

Notable Single Tax Dinner.

Presided over by C. B. Fillebrown, the Boston merchant, the annual dinner of the Massachusetts Single Tax League (vol. x, pp. 683, 700) came off at Boston on the 1st with a notable attendance and notable speakers. Among the 200 guests were Harvey N. Shepard, Hartley Dennett, Henry B. Blackwell, Alice Stone Blackwell, Prof. T. N. Carver of Harvard, Dr. H. Lincoln Chase, Prof. Davis R. Dewey of Harvard, Rev. C. F. Dole, Prof. Ellen Hayes of Wellesley College, F. H. Monroe of Chicago, and Mrs. Edwin D. Mead of Boston. The committee in charge were Professors Lewis J. Johnson, George H. Parker and William L. Mowll, all of Harvard University. Lincoln Steffens spoke on "Tom Johnson, the Great Democrat," describing rapidly his personal history, and laying his recent experience to the fact that for a few weeks after getting control of Cleveland's street railways he had ceased to give attention to politics. Mr. Steffens explained that the strike had been financed, advised and directed by the men Johnson had fought with for the control—the capitalists. It was these men who advised labor to use the referendum on Johnson. And now, Mr. Steffens said, "all that remains of Tom Johnson's great work is an enlightened people; and they will come back, they'll understand, and they will solve the problem." W. M. Salter spoke on "The Ethical Foundation for Single Tax," and Rev. C. Bertrand Thompson on "The Pragmatics and Idealistics of Single Tax." Prof. Comfort A. Adams, an electrical engineer and member of the Harvard faculty, was introduced to tell about the real Tom Johnson, and paid high tribute to the Ohioan, bringing his report from a man who was on the inside in the recent traction fight, though himself a Republican, and so not prejudiced in favor of Johnson. Mrs. Anita Trueman Pickett answered the question, "Does it pay to work for single tax?" and the last speaker was William Lloyd Garrison.

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Woman Suffrage in New York.

An organization called the National League for the Civic Education of Women held a mass meeting at the Berkeley theater, New York City, on the 4th in the afternoon to protest against woman suffrage. It was represented on the platform wholly by Lyman Abbott, Richard Watson Gilder and Nicholas Murray Butler. Dr. Abbott read a letter from President Roosevelt and Mr. Butler read one of similar tenor from Secretary Root. President Roosevelt wrote:

Personally, I believe in woman's suffrage, but I am not an enthusiastic advocate of it, because I do not regard it as an important matter. I am unable to see that there has been any special improvement in the position of women in those States in the West that have adopted woman suffrage, as compared with

those States adjoining them that have not adopted it. I do not think that giving the women suffrage will produce any marked improvement in the condition of women. I do not believe it will produce any of the evils feared, and I am certain that when women as a whole take any special interest in the matter they will have the suffrage if they desire it. I believe that man and woman should stand on an equality of right, but I do not believe equality of right means identity of function; and I am more and more convinced that the great field, the indispensable field, for the usefulness of woman is as the mother of the family. It is her work in the household, in the home, her work in bearing and rearing the children, which is more important than any man's work, and it is that work which should be normally the woman's special work, just as normally the man's work should be that of the breadwinner, the supporter of the home, and, if necessary, the soldier who will fight for the home.

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On the same evening, in Carnegie Hall, a suffragist meeting replied to the one of the afternoon. Among the speakers were Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, the Rev. Dr. Charles F. Aked, and Mrs. Philip Snowden of England. Mrs. Catt paid particular attention to President Roosevelt's letter, saying:

Mr. Roosevelt says he is a lukewarm suffragist. It is not hard to find the reason for this. We will not have to look far for it. There is no secret to it. We know that a tree toad, when it is on a brown bough is a brown toad, and when it is on a green bough, it is a green toad. We know that he knows that women do not vote and that he can therefore afford to be lukewarm. Mr. Taft has declared himself in favor of suffrage for women, and now that he is elected we women must see to it that he does not become lukewarm.

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The Woman Suffrage Question in England.

