

our welfare thrived. Our great West, our vast natural resources, our inventive skill, and our industry—what are these but tributes to the genius of the tariff tax! Standing before the solemn altar of History, I say to you that those qualities do not make prosperity. It is the tariff.

"In past decades of timid tariff taxation it used to be apologetically stated that the foreigner paid the tax. We are a proud people, Mr. Speaker, and today we meet the issue squarely and say that the foreigner does not pay the tax! With a proper pride and self-respect we pay our own taxes—we ask no one to pay them for us. We have taxed ourselves rich and, as new fields of prosperity are pointed out to us by the great captains of industry, we should be proud of the opportunity to put our shoulder to the wheel of taxation.

"It has been alleged that this tariff on bananas will raise the cost of the banana to the American people. What of it! Is it to be said that an American is ashamed to buy expensive things—he, the highest paid worker on the globe! For this argument of cheapness I have the least patience. As that great statesman, President McKinley, when discussing this same tariff principle during his brilliant career, said that 'a cheap coat makes a cheap man'—so do I say with all the fervor of my cause that no less does a 'cheap banana make a cheap man!'

"This bill which we report has been drawn by experts; it has been drafted on that vital tariff principle enunciated by President Taft—that a just tariff tax is one so levied as to equal the difference between the cost of production in the United States and the cost abroad, plus a reasonable profit for the American manufacturer. The Tariff Board has been of inestimable assistance in this matter, so that the tariff asked for is exact. As is well known, the cost of raising bananas in the tropics is trivial, and we therefore ask for a protective tariff on bananas of thirty-two cents apiece—the difference between the cost of production at home and abroad, plus the reasonable profit."

The chairman of the Ways and Means Committee continued in a masterly protection address too long to reproduce. Then in a hushed silence he delivered the peroration:

"I see, Mr. Speaker, as in a vision, the now barren lands and stumpage of New England covered with sparkling acres of glass—greenhouses from horizon to horizon and topping the snow-clad hills of those now bleak States. Under the vast glass roofs, and in those artificially humid groves of fragrant bananas, I see thousands of happy American working men singing at their labors; in their near-by homes a multitude of happy hearts throb with joy for the blessings brought by the home-grown, all-American banana.

"As against that inspiring vision I see the present; the banana of today, a cheap, pauper-

grown fruit from a cheap, pauperized foreign country. A negro in a ragged pair of breeches and a tattered shirt—or no shirt at all—and with a machete in his hand, living in a wretched palm-thatched shack and working for less than half a dollar a day! That is the man who is growing bananas for a freeborn American people! No American will accept such a wage or such a life—nor can he compete without an adequate protection against this pauper fruit.

"Under the shadow of those Stars and Stripes that proudly floated from Sumter to Appomattox, and in the great name of our free people, I ask you to pass this bill and give justice to the American banana!"

As the speaker took his seat amid a wild scene of tumultuous applause, a mob of eager hand-shakers surrounded him.

The old man turned to Jimmie.

"Come on, Jimmie—no use waiting any longer. It's all over; the Senate'll pass it without debate, and you're launched in business at last, son, and it's profit-tight and fool-proof. Bringing a banana into the country from now on'll be a criminal offense, and you can make money as long as you don't have to sell bananas at over thirty-two cents apiece."

The next year the old man took his first vacation, and Jimmie slipped gradually into the sole control. Then the old man took his Final Vacation, and Jimmie was at the helm. Being, as the old man had felt, no fool, he continued to make monstrous sums of money from the banana business.

But if he had been a fool, the profits would have come in automatically, just the same.

BOOKS

PROTECTION IN AUSTRALIA.

Adam Black, Miner. By Albert Dawson. "The Daily Herald," 117 Grenfell St., Adelaide, South Australia.

This little book of eighty-eight well printed pages comes to us from the Single Tax League of South Australia. It contains sixteen chapters, written in the form of letters from Adam Black, miner, to his son, Jim, a blacksmith. Jim, in his letters to his father, asks questions as to the meaning of the stock Protectionist phrases, such as "Providing employment," "Protecting the workers against pauper labor," and "Encouraging local industries." Thanks to his fund of common sense, these questions don't trouble the senior Black—he's thought them out "sitting on a slab of coal, during smoke-o down in the mine." He discusses these and a hundred and one other Protectionist fallacies with a soundness, raciness and

humour that puts him as a writer in the old Gordon Graham class. Jim sheds his Protection ideas, but is still economically at sea. "How's the revenue to be raised?" he asks. And his old dad tells him, closing with these two sentences: "Remember, Jim, land values taxation gives everyone freedom, and freedom cannot harm anyone. It is the only solution of the social problem."

