

The mechanism of Pantocracy comprises the following features:

- (1) Public Ownership of the Means of Production. Retention of the Wage System and Abolition of Profit.
- (2) Organization of a System of Distribution, whereby Supply of, and Demand for, Products may be Adjusted.
- (3) Organization of a National Labor Exchange, whereby Supply of, and Demand for, Labor may be Adjusted.
- (4) Organization of an Inspection System, whereby the Quality of Products may be Maintained at a Definite Standard.
- (5) Application of Labor to Production.
- (6) Organization of Invention.
- (7) Old Age Insurance.
- (8) Reform of Education.

"The Economy of Happiness" will doubtless prove interesting to readers who, like its author, would cut rather than untie the Gordian knot of modern society evils, and who enjoy the discussion of revolutionary in preference to reform measures.

W. H. S.

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### THE AMERICAN AND HIS LAW.

Moral Overstrain. By Geo. W. Alger. Published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston and New York. 1906.

This book contains eight essays, every one of them seeming more important than the first, which lends its title to the others. The responsibility resting upon each member of society not to put a greater strain on his neighbor's moral fibre than it will stand, is the first theme. The question involved of how much harm it would do every individual to judge his neighbor and estimate his moral strength, is not taken up. Neither, for example, in the remarks on the wickedness of wearing expensive jewelry on the streets, is it noted that it is almost as great a strain on a starving man's ethics to know that those jewels are possessed, as to see them worn.

As for the other seven essays, they are each one worth several readings and much thought. For the most part they have a common theme, the reform of the law. And moreover they are written by a thorough lawyer gifted with that most rare ability—the power to express the technicalities of his profession in popular phrase. They deal with problems vital to every citizen—problems, many of them, prominently before us these very days.

"Unfinished Commercial Crime" and "Criminal Law Reform" disclose how antiquated and bungling our laws and court proceedings are. The body of law has not kept pace with the tremendous industrial progress of our age. The laws are framed for the punishment of crimes incident to primitive communities, while our blackest crimes to-day are committed in and by means of a complicated modern industrial society. Moreover, in their rightful eagerness to shield the American citizen from the harsh injustices of the old English law, our democratic forefathers went too far and protected the accused at the expense of the community's welfare. This red-tape inadequacy of our law machinery to convict where there is obvious guilt, is responsible for much of the growing lawlessness in our nation.

But the people are to blame as well as the law. "The Citizen and the Jury" is both a defense of that bulwark of liberty, the jury-system, and a scathing arraignment of the attitude of most citizens toward jury-duty, namely, "Dodge if possible."

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The press also in its uncontrolled sensationalism is responsible for great wrongs. "Sensational Journalism and the Law" deals with this question. The thirst for sensation has led the journals into the unforgivable attitude of presuming a man's guilt before his trial; and the public's passive acceptance of this attitude has done incalculable harm in the carriage of justice.

As for the author's remedies—his cure for "trial by newspaper" looks dangerously toward press censorship; while his advocacy of allowing more freedom to the judge in charging the jury seems not quite to agree with his high opinion of what the jury is capable of, nor does it agree with the outcry against the judges who recently have taken liberties in that direction. He fails to consider the innate reluctance to find for the death penalty as one of the acknowledged reasons for jury dodging. On the whole Mr. Alger shows the problem admirably. But with a true lawyer's failing he counts the law a more powerful influence than it really is, for wrong or right.

What is, perhaps, the gem of the collection, is not about the law at all, but on "Generosity and Corruption." "The substitution of generosity for justice" is a phrase and an idea to ponder. "One of the effects of the generosity of the unjust, which deserves more consideration than it gets, is this: it closes the mouths of critics whose voices might otherwise be heard in effectual protest against public wrongs or defects which cry for change in economic conditions." The effect of "the generosity of the unjust" is traced in politics where the "legislative burglar with a big heart" is confessedly the hardest to overcome; and in college, where "we can not afford to have the traditions of our colleges become largely the traditions of suspiciously rich men who made money and built buildings."

Other essays are "The Literature of Exposure" and "Some Equivocal Rights of Labor." Taken for all in all, this is a book worth urging people to open. If opened it will certainly be read. The style is delightful, the citation of cases most interesting and apt, the argument stirring.

ANGELINE LOESCH.

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### "IN THE FIRE OF THE HEART."

In the Fire of the Heart. By Ralph Waldo Trine. Published by McClure, Phillips & Co., New York. 1906. Price \$1.00 net.

Ralph Waldo Trine is the author of "In Tune with the Infinite," a book which is very popular with those inclined to mental science and with the religious world. The danger, both of mental and Christian science, is that their devotees are apt to say, "We have found the way to Heaven ourselves, and the rest of the world can go to Hell; if they don't want to, the better way is equally open to them."

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