

United States. The question is raised by the Pacific States Telephone and Telegraph Company, a public utility corporation upon which a special tax had been imposed by Initiative, and the principal point in controversy relates to that clause of the Federal Constitution (section iv of article iv) which requires that "the United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a republican form of government." In opposition to the Constitutionality of Direct Legislation it is contended that "republican form" means "representative form" exclusively; on the other hand the contention is that "republican" excludes monarchical but not democratic forms; also that the question is not judicial but political, and that the political departments of the government (the President and Congress) have decided it favorably to Direct Legislation by continuing to recognize States where this system prevails. [See current volume, pages 1005, 1105, 1123.]

For the public utility corporation which attacks the Initiative and Referendum of Oregon the arguments were made by E. S. Pillsbury of San Francisco and R. R. Duniway of Portland; for the State of Oregon Attorney General Crawford of Oregon, George Fred Williams of Massachusetts, Jackson H. Ralston of Washington (D. C.), and Frank S. Grant and William C. Benbow of Portland, made the arguments. Mr. Williams also represented several other States, which asked to be heard as "friend of the court" on the ground that they also have Direct Legislation and are therefore to be affected by the decision. Newspaper reports of the argument are supposed to indicate a decision in support of the Initiative and Referendum, but no decision has yet been made.

#### The Anti-Imperialist League Honors Louis R. Ehrich.

At a stated meeting of the Executive Committee of the Anti-Imperialist League held in Boston on the 2nd the following resolution was passed:

The loss of our valued colleague, Hon. Louis R. Ehrich, a Vice-President of the Anti-Imperialist League, is recorded by the Executive Committee with deep sorrow.

Mr. Ehrich had identified himself with the League almost from the beginning, and his addresses and writings have contributed in a very great degree to its progress. Our movement perhaps appealed to him more strongly than any other political question; and, aside from the part which Mr. Ehrich publicly took in its behalf, his helpful and inspiring support of the executive officers of the League was never wanting.

Mr. Ehrich always took a stand upon the highest ethical plane, for he was scrupulously conscientious, not only in action but in thought. In the great causes of religion, of labor, of free trade and of the money standards, he occupied a ground

which inspired those who followed him and gained attention from those who disagreed with his attitude. Beloved by his friends, he was respected,—not by his enemies, for he had none, but by all fair-minded opponents.

ERVING WINSLOW, Secretary.

MOORFIELD STOREY, President.

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#### Joseph Fels Fund and National Singletax Conference.

The Joseph Fels Fund Commission of the United States will hold its annual meeting at Chicago in the LaSalle Hotel, on the 24th, 25th and 26th of November. Daniel Kiefer is chairman of this Commission, the principal object of which is to establish the singletax somewhere in the United States within five years from 1909. It is supported by funds collected generally, to which Joseph Fels contributes one dollar for every dollar contributed from any other source. The other members of the Commission are Lincoln Steffens, Jackson H. Ralston, Frederic C. Howe and George A. Briggs. Joseph Fels is to be with the Commission at its coming meeting, and at the same time and place a voluntary advisory conference of Singletaxers is to be held to which all persons in sympathy are invited.

## NEWS NOTES

—Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, one of the leaders of the militant woman suffragists of Great Britain, was given a reception on the 5th at the Chicago Beach Hotel, Chicago, by Mrs. L. Brackett Bishop.

—Abraham Bowers, immigration agent of the Chicago Y. M. C. A., will address the Chicago Single Tax Club, Schiller Bldg., Friday evening, the 10th, on aspects of the new immigration and labor conditions in Chicago.

—Amalgamation of London's electric tubes and railroads and the London General Omnibus Company was reported on the 1st as having been agreed upon. The combined capital of the undertakings is roughly estimated at \$165,000,000.

—George E. Dickson, a democratic Democrat and an advocate of the Initiative and Referendum, has announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for Governor of Illinois at the Spring primaries. [See current volume, pages 1031, 1089.]

—Since the California election at which woman suffrage was adopted, the Equal Suffrage League of California has altered its name to the Political Study Club, and amended its statement of purpose accordingly. [See current volume, page 1076.]

—At a meeting of "The Public Club" at Boise, Idaho, on the 28th, it was decided to organize "The Idaho Singletax League." Robert Wilson of Emmett was elected president, Frank Kinyon of Boise secretary, and Hugh McElroy of Boise treasurer. A vice-president is to be chosen from each county in the State. Curtis Pike of Boise fills the latter office for Ada County. The league began its work October