

greater part of the general property tax laws, were adopted many years ago, under vastly different conditions, we favor such changes as will place the burden of taxation where it justly belongs, in accordance with the present day progressive methods being adopted in many other States. Reaffirming our belief in the historic Democratic doctrine of home rule, we deprecate the continual tendency of the State government to encroach upon affairs which should be left solely to municipalities. That various suggestions along the line of taxation may be given opportunity for experimental test, we favor the extension of this principle of home rule by an amendment of the Constitution which shall permit to towns and cities home rule in taxation.



English Politics.

Just as the tampering with the loyalty of the army by the Unionists produced a decided reaction in favor of the Liberals, so has the successful landing of arms in Ulster contrary to law resulted in still further strengthening the position of the party in power. When Parliament re-assembled after the gun-running, the heroes of the exploit met with a significant silence, instead of the ovation that had been expected. The English Tories realized that breaking the laws of their country had done nothing toward removing the reproach of seducing the army. With labor troubles likely to break out in open violence at any moment, they saw themselves as setting a bad example in disobedience to law. The attack of the opposition on the Government was but half-hearted. Balfour, Law, Chamberlain and Carson had a subdued air, and seemed to admit by their manner that the fates were against them. Each triumph of force leaves them weaker than before. Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, made additional concessions to Ulster, but these were so displeasing to the Nationalists that Premier Asquith repudiated them, and declared that he would not be a party to any settlement that was not acceptable to Ireland. [See current volume, page 419.]



David Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, introduced the budget in the House of Commons on the 4th. The nation's total revenue is estimated at \$1,003,275,000, and the expenditures at \$1,029,925,000. It is proposed to make up the deficit by an increase in income tax and the death duties. "We propose," said Mr. George, "to set up a national system of valuation under which 'site values' will be separated from improvement values, and under which relief will be afforded the man who improves his property in proportion to the amount he expends to this end."



Federal Suffrage Amendments.

The Bristow resolution for a woman suffrage Amendment to the Federal Constitution—iden-

tical with the defeated Chamberlain resolution—which had been introduced into the Senate on March 20 and referred to the Woman Suffrage Committee, was reported out of that committee with their favorable recommendation on April 7. And on April 30 the same committee reported out favorably also the Shafroth resolution for a Federal Woman Suffrage Amendment requiring any State where as many as 8 per cent of the electors so petition, to submit the question of woman suffrage to the voters of the State and to abide by the decision of the majority. There have been introduced into the House two suffrage resolutions: one, recently, by A. Mitchell Palmer of Pennsylvania identical with the Shafroth measure; another, months ago, by Frank W. Mondell of Wyoming, corresponding to the Bristow resolution. On April 5 the Mondell resolution was reported by the Judiciary Committee without recommendation to the House. The Bristow-Mondell resolution is now before both Senate and House. The Shafroth-Palmer resolution is before the Senate and in House Committee. [See vol. xvi, p. 585; current volume, page 299.]



Woman Suffrage Day.

On May 2 demonstrations by woman suffragists were held simultaneously in all parts of the United States. The plans for this display of suffrage strength to the public and to Congress had been begun by the Congressional Union in Washington and concurred in by the National Woman Suffrage Association and other organizations sometime before the resolution for a Federal Constitutional Amendment for Woman Suffrage was defeated in the Senate on March 19, and had been continued despite that adverse vote and the disagreement between the suffrage organizations over the two suffrage Amendment resolutions immediately thereafter introduced—the Shafroth and the Bristow resolutions. [See current volume, page 299.]



In Chicago 3100 women wearing the suffrage cap and carrying the American flag marched two miles along Michigan Boulevard and past the reviewing stand in Grant Park where, besides the Mayor and many local officials, were Governor Dunne, who signed the Illinois Suffrage bill, and many of the legislators who helped its passage. The women leaders of Chicago, old and young, were in the procession, some just behind the grand marshal, others commanding divisions and more stepping inconspicuously along in the ranks, which were arranged according to wards, clubs, and political parties and offered each marcher her choice of affiliation. No mass meeting was held in Chicago and no official resolution indorsing either of the Woman Suffrage Amendments to the Federal Constitution now before Congress was passed. The

executive board of the Illinois Equal Suffrage Association, which is the State branch of the National Woman Suffrage Association, had voted not to pass the resolution of the National Association—worded in favor of Federal legislation but non-committal as to which Amendment—and had forwarded to National headquarters the following statement:

Resolved, On account of the misunderstanding between the Congressional Committee of the National American Woman Suffrage Association and the Congressional Union and in the interest of the whole suffrage movement, as well as in the interest of fair play for which we all stand, the Illinois Equal Suffrage Association cannot indorse any resolutions to be sent to Congress on May 2, but will co-operate in the great national demonstration on that day.

