

California, . . . without interfering with bona fide amateur boxing, or amateur boxing exhibitions."

Proposition No. 4, entitled "Abatement of Nuisances," is a law suspended by referendum. It is locally known as the "Redlight Abatement Act," and one of its purposes is to make "investments in exploitation of prostitution insecure," and thus diminish the social evil. It holds the landlord accountable for conduct of tenants.

Propositions Nos. 2 and 39 are initiative amendments put forth by the temperance people and have for their object state-wide prohibition of the liquor traffic.

Proposition No. 39 is to correct an omission of the date on which the provisions of proposition No. 2 go into effect, extending the time of one section three months and of another 14 months, thus giving liquor men and their employes a better opportunity to readjust themselves should the temperance law be passed.

Proposition No. 47, entitled "Prohibition Elections," is an initiative amendment put forth by the opponents of state-wide prohibition. It provides among other things that liquor elections shall not be held oftener than every eight years. The negative argument says: "This amendment is unfair and misleading. It seeks to disfranchise the people by making a vote on one issue settle an entirely different matter. There are voters who favor local prohibition, but who are opposed to state-wide prohibition. Under this amendment they could not choose between the two."

The fact that California has heavy investments in vineyards from which wine as well as raisin grapes are obtained is an important factor in the discussion, the "wets" claiming that prohibition will ruin this industry; while the "drys" are asserting that wine grapes are now raised almost at a loss, and that raisin grapes from which there is the most profit will not be disturbed by prohibition.

No one can deny that these referendums are great popular educators.

JAMES P. CADMAN.



AUSTRALIAN POLITICS.

Crowwa, N. S. W., Australia, Sept. 25, 1914.

The federal election in May, 1913, gave the liberals a majority of one in the House of Representatives, and the labor party a majority of 29 in the Senate. As expected, the parliament proved to be unworkable, for bills passed by the House were rejected by the Senate.

The ministry then resolved to try to obtain a dissolution of both houses. A bill was passed twice by the House, and defeated twice in the Senate. This formed a "deadlock," as defined by the federal constitution, and the Governor-General granted a double dissolution.

This is the first time such a thing has happened. In the ordinary course, the whole of the House and half of the Senate retire every three years. Now both houses were wholly dissolved, and a fresh start had to be made.

The liberal ministry had appointed an Interstate Commission, which has been taking evidence on the tariff. The liberals proposed to adjust the tariff

and correct any anomalies, in accordance with the report to be made by the Commission; to adopt proportional representation for the Senate, and preferential voting for the House.

The labor party promised to amend the tariff by making it more effectively protectionist at once, without waiting for the report of the Interstate Commission; and to introduce the initiative and referendum.

The elections were held on September 5th, and resulted in a victory for the labor party, which has a majority of 10 in the House and 31 in the Senate.

The Cook government has resigned, and a new ministry has been formed by the leader of the labor party, Andrew Fisher.

ERNEST BRAY.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

JINGOISM AND PROTECTIONISM.

New York, Oct. 21, 1914.

On page 23 of "Collier's" for Oct. 24 is an article signed by E. C. Patterson, vice president and general manager of P. F. Collier & Son, entitled "Patriotism That Pays." In substance, it is an appeal to all Americans to buy none but American goods. It must cause regret to every genuine democrat to find so able a periodical, and one so usually progressive—except for its occasional catering to race prejudice—thus extending the fallacious principle which is embodied in the protective tariff. The thoughtless will undoubtedly applaud what they will interpret as the voicing of enlightened patriotism; but the judicious cannot fail to grieve.

Our European critics are wont to castigate us as a race of shopkeepers, incapable of being moved by any higher ideal than that of dollar-chasing; and so conspicuous an example of the lower nationalism, appearing in a magazine of the general character of "Collier's," will not escape their attention, nor fail to do its part in damaging our international reputation.

It is true, as Mr. Patterson points out, that a certain class of American snobs fawn at the feet of the older nations, and worship a foreign label, regardless of the quality of the goods for which it stands; but their fault is not properly rectified by the encouragement of a narrow chauvinism, which can see no good in anything outside our own boundaries. Between Europeomania and an egotistic provincialism there is a rational and more creditable middle course.

