

Dr. Robert Ellis Thompson in *Political Economy* (p. 232), says: "Duties for revenue . . . are highly unjust."

As it is clear that "protection" is not intended to produce revenue, but to prevent importation a return to the protective system could not take the place of the stamp system.

Of tariffs for revenue Dr. Thompson says (p. 232): "They inflict all the hardship of indirect and unequal taxation without even the purpose of benefiting the consumer."

In one important particular stamp taxes are inestimably superior to either the grossly immoral private taxes known as "protection," or the "tariff for revenue" taxes, which no economist defends: that particular is this—that stamp taxes are visible, and sometimes "direct" (not shifted), but tariff taxes for "protection" or for government are never visible, always shifted. Not being direct they are, of course, indirect. An indirect tax is a crooked tax.

SAMUEL MILLIKEN.

## 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, October 6, 1914.

### The European War.

The Campaign in the West is still confined to the activities in the north of France, and in Belgium, where little material change has been officially reported since last week. In the East, Russia claims to have gained in its campaign against Germany; and Russia, Servia, and Montenegro have continued their advance into Austria. Land and naval engagements are reported from the Kiao-Chau campaign, but nothing decisive. No naval engagement of moment has taken place. [See current volume, page 945.]

### The Franco-German Campaign.

Continuous fighting through the third week of the battle of the Aisne has brought no decisive results. The position of the armies still remains in the form of a carpenter's square, the point being at the junction of the Aisne and Oise rivers, the long arm extending easterly to Metz, and the short arm northerly toward the Belgian border. Repeated efforts have been made by the Germans to break through the Allies' lines at Verdun and in the neighborhood of the forest of Argonne, but without success. The plan of the Allies apparently continues to be the turning movement against the German right wing. They have continued to extend their line to the north, which has compelled the German right under General von Kluck to parallel it, and the two armies are now within a few miles of the Belgian border. The most of the

fighting has been along this line, with little advantage to either side in direct assaults, but with relative gains by the Allies. The censorship suppresses all information as to re-enforcements, and the detailed movement of troops; but it is believed that the Indian troops from India have now reached the firing line, and that England is sending in troops from Ireland, the colonies, and from home. Some of these are supposed to be used in the turning movement; and there are reports that a force is now at Ostend that will be used to still further flank the German right wing. It is estimated that this new English force numbers 100,000. Decisive action in this campaign is not looked for for some days to come. No reliable data has been given out as to the number of men in the armies engaged, or the casualties; but both are known to be large.

### The Campaign in Eastern Europe.

The reports emanating from Petrograd and from Berlin are so contradictory, and the censorship of press dispatches is so complete that the exact situation along the Russo-German line is not known. Each side claims advantages, but the belief is that the German forces are retreating before the advance of the Russians. Petrograd reports that the attempted invasion of Russia from East Prussia was checked at the Nieman River, and that their defeat at Augustowo will enable the Russians to re-invade East Prussia. The successes of the Russian arms in Austria are more pronounced. The Russians now claim all of Galicia except the fortified town of Przemysl, which is now invested, and the territory adjacent to Cracow which the Austrians and Germans still hold. The passes in the Carpathians have been taken, and Cossacks have entered the plains of Hungary. From Budapest comes the report that the Cossacks have already crossed the River Theiss, which had been looked upon as a bar to their progress. This invasion, while not yet in force, is intended to frighten the people, and to interrupt the recruiting and training of new forces. Servia has retaken Semlin, the Austrian city on the Danube shortly above Belgrade. In Bosnia the Servian and Montenegrin forces are reported approaching the fortifications of the capital, Sarajevo. Austrian reports, however, claim defeat for the Montenegrin forces.

