

through which inequality of wealth arises." Then he mentions some of them. But if the inequality arises from existing causes why not take steps to remove them? Why assume that the only way to remedy causes that may be removed is to establish a system of government from which every liberty loving individual will shrink as loading it with more than it can bear with safety to the continuance of civilization and the march of progress?

In the socialistic state of Prof. Sturt there is to be public allowances for children. But at the same time to avoid what the author calls a "frenzy of propagation" measures for the repression of population are to be adopted. There will be inspection of families; "if allowances are to be made for the maintenance of children we must be assured that the money is properly spent."

We believe that it is quite impossible to find a work in which so many naive propositions are advanced. It is impossible to conjecture where this writer has spent the time since he came to earth. The "intense inane" in which he wanders is a medium admirably calculated for speculations of this kind. But there seems to be times when he is a little distrustful. For he says:

"The citizens of a socialist state must have charity, probity, conscience, temperance and general modification of character. Without these qualities it will be *impossible to work so elaborate and delicate a system.*" Again the italics are ours. But is it not a deliciously innocent paragraph?

It must not be thought that a good word cannot be said for the work. On page 118 will be found some admirable reflections on slavery.

And on the whole the writer means well to the human race. He would do a lot to mankind in the effort to do something for them. And the hell to which he would direct us is paved with the best possible intentions.—J. D. M.

* POST INDUSTRIALISM

* Post Industrialism. By Arthur J. Penty 12 mo. clo. 157 pp. Macmillan Co. New York City.

This work, with a preface by Gilbert K. Chesterton, is a study of the relation of man to machines. It is Samuel Butler's Erewhon transplanted into the more serious department of the study of economics. Butler's work was of course an adventure into the field of humor, even if back of it lay the suggestion that the effect of machinery upon civilization was largely to ossify some of the more admirable qualities of mankind.

The viewpoint of Mr. Penty's Post Industrialism is frankly mediaeval, and a plea for a return to the Guild system. Mr. Chesterton calls the author "one of the three truly original minds of the century." Both Mr. Chesterton and Mr. Penty are absurdly mistaken, the first in his estimate of the author, the second in his call to the industrial world to scrap the results of industrial advance.

The mistake comes from an imperfect knowledge of the factors in economic knowledge and their relation. If Mr. Penty would read Progress and Poverty perhaps some of the problems that puzzle him would receive an answer. But he evidently knows nothing of the land question.

Mr. Penty's mistaken thesis arises naturally perhaps in the minds of men of artistic impulses and little economic knowledge save what they can obtain by considering certain economic factors wholly apart from others. Ruskin made the same error, and left a mass of speculative writing on economics characterized by beautiful English, a rare imaginative touch—and a dense ignorance.

Mr. Penty's book, however, will repay reading for the urge that animates it toward a better and simpler civilization—better because simpler. In this its spirit is beyond praise.—J. D. M.

SHADOW OR SUBSTANCE—SOCIALISM OR INDIVIDUALISM

A little work of more than usual significance and importance is this pamphlet of 76 pages by Dr. William Preston Hill, of St. Louis. It is an examination of the theory and practise of socialism, and is really a triumphant refutation. At a time when socialism is declining it

furnishes a summary of the economic and political reasons for such decline.

Its logic is pitiless, and it travels from point to point of the inquiry with a lucid analysis that reveals a thinker who is able to convey his thought to the reader, and who does not assume that he is in possession of a profundity of wisdom that cannot be told in simple and direct English.—J. D. M.

A WORK BY JACKSON RALSTON

Another book by a Single Taxer is "Democracy's International Law" by Jackson H. Ralston, of Washington, D. C., published by John Byrne and of that city, a book neatly bound in cloth and comprising 160 pages, and sold for \$1.50.

We refrain from reviewing the work at length since we believe every Single Taxer will want the book. They will want to know how the subject is discussed by a Single Taxer. They will find many novel points of view and a treatment of the question that is clear and illuminating. (See adv.)

AN ADMIRABLE PAMPHLET

The "New Political Economy," an excellent pamphlet of 31 pages, by John B. Sharpe, of Pittsburgh, is now in its third edition. Some of our readers will no doubt recall the earlier editions. Those who do not possess a copy are referred to the advertisement on page 192 of this issue.

A WORK ON SINGLE TAX COLONIES

We have received the second annual volume of the "Enclaves of the Single Tax." This is an account of the Single Tax colonies, Fairhope, Arden, Tahanto, Free Acres, Halidon, Sant Jordi and Shakerton. This book of 220 pages is bound in cloth with gilt top, and is published by Fiske Warren and written by Charles White Huntington. Those wishing to obtain copies should write to Fiske Warren, Harvard, Mass.

CORRESPONDENCE

DOESN'T SEE IT—QUITE

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

Your "Land Tenure or Tax Reform" and "Land Restoration or Tax Reform" must stir the blood of every true Georgist. I also note what Purdy says from his own experience. I have had some experience myself in politics, tax reform, and land restoration. If "land restoration" is ever accomplished it must be done in the field of practical politics. To make it an issue in the field of practical politics it will have to brought there mainly as tax reform.

In Texas the Democratic Party controls and political issues are fought out within that party. Local conditions must be considered here as I believe they must be in other States.
San Antonio, Texas.

WM. A. BLACK.

NOT A MERE FISCAL REFORM

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

I think you are right in pointing out that the Single Tax is not a mere fiscal reform and that half-way measures will not succeed in rousing the attention of the people to the injustice of private ownership in land.
St. Louis, Mo.

REV. L. G. LANDENBERGER.

THE LAND QUESTION IN ANCIENT ROME

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

Stimulated by the article in the last REVIEW "Land Reform in the Roman Empire," I have been making a study of the matter. And I am appalled that a condition that should have been obvious to all students of Roman history has remained hidden so long.