STANLEY BOWMAR.



BY WHAT ROAD?

Protection or Free Trade? By Henry George. Published by Doubleday, Page and Co., New York. 1911. Price, cloth, \$100; paper, 30 cents, postpaid.

"Which of Henry George's books shall I give him to read? He is young, not educated in economics nor very much of a reader; but he feels there's something wrong with society and is inquiring into the trouble. Which book shall it be?" Singletaxers often ask one another this question, and "Social Problems" is frequently the answer. But there is much to be said for "Protection or Free Trade?"

"Social Problems" was written partly to persuade people that a great social wrong exists, and one who is already convinced of the injustice—particularly one who is in the young flush of that hateful conviction—impatiently grumbles all through the first half of "Social Problems": "I know all that. I believe things are all wrong. What's he going to do about it?" Now "Protection or Free Trade?" plunges at once into argument, and argument about a subject well known—by hearsay at least—to the reader, as a red-hot political question—one, moreover, on which he has taken, or feels he must soon take, sides.

This fact of his being at attention, this ready-mindedness on his part, is precisely why Protectionist fallacies have so thriven—and exactly why Free-trade truths are destined to thrive instead. This audience has long been in the hall, but the Protectionists have done most of the talking. Ergo, the audience has been inclined their way. When the Free-traders really take the platform, they will take the audience also.

But about the youth and his book. Unless there is good reason to do otherwise, give him "Protection or Free Trade?" Because in his mental development interest in national comes before the interest in local politics. Because the tariff is often the only fiscal problem which his elders have attacked. Because the simple right of Free-trade has appealed to many more minds than have discovered how then to raise revenue. Because in a word, Free Trade is one of the psychologically natural and logically straight roads to the Singletax.

Give him "Protection or Free Trade?" He is ripe for it. And this book, simple in manner,

lucid in reasoning, eloquent and powerful and brief, combines better than any other of Henry George's works all the qualities for the conversion of such a youth to the Singletax and democracy.

ANGELINE LOESCH GRAVES.

PERIODICALS

La Follette's Autobiography.

With its issue of October 1st, La Follette's Weekly will begin a continuation of Senator La Follette's autobiography. There will be four articles in weekly succession. The first will tell why Senator La Follette became a candidate for President; the second will tell the true story of the campaign; the third will explain why he continued as a candidate; and the fourth will undertake to show that Roosevelt is not a progressive by his own record. As La Follette has concluded his series in the American Magazine, these four articles will appear in La Follette's Weekly exclusively.



"The Filipino People."

Manuel L. Quezon, Resident Commissioner from the Philippines, has just issued from Washington the first number of a new monthly entitled, "The Filipino People," which is to be "an official medium for expressing the views of the people whose name it bears." The editor discloses his further purpose in the Foreword:

To promote the great cause of Philippine independence, to clear away current misconceptions respecting the character of the Filipino people and their capacity for self-government, to show the practicability and desirability of setting up an independent Republic in the Archipelago—these are the objects of "The Filipino People." . . . That the Filipino people can establish and maintain such a government it is our purpose to demonstrate by incontestable facts, drawn from the past history and present condition of the islands.

The magazine, comprising twenty-four well-printed and illustrated pages, is not published for profit but may be obtained from Mr. Quezon, 1342 13th St., Washington, D. C., for \$1.00 per year.



Budkavlen.

Budkavlen (Stockholm) for August-September gives interesting accounts of the American Singletax colonies—Fairhope, Arden, Free Acres, and Haledon, and of the German co-operative colony Eden, near Berlin, conducted along semi-Georgian lines—all of which have been highly successful. In contrast to these is the tale of the Irish co-operative agricultural colony Ralahine, which, after a short career of only two years, without any fault of its own, came to such an abrupt and tragic end under the weight of the landlord system. "The Garden City in Theory and Practice," a history of the development of the English model city of Letchworth after the plans of Mr. Ebenezer Howard, leaves one with the impression that this up-to-date experiment in city building deserves a more extended study than the space of the paper admits. As for Swedish