

inborn justice of every man whereas the socialistic doctrine, which is confused with ours, violates that principle. Ours is the only philosophy that makes a true distinction between public and private property, but we so over emphasize the former that we are classed with those who make no distinction at all.—H. W. NOREN, Pittsburg, Pa.

A NOTABLE PERIODICAL.

The *International Journal of Ethics* in its "enlarged field and new direction" is a quarterly magazine of high class, the managing editor of which is James H. Tufts of the University of Chicago. Associated with him is an editorial committee of distinguished scholars among whom are Felix Adler, of New York, Stanley Coit, Sydney Waterloo of London, John Dewey and others.

The first number for 1915 has a notable table of contents. The honor place is occupied by Hon. Bertrand Russell, of Cambridge, with "The Ethics of War." Following this are International Morality, by Arthur Ponsonby, M. P., The Changing Conditions of Property by H. A. Overstreet, Law and the Sciences by Prof. Kocourek, Why should Law and Philosophy Get Together, by J. H. Tufts, Social Immorality by James E. Bodin, The Difficulties of Democracy, by Joseph Dana Miller, Nietzsche's Moral Aim, by W. M. Salter.

It is gratifying to know that there is a reading public in the United States large enough to sustain a periodical of this high class, for it has been published continuously for twenty-four years. The subscription price is \$2.50 a year, and single copies are 65 cents. Its editor James H. Tufts should be addressed at the University of Chicago.

The article by Mr. Miller indicates what are the ever present stumbling blocks of democracy, endeavors to make clear the grounds of his dissent from the too enthusiastic friends of the Initiative and Referendum and points out in conclusion the necessary economic basis for any real democracy.

TAXATION OF LAND VALUES IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

(First Paper).

THE COLONIZATION COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

(For the Review).

Although South Australia was first discovered in 1627, the aspect of the newly discovered land was not of a kind to encourage further investigation. The newly found country extended along the greater part of the coast line which forms the Great Australian Bight. It is not surprising, therefore, that that portion of Australia was not again visited for nearly 200 years. It was not until the discoveries which Captain Sturt had made in the course of his remarkable voyage down and up the river Murray had created a stir when the news of his daring adventure reached England, that any attempt was made for founding and settling this State. Captain Barker had also made known the fact that he had discovered an enormous fertile country, and this caused the eyes of many in England to be turned towards the new land in the hope of bettering their social conditions, which in those days were gloomy indeed. In 1831, a number of gentlemen formed themselves into a committee for the purpose of founding a colony. Negotiations were opened with the government of the day, but the efforts to secure a charter for the new colony were unsuccessful. In 1834 another committee was formed, having in view objects similar to its predecessor. It was called the "South Australia Association." It consisted at first of 29 gentlemen, all of whom occupied leading positions in England, and of whom 18 were members of Parliament.

As a result of the strenuous efforts put forth by that committee, a Bill for the colonization of South Australia was passed through the House of Commons and on the last day of the session of 1834 it received the Royal assent.

The Act of 4 and 5, William IV., cap.

95, under which South Australia was founded empowered the Crown to erect "one or more provinces" in that part of Australia lying between the 132nd and 141st meridians of E. longitude and between the 26th of S. latitude and the Southern Ocean."

It further enacted that all persons residing within the said province or provinces should be free, "not subject to the laws or constitution of any other part of Australia, but bound only by those which should be constructed especially for their own territory." Power was given to frame laws, establish courts, appoint officers, and to levy such taxes as should be necessary to the well being of the colony. Such laws were to be laid before the King in-Council with due expedition. Three or more Commissioners were to be appointed by the Crown to carry certain parts of the Act into execution, and their proceedings were required to be laid before Parliament once a year.

