

over mains that were never disturbed) in making valuations. But perhaps this is enough to show that commissions, no matter how smug, complacent and cocksure in their attitude, are of the same clay and the same infirmities as the rest of us. Yet if anyone still believes its judgments to be infallible let me remind him that it has disproved that claim by reversing itself within a short time on several occasions. The Wisconsin supreme court has also done some reversing, although sparingly.

But even though the commission were what its advocates claim, unambitious and all-wise and unerringly just, the question remains, is that kind of government in harmony with the ideals of American democracy? Emphatically no! We don't believe the Superman exists and we don't want to wither under his benevolent wings if he does. We don't want to be saved from above—we can't be. Conscience is not the monopoly of "experts." Let them report on facts and we'll do the rest. Popular rule (and municipal Home Rule) may make mistakes, but that boots nothing—for paternalism makes more. Self-government does develop citizenship; "Regulation" kills it. The contracts clause of the Constitution protects these utilities against "the passing whims of the mob." But don't try to chloroform it; that won't work. It isn't working in Wisconsin. The public is probably more restless over utilities issues there than ever before. Instead of settling everything all nice and lovely the commission has simply added one more source of irritation; that is about all.

Now let us consider:

Is the experience of Wisconsin with "Regulations" typical of that in most other states which have tried it?

What guarantee can be offered that it will give any more genuine or permanent satisfaction elsewhere than it has in Wisconsin?

Do we want more understudies to the misnamed National Civic Federation, and more state training schools for utility employes, to get footholds in other states?

F. F. ANDERSON.

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, July 28, 1914.

Europe Under Arms.

Austria on the 23d sent an ultimatum to Serbia, giving that country forty-eight hours in which to disclaim all responsibility for the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand. The Austrian note demanded punishment of all accomplices of the assassins, the suppression of all societies that have fomented rebellion in Bosnia, and the official disavowal of any connection with the anti-Austrian propaganda. The note even specified the terms of the apology. The Servian government must publish on the from

page of its official journal a long formal declaration, condemning the subversive propaganda, deploring its fatal consequences, regretting the participation of Servian officers, repudiating any further interference with Austro-Hungarian interests, and warning all Servian officers and functionaries and the whole Servian population that rigorous proceedings will be taken in the future against any persons guilty of such machinations. The declaration must also be officially proclaimed to the Servian army. [See current volume, page 713.]



This was taken by the nations of Europe to be the climax in the Pan-Slavic movement, of which Russia is the head, and the Balkan states, the disturbing members. Russia is supposed to be backing Serbia, while Germany supports Austria. And back of these stand Italy's alliance with Austria and Germany, and France's alliance with Russia. England stands somewhat aloof, but is thought to incline toward Russia rather than toward Germany.



Servia's reply to Austria on the 25th, after the Austrian Government had refused an extension of time, was considered unsatisfactory. Servia expressed a willingness to punish those concerned in the assassination of the heir to the Austrian throne, and to do everything in the matter that a civilized state could do without permitting an infringement of its sovereignty. The other demands could not, it was claimed by Servia, be disposed of on such short notice.



Strict censorship is exercised by Russia and Austria over all military matters, but mobilization of armies in both countries is reported to be in progress. Austria gave the Servian minister his passports on the 26th, and issued a formal declaration of war on the 28th. The Russian ambassador at Vienna will take charge of Servian interests. Reports state that Austrian troops have invaded Servia at Mitrovicza, fifty miles northwest of Belgrade. Other unconfirmed reports are that the Servians have blown up the bridge across the Danube at Belgrade and that there has been fighting on steamers in the river.



Sir Edward Grey, the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, announced in Parliament on the 27th that he had asked Germany, France and Italy to confer with Great Britain through their ambassadors in London with a view to arranging the difficulties between Austria and Russia. The German government on the 28th returned an unfavorable reply to the Secretary's invitation, and made the counter suggestion that negotiations for

peace be conducted between the cabinets instead of by a conference.

English Affairs.

The conference of eight leaders, two each from the Liberals, Unionists, Nationalists and Ulstermen, that took place in Buckingham Palace at the invitation of the King, came to naught. Meetings were held on the 21st, and on the three following days, but no agreement was reached. The Ulstermen insisted upon the exclusion of the whole of Ulster, while the Irish Nationalists demanded the two Catholic counties of Fermanagh and Tyrone. The deadlock of the conference leaves the whole Irish question in a state of doubt and uncertainty. [See current volume, page 710.]

