Mr. Asquith was made on the 22d in the street, and about 100 women were arrested. Mr. Asquith was not seriously injured; but on the 23d, Mr. Birrell, chief secretary for Ireland, was similarly attacked, and as a result of blows and kicks has been confined to his bed and compelled to cancel speaking engagements. Other suffragist disorders occurred on the 24th, for which 20 persons were sentenced to imprisonment on the 25th. In connection with the assault upon Asquith, 15 had already gone to prison.

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Burial of Leo Tolstoy.

Through the night of the 21st and the early hours of the 22d, special trains were arriving at the railroad station nearest to Yasnaya Polyana, Leo Tolstoy's (p. 1113) life-long home. Twenty-three coaches were filled with students from Moscow. The Associated Press dispatches thus describe the greeting to the dead friend: "The special train bringing the body from Astapova arrived at the Zaseika station at 8 o'clock. The funeral party was met by throngs of mourning peasants, who since daylight had been wending their way thither from the surrounding countryside. According to the Russian custom, Tolstoy's sons were the bearers, and carried the casket on their shoulders over the two miles separating the station from the novelist's home. The route was through a small wood, across gently sloping fields and through the wooded park of the estate to the house. The way was lined with mourners. Peasants marched at the head of the procession carrying white banners inscribed, 'Leo Nikolai-vitch: the memory of your goodness will never fade from the minds of us orphaned peasants.' Following the peasants were two student choirs chanting memorial hymns and four carriages filled with wreaths. Then came the sons trudging slowly under the weight of the casket. The Countess and others of the family followed the bier afoot. Arrived at the house, the cortege halted and the casket was borne within and placed upon a catafalque erected in the author's favorite room." There the body lay in state. "The public was freely admitted, and for several hours an unbroken line of peasant folk and others of less humble circumstances passed reverently before the bier." Just before sunset the worn out body of the aged friend of the world was laid in the earth on the hillside. The family and close friends of the dead man knelt. The choirs sang the hymn, "Everlasting Memory." There was no other ceremony.

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Bands of singers who gathered in many cities throughout Russia on the 22d, to sing "Eternal Memory" in honor of Tolstoy, according to the

press dispatches, were dispersed by the police, in many cases by mounted Cossacks with whips.

NEWS NOTES

—The plurality for Governor Shafroth of Colorado (p. 1095) is officially reported as 17,783.

—Among the single tax men elected to public office at the recent elections is Dow Dunning, who was re-elected from Owyhee county to the Idaho legislature.

—Moses C. Wetmore, the St. Louis anti-trust millionaire and political friend of Wm. J. Bryan, died at St. Louis on the 26th as the result of injuries from being run over by a wagon. Mr. Wetmore's age was 65.

—Robert W. Tayler, Federal Judge, Cleveland traction arbitrator, and author of the Tayler street railway grant in Cleveland (pp. 181, 201, 207), died in Cleveland early on the 26th after an illness of but a few hours. Judge Tayler's death came on his 58th birthday.

—The Oklahoma legislature was convened by the Governor in extra session on the 28th to consider bills for the location of the capital, the Supreme Court of the State, as already reported (p. 1115), having decided that the election to remove the capital from Guthrie to Oklahoma was void.

—A \$1.25 dinner to Congressman-elect Henry George, Jr., will be given at Reisenweber's, Columbus Circle, New York, Saturday, December 3, at 7 p. m., to which ladies are invited. The speakers announced are Congressman William Sulzer, Lawson Purdy, John J. Hopper and Joseph Pels.

—A dinner to Charles Frederick Adams (p. 532), of New York, will be given at Kimball's restaurant, Monroe and La Salle streets, Chicago, Saturday, December 3, at 6:30. Henry H. Hardinge will preside and Mr. Adams will speak on "Henry George—May his Teachings soon be Enacted into Legislation."

—The Liberal League has opened a hall at 48 Dover street, Boston, where meetings are held seven nights a week. W. Lathrop Meaker, of Revere, Mass. (p. 938), is in charge and in his addresses advocates Direct Legislation, Single Tax, Free Trade and other principles of fundamental democracy.

—A suit for the dissolution of the Sugar trust was begun in the Federal court of New York on the 28th. The corporations composing this trust are 30 in number, the principal one being the American Sugar Refining Company, and the aggregate capital is \$230,000,000. The accusation is an illegal combination in restraint of trade.

—The Federal Circuit Court of Appeals at St. Paul has affirmed the sentence (p. 469) of Fred D. Warren of the "Appeal to Reason," Girard, Kansas. The sentence, originally imposed by Judge Pollock of Kansas, is imprisonment for six months and a fine of \$1,000. An appeal will be taken to the Supreme Court of the United States.

—Secretary Durand of the Coal Handlers' Union, France, convicted of causing the murder of a foreman on the docks at Havre during the recent strike (p. 998), was sentenced to death on the 26th.