The Commissioners were appointed to declare "all the lands of the colony, excepting roads and footpaths, open to purchase by British subjects, to make regulations for the survey and sale of such lands at such price as they might deem expedient, and for letting unsold lands for periods of not less than three years." They could sell the land by auction or otherwise, but for cash only, at a price not less than 12s. per acre, and the price was to be uniform. The whole of the cash proceeds constituted an emigration fund, to be employed in conveying poor emigrants from Great Britain or Ireland to the colony. The sexes of the emigrants were to be, as far as possible, in equal proportion, and they were not to be more than 30 years of age. A Resident Commissioner of Lands in the colony was to be appointed with a staff of surveyors. The Commissioners were empowered to borrow £50,000 at an interest not exceeding 10 per cent., the capital sum to be expended on emigration until the sale of public lands had produced a sufficient amount to defray the cost of conveying such a number of poor emigrants to the colony as might be thought desirable. Beyond this the Commission-

ers were authorized to raise £200,000 on bonds to be termed "South Australian Colonial Revenue Securities" for defraying the necessary costs, charges, and expenses of founding the colony and providing for its government, and these bonds were declared "to be a charge upon the ordinary revenue or produce of all rates, duties, and taxes to be levied within the province." A clause in the Act made it lawful to establish a Constitution or local government for any of the South Australian provinces possessing the population of 50,000 souls."

The Commissioners were restrained from entering upon the exercises of the general powers until they had invested £20,000 in Exchequer Bills, or other securities, and until land to the value of £35,000 had been sold. The Commissioners experienced some difficulty in disposing of sufficient land to realize the sum of £35,000 which was required to found the colony, and some two months after the commencement of the sales, considerably more than one half of the land required to be disposed of remained unsold. The price fixed at the outset was £1 per acre, and each land order was for 80 acres of country land and one acre of town land, the price being £81. About this time the South Australian Company was formed with a large capital, intended to be employed in the colony. The late Mr. George Fife Angas was its founder. This company offered to purchase the remaining lots of land, provided the price was reduced to 12s. per acre. The proposal was accepted by the commissioners. In order, however, to do equal justice to all purchasers, they issued "modified regulations for the disposal of the land," under which the price was reduced to the sum paid by the South Australian Company. No money was returned, but those who paid for 80 acres of land at £1 per acre received instead 134 acres at 12s. per acre.

A sufficient quantity of land was sold and the investment of the £20,000 in Exchequer Bills as required were completed, and the Commissioners set about the founding of the colony. Captain Hindmarsh was gazetted to the post of Governor on February 4th, 1836, and on August 19th

and September 11th, respectively, the Rapid and the Cygnet arrived at Kangaroo Island with the pioneers for the new colony. On arriving at Nepean Bay Colonel Light assumed command, and after searching the coast he found the inlet or arm of the sea on which Port Adelaide is established, and he had no difficulty in fixing the site of the chief town.

Governor Hindmarsh arrived in H. M. S. Buffalo, and landed at Holdfast Bay, on December 28th, 1836. He was received by the officers who had previously arrived. The Governor and other officers were sworn in and the British flag was displayed. A salute of 15 guns fired from the "Buffalo" finished the ceremony in connection with the founding of South Australia.

I am indebted to Mr. J. D. Woods' work on the "Province of South Australia" for the facts as given above.

Space will not permit me to deal with the early days of South Australia, as I would wish, but a few extracts from the "First Annual Report of the Colonization Commissioners of South Australia," received by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, will prove very interesting reading, and will show conclusively that these gentlemen knew the relation of the land question to the labor question as well as any Single Taxer. The extracts are as follows:—

"PRICE OF LAND."