### Belgium.

The Germans are pressing the siege of Antwerp with vigor, though there is some doubt still that the action is more than for the purpose of preventing the Belgians from meddling with the German line of communications. The Germans claim to have silenced three Belgian forts south of the city, and to have compelled the Belgians to fall back behind the River Nethe. It is ex-

pected that the strong defenses of Antwerp will enable the city to stand a long siege, even if it should ultimately be captured. There remain still two lines of fortifications to be captured, and the territory in which the Germans must operate is of such a nature as to make their movements very slow. It is the hope of the Allies to relieve Antwerp by getting in behind General von Kluck's army, and so compel the Germans to call all their men to the chief scene of action.

#### Japan.

Reports of activities in the far east give no indication of decisive action. The landing force of the Japanese are reported to have occupied the Chinese city of Wei-Hsien, and to have taken possession of the railroad extending to Kiao-Chau. Light engagements have taken place between the invading forces and the Germans, followed by the retreat of the latter, until now Kiao-Chau is completely invested. The Japanese fleet is reported to have shelled the fortifications, but without apparent effect. The Chinese have protested without avail against the invasion of their territory by the Japanese, and have blown up the railroad bridge six miles west of Wei-Hsien. The Japanese have also seized the railroad from Tsing-tao to Tsi-nan, against the protests of the Chinese government, and give as a reason that it belongs to the Germans, and that it would be dangerous to allow the road to remain in German hands while the Japanese were operating before Kiao-Chau.

#### On the Sea.

Reports of merchantmen sunk by cruisers in various parts of the world continue. The cruiser Emden is reported to have sunk five British ships in the Indian Ocean; and a dispatch from Berlin claims that the German cruiser Karlsruhe has sunk seven British ships in the Atlantic. A most important announcement is that the British Government has yielded to the American contention for free commerce between neutral countries. Britain was at first disposed to stop food products going to Holland, or other country similarly situated, on the ground that these food products would be re-shipped to Germany. Denmark had attempted to relieve the situation by prohibiting the shipment of food stuffs to Germany; but now that England has yielded to the American contention, no further friction is expected.

#### Mexico and the United States.

The convention of Constitutionalist generals and governors called by General Carranza to meet in the City of Mexico, met in the Chamber of Deputies on the 1st. General Carranza placed his resignation as First Chief of the Constitutionals in the hands of the delegates at eight o'clock

of the evening of the 3d, and there was acrimonious debate till after midnight, when it was voted that the resignation be not accepted. General Carranza then addressed the convention. After thanking the delegates for their vote of confidence, he charged that the opposition to him had been instigated "by the so-called científicos and our conquered enemies," and declared that he would not submit "to a group of chiefs who had forgotten the fulfillment of their duty and to a group of civilians to whom the nation owes nothing." It was his duty, the General said, to "fix the responsibility of the rebellion of General Villa, which is nothing but a plot instigated by the so-called científicos and some of the conquered factions." The delegates from Oaxaca left the chamber, declaring they would fight in the name of civilization against brutal military aggression.

Representatives of General Carranza and General Villa are to meet in a general peace conference at Aguas Calientes on the 10th, where an effort will be made to reconcile the differences of the two generals. Little importance is attached to the refusal of the first conference to accept General Carranza's resignation, since to do so would have left the government without a head. An agreement is looked for at the coming conference.

Meantime, desultory fighting has been going on in the state of Sonora between the forces of Governor Maytorena and the Carranza troops under General Benjamin Hill. Few casualties have been reported, which indicate that the engagement has not been of serious proportions.

A delegation representing the Federation of Catholic Societies of America, called upon President Wilson on the 30th, asking that the United States recognize no government in Mexico that does not grant religious liberty. Representations were made by the delegation that priests and nuns, some of whom were Americans, had been robbed and murdered by Constitutionals.

#### Fowlds in New Zealand.

A cable message on September 25 from Auckland told of the safe arrival there of Hon. George Fowlds from Vancouver, whence he had sailed on September 3. The fact that war conditions rendered the steamer on which he sailed liable to capture had caused his friends some uneasiness. [See current volume, page 754.]

#### Dr. Gorgas Honored.

Dr. William C. Gorgas, United States Surgeon