At a time like this, when the unchaining of war's horrors abroad should open the eyes of even the most unthinking to the evil and the perils of a narrow nationalism, the American periodical which seeks to decry any phase of the broad international spirit renders a distinct disservice to his country. American manufacturers do not need to be coddled. If they are able to demonstrate superiority, let them win favor through proof of merit, not through a shallow appeal to jingoism. Teach the public to demand quality, under whatever label it is produced; and let our manufacturers know that they must prove themselves worthy, if they desire patronage.

To urge that American goods be purchased merely because they are American, is to put a premium on indifference to quality on the part of those who rest their hope on simple favoritism. It is also to announce publicly to the world that we have no sympathy large enough to extend beyond our own borders. Too much self-sufficiency is as bad for an individual as for a nation.

JAMES F. MORTON, JR.

“LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY.”

Warren, Pa., Oct. 10.

In a great war the chaplains of each army pray for victory, and the soldiers say amen. Think what that means.

The Almighty cannot answer both prayers. The Author of Justice cannot do injustice.

The army that has no excuse is asking Jehovah, Who loves justice, to uphold injustice; and the army that has excuse is asking Him to ward off injustice by doing injustice.

Each army is asking the Creator to help destroy that which He has created.

Each is asking Jehovah, Who commands them not to kill, to use His power to help them kill.

Each is asking our Father, Who commands men to love their enemies, to help them kill their brothers.

“God is Love.” Yet each army is asking Him to break the hearts and blight the lives of women and children.

The Infinite Designer has planned that men should live together, work together, prosper together, progress together, enjoy together. He has so made men that the very necessities and desires of their nature impel them to do this. And yet in war men ask God to put the unnatural in place of the natural—ask Him to turn system into chaos, prosperity into ruins, progress into poverty, civilization into barbarism, happiness into misery, and so to put discord into His own heavenly harmonies and mingle with His beneficent acts the deeds of a demon.

Who taught men to pray such prayers?

ASHER GEO. BEECHER.

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, October 27, 1914.

The European War.

The twelfth week of the war has brought no decisive result, nor any incident as striking as the fall of Antwerp. In Eastern Europe the German advance on Warsaw has been checked. In Western Europe continuous fighting and heavy casualties have left the armies substantially in the positions they occupied a week ago. The war now seems to be settling down to an endurance struggle. [See current volume, page 1016.]

The Campaign in Western Europe.

The battle line still extends from Belfort, near Switzerland, to the sea, a little south of Ostend. Fighting at some point of the line has been continuous. When the German advance down the west coast of Belgium had been checked at Nieuport and Dixmude, heavy re-enforcements were brought from Antwerp and other cities of Belgium held by the Germans, and a desperate effort made to continue the advance. The casualties are reported to have been exceptionally heavy in this struggle, which was participated in not only by the armies, but by the navy and the aircraft. At the cost of tens of thousands the Germans have succeeded in crossing the Yser River a few miles from the coast, between Nieuport and Dixmude, but have been unable to make further advance. The range of the guns of the British warships compels the German army to keep clear of the coast, and to conduct their campaign on more difficult ground. The engagement extended from the North Sea to the Somme River, involving heavy losses, but resulting in little change of position. It is expected that the two armies will now entrench themselves in northern France and Belgium, as they have along the Aisne River. The German army continues to be the more effective, man for man; but time is gradually bringing up the strength of the Allies, both in numbers and in efficiency. The French light field guns are reported to be superior to the German guns of similar size, but the German 42-centimeter guns far outrank anything of the Allies; and wherever they can be brought into use they have made a way for the army to advance. The guns are so heavy, however, that they cannot be moved over rough ground, and must have a special foundation from which to be fired. King Albert with his little army of Belgians is fighting with the Allies in the southwest corner of Belgium, the only territory that remains in his possession. General von Moltke, German chief of staff, and nephew of the von Moltke who held the same command in the war of 1870, is sick, and his place is temporarily occupied by General von Falkenhayn.

The Campaign in Eastern Europe.

The conflicting claims put forth at Petrograd, Berlin and Vienna leave the actual situation in doubt. It seems certain that the German advance on Warsaw has been checked, and the overlapping claims of Russia and Germany indicate that the Russian claim that the Germans had been driven back fifty miles is true. Such retreats, however, when made in good order often result in a reformation on a new base, and another advance. No decisive action has taken place. The Austrians have taken hope from their more aggressive German allies, and have made a campaign in Galicia that has taxed the Russian resources to the utmost.