

At the hearing before the joint meeting of the charter committees of the two houses on the 14th, Jane Addams introduced the speakers. They made twenty-five speeches in one hour and twenty-five minutes—an average of three minutes for each speech. Among the speakers were Ella S. Stewart, Elia W. Peattie, Representative Adkins, Anna Nicholes, Agnes Nestor, Alice Henry, Mrs. Dunlap, Lillian Anderson, Harriet Grim, Mrs. Bacon, Oliver W. Stewart, Representative Huston, Mrs. W. I. Thomas, Mrs. Stubbs and Ellen M. Henrotin.

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While this hearing before the charter committees in joint session was in progress in the House chamber, the elections committee of the Senate was listening to arguments against woman suffrage. They were made by Caroline F. Corbin, the president, and three other representatives, of the Illinois Association Opposed to the Extension of Suffrage to Women. At the conclusion of their speeches in opposition to the Billings bill extending the suffrage to women generally throughout the State, the committee recommended the bill for passage by the following affirmative vote: Senator Breidt, chairman, and Senators Isley, Brown, McKenzie and Tossey and Schmidt. There were no votes in the negative.

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The International Woman Suffrage Movement.

The first quinquennial Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance is to be in session at London from April 28th to May 3d, both inclusive (p. 254). Eighteen nations will be represented by 200 delegates, of which number 25 are to come from America. On the 17th a great procession of women, in London to attend the congress, carrying the colors of their respective nations, marched from the Marble Arch to the Aldwych Theater, where speeches were made to a crowded house. The speakers included Mrs. Lareine Baker of Spokane (reputed to be the heaviest tax payer in the State of Washington), Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Pankhurst and Christabel Pankhurst.

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The Commission to Liberia.

As already reported (p. 178), the United States Department of State has decided to send a commission of investigation to Liberia (pp. 300, 339), in response to the appeal from that disorganized little Negro republic on the west coast of Africa (vol. xi, p. 203). The Commission consists of Dr. George Sale of Georgia, Emmett J. Scott of Alabama, and George A. Finch of Washington, D. C., secretary; also Captain Sydney A. Cloman of the Twenty-third Infantry, military attache at London, who will be called for en route, Major Percy N. Ashbury of the medical corps, and Frank A. Flower, attaché. The party leaves New York

on the 24th, and is to be conveyed by the cruisers Chester, Birmingham and Salem. Arrived at their destination the ships are to anchor off shore and serve as headquarters for the Commission, in order to minimize the dangers incident to equatorial climatic conditions. Mr. Scott is a Negro, the private secretary of Booker T. Washington; and newspaper reports indicate a disposition on the part of some of the naval officers of the cruisers to resent his presence among them on a basis of official equality.

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Bloody Adjustment in Turkey.

Constitutionalism cannot be expected to blossom in a moment out of the dry stem of autocracy, and Turkey has proved no exception to the common experience of history. In February a victory was recorded (p. 179) for the Committee of Union and Progress, which represents the Young Turk party, as against the Committee of Liberal Union. With the ascendancy of the Committee of Union and Progress, Kiamil Pasha was removed as Grand Vizier, and Hilmi Pasha was put in his place.

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A revolt against the Committee of Union and Progress broke out on the 13th, led by the troops of the First Army Corps, stationed at Constantinople. The claim was made that the Committee had succumbed to the blandishments of the Sultan, and no longer stood for the constitutionalism they had labored to establish. The troops sent to the government the following demands: "Protection of the Mohammedan faith. Dissolution of Committee of Union and Progress. Dismissal of the Grand Vizier, the Minister of War, the Minister of Marine, and the President of the Chamber, and immunity from punishment for the mutineers." Refik Pasha, Minister of Justice, was shot down by soldiers, and Hilmi Pasha resigned as Grand Vizier. The Sultan did not show himself loth to ally himself with the reactionary religious party, and on the 14th he named Tewfik Pasha as Grand Vizier. The Second and Third Army Corps, stationed at Adrianople and Saloniki, held the keys to the situation, and the Committee of Union and Progress opened headquarters at the latter point. The general disorder fostered rioting, and on the 16th a massacre of Armenians was reported from Adana in Asiatic Turkey, at which place two American missionaries, D. M. Rogers and Mr. Maurer, were reported among the slain. By the 17th, troops from Saloniki and Adrianople had declared themselves and had started for Constantinople to restore the Committee of Union and Progress to power. A commission was sent from Constantinople to intercept the troops with explanations of the situation, but met with no success. The soldiers of the Constantinople garrison, crazed with power, and without officers, were re-

ported as slaughtering their enemies in the streets. The cabinet was powerless and sent temporizing messages, as did the Committee of Liberal Union. The Sultan cowered in his palace. Massacring of Christians in the provinces continued. By the 18th, the Young Turks had an army within striking distance of the capital. By the 19th, the city was surrounded. By the 20th the wretched garrison was deserting, in many cases to join the army without the gates, and the Sultan was reported to be ready to abdicate. The Constitutional army was expected to enter Constantinople on the 21st. The Young Turks had the situation well in hand and serious disorder was not anticipated. Constantinople was excited but gay. According to the dispatches the Young Turks believe that the complicity of the deposed Sultan in the revolt of the 13th has been overwhelmingly proved. They have traced the Society of Reactionary Mohammedans which directly instigated the mutiny of the soldiers, back to the palace.

