

Honoring Cleveland's Pioneer Radicals.

The Cleveland Singletax Club will give on November 20, at Webers Dining Hall, 242 Superior avenue, a dinner to the members of the old Franklin Club, a radical organization formed by the late Dr. L. B. Tuckerman, which met from 1885 to 1900 to discuss economic questions. On February 2, 1890, the club protested against granting of any franchise. It passed resolutions so frequently along similar lines that the City Council finally instructed the City Clerk to present no more petitions from the organization, "said club being composed of less than half a dozen dangerous and cranky Socialists." As a result the club attended the next Council meeting in a body with a new resolution, packing the chamber to the doors. The Council then reconsidered its action and received the resolution. Among the still living members of the club are Peter Witt, Edmund Vance Cooke, Tom Fitzsimmons, and others, who have become prominent and influential in reform work. The announcement of the dinner contains the following statement:

Almost all of the new, civic, democratic, and humanitarian legislation that has been passed by this city and state during recent years, and to which we now point with pride, are laws which the old Franklin Club discussed, decided upon as good, and strenuously endeavored to have enacted twenty years ago. . . . If the Franklin Club had existed in Chicago at the time of the Haymarket riot its members would have all been hung or sentenced to serve terms in the Illinois legislature.

**Commission on Industrial Relations.**

The Federal Commission on Industrial Relations will probe into the land question at a public hearing at Dallas, Tex., in December, following a hearing in Denver, where more about the Colorado situation will be developed. At the Dallas hearing agricultural themes will predominate, including tendency toward concentration of land ownership, increase of tenant farming, and increase in rents. Remedial plans will be asked for as well as evidence. "In all of our western hearings we have come in direct contact with the land question," said Prof. John R. Commons of the University of Wisconsin, one of the commissioners, in discussing the agricultural hearing. "The overcrowding of the urban industrial centers with unorganized, unskilled laborers, many of whom speak English imperfectly and are not qualified to seek or bargain for work on terms of preference, has brought before the commission the importance of finding ways to redistribute this labor. In all parts of the country we also hear of the difficulty of securing farm workers at certain seasons and of the desire for additional population for farm production. The question then is, can the rural population assimilate part of this surplus, and if so, how? It is a

problem that concerns the industrial units of society as well as the agricultural." [See current volume, page 973.]

**Citizens Protest Against "Jim Crow" Government.**

A delegation of negro citizens, headed by Mr. Monroe Trotter of Boston, called on President Wilson on November 12 to enter a protest against segregation of negro employes in the Government departments. As spokesman, Mr. Trotter placed much stress on the political inexpediency of this practice. In reply the President stated that race prejudice is with us and must be taken into account and intimated that he would not ask the department heads to rescind their orders to that effect. The threats of political reprisals and other personal arguments he considered offensive and stated that the delegation must select another spokesman if it approached him again. [See vol. xvi., pages 845, 1114; current volume, page 593.]

**Delayed Election News.**

California home rule in taxation amendment appears to be defeated according to incomplete returns. The amendment, at first reported adopted, to prohibit for eight years submission of any liquor legislation, has been defeated according to later returns. The classification of property for taxation amendment in Nebraska has probably failed to secure enough votes to carry, although it received a majority of votes cast on the question. Later returns from Oklahoma indicate that the Socialist party has become the second party in the State and the Republican third. Twenty-one Socialists are reported elected to the legislature. In Milwaukee Gaylord, Socialist, defeated for Congress on the face of the returns, has demanded a recount. In Nevada Senator Newlands, Democrat, has been re-elected United States Senator by a plurality of 38 votes over Platt, Republican. [See current volume, pages 1091, 1092.]

**Mexico and the United States.**

In spite of the wild and extravagant rumors and reports of conflict and the movement of troops, there is a good prospect that Mexican differences will be settled without further bloodshed. General Carranza now signifies his intention of abiding by the action of the Agnas Calientes Convention. General Gutierrez, the Provisional President chosen by the convention, has announced to President Wilson that he has assumed the office, and will soon set up his government in Mexico City. There are still rumors that General Carranza has conditioned his resignation with a like action on the part of General Villa. Positive guarantees that the lives and property of foreigners in Mexico will be protected by the new government. In addition,

General Gutierrez declares most emphatically that dictatorship has ended in Mexico for all time, and that the military factions now in control realize that only a government directly commissioned by the people themselves can hope to reorganize Mexico and place the republic on a stable basis. [See current volume, page 1094.]

