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EDITORIAL

A Lifetime Well Used.

Joseph Fels left this world on February 22, but because of his work while here it is being made a better place in which to live. What man has yet lived of whom more could be said? s. d.



A Significant Straw Vote.

Significant is the result of the trial referendum taken by the Grain Growers' Guide of Winnipeg. The organ of the farmers of Western Canada, it has secured from its readers an expression of opinion on various subjects. The result shows that no misrepresentation by plunderbund agents—such as led the farmers of Oregon, California and Missouri to vote against their own interests in 1912—can have similar results in Alberta, Saskatchewan or Manitoba. Politicians in those three provinces, who feel inclined to oppose progress, had better scan the Grain Growers' Guide's returns and carefully consider their future course. The trial referendum shows that an overwhelming majority of the farmers of these three provinces favor equal suffrage, direct legislation in an effective reform, absolute free trade and Single-tax. The result shows not only the extent of intelligent progressiveness among the rural voters of Western Canada, but demonstrates the ability and influence of the Grain Growers' Guide. s. d.



Lloyd George and the Dukes.

The advantage of having a touchstone with which to test the genuineness of a reform movement is seen in British politics. Men and movements in other countries may be of doubtful worth, and there may arise a question as to their sincerity or good faith; but the Englishman has an infallible test: When the London Times speaks, all doubt vanishes. For no sooner does the Times, seriously, ponderously, and with aforethought, condemn a social reformer, or a movement looking to the limitation of the privileges of the nobility,

than the world at large knows the man is sincere, or the movement has merit, and both are effective. The Times does not repel all attacks on the nobility, but only such as are likely to attain their end. Socialists, Anarchists, and Utopians of all schools, religious and economic, may inveigh against the privileged classes to their heart's content, and the "Thunderer" will remain as mute as a pensioned clergy; but let a political party, or a leader who has the power to carry out his purpose, lay hands upon the sacred institution of Privilege, and the storm-swept heavens do not reverberate as does the atmosphere about Printing House Square.



David Lloyd George is the latest favorite of fortune. There have been those who have doubted the wisdom and the good faith of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. But they can doubt no longer. The Times has spoken. And it has spoken with all the solemnity and circumstance of the medieval church pronouncing the doom of a heretic. The Chancellor is charged with political blackmail, maliciousness, and lying, and—worst of all—with being afflicted with mental infirmities. Referring to his attacks on dukes, the Times says: "Mr. Lloyd George's horror of those who happen to occupy this position, for which they are not responsible, is so fanatical and unreasoning that it amounts to a fixed idea such as is described by writers on mental pathology as an obsession. . . . He suppresses other names, but goes out of his way to abuse dukes." And after giving time, occasion, and circumstance, and deploring the cultivation of a spirit that "debases public life," and "discredits not only ourselves but the whole country in the eyes of foreign observers," the Times closes with the statement that "the feelings of dukes are not what matter most. It is the question of the whole conduct of public life."



David Lloyd George is a forceful man, possessed of an idea. He believes that the wealth of the world is produced by the workers of the world. Being a practical-minded man he sees that it is not possible to give to the workers what they produce without depriving the idlers of what they enjoy. And being a successful politician he realizes that great masses of men can be moved only by an appeal to their imagination. The mere fact of unrequited toil and parasitic privilege may appear on a small farm, as well as on a great estate, but the average man is not able to sense it. He is still enough of a child to want his text written large. Hence, Lloyd George holds up the English

Duke to public ridicule. But how can this harm innocent men? The Englishman may be a little slow, but he is sure. No nation, when its better self has been awakened, has a finer sense of fair play. And if the dukes suffer from the Chancellor's attacks, it can only be because they are guilty. England is confronted with a very menacing condition. Rural life has become so intolerable to labor that it is fleeing the country. The only way to stop this is to raise the wages and conditions of the laborer; in a word, raise the standard of living in England to something nearer what it is in the newer countries. This can be done either by laying greater burdens upon manufacturers and other industries, or by placing it on the idle landlords. Lloyd George has chosen the latter course. Hence, the attack of the "Thunderer." For that unflinching organ of Toryism well knows that if the dukes, who are the rarest fruit of the Tree of Privilege, can be shaken off, the rest must follow. No one need doubt hereafter that the name of Lloyd George has become a point in history, no less than a factor in English politics. s. c.



Governor Colquitt's Opportunity.

Governor Colquitt of Texas is reported in a recent speech to have made the following statement: "We ought to have a law in Texas requiring owners of unused tracts of land of unhealthy size to alienate their surplus of holdings. We ought to have a land credit union law in Texas that will enable those who produce to own the entire fruits of their toil. We need legislation that will make home owning possible and home enjoyment the rule."



The Governor's suggestions are rather hazy, although his aim to "make home owning possible and home enjoyment the rule" is unquestionably a desirable one. He does not explain what he means by "tracts of land of an unhealthy size." But any definition he may give of that term must necessarily be an arbitrary one. If, instead of size, he would make use the measure by which he would determine the healthfulness of the holding, he would come nearer to a correct solution. A holding put by the holder to its most productive use, will be a more healthful one, no matter how large it may be, than a small plot put to other than its most productive use or not used at all. Texas is said to have no less than one hundred million acres of arable land unused. Harmful as the withholding from use of this vast area undoubtedly is, there is even greater harm in the

withholding from use of land much less in area but greater in value in the centers of population. Withholding of an acre worth \$1,000 is far more harmful than the withholding of an acre worth ten dollars, because the same effort can produce much more wealth from the \$1,000 acre than from the ten dollar one. An arbitrary limit to the area which any man may hold would either be so large as to place no difficulty in the way of withholding valuable land from use, or so small as to seriously interfere with the best use of land that has comparatively little value. Governor Colquitt must change his standard of healthfulness in land holding, if he would accomplish results worth while.



That does not mean that an arbitrary standard of use or of value should be set for individual holdings. There is a better way. To discourage withholding from use it is only necessary to make the best use of land the only means of profiting by its ownership. Land may now be profitably withheld from use because it may increase in value without any labor performed upon it. The growth of the community together with its industry and enterprise will bring about increase in land values, which owners who do nothing may appropriate as easily as owners who work. If the owner were not allowed to appropriate this unearned value, he would have no gain to hope for in withholding from use. The only hope of gain would be in use. But existing laws not only put a premium on idleness in allowing private appropriation of communally created values, but also penalize industry through taxation of labor and its products. So the logical and scientific remedy for the evil which Governor Colquitt deplors is to abolish all taxes on labor and its products and raise all public revenue by taxation of land values alone. Any attempt to remedy the evil in any other way is sure to result in failure. Governor Colquitt's duty to the people of his State is clearly to help in bringing this reform about. Accordingly, as he may follow or neglect this course, will his administration be remembered as one that has wrought good or evil to the State.

S. D.



Paying Taxes as a Duty.

When Mrs. Ella Flagg Young, Chicago's Superintendent of Schools, insisted upon paying the income tax on her legally exempted income, on the ground that all citizens should contribute something toward the support of the government under which they live, she displayed extreme sensitiveness to the obligations of citizenship. It is the

duty of every one to pay for what they get, whether it be groceries, clothing, or government service; but to assume that any self-supporting person does not contribute toward the support of the government under which they live, is to fall into the prevailing carelessness in analyzing the problem of taxation. How could Mrs. Young spend one dollar of her income without contributing a fractional part of it toward the support of the government under which it is spent. She pays, indeed, not only for all the benefits the government confers upon her, but pays in addition for the privilege of paying.



All the benefits of government appear in the value of the land subject to that government; and that value to the last cent is collected by the owners of the land. And since all taxes on industry are shifted to the consumer, it necessarily follows that the citizen who buys the goods pays for the benefits he has received from the government to the land owners, and pays for them again to the government. The income tax is not for the purpose of compelling payment of taxes by citizens who otherwise would escape; but is designed to correct, though in a clumsy way, some of the injustice of the present system, which throws the burden on the poor. Law abiding citizens enjoying taxable incomes should pay the income tax as long as it remains on the statutes; but good citizenship does not call for any one's going out of his way to pay on an income not covered by law. A higher act of citizenship would be the devotion of the amount so paid toward the overturning of the hodge-podge revenue system that makes an income tax necessary.

S. C.



An Evil and Its Remedy.

"If the house owner improves his property, making it more fit for human beings to live in, and desires to rent it for the same price, will the town fine him for his laudable desire by raising his taxes proportionately to the greater value of his building?" This question, asked by Grace Isabel Colbron in the Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat of February 9 of the local charity organization, is one dodged by the last National Housing Reform Conference. No one can ponder over it without realizing that in the untaxing of improvements and increasing of taxation on land values lies the solution of the housing problem, together with solution of many other problems. Under existing laws the answer to the question is "Yes." The injustice and folly of the situation are shown in the question itself. The remedy is also implied.

It is the remedy which the Society for Lower Rents in New York City is endeavoring to partially apply, and which The Allied Real Estate Interests bitterly opposes, meanwhile pleading ignorance of the awful conditions it is upholding.

S. D.



The Conference on Unemployment.

It is to be hoped that the National Conference on Unemployment, which meets at New York City on February 27 and 28, will not shrink from demanding removal of the fundamental cause of unemployment—monopolization and withholding from use of valuable natural resources. It is to be hoped that it will not be misled into avoiding such a course by the fallacious excuse—"we must do something now." To do "something now" does not mean that we must avoid taking immediate steps to abolish what has caused trouble in the first place. According as the conference may perform or neglect this duty will the time spent upon it be time put to good use or time worse than wasted.

S. D.



Russian Poverty and the Czar.

