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CONTENTS.

EDITORIAL:	
The Bankers' Approval—S. D.	25
Unscrambling Scrambled Eggs—S. C.	25
Trying to Save the Sherman Law—S. D.	26
The Moyer Affair—S. D.	26
McNamaras of Capital and Labor—S. D.	26
What Industrial Peace Requires—S. D.	27
Vain Philanthropy—S. C.	27
Is Not a Change Advisable?—S. D.	27
If Justice Prevailed—S. D.	28
Public and Private Conservation—S. D.	28
Paying for Government—S. C.	28
The National Singletax Conference—S. D.	29

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE:

Pastoriza's Work in Houston—H. F. Ring	29
South American Finance—C. N. Macintosh	32

NEWS NARRATIVE:

Dissolving Interlocking Directorates	33
Mexico and the United States	33
Illinois Senatorial Situation	33
Illinois Public Utilities Commission	34
Suffragists and Federal Amendments	34
The Labor War	35
News Notes	36
Press Opinions	38

RELATED THINGS:

The Disinherited—Vorley Wright	39
Sport and Agriculture in England—Edward Carpenter	40
Some Friends of Ours, I—Charles Howard Shinn	41
The World's Age—Charles Kingsley	42

BOOKS:

The Philosopher in Private	42
Applied Christianity	42
Pamphlets	43

EDITORIAL

The Bankers' Approval.

Puzzling to many appears the general endorsement by bankers of the new currency law, and it certainly does seem a little strange when one recalls the vigorous denunciation by these same bankers of the measure when first proposed. This change of front has given rise to a suspicion that the opposition was not sincere, but carried on in furtherance of a shrewd game that has proven successful. But that seems improbable. What is apparently a more correct explanation is the prevalence of the fallacy that prosperity may be induced to come by a pretense of confidence in its existence, or may be kept away by lack of such confidence. This fallacy prevails so largely among bankers and business men that it seems reasonable to attribute to it their sudden change of front. As soon as they realized that enactment of the bill into law could not be prevented, belief in the "confidence" theory must naturally have forced the conviction upon them that it became their duty to join in the chorus of "all's well." Such conduct is ridiculous, of course, and almost too silly to believe of otherwise intelligent men. Yet it is no more silly than the theory on which it is based.

S. D.



Unscrambling Scrambled Eggs.

It was not such a difficult feat after all. One thing only was necessary for the accomplishment of the miracle, a change in public sentiment. Nay, not a change, but an apparent change was sufficient. When the elder Morgan propounded his riddle, "How can you unscramble scrambled eggs?" we were already toppling on the very verge of a change in public sentiment; and though a laugh greeted the witty sally of the great financier, there were those who still had faith in the eternal fitness of things, a faith that has been vindicated within this short space of time. And strangely fitting it is that the younger Morgan should be the one to answer the query of the elder

Morgan by withdrawing from many of the interlocking directories of which his firm has been a member. But the best feature of all is the reason given, "an apparent change in public sentiment."



If there be any faint-hearted champions of justice whose ardor has cooled in the presence of seemingly insurmountable obstacles, let them take courage anew from this incident. As a noted slaveholder a few years before the Emancipation Proclamation made his boast that he would call the roll of his slaves within the shadow of Bunker Hill Monument, so have we seen the impatient exclamation of a great captain of industry, "the public be damned," followed in these few years by the utterance of another great captain of industry, who announces as the reason for a reversal of his policy, "an apparent change in public sentiment."



Let those who despair of seeing better conditions, who feel that man always has been, and always will be, oppressed, who believes the big fish must ever eat the little fish, and who hold that the only way to secure redress is by a resort to force, note that this change in Wall Street ethics—for George F. Baker has already announced his readiness to follow the example of J. P. Morgan & Company—is due wholly to "an apparent change in public sentiment." What may we not expect when the "apparent" becomes real? If Wall Street will give up a vicious practice when it merely thinks public sentiment disapproves, what will it not do when it knows. It is not standing armies, nor a subservient judiciary that make tyranny possible, but public sentiment. And the way to set up liberty and establish justice is to create public sentiment. Hence, educate, educate, educate.

S. C.



Trying to Save the Sherman Law.

