

amount he spends, which must be within the limit named, but certain "exceptions" are provided which permit him to spend in effective campaigning a hundred times that amount or more, with no publicity.

Moreover, and note this point, no publicity is required of outside organizations working in behalf of a candidate. I might file a report truthfully that I had spent \$2,500 to secure my election to the U. S. Senate, but the people would not know that a Manufacturers' Association had spent \$150,000 of their own money for me. The present laws are cotton twine designed to bind giants.

The lower House recently passed the Rucker bill, which professed to amend and codify the present laws, but it retained all the big jokers of the old laws. The National Popular Government League made a strenuous protest, and succeeded in knocking out the "two states" joker. Senator Owen went before the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, and in the form of a substitution bill offered amendments to the Rucker bill, which were proposed by our league. All these changes were adopted by the committee and then some, so that the Rucker-Owen bill now pending in the Senate is a tremendous step in advance. This bill should be immediately enacted by the Senate and concurred in by the House. If it is not, there will be no adequate publicity upon the real sources of campaign contributions and expenditures in this coming election at which one-third of the Senators and all of the House members are to be elected.

The reactionaries of all parties are determined that this bill shall not pass at this time, and it is likely that they will succeed in killing it unless they hear from the people. The enactment of this law will check the flow of money in favor of candidates of the special interests, and this is the reason why the readers of this paper who desire the next Congress to be a people's Congress should immediately write both to their Senators and Representatives in Congress to work for and vote for this bill in effective form. They should also demand the passage of the Norris resolution for an investigation of Pennsylvania and Illinois.

JUDSON KING,

Executive Secretary The National Popular Government League.

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## NEWS NARRATIVE

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The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of The Public for earlier information on the same subject.

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Week ending Tuesday, September 29, 1914.

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### The European War.

The campaign in the West has been confined to the activities in the north of France, and in Belgium, in neither of which have material changes been officially announced. In the East Russia, Servia and Montenegro continue to make head against Austria. And in the Far East Japan announces gains in its Kioa-Chau campaign. Offi-

cial censorship is rigidly enforced in all countries, which keeps from the public all details as to the number of men engaged, the exact position of the armies, and the extent of the casualties. The week appears, on the whole, to have been favorable to the Allies. [See current volume, page 922.]



### The Franco-German Campaign.

The position of the two armies in the north of France shows little change after another seven days of almost continuous fighting. The line still extends from Metz to the junction of the Aisne and Oise rivers, near Compeigne, thence north to Perronne. The eastern end of the line has moved a little north of Nancy; and although German troops are still to the southeast of Verdun, that fortified place still remains in the hands of the Allies. Rheims has withstood the attacks of the German center. And the German right has been forced back a short distance. The advance of the Allies along the German right in an effort to turn it back upon the center has resulted in extending the line of both armies farther toward the Belgian border. Both armies are well entrenched, and the action now partakes more of the nature of a field siege than of a battle. Fighting is almost continuous at some point along the line. Hand to hand conflicts are reported, when bayonet charges are made with deadly effect. Night attacks have been conducted by picked men on an extensive scale. Both sides claim gains, but military experts hold that the fortunes of war have slightly favored the Allies. Reinforcements are being added to both armies, and while the numbers are not given by the official reports, the gain in strength is supposed to be in favor of the Allies. The casualties are said to be very heavy, but are not given officially.



### The Campaign in Eastern Europe.

No decisive action has taken place between the German and Russian armies, since the latter was driven back from Koenigsburg in Eastern Prussia. The German advance into Russian Poland has ceased, and troops are moving to strengthen the Austrian lines from Cracow southward. The Russian forces in Galicia have continued to push back the Austrian line until the tip of the right wing is now south of the Carpathian Mountains, the left is at Cracow, and the center has been forced to yield two of the forts protecting Przemysl. The control of the Galician oil fields is likely to handicap the Austrians and Germans by depriving them of their chief supply of gasoline. Russian reinforcements continue to pour in, and a decisive battle is expected at an early date. Austrian arms on the south have been equally unfortunate in their struggle with the Servians and the Montenegrins. The Servians

and Montenegrins are reported to be within ten miles of Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia.



