

generally understood the subject well enough to deal properly with it before advanced students. If not their work might well be supplemented by engaging special lecturers. At present, there is reason to believe, such lecturers, even when their services are gratuitously offered, as part of the organized plan of education, are not desired by some of our larger institutions.

Nevertheless, it might be, that a clear presentation of Single Tax principles before student classes would improve and clarify thinking along certain well-worn lines and advance university teaching in this branch to a par with the best economic thought. Unfortunately, no such effort can be traced to a lecture recently delivered in Goldwin Smith Hall, of Cornell University by Senator Cartwright, of California, which, as reported in the *Ithaca Journal-News*, of December 17, was of such extraordinary character as to deserve attention. Students and the public may justly presume and expect, that lectures there given shall be of educational value, certainly not wild vaporings of the uninformed. Freedom of speech is desirable, but laudation of material wealth for individuals and of the economic system that makes its accumulation "inevitable" should not be sanctioned by university authorities.

Here follow some extracts, printed in the newspaper with quotation marks;—

"There are no ruling classes in America; there are laborers with their hands and laborers with their brains and there are capitalists."

What the capitalists work with is not stated; but since hands and brains are specifically the property of others, doubtless the capitalists are like the lilies of the field that "toil not neither do they spin, yet Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."

Concerning owners of great wealth: "They are necessary and they will always exist, because all men haven't the same ability in any line." This the speaker regarded as fortunate for the rest of humanity because of the "law of compensation," which forces every man to let the rest of the world profit by his abilities and which makes the men of wealth "inevitable and necessary."

This is not very clear. But in all human experience the law of compensation seems to work out differently—even when assisted by the surplus profits tax.

At one time the speaker favored a more equal distribution of wealth, but "I soon found out that I was wrong" indicates a change about. Which is, perhaps, to be attributed to further observation as follows:

"A small percentage of the people have the musical talent of the country, and a small percentage have the artistic ability, and a few have the poetic ability. So it is with financial ability; some are born with it and others are not, and only a small percentage of them have it. The law of compensation forces such exceptional men to share their gifts, however, because the measure of a man's profit is the *measure of his service to the world.*" * * * * *
"If he doesn't share his gifts he doesn't make any profits."

Then comes the astounding declaration: "The number of wealthy men is increasing, because we have more educated men."

From all this it would seem, that a numerical comparison of human abilities as demonstrated by individual wealth acquired by "educated men" shows, that a number of magnates in the world of business and finance are several million times, more able than the common run. Competition against such tremendous odds is hopeless.

ROMYN HITCHCOCK

The Pilgrim's Ter-Centenary

WHO can estimate the value of sentiment? Without sentiment, life would become a mere human beehive, a farmyard, a coral reef. The most contemptuous phrase we can apply to a human being is to say that he is a fishy-eyed blank staring materialist whose soul is wrapped up in the dollar. Sentiment attaches to material as well as to immaterial things. Plymouth Rock is a crude boulder, split into two pieces and threatening further subdivision, and yet the State of Massachusetts, exercising its right of eminent domain is spending nearly half a million dollars in clearing away the surrounding wharfs and substantial buildings in order to create a public park with winding roads, trees, shrubbery and grass plots, so as to give the common looking boulder a sentimental setting.

In consequence, Plymouth will become an extremely popular summer resort, and the town will flourish proportionately. No other town on the Eastern coast could induce the spending of such a sum of money in its borders. The one question in the minds of all the inhabitants of Plymouth is whether the tourists will really come in such numbers as to make the improvement worth while. In other words, is there enough sentiment among the population of the United States to induce them to spend the money on the trip? And how often will they come?

The inhabitants of Plymouth as a general rule are so accustomed to the sight of the Rock, that they have lost in some measure their feelings of veneration and are in the habit of calculating the financial aspect of the proceedings. One man from New Hampshire told the writer that the Rock was worth its weight in \$1000 bills. And he meant it! The owners of property in land are the most anxious for a proper appreciation of the improvement. It is the young men with visions of going to New York or Boston to make their fortunes that are of the apathetic class. Two laborers said to me. "Why spenda all-da-mon on-dabig-chunk? Well, it makes work for da poor man anyway! So, let'er go." and that seems to be the sentiment of the lower masses, of whom there are some, even in Plymouth.

EARNEST I. SOPEN,

THERE can't be idleness in luxury without idleness in poverty.
—H. M. H.