

made common property." It is outrageous, thinks this paper, that in a crisis like this a man should go to prison—as one has already gone—for knocking over a rabbit in the harvest field. Bold words are these, even for a Liberal paper, and far reaching will be their effect. What with Lloyd George nibbling at the rent roll, and the public's assertion of its right to use the land to grow food, England is in the way of realizing great things. s. c.



### Constructive Advertising.

Newspapers have sought to ingratiate themselves in the public favor by ventures covering the whole gamut of human activities, from financing an aerial expedition to the North Pole to distributing patent grease spot eradicators; but it has fallen to the lot of the Chicago Herald to undertake something really meritorious. In its proposition to send a ship load of toys from the boys and girls of America to the boys and girls of the warring countries of Europe, the Herald has hit upon an idea of great worth; for it is doubtful if any other one thing could do more to lighten the gloom of the afflicted homes on Christmas day. It is the little things that contain the finest sentiment; and it is at Christmas tide that the heart grows warmest. Whether we shall at that time see the killing still under way, or merely the stricken homes, nothing should be left undone by us in this country to extend our sympathy, and to draw in return their love across the boundary lines. Whatever will tend to wipe out boundary lines, or overcome the idea that stranger is synonymous with enemy, is good. s. c.



### A Tory Tax Measure.

More taxes on labor. No more on privilege. That is the program of the Democratic members of the Ways and Means Committee in dealing with the deficit. The adoption of this measure taxing freights and liquors will show once more how Congress may have a Democratic majority but not a majority of democrats. s. d.



### An Anti-Democratic Bill.

The pending undemocratic Burnett immigration bill, which adds to and intensifies the barbarous features of existing immigration laws, has been matched in absurdity by a bill introduced by another non-democrat, Representative B. P. Harrison of Mississippi. Mr. Harrison's bill would exclude from re-admission all naturalized citizens or other foreign residents who have left the coun-

try to take part in a rebellion or war. To the Burnett bill which would penalize foreigners who seek entrance, Congressman Harrison would add a measure to penalize some who would leave. Under it, should a Russian refugee return to his native country and take part in an unsuccessful movement to establish a democracy there, he would be denied re-admission, although that denial might send him back to the vengeance of the Czar. That it would be inconsistent, if nothing worse, for an American legislative body to adopt such an act is made clear by the National Liberal Immigration League in the following brief statement:

Monuments opposite the White House commemorating the deeds of Rochambeau, Steuben, Kosciusko and Lafayette—all foreigners who did great service for our country. Ought they to have been excluded from their respective countries because of service here?

According to Congressman Harrison they should have been. s. d.



### Judicial Contempt of the People.

Defenders of judicial sanctity have an unusually hard job should they try to defend the act of Judge Strong of Trinidad, Colorado. This judge has summarily convicted of contempt and sentenced to fine and imprisonment two citizens of the State who exercised their constitutional right of circulating a petition for recall of another judge, named McHendrie. Technically the charge of contempt was based not on the act of demanding a recall, but on the statement of reasons for such action. But the State Constitution specifically allows petitioners for a recall to state their reasons for the information of voters. Strong's act amounts to a claim that judicial authority is higher than that of the people of the State. Such a claim is not new, but has never been so openly flaunted before. It is now for the people of Colorado to say whether a judge's contempt of their rights shall go unpunished. s. d.



### Progressive Democracy in Pennsylvania.

In Pennsylvania the Progressive party candidate for Governor, William Draper Lewis, recognizing the need of a union of all democratic elements, has withdrawn to help election of the Democratic candidate, Vance McCormick. He has thus set a splendid example which should have imitators. It would be well if Congressman Mitchell Palmer were now to withdraw from the Senatorial race and help so good a democrat as Gifford Pinchot to defeat Boies Penrose. There should

be a similar union on the other State offices. For the office of Secretary of Internal Affairs, the Democratic candidate, William N. McNair, has been conducting an energetic campaign in behalf of progressive principles. He would be the logical candidate for progressive elements of all parties to unite upon. Such a union would not merely make a victory in Pennsylvania this fall more than probable, it would make the State the leader in a national movement to bring together the progressive elements of all parties and force reactionaries out of both the Progressive and Democratic parties.

S. D.

### A Union for Practical Progress.

A union of progressive elements in New Jersey, for the election of this year, at least, seems forecast in the endorsement by the Democrats of Paterson of the Progressive party legislative nominee, John H. Adamson. As explained in the Progressive party organ, *The Way*, published at Paterson, the adoption of a home rule in taxation law is the most important measure on which local Progressive forces can unite. Such a bill was supported in the last legislature by all genuine democratic members. It was opposed by reactionary Democrats and all but one of the Republicans. In helping the progressive Democrats to push this measure the Progressive party is doing the best possible work in New Jersey for true progressive principles.

S. D.

### A Tedious Process.

Political evolution, like all other forms of evolution, is a slow process. We think to hasten it by making short cuts, only to find in the end that there are no short cuts in nature. Quick changes we can make, but the substance will have its time for growth. Representative government made possible the application of democratic principles to great states. The theory is sound; but there is still difficulty in making the application. The advantage to the winner is so great that no device has yet been discovered to prevent designing politicians from outwitting the people. Instead of the voters selecting their representatives, the politicians still manage to bring about a state of affairs in which the people have to choose them. Party conventions easily become the playthings of the bosses. The voters had no choice except among the candidates put up by the machines. Direct primaries followed; but only to betray another weakness, the long ballot. And while the campaign for the short ballot is still on, there comes

the cry of "too many elections." To conduct two effective campaigns bars out all but the rich and the machine candidates, which leaves us little better off than under the boss-ridden convention.

The immediate needs to meet present evils are a short ballot that shall eliminate all clerical and other minor officials, nominations by petition, and a single election with the preferential vote. Possibly when this has been attained other difficulties will arise. But whether the solution is near at hand, or remote, we cannot stay or go back; we must go on. Pure democracy is an ideal which, though it may never be attained in all its perfection, may yet be approached nearer and nearer as we master its principles. The sporadic ringster who still slips through in spite of electoral restrictions is the more conspicuous because he has fewer companions. Should any one feel disheartened over present conditions it needs only a glance at history to give him the courage to continue the struggle.

S. C.

### Illinois' Duty.

It had been hoped that Illinois would send to Washington a democratic Senator from the Democratic party. The Democrats had the opportunity when John Z. White's name was presented for their consideration. But the party heard its master's voice, and has decided to place its standard for the coming campaign in the hands of one who is anything but a democrat. But while this bars the Democratic party from sending a democrat to Washington in November, it does not prevent the people of Illinois from sending a democratic Senator. For, while the Democrats have named as their candidate the least fit man in the party, the Progressives have named their strongest. Raymond Robins is a democrat from the ground up. He not only is a democrat, but he knows why he is a democrat, and he has the courage of his convictions. He will be a power in the United States Senate, as he has been on the platform. Let every democratic Democrat in Illinois vote for Raymond Robins, and a twofold purpose will have been served: The state will have a fine representative in the Senate, and the country will be spared the humiliation of seeing another plutocrat making laws to govern a democracy.

S. C.

### Raymond Robins for Senator.

It was unfortunate that the opposition to Sullivan's nomination had no inspiring leadership. To