

tions for the past two years have been used to excellent advantage. In June of 1930 he spoke in Wisconsin and Minnesota. In June of this year he filled engagements in Michigan and Eastern Canada. His appointments in Ontario were arranged through cooperation with the Single Tax League of Ontario, of which Mr. L. B. Walling is secretary, with offices in Toronto.

Mr. Walling writes us that "Prof. Brown made an exceedingly good impression on this his first visit to Ontario. His addresses on the taxation question, and his showing up of the fallacies of socialism, were among the best we had heard."

The following are quotations from some of the news reports:

In addition to being an interesting speaker and able debater, Prof. Brown is a gentleman of winning personality, and made many friends during his short visit to our province. Should he come again, which we hope he will, we bespeak for him a most hearty welcome.—*Square Deal*, Toronto, July, 1931.

His address on "Incomes" was most appreciated by the numbers present. Prof. Brown has given a great deal of time and thought on the question as it affects the Socialist and the ultra-Conservative, and how best to effect a compromise.—*Belleville, Ont., Intelligencer*, 6-24-31.

John S. Codman, Boston, Mass.—Mr. Codman, known to Single Taxers throughout the country for his many active years in the movement and for his book, "Unemployment and Our Revenue Problem," filled a number of Massachusetts engagements during August, September and October on that very topic. At the meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Worcester on Oct. 2, 175 men were present in the ballroom of the Banerft Hotel and all were very much interested. Newspaper publicity was excellent, the Worcester *Sunday Telegram* of Oct. 4 carrying quite a long account and stating that there were "knots of Kiwanians holding after-meetings in the lobby and on the street, discussing the pros and cons of the George plan." Notices were also carried in the Worcester *Evening Gazette* and in the Boston *Globe*. Mr. Codman writes the Lecture Association: "I like to get opportunities of this kind, especially in these days when I feel that I am working in conjunction with others so that what I do counts for more."

Mr. Claude L. Watson, Chicago, Ill.—The Miami (Fla.) *Daily News* made this statement in regard to Mr. Watson: "Claude L. Watson has spoken before religious, scientific and business organizations in almost every State in the Union during the last fifteen years. He is a speaker of exceptional power and fluency, to which is joined a breadth of knowledge and a keenness of intellect that command the attention of his audiences."

Mr. Watson has three principal lectures on the Single Tax—"Real Tax Relief for Industry," "Prosperity Through Purchasing Power" and "Why Poverty Amidst Plenty."

On Thursday, Sept. 24, Mr. Watson spoke before the South Bend Kiwanis Club at noon on "Real Tax Relief for Industry." About fifty were present and there was much favorable comment after the meeting, though no open-forum discussion was possible. In the evening of the same day Mr. Watson spoke before the newly organized Henry George Club of South Bend, at which about 100 were present, including Congressman Samuel Pettingill and Dr. Elmer Ward Cole of the Christian Church, Dr. Cole serving as chairman. Dr. E. G. Freyer-muth is to be most heartily congratulated on his achievement in so rapidly organizing the Henry George Club and arranging this meeting. Mr. Watson is scheduled to speak in Milwaukee, Wis., and Elgin, Ill., during November.

Responses to the work of the Henry George Press Bureau, which Mr. Watson is co-directing with Mr. John C. Rose, of Pittsburgh, have been gratifying and helpful.

Edward P. E. Troy, San Francisco, Calif.—During his visit in Minneapolis early in September, Mr. Troy addressed meetings of the Cheese Club and of another Progressive Club. More than 100 persons were present at the latter meeting, including the mayor of Minneapolis and his secretary, the vice president of the Great Northern Railway, a representative of the American Electric Railway Association, and

many other influential people. Mr. Troy visited with Senator S. A. Stockwell during his stay in Minneapolis.

John Lawrence Monroe, Chicago, Ill.—Speaking on "Restoring Prosperity by Rational Taxation," Mr. Monroe filled some of Mr. McNair's "overflow" engagements in Lawrence, Taunton, Lowell, Athol and Chicopee, Mass.; in East Hampton, N. Y., and in Newark and Penns Grove, N. J. As a result of these talks a known 134 inches of newspaper publicity was received for the Single Tax in ten different papers, seven being dailies and three weeklies, an average of over a half-column to each paper.

BOOK REVIEW

ECONOMIC REFORM UNDER THE GUISE OF FICTION.*

For a single tax "for revenue only," but for distribution of excess profits to the workers, this not uninteresting story by Test Dalton (Lowe Shearon) is written.

