

clear to us that stocks, bonds, etc., are not wealth, and that their taxation is double taxation. 2. The classification proposed is not a natural classification. The substantial difference between land and buildings (here classed together as real estate) is much greater than the difference between buildings and tangible personalty and no rational classification can overlook the distinction between property created by labor and that not created by labor. The untaxing of industry is thus precluded. This proposal gives no substantial relief from the rigidity of Ohio's constitutional tax provisions and such changes as it proposes will do more harm than good.

We believe it to be obvious, and experiment elsewhere supports the conclusion, that nothing can so attract industry as perpetual freedom from taxation of anything but its site, and that nothing can prove such an incentive to production of wealth as the diversion into the channels of industry of wealth now paid and received in the barter for site privilege.

[See current volume, page 394.]



#### Labor Riot in Butte.

Two thousand miners who had seceded from the local union of the Western Federation of Miners at Butte, Montana, attacked the headquarters of the union on June 13, took away the safe and either overpowered or overawed the police. The residence of one of the union officials was dynamited. The rioters are said to be I. W. W. members who left the Western Federation on account of heavy strike assessments which for some months past have been levied on members. On June 15, Governor Stewart of Montana, sent a message to President Wilson seeking information as to the possibility of securing federal troops should they be wanted.



#### Balkan Rumbblings.

A renewal of hostilities between Turkey and Greece seems imminent. Turkey, smarting under her recent defeat, and with covetous eyes on Saloniki and her lost islands of the Aegean Sea, is apparently engaged in driving all Greeks from her dominions. Greece protests against this treatment of her citizens; and the relations between the two countries are strained to the breaking point. Americans are interested by the proposal of Secretary of the Navy Daniels to sell to Greece two of our old battleships, the Idaho and the Mississippi. The price agreed upon for the two ships is \$12,000,000 with which it is proposed to build one first class battleship. The Senate has agreed to the sale, and the matter is now before the House. Turkey protests against the sale. [See vol. xvi, pp. 973, 997.]



#### Labor Trouble in Italy.

The general strike which began in Italy on the 8th soon led to rioting in various parts of the country. Clashes with the soldiery resulted in

several deaths, and numerous woundings. The leaders on the 11th declared the strike ended, but the populace had become so inflamed that the supreme directorate of the Socialist party at Rome assumed the responsibility for the strike. The trouble is confined mainly to the towns and provinces along the northwest shore of the Adriatic Sea. The rural communities around Ancona, where communication with the outside world was cut off, a red flag was raised and the Italian Republic proclaimed. The appearance of the troops and the resumption of communications have served to restore order and to awaken the peasantry from their dream. Fourteen churches have been burned, trains have been stoned, tracks torn up, and telegraph wires cut.



#### English Affairs.

The Plural Voting bill, introduced in the Commons in April, 1913, and rejected by the Lords, by a majority of 124, was again passed by the Commons on the 15th by a vote of 320 to 242. This bill provides for "one man, one vote," instead of the present law, which allows a man to vote in as many places as he has residences and tax-paying qualifications. Since most of the plural voters are in the Tory party the Lords are likely to continue their opposition until the bill carries under the Parliament Act. [See current volume, page 734.]



Peace reigns in Ireland, but there is a welter of talk. Ulstermen declare they never will take orders from Dublin, and the Nationalists, with equal fervor, stand for a united Ireland. Heretofore Ulster has basked in the limelight because of its bold defiance of the Liberal party, and its spectacular volunteer troops. But of late the Nationalist volunteer troops have become active in their organizations. So long as Home Rule was making headway in Parliament the Nationalist volunteers were kept as much as possible in the background, for fear of adverse effect upon England; but now that affairs approach the point where Ulstermen declare they will fight rather than submit to Parliament, the Irish volunteers have assumed their former activity. [See current volume, page 565.]



Premier Asquith continues his overtures of peaceful settlement, going so far as to promise on the 11th to introduce his amending bill offering concessions to Ulster, before the Lords have acted on the Home Rule bill. The Home Rule bill cannot be amended by the Lords, but the amending bill will be open to their amendments and is likely to express, when returned to the Commons, the full demands of Ulster. These will be rejected by the Irish members of Parliament, and opportunity will then be given for a final compromise. The

amending bill is expected to reach the Lords the week beginning the 21st.

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## NEWS NOTES

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—Ex-Vice President Adlai E. Stevenson died at Chicago on June 14. He was in his 79th year, having been born on October 23, 1835.