NEWS NOTES

—The Daughters of the American Revolution began their eighteenth annual convention on the 19th at Washington.

—President Taft and representatives of the American Federation of Labor (p. 375) were in conference at the White House on the 16th.

—At the next session of Congress the desks are to be out of the chamber of the lower house, and members are to occupy benches as in the British House of Commons.

—The final step in the beatification of Joan of Arc (vol. xi, p. 901) will take place at St. Peter's in Rome on the 25th. Sixty French bishops and 40,000 French pilgrims are expected to be in the city for the ceremony.

—Edward Payson Weston, the famous long distance walker of forty years ago (vol. x, p. 828), who began a walking trip on the 15th of March (his 70th birthday) from New York to San Francisco, arrived in Chicago, 1,288 miles, on schedule time at 6:25 p. m. on the 18th of April.

—The courts of Missouri were prohibited on the 17th by the Federal Court (Smith McPherson, judge) from restraining the Missouri railroad from raising fares to 3 cents a mile (p. 253). This decision is understood to prevent any future interference by the State with the rate situation in Missouri.

—Fifty-eight prosecutions for seditious speeches and writings in India (p. 224) since January 1, 1907, are reported in a paper of the British Parliament. The great majority of those tried were editors or publishers of Indian newspapers. In most cases the penalty imposed was imprisonment for from one to three years.

—After eight hours of debate on the 15th, the New York Senate, by a vote of 33 to 14, adopted an adverse report of the Senate judiciary committee on

Governor Hughes's direct nominations measure. This hostile vote finally kills the bill. The result followed similar action on the part of the Assembly a week before.

—The eighteenth International Peace Congress (vol. xi, p. 446) will be held at Stockholm, Sweden, August 29 to September 5. This will be the first international peace congress to be held in Scandinavia, though the International Law Association and the Interparliamentary Union have each held a conference at Christiania.

—Constitutionalism is still fighting for its life in Persia (p. 63). Richmond Pearson Hobson, former United States minister to Persia, in a report made public on the 18th, assigned as reasons for the difficulties of the situation, not only the vast illiteracy in Persia, but the fact that three thousand persons, among them the Shah, own three-fourths of all the land of Persia.

—The wife of former President Castro of Venezuela (p. 374) was prevented by the Venezuelan authorities from disembarking from the Guadalupe at Caracas on the 12th. It was reported from Caracas on the same day that extradition proceedings had been instituted for securing the return to Venezuela of Castro as a fugitive charged with the murder of Antonio Paredes.

—The Progressistas, who represent the minority in the Philippines Assembly (p. 133), went on strike on the 10th. The minority had presented a report favoring the adoption of certain features of the insular commission's resolution which urged the adoption of the tariff measure by the United States Congress, but the majority refused to receive the report. The strike followed.

—The contempt case against Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison (p. 326) for boycotting the Buck's Stove and Range Company, as inimical to organized labor, was argued on appeal from the decision of Judge Wright on the 19th. Alton B. Parker argued the appeal for the labor side, and J. J. Darlington for the boycotted stove company. The argument was before the court of appeals of the District of Columbia.

—Mrs. Horace Carr of Cleveland is organizing an Anti-Noise Society to influence the makers of nerve-racking noises to desist. The Plain Dealer describes her as having "the courage of her convictions," adding that "quietly, gently, she goes ahead planning and working, and better still she is willing to spend her own money to get the reform through its initial stages."

—Recent dispatches from London are to the effect that confusion in the Independent Labor party of Great Britain has been caused by the adoption, at the Easter conference in Edinburgh, of Socialist resolutions condemning its support in Parliament of Liberal measures. Keir Hardie, Philip Snowden, J. Ramsey MacDonald and Bruce Glasier thereupon resigned from the national administrative council and refused to resume their offices upon the passage of a vote of confidence.

—The lower branch of the Missouri legislature passed on the 14th by a vote of 86 to 51 a resolution to submit the prohibition Constitutional amendment to the vote of the people at the regular election in November, 1910. The measure is yet to be acted