Czar Nicholas of Russia, according to news dispatches of February 12, is imitating some of his smug plutocratic brethren in this country. He announces great interest in the welfare of the poor. He is said to have "experienced deep grief at the weakness, poverty and economic desolation which were the inevitable results of drunkenness." No one disputes that drunkenness is an evil, but the trick has been worn threadbare of making it the scapegoat for results of more fundamental evils. Nicholas places himself with those whom his countryman, Tolstoy, described as "willing to do anything to help the poor except to get off of their backs."

S. D.



Still True to Privilege.

Former President Taft takes good care in his Saturday Evening Post article of February 14 to say nothing that would tend to destroy confidence in the saying: "The Bourbons never learn and never forget." His political experience has been such as ought to teach anyone—at least anyone not a Bourbon—but he has passed through it unscathed. The Progressive party movement is, to him, still nothing more than personal loyalty to Theodore Roosevelt and a protest against the conduct of the Republican National Convention. All dissatisfaction with economic conditions means

nothing else than a purpose to "create a socialistic democracy." The future he outlines for the Republican party is that of opponent of every change worth while, and of advocate of palliative and makeshift substitutes for justice. The party must sternly oppose all interference with predatory Privilege, it must not allow Poverty to be abolished, but it must take a paternal interest in the poor and see that they are not too harshly abused. In short, it must endeavor to perpetuate economic slavery, but also try to make of it the patriarchal institution which prevailed on some Southern plantations in ante-bellum days. Of course, he does not use these words, but they convey the true meaning of his article. The Republican party is to remain Tory.

S. D.



Weighed in the Balance.

The London school board, which found it necessary to give the children breakfast in order that they might study, has discovered that it is cheaper to feed them during vacation than to build them up after the opening of school. So it has come about that in the largest and richest city in the world, and after science and invention have multiplied the power of labor many fold, the laborer is unable to feed his own child.

S. C.



Purblind Ship-Owners.

The employer of labor who, as a wheel in the great industrial machine, finds it necessary to pay low wages or give up his business, may salve his conscience with the thought that low wages are better than no wages; but what shall be said of employers who have it in their power to pay living wages, yet persist in ways and methods that keep wages down to the lowest possible point? Such is the role now played by the American ship-owners. If conditions were such that the American ship-owners had to meet the competition of foreign ship-owners with cheaper crews, they could not be blamed for their opposition to the demand of the Seamen's Union for higher wages. But the Seamen's bill, now before Congress, provides a means for equalizing wages on American and foreign ships. Why the ship-owners' opposition to that bill?



The disappearance of the American ship from the deep-sea trade has been attributed to three principal causes: Lack of subsidies to off-set foreign subsidies; dearer ships made in American yards; and higher wages of American seamen. The

importance of the first reason may be measured by the fact that the great mass of foreign shipping receives no subsidies at all. The second handicap has been overcome by the Panama bill, which admits foreign-built ships to American register. This leaves remaining the question of wages. American ship-owners complain that they cannot man their vessels with forty-dollar men and compete with foreign ship-owners who pay but twenty. This is a valid objection that must be met by the men. The men have offered a way out of the difficulty by providing in the Seamen's bill for the repeal of the compulsory servitude clause in our marine laws. This provision, which is a relic of the brutal past that has been eliminated from all occupations on land, enables a ship-owner to hire a crew in a low-wage port and compel their return to that port. But with the repeal of the compulsory service clause foreign sailors coming to our ports will demand the American scale, or quit the ship. This will very quickly equalize the wages on all ships coming into American ports.



But the American ship-owner objects to this equalizing of wages because it means a raising of the scale. Yet why should they really object? Their competitors would be subjected to the same conditions. If the increased expense of crews cannot be met with present revenues the rates will advance automatically, and to the prejudice of no one. Here is an opportunity to advance wages to a living scale, and put a once-honored calling upon a basis that will attract to the sea men who understand handling ships. This simple act of justice on the part of Congress will not only restore the American flag to the high seas, but it will bring back that pride of the nation, the American sailor. This is an opportunity to relieve a long-oppressed class of labor, and by recalling better men to the service, increase the safety of travel at sea. Why do the ship-owners hold back? s. c.



Tyranny in The Army.

Good work is being done by Congressman James W. Bryan of Washington in exposing unjust treatment of enlisted men by tyrannical superiors. Mr. Bryan should receive the co-operation of every member. The cases of injustice which have accidentally come to light are probably not the only ones of the kind. Considering the alluring advertisements by which many inexperienced and thoughtless young men are induced to enlist, Congress is not without responsibility in the matter. Considering furthermore that enlistment means

entering a service from which voluntary retirement before expiration of the term is not permitted, the treatment of those held in this virtual slavery should not be concealed from the public. Congressman Bryan is doing his duty and should be helped and encouraged. s. d.



Bickering Over the Non-Essentials.

It gives one a renewed sense of our common humanity to read in the Indian Social Reformer, published at Bombay, of the contention between the Hindus and the Mohamedans over the slaughter of cows at Ayodhya during a religious festival. At a time when the very existence of Indian nationality is at stake, when its members are denied admission into Canada, and are deprived of civil rights in Natal, the people at home divide over questions of religious doctrine. England can withhold such rights and liberties as she pleases, so long as the Indians waste their energies in quarrelling over rituals and creeds. And as if to give an added touch of versimilitude, the bickerings over religion involve the same inconsistencies in the East as in the West. Though Buddha forbade the taking of life, and his teachings, at least in this respect, are generally adhered to, yet there are minor sects that practice animal sacrifice, thereby placing their fellow religionists at a disadvantage in their contest with the Mahomedans. The Social Reformer deprecates this needless division in the face of the enemy, and calls upon the Hindus to purge their own religion of these last remnants of an obsolete dogma, and to proclaim the doctrine of mercy to their countrymen of all races and creeds. "It will be a glorious day for India," says the editor, "when, not under the orders of a magistrate, but of their own enlightened conviction the people of this country, of all races and creeds, agree to worship the Almighty without causing pain or sorrow to the meanest thing that lives." It is due in no small degree to this indifference to political and economic rights, and the exaggeration of religious forms, that caused a Hindu, educated in this country and returned to his own land to work for its freedom, to write, "My people want to be free, but they cannot agree upon a way; and I am almost in despair of doing anything for them." s. c.



A Colorado Court's Confession.

The Supreme Court of Colorado officially denies that it is a safeguard to the constitutional rights of weak and unpopular minorities. This is not expressly stated, but it is plainly implied in its

refusal on February 18 to grant a writ of habeas corpus in the case of "Mother" Jones, illegally imprisoned at Trinidad, Colorado, at the arbitrary command of a militia officer.



The Judicial Vacancy.

Of the candidates mentioned for the Federal judicial vacancy caused by Judge Grosscup's retirement, there are two concerning whose qualifications there can be no question. One of these is Edward Osgood Brown, who has for many years been judge of the Appellate Court, first district of Illinois. Judge Brown's experience on the bench, together with his record for fairness, ability, and—above all—sound democracy, would make his selection ideal. The objection said to be urged against him, of his age, does not seem to be serious enough to warrant consideration. If, however, this should be considered an insurmountable objection, a good selection would be that of Edgar L. Masters. Mr. Master possesses all the qualifications that are required in a judge. He is fitted by legal training and ability. His democratic principles make certain that his court will not be like that of the former incumbent, a refuge for predatory monopolies. Neither will it be used to deprive members of labor organizations of constitutional rights. There will be no mistake made in the appointment of either Judge Brown or of Mr. Masters. There will be grave danger in the appointment of any of the other candidates so far proposed.

S. D.



The Chicago School Masque.

The spectacle which Chicago makes of herself before the educational world would be laughable, could we only forget the children. The antics of her school board would be very funny if Business and Commerce were not pulling the strings so visibly. The illusion is imperfect. But the facts seem too foolish to be fiction. The mayor of a great city, elected for general party purposes and special financial reasons, has practically full power of appointment of the Board of Education. That Board of Education has absolute authority over the purse and the pedagogy of the school system. It hires at considerable expense an educational expert—one of the best in the country, as it happened. The Board members then proceed to hack off that expert's money supplies and demolish her educational plans!



Are these men mad? Unfortunately, no. Never

saner. Is their persistent and angry heckling of the Superintendent a matter of personal pique? Possibly they think so. But personal quarrels, past and present, are merely being used as cat's-paws between cunning animal greed and the smouldering fire of public opinion. The truth is that the program of studies presented by the Superintendent of Schools, after consultation with her teaching staff, does not fit into the program for class-conscious industrial training that has been publicly proposed and privately determined upon for some of Chicago's school children by the parents of others.



One of the greatest educators in the world today, John Dewey, put it all into one sentence years ago: "What the best and wisest parent wants for his own child, that must the community want for all of its children." Certain of our Chicago citizens are engaged in applying the Golden Rule to education in about the same fashion that they use it in their business. How much longer will Chicago—the real Chicago—suffer their worldliness?

A. L. G.



John Sherwin Crosby.

While the remains of one great Singletaxer yet awaited the last sad rites of the living for the dead, a second call came, and John Sherwin Crosby followed Joseph Fels to his final abode. Of Mr. Crosby, who died at New York, February 24, it might be said that he saw the truth early, accepted it eagerly, and worked for it zealously. And back of this zeal was great ability. He not only worked, but he worked effectively. No more fitting praise could be given John Crosby than to quote his words at the memorial services of Thomas G. Shearman, December 30, 1900: "There can be no higher honor in human achievement than that which attaches to distinguished service in some great, unpopular movement essential to human freedom. There is no especial honor in espousing what is popular, however worthy it may be. 'Then to side with truth is noble, ere 'tis prosperous to be just.' The mental and moral characteristics necessary to the winning of such honor are those which, possessed in large degree, constitute true greatness in man."



