

New Zealand, and America, and even of the poor peasants of Russia are seething with discontent, and with a fixed determination to share more largely the increasing wealth of the world and the better conditions of human life which they think they are producing. For this they have enlisted in a war without discharge. If all signs fail not, the twentieth century comes in with a people's movement more widely revolutionary than that with which the eighteenth century went out. Its second decade is freighted with greater portents than even in the year 1848.—England's Revolutionary Strike. Address before the City Club of Chicago, by Prof. GRAHAM TAYLOR.

#### THE EDMONTON WAY.

The city of Edmonton, the capital of the province of Alberta in western Canada, is the latest important accession to the Single Tax ranks. To be sure the city did not have far to go to get there. For some time it has been raising local revenues by a tax on land values, together with a tax on business as the only additional form of taxation. Now the latter tax has been abolished and the city has for all local purposes the unadulterated Single Tax in operation.

For some time the Hudson Bay company held a large area of vacant land in the center of the city. But as industry became exempt the tax bill for this land increased. This continued until this year the company has been requested to pay \$225,000. It has concluded that the expense of holding is too great and so is subdividing the tract into lots and getting rid of them as quickly as possible to persons who want to make use of them. This is but one more example of a constantly increasing list which shows what the Single Tax will do.

Besides raising all public revenue from land values, Edmonton owns all public utilities. Street railways, telephones, gas, electric light and water plants are all under municipal ownership and control. The city seems to have more progressive policies at work than any other in the western hemisphere, if not in the world.—Johnstown, (Pa.) *Democrat*.

#### BOOK NOTICES.

##### A PRETENTIOUS BOOK.

Man's Birthright, by Ritter Brown, (12 mo, 307 pages, gilt top, price \$1.50, Desmond Fitzgerald, N. Y. City) is a pretentious treatment of the economic problem. The world is to be reconstructed by means of income taxes, limitation of land ownership and regulation on regulation—Pelion upon Ossa.

How little qualification the author brings to his task is shown by the reasons he gives for rejecting the Single Tax. He tells us that the individual or corporation could continue to hold thousands of acres so long as the Single Tax or rent demanded by the government was paid. So they *could*, but not even the foolish *would*. And he tells us "And naturally the tax exacted by the State from those who rented the forests and the mines would be added to the price of wood and minerals; so that the consumer would virtually pay not only the price of the wood and minerals, but the tax demanded by the State as well. The public would derive no benefit from such a change." If the consumer would have to pay this there would of course be no benefit. But if the author were fitted for his task he would know they *would not*.

Mr. Brown says: "Taxation should not assume the nature of a penalty placed upon human industry." But he urges as a recommendation for the income tax that "A man would pay taxes only on what he annually earns." But how a tax can be levied upon earnings and not upon human energy he does not tell us.

He states nothing quite correctly. For example he says: "The Malthusian theory that there is not enough land area on the surface of the earth for the nourishment of its inhabitants is given by most economists, etc." Not even the foolish Malthus taught this.

Try again, Mr. Ritter Brown. Or on second thought, *don't*. The world is already too full of printed words without thought.—J. D. M.

ARE you a subscriber to the SINGLE TAX REVIEW? If not, why not?