Another "suffragette" outbreak in England (pp. 804, 849) was reported by cable on the 6th. It occurred in London on the 5th. The Woman's Liberal Federation had called a meeting at Albert Hall for that date, at which David Lloyd-George, a member of the Liberal ministry and a pronounced woman suffragist, was to speak. This meeting was invaded for purposes of disturbance by members of other suffrage bodies—"suffragettes," as they are called—and as soon as Lloyd-George began speaking they interrupted with cries of "What we want is deeds and not words." When the ushers tried to remove these disturbers they found them chained to their chairs, and one of the disturbers struck across the face with a whip an usher who was trying to remove her. Appeals for order were ignored. Although Lloyd-George explained that he was there not only to declare his own opinion, but to explain what he conceived to be the views and intentions of the ministry, his voice was drowned by the disturbing cries of "Deeds, not words!" Lady Maclaren, one of

the organizers of the meeting, appealed for silence in order that they might hear the speaker's message. This appeal was acquiesced in apparently, but hardly had the speaker begun when the tumult arose again. Lloyd-George finally secured order enough to proceed, though with some difficulty. Deploring the tactics of the disturbers as calculated to create reaction against the cause, he said: "If this chance to get what they desired was thrown away, it would be entirely owing to the folly or lunacy of some of those who to-day had felt they had been helping the cause." He assured his audience that there was a majority in the cabinet and the Liberal party in favor of woman suffrage, and that a suffrage clause would be included in the government's franchise bill, which, however, could not be introduced until the eve of the dissolution of Parliament. He added that the time of dissolution had not yet arrived, though the end of this Parliament was not so distant as some people thought.

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Reforming the British House of Lords.

A growing popular hostility to the House of Lords, because it represents little but the hereditary private interests of its members and is an obstacle to progressive legislation, has influenced that body to take steps for its own reform. Its first step was the appointment of a special committee of its own members with instructions to suggest a plan; and on the 3d, according to the cable dispatches, this committee reported. As cabled—

The committee finds it undesirable that the possession of a peerage should of itself give the right to sit and vote in the House of Lords, and it recommends that qualifications should be the main test for admission. It then sets forth that all hereditary peers should be formed into an electoral body for the purpose of electing 200 of their number to sit and vote as the "Lords of Parliament," not for life, but for a single parliament; that the Spiritual Lords of Parliament be reduced to ten, to be elected by the bishops; the two archbishops sitting during the tenure of their Sees, and the other eight for the duration of each Parliament; that Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa have official representatives in the House of Lords; that a number of hereditary peers, estimated at 130, possessing certain qualifications, should sit without the necessity of election; these to include men who have held the post of cabinet minister, viceroy, Governor General of Canada, and governor of the larger colonies, and naval and military officers of high rank, and that twenty years' service in the House of Commons shall entitle to a seat among the peers. This plan will give the reformed House of Lords about 350 members—namely, three peers of the royal blood, 200 peers to be elected, about 130 qualified hereditary peers, ten spiritual lords and five judges. The report adds that the committee feels that the party in power in the House of Commons should be able to count on a substantial following in the House of Lords, but as opinions as to the best means of ar-

ranging this object are so diverse it is unable to make any recommendations.

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Responsible Government Demanded in Germany.

Ministerial responsibility to the people instead of to the crown was debated in the Reichstag on the 2nd, as a development from the recent excitement over the Emperor's indiscreet London Telegraph interview (pp. 801, 820). Dispatches state that the debate was notable for the unanimous view expressed by all the Liberal parties, and supported by the powerful Center party, that some change in the constitution was desirable. The motions brought in, however, varied considerably in their phraseology, and because of the existing party jealousies it is not regarded as probable that an agreement regarding a final formula can be reached for a long time yet.

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Until the last day or two the Kaiser has remained in seclusion since the sudden and wholly unexpected popular outbreak against his irresponsibility. He was ostensibly nursing a cold, and is assumed to have been acquiring new points of view upon his autocracy and prerogatives. He is described as seeming to be very much depressed.

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The Emperor of Austria's Jubilee.

Austria and Hungary celebrated on the 2nd the sixtieth anniversary of Franz Josef's accession to the throne of Austria. He became King of Hungary eighteen years later. The announcement that it had been semi-officially declared he would make (p. 850) in regard to the transference of his duties to his heir, the Archduke Franz Ferdinand, was not made, and signs are noted of greater effort on the part of the aged Emperor to control the present aggressive attitude toward Turkey and the Turkish suzerain provinces, for which his heir and the ministry are in fact responsible, and to which the peace-loving and just old man finds himself unreasonably committed.

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The Revolution in Haiti.

The Negro-French republic of Haiti occupies the western half of the second largest island of the West Indies, while the Negro-Spanish republic of Santo Domingo (p. 471) occupies the eastern half. Haiti has been independent since 1804, following the struggles in which Toussaint l'Ouverture established Haitian nationality, and is now governed under a constitution passed in 1889. The revolution reported during the past fortnight (pp. 831, 851) seems to have been precipitated by the fact that the seven years' electoral term of President Nord Alexis was due to expire next May, and changes in the presidential incumbency in