What was called "King's interference" in calling the conference, brought hostile criticism from all quarters, the Liberals criticising him for overstepping his prerogative, and the Conservatives for allowing himself to be drawn into party strife. The comment of many Liberal papers was veiled, lest it embarrass the party leaders. But a few spoke with great freedom. In answer to parliamentary critics, Mr. Asquith assumed full responsibility for the action, declaring: "The speech was sent to me in the ordinary way by his majesty the day before it was delivered." The Daily News, in commenting on the explanation, said:

The speech of the king is the speech of his ministers, approved by the king. On this occasion it was the speech of the king submitted to his ministers. This new departure suggests the relations of the German emperor to his ministers rather than of the relation of our monarch to his ministerial advisers. There are those who are anxious to implicate the sovereign as well as the army in the quarrel, but it cannot too clearly be understood that intervention of the crown in politics can only be followed by consequences which no one with any sense of responsibility would wish to contemplate.

The London Nation said:

We do not quarrel with the king's idea of calling on both parties, with some solemnity and authority of phrasing, to find a remedy, but in his summoning of the chief rebels to the palace and in his flattering speech about them there is so much indorsement of a certain kind of treason of which the higher powers seems to approve that we wonder where British sovereignty and British constitutionalism are being led.

Three men and one woman were killed and more than sixty persons were wounded in Dublin on the 26th when the soldiers fired into a mob. A gun-running exploit took place at Howth, nine miles from Dublin, where 10,000 rifles and 70,000 rounds of ammunition were landed from a private yacht

at noon on the 26th. A battalion of British troops was sent to capture them. The soldiers did not get the arms, but such ill-feeling was aroused that they were attacked by mobs on their return to Dublin, and the shooting followed.

The effect of the clash between the soldiery and the Dublin mob is such as to interrupt the parliamentary program. The Amending bill was to have come up for consideration by the Commons, on the 28th, but the Irish members were so exasperated over the killing of men in Dublin that the Premier realized they were in no frame of mind to make concessions to Ulster. The Laborites and many Liberals supported them. Premier Asquith declared the government was impartial in its dealings with Ireland. The deputy police commissioner who ordered out the Dublin troops was suspended. John Redmond demanded the suspension of Sir John Ross, police commissioner of Dublin, as a man unfit for his office.

Titles for Women.

A petition has been addressed to King George of England, asking that "no further list of birthday or New Year's honors may be issued without recognition of the highest degree being conferred upon members of both sexes equally." The Women's Freedom League has prepared the following list of names to be recognized in the distribution of honors hitherto confined on men alone:

Imperial Service—Lady Lugard, Miss Meriel Talbot, Lady Henry Somerset, Mrs. Annie Besant, Miss Haldane and Miss Agnes Weston.

Social Service—Miss Margaret Macmillan, Councillor Margaret Ashton, Mrs. Bramwell Booth, Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs. Sidney Webb, Miss Eva Gore Booth, Miss Esther Roper, Miss Mary MacArthur, Mrs. Creighton and Mrs. Barnett.

Writers—Flora Annie Steel, Olive Schreiner, Alice Meynell and Lady Gregory.

Art—Ellen Terry, Lena Ashwell, Miss Horniman, Mme. Clara Butt, Dr. Ethel Smyth and Lucy Kemp Welch.

Science—Mrs. Hertha Ayrton, Lady Huggins, Dr. Annie Porter, Mrs. Gordon Oglivie, Dr. Scharlieb and Dr. Garrett Anderson.

Education—Emily Davies, Frances Dove, Isabella Cleghorn, Miss Jones, Louisa Lumsden and Sophie Bryant.

Distinguished Service—Mrs. St. Clair Stobart, ambulance and military service; Miss Violet Markham, publicist and philanthropist; Miss Edith Durham, war correspondent; Lady Aberconway, politician, and Maude Royden, speaker and writer.

Matrons of hospitals—Miss McIntosh, Miss Lloyd Still, Miss Louise Victoria Haughton, Miss E. C. E. Luckes, Miss E. McCall Anderson, Miss Young, Miss M. McEvoy, Miss A. M. Bird, Miss I. C. Bennett, Miss B. Sherratt and Miss Garrett.