

thorne declared it a sad fortune for one never to behold it, and that not one but many lifetimes could be spent in its study and enjoyment.

"The last enchantments of the Middle Age," and the "ineffable charm" of which Matthew Arnold speaks, we must always feel, when within "her cloisters pale" and "gardens spread to the moonlight"; and to these I was, I hope, no less sensitive this year than I was a quarter of a century ago. But there is a change in Oxford, nevertheless. She is no longer "unravaged by the fierce intellectual life of our century," as Arnold declared her to be. "Steeped in sentiment," she still is, but she is thrilling with a new life too. It was in the long vacation when I was there before; it was in the long vacation this summer. But before "in the stream-like wanderings of her glorious streets," as Wordsworth writes, here and there "an eager novice in a fluttering gown," represented all of the present living student life of Oxford to be seen in the summer time. Her ancient halls were untenanted, for the "young barbarians all at play," the scions of aristocratic and privileged England, were playing far away on moor or sea or mountain. This year she was thronged by men and women—working men and women, too—of professional, scientific and mechanical pursuits, from every quarter of the civilized world. From the British Empire's colonies, from Hindostan and Canada, Australasia and the islands of the sea, as well as from the United Kingdom itself, from the United States and from every part of Europe, from Syria and Africa and from the Flowery Kingdom, and the Land of the Inland Seas, they had gathered at Oxford to the most successful illustration ever known of the growth of that movement which thirty years ago began in the declaration of representatives of intellectual democracy, that if the people could not come to the University, the University must be carried to the people.

In his welcoming address a representative of the ancient University declared to the students crowding its largest hall:

You have come here to strengthen and establish that system of higher education known as University Extension. Primarily this meeting is convened to give University Extension workers, organizers and students, a stimulus and encouragement; secondarily, to afford an opportunity for the commingling of classes, brainworkers and handworkers alike, on easy, natural and equal terms—thus to break down artificial barriers and promote a sense of common citizenship; thirdly, to break down not only barriers between people of different classes, but between peoples of different kindred and tongues.

It seemed to me strange language from the representative of what some of us have thought was the very seat and fortress of aristocratic privilege; and here and there, not in the intense and furious opposition to which the personal and

private interests of the enemies of the political and economic movement that I have described, inflame them, but in cynical and sceptical flout and sneer, the Tory spirit expresses its disbelief that the spreading of education by superficial popular lectures makes for true scholarship or for the advancement of the true interests of mankind. Better the few real scholars, it is said, who may lead and guide the rest of mankind, than the many headed mob of the superficially informed, who will wreck, if they have their way, the precious caskets where are stored the treasures of the past.

So far as Oxford is concerned, it is a futile regret they express. The resistless tide of democracy has swept into the current the teaching force of Oxford—Dons, Deans and Fellows—and to interested students of every class and section they are lecturing throughout a month in each summer, on mechanical arts and natural sciences, on literature and fine arts, on economics and philosophy, on sociology and history. And the summer students are allowed to roam almost at will through Oxford's halls and churches and gardens, among which not the least attractive to them seem to be the new colleges for women's higher education.

Again, prophecy is a poor trade, but I cannot believe that reaction against this condition of things will ever achieve in England more than an ephemeral success, if even that.

The old order changeth, yielding place to new.

BOOKS

SOCIALISM.

An Inquiry into Socialism. By Thomas Kirkup, author of "History of Socialism," etc. Third edition. Revised and enlarged. Published by Longmans, Green & Co., London, New York, Bombay and Calcutta.

The first edition of this book appeared in 1887, and although there was a second edition in 1888, it was out of print after 1890 until the present edition, revised to date, appeared in 1907. It is described in the preface as "an attempt to discover what is enduring and beneficent in the socialist movement by a study of the forces, principles and tendencies which are at work in the present stage of historic evolution," and as a companion volume to the author's "History of Socialism."

In his "Inquiry" the author gives a brief historical sketch of socialism, describes and examines the present system, and answers the question "What is Socialism?" He also considers its moral aspects, the difficulties in the way of it and the objections to it, and gives his views upon its prospects.

He is evidently a socialist, but not of the

doctrinaire type. It is the spirit of socialism rather than any socialistic program that attracts him. But his exposition of the subject is entirely judicial and his book offers as lucid an explanation of the broad doctrines of socialism for the uninformed reader as can probably be found.

