

people, where they can use their power if they want to, then the ultimate responsibility is with the people. Are they wiser than before? I don't think so. Are they more virtuous than before? I certainly do not believe so. If not wiser or more virtuous, then upon what ground have they better results? Just one. All of the people cannot profitably swindle themselves. That is the reason they won't do wrong. Because it is not profitable to do wrong. . . .

I do not pretend to say it is the only ground. There is a moral power, but there is the influence of profit, and any governmental arrangement that ignores the fact is founded on a false basis. And our government is ignoring it and always has. I am not interested in revolutions or interested in destroying government. I am interested in attempting to do something that folks have been trying to do for fifty years through the Federal government. We will rule by Commission government, coming back to the city at the other extreme of governmental arrangement, and begin to correct things at home.

* * *

THE NEWSMONGERS.

Langdon Everard in London Labour Leader.

We are the nation's eyes and ears;
We mould the nation's thought;
We feed its follies and its fears,
And bring its hopes to naught.

Our arms, like tentacles, are girt
Around the throbbing earth;
We handle burning truths, unhurt;
Our pens to lies give birth.

We sow, and lo, the people reap
The harvest of our tricks:
Rechauffé of the garbage-heap
And sport and politics.

We fan the fires of Ignorance
And Hatred with our breath,
Till Madness rides astride Romance
And War stalks forth with Death.

With lies the people's path we've paved;
They'll turn on us some day—
On us, who, knowing we're enslaved,
Are greater slaves than they.

We've sold our souls, to gain a crust
From those whom we despise:
Some day, thank God, we shall be dust,
And dust our frauds and lies.

* * *

Chatty Lodger (to Landlord): "You seem to have seen a good deal. What are you?"

Landlord: "Well, sir, I were a lion tamer, and I'd be there now if I 'adn't a-married. But you see, my wife were a knife-thrower in the same show, and she got to practicing her turn on me. Well, thinks I, life ain't too long to run no risks, so I took on a safe job and become a steeplejack."—Punch.

BOOKS

"WHAT IS A LIVING WAGE?"

The Standard of Living Among the Industrial People of America. By Frank Hatch Streightoff. Published by Houghton, Mifflin Co., Boston and New York, 1911. Price, \$1 net.

Most Americans know, whether they admit it or not, that several million people in the United States are starving. This truth is bearable only when denied, or scientifically analyzed.

Yet there is room for just such an honest and able study of starvation as this essay by Mr. Streightoff which took first prize in the Hart, Schaffner and Marx economics competition for 1909. In the presence of this book fewer will deny the evil and more will seek its cause.

"According to the census of 1900," writes the author, "11 per cent of all workmen in the United States were unemployed for at least three months of the year," and the United States Commissioner of Labor reports that "85 per cent of this idleness was from causes entirely beyond the workman's control." Along with this irregularity of employment the yearly resources of "about 21 per cent of normal families are below \$500." "Beyond doubt the homes of several million laborers are far below a reasonable standard for comfort and for morality"—despite the fact that they pay nearly 20 per cent of their income for rent—and "about a third of the American industrial people do not consume enough proteids for the maintenance of efficiency."

The author adopts, slightly amended, Mr. Gompers' definition of a living wage as "a wage, which when expended in the most economical manner consistent with the intelligence of the average housewife, shall be sufficient to maintain the average-sized family [father, mother and three children] in a manner consistent with whatever the contemporary local civilization recognizes as indispensable to physical and mental health, or, as being required by the rational self-respect of human beings." With this definition in mind, Mr. Streightoff finds the extreme low limit of the living wage to be \$650, dividing the expenses as follows:

Food	\$297
Rent	100
Clothing	120
Fuel	40
Church and other organizations.....	20
Medical attendance	12
Amusement	20
Miscellaneous	40
Total	\$649

"At this wage there can be no saving and a

minimum of pleasure. Yet there are in the United States at least five million industrial workmen who are earning \$600 or less a year."

ANGELINE LOESCH GRAVES.

+ + +

"THE UNIVERSAL CONSCIOUSNESS OF LIFE."

Psychic Phenomena, Science and Immortality. By Henry Frank. Boston. Sherman, French & Co. Price, \$2.25 net.

Following an earlier work, "Modern Light on Immortality," Mr. Frank supplements his proofs by recounting in the present volume his studies and experiences in the realm of psychology. While drawing on the facts already made public in the reports of the Psychical Research Society, the author contributes his own remarkable experiences, together with his theory concerning the same which is both original and interesting. For this in itself the well-indexed and well-written book is to be commended to investigators along psychic lines.

In conclusion Mr. Frank asks the pertinent questions: "By whom or by what has the reality of death been revealed? . . . How does death differ from life? Is life but death in process, or is death a process of life?"

To these and many other questions the answer is returned that the universal consciousness of life is the groundwork of belief in immortality. "We know only life—we cannot by any possibility know death. We realize life; death we can but observe."

A. L. M.

+ + +

PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHY.

Thinking for Results. By Christian D. Larson, Editor of Opportunity. The Progress Co., Chicago. Price, 50c.

In this prettily bound red-lined book of 132 pp. we have Mr. Larson's philosophy of the power of thought reduced to pocket compass—if one is so fortunate as to have a pocket. Better than that, the condensed statements of the author's previous volumes on the same topic are here put in sugar coated pellets that the ill-conditioned mind can grasp and apply at once to its own relief. There is invaluable service in the careful reading and determined practice of the thought rules laid down in the simple unequivocal words of Mr.

Larson who is ready to testify to the results of right thinking.

A. L. M.

+ + +

Little Arthur was very proud of his membership in the "Band of Mercy." He wore the badge, a small star, as if it were a policeman's insignia, and could often be heard reproving the other boys for their cruel treatment of dogs and cats. But one day a lady of the neighborhood was astonished to find

New Edition of the Complete Works of HENRY GEORGE

The Fels Fund Library Edition of the Works of Henry George. Complete in Ten Volumes. Handsomely bound in Blue Buckram, Gilt Tops, Paper Labels, Portraits.

Price, \$12.00 at our office, or \$13.00 with transportation prepaid to any express address in the United States or Canada.

The volumes run as follows:

- I. Progress and Poverty.
- II. Social Problems.
- III. The Land Question.
Contains "The Land Question," "Property in Land," and the "Condition of Labor" (open letter to Pope Leo XIII).
- IV. Protection or Free Trade.
- V. A Perplexed Philosopher.
- VI. and VII. The Science of Political Economy.
- VIII. Our Land and Land Policy.
Contains the miscellaneous writings, speeches and lectures.
- IX. and X. The Life of Henry George.

THE PUBLIC, Book Dept., Ellsworth Bldg., Chicago

Don't Be Discourteous!

You'll make new friends in the vacation season. Why not introduce The Public to them?

Business Dep't of The Public