#### Belgium.

The movements of the Belgian troops have been confined for the most part to the vicinity of Antwerp, where successes of a minor nature are reported from territory to the south of the city. The German forces are reported to be placing the deadly siege guns that did such effective work at Liege and Mons to reduce Antwerp. The foundations for these guns are made of concrete, and the mounting is a slow process. They throw a shell weighing 2,500 pounds. Zeppelin airships have passed over the city in the night, and bombs have been dropped, but apparently without method, and with little damage.



#### Japan.

No naval activities have been reported before Kiau-Chau, but land operations are noted in a general way. Eight hundred British and 400 Indian Sikhs were landed on the 23d to co-operate with the Japanese in the campaign against Kiau-Chau. The censorship remains close, but it is evident that no decisive action has yet taken place.



#### On the Sea.

The German fleet remains under the protection of fort guns, while the British fleet patrols the North Sea. Such actions as have occurred have been confined to cruisers, torpedo boats and submarines. A report issued by the British admiralty on the 28th covering the naval operations to that date states that twelve English ships representing a tonnage of 59,331 have been sunk by German cruisers. Eight other ships, aggregating a tonnage of 2,979, have been sunk by mines in the North Sea; and twenty-four fishing craft have been captured or sunk. Seventy-four British ships with a total tonnage of 170,000 are detained in German ports. As against this, the admiralty states that 102 German ships, with a total tonnage of 200,000, are detained in British ports since the outbreak of the war. Eighty-eight German ships, aggregating 338,000 tons, have been captured by the British since the beginning of hostilities. One hundred and sixty-eight German ships, with a tonnage of 283,000, have been held or captured by the Allies.



Such details as have been given out by the British and German governments place the loss of life from the sinking of the three British cruisers by a German submarine on the 22d at about 1,400. The work was done by a single submarine, and the whole operation occupied less than one

hour. Minor engagements are reported from the Baltic between the German and Russian ships, and from the Adriatic between the Austrian and French ships. Nothing of the nature of a naval battle has yet taken place.



#### Africa.

General Louis Botha, Premier and Minister of Agriculture, one of the most prominent of the Boer war generals, has taken supreme command of the British forces operating against German Southwest Africa. The campaigns have not as yet assumed formidable proportions. The British have seized Luederitzbucht, the German diamond field, and the Germans have made an attack on Walfish Bay in Cape Colony. The French gunboat Surprise has taken possession of Coco Beach in Kamarun, the German colony of western equatorial Africa. Coco Beach lies at the entrance of the Muni River, which enters the sea at Corisco Bay. This territory was ceded to Germany as a result of the Franco-German Congo agreement in 1911.



#### Injunction Asked Against Naval Censorship.

On account of failure of the wireless station at Siasconset to comply with naval censorship regulations it was ordered closed by Secretary Daniels on September 24. An application for an injunction against the Secretary was at once filed in Federal District Court of Eastern New York by John W. Griggs, president of the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company. [See current volume, page 831.]



#### Washington News.

The so-called war tax bill passed the House of Representatives on September 25 by a vote of 234 to 135. Eleven Democrats and one Progressive were included in the opposition. The bill now goes to the Senate. [See current volume, page 924.]



The Senate passed on September 27 the amended river and harbor bill which appropriates but \$20,000,000, instead of \$93,000,000, as voted by the House. The House on September 26 adopted the Senate amendments and passed the amended bill. [See current volume page 924.]



The Alaska coal lands leasing bill passed the Senate on September 26. It had already passed the House. It now awaits the President's signature. The House took up on September 26 the Jones bill providing antonomy for the Philippines on which an extended discussion is expected. The Senate on September 28 adopted two resolutions for investigation of the Standard