Mr. Crosby came into the Singletax movement when it was anything but "prosperous to be just"; and he devoted through the long years a rare ability that in a more popular cause would have won him rare emoluments, great renown and high place. Emoluments he did not receive; for the friends of man are seldom paid in dollars. Great

renown was not his while living; for those who serve truth are appreciated only after they are dead. But high place he won in the hearts of his fellow crusaders.

S. C.



JOSEPH FELS.

Henry George, Tom L. Johnson, Joseph Fels—these three names are irrevocably associated with what is fast coming to be recognized as one of the great movements of the world's history.

Unlike in personality, yet alike in impulse, diverse in function but united in aim, theirs was a devotion of service of such a kind as to make it impossible to think of one without thinking of the others. Henry George, the prophet of this new crusade, was more than prophet. Tom L. Johnson, its municipal constructor, with his vision of a city set on a hill, was more than municipal constructor. Joseph Fels, its financier, was more than financier. The three had great characteristics in common which supplemented and harmonized all that was distinctive of each.

And so it is, as we view their life's work now in the perspective into which death has cast it, that these three men who as individuals were so different, stand out as instruments of human progress with so impressive an appearance of unity.

It is sixteen years since Henry George's body wearied of its work and he left it behind him. It is nearly three since Tom L. Johnson's task dropped from his hands as he rejoined his old friend and preceptor. And now Joseph Fels has gone to meet the other two. His work on this plane of life seems ended. So did theirs when they passed away. But theirs had only begun, as we all know now. May we not believe that this will prove to be as true of the work of Joseph Fels?

That follower of Henry George who doubts it, whoever he may be, must have learned little from the history of the crusade that George began. He can have learned nothing from that last great chapter of George's great work—the "Conclusion" of "Progress and Poverty."



But whether Fels's work is to go on or not, we have seen somewhat of its power, not alone in our own land but over the globe. The public ear was dull to the cause in the service of which Joseph Fels has died, when he called its friends to activity. The public ear is alert now to catch its echoes.

Nor did Joseph Fels do this work with money alone. He gave himself as well as his money. And

his wife joined him in his gifts and his work. They were rich, but riches did not appeal to them. The rights of the disinherited did. We are often told that rights are of no moment in comparison with duties. How the two principles can be separated remains to be explained, if it be explainable. But if rights be ignored and duties alone be considered, where in the history of our day is the man and the woman to be found—the rich man and the rich woman—whose sense of duty has been so keen that at its call they give all their income and themselves besides? And mark well the duty-call. It was to uproot social institutions whereby monopoly thrives at the expense of labor—institutions, moreover, upon which their own extraordinary income chiefly depended.

This man and this woman have lived modestly in order that their large income might go farther in the service of their chosen cause. For this reason they denied themselves some of the commonest luxuries, not only of the rich, but of even the moderately well to do. Into the service of that cause has been poured by them, year after year, one dollar for every dollar that anybody else would give. "Matching dollar for dollar," was Joseph Fels's method. "How much do you believe in this cause?" was his question, asked or implied. "If a dollar, here is mine to match it." "If ten, I match it with ten." And so the whole joint income of himself and his wife went out as fast as it came in.

Sometimes faster, perhaps. Outsiders know at any rate—they know from circumstances, for Joseph Fels took no one into his confidence as to the magnitude of his contributions—that he must have spent in Singletax work during the past five years not less than \$100,000 a year. There was \$25,000 or more in the United States, \$25,000 or more in Great Britain, \$10,000 or more in Australasia, and thousands on the continent of Europe, especially in France, Scandinavia, Germany and Spain.

All this was no mere matter of drawing checks against an overflowing bank account. It was a giving of one's income without stint.

It was more. Although Joseph Fels required the appointment of local commissiosers to receive contributions to match his own and to supervise expenditures and refused to dictate to these men, he never allowed his money contributions to serve as a substitute for personal activities. As speaker, as teacher, as organizer, as contribution solicitor, as adviser, he was incessantly active. If he had never possessed a dollar to give to any one or any thing, Joseph Fels would have been a serviceable and conspicuous leader in the Singletax

movement. To this all will testify who knew of the work he actually did.

It is too soon to sum up the results of that work and of the munificent financial support that went with it. There would be too much likelihood of underestimation. The time is fast approaching, however, when they may be reckoned; and when that time comes, the name of Joseph Fels will rank in general public esteem where it already ranks with those who knew him.



Personal sorrow is not to be disregarded when worthy men die. Whatever the faith in a further life, and however strong the conviction that within the range of wider horizons the best has happened, death makes a sad parting. We who knew Joseph Fels—all of us, from his least intimate friend to the wife who was as one with him—are in sorrow now. Yet we know that nature is gentle with sorrow as with pain; and that the sorrow of the present will mellow into a memory which we would not dim. Is it not so with those of our own households? Has it not proved to be so with Tom L. Johnson and with Henry George? Will it not be so with Joseph Fels?

Of whom could it be more truly averred than of this man that if it be that he has finished his course, yet that he has kept the faith and fought a good fight even to the end?

And who is there to say that he would have chosen better by living in the luxury of his income than by devoting both it and himself to the work of his later years? Better than luxurious living, better even than the luxury of charitably relieving individual distress, was that work which Joseph Fels was doing—uprooting the fundamental cause of those economic inequalities which breed poverty in the midst of luxury.

Of no one could these verses be more aptly quoted than of Joseph Fels:

In service poured he out his soul to death
And lifted up unselfishness in life.

LOUIS F. POST.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

DEPRESSION IN SASKATCHEWAN.

Ceylon, Sask., January 27.

Western Canada, more than any other country, has been built on borrowed capital. Besides, for a number of years a steady stream of money has flowed in, brought by settlers and capitalists for investment. An immense volume of business has been built up based on the continued influx of this foreign capital. Bountiful crops and fair prices have not brought comforts nor reduced debts, but have

caused further investment in land, horses, and machinery. In two decades the public domain has been devoured from Port Arthur to the Rockies. Only the less accessible portions and the distant Peace River country yet remain.

The influx of foreign capital has lately been greatly curtailed and the season just past was nominated for the liquidation of our enormous floating debt. So, in spite of a crop above the average in both quality and yield, we now have all the symptoms of a severe financial stringency, amounting in several overgrown towns to a collapse.

It is at such a time as this that one is impelled to look about him to see whither we are drifting. An intimate acquaintance with the social, intellectual, and economic mind of Western Canada would be, I fear, grievously disappointing to many Americans who have been inclined to idealize us. The fact is we can scarcely be said to have a mind in any of these spheres. No idealism of any sort is shaping our development. No integrating agency is producing apparent results. Luxuries there are for those who can afford them, but social and intellectual enjoyments there are none. Politics is left to the politicians, as religion is left to the preachers. True, some very progressive legislation has been enacted, but this has been done in a purely paternalistic way—has been done for us, not by us. Farmers and business men complain bitterly of the burdens of the tariff and the trusts and of railway extortions, but this merely supplies topics for squabbling party papers.

Nothing so well demonstrates the pervading apathy as the recent failure of direct legislation. Though the Scott government had earned the reputation of being progressive, here was a proposition that threatened encroachment on the domain of government by the politicians. It could not be safely opposed, for its few but active and idealistic defenders might come back and set the prairies on fire. So the Machavalian plan was adopted of passing a denaturalized bill, requiring to put it into effect a popular majority that should not be less than 30 per cent of the total registered vote. This put the Direct Legislation people in a hole, as was expected and intended.

The situation, though unfavorable, is, by no means hopeless. Opinion is not corrupted. Strictly speaking, it is not indifferent; it is unintegrated. Progressive thought is general, but scarcely the first step has been taken to express that thought in popular action. This, perhaps, is inevitable in view of the manner in which the country has been settled. This is a country of "stake" farmers and business men. We live in shacks and forego comforts and enjoyments in our pursuit—often vain pursuit—of easy money. If fortune favors it only makes possible a bigger plunge.

Probably the only cure for such a condition is a financial reverse, and that may be what we have coming on now. The symptoms so far are closely similar to those of the Western States in the '80s. One thing is certain: If forced liquidation is generally demanded the financial cyclone will be swift and thorough in its work.

The Singletax, as applied here, has scarcely prevented land speculation at all. It is only local reve-

nue that is raised by the land value tax. Most Saskatchewan towns either have not yet adopted it at all or are only now putting it into operation. Rural taxes heretofore have been a flat arce tax, amounting to some \$15 to \$30 per quarter section. This year the ad valorem tax will be applied to farm land.

Provincial revenues are derived from licenses and royalties and from a most vicious system of grants from the Dominion treasury. This latter will furnish a powerful pocket argument for the continuance of the protective tariff after it shall fail of defense on its own merits.

GEORGE W. ATKINSON.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

CONSERVED LANDS OPEN TO USE.

Washington, D. C., February 17.

The Public of January 9 and February 13, recites statements made in the House of Representatives by Congressman Johnson of Washington, from which it seems to draw the conclusion that large areas of land owned by the National Government are held out of use in the Rocky Mountain and Pacific States. Its only defence of the Nation is that it is no worse than private owners and that what is called opening the reserved lands would result in their monopolization by timber barons. This is no more convincing than the "you're another" of boyhood's vocabulary.