We cannot be expected to endorse its political economy, but it is ingeniously presented and it had the endorsement of the late president of Yale University, Arthur T. Hadley. "Profits" is always a vague term, and as a matter of fact inseparable from wages. Indeed profits, are wages where they are not monopoly returns.

We can at least commend the humanitarian spirit in which the book is written, and the enthusiasm with which the proposal is set forth is not a little infectious.

CORRESPONDENCE

WHY PAY GRANDPAPA'S GAMBLING DEBTS?

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

Judge Jackson H. Ralston is troubled lest we charge the payment of war debts to land values. He need not be, as, both by precept and example, it is becoming daily more evident that hardly any of the war bonds will ever be paid, even if they could be, which is not likely. Why should we pay grandpapa's gambling debts? BOLTON HALL.

MR. RALSTON ADDS TO THE DISCUSSION

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

May I say a few words with regard to two letters appearing in the September-October issue of LAND AND FREEDOM relative to a letter of my own pointing out that Massachusetts offers the best opportunity in the United States for a vigorous campaign looking to the ultimate adoption of the Single Tax?

Reading the letter of Mr. Thomas N. Ashton I am compelled to conclude with regret that I did not make my position entirely clear. I am prepared to believe that any application to the Legislature in Massachusetts would be barren of results. The fact is that in Massachusetts, because of the overwhelming power of the country districts, the Legislature cannot with success be asked to do anything of a radical nature. The Legislature is as to its majority elected by and represents a minority of the people. Our appeal must be to the majority of the people—not the majority of the Legislature.

The appeal the Single Taxers must make, therefore, is to the people, and this can be readily made through the Initiative, as I pointed out. There is no State in the Union where it can be so easily and so successfully made. There must be put forward a constitutional amendment. That this is first submitted to the Legislature is a matter of no moment. Whatever the Legislature may or may not do of its own volition, the measure ultimately goes to the people.

I do not in any respect ask that Massachusetts should launch "a programme for legislative amendments on tax laws," as Mr. Ashton seems to suggest is my proposition.

The essential point of Mr. Byington's article seems to be that he thinks that Vermont offers a better field for action than Massachusetts. In a fashion I would think that he answers himself when he points

*The Richest Man on Earth, by Test Dalton. Cloth, 256 pp. Price \$2. Lowe Shearon, Publisher, 359 Front Street, N. Y. City.

out the difficulty of getting legislators to agree in advance to any reform and the paucity of workers in Vermont.

The simple fact is that if we have not enough workers inspired to real action in Massachusetts, our cause will be barren of results of moment for a long time to come. I had hoped that the State possessed enough men of real conviction and energy to win success, and I shall not yet despair.

JACKSON H. RALSTON.

NEWS NOTES AND PERSONALS

THE committee which called on President Hoover at the White House embraced the following persons: Dr. Mark Millikin of Hamilton, Ohio, Chairman; Clayton J. Ewing, Charles R. Eckert, James F. Morton, John Lawrence Monroe, A. H. Swope, Mrs. Charles R. Eckert and Mrs. A. H. Swope.

The committee was escorted to the White House and presented to the President by Congressman Clyde Kelly, of Braddock, Pa., who is sympathetic with the economic principles of Henry George. The interview was held at 12:30 on Wednesday, October 14, and owing to the hour set several other prominent Single Taxers named on the committee and present at Baltimore, the convention still in session, were unable to participate.

UNDER the auspices of the Woman's Single Tax Club of Washington, D. C., a post-convention meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Walter I. Swanton on Wednesday evening, October 21. The visiting speakers were Clayton J. Ewing, President of the Chicago Single Tax Club, and Percy R. Williams, Secretary of the Foundation. Among the other speakers reporting on the Baltimore convention were Western Starr, of Washington, and George Finger, former Mayor of Capitol Heights, Md. The club was well represented at the Baltimore convention, Mrs. Swanton, Mrs. Gertrude E. Mackenzie and Miss A. I. Siddall being prominent in the discussions and committee work.

AN article in the *American City* for September by Glen N. Gardner is entitled "Why Not Pay for City Planning Out of the Land Values It Creates?" The writer says:

"The highest land values in a city usually are concentrated within a comparatively few blocks, on neighboring business streets. Great reduction in land values is to be noted within a short distance outside of such concentrated areas. All citizens contribute to these land values, but landowners receive them, save for the relatively small percentage allotted for taxes. The values thus received would build and pave many miles of city streets. Even the building of the public highway similarly affects land values, as may be seen on the map, where a street, leaving the 'peaks' of the concentrated district, cuts across town toward the railroad yards."

