

and Mr. Adams, which began in 1881 and continued until Mr. George's death in 1897, were most intimate. They originated in Mr. Adams's published appreciation of "Progress and Poverty," the leading principle of which he had already adopted, and of which he has ever since been an effective expounder and eloquent advocate. He had become interested in the subject as early as 1870, and his earliest printed expression on it appeared in 1878 in Eugene Beecher's Brooklyn Monthly under the title of the "Land and the People." It begins in these terms: "There is really no reason why land, which is absolutely needed by all, directly and indirectly, and which is . . . the natural gift of God to the human race, should be allowed to become private property, instead of having the rent of it applied for the benefit of the entire people." Mr. Adams participated in the municipal campaign of 1886 in behalf of Henry George when the latter was the Labor candidate for mayor against Abram S. Hewitt and Theodore Roosevelt; and he was, by Mr. George's personal request, made a member of the committee of seven which, under Tom L. Johnson's leadership, managed George's campaign when he ran as Labor candidate for first mayor of Greater New York in 1897—the campaign in which Mr. George died on the eve of election.

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As a speaker Mr. Adams seems inspirational, but it is the inspiration of an orator full of his subject, who thinks as well as feels, who reasons as well as exhorts.

He suspects shibboleths, and when a formula, whether of law or literature, of religion or science or economics or politics, seems to be getting vogue as a shibboleth, it makes him eager to question its claims as used. No man with such a temperament can be orthodox in opinion or conventional in exhortation. This may account for his general fashion of consorting with small minorities, as Mr. Shepard describes him; for majorities and large minorities are responsive to shibboleths. But, as Mr. Shepard also says, Mr. Adams "has in all practical matters entire good sense and moderation and common sense."

We write of him with much affection for his personality, and great confidence that his appearance upon the lecture platform will make our readers glad to know what we have told of him here and wish to know in addition what it may be we shall yet have to tell.

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White parasols and elephants mad with pride are the flowers of a grant of land.—Sanskrit Deed, Works of Sir William Jones.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

AUSTRALIA.\*

Corowa, N. S. W., May 7, 1910.

General elections for the whole of the Federal House of Representatives and half the Senate, held on April 13th, resulted in the defeat of the Ministerialist party. The Labor party considerably increased its representation in the House, and gained every contested seat in the Senate; it has a majority in both Houses.

The last Parliament was composed as follows:

	Senate. House.
Liberal .....	21 46
Labor .....	15 29

In the new Parliament the parties stand thus:

	Senate. House.
Liberal .....	13 31
Labor .....	23 44

The Deakin Ministry resigned soon after the elections, and a Labor government has been formed with Mr. Andrew Fisher as Prime Minister.

Usually the head of a government chooses his colleagues, but on this occasion the ministers were elected by ballot by all the members of the party.

With two exceptions the present ministry is the same as the former Fisher government. The most able member of that Ministry, Mr. Hugh Mahon, is not included in the present one.

The program of the Ministry has not yet been published, but it has been stated unofficially that the principal planks will be a graduated land value tax and "new protection."

It is said that the free trade members of the Labor party will be reconciled to the present tariff if the "new protection" measures, for raising wages in protected industries, are carried. This seems a very shortsighted view to take, for only about five per cent of the workers are employed in protected industries, and even those, together with the other ninety-five per cent, are, as consumers, adversely affected by the high duties.

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The referendum on the question of amending the Constitution to provide that the Commonwealth must pay the States twenty-five shillings per head of population annually (p. 148) was defeated.

Another referendum involving an amendment of the Constitution to permit the Commonwealth to take over all State debts was carried.

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The graduated land value taxation bill, passed by the Legislative Assembly of Victoria (p. 149), was defeated in the Council. The State ministry intends to introduce a very similar bill this session.

ERNEST BRAY.

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Moonta, South Australia, April 28.

We have just got over our State and Federal elections. The Labor party has practically swept the

\*See The Public, pages 148, 149, 368, 411, current volume.