There is a better retort to Mr. Johnson in the bright lexicon of youth, which may be adapted to adult conventionalities by saying that his statement is not true. The "reserved" and "withdrawn" lands which make up his totals are not held out of use. They are classified for use. In degrees varying with each class and determined by the Federal statutes relating thereto, they may be used by anybody who is ready to use them. The National Forests, which Mr. Johnson especially loathes, are the most open of all. Their ripe timber is for sale on the stump to the highest bidder; their pasturage is for rent to the neighboring ranchmen; their metalliferous minerals are open to all takers at a nominal price. As for the sites "withdrawn" for water power conservation, every one is open to lease by the first applicant. The coal deposits are for sale in fee simple at the appraised price and their surface is open to agricultural use without price. But for timber, pasturage, water power, and coal the public must be paid some little approximation of their value, and, as to all but coal, the user can get only a leasehold, leaving in the public freehold, which includes the power of regulation by stipulations in the lease and also the power at some future day to take the land value as rental. Hence Johnson's tears! Doubtless he would weep as copiously if the taking were from private landlords by the instrumentality of the Singletax.

The laws should be amended to make possible a better leasehold than can now be had for water power. That they have not been so amended is

due chiefly to the opposition of Mr. Johnson and his kind during the past seven years.

PHILIP P. WELLS.



HOW HOLLAND MANAGES.

Forestburg, February 5.

Traveling in an unfrequented corner of the Netherlands, going through the commodious Poorhouse of Genemuïden I was assured that the institution not only made excellent provision for its inmates but was a considerable source of revenue to the town through its dairying, mat-weaving and knitting industries but especially through the farm land belonging to it which it rents out. Expressing surprise I was told that at Kampen, a neighboring hamlet through the renting of a hundred farms, wrested originally from the sea by its citizens, all the public works including an excellent public school system are maintained with no taxation whatever.

JOHN VISHER.

NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of The Public for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Tuesday, February 24, 1914.

Death of Joseph Fels.

Joseph Fels died on the morning of February 22 in Philadelphia. He had been ill but a short time with pneumonia. His death occurred at the residence of Professor Earl Barnes where he had for some years made his home. The funeral has been set for Wednesday, February 25, and will be private. On February 7 he had attended court in Philadelphia to assist in a suit brought by Samuel Milliken against the Board of Revision of Taxes to compel publicity in a matter of rebates to favored taxpayers. He then left for the seashore. On returning he became indisposed and was confined to the house. On the 17th symptoms of pneumonia developed. A physician with two consultants was in constant attendance, but his weak condition showed the attack to be dangerous from the beginning. On Saturday, the 21st, there appeared to be a change for the better, which later proved deceptive. Death came at 4:30 a. m., Sunday.



Joseph Fels was born at Halifax Court House, Virginia, on December 16, 1854. He was educated in private schools at Yanceyville, North Carolina; Richmond, Virginia, and Baltimore. His business career began in 1870 as salesman for a Baltimore soap manufacturing firm. His own first venture was in establishment of a soap manufacturing business in Baltimore with his father in 1871.

He was married in 1891 to Miss Mary Fels of Keokuk, Iowa. In 1894 he established the firm of Fels & Co., at Philadelphia, in which his brother Samuel became also interested, and engaged exclusively in the manufacture of the "Fels-Naptha" brand. A branch of this business was established by him in London in 1901, since which time he resided there the greater part of the year. There his interest in social problems led him to purchase 1,300 acres at Hollesley Bay to found a colony for the unemployed. This was later taken over by the government. At Laindon he purchased a tract of 100 acres which he turned over at a nominal rent to the local Board of Guardians to be made into a farm colony for the unemployed. He bought 600 acres at Maylands to be cultivated by small holders. He was an active supporter of the vacant lot cultivation movement on both sides of the Atlantic and gave considerable assistance to the colonies at Fairhope, Alabama, and Arden, Delaware. [See vol. xii, p. 953; vol. xv, p. 491.]



It was in 1905 that Joseph Fels became an active worker for the Singletax. His own story of this was told by Lincoln Steffens in the *American Magazine* for October, 1910, in which he is reported to have said: "I've been a Singletaxer ever since I read George's books. I've seen the cat for years. But I didn't do much till I was converted. And, strange to say, I was converted by a Socialist. Singletaxers and Socialists don't agree: too often they fight. But it was Keir Hardie who converted me to the Singletax, or, as I prefer to call it, Christianity. I came home on a ship with him once and I noticed that he never thought of himself. We were together all the time, all those long days at sea, and we talked about England, America, politics, business—everything; and I talked and I thought of myself. But Hardie didn't talk of himself and I could see that he never thought of Keir Hardie. He was for men. . . . Well, that did for me. I saw that I was nothing and that I was doing nothing compared with a man like that. He saw and I saw, but he worked. He did things, and I saw that that made him a man, a happy man and a servant of mankind. So I decided to go to work, forget myself, and get things done." [See vol. xiii, p. 1098.]



In London he became a member of and active worker in the United Committee for Taxation of Land Values. His activity in this work and the financial assistance given toward a vigorous campaign for parliamentary candidates pledged in favor of land value taxation, finally forced the Liberal government to take note of the land value taxation movement, and to give its assent to the famous Lloyd George Budget in 1909. Thus it was through him mainly that the land question became the principal issue in British politics, and

that the first act by the British parliament in modern times was passed providing for a measure of land value taxation, and for the first revaluation of the land of Great Britain since the seventeenth century. In pushing the work which caused the introduction of this budget, he was also instrumental in stripping the House of Lords of its absolute veto over legislation.



In May, 1909, after months of consultation and preparation, the formation was announced of the Joseph Fels's Fund of America. To this fund Mr. Fels agreed to contribute \$25,000 a year, provided an equal amount would be given by others. He further agreed to match every dollar that others would contribute. A commission to have charge of the work was formed, consisting of Daniel Kiefer, chairman, of Cincinnati, Jackson H. Ralston of Washington, Lincoln Steffens, then of Boston, Frederic C. Howe of Cleveland (now director of the People's Institute, New York), and George A. Briggs of Elkhart, Ind. Tom L. Johnson was made treasurer. Mr. Fels took no part in the disbursement of the fund. Since its formation the commission has been increased by the addition to its membership of A. B. du Pont of Cleveland and Charles H. Ingersoll of South Orange, N. J. On the death of Tom L. Johnson, A. B. du Pont was made treasurer. A similar fund was established at the same time in Great Britain, and smaller ones in Canada, New Zealand, New South Wales, Switzerland and Denmark. During the five years that have since passed Mr. Fels contributed much more in the United States than the \$25,000 a year agreed upon, although the amount raised from others was considerably less. His help to the movement was by no means confined to financial contributions. He was himself the most active of workers. An almost continual traveler, wherever he went he would address meetings of any kind, engage in debates and furnish articles to papers and magazines. The wide publicity given to his activity in behalf of Singletax work, together with frequent misrepresentations by the press of its nature, brought upon him a deluge of applications for aid to all kinds of palliative and charitable schemes. To all of these he had but one answer. He was not a philanthropist. He contributed only to justice, not to charity. He was working to make charity needless, not to perpetuate its need. Charity might properly look for support to those who uphold existing institutions, since these are responsible for the distress which charity seeks to relieve. But those who would establish just conditions must not weaken their ability to help in that work by taking anything from it for charity.



He is survived by his wife, who has been thor-

oughly in sympathy with his work, and an active co-operator.



English Politics.

The Parliamentary situation seems to have settled down to a dogged determination on the part of the Conservative-Unionist forces to oust the Liberals from power. Talk of compromise over Ulster continues, but the demands of the extremists have been enlarged to such a degree that there is little hope of the friends and opponents agreeing. If the government can be overthrown before the passage of the Irish Home Rule Bill, it will be necessary, even should the Liberals be successful at the polls, to wait three years before the measure can be brought to the present stage. Hence, the Unionists will gain even though they should lose the election. This lends zest to their efforts to foment trouble for the government. The naval estimates, the deportation of South African labor leaders, the Mexican killing of Benton, and every possible item of discord is magnified to the utmost. The Unionists won the bye-election of Bethnal Green by a very small plurality in a three-cornered fight. But as both the Liberal and the Labor candidates stood for home rule, the vote was really an endorsement of that issue. [See current volume, page 180.]



More and more attention is given to Lloyd George and his land program. The London Times began a savage attack on him on the 17th, and has followed it with editorials that are spoken of as libelous. He is charged with "political blackmail," "lying" and of being mentally unsound.



Mail advices indicate that Lloyd George took no backward step in his Glasgow speech on the 4th. Basing his stand on the broad proposition "that the land of all countries was created by Providence for the benefit of all those who dwell therein, and that the privileges, rights, or interests attaching for the time being, whatever their origin may be, to the ownership of land that are inconsistent with this great purpose ought, in the interests of the community, to be ruthlessly overridden," he made this significant statement: "Some desire the whole burden of the rates [local taxes] to be transferred from the structure to the site; while others, on the other hand, object to any part of the rates being put upon the site. Frankly, I consider, having regard to vested interests which have grown up, the first proposition as impracticable, and I regard the second proposition as pusillanimous." He expressed the opinion that the special deputation that the city of Glasgow was sending to British Columbia to study the system of taxation there, would be of great help in formulating practical proposals. The United Committee

for the Taxation of Land Values at a meeting on February 9, declared:

This meeting of the United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values endorses the official resolution adopted at the Chancellor of the Exchequer's meeting in Glasgow on the 4th of February and hails with satisfaction his declaration that the Government is not only pledged to the rating of land values, but also that it intends to give effect to the principle in legislation as an essential feature of its land reform proposals. While welcoming the Chancellor's announcement, the United Committee again affirms and emphasizes its support of the practical policy laid down in the Land and Taxation Reform Memorial urged upon the Government by the Land Values Group in the House of Commons, calling for a national tax on land values in substitution for the breakfast table duties, and in relief of the burden of those national services which now fall upon the local rates.



Mexico and the United States.

