

bodied the results of this long labor of love in this volume. He has used rare discrimination in selecting passages that ring strong and true with brave, cheerful, elevating thought. There is an uplifting sentiment offered for each day of the year. Apart from the enjoyment of the literary excellence of the quotations, no thoughtful, aspiring person could absorb the thousand-souled message of this assemblage of authors without gaining strength and fortitude of spirit for the battle of life.

W. H. S.

* * *

SELF-CONSCIOUS RELIGION.

The King's Daughters' Year Book. By Margaret Bottome, President International Order of the King's Daughters. Philadelphia: Henry Altemus Company. Cloth, \$1.25.

A series of little, personal, pleasant sermons, one for each day of the year, well written and well printed. They will undoubtedly serve a use and bring comfort to many; but a question insists on presenting itself after reading a few pages. Does not this sort of intensely personal religion tend to religious self-centeredness? "He that loseth his life for my sake, shall find it." Where do we lose our lives? Not in the intense endeavor to perfect them, but in the great common life of service for service under divine law.

Alice Thacher Post.

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SOCIALISM.

Socialism By John Spargo. Published by The Macmillan Company, New York.

In the two hundred and fifty pages at his disposal Mr. Spargo has given a clear and succinct account of the development and progress of "scientific," as distinguished from "utopian," socialism. Having a natural aptitude for brief statement, supplemented by an experience as a lecturer wherein he has had to answer all sorts of questions from audiences, he has been able to present a book that will well repay the time given it by any one seeking information on this subject.

After a cursory review of the inception of the socialistic idea, and a more detailed account of utopianism as exemplified in the remarkable career of Robert Owen, the author confines his attention to Karl Marx and the "materialistic conception of history." Though reserving for Marx the right to err, he personally accords the great German Jew the highest place in the Hall of Fame. The "Communist Manifesto," the joint work of Marx and Engels, in 1848, is given as the beginning of scientific socialism, and the subsequent work of these two strangely-attached men is offered as the best exemplification of that school of thought.

After noting Mr. Spargo's sense of fairness one cannot but regret the inevitable limitation of the socialistic mind. Clearly as he sees the present unjust condition of labor, and evident as he shows the necessity of a change to be, he yet utterly fails to grasp the essence of the problem. Like Marx and Engels, and all the other great lights of socialism, he makes no distinction between land and capital; and this failure to distinguish between monopoly

Roosevelt Ahead Hearst Second

Theodore Roosevelt continues to lead in the votes cast by new subscriptions to THE PUBLIC. As we have announced, the winner in the voting will be presented by us with a set of the New Library Edition of the Complete Works of Henry George and Life of Henry George by Henry George, Jr.

Wm. R. Hearst is a close second in the balloting. Judge Ben B. Lindsey, of Denver, and the Teachers' Federation Library, of Chicago, are leading candidates.

These votes are cast by new and paid subscriptions to THE PUBLIC, no matter by whom sent. Every new subscription for three months (price 25 cents) is entitled to one vote; every one for six months (price 50 cents) two votes; every new yearly subscription (price one dollar) to four votes; and so on. We wish to have a very large vote.

The election will be over next week, and all desiring to have their preferences recorded should send in new subscriptions at once.

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THIMBLE-RIGGING BY THE SAFE, SANE AND CONSERVATIVE TRUST NEWSPAPERS OF CHICAGO.

Bill the Blink: "I works my sandbag proper and quiet, an' I takes a sportin' pride in a sportin' genemlens' perfeshun; but I'm blowed if I likes this here hocussin' o' kiddies out o' their school money."

and true capital would seem to be the sole reason for his being in the socialistic, rather than in the individualistic, camp.

Another feature that marks the socialistic mind in this work is the avoidance of concrete propositions. Dismissing the abortive attempts to establish utopian socialism, Mr. Spargo says: "Socialism is henceforth a theory of social evolution, not a scheme

of world-building; a spirit, not a thing." Yet the man's evidently practical mind compelled him to add to his history a chapter on "Outlines of the Socialist State," in which he offers a sop to Cerberus by attempting to show that, even under socialism, private production would continue and individual initiative find scope. Instead of taking his position squarely on the socialist platform adopted at the

Chicago national convention, in 1904—Included as a part of his text—which says, "that the tools of employment shall belong to their creators and users; that all production shall be for the direct use of the producers; that the making of goods for profit shall come to an end," he says, "there are many petty, subordinate industries, especially the making of articles of luxury, which might be allowed to remain in private hands." And then, as though his conscience was still unsatisfied, he adds, "There would be no danger to the state in permitting, or even fostering, private enterprise within the limits suggested."

These and other evidences of fairness throughout the book lead one to think that the author would be an individualist instead of a socialist, were he really to analyze the phenomena and laws of political economy.

STOUGHTON COOLEY.

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THE CYNICISM OF POLITICS.

Senator Sorghum's Primer of Politics. By Philander Chase Johnson. Philadelphia: Henry Altemus Company. Decorated boards, 50 cents.

Politicians are commonly so cynical, and literature is mostly so sweetly moral, that it seems like the real thing to read a "Primer of Politics," more satirical than comic, where we find such sentiments as these:

A theorist is called a Utopian until his ideas have a chance to win. Then he is called a demagogue and a dangerous character.

Going behind the returns of an election is like a post-mortem. It may afford information of future value, but never cures anything.

Honesty is the best policy, but any man who takes honesty as a speculation is very liable to get tired waiting for dividends.

ALICE THACHER POST.

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Fairy-Tales in Modern Clothes.

The Magic Wand. By Tudor Jenks. With illustrations by John R. Neill. Philadelphia: Henry Altemus Company. Price, 50 cents.

This little book contains three charming little modern fairy stories, without morals, by the inimitable Tudor Jenks of St. Nicholas fame. The pictures are as delicate and spontaneous as the little tales.

ALICE THACHER POST.

PAMPHLETS

The Revenue Commission of California.

The preliminary report of the Commission on Revenue of the State of California, issued by the State printer at Sacramento in 1906, proposes a distinct advance in methods of taxation. Considering the defects of the present drastic system in California, it shows that under it the farmers pay the equivalent of a 10 per cent. income tax, while manufacturers pay but 2 per cent. The personal property tax is condemned. By way of remedying defects the Commission proposes the separation of State from

Henry George, Jr.'s New Book

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Strong and stirring, with a flesh and blood hero.—*New York Herald.*

In this story we have art for man's sake. It pictures the conflict of classes. . . . The principal characters go down into the depths of their several hells, and there "finding themselves" rise to the level of what is best in them. . . . It is all life-like, it is all true, and from the opening sentence to the last word one's interest in the people, their anxieties, their hopes, their disappointments, their weaknesses, their sins and their repentances, is acute and unflagging.

—*The Public.*

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