

work in Britain. "England," he said, "is the freest country in the world. I can go out in Hyde Park, in London, and begin in the morning to talk. I can begin with religion, and go right through the day with socialism, anarchism, land values and get back to Hebraic dogmas, and the policemen will be there to protect me. At the end of the day, when I am tired I can go home, and the next day I can go back and do the same thing, and the same policemen will be there to protect me, and this because England is the country of free speech. Out in Philadelphia because a woman wants to speak she is locked up and must stay locked up, because the men will not learn that women will speak their pieces."

Mrs. Ella M. Murray briefly outlined the British Constitution, and gave a history of the struggles for freedom which had been waged in this country.

Mr. Bolton Hall, Mr. Geo. L. Record, the "Insurgent" Republican leader in New Jersey, and Mr. Frank Stephens, also spoke. Mr. Stephens, in the course of his speech, told the following story:—"It was bitter cold on Tuesday night," he began, "and I, who had a meeting to attend in Brooklyn, felt it keenly though warmly wrapped. On that night an old man of 60 found wandering in a desolate waste a young man of 28. The young man had on only trousers, vest, coat and hat; although the weather was so biting there were no underclothes or overcoat to shield him from the sting. The young man was almost exhausted, and the old man took him in charge to guide him through this desolate waste. And where was this desolate waste? Why, here, in your great city of New York, and the old man took the young one to the bread line at 19th Street and East River. There he found many others standing waiting for their loaf and mug of coffee. The young man was nearly gone, and the old man pushed him forward ahead of those already waiting as he cried 'Give him food; he is starved, he smells the coffee and cannot wait; give him food at once,' and as he pushed the young man forward, urging his claim, the old man himself fell. They stooped to raise him, but he was dead—dead of starvation. And while these things can happen in New York there is work for each of us to do, and the responsibility is laid upon each of us personally so to do his share that these things shall become impossible."

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TAX REFORM IN NEW YORK.

The New York Tax Reform Association has issued its 19th annual report. Signed by Mr. A. C. Pleydell, the Secretary, the report gives a clear account of the work that has been done in perfecting the machinery of assessment during the past year. Owing to the work of the Association in convening conferences for the discussion of State and Local Taxation, combined with the great practical progress made under Mr. Lawson Purdy's Tax Department, New York and a large part of the States seem only to be waiting for the growth of public opinion to carry through a sweeping reform in taxation. It may be safely said that there is no more complete preparation for this object in any part of the world.

SPAIN.

The TIMES, of February 12th, contained the report of an interview with Señor Canalejas, the new Premier of Spain. Having only been in power for two days, he gave the TIMES representative a very brief indication of his proposed policy. Discussing social reform, Señor Canalejas said:—"I am navigating the same waters as is the English Government," adding with a smile—"if our little lake can be compared with your ocean." With a view to increasing production and equitably redistributing taxation he proposes to apply the English theory of unearned increment to land, to institute old-age pensions on a contributory basis, and to suppress the octroi duties. . . . Much of the Government programme will be reflected in the Budget, which the Premier, a close student of English politics, regards as an admirable vehicle for reform.

DENMARK.

Mr. C. W. Sorensen, writes:—"The Danish Joseph Fels Fund, for the first year of the five covered by Mr. Fels' challenge, exceeds by £23 the £200 required to secure Mr. Fels' similar contribution. The Danish Government are considering proposals for the valuation of the land values in certain districts for experimental purposes. The circulation of RET, the organ of the Henry George movement in Denmark, now exceeds 4,000 copies a month—which would correspond to 88,000 copies with the population of the United Kingdom!

BOOK REVIEWS.

SOCIAL SERVICE, by Louis F. Post.*

This book makes us question once more the propriety of the form in which the older works on Political Economy are cast. As its title indicates the simplest and most fundamental conceptions of the facts and relationships which constitute our social and industrial life are used. That life is conceived as an exchange of services, no matter what may be the external or concrete shape in which these services may express themselves. On this simple basis Mr. Post builds a firm and connected structure. Running through everything this simple principle exposes, or rather leaves no hiding place for, fallacies which lurk in the older works with their complicated and sometimes contradictory conceptions. The part which any member of society plays in the great network of services is easily detected and proved.

Everyone interested in social problems will find this book of great assistance. If they have formed for themselves a clear and finished theory, according to which they interpret social phenomena, their power of doing this will be strengthened by reading this book; if they are beginners, and have formed no such theory, they cannot do better than master the consistent and far-reaching principle expounded here by Mr. Post. It will abide with them and serve them all their lives. The most casual reader will get a clear insight into the deepest problems of political economy in such chapters as "The Use of Money in Social Service," "Demand and Supply," and the "Analysis of the Instruments of Social Service." The value of these different chapters, which first appeared in the form of articles in the PUBLIC (Chicago) has been greatly increased by their collection in book form.

ABOUT PANICS. HARD TIMES: THE CAUSE AND THE CURE.

The lives of the masses of the people of every country are narrowed, degraded and stunted by poverty. This is no disgrace to them; but it is a disgrace if they do not seek to know, and when known to remove, the constantly acting cause of their poverty. This little book (6d. post free) in a free, simple and unconventional manner, will acquaint them of this, as also of the effective means by which it can most speedily be remedied. Written by a business man for business men, it is specially suitable for circulation amongst those engaged in carrying on the great industrial and commercial enterprises of the country.

HOW TO GET RICH WITHOUT WORKING.

Who wants to get rich without working? One at a time, please! This little book will tell you how it is to be done, legally, and in accordance with what the Courts, the Churches and the people, in their blindness, hold to be just. Written in the form of a story, it contains teachings it is very necessary all interested in political and social problems should learn to understand and appreciate.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF LANDHOLDING IN ENGLAND.

"To understand the present we should study the past." For this purpose this pamphlet will be found of the utmost service, and be welcome to every student of history and modern politics. Amongst other things it contains a chronological record, together with a brief explanation, of the chief laws and Acts of Parliament relating to Land-holding from the time of William the Conqueror to the accession of Edward VII.

"TALK UNEMPLOYMENT."

"Talk unemployment" was the advice given to Tory canvassers during the recent General Election. Those of our readers who would do so with telling effect cannot do better than obtain the above pamphlet, by Lewis H. Berens (price 1d., 1½d. post free), in which the chronic problem of unemployment, or "dis-employment," is investigated in a thorough and exhaustive manner, and it is proved beyond dispute that the prevailing system of land tenure and taxation is the direct cause of unemployment, and that the remedy is to be found in some radical measure of Land Reform. A pamphlet eminently calculated to bring home to the uninitiated the fundamental importance of the land question.

*"Social Service," by Louis F. Post, author of "Ethics of Democracy," etc. Published by A. Wessels, New York. Price, One Dollar, post free.