Maximo Castillo, the Mexican bandit who was charged with destroying the Great Cumbre tunnel on the Mexican Northwestern railroad, resulting in the loss of about sixty persons, six of whom were Americans, was captured on the 17th by American troops near Hachita, N. M. He was taken to Fort Bliss, at El Paso, on the 19th. Castillo denies that he had anything to do with wrecking the tunnel. [See current volume, page 176.]



President Huerta celebrated on the 19th the anniversary of his elevation to the presidency, by a review of the garrison and the formal decoration of the regimental colors of the Twenty-ninth, the organization that placed Madero under arrest. The president also conferred decorations on several of his officers for distinguished service.



All other Mexican news is overshadowed by the killing of William S. Benton, and the possible international complications that may arise. Benton is said to have been a resident of Mexico for 20 years, but to have remained a British citizen. He is reputed to have been wealthy, and of violent temper. On the 17th he went to General Villa to obtain permission to ship 400 cattle to the United States. A quarrel ensued in which Villa charges Benton attempted his life. He was court-martialed and shot. The American Department of State is making an investigation, and the British government has signified its intention of leaving the whole matter in the hands of the American government. The English Tories are trying to make capital of the incident to embarrass the government.



Arbitration Treaties Confirmed.

The Senate on February 21 ratified eight arbi-

tration treaties. These were with Great Britain, Japan, Italy, Spain, Norway, Sweden, Portugal and Switzerland. [See current volume, page 559.]



Alaskan Railroad Bill Passes House.

The House of Representatives on February 18 passed a bill authorizing the President to construct a \$35,000,000 railroad in Alaska from the coast to the coal fields. The vote was 230 to 87. This is not the same bill that has passed the Senate. It differs from the Senate measure in amount authorized to be spent, the Senate bill providing for a \$40,000,000 bond issue. The House bill furthermore while authorizing expenditure only appropriates one million and does not, as did the Senate bill, provide for financing the building of the road by land sales. A conference committee of the two houses is expected to smooth out differences. [See current volume, pages 97, 105, 146.]



The Labor War.

Against the objections of Congressman Switzer the sub-committee investigating the Michigan strike situation admitted as testimony on February 17 the statement of a striker, Waino Wyreno, that he had been searched and beaten by one of a crowd of members of the Citizens' Alliance, who, acting as a sheriff's posse, were on December 11, raiding the headquarters of the Western Federation of Miners at South Range. On the same day, former Congressman Victor Berger testified, denying that Socialism was responsible for the strike. On February 18 more witnesses told of having been searched and ill treated during the raid at South Range. One witness, Charles Makkinen, declared that deputies invaded his home on the night of December 2, got him out of bed and took him handcuffed to jail at Houghton. He was released the next day, but on returning home, found some articles of value missing. Another witness, Peter Martenelli, who had been arrested on December 10, on suspicion of shooting, said that deputies had beaten him severely in the presence of Sheriff Cruse, until the latter ordered them to desist. Congressman Switzer protested against admitting this testimony also, but was overruled. On February 19 more testimony by strikers was given, telling of arbitrary raids, arrests and ill treatment by sheriff's deputies, and charging the latter with looting houses while the occupants were in jail. On February 20 a number of men imported to take the place of strikers testified that they had been told before coming that the strike was over. A guard was placed over them and they were not allowed to go more than twenty feet from the camp. George Mahtsim, an Armenian, in behalf of thirty-seven others of his countrymen, had demanded to be paid, and to be

given transportation to Chicago. He declared that James McNaughton, general manager of the Calumet and Hecla, thereupon ordered another man "to fix him up." He was put on a train by deputies, but not having been paid, he jumped off and was then beaten, arrested and sent to jail for thirty days on the charge of creating a disturbance. His conviction, he said, was on the testimony of strikers. On February 23 witnesses told of the actions of militiamen in interfering with strikers' parades and brutally treating participants. [See current volume, page 176.]



The Federal Department of Labor on February 23 arrested six Roumanian laborers of the Calumet and Hecla mining company at Houghton, Michigan, on the charge of being foreign contract laborers.



The Supreme Court of Colorado on February 18 denied the petition for the writ of habeas corpus in behalf of "Mother" Jones, held without warrant, as a prisoner by Adjutant General Chase at Trinidad. The decision was rendered by a vote of five to two. [See current volume, page 177.]



The only testimony of importance reported given this week before the congressional committee investigating the Colorado strike was on February 23. B. W. Snodgrass, mine superintendent of the Delagua camp of the Victor American Coal Co., denied charges of peonage, and declared no strikers had been shot in that camp. [See current volume, page 177.]



An increase in wages was granted by the federal arbitration board on February 19 to trainmen of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy. But the increase awarded is not equal to what the men had asked or expected, and much dissatisfaction is reported. The award establishes the following minimum monthly wage: passenger conductors, \$134.20; baggagemen, \$80.85; brakemen and flagmen, \$74.80. On suburban trains the minimum is to be, conductors, \$112.80; collectors, \$85; brakemen, \$72. On freight trains conductors are to receive 4.75 cents per mile, and brakemen 3.25 per mile. One hundred miles or less, ten hours or less to constitute a day.



Chicago Schools.

The Chicago Board of Education failed by a tie vote on February 18 to approve the course of study for the schools as outlined and recommended, after consultation with principals and teachers, by the Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Ella Flagg Young. The reason urged against the plan was, that not enough attention was given to "fun-

damentals" and too much to "fads." Messrs. Sonstebly and Rothmann, prominent opponents of Mrs. Young in the recent school controversy, actively opposed acceptance of her study plan. On February 17 in the Finance Committee of the Board the same two men had delayed passage of the annual budget when it was presented by Superintendent Young, and got it referred to the Efficiency Bureau of the Civil Service Commission, an unprecedented action. [See current volume, page 58.]

Salary increases of 5 per cent to elementary teachers and of 10 per cent to high school teachers, along with the addition of one hour's time to the high school day, were approved by the Board at Mrs. Young's recommendation on February 17.



The quo warranto petition of the four former members of the Board of Education, whose resignations in blank Mayor Harrison accepted because of their vote against the re-election of Mrs. Young to the superintendency in December, was argued before Judge Foell of the Superior Court on February 19. On February 25 decision was rendered in favor of the petitioners, there being cited as precedent against the Mayor's power of removal, the decision of the State Supreme Court reinstating Mayor Dunne's appointees to a former Board of Education, who had been removed by Mayor Busse. The Court said:

The question whether or not the appointing power without the specific right to remove can indirectly, by making the resignation in advance, control the situation and in that way exercise the right of removal when it could not be done directly. It seems to the court quite clear that it was the intention of the legislature to give the trustees the right, to impose upon them the duty of exercising the functions of their office untrammelled in any way, even by the appointing power, and while it may be true, and undoubtedly is true, that in the first instance the executive under the law is charged with the duty of making satisfactory appointments, it cannot be said that after the appointments are made there is any responsibility upon the appointing power for the acts of the trustees, so that they are responsible to the people for their own acts and to them alone.

The case will be appealed by the city. [See current volume, page 10.]



Tax Reform News.

The Grain Growers' Guide of Winnipeg, the leading farm paper of Western Canada, has been taking a referendum vote of its readers on the following questions: (1) Initiative, Referendum and Recall "in such a form as to give the people complete control over all legislation." (2) Free Trade with Great Britain. (3) Complete abolition of the Canadian Customs Tariff. (4) Singletax for all school, municipal, provincial and federal revenue. (5) A special surtax of \$25 per quarter

section upon all vacant farm land. (6) A surtax of \$25 per quarter section on land held by one individual or corporation above four quarter sections. (7) Public ownership and operation of railways, telegraphs, telephones and express service. (8) Equal suffrage. (9) Dominion legislation providing incorporation of co-operative societies. (10) Nomination of Parliamentary candidates pledged to support the farmers' platform. (11) Instead of spending money for British or Canadian naval armament to use as much of it as necessary toward establishment of universal peace, disarmament and international arbitration for all disputes.



On February 4 the Grain Growers' Guide announced the result of this referendum. The number voting was 6,798, of whom 2,603 were women and 4,195 men. Most of the votes were from the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The vote on each proposition was as follows:

	Yes.		No.	
	Men.	Wom- en.	Men.	Wom- en.
1—Initiative, referendum and recall	2,990	2,492	38	20
2—Free trade with Great Britain.....	4,083	2,531	73	57
3—Abolition of all tariffs.....	3,732	2,336	336	175
4—Single tax for all government- al purposes	3,520	2,171	416	221
5—Surtax on vacant farm lands.....	3,635	2,263	440	245
6—Surtax on large land holdings.....	3,205	2,044	814	388
7—Public ownership of national monopolies	3,885	2,415	210	117
8—Equal suffrage	3,667	2,454	422	131
9—Incorporation of co-operative societies	4,037	2,456	50	48
10—Nomination of farmers' plat- form candidates	4,003	2,484	138	57
11—Disarmament and arbitration.....	3,684	2,366	348	145



