

W. S. Stone, chief engineer of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers:

We have refused to join the managers' committee in request for mediation because we feared that it would be an implied acceptance of arbitration. No one knows better than yourself and other members of the Federal Board of Mediation and Conciliation the manner in which railroads have repudiated arbitration awards. We recognize, however, that we cannot afford to refuse your courteous proffer of your friendly offices, therefore we accept same. We believe it is unfair to ask us to wait four days before mediation begins in view of the present strained relations.

The hearing began at the Congress Hotel, Chicago, on July 20.



Rioting and violence by the men engaged in a strike at Fort Smith, Arkansas, against the Mammoth Vein Coal Company were reported on July 17. Much property was destroyed and two men were reported killed. The trouble is said to be the culmination of a series of disturbances, including the shooting up of a union camp. These disturbances have occurred at intervals since last March, when the company is said to have broken its contract with the United Mine Workers.



As a counter move against the silent picketing of his restaurants by striking waitresses, George Knab of Chicago placed some of his girl employes in front of his establishments, alongside of the pickets, carrying cards on which were printed statements of his side of the controversy. Silent picketing has been upheld by the courts, but trouble resulting from thus establishing rival pickets has caused a number of arrests to be made, the greater number of which are of union pickets. [See current volume, page 562.]



New York Politics.

That former Governor William Sulzer of New York will be a candidate for the Progressive gubernatorial nomination regardless of Roosevelt's attitude was announced on July 17. This recalls Mr. Sulzer's previous announcement that he would not be a candidate should Roosevelt run. "Colonel Roosevelt's attitude," he is reported to have said, "shows that he is playing into the hands of Charles F. Murphy." [See vol. xvi, p. 1062; current volume, page 684.]



Colonel Roosevelt has entered into a vigorous fight against the candidacy of District Attorney Charles S. Whitman for the governorship. Mr. Roosevelt had originally felt friendly toward Whitman and consented to support him provided he would publicly denounce William Barnes and Charles F. Murphy. Mr. Whitman evaded this and

accordingly lost Roosevelt's support. A newspaper dispatch of July 16 reported Roosevelt as now favoring nomination by the Progressives for governor of John A. Hennessy, who in Governor Sulzer's behalf had investigated and exposed many of Tammany's grafting operations.



George Fowlds' American Tour.

Honorable George Fowlds of Auckland, New Zealand, former Minister of Education and former Minister of Customs of that colony, is due to arrive in New York on July 29 and will visit a number of cities in the United States and Canada, in some of which he will address meetings. Mr. Fowlds is well known to Singletaxers throughout the world as one of their ablest co-workers. His itinerary has been tentatively announced as follows by Daniel Kiefer of Cincinnati:

New York, July 29, 30, 31; Lonaconing, Maryland, August 1, 2, 3; Washington, August 4, 5; New York, August 6, 7; Boston, August 8, 9; Canadian ports—Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Niagara—August 10 to 16; Chicago, August 17, 18; Milwaukee, August 19, 20; Arco, Minnesota, August 21, 22, 23; Minneapolis, August 24; Winnipeg, August 25; Shellmouth, August 26; Calgary, August 27; Edmonton, August 28, 29; Vancouver, August 31, September 1, 2. From Vancouver Mr. Fowlds returns to New Zealand.



Cincinnati's Charter Campaign.

By a vote of 27,823 to 21,253, Cincinnati on July 14 rejected a proposed new charter. A separate proposition for the recall, the adoption of which depended on adoption of the charter, received 21,849 votes in favor and 25,287 against. A number of bond issue propositions were also defeated. [See vol. xvi, pages 750, 756.]



The charter campaign was a development of the fight led by Herbert S. Bigelow for revocation of the Cincinnati Traction Company's fifty-year franchise, and for municipal ownership. To institute municipal ownership the city required a new charter especially authorizing that measure. Accordingly initiative petitions were circulated to submit the question of framing a new charter. The question was ordered submitted at a special election to be held on July 30 of last year. A ticket composed of municipal ownership advocates was nominated for a charter commission. On account of Bigelow's prominence in the fight this ticket was known as the "Bigelow" ticket. This ticket was opposed by one more to the liking of the public utility corporations. This was known as the "Knight" ticket from the candidate most conspicuous upon it. These candidates pledged themselves also to put municipal ownership in the

charter. The traction company, electric light company and other local monopolies directed their efforts to first securing defeat of the proposition to frame a charter, and second, in the event of a charter framing proposition carrying, to elect the Knight ticket. At the election the charter proposition carried but the Knight ticket was elected, so that the charter framers were the ones favored by the local monopolies.



