

the public finances, so that provision could be made for the aged city employees, work could be found for the unemployed, free milk could be given to the infants of poor people or such with large families, sanitary and dental supervision of the public schools could be provided for, and everything without any additional burden to the rate payers.

The town also owns the electrical traction service, the electric lighting, gas and water supply, and it is quite superfluous to state that the control of public utilities works most harmoniously and economically together with its control of the land.

The money saved by wisely combining all items necessary for the development of a town in one intelligent centre has been proved to be very considerable.

Naturally this report roused a great deal of interest, the benefit of public ownership being thus clearly demonstrated to all who wish to see.

Ulm had the advantage of a capable, enlightened Mayor for a long period when land still was cheap and at a time when by laying down the old fortification works wide spaces were thrown open for building purposes. Therefore, the same system of purchasing land to such an extent cannot be followed indiscriminately by any other place. In many of our larger towns such policy would lead to increased speculation, enhanced land values and higher rates. They therefore rightly pursue a policy of taxing first and buying afterwards, at least those who have come to understand the question do.

A. POHLMAN.

Potsdam.

We stand committed to democracy, which if it has its dangers and drawbacks, has its promises and rewards. The attempt to feudalize society and mediaevalize thought, as a remedy for social evils, has proved hopeless \* \* \* It is no use attempting to preserve institutions which have their foundations in ideas and ideas no longer alive in the minds of men. The best service we can show to our generation is to hasten the fall of the remnants of a social fabric which is crumbling, that the ground may be sooner clear, and fewer people tempted to rest within its doomed walls.

—*The Speaker*, London.

The Philadelphia *Inquirer* nominates Warren North Bailey, of the Johnstown *Democrat* for President. As a republican paper it says it would oppose his candidacy, but it would like to see the honor of the democratic nomination go to Pennsylvania. It says that "Bailey is as good a thinker as Bryan—a little better." What the *Inquirer* says in good humored fun, will be echoed in all seriousness by thousands who know of the admirable work for true democracy that is being done by the Johnstown *Democrat*.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

### WHAT IS THE WILL OF GOD UPON EARTH?

Editor *Single Tax Review* :

I have read with much interest several articles in a recent issue of the *REVIEW*.

The system under which we are living forebodes an important change. Whether the change will be in the line of enlightened progress or a step back towards Feudalism and slavery of the masses to the plutocracy of organized wealth, depends upon the action of the masses of the people themselves, in whom the only real sovereignty rests.

The fundamental doctrines taught in our churches are being questioned on every hand. No system of religious principles is being taught in our public schools, and the Altar in the home has become exceptional.

In the realm of business and industry, the idea appears to be, in the language of Wall street, to get a corner on the economic resources of the world (which were provided for the benefit of humanity) and exploit them for the benefit of the few who are able to get into the combine.

It is evident to the reflecting mind that in the production and development of this world, the Creator has a definite purpose in view, and that man being the highest form of life in the material world, is an important feature in that development.

The writer is preparing for publication a work on this subject from the view-point, "What is the purpose of man's existence upon the earth, and how can that purpose be accomplished?"

The theologians have in metaphysical discussions and otherwise, to a very large extent, substituted the visible church and theology for the simple principles which Jesus teaches to be the rule of conduct which leads to eternal life.

If the matter can be presented in a practical way, so that the people can clearly comprehend the purpose of the Creator, what is the Will of God? and what is expected of man in his life upon earth? the average man will be likely to make an effort in the direction of the accomplishment of that purpose.

R. E. GUNNING.

West Nashville, Tenn.

### FROM JOHN EMMELUTH.

Editor *Single Tax Review* :

It affords me great pleasure to inform you that one of our wealthy young men has intimated his acceptance of the theory of the Single Tax in relation to Homestead holdings and a gradual application of the Land Value Tax to all holdings.

This young man is now on his way to New Zealand and will arrive there about the time this reaches you.