The effect of local singletax in the Modesto, California, irrigation district is shown in a statement issued by the Chamber of Commerce of Modesto on February 11. The district was organized in 1887. The irrigation expense was at first raised by taxing improvements as well as land values. This brought about a situation described in the statement, as follows: "The men of thrift who were developing the land and building up the district found their share of the tax burdens of the district increasing with their industry. On the other hand the large owners who made little or no improvements and refused to sell had their taxes reduced, because of the increase in the total assessed value of property caused by the new improvement." Finally legislation was secured putting all taxes for irrigation purposes on land values in new districts and allowing old districts by a vote of resident property owners to do the same. On June 3, 1911, Modesto voted to apply the singletax. "As a result of the change," says the statement, "many of the large ranches have been cut up and sold in small tracts. The new owners are cultivating these farms intensively. The popu-

lation of both the county and the city has greatly increased." After mentioning specific instances of improvements made in the city of Modesto as well as in the county, the statement says further: "The new system of taxation, collecting all the taxes from the value of the land has brought great prosperity to our district. Farmers are now encouraged to improve their property. Industry and thrift are not punished by an increase in taxes." This statement was formally endorsed on the following day by the Board of Directors of the Modesto Irrigation District and by the Stanislaus County Building Trades Council. The statement of the Chamber of Commerce is signed by Frank A. Cressey, Jr., president; F. L. Wisecarver, secretary, and W. F. Reimenschnider, Lowell Gum, J. R. Bloom, G. B. Husted, Everett Crane, E. H. Annear, H. G. Turner, S. Latz, S. P. Elias, W. F. Fuller, E. L. Sherman, W. H. Killam, trustees. The Modesto Irrigation District statement is signed: J. B. Trask, president; C. S. Abbott, secretary; L. C. Gates, Allan Talbot, J. S. Tully, F. A. Cressey, Sr., directors. The Stanislaus Building Trades Council statement is signed: J. A. Dolson, president; T. Benison, treasurer; H. O. Brown, secretary; L. D. Wiley, financial secretary; W. B. Harvey, Carpenters' Union; M. A. Dowell, teamsters' union; P. Edwards, plasterers' union; Arthur Carlson, plumbers' union; J. B. Hill, carpenters' union; L. F. Free, carpenters' union; A. L. Visher, painters' union.

NEWS NOTES

—Mrs. Robert Louis Stevenson died at her home in Santa Barbara, California, on February 18.

—A bill for the enfranchisement of women in the Union of South Africa was defeated on first reading, February 18, by a vote of 43 to 42.

—In Maryland a bill for woman suffrage was defeated on February 18 in the lower house of the State Legislature. [See vol. xv, p. 227.]

—Disastrous floods were reported on February 20 from the citrus fruit region about Los Angeles. Much damage was said to have been done to orchards, roads, bridges and houses.

—The recommendation of a State referendum on woman suffrage was decided upon by the Massachusetts legislative committee on Constitutional amendments on February 18. [See vol. xvi, p. 1166.]

—Former Mayor Hiram C. Gill of Seattle, who was recalled in 1911, was nominated for the same office at the primaries on February 17. He was reported to have had a big lead over his nearest competitor, but not a clear majority. [See vol. xiv, p. 134; vol. xv, p. 253.]

—Guillermo Billinghurst, the deposed president of Peru, together with his son George, and his minister of the interior, Don Gonzalo Tirado, were sent into exile on the 18th. They sailed for Panama on a war vessel. The Peruvian Congress has not yet author-

ized the assumption of the presidency by Roberto E. Leguia, first vice president. [See current volume, page 181.]

—Senator Theodore's forces in Haiti were defeated by the federal troops on the 20th; and on the 21st Theodore and members of his staff fled from Cape Haitien. The city is now in the hands of the government. [See current volume, page 180.]

—The new Austrian income tax law, after a year's buffetings in Parliament, has been passed. More exemptions and increased rates are the chief changes. The minimum taxable income, which was \$240 under the old law, has been raised to \$820. And the increase in rates on larger incomes amounts in some instances to 40 per cent.

—In a letter made public on February 20 to Congressman Adamson, Secretary of War Garrison announced that the water-power policy of the administration for the navigable streams would be that of Federal control. State regulation will be recognized only when there are public utility laws imposing reasonable charges and proper safeguards to the public interest. [See vol. xvi, pp. 587, 1137; current volume, page 12.]

—A school survey of the State of Illinois has been outlined by a committee of seven, of which Mrs. Ella F. Young is chairman. Children, teachers, program of studies, school plant, finances, organization, and relations of school and community will be investigated in the order named, and an executive committee under the chairmanship of David Felmly, president of the Northern Illinois Normal School, will codify all reports.

—Sir Max Leonard Waechter, born in Germany but naturalized and knighted in England, has founded the European Unity League, in the hope of promoting the unity of Europe and reducing the intollerable military burden. Warlike expenditures of Europe, he declares, amount to \$2,500,000,000 a year, and estimates that the 5,000,000 men engaged in the armies and navies might earn a like amount in peaceful pursuits, which makes the real cost of armaments \$5,000,000,000 a year.

—Prince William of Wied, after long hesitation, finally accepted the throne of Albina, the new autonomist state erected by the great powers out of the debris of the last Balkan war. William was nominated "Prince," but his subjects saluted him as "King." Albania has a population slightly less than a million, and an area of about 20,000 square miles, or a little more than twice the area of the State of Vermont. The country borders the eastern shore of the Adriatic, and was wrested from Turkey during the recent Balkan war. [See current volume, page 86.]

—Former Senator Henry M. Teller of Colorado died at Denver on February 23, aged 84. Mr. Teller was first elected Senator as a Republican on the admission of Colorado as a State. He resigned to enter the cabinet of President Arthur as Secretary of the Interior in 1883. On expiration of his term he was re-elected to the Senate. In 1896 he led the revolt of silver Republicans against the endorsement of the gold standard by the Republican convention which first nominated McKinley. He supported the candidacy of William J. Bryan for the Presidency that

year. His Senatorial term expiring he was re-elected by a combination of silver Republicans, Democrats and Populists. He had been out of politics since 1909. [See vol. x, p. 2.]

—In an endeavor to be restored as governor of New York, William Sulzer instituted proceedings on February 23 before Justice Chester of the Supreme Court at Albany. He asked for a writ of mandamus compelling Controller Sohmer to pay him his full salary as governor. An order was issued by the court commanding Controller Sohmer to appear. Press reports say that these proceedings are to be formal. The application is to be promptly decided in the lower courts to enable the Court of Appeals to pass upon the matter as quickly as possible. [See current volume, page 107.]

—The Federal Vocational Education Commission—called for by Congress to consider the necessity for national aid to vocational education and to report a plan therefor by December 1, or as soon as practicable thereafter—was appointed by President Wilson on February 17, to consist of the following members: Senators Hoke Smith, Georgia, and C. S. Page, Vermont; Representatives D. M. Hughes, Georgia, and F. D. Fess, Ohio; C. A. Troffer, secretary of the National Society for the Promotion of Industrial Education, New York; John A. Lapp, legislative reference librarian, Indianapolis; C. H. Winslow, Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.; Miss Florence Marshall, principal of the Manhattan Trade School for Girls, New York City; Miss Agnes Nestor, Chicago, president of the Chicago Branch of the Women's Trade Union League. The creation of this commission was proposed in a bill introduced by Senator Hoke Smith, and passed by the Senate last June to prepare the way for a settlement of the differences between the Senate and the House over the Page bill, which proposed to grant, under certain conditions, Federal moneys to the States for industrial education. [See vol. xvi, p. 638.]

PRESS OPINIONS

A Modern Apostle.

Chicago Evening Post, February 24.—Joseph Fels stood in the apostolic succession of Henry George and Tom Johnson. To him the Singletax theory was a very gospel of economics, potential for the healing of many ills by which society is cursed. Believing thus, he devoted the later years of a successful business life to the preaching of this gospel. Both himself and his means were at its disposal. Out of his fortune he gave dollar for dollar for every contribution made by others to the cause. Lloyd George found in Mr. Fels a loyal and generous supporter in his land-taxation propaganda in England. For several years he was a center of persistent agitation, flooding England with literature directed against the evils of an oppressive landlordism. Returning to the United States, he toured the country, making addresses on his favorite theme and financing the Singletax movement wherever sufficient interest was shown to justify investment in its political possibilities. He lived long enough to see the seed he had scattered germinating in several States and bear-

ing fruit in Western Canada. The travail of his soul found some measure of satisfaction. The Singletax idea seems destined for increasing popularity, and much of its present impetus in such States as Oregon and Missouri must be credited to this little, forceful apostle of modern times, who in intensity of purpose and abandon of enthusiasm, as well as in dialectical skill, reminded us at times of St. Paul, his kin in race and spirit.



Flight of the English Farm Laborer.

The (London) Nation, December 27.—A century ago the governing fear of the English Parliament was the fear that country life might lose its attraction for the country gentleman. . . . Last week a report was published by the Board of Agriculture on a question not unlike that. . . . Country life is again in danger of becoming intolerable, only this time it is not the country gentlemen who are threatening to emigrate. . . . The area of land farmed in England is decreasing, but the supply of labor is decreasing faster. . . . The plain meaning of this careful and important report is that while we have made country life agreeable enough to the country gentleman—so agreeable, indeed, that he is apt to think that any change must be for the worse—we have made it intolerable to the laborer—so intolerable that he is apt to think that any change must be for the better. And this emigration is not to be explained away as the mere attraction of towns and brilliant lights and cinematograph shows and the jolly confused life of the streets, for men fly from the English countryside to the most silent and isolated wilds in the West of Canada. The Report is a most striking confirmation of the sound statesmanship of Mr. Lloyd George's fundamental doctrine that the true agrarian reform must begin with the laborer. There is no suggestion of political bias or of any other bias in the preparation of this document. The inquiries were conducted by officials, the data for the conclusions were supplied by crop reporters, market reporters, secretaries to Chambers of Commerce, Co-operative Societies. The result is to corroborate all the main features of the Land Report.



No New Freedom in the Postoffice.

