

. . . The protectionist Tories are equally suspicious, thinking Balfour may attempt to throw over tariff reform. . . . Redmond's arrival will change the entire situation, he being always the rallying point of the radicals when the action of the Ministry is suspected of not being sufficiently firm. . . . The chief hope of the conference is the evident recognition by the Tories that there is no present chance of their winning the next election and the impossibility of any longer defending the House of Lords. Every politician who enters the conference takes his political life in his hands, and it is quite possible that any compromise may end the careers of some of them.

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Woman Suffrage in Great Britain.

There was an immense parade of woman suffragists (pp. 195, 210, 211) in London on the 18th, in which 10,000 women marched from the Thames embankment to Albert Hall. The procession was two miles long, and the paraders came from all parts of the United Kingdom. The delegation from Ireland included granddaughters of Daniel O'Connell. Canada was represented by a distinct delegation. There were also representatives from the continent. The occupations were distinguished by representations of women scientists, physicians, hospital nurses, actresses, stenographers and factory girls; and 500 women marched in prison garb. Mrs. Drummond, the grand marshal, with her aides (the Honorable Mrs. Haverfield and Vera Holmes), rode horseback astride at the head of the procession. At Albert Hall, Mrs. Pankhurst's appeal for funds brought \$5,000 from Mrs. Lytton, a noted scientist, and Pethick Lawrence gave \$5,000 more. About \$14,000 was given. Lord Lytton was among the speakers. The cable dispatches report the demonstration as one of the most impressive in favor of a public movement ever attained in London.

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This parade and mass meeting were in support of a women's suffrage bill recently introduced in the House of Commons as a compromise measure between the "limited bill" suffragists and the adult suffragists (p. 195). The measure had been drafted by the "Conciliation Committee for Woman Suffrage"—"a body," says the London Daily News of May 28, "with a clear policy and a definite legislative proposal to submit." The News goes on in the same editorial article to say that the Conciliation Committee—

includes some of the most prominent champions of either of the two views held as to the method by which the question should be dealt with by statute. Friends of the adult suffrage solution and friends of the "limited bill" have come together upon the common ground that the woman's vote is now within the range of practical politics—the present House of Commons, like every House since 1870, showing a majority in favor of that ideal—and that,

in spite of this, a settlement may be indefinitely delayed unless a compromise can be arrived at among suffragists. Those who favor the simple admission of women to the existing franchises on the same terms as men have come to see that there is force in the common Liberal criticism that such a measure would greatly add to the "property vote" and to the facilities for plural voting. Adult suffragists, on the other hand, are ready to allow that that plan promises no early settlement, opposed as it is by most Unionists. The Conciliation Committee, then, propose a working compromise. They have drafted a bill which enfranchises every woman possessed of household qualifications, or of a ten-pound occupation qualification, within the meaning of the representation of the people act of 1884; and enacts that marriage shall not disqualify. This, as the committee point out, practically applies the existing English local government register for women to Parliamentary elections the country over. That franchise has worked well for many years in local affairs. It excludes the ownership and lodger votes. Its basis is thoroughly democratic; the Independent Labor Party has avowed itself that 82 per cent of the women on the municipal register belong to the working class. On the other hand, the measure is experimental in character. Most of the new voters would be women who earn their own living, who pay rates and taxes. Few married women would be qualified. As an "installment" the bill, we think, ought to receive the support of those who favor, as we have done, the adult suffrage solution; and we do not see that any sincere supporter of the other solution need object to the measure.

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The Land Question in Denmark.

Although the recent elections (p. 438) for the lower house of the Danish congress (Rigsdag) turned immediately upon military questions, the land question was involved, as we are advised by Mr. C. M. Koedt (formerly Danish consul at Chicago) who obtains his information from the Danish press, radical and otherwise, and from personal correspondence. The new House consists, he explains, of 57 Liberals, 13 Conservatives, 20 Radicals and 24 Socialists. On the military question the Radicals and the Socialists are united in opposition, the Liberals and the Conservatives being pro-military. On the land question—land value taxation—the Conservatives are opposed, the Radicals and the Socialists are for it, and the Liberal platform at these elections contained a distinct promise in its favor. This promise was accentuated by the former prime minister, and leader of the Liberal party in these elections, in a letter to Sophus Berthelsen, editor of "Ret" (Justice), the Henry George organ. No party in the new Rigsdag has a clear majority, but inasmuch as the Liberals have 57 out of the 114 members, Mr. Koedt infers that the Liberals will form the ministry, the Danish parliamentary system being like the British, and that a policy of land value taxation will be undertaken, unless new elections are