The declaration by Samuel Gompers is correct that the Sherman act has "proved useless in establishing control or regulation over trusts and monopolies." No act can prove otherwise that leaves monopolies in undisturbed possession of their privileges. Some nervousness is, in fact, being displayed by trust directors just now, lest the public see the truth to which Gompers has referred. It is but necessary to note the sudden haste on the part of some of them to unlock interlocking directorates. The game is clearly to encourage public reliance on the Sherman law and instill confidence in its efficiency. Organs of monopoly, such as the Chicago Inter Ocean, are

hysterically calling attention to this sudden respect on the part of monopolies for the law, and urging that pretense as an argument in favor of retaining and strictly enforcing it—especially against labor organizations. The deceptive game does not even deserve the compliment of being well played.

S. D.



The Moyer Affair.

The deportation of Charles H. Moyer from Hancock, Mich., is probably the most outrageous use of physical violence in an industrial conflict since the McNamara affair at Los Angeles. The fact that this time violence was used against organized labor instead of its enemies does not alter the case. Nothing can be urged in defense of the act which would not apply as well in defense of physical violence in behalf of labor. Organized labor has now the opportunity to press the case and definitely learn whether there is one law for the McNamaras and another for those connected with this affair.



But no matter what disposition is finally made of the affair in the courts, nothing can be done there to prevent or discourage future acts of violence. Violence in labor disputes is an inevitable result of a system which gives an unfair advantage to some and puts others at an unfair disadvantage. If the existing social state is a natural one, if those who hope to change it are in fact but utopian dreamers, if there must always be extremes of enormous wealth and abject poverty, then there must always be war. Labor can gain more by impressing that fact on the public mind than by imitating the policy of its opponents at Los Angeles who pursued a vindictive course in endeavoring to punish all in the remotest degree connected with the guilty parties in that affair.

S. D.



McNamaras of Capital and Labor.

At the time of the McNamara confession Lincoln Steffens called attention to the question that should have had first consideration, as follows: "What are we Americans going to do about conditions which are breeding up healthy, good-tempered boys, like these McNamara boys, really to believe, as they most sincerely do—they and a growing group of labor—that the only recourse they have for improving the condition of the wage-worker is the use of dynamite against property and life?" Unfortunately little attention was bestowed at the time on this view of the mat-

ter. Because it was generally disregarded the labor war continued and the conditions that bred the McNamaras still exist today. But now, events in Northern Michigan and in Colorado put upon organized labor the duty of considering a very similar question. In both regions, as in others where bitterly contested strikes occur, complaints of unlawful physical violence directed against labor are becoming as frequent as complaints the other way.



Labor organizations speak of gangs of thugs and criminals imported into strike regions to institute a reign of terror. Such happenings as the deportation of Moyer indicate that there is ground for the complaint. But this situation will not and cannot be remedied by any number of prosecutions and convictions. These thugs and criminals employed against organized labor are results of the same cause that has produced the McNamaras. For the most part, if not altogether, they come from the ranks of those whom unionism can not help. Unjust social conditions have forced them to become thugs and criminals, and these same conditions have made attractive to them a chance to engage as mercenaries in the war against organized labor. Now what is organized labor going to do about it? Will it make the same mistake as was committed by the opposition at Los Angeles, which in the hour of triumph disregarded Lincoln Steffens' suggestion to "christianize Christians"? Like them, will it insist on revenge? Will it also urge the fallacy that prison sentences can prevent a crime-breeding system from breeding criminals? Or will it help to make clear that the McNamaras of Capital and the McNamaras of Labor are like products of a system that should be changed? Will it see that fundamental economic reform should be its first object? Will it realize that an ounce of single tax will do more to put professional strike-breakers out of business than a pound of criminal convictions?

S. D.



What Industrial Peace Requires.

The long drawn out state of war existing in Michigan and Colorado would never have been begun did conditions not make it possible for land monopolists to hold valuable mining opportunities unused for long periods of time. The occurrences of the past few months should be enough to satisfy not only every miner, but every citizen interested in peace and justice, of the need of making unprofitable the withholding of natural opportunities from use. Until the singletax

has been put in operation no action on the part of the Union, Citizens' Alliance, or civil or military authorities will prevent breaking out again and again of these industrial wars.