ONE man of whom Single Taxers all over the world may well be proud is E. J. Craigie, M. P., member of the South Australia House of Assembly. On July 22 he introduced a resolution reciting that the high-tariff policy of Australia is detrimental to the best interests of the Commonwealth, particularly in its relation to agriculture and mining, and requesting the Federal Government to bring about a substantial reduction at an early date. Then the fur began to fly. Through a speech that covers fifteen pages of the report Mr. Craigie stood his ground, meeting interruptions with good humor and showing a wide and exact familiarity with economic conditions. In the month of June Mr. Craigie faced the House on the land question, and on this occasion showed how well equipped he is to deal with the deeper fundamentals of social economics. It is interesting to note that in reply to a member he cited as an authority the work of Emil Jorgensen, "False Education in Our Colleges and Universities." Later we will try to give citations from Mr. Craigie's speeches in the splendid fight he is waging.

MARTIN B. LEISSER, dean of Pittsburgh painters, who was a friend of Andrew Carnegie and painted his portrait, and also a friend of

Eugene V. Debs, whose portrait he painted, is eighty-six years of age, but runs up and down stairs like a boy and wears no glasses. He dashes off to Europe or the Canal Zone whenever he feels the urge, the *Pittsburgh Press* tells us in a recent sketch of this remarkable man. He calls himself a Socialist, but he believes in the Single Tax as propounded by Henry George and is quoted by the *Press* as saying: "The idea is to concentrate all taxes on land values and to abolish all other forms of taxation. The purpose is to do away with land monopoly and land speculation and to open up the land to whom it belongs." H. W. Noren, who knows him well, says he reads *LAND AND FREEDOM* and the *Commonweal* of London. He regards Socialism as a cooperative democracy and holds that the Single Tax system is essential as a basis. Mr. Noren says he is the most sincere man he ever met.

In a recent article Norman Thomas writes as follows: "If land, coal and oil and the stocks of great corporations are to be privately owned we shall have exploitation of the workers and wild, chaotic and planless waste no matter what kind of a money system we have."

HON. CHARLES O'CONNOR HENNESSY sent the following cablegram from England: "Deeply shocked and grieved by news of the death of James R. Brown, follower of Henry George and devoted preacher and worker for economic justice." J. M. Holmes, lieutenant in the navy, also sent a telegram reading in part as follows: "To my departed friend James R. Brown: Thy spirit is freed to dwell forever where men are found who battled for justice."

THE New York *Herald Tribune* published a special article of great importance in a recent Sunday issue entitled "Farms Limited by Large Estates in Argentina." And the article states that only 5 per cent of the total population of Argentina are landowners. All measures of agricultural relief are nullified by an unbalanced land holding system, it is stated, which is a euphony for land monopoly prevailing in different forms everywhere.

THE Right Rev. Reginald W. Weller, retired Bishop of Fond du Lac, declared at the recent convention of the Episcopal Church in Denver "that sin was the cause of our depression." True, but whose?

WE regret the passing of a friend in the death of Cedric Long, General Secretary of the Cooperative League and a member of the Executive Committee of the Brotherhood of the Commonwealth, with whom we have sat in committee many times. He was a comparatively young man and was endeared to his many friends by his high ideals and fine qualities.

ATTORNEY WILLIAM MCNAIR has started a campaign for tax reform in Wilkins Township, Pa. Andrew A. McKeever, the tax collector, has declared that the large landowner is assessed at 20 per cent of the value of his holdings, while the small owner pays on an assessment of from 60 to 80 per cent of the value of his property. Mr. McNair, addressing a meeting of more than one thousand persons demanding a tax survey, said:

"If cities would collect 'economic rent' on vacant land it would open up opportunities for employment. This fact has been recognized by leading economists in our schools and colleges, but they have not received publicity. The business man has not been reached."

EDWARD WHITE, of Kansas City, Mo., is chairman of the Car Riders' Defense Committee, who are working for a 6-cent fare ordinance. The companies are fighting for a 10-cent fare. Edward White's committee urge public acquisition and the separating of the cost of the plant and operation and asking the citizens to pay for what they get.

HAROLD SUDELL rebukes the *New Republic* for its silence on the Single Tax question and compares it with conservative newspapers