—The Common Pleas Court of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, on June 9 enjoined the Cleveland Board of Education from enforcing a resolution forbidding teachers from joining a labor union.

—At the Maine State primaries on June 15, Mayor Oakley C. Curtis of Portland received the Democratic nomination for Governor. The Republicans renominated Governor William T. Haines.

—Mount Lassen, near Redding, California, was reported on June 13 in violent eruption. Ashes fell at Mineral, a distance of sixteen miles from the peak. No damage to property or loss of life has been caused.

—A constitutional amendment providing for the Initiative and Referendum was favorably reported on June 10 by the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives of the Massachusetts Legislature. [See current volume, page 231.]

—In an endeavor to enforce the Illinois general property tax law, State's Attorney Hoyne of Chicago has caused the indictment of fifty-seven residents of that city, said to have "wilfully refused to schedule under oath their holdings as required by law."

—An initiative petition has been filed in Pueblo, Colorado, for abolition of the commission form of government. The movement is said to be engineered by the public utility corporations. If carried it will deprive Pueblo of the right of home rule and nullify all that has been done under this right.

—The Socialists and other liberal parties in the Prussian Diet are protesting against the government's inactivity in reforming the franchise. Six years ago the Emperor, as King of Prussia, promised a modern electoral system to replace what Bismarck called "the most iniquitous system in the world." Minister von Loebell, the new incumbent of the ministry of the interior, announces that no change will be made this year.

—A bill abolishing all property qualifications for electors of members of the Danish Senate, and extending the suffrage to women, passed the lower house on the 9th. The bill also took from the King the right to name twelve of the sixty-six Senators. The conservative members, joined by the twelve nominated by the King, refused to vote when the bill came to the Senate, and the King broke the deadlock between the two houses by dissolving the Senate on the 12th. [See vol. xvi, p. 1022.]

—Five Chicago banks, said to be controlled by former Senator William Lorimer, were closed by the state bank examiner on June 12 and 13. These are the La Salle Street Trust and Savings Bank, the Illinois State, the Ashland-Twelfth, the Broadway State, and the State Bank of Calumet. Bank

Examiner Harkin claims to have reported in January to State Auditor Brady that the principal bank of the chain, the La Salle Street Trust, was in bad condition. Brady denies that he received such a report.

—Owing to the lack of a decisive political force in the present French Chamber of Deputies, the cabinet formed by Alexandre Felix Ribot, was forced to resign. The policy announced by the cabinet favored the rigid application of the three-year military service law. Rene Viviani, Socialist Deputy, and former minister of labor, who had already attempted to form a cabinet, made a second attempt on the 13th. The new cabinet has been well received, but political prophets do not give it long life. [See current volume, page 565.]

—United States Minister to Greece, George Fred Williams, has announced in a circular to the representatives of the European powers, that the United States is ready to offer its good offices for the restoration of peace in Albania. The Moslems of Albania refuse to recognize William of Wied, nominated by the powers, as their ruler. Prince William, personally heading his troops on the 15th, repulsed a Musselman attack on his capital, Durazzo. Men-of-war in the harbor landed bluejackets to guard the foreign legations. [See current volume, page 565.]

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## PRESS OPINIONS

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### Tarrytown Disgracing the Nation.

Chicago Evening Post, June 10.—We never think of objecting to "freedom of speech" until some one starts to say something disagreeable. We are most annoyed by it and are blind to its invasion by abuse of the police power when these disagreeable things are things with which we utterly disagree. It is much more convenient to pretend that we are "acting for law and order," or some good, safe generality like that, than it is to admit to ourselves that "shutting up" the I. W. W. ranters is an invasion of the rights of "free speech." For this reason the protest of a man like Mr. Georg Brandes is always worth while. . . . The Brandes letter was based on the charge that fifteen people had been arrested in Tarrytown for attempting to speak and that one of them had been sent to jail for three months. "The right of the people peaceably to assemble" and to employ the freedom of speech which their English forefathers made the corner stone of democratic government is something as inherently important to us as it ever was. It is a great deal more important than the suppression of what this newspaper believes to be the vicious and irrational doctrine preached by the I. W. W. Civilization automatically protects itself against error and untruth. But civilization cannot climb so steadily the peaks of the future if error and untruth are simply to be ignored instead of being freely met and openly repelled.



They are slaves who dare not be  
In the right with two or three.

—James Russell Lowell.