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**EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE**


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**JOHN Z. WHITE IN THE NORTHWEST.**

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 8, 1910.

On his northwestern tour, under the auspices of the Henry George Lecture Association, Mr. John Z. White (vol. xii, pp. 1059, 1094) has just ended a three weeks' visit to Spokane, Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho. Notwithstanding the holiday attractions and festivities, we have had a very successful educational campaign of a fundamental economic character. He made thirty odd public addresses before our High Schools, Business Colleges, State Colleges and Normals, Churches, Labor and Secret organizations, Political and Economic Clubs.

Our local Charter Revision Committee in Spokane, composed of all shades of opinions, ranging from the democratic Democrat to the stand-pat conservative, are laboring hard to give us a new city charter for inaugurating the commission plan. This committee arranged for a noon day luncheon, with Mr. White as their guest, and a public lecture on the commission plan of city government. Mr. White's complete mastery of the subject and his ready direct answers to their many questions, won for him the admiration of those present, many of whom also heard him on several other occasions. There had been a decided distrust, on the part of some of the committee, to placing the power of Direct Legislation in the hands of the people without strings on it.

We believe, however, that Mr. White has aided materially in relieving the situation. One of his last city dates was a joint debate with Atty. F. H. Moore, a representative local socialist, in response to a challenge from their local. In his usual easy and forcible manner Mr. White tripped up our socialist friend on every major proposition around which he endeavored to wind his thread of argument. The Elks' hall was filled to its capacity of about one thousand. The machinery question, enforced cooperation, the artificial device for distribution, the lack of incentive to own property when labor gets its full product, the interest question, and all the usual arguments of our revolutionary friends, were demolished and literally piled into a heap of broken ruins.

Prof. Hart of our south central High school, who has charge of some fifteen hundred young men and women, said that never had a public speaker received such close attention and ready responses from his pupils, as when Mr. White addressed them on the "Dismal Science." Mr. White certainly has a remarkable and happy faculty for entertaining both young and old on economic subjects, whether or not they have given the matter any previous study.

At Walla Walla Mr. White was tendered a hearty reception by the members of the Commercial Club, among whom he met Mr. L. E. Meachem, an old time personal friend and single taxer. His talk on taxation at the noon day luncheon was so enthusiastically received that by request of the officers of the club, his evening lecture under their auspices, comprised both the Direct Legislation and Single Tax lectures. The President of Whitman college at this place told Mr. White to consider himself down for

other engagements in their institution as often as he could come to the Northwest.

Prof. Macomber of the State Normal at Cheney, just called to inform me that they intended to organize the faculty with the intention of going into the single tax philosophy thoroughly, since Mr. White's recent visit. He also expressed the hope that Mr. White or some other representative of the Henry George Lecture Association could make them another visit in the near future.

One of our prominent Democrats said that Mr. White and his lecture work was being considerably discussed on the street corners. These are but a few of the many appreciative expressions we have heard.

WM. MATHEWS.

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**THE PARLIAMENTARY CAMPAIGN.**

London, Jan. 11, 1910.

"Where shall we get the money?" asked the Duke of Marlborough, at a Unionist meeting in the campaign for a new Parliament now drawing to its end in this country, and in a speech criticizing old age pensions. "Where shall we get the money?" he asked, in the tone of one putting a poser. The retort came promptly out of the body of the meeting: "From such as thee, lad!"

It was a characteristic instance of the freedom and pointedness of expression in British campaign meetings. Campaign meetings here are not party meetings, no matter who holds them nor who speaks. They are meetings of electors, called together to hear the issues discussed, and every one is entitled to participate in the meetings by "heckling" speakers, and even to the extreme of voting down the resolutions of the party calling the meeting, provided only that there is no disorder. And as to disorder, it is the "stewards" of the meetings that must maintain it; for the police though they are near by outside the door, are conspicuously absent from the interior of the meeting place. Interruptions, retorts, and wrangles between members of the audience and the speaker are not unusual; and he must be a ready-witted speaker—as the Duke of Marlborough was not, on the occasion noted above—to cope with "hecklers" in the audience.

At a meeting in the campaign of 1900, an imperialist speaker, appealing to the patriotic masses represented in the meeting hall, pointed to a large map whereon all the British territory of the world was indicated in red, and with enthusiasm asked, "What do these red spaces mean?" His question brought anything but the answer he wished. "Blood!" exclaimed a sturdy radical, and the imperialistic speaker was a "dead one."

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Prejudice against participation by foreigners in campaign meetings does not prevail here as in the United States. Quite contrary, therefore, to all my expectations and much against my wishes, I found myself drafted for service at so many places that I might, had the time been at my disposal, have spoken almost every night at an election meeting. In this respect I had the advantage of the peers, for they had to do all their speaking before the election