

and yet been unable to acquire or to continue to command the confidence and enthusiasm of the teaching force, he would stand condemned for inborn incompetency. But hampered as he was, such a fundamental condemnation would be unwarranted. It was a sheer impossibility for him, as it would have been for any one else, to retain at once the support of Big Business and the confidence of the teaching force. In winning the selfish friendship of the former, it was inevitable that he should lose his own freedom to co-operate in full fellowship with the latter.

Without this freedom, without this fellowship, without the confidence and enthusiasm that nothing apart from these can inspire, no man, however true his educational ideals or great his educational qualifications in other respects, can successfully administer a public school system.



That this criticism has been neither unjust nor uncalled for, is evident from other signs than those to which we have alluded. The very circumstances of Mr. Cooley's withdrawal give convincing testimony.

In a school board with 20 living members, 15 of whom were appointed especially to support Mr. Cooley's policies, only 8 could be kept in town and drummed up at a special meeting to ask him to withdraw his resignation, and only 7 at a regular meeting to adopt the flattering resolution of acceptance offered by his friends when he confirmed his resignation. The teaching force, other than the principals, made no public sign either individually or through any of their organizations. Though the principals' association courteously invited him to a god-speed and farewell luncheon, the invitation was accompanied with no authoritative expression of approval of his Chicago work. It remained for a coterie of Big Business men, and for these alone—men who for the most part know little of the public schools and care less, so that they be cheap,—to organize a dinner at the Union League Club for the purpose of praising Mr. Cooley's service as Superintendent of the Chicago schools. Praise from local business interests for educational service when local educational interests are silent, is not praise from Sir Hubert.



The Chicago public school system has been from the beginning of Mr. Cooley's superintendency, almost wholly and nearly all the time at the mercy of the Big Business interests of the "loop." In this respect it has only gone farther in the direction in which the public schools of all our cities are

tending. Whether or not that has been due to any fault on Mr. Cooley's part, it has not been without his acquiescence. We regret the necessity for saying so, for we believe that Mr. Cooley is not actuated by sordid motives, and we repeat our belief that he had educational ideals which have been disappointed but which might have been realized in high degree but for the difficulties he attempted to overcome by means of his unfortunate alliance with the Big Business "crowd."

With genuine good wishes, therefore, for his success in the business career for which he has abandoned his educational ambitions, we trust for his sake that when the mystery enveloping his withdrawal—for mystery it is—shall have cleared away, Mr. Cooley may be found to have provoked the necessity for his resignation, by revolting at last against the exactions of the Big Business interests which began by demanding his fealty and ended by marring his career.

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## INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

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### ON THE EVE OF VICTORY.

I have been a single taxer for about twenty-four years, and a radical ever since I was about twenty. So I have become accustomed to the predictions of various reformers that their scheme of regeneration would be perfected in from five to ten years. Nevertheless, I have never felt so hopeful of immediate success for the single tax in some form as I do today.

To me, and to many others less sanguine than I, it seems that we are on the very eve of victory; that in some places we have already succeeded. We must have more details of Kai Chau, but according to Mr. Max Hirsch we have a working example of a large scheme there, and it meets with the greatest approval and success. Those readers of the "Public" who missed the article in the issue for the week of February 19th should get it and read that article of Max Hirsch's. It is the most inspiring thing on the progress of single tax, although it is confined to a plain statement, that I have read for a long time.

One of the most encouraging signs of our success is the abatement of antagonism. In Rhode Island, where we have unfurled the flag, it is not even hooted at, and it is not necessary any longer to pursue the "gum shoe" methods. I am no politician, but I have no confidence myself in "gum shoe" methods anyhow. I do not want to get the Kingdom of Heaven by force; I do not want the reform till the people are ready for it, but I think that we may reasonably look for a great revival such as has swept over the world: this time the revival to be on economic instead of what are called religious lines.

In this we shall have the assistance of socialists who are taking kindly to our remedy. It can be shown to socialists that the only hope of raising

the money to buy out the means of production and distribution is through a tax upon the value of the land; and that, on the other hand, we must begin by taking the land, else all our efforts will result only in additional presents to the landlord.