Reedy's Mirror (St. Louis), February 13.—Mitchell Kennerley has been acquitted of the charge of selling indecent literature. This is good news. Kennerley published "Hagar Revelly," . . . a pretty strong novel but not strikingly indecent, only rather frank. . . . It is well to be able to record the vindication of the least commercialized of all publishers, and the defeat of the Comstockians. . . . The Comstockians have been viciously active in New York of late. They suppressed Viereck's International because of a cover design no more indecent than the designs on a half hundred calendars. . . . The postoffice authorities condemned it out of hand. The whole edition had to be denuded—no process of law was taken at all. It was simply an arbitrary confiscation and destruction of property on the strength of a postal regulation. . . . As bad as, if not worse than, this ruthless dealing with the International, was the holding up of the entire edition of

the Metropolitan magazine because of the photographs of some unflig-leaved statuary. Only the ultimate exaggeration of fantastic and frenzied finickism could have seen anything vile in the pictures to which the postal censors took exception. . . . But because some dub in the postoffice had a nasty mind, the picture was damned as indecent. . . . Yet the Metropolitan and the International have no redress whatever. Any publication may be absolutely destroyed by the decision of some nincompoop. . . . That sort of thing doesn't chime in well with the New Freedom. It is becoming so common that we are convinced there has been established in the post-office a press censorship utterly repugnant to our ideals of free speech and free press.

RELATED THINGS

CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

JOSEPH FELS.

February 22, 1914.

For The Public.

Engine and wheel and chain that clank and groan
 In ceaseless factory-din thundering apace,
 Ear-stunning clamor of the market-place,
 And yet, amid it all, he heard the moan.
 When Riches made its golden bribe his own,
 And Power trumpet-called him from the throng,
 And soft, luxurious Ease, with drowsy song,
 He was as one not hearing—save that moan.
 Half the vast world he traversed in his quests,
 As Galahad for the Grail, heedless of self,
 Unresting, squandering time and strength and pelf,
 Followed and sought and fought—and now he rests.

FRANK STEPHENS.



NEW SCHOOLS AND TRUE DEMOCRATS.

III. Relating the School to Life.

From "The School and Society," by John Dewey.

What the best and wisest parent wants for his own child, that must the community want for all of its children. Any other ideal for our schools is narrow and unlovely; acted upon, it destroys our democracy. All that society has accomplished for itself it puts, through the agency of the school, at the disposition of its future members. All its better thoughts of itself it hopes to realize through the new possibilities thus opened to its future self. . . .

Unless culture be a superficial polish, a veneering of mahogany over common wood, it surely is this—the growth of the imagination in flexibility, in scope, and in sympathy, till the life which the individual lives is informed with the life of nature and of society. When nature and society can live in the schoolroom, when the forms and tools of learning are subordinated to the substance of

experience, then will there be an opportunity for this identification, and culture shall be the democratic password. . . .

From the standpoint of the child, the great waste in the school comes from his inability to utilize the experiences he gets outside the school in any complete and free way within the school itself; while, on the other hand, he is unable to apply in daily life what he is learning at school. That is the isolation of the school—its isolation from life. When the child gets into the school room he has to put out of his mind a large part of the ideas, interests, and activities that predominate in his home and neighborhood. So the school, being unable to utilize this everyday experience, sets painfully to work on another tack, and by a variety of means, to arouse in the child an interest in school studies. . . .

Though there should be organic connection between the school and business life, it is not meant that the school is to prepare the child for any particular business, but that there should be a natural connection of the everyday life of the child with the business environment about him, and that it is the affair of the school to clarify and liberalize this connection, to bring it to consciousness, not by introducing special studies, like commercial geography and arithmetic, but by keeping alive the ordinary bonds of relation. . . .

The school may be connected with life so that the experience gained by the child in a familiar, commonplace way is carried over and made use of there, and what the child learns in the school is carried back and applied in everyday life, making the school an organic whole, instead of a composite of isolated parts. The isolation of studies as well as of parts of the school system disappears. Experience has its geographical aspect, its artistic and its literary, its scientific and its historical sides. All studies arise from aspects of the one earth and the one life lived upon it. We do not have a series of stratified earths, one of which is mathematical, another physical, another historical, and so on. We should not live very long in any one taken by itself. We live in a world where all sides are bound together. All studies grow out of relations in the one great common world. When the child lives in varied but concrete and active relationship to this common world, his studies are naturally unified. It will no longer be a problem to correlate studies. The teacher will not have to resort to all sorts of devices to weave a little arithmetic into the history lesson, and the like. Relate the school to life, and all studies are of necessity correlated.

Moreover, if the school is related as a whole to life as a whole, its various aims and ideals—culture, discipline, information, utility—cease to be variants, for one of which we must select one study and for another another. The growth of the child in the direction of social capacity and service, his

larger and more vital union with life, becomes the unifying aim; and discipline, culture and information fall into place as phases of this growth.



TWO WOMEN ON A HILL-TOP.

No. 1. The Lonesome Woman.

For The Public.

One afternoon, more than forty years ago, two young men rode their colts far up into the Santa Cruz mountains toward the ocean. The elder felt like somebody: he had taught school, all by himself, for a year. Now it was vacation and his admiring younger brother was with him on what they called at the home fare "a real wicked an' tearin' spree without any heartaches."

They rode up the last ridge through the forest; suddenly everything opened up as in a flash. There was the blue Pacific Ocean, the hills dropping to the Pajaro Valley, the rivers gleaming across, the grain fields, the orchards, gardens, the roofs of homes, the spires of churches, the smoke of a railroad train coming out of a tunnel, the smoke of a steamer far out in the offing—on its way, perhaps, to the Orient. They drew rein; their souls woke, and gathered it in to remain forever a part of themselves.

And soon they saw that here, at their right hand, on the very top of the ridge, was a little farm, a neglected garden, a shanty, a few cleared acres. An old man sat by the shanty in the sun; an old woman was gathering peas in the poor little garden, not a stone's throw distant. An unguided stream of water from the hill and the forest was cutting the soil away. Part of it ran into a box by the roadside, and the young men rode up to water their horses.

"Good-day, Madam," the cheerful school teacher said to the woman, lifting his hat. "You live on the very top of the world. How happy you must be, every minute of the time!"

She made a loud noise of dissent; she jumped up so hard that she spilled her lapful of peas and trod them under foot. She addressed him with arms akimbo and the voice of a steam siren:

"There you go!" she cried. "Third man this week to yelp for this lonesome, good-for-nothing place. Ye come out of the city, with store clothes on, and howl scenery, scenery! Wish ye had to live on it for a year!"

Her disgust overcame her. She thrust one long arm toward the descending road. "Light out, quick, or I'll say wuss things to you pretty boys!"

She turned her back upon them, and began picking up her pea-pods. The brothers rode on in silence around the turn of the road, pausing at the foot of the little hill-farm to study the scenery from a safe distance.

Said the younger, with a grin, "Glad-hand

racket didn't work that time, mister teacher-man! Say, she wouldn't have talked that way if she wasn't plumb wore out."

The elder brother was studying the farm from end to end. "Nothing the matter with that," he said; "enough for a living and contentment, but there may be a mortgage, or she may have to pay more in rent than she can afford! Yes, Billy, it's wholly my fault, not hers. I'll try to come past some time and get better acquainted, and turn that waste water out of her garden."

"And you'll tell her it's a fine view," laughed the junior.

"Not on your life," said the teacher, feeling the hot blood mount into his cheeks.

They gave sudden rein to their colts and galloped on through the hills toward the ocean. Men at their plowing looked up as these whirlwinds passed, and waved their toil-hardened hands. A red-headed youngster, on an old barebacked farm horse, coming home with the mail, shouted with rapture: "Sell me one of them plugs, you fellows!"

The young school teacher thought a good deal about the woman that night. "Life's too much for her," he said to himself. "She has too many burdens, or is in the wrong place. The glory of that wonderful hill-top can't get hold; it only maddens her. Poor thing! How I must have rasped her with my unintended impudence! Now, if I had been alone and on foot, with a roll of blankets on my back, too tired to think about the scenery, I might have helped her pick peas, and chopped some wood and had some dinner and a word with that hawk-fierce old man who sat on the hillside and grinned at what the woman said. I expect he's part of the trouble up there!"

Suddenly the young teacher sat up in bed and spoke out: "Poor lonesome cantankerous old lady!" Then he went to sleep.

CHARLES HOWARD SHINN.



THE TRUE VISION.

By Augustine Duganne.

O Heart! that hopes, believes, and loves all things!
O, Soul! which knows not that itself exists!
I would the Soul were plumed with the Heart's wings,

To bear it from the world's enshrouding mists.
Methinks that Love is the true vision of man,
By which he seeth no longer "Through a glass
Darkly, but face to face." Happily we pass
In death through loving change—whereby the ban
Shall seem a blessing, and the veil of earth
Fall from us, like the scales from blinded Paul,
When that his soul awoke in its new birth,
And he, from hating all things, loved them all;
So may our soul's eyes pierced by light above,
Rejoice in blinding Death, that leads from Hate
to Love!

BOOKS

BUSINESS PROFITS AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE.

Work and Life. By Ira W. Howerth. Published by the Sturgis & Walton Co., New York, 1913. Price, \$1.50 net.

"Work and Life" is a presentation of the social problem of today. While searching life for our present problem, the author finds that history has always manifested one in some phase. At one time it was a struggle for religious freedom; later, for political freedom. The present he sees as a struggle against capitalism. Hence, how to organize and conduct our economic institutions so that their benefits might be justly shared by all members of society, is the burden of the study he has undertaken in this book.

