

THE PUBLIC FORUM

THE TAX AMENDMENT.—Mr.

Shipparg desires information as to the tax amendment to the constitution upon which the people will vote at the coming election.

The present constitution provides for the taxation of all property at its fair cash value. In operation this straight jacket has brought numerous evils, among which are double and triple taxation of many things, the discouragement of wealth production, tax evasion outrageously unequal and fraudulent assessments and oppression of the poor, to say nothing of the building of monopolies that fatten upon corruption in administration of the law.

Some of the people believing in more freedom and less restriction sought to have the straight jacket removed by an amendment giving the legislature power to change the system of taxation by classifying all property, thus seeking relief for the people from legal robbery under the name of taxation. The people voted for this amendment under the advisory referendum by a large majority.

The legislature betrayed the people and sought to keep the monopolies and their allied interests in continued possession of the power to defraud and get unearned wealth. Hoping to deceive and thus gain their unjust and unrighteous end, they have framed a constitutional amendment which will give the legislature the power to classify personal property, leaving other constitutional restrictions in force. Under this amendment millions of dollars' worth of special privilege values inherent in the corporate law can be entirely exempted from taxation, the burden of government upon the masses of the people greatly increased and no relief obtained from the present robbery of the wealth-producing forces of the state.

Those who have any clear concep-

tion of justice will vote against the amendment as it stands. It is a rank attempt to deceive the people. It is a bold and dastardly refusal to grant the request of the people for relief. It is a blow to government by the people, which they should promptly resent by rejecting it at the polls.

Every member of the legislature who participated in this bunko game of fraud and deceit should be branded as a traitor to free government, and if a candidate for re-election should be retired to private life and pilloried in the contempt of his constituents.—Geo. V. Wells, 6050 South Park Av.

A STRAW VOTE.—I have taken a straw vote of day and night yard railway employes of the C. M. & St. P. R. R. at their Mannheim yards. I think it would interest your readers, as there are many railway employes read *The Day Book*:

Day Yard—Hughes 11, Wilson 36, Benson 27; Lowden 10, Dunne 22, Stedman 34; Miller 3, Hoyne 13, Cunnea 52.

Night Yard—Hughes 2, Wilson 29, Benson 6; Lowden 2, Dunne 20, Stedman 14; Miller 2, Hoyne 6, Cunnea 28.—Chas. J. Gregory.

EX-SOLDIER BOYS BUSY.—The Army and Navy Union of the United States of America, composed of ex-soldiers, sailors and marines, are organizing garrisons in different parts of the city. A lively interest is being shown by new and old ex-service men in forming these garrisons, and with the homecoming of the boys from the border it is predicted that this well-known patriotic organization will more than double its membership in the next six months.

Col. E. D. O'Brien, 3149 W. 38th st., commander of the Illinois division, A. N. U., has been kept busy the past month answering inquiries by prospective new members. There will be a meeting held Wednesday, Oct. 25, at 1616 N. Maplewood av., at 8 p. m.,