

Governor, Garvin's vote proved the hold his open agitation had given him on the people. Although the Republican candidate for President carried Rhode Island that year by a plurality of 16,766, Governor Garvin lost it by only 856. This could hardly have been in recognition of peculiarly good service as Governor, for the Constitution of Rhode Island doesn't allow a Governor to perform any service. Governor Garvin was allowed to nominate men for appointive office, but the nominations were in every instance rejected by the State Senate, which filled all these places with men of its own selection. Except as Governor Garvin was in position to address the people from the altitude of the Governor's chair, the Governorship was no vantage ground. He was not allowed to do anything but appoint his own private secretary. It must have been his genuine democracy, therefore, and not his official service, that almost elected him Governor for the third time, as a Democrat, in a year when the Republican Presidential candidate carried the State overwhelmingly.

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In celebration of Governor Garvin's seventieth birthday, we wish—and may we not feel that in this we are speaking for most of our readers? Indeed, may we not ask all for whom we do speak to honor Governor Garvin with a seventieth-year "letter-shower"—that in the remaining years of his life he may be as useful as he has been in the past, and that his remaining years may be long enough for him to see still more than he has yet seen of the fruits of his once lonesome agitations for the public good.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

THE COMING ELECTION IN ONTARIO.*

Toronto, Can., November 7.

The new leader for Ontario, though a platform speaker of note, has never before held any office in the Liberal party and has had no Parliamentary experience. But the party is thoroughly committed to the principal of home rule in taxation, and while the most sanguine Liberal does not at the present time expect to defeat the Whitney Government at this election, it is altogether probable that the Liberals will make large gains and will in the next House have a minority constituting a powerful Opposition. A. W. Roebuck, at one time one of our prominent Singletaxers here and for several years the editor of the Singletax paper, is a candidate in New Liskeard and is putting up a great fight with a fair chance of election. Thanks to the Southams of Ottawa, the two Conservative candidates of that city

*See Public of November 10, page 1143.

are pledged to support any measure of tax reform that may be introduced. The plank advocating home rule in taxation was passed at the Liberal convention without a dissenting voice and with much enthusiasm. As nearly every paper in the Province, both Liberal and Conservative, is an advocate of local option in taxation, this, coupled with the strong stand the Liberal party is making on the subject, gives us hope that the present Government if returned to power will not be able to resist the pressure of public opinion. It seems to me that no matter which party is elected, progress will be made along the line of exemption of improvements from taxation.

ALLAN C. THOMPSON.

NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of *The Public* for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Tuesday, November 14, 1911.

The Elections of Last Week.

In last week's issue of *The Public* we were able to give only a few indefinite reports of election results, the elections having come off on the 7th and most election news not having been received until after that issue had gone to press. We now give such returns as are of special interest with reference to the democratic movement in American politics. [See current volume, page 1146.]

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For delegates to the Constitutional Convention of Ohio a Progressive sweep was made. In spite of the efforts of certain special interests to secure a Convention of unpledged delegates, it appears that 60 out of the 119 delegates are pledged in writing to the program of the Ohio Progressive League, which includes the Initiative and Referendum (so pledged as to prevent trifling compromises), and that 40 more are committed to it by newspaper interviews. From Cuyahoga (the Cleveland county) the following delegates were elected: T. S. Farrell (Rep.), W. C. Davio (Labor), E. W. Doty (Rep.), T. G. Fitzsimons (Dem.), Aaron Hahn (Ind.), D. E. Leslie (Dem.), John D. Fackler (Rep.), Robert Crosser (Dem.), Harry Thomas (Soc.), and S. S. Stilwell (Dem.) All these are pledged to the Progressive League's platform—the League of which Brand Whitlock is president. From Hamilton (the Cincinnati county), the following were elected: Herbert S. Bigelow (Ind.), Hiram D. Peck (Dem.), Henry Cordes (Dem.), George W. Harris (Dem.), John C. Hoffmann (Dem.), Stanley E. Bowdle (Dem.), Starbuck Smith (Rep.), W. P. Halenkamp (Ind.), and William Worthington (Rep.). All but the last, a respectable Conservative, are pledged to the Progressive League's