

millions as a result of unjust laws, should grant the pensions.

With an equitable industrial system there would be no Rockefellers and Carnegies who, like parasites, fatten at the expense of less fortunate members of society.

Better than this system of unequal distribution which breeds financial princes and paupers, would be the strict enforcement of the cardinal principle of Democracy—"Equal rights to all, special privileges to none." This, while preventing the accumulation of colossal fortunes by our "captains of industry," would give to the private in the ranks of the industrial army a just proportion of his production.

Between socialism and monopoly there is a happy mean, and when it is reached all will be rewarded in proportion to what they do for society. When fair play and equality become universal, the problems of "tainted money," pensions and monopolistic charity will disappear.

Democracy's great mission to the world is to abolish subsidies and secure equality of opportunity for all.—A. R. McCook, Supt. Public Schools of Elma, Iowa, in Chicago Examiner.

#### OUR LAND ERROR.

From the June 15th issue of the Journal and Messenger of Cincinnati, a Baptist paper.

Four dollars a square inch is now the highest price for land in New York city—a recent sale being made at \$598 a square foot. The time has passed when the best vacant land could be bought in New York by covering it with gold dollars.

This value is given by the whole country. The naked land has value because of the population to the west, since the location of New York makes it a toll-gate at which owners of real estate take toll from the whole country.

It is another example of fact that the exchange value of the selling-price of all land is given not by the owner's efforts, but by the people of the vicinity, and in some cases of an entire nation.

It shows the stupendous blunder which we have made in dealing with land which should always have been public property and should have been leased to occupants, instead of given away, or sold for a nominal sum. The lease could have been made in perpetuity with a revaluation every few years, just as the owners of land in some cities are now leasing to others who put up ten-story buildings.

#### THE BIRD DECORATION AGAIN.

Mr. Bernard Shaw makes a forcible protest in a letter to the "Times" of 3d instant, against the latest form of the dead-bird decorations as seen at the opera at Covent Garden. The gist of it is as follows:

At nine o'clock (the opera began at eight) a lady came in and sat down very conspicuously in my line of sight. She remained there until the beginning of the last act. I do not complain of her coming late and going early; on the contrary, I wish she had come later and gone earlier. For this lady, who had very black hair, had stuck over her right ear the pitiable corpse of a large white bird which looked exactly as if someone had killed it by stamping on its breast and then nailed it to the lady's temple, which was presumably of sufficient solidity to bear the operation. I am not, I hope, a morbidly squeamish person, but the spectacle sickened me. I presume that if I had presented myself at the doors with a dead snake round my neck, a collection of black-beetles pinned to my shirtfront, and a grouse in my hair, I should have been refused admission. Why, then, is a woman to be allowed to commit such a public outrage?—London New Age.

#### JOULE AND GEORGE.

For The Public.

The power which in mechanics is called energy corresponds with the power which in industrial economy is called value.

As a fly wheel stores force for all the moving parts of a machine, taking up the energy of any part when that part is retarded, and giving it out when any part requires to do more work, being quickened or accelerated, so a government treasury should receive values of taxation, and store them for the requirements of public service.

The whole science of mechanical energy rests upon the discovery by Joule in 1842 of the equivalence of heat and work. Rankine, Clausius, Regnault, and others, scientific men of all nations, joined to develop the details of this principle, and it is now accepted by every sane engineer in all computations relating to power.

The whole science of taxable values rests upon a discovery by Henry George some 40 years later. Reasoning from the equivalence of work and value, he found that the pooled use of limited facilities, land, right of way, and systems of community service gave to such facilities a great pooled or community value, derived from the work of no particular persons, but forming a nat-

ural storage reservoir of values for community purposes.

Money is the mechanism of exchange, and mechanical and financial engineering are comparative sciences. Mr. George's exposition of the natural development of community values as a natural fund for taxation and community use, is as clear, scientific and proof against rational assault as the accepted theory of mechanical energy—which it parallels in many respects.

What militates against the cheerful acceptance and application of George's theory (as much more important than that of Joule as a man is more important than a machine) is not science, but the opposition of interests which have confiscated to private purposes the values accruing from the combined energies of the entire community. This confiscation continuing from precedents established in the times of ignorance, when there was no science of taxable values, has obliged the government to raise its public revenues by various indirect, oppressive and corrupting methods of taxation, laying a double burden upon working people, and discouraging improvements and personal thrift, while the confiscators of community values are given the support of law in a deadly restriction upon the work, the enterprise, the life and the happiness of the common people. When these are educated to an understanding of their rights, their interests, and their perils, science will be left free to prevail against the gates of ignorance, and the confiscation of public values will be stopped by a simple shifting of taxation from personal and improved to land and license values.

Let us use the same right principles in finance and society which are universally approved in mechanics.

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#### A RACE BOGEY.

Mr. Sydney Olivier, an English Colonial official, who has for three periods been acting governor of Jamaica, contributes to the April International Quarterly a remarkable article on the race question in this country. In writing of "The White Man's Burden at Home," he has the obvious advantage of being a trained foreign observer, free from the prejudices and passions which are apt to beset those who treat at close range the racial relations in America. But Mr. Olivier has not been content to get his opinions about the attitude of the whites towards the blacks in the United States from books or newspapers. On several occasions he has studied the question on the spot,