

Bjorner thanking Mr. Begtrup, the High School leader, for the hospitality of the school.



On the occasion of a meeting during Joseph Fels's visit to Denmark last summer, at which speakers were assembled, Mr. Fels suggested that, Dr. Starcke being willing, the committee engage some of his time in training new speakers for local discussions and election work. Acting upon this suggestion, which Mr. Fels backed up with the necessary means, the committee persuaded Dr. Starcke to plan and to carry out a series of lecture and instruction courses. Twelve courses were planned; and so that people from different parts of the country may take part, they are held in different places. Each course, consisting of six lectures, is followed by an instruction lesson on political economy and a special lesson for those who, after taking part in this course, wish to perfect themselves in speaking for the movement. The work has so far proved successful. On the isle of Laes, a small island where one of the new leagues was formed last summer, there were 60 pupils; in Aarbus—our largest city after the metropolis—there were 250; and at Herning, another place of the new leagues, there were more than 100, all for the entire course. Each pupil pays a small sum to the league for admission to the course. Besides being an authority on social economy and a staunch supporter of the Singletax, Dr. Starcke is a very eloquent orator and a distinguished and successful pedagogue.



The largest paper of our metropolis, the Radical-Liberal "Politiken," has invited the chairman of the Henry George Society to give a series of four lectures on Henry George at the "High School for Modern Politics," started and managed by this paper. At the first lecture, which treated of the personality of Henry George and the condition of his country at the time of his experiences, the audience was so much larger than had been expected that a number had to stand; and at the second lecture, which contrasted Henry George and his political economy with the classic economists, the hall was crowded. These lectures are still in progress.



An excellent play, illustrating the demoralizing effect upon our political and social life, of speculation in land values, has been presented at the "People's Theater" here. Being of great dramatic interest and exceedingly well played, it was given a good reception by the press as well as by the large audiences it drew. It advocates most forcibly the theories of Henry George, directly as well as indirectly. The name of the play is "Med i Dansen," or as it might be translated, "In the Swim." The author is Hjalmar Bergstrom, a well-known playwright.

SIGNE BJORNER.



"Let us look on the bright side of things. Nothing is ever as bad as it might be."

"You're right. Take the coats that women wear, for instance. They, too, might be made to button down the back."—Chicago Record-Herald.

## INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

### HOW TO PULL THE SUPREME COURT'S TEETH.

New York.

While Mr. Walker\* truly states that neither the Constitution nor the McArdle case expresses any denial of the power of some court to decide whether a statute is valid or invalid, he is in error when he claims that the Constitution does not imply such a denial. The Constitution expressly states the powers of the three branches of the government—the legislative, the executive and the judicial. And I take issue with Mr. Walker in his statement that there is no "presumption based upon the mere fact of the enactment of the statute, that it is in conformity to the Constitution. "The people's representatives enacted the statute and the people's Executive approved it, and it is, therefore, presumptively Constitutional. And it continues to be Constitutional until it is repealed by the voters' elected representatives.

If it be true that a failure to confer such a power upon some court will result in a failure to provide any means for enforcing the statute, then the American people are in a sorrier plight than any other nation. English courts manage to enforce their statutes without having such a power. It is sometimes said that is so only because Great Britain has no written Constitution; but France and Germany have written Constitutions, and those great nations manage to get along without having conferred power upon any court to set aside statutes enacted by the people's representatives.

I had always thought that it would take either an iron-willed President or a revolution to summarily wrest this usurped power from our courts. But Mr. Walker, unwittingly, suggests to me a more peaceable method. Let Congress, by adding a restraining clause to every new statute, deprive the Supreme Court of appellate jurisdiction. The many District and Circuit courts will then alone pass on the question of Constitutionality. Experience has shown that they will rarely be unanimous. The President can then, without assigning any other ground than that some of the courts have declared the statute Constitutional, proceed to enforce it. In less than a decade the absurdity of allowing judges to overrule the will of the people will become so apparent, that courts will refuse to longer exercise the usurped power.

F. C. LEUBUSCHER

\*See The Public of October 20, page 1073.



The United States Senate of 1999 is in session.

The Senator from Lower Mexico arises and moves that a committee be appointed to investigate the charges growing out of the election of William Lorimer.

This is seconded by the Senator from Greenland. "Why do they always appoint that committee?"

asks a man in the gallery.

"Nobody knows," replied his companion. "It is a custom handed down to us from away back in the past, and nobody has ever dared or cared to suggest that we abolish it."—Life.