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IRRIGATION.

Irrigation in the United States. By Frederick Haynes Newell, Hydraulic Engineer and Chief of the Hydrographic Branch of the United States Geological Survey; Chief Engineer of the Reclamation Service. Revised edition. Published by Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York. Price \$2.00 net.

This is one of the volumes in Crowell's "Library of Economics and Politics," and as its title implies it deals with the physical side of a subject of special interest at the present time. Its declared aim is "home-making"; its object "the reclamation of places now waste and desolate and the creation there of fruitful farms, each tilled by its owner;" and its method the directing of "attention to the resources of our great unutilized domain, in the hope that through a more complete knowledge of these and the methods of their utilization, vigorous and wise action may supersede the present lax and improvident policy."

It is startling to be informed that "one-third of the whole United States, exclusive of Alaska and outlying possessions, consists of vacant public land;" and the wonder grows when we consider how much larger the area would be, and how vastly greater the value, if all vacant land were included.

But the author has to do only with the public lands and his aim of turning them into fruitful homes. Who will own the homes and how their ownership will be secured is no part of his inquiry, although his attitude toward the question apparently favors use and occupation. The book is scientific throughout and excellently designed for profitable practical use in the irrigated and irrigational regions.

BOOKS RECEIVED

—The Child You Used to Be. By Leonora Pease. Published by A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, 1909.

—Just for Two. By Mary Stewart Cutting. Published by Doubleday Page & Co., New York, 1909.

—The Thin Santa Claus. By Ellis Parker Butler. Published by Doubleday, Page & Co., New York, 1909.

—Daphne in Fitzroy Street. By E. Nesbit. Published by Doubleday, Page & Co., New York, 1909. Price, \$1.50.

—Shadow and Light. An Autobiography with Reminiscences of the Last and Present Century. By Miffin Wistar Gibbs. With an Introduction by

Booker T. Washington. Obtainable from the author. Little Rock; Arkansas.

—A Court of Inquiry. By Grace S. Richmond. Published by Doubleday, Page & Co., New York, 1909. Price, \$1.00.

—The Southerner. Being the Autobiography of Nicholas Worth. Published by Doubleday, Page & Co., New York, 1909.

—The People's Hour. By George Howard Gibson. Published by the Englewood Publishing House, Chicago, 1909. Price, \$1.00.

—The City of the Dinner-Pail. By Jonathan Thayer Lincoln. Published by Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston and New York, 1909. Price, \$1.25 net.

—Men, the Workers. By Henry Demarest Lloyd. Edited by Anne Withington and Caroline Stallbohm. Published by Doubleday, Page & Company, New York.

—Story of the Session of the California Legislature of 1909. By Franklin Hichborn. Published by the press of The James H. Barry Company, San Francisco, 1909. Price, \$1.25.

—Illinois Bulletin of Public Charities. Vol. II, Nos. 2 and 3. For the Quarters Ending March 31, and June 30, 1909. Published by the State Commissioners of Public Charities, Springfield, Ill. 1909.

—Forty-first Annual Insurance Report of the Insurance Superintendent of the State of Illinois. Fred W. Potter, Insurance Superintendent. Part II.—Life, Casualty and Assessment Insurance and Fraternal Societies. 1909. Springfield, Ill.

PAMPHLETS

The Land Reformers' Handbook.

The Land Reformers' Handbook (Joseph Edwards, 21 Palace Square, Norwood, S. E., London; price one shilling net), appears this year for the first time. Its editor, Mr. Edwards, founded The Labour Annual and also its successor, The Reformers' Year Book. The present venture is, as the name implies, of the same general type, but more distinctly for the use of land reformers, whether exclusively such or not. An excellent portrait of Henry George serves for frontispiece, and the body of the book is filled with information of all kinds within the scope of the periodical and from everywhere—personal, associational, journalistic, and documentary. The list of American land and taxation reformers is not as complete as the editor wished to make it, and he invites information for the second number.

PERIODICALS

The Pacific Monthly (Portland, Oregon) for October, brings with it the sweet breath of Oregon orchards. Whoever knows the Oregon region will enjoy this magazine. In its rich illustrations and lucid description it tells you what Oregon is, and in its stories it shows you what Oregon likes. Nor is it provincial. It is metropolitan in appear-