Because of this action, Miss Jane Addams—who in the absence of Dr. Shaw in Europe is acting President of the National Association—and Mrs. Joseph T. Bowen, also an officer of the National Association, did not march in the Chicago parade. On the evening of the parade, without official action of the State Board, the President and the chairman of the press committee of the Illinois State Association sent a telegram to Congress urging the passage of legislation “that will bring complete liberty to the women.” This message was apparently accepted as an olive branch by all factions.



In New York City there was a general mass meeting with local meetings in various outlying sections during the day, and in the evening Mayor Mitchel, Miss Katharine B. Davis and Senator Shafroth addressed a great audience in Carnegie Hall. Sixty-five other cities and towns in New York State celebrated, too. Boston had a parade of thousands, Philadelphia, a parade and mass meeting. Pittsburgh, St. Paul, St. Louis and many hundreds of other cities and towns held similar demonstrations—all to culminate on May 9 in the big parade in Washington and the mass-meeting on the steps of the Capitol from which one delegate is to be sent to each Senator and Congressman to ask his vote for woman suffrage. [See current volume, page 303.]



Mrs. Fels and the Joseph Fels Fund.

In accordance with previous announcement made, Mrs. Mary Fels, widow of Joseph Fels, before sailing for England has written concerning her plans as follows to the Joseph Fels Fund Commission:

Philadelphia, April 15.

The time has come when you would naturally expect a formal statement of what I shall do toward a renewal of my husband's agreement with you and the Singletaxers of the United States. I am sorry to disappoint you, but can not say just yet what I shall

be able to do, except that after a few months I hope to meet all your present expectations and carry out my husband's part in contracts made and plans laid. I mean that I will continue his \$2,000 a month to July 1, when I should be able to report more definitely as to the future. I hope, I may say expect, by that time to see my way clear to renewing our offer to match dollar for dollar all the money contributed by the Singletaxers of the United States, up to some such limit as \$25,000 per annum.

The delay is due in part to settling the estate; but also it is my desire to comprehend, personally, the policy, plans and personnel, not only of the United States Commission, but of similar groups and commissions working toward the same end in England, Denmark, Germany, France, Spain, and other countries, where Mr. Fels was giving support to our cause, his and yours and mine. It seems right to me to look over the whole field, then, to resume the work everywhere at about the same time with a clear, personal knowledge of the movement in all its parts and as a unit. And I may then have a suggestion for all the commissions for some loose sort of co-ordination and active interchange of ideas and experience.

There is another reason for my wishing to begin by getting into close touch with all parts of the movement. I do not want to give money alone; I want to give myself to this cause of justice, as my husband gave himself. It was a happiness to him to work for it; it will be a happiness to me. And if I give personal service thus, it may put me in a position to plead for personal service from others also; and not as a duty either, but as a happiness.

That, as I understand it, is why you of the Commission are so urgent in your appeals for a large number of small contributions of a dollar or less. You want the contributors. From my heart, I approve that policy. It is human; it is democratic; it is good politics. If every man and every woman—if every giver of a dime would give himself or herself also; if each self-giver would then go out and get others; and having their dimes and dollars, would send them on to get yet others in the same spirit, we would soon have this country girdled with living chains of living people all devoted happily to a happy cause.

I shall sail for England on April 28. I am going there to work. While I am working there, you will be working here to continue the movement started spontaneously by the contributors to “match their own dollars as Joseph Fels did.” The results already achieved indicate that it may succeed. If it does, it will indeed be a monument to Joseph Fels, for that was his spirit.

I should be glad to be reduced to merely one of many equal contributors and workers in our cause; equal, not in amounts of money, but in the heart we all put into our work. In a word, I would like to match you all, but especially the humble givers, not only dollar for dollar, but man for man, woman for woman.

MARY FELS.



Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt was made a member of the Joseph Fels Fund Commission at the meeting of that body on April 15.