The European War.

Nothing that leads directly to the conclusion of the war is to be noted in the fifteenth week of the fighting. The main efforts of the Germans have been directed toward breaking through the northern end of the Allies' line in order to carry out their plan of reaching the coast on the British Channel; but there has been little change in the lines. On the Eastern border the Germans have retreated to their own territory, where they have stopped the advance of the Russians. Austria has continued to yield a little to the Russians, but seems to have advanced somewhat in Serbia. The reports of the Turko-Russian struggle in Armenia are still too confusing and contradictory to convey a definite idea of real conditions. Nor has anything of moment occurred between the Turks and British. The war still appears to be an endurance struggle. [See current volume, page 1094.]

The Campaign in Western Europe.

The ruling motive of the Germans during the past week appears to have been to destroy the Allies' forces that stand between them and the coast cities of Dunkirk and Calais. To this end troops that have been opposing the Russians in the East have been transferred to the army in Belgium and the north of France, but so far without avail. The desperate struggle about Dixmude, on the Yser, and at Ypres has continued day and night. The German forces succeeded in crossing the Yser a second time, and finding a lodgment on the west bank, but were finally compelled to withdraw. Much of the lowland has been flooded by the cutting of the dykes, which has hampered the invading army's operations. Dixmude has changed hands repeatedly during the long struggle, and at present the ruined little city is in the hands of the Germans. Ypres also marks a crucial point in the struggle, but remains in the hands of the Allies. The fighting has continued with such desperation that the casualties are said to be enormous. The net result appears to be favorable to the Allies, since they have held their ground against the concentrated German attack. It is reported that the Canadian troops have been sent to the front, together with some of the English reserves that have been in training. A large number of French reserves also are said to be ready. This is taken to indicate that the Allies are about ready to begin an offensive movement. Earlier indications that

active hostilities might subside during the winter are not borne out by present appearances. The weather has been cold, with much rain and some snow, but the campaign continues as vigorously as before.

The Campaign in Eastern Europe.

It is thought that when the German advance against Warsaw failed, and the army began its retreat toward the German line of defense, considerable numbers of troops were transferred to the Western field in a supreme effort to break down the Allies' defense in Southern Belgium. Now that the Russians are on the German border there is supposed to be under way a transfer of troops from the West to the East. The Russians have made some progress in East Prussia, but are likely to make little headway against the Germans in the near future. The latter are concentrating troops at Thorn, Posen, and Breslau in sufficient number to prevent any further advance of the Russians, even should they reach these fortified towns. In Galicia, however, and Southern Poland the Russians are still forcing back the Austrians. They have reached Cracow, the capital of Galicia and the intellectual center of Poland during its national existence. It has over 150,000 population but is not strongly fortified. The Russian investment has already begun, and unless the Germans succeed in a movement to arrest the siege, the city is expected to soon yield. Tarnow is in Russian hands, and the Austrian line from that point to the Vistula is west of the Donajeo River. Przemysl, the stronghold of Galicia, is still held by Austrians, but has been isolated by the Russians. An attempt to succor Cracow from Przemysl has been ineffective. The Austrian campaign on the south appears to make some headway against Serbia. They hold their position east of the Drina River, where they report success in routing the Servian forces. Serbia, however, claims to have held the Austrians in check. Nothing yet indicates the action of the Balkan States.

Turkey.

The Balkan states having refused Russia permission to move her army across their territory to attack Turkey, her operations are still confined to the territory east of the Black Sea. Reports of operations in this field are too contradictory to admit of any definite judgment of what has actually been accomplished. The Russians announce two invasions into Turkish territory in an advance upon Erzeroum, while the Turks claim to be advancing upon Batum, the Russian Black Sea port. Word comes from Constantinople that the Khedive of Egypt, who has been in that city since the beginning of hostilities, and who owes spiritual allegiance to the Sultan of Turkey, is about to set out in command of Turkish troops to begin operations