

gan, receiving re-inforcement later. [See current volume, page 780.]

—The one-hundredth anniversary of the Fort Dearborn massacre was commemorated at Chicago on the 15th, the closing exercises being at the Chicago Historical Society, where Nathan William MacChesney delivered the address. In the morning at the commemorative monument, 18th Street and the Lake Shore, the address was by Thomas Dent, president of the Historical Society.

—An itemized statement of all moneys received for the McNamara defense and from whom, as well as a statement showing amounts paid out and to whom, has been issued from the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor at Washington. The total receipts being \$236,105.25 and expenses \$227,911.85, a balance of \$8,193.40 remains in the possession of Frank Morrison, Secretary of the American Federation of Labor, of the future disposition of which he announces his intention of making a statement. [See vol. xiv, p. 469; current volume, page 338.]

## PRESS OPINIONS

### So Mote It Be.

The Chicago Tribune (Progressive Party), August 16.—The Peoria Star has closed a lease of an office building for ninety-nine years, and Editor Baldwin undoubtedly will be on hand to renew it at the end of that time.



### Roosevelt's Gymnastical Faith.

Springfield Republican (ind.), Aug. 15.—In this sort of business Mr. Roosevelt is entirely without an equal. He violently denounces certain views today; he jubilantly presents them as his own tomorrow. There is nothing wrong in it, of course. Why shouldn't a man change his mind? We all do; only Mr. Roosevelt seems to outdo everyone else in doing it.



### The Singletax Campaign in Missouri.

The Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat (dem.-Dem.), Aug. 13.—The campaign for the Singletax amendment to the constitution of Missouri grows in intensity as the crucial day draws near and apparently its fate rests with the farmers. The opposition seems to have abandoned hope of defeating it in the larger centers, nearly all hostile effort being directed toward the rural vote, on the assumption that farmers can be more easily befogged regarding the effect of the proposed amendment than merchants, manufacturers and working men.



### Taxation Home Rule in California.

(San Francisco) Coast Seamen's Journal (Labor), July 17.—Home rule in taxation involves the fundamentals of government. Generally speaking, a government is just about as good or as bad as its method of raising money—that is, its method of taxation. The proposed Amendment will not establish any particular system of taxation; it will merely

grant the citizens in each county the right to say for themselves how they shall be taxed. This is a proposition that is unassailable upon grounds of equity. The State may say how much money the people of each county shall pay, but it may not in common justice say that they shall be limited to any particular method of raising the money. With the single restriction (already provided in the Constitution) that the system of taxation shall not be confiscatory, the people of each county should have the right to say for themselves how they shall raise their respective contributions to the State's funds.



### Land Value Taxation in Australia.

The Yorkshire (England) Observer (Lib.), July 5.—Advocates of the taxation of land values will be greatly encouraged by the success of the Australian land tax, as shown by the first report of the Commissioner. . . . As to its financial results, its promoters . . . expected a revenue of \$5,000,000 the first year; \$7,500,000 is the amount realized. Within nine months of the operation of the tax, estates valued at more than \$90,000,000 were sub-divided, and ready purchasers were found at good prices. The evil which the Act sought to remedy was generally admitted. Readers may remember a series of articles published in these columns some two years ago, giving the experiences of a group of Yorkshire emigrants in West Australia. They described how they traveled out to the back-blocks past miles on miles of fertile land close to the railway, land which any settler with a little capital would be glad to take up. It was nowhere denied that land was so held out of cultivation by speculators, but it was urged that the extent of the evil had been much exaggerated. The Commissioner's report is a sufficient answer.



### Winning by Losing.

The Chicago Daily Press (ind.), Aug. 17.—There is nothing comical or unworthy of respect in the national convention of the Populist party in St. Louis. True, it consisted of only eight men. True, they represent few votes, and those the remnant of a party rather than the vanguard of one. But we take off our hat to those eight inimitable middle-of-the-roads. They are men of a mighty stock, the rear guard of a wonderful march, the stragglers of a splendid army. They and their dauntless brood of lone fighters have conquered us all. We have stolen their thunder. We have accepted their political economy. We have emblazoned their slogans on our banners. We used to crack jokes about their whiskers and cast slurs on their sanity. But one by one the things that were Populistic we have adopted as our convictions and called them "progressive." The Bull Moose party is marching under mottoes to which the Populists rallied a quarter of a century ago. The Democrats voted for a platform which might have been adopted in the Ocala convention. The Prohibitionists are as populist as either of these. The Socialists only go a little farther along the same road. And even the standpat declarations of the Republican party this year, if examined, will be found to contain planks of Populistic origin. Therefore, all honor to the stubborn and almost irreducible minimum of the survivors of the greatest