"As the distinguishing and cardinal principles of the colony of South Australia are, that all public lands shall be sold, and that the proceeds of their sale shall be employed in conveying laborers to the colony, it follows that the price which it would be most desirable to obtain for public lands is that price which is necessary to secure such a supply of labor as may be sufficient to raise from the land and from other sources the greatest quantity of produce in proportion to the number of hands employed" * * * "It is essential to the prosperity of a new colony in which there are neither slaves nor convicts that there should be a constant supply of free laborers willing to be employed for wages." The Commissioners go on to point out that

"if there be not a constant supply of labor for hire, no extensive farm can be cultivated, no large or continuous work can be carried on, and the capital imported must perish for want of hands to render it reproductive." They then show how that supply of cheap labor can be secured. "Now in order to secure that constant supply of labor, for hire * * * two things are necessary: it is necessary that the requisite number of laborers shall be conveyed to the colony, and it is necessary, when so conveyed, they should continue as hired laborers until the arrival of other emigrants to supply their places in the labor market." How they were to be kept as hired men, the next paragraph will show. "Hence, in determining the proper price of public lands in the new colony, two points have to be considered; first, the price necessary to convey to the colony the number of laborers required to cultivate the land in the most profitable manner; and second, the price necessary to prevent the laborers so conveyed from acquiring property in land before they have worked for wages for a sufficient period. In order to accomplish the latter object, it is not improbable that, at an early period after the arrival of the Governor, it may be desirable to raise the price of public lands above £1 per acre." The idea of raising the price of the land was not to get more revenue; not at all. It was to insure a supply of cheap labor. "For," said the Commissioners, "should public land continue to be obtainable at this price, and should wages be such as to enable industrious mechanics to realize a moderate sum in a few months, there would be considerable danger lest the habit which prevails in old countries, of associating the idea of wealth and station with property in land, might induce them to purchase small freeholds, and to cease to work for wages, in order to become isolated cultivators on their own account." What a terrible thing! Fancy a man having a desire to secure a piece of land so that he could be a free man. But the Commissioners had no intention of allowing them to become free men. They point out that such a result "would be disastrous alike to capitalists and to the laborers," the chief reason being "that

capital would waste and perish for want of means to use." * * * "To avert this evil it would be desirable to fix the price of land sufficiently high to prevent the laborers conveyed to the colony by the emigration fund from becoming proprietors and cultivators on their own account until they had worked for hire for a considerable time." The reason given by the Commissioners for the proposed increase in the price of land was that it would be desirable "not only on account of the capitalist, but that on account of co-operation, the increased production of wealth would increase the wages of the laborers as well as the profits of the employer." They also point out that this was not the only "compensation which the laborer will receive for having the period of his becoming an independent proprietor delayed. By working for a few years for hire before he purchases a farm, he will be in a situation decidedly preferable to that which he could arrive at by purchasing a farm and ceasing to work for hire." "In the latter case," they point out, "he would be the solitary, and therefore half-savage, occupant of a portion of almost valueless wilderness. In the former case, he would be a proprietor, in the European sense of the term, cultivating his own estate, with the aid of hired labor—a capitalist realizing high profits, and a social resident in a peopled land."

Although there was some difficulty in getting the price desired for the land, previous to the establishment of the colony, the Commissioners had no doubt about the increased price being obtained at this particular period. The increase in the flocks in the adjoining colonies had created a demand for pasture land, and they point out that "it can scarcely be doubted that an active competition will immediately arise for the lands situated in the vicinity of the ports of South Australia; and that it will be practicable to obtain for the public land of South Australia any price it may be desirable to demand, in order to secure that constant supply of labor for hire which creates the greatest quantity of produce in proportion to the hands employed." * * * "We therefore venture to hope that your Lordship will approve of

our having authorized the Colonial Commissioner to advance the price of public land, should the laborers conveyed to the colony by the emigration fund begin to cultivate small farms on their own account before the arrival of other laborers to work for hire in their stead."

The Commissioners evidently saw trouble ahead if the price of land in South Australia was increased without a corresponding advance in other colonies, and so under the heading of "DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED—OBSTACLES TO BE REMOVED," we find the following: "The fundamental and cardinal principle of the self-established and self-supporting Colony of South Australia is, that the waste and unoccupied land shall be sold at a price sufficient to carry out the requisite supply of labor for its cultivation. * * * Were the price of land in any district raised sufficiently high to take out the proper supply of labor, while in some adjacent district land should be sold at a lower price, or be granted gratuitously, those who obtained their land at the lower price, or for nothing, would be in a condition to offer higher wages to the emigrant laborers than those who had expended a portion of their capital in contributing to the emigrant fund; by paying the higher price for the land. The emigrant laborer would be attracted by the higher price of labor and the lower price of land, and thus the capitalists who had contributed to the emigration fund would be deprived of the supply of labor for which they had paid, and the cardinal principle of the colony rendered inoperative."