We have a few thick headed, thick-skinned brothers who do not see that there is fighting enough to be done with those who are against us; it is not necessary to fight with those who are on our side. As far as their lights show them, even those persons who seem to be against us are doing the best that they know how, and as their Father can forgive them, so can we, for what seems to us to be their shortcomings.

BOLTON HALL.

## NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Tuesday, March 2, 1909.

### Another Traction Decision in Cleveland.

The Federal court at Cleveland, through Judge Knappen of Michigan, sitting in place of Judge Tayler, made a decision on the 27th in connection with the traction receivership (p. 204), which puts at rest another of the claims of the old monopoly company to constructive extensions of franchises. The decision related to the Woodland and West Side lines, on which a 3-cent fare franchise was granted a year ago, upon the theory that the old 5-cent fare franchise expired February 10, 1908. But the old interests insisted that the 5-cent fare franchise had been extended by construction to July 1, 1914, or at the least until January 26, 1910. In consequence of this claim the receivers asked the court to determine whether they could charge 5 cents fare under the contention of the old interests, or were restricted to 3 cents under Mayor Johnson's contention. The decision completely disposes of all the contentions of the old interests as to the constructive extension of franchises. It holds that the 5-cent fare franchises on the lines in question expired February 10, 1908, and that the receivers have no authority to charge higher fare on those streets than the 3-cent rate granted by the council to the low fare company.

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### Creation of the Calaveras National Forest.

Among the last acts of Mr. Roosevelt as President is his approval of the bill for creating the Calaveras National Forest, of California. This reserve includes the famous Big Tree grove. By

arrangement which the bill authorizes, the owner of that grove—Robert B. Whiteside, a rich lumber-land owner of Minnesota—agrees to an exchange of the timber in two groves for stumpage on government forest land. Efforts to accomplish some such result have been promoted for nine years or more, especially by the California Club of Women, but until this year no satisfactory arrangement could be made with the owner.

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The land to be acquired under the bill, which is now a law, includes about 960 acres in what is known as the North Calaveras Grove in Calaveras County, and 3,040 acres in the South Grove in Tuolumne County. The North Grove contains 93, and the South Grove 1,380 giant sequoias. Any tree under eighteen feet in circumference, or six feet through, is not considered in the count. The North Grove contains ten trees of a diameter of twenty-five feet or over, and more than seventy of fifteen to twenty-five feet. The bark runs from six inches to two feet in thickness. Most of these trees have been named. "The Father of the Forests," now down, is estimated by Hittel, in his "Resources of California," to have had a height of 450 feet and a diameter at the ground of more than forty feet when it was standing. "Massachusetts" contains 118,000 board feet of lumber; "Governor Stoneman" contains 108,000 board feet; the "Mother of the Forest," burned in the forest fire which licked its way into a part of the grove last summer, contained 105,000 board feet. Each of those trees is equal in lumber to the product grown ordinarily on fifteen or twenty acres of timber land. Among the names of other large trees in the two groves are "Waterloo," "Pennsylvania," "James King," "Old Bachelor," "Pride of the Forest," "Daniel Webster," "Sir John Franklin," "Empire State," "U. S. Grant," "W. T. Sherman," "J. P. McPherson," "Abraham Lincoln," "Connecticut," "Ohio," "Grover Cleveland," "Mrs. Grover Cleveland," "Dr. Nelson," "General Custer," "Dr. J. W. Dawson," "General Hancock," "Knight of the Forest," "Two Sentinels," and "Old Dowd." Besides the giant sequoias, there are hundreds of sugar pines and yellow pines ranging up to 275 feet in height and 10 feet in diameter. There are also many white firs and incense cedars in both tracts.

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### President Roosevelt and British Government in India.

British government in India (p. 207) having been applauded by President Roosevelt in a recent speech at the Metropolitan Methodist Church in Washington, the Society for the Advancement of India, with headquarters at 42 Broadway, New York city, has sent him an open letter, which the society now publishes in full, criticizing his ill-informed statements.