The charter framed and submitted contained many of the conventional reform features. The members construed their municipal ownership pledge to allow making adoption of the measure depend on receipt of a two-thirds affirmative vote of the people and put a provision to that effect in the charter. This provision and others were denounced as jokers. One provision, which was said to require strict enforcement of the State laws regarding Sunday observance, further increased the charter's unpopularity.



Manitoba Speaks.

F. J. Dixon, the Winnipeg candidate for the Manitoba legislature who made the Single Tax the most conspicuous feature of his campaign, has, according to mail advices, achieved a notable victory. Of his campaign the Manitoba Free Press of July 11 says:

Perhaps the most spectacular feature of the election is the return of F. J. Dixon, Independent candidate in Centre Winnipeg, by a majority of over 1,500, far the largest majority ever achieved in the history of Manitoba. It is interesting to recall that Premier Roblin, in his usual "knightly" speech, predicted that there wouldn't be "even a smell" left of Dixon after July 10th.

And this in a district deliberately gerrymandered by the Conservatives for the purpose of defeating the Liberal candidates. [See current volume, page 639.]



Canada and the Hindus.

A crisis occurred on the 19th in the contention over the landing of Hindus at Vancouver. Canada undertook to exclude them by a law that admitted only such as came direct from India, there being no direct line of ships between the two countries. Gurdit Singh, a Hindu leader, with 350 Sikhs, attempted to prove the right of a British citizen to pass to and fro in any part of the Empire by going in the Japanese ship Komagata Maru direct from India to Vancouver, where they arrived May 23. The Dominion authorities refused them admission, and their case was carried to the court of appeal, which decided adversely on the 6th. The captain of the Komagata Maru was ordered to take the Sikhs—who had been confined on the ship for three months—out of the country. But his pas-

sengers refused to let him raise steam; and when, on the 19th, he appealed to the port authorities for protection, one hundred and sixty policemen and immigration officials attempted to board the ship but were prevented by a shower of coal, iron bars, pieces of machinery, hatchets and clubs. The government has instructed its agents to deport the Hindus on the Empress of Japan on the 23rd. [See vol. xvi, p. 1166.]



Anti-German Militarism Will Not Down.

Echoes of the army trouble in Alsace-Lorraine continue in the charges of the brutality of officers to men. It is charged by critics that the government, by its nominal punishments, encourages the officers in excessive severity. Socialists in particular have used this weapon to gain favor with the people. Rosa Luxemburg, a Polish Jewess, and one of the most intrepid critics of the government, was sentenced last winter to one year in prison for anti-militarist agitation. The specific offence was that of inciting German soldiers to refuse to fight in case of war with France. Before being called upon to begin serving her sentence she delivered a fresh and much stronger indictment. She was again brought to trial for criminal slander of the army. But when she presented a list of 1,013 witnesses, mainly former soldiers, the government adjourned the case. As this action was taken in spite of the protests of Rosa Luxemburg the Socialists and other anti-militarists look upon it as a defeat of the government, in that it was a confession that her charges were true.



English Affairs.

The Amending bill, supplementary to the Irish Home Rule bill, passed the House of Lords on the 14th, and was returned to the Commons. Before its final passage another amendment was added, empowering the king, by an order in council, to suspend the operation of the Home Rule act until a commission should report on the constitutional relations of Ireland to the other parts of the United Kingdom. [See current volume, page 686.]



Tension has been at high pitch during the week, with the interest centered mainly about the cabinet, and the negotiations conducted between it and the Unionist leaders. Little progress, however, was made. Mr. Redmond and the Irish members declared most emphatically that they would prefer to give up the present Home Rule bill entirely rather than to yield to the Lords' amendments excluding Ulster. The King, by the advice of the cabinet, called a conference of the leaders of the several factions to meet at Buckingham