The above statements show that the capitalists knew that free land meant free men; that to give people monopoly of land or to increase the price out of the reach of the worker, was to give the owners of land the power to dictate the terms under which labor should be employed. This should be a lesson to those socialists that rave about the power of the capitalists to crush the workers. They should see that with free land such would be impossible, and therefore they should devote their energies to securing the taxation of land values so that all workers shall get

their fair share of the earth.

The Commissioners go on to show that population increases land values. "It is obvious that the waste lands of a new country must acquire increasing value in proportion to the increase of labor and capital applicable to its improvement. If the land of South Australia; * * * before the introduction of capital and labor, could be sold to the amount of £36,000 at the rate before named, all that is known of the progress of new countries authorizes the inference, that additional tracts will be demanded at prices at least equal * * * when the South Australian Company, with its commanding capital and great credit, shall have commenced operations in the colony. Every increase of population will increase the demand for land, and every increase in the demand for land will increase the amount of the emigration fund, and occasion an increase of population."—E. J. CRAIGIE, Adelaide, So. Australia.

DEATH OF JULIA A. KELLOGG.

The death of Miss Julia A. Kellogg, of Orange, N. J., occurred on December 21. She was known to all Single Taxers for her unceasing advocacy of the cause.

An appreciation of her life and work appears in the *Public* of Jan. 22 from the pen of Alice Thacher Post. It is interesting to note that Miss Kellogg at the age of eighty years made the admirable abridgment of Patrick Edward Dove's "Theory of Human Progression," with which some of our readers are familiar.

In our next number we shall print some interesting extracts from letters received by Miss Kellogg in recognition of her services to great causes.

Miss Kellogg was a convinced Swedenborgian.

THE first of a series of "ads" in the Chicago papers, with large display heading, has appeared. "Our Broken Down Tax System and the Remedy" is the heading, with references to "Single Tax Publications You Should Have."

ANOTHER PRIZE ESSAY CONTEST.

THE COLLEGIATE SINGLE TAX LEAGUE OFFERS SUBSTANTIAL PRIZES.

The Collegiate Single Tax League has been established with headquarters at 68 William street, this city. The League offers three prizes for the best essay on the Single Tax to under-graduates of all Colleges and Universities in the State of New York. The first prize is \$125., the second \$50. and the third \$25. Each essay must contain not less than 2000 nor more than 2,500 words; and the contest closes June 1.

EXTRACTS FROM WOOLMAN'S JOURNAL, ON THE EVE OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

Page 216. "Thus it was every one's interest to seem poor. And the taxes were so important a matter, taking so large a part of the yearly income, that they modified the whole conduct of life. People dared not appear at their ease, lest their shares should be increased. They hid their wealth and took their luxuries in secret. One day Jean Jacques Rousseau, traveling on foot, as was his wont, entered a solitary farmhouse, and asked for a meal. A pot of some skimmed milk and some coarse barley bread were set before him, the peasant who lived in the house saying this was all he had. After a while, however, the man took courage on observing the manners and the appetite of his guest. Telling Rousseau that he was sure that he was a good, honest fellow, and no spy, he disappeared through a trap door, and presently came back with good wheaten bread, a little dark with bran, a ham and a bottle of wine. An omelet was soon sizzling in the dish. When the time came for Rousseau to pay and depart, the peasant's fears returned. He refused money; he was evidently distressed. Rousseau made out that the bread and wine were hidden for fear of the tax gatherer; that the man believed he would be ruined if he were known to have anything."