

handed action of the Government during the recent strike, but it was based upon constructive policies of advanced type. Among the announced policies of the Labor party the plank declaring for the taxation of land values stands first. The platform declares for: "(A) Taxation of the unimproved or site value of all land in the Transvaal; mineral, urban and agricultural. (B) Local option for each municipality to rate [tax] land values only." [See current volume, page 347.]



English Affairs.

Ulster continues the chief topic of interest, first as a subject of acrimonious discussion in the House of Commons, and later as the scene of a sensational landing of arms. The probing of the Unionists to unmask what they charge as a plot against Ulster was carried to the point by Bonar Law of charging Premier Asquith with lying. During this heckling of the Ministry over the alleged plot, the volunteers in Ulster succeeded in deceiving the British authorities, and landing a consignment of arms from Germany, amounting, it is reported, to 40,000 rifles and 500,000 rounds of ammunition. [See current volume, page 393.]



Mr. Asquith, as Secretary of State for War, is looking into the attempts made during the Seely regime to induce army officers to relinquish their commands at a time and in a manner calculated to embarrass the Government. Both political and social influences have been brought to bear upon men until those regiments likely to be called upon for service in the disaffected province were thoroughly demoralized. The new order of things is being put to the test by plans to send to Ulster three regiments from Dublin and the Curragh camp.



The visit of King George and Queen Mary to Paris aroused great enthusiasm in the French capital, and seems to have resulted in increasing the ties between the two countries.

NEWS NOTES

—The State Conference of the Progressive Party of Minnesota on April 24 at St. Paul endorsed the President's reprisal policy.

—Governor Glynn of New York vetoed on April 25 a bill to permit Christian Science and other drugless healers to practice without taking an examination in medicine before the State Medical Board.

—The National Tax Association will meet this year at Denver on September 8. Its president is Professor Sellman of Columbia University and its secretary, Thomas S. Adams of Madison, Wis. Among the speakers will be George J. Knapp, whose subject

will be "Singletax in Pueblo and Progress of the Singletax Movement in Colorado."

—The United States Commission on Industrial Relations on April 26 recommended the establishment of a national bureau of labor exchange in connection with the Department of Labor. The bureau would have power and authority to establish and conduct free employment offices and would have jurisdiction over private employment agencies. [See vol. xvi, p. 1043.]

—The Japanese government has decided to subsidize a tri-weekly steamship service from Yokohama to New York, through the Panama Canal. The present plans are to have the ships touch at Seattle and New Orleans. Arriving at Yokohama, the steamers will continue on to Hongkong by the way of Kobe, Moji and Shanghai. On the way back they will call at Manila and Kobe.

—A re-survey is being made in Texas by the State Land Department of the 3,000,000 acres granted to J. V. Farwell of Chicago and others many years ago in payment for the erection of the State capitol at Austin. At the time of the grant the land now estimated to be worth \$100,000,000 was valued at fifty cents an acre. The re-survey is to determine whether there was any excess over the allotted 3,000,000 acres turned over to the syndicate.

—George F. Baer, president of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway, died at his home in Philadelphia on April 26. Mr. Baer was best known to the public through the stand he assumed during the coal strike of 1902 when he stated in a letter: "The rights and interests of the laboring man will be protected and cared for—not by the labor agitators, but by the Christian men to whom God in His infinite wisdom has given the control of the property interests of the country, and upon the successful management of which so much depends."

—A new theory of gravitation was announced on April 24 by Professor T. J. J. See of the naval observatory at Mare Island, San Francisco. Professor See is thus quoted in a press dispatch: "Gravitation is due to bombardment of tiny particles hurled through space on electric streams. These particles shoot through space in all directions at the incredible speed of 186,000 miles a second, traversing the distance between the sun and the earth in eight minutes. By the impact of their striking they drive bodies together, producing the effect hitherto called the 'attractive' force of gravitation. Their force is in the millions of suns which stud the heavens as stars. Light consists of still smaller egg-shaped particles of matter, bearing an electrical charge on the smaller end, traveling at the same speed as electricity and the particles which cause gravitation. The old wave theory of light, with its assumption of an all-pervading ether, goes on the scientific rubbish heap."

PRESS OPINIONS

"Gladly" Giving Their Lives for Hearst.

The Day Book (Chicago), April 24.—Every American boy killed during an invasion of Mexico may