Having examined current political economy and quarreled with its inadequate nomenclature, he repudiates the whole science as too restricted to contain a solution and turns to sociology as the more inclusive sphere. Here, the problem resolves itself into a conflict between two warring factions: the business man's working for selfish ends—for profits, and the social viewpoint, which considers the highest welfare of society its aim. Harmonizing these two is the author's solution. It is to be accomplished by two main reforms running side by side: the moralization of the business man, and a collective effort to improve the industrial system. To the former, education, the "higher patriotism" and religion are to be contributory factors. The latter is to be brought about by the realization of a high social ideal comprising three elements: (1) social intelligence, (2) social economy and (3) voluntary co-operation. The formation of a social intelligence devolves upon the press, the pulpit and the school. The utter annihilation of our present system of competition—a regime of "free competition" he says cannot be conceived—will result in the highest social economy. Finally, legislation evolving through extended suffrage, Proportional Representation and the Initiative and Referendum will usher in a co-operation that will put an end to the conflict between our two ideals, "industrial individualism" and "collectivism."

The author excites a deep sense of admiration for his sincere, academic search for truth. If occasionally we find such a dogmatic assertion as, "The social regulation of industry, its progressive socialization, is in accord with the principles of social solution, biological and social"; if we are told much of ruling classes and not of their instrumentality; of privilege and control, but only in general; of profits—there is also much of profit

in his book. For it is surprisingly free from the many prejudices that befuddle these same channels of thought through which others reach a like solution for our problem.

And such observations as that "the cure of the evils of democracy is more democracy," and that "economically the pauper class and the 'leisure' class . . . exemplify the parasitic method of getting a living," and again that "the common talk about capitalists 'giving' employment to labor is calculated to provoke a smile from those who have really looked below the surface of economic phenomena," these remarks warrant us in hoping that the author will not rest satisfied with such truths as he has thus far found; for his reasoning as here set forth leads him to conclude that "there is no immediate and final solution for this problem." Such a sense of futility usually proves but an added spur.

BLANCHE KLANIECKA.

PAMPHLETS

Report of the Secretary of Labor.

The formation of the Department of Labor involved, consciously or otherwise, a recognition of the need of economic reform. The first report of that Department has therefore a peculiar interest. The organic act creating it declares its object to be promotion of the welfare of wage earners and advancing of opportunities for profitable employment. That would seem to involve an admission that their present welfare is not what it should be and that opportunities for employment may be increased. It is well to note that the report denies that any grant of special privileges to wage earners was intended. So in order to promote welfare and advance opportunities, we may safely assume the Department must devote effort toward removing privilege from others. If so, it will prove to be the most important and beneficial of all the Federal Departments. The report describes the activities of the Department in labor disputes, immigration matters, compiling of statistics, operating of a children's bureau and other matters of interest. The only definite recommendation made is one that is reasonable and modest. It only recommends that the sending of armed men across State lines be regulated in the interest of public peace and order. Of course, much more than that is needed to solve the labor problem, but the Department must fit its recommendations to the Congress with which it has to deal. It begins by asking that a strike should not necessarily be allowed to become an excuse for establishment of government by gunmen. It is by no means certain that the present Congress will concede so much. The report is surely not open to just criticism for lack of moderation. As the Department grows its reports must fill the place of an official record of important happenings in the industrial world and will be valuable and interesting to students and investigators of social conditions. These should not fail to se-

cure this first report as the beginning of an interesting and valuable series.

S. D.



A Search-Light on Congress.

The first bulletin of The National Voters' League, January, 1914, having Herbert S. Bigelow as chairman of the executive committee, outlines a plan for supplying persons interested in Congressional doings with detailed and reliable information regarding the principal laws proposed, their course through the legislative body, and the action of the individual Senators and Representatives. In addition to the bulletins issued by the League from time to time a book is in course of preparation that will give a comprehensive review of Congress and its work. Lynn Haines is executive secretary of the League, with offices at 829 Woodward Bldg., Washington, D. C.

S. C.



Pamphlets Received.

How the New Currency Law Affects Me. By George H. Shibley. Published by the J. S. Ogilvie Co., 57 Rose St., New York. 1914. Price, 10 cents.

Municipal Home Rule. Bulletin for Debating and Public Discussion, Extension Division, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis. Price, 5 cents.

Gluseppe, and Laughter Wins: Fairy Tales for Workmen's Children. By Henry J. Schmittkind. Published by the Stratford Publishing Co. Boston. 1914.

The Sir Roger de Coverley Papers, in the Amanuensis Style of Phonography. By Jerome B. Howard. Published by the Phonographic Institute Co., Cincinnati, O. 1913.

Report of the 15th Annual Meeting of the Anti-Imperialist League, November 29 and December 8, 1913. Published by the Anti-Imperialist League, Boston, Mass.

Gluttony and Lucre; A Great Social Evil Exposed, or the Catering Industry Under the Limelight. By Leon Pescheret, 4410 N. Seeley Ave., Chicago. 1913. Price, 50 cents.

Shall We Increase Our Army and Navy? Bulletin for Debating and Public Discussion, Extension Division of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis. General Series No. 442. Price, 10 cents.

Bouillon Cubes: Their Contents and Food Value Compared with Meat Extracts and Home-Made Preparations of Meat. By F. C. Cook, Bulletin Number 27 of the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Organic Education: Plans and Purposes of the Organic Education Society and of its Proposed School for Demonstrating the Processes of Organic Education in Philadelphia. James H. Dix, Chairman, 1122 Land Title Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

Proportional Representation, Preferential Voting, and Direct Primaries. Address by Clarence G. Hoag at the annual meeting of the National Municipal League, Toronto, November 14, 1913. Pamphlet No. 4 of the American Proportional Representation League, Haverford, Pa., and 20 Harbord St., Toronto, Canada.

Report of the Education Department of New Zealand for the Year 1912: Vol. 1, Report of the Minister of Education. Vol. 2, Primary Education. Vol. 3, Native Schools. Vol. 4, Special Schools and Infant Feeding. Vol. 5, Manual and Technical Instruction. Vol. 6, Secondary Education. Vol. 7, Higher Education. Vols. 8, 9, 10 and 12, Examinations, Teachers' Superannuation Fund, Public Libraries, and Conferences.

PERIODICALS

A British Socialist Journal

The Socialist Review (St. Bride's House, Salisbury Sq., London, E. C.) opens the year 1914 as a quarterly instead of a monthly as heretofore. Although the magazine is published by the Independent Labor Party, it is not an official organ. Internationalism is the keynote of the January number. "The Italian Elections of 1913," "The Reaction in China," "The War Industry in France" are outstanding articles buttressed by several short editorials on the world outside of Great Britain.

A. L. G.



A French Sculptor.

A beautifully illustrated article in The Survey of February 7 on the works of Constantin Menudier, the "Sculptor of Labor," will make many readers more certain than before, that here is an art exhibit which for social significance as well as dignified beauty must be enjoyed when it visits their city.

A. L. G.



THE IGNORANT MASSES.

The Social Uplifters, those eminent sifters

Of merit and poor people's needs,

Went down to the slums to regenerate bums,

And to do meritorious deeds.

We washed them, we dressed them, with libraries
blessed them,

We prayed with those ignorant mobs—

And the wretches were hateful, and vilely ungrateful,
And said what they wanted was jobs!

Our noble Committee then searched through the city

To find all the fallen and lost;

We learned how they came to be living in shame—

This, mind you, at no little cost.

We swamped them with tracts and statistical facts,

But the creatures were terribly rude;

They acknowledged 'twas nice to be free from all
vice,

But they said what they wanted was food!

They're just as God made them—it's useless to aid
them,

The brutes do not ask for reform;

Intellectual feasts are all wasted on beasts

Who want to be fed and kept warm.

Let them keep their allotted positions, besotted

And blind! When you bid them advance—

Those ignorant asses, the underworld classes

Will say all they want is a chance!

—Unidentified.



Young Tony of the Italian quarter, had been greatly interested by the teacher's story of the fox and the grapes. Arriving home from school, he repeated it in his excited, broken English to the family, following the teacher's version pretty closely until he reached the climax. Tony's conclusion was this: "De olda fox he say: 'Da grapa no good, anyhow, alla sour, guess I go geta de banan'.'"—Boston Transcript.

It was Robert's first visit to the Zoo.
 "What do you think of the animals?" inquired Uncle Ben.
 After critical inspection of the exhibit the boy replied:
 "I think the kangaroo and the elephant should change tails."—Youngstown Telegram.



"That's our general superintendent—son of the president—he began at the bottom and worked up

—started in as an oiler right after he left college!"
 "When was that?"
 "Oh, he graduated last June!"—Puck.



Two boys who managed to be rather unruly in school so exasperated their teacher that she requested them to remain after hours and write their names 1,000 times. They plunged into the task. Some fifteen minutes later one of them grew uneasy and began watching his companion in disgrace. Sud-

Possibly — quite likely in fact—a high school student could not grasp the present uncertain method of taxation. But the Single Tax?
 Come and hear high school students compete for cash prizes before the **Chicago Single Tax Club**, Friday evening, 8 o'clock, Feb. 27, Schiller Hall. *Bring your friends.*
 March 6, George V. Wells, "The Days of Henry George and Otto Cullman, Pres. After." Milton D. Bryce, Sec.

Anti-Sullivan Meetings---Chicago, Sunday
 The Wilson-Bryan League has arranged a series of anti-Sullivan meetings at each of which four candidates for Senator for Illinois will speak—W. Duff Piercy, John Z. White, Frank D. Comerford and Carl Vrooman.
First Meeting, George M. Cohan's Grand Opera House, Clark St., Chicago (Opposite County Bldg.), Sunday, March 1, 2 p. m.
 Peoria, Tuesday; Champaign, Thursday; St. Louis, Saturday, March 7.

Los Angeles, Calif. Home Rule in Taxation League, 516 American Bank Building. Visitors in Los Angeles are invited to make the League their headquarters.

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