S. D.



Vain Philanthropy.

A public-spirited citizen of Chicago has sought to perpetuate the memory of a worthy son cut down at the dawn of manhood, by opening a hotel where a bed may be had for five cents a night, with other services at correspondingly low rates. This is a practical charity, and in sensible form—a clean and wholesome lodging for the "down-and-outer" at a mere trifle. Such a benefaction does credit to the heart of its donor, and should be attended by nothing except good. This would be the case under normal conditions, but as human affairs now stand this well-intended act brings undeserved hardship to other deserving persons. Men are now furnishing lodging to this class of patrons for ten to twenty cents a night. They make an honest living by rendering a needed service to their fellow men; and their charge is the lowest commercial rate. But when confronted with the competition of this artificially endowed hotel they will have to close up.



This is the tragedy of philanthropy. In attempting to bolster up one man another is dragged down. This is inevitable, so long as jobs are at a premium. As long as there are more men seeking jobs than there are jobs seeking men, the down-an-outer who is set on his feet by some well-meaning philanthropist, must displace some one who already has a job. This awful truth meets us under many guises. It finds expression in the protest of organized labor against the employment of prison labor in productive enterprises. One might naturally suppose that when a man has injured society or his fellow man the least he could do would be some useful service. Yet to do that, to make himself useful, his very act of usefulness is a further injury to honest men. For his labor, coming in competition with honest labor in an artificially restricted field, tends to lower the wages of all. What can be said in behalf of social and economic conditions in which the very stress of living is further intensified when efforts are made to relieve those who have failed in the struggle?

S. C.



Is Not a Change Advisable?

In appealing for contributions the United Charities of Chicago calls attention to the fact that

it has been conducting its work for fifty-seven years. And after these fifty-seven years of work what is the result? A widespread state of appalling poverty and destitution. Is it not time to devote to justice some of the money and efforts so clearly wasted on charity?

S. D.



If Justice Prevailed.

The Chicago Tribune of December 31 shows that the total of charitable gifts and bequests in the United States during 1913 amounted to \$169,881,442. In the November-December number of the Single Tax Review Albert Firmin shows that in 1912 Manhattan Island alone paid as tribute to land owners \$156,392,623. So that the tribute exacted by a monopolistic class in one division of one city nearly equalled the alms bestowed by charity throughout the nation. How much need would there have been for this charity had justice prevailed?

S. D.



Public and Private Conservation.

That desirable public lands are being withheld from use was urged in criticism of the government's conservation policy by Congressman Albert Johnson of Washington in a speech in the House on November 22. Assuming the statement to be correct, Mr. Johnson is straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel. All over the country, including Mr. Johnson's own city of Tacoma, land is being "conserved" by private individuals in the very way that he complains the government is doing. If these private "conservers" would be forced to let go no one would care about the far less valuable land held by the government. If it is a good thing for private parties to hold valuable land out of use, why is it not an equally good thing for the government to do so? If it is not a good thing for the government to conserve land in that way, why do not Mr. Johnson and the others who bewail that policy work for the opening of privately conserved lands as well? As a matter of fact, is it not possible that government conservation is only made necessary by the delay of Congress, including Mr. Johnson, to enact legislation that will prevent public land, after being opened, from ever becoming subject to private conservation?

S. D.



Paying for Government.

A correspondent in Dallas, Texas, in an earnest, but kindly, criticism of The Public's commendation of Houston's plan of removing taxes from industry and placing them on privilege, asks this

question: "Do you think that any one should insist on enjoying the benefits that come to him through organized government without contributing something in a direct way to the support of that government?" And adds: "We have a few singletaxers in Dallas, but they have not yet convinced me that any one who enjoys the privileges and protection that our society and activities afford should even desire to be exempt from contributing a mite in return for the good things that flow from the government to the individual."



Most assuredly The Public does not "think that any one should insist on enjoying the benefits that come to him through organized government without contributing something in a direct way to the support of that government." Government serves all the people, and every individual, rich or poor, should pay for all the service he receives. The Public not only thinks that the citizen should pay for all that the government does for him, but it believes that he does pay for it. The problem, indeed, is not how to compel these citizens to pay for the service rendered them, but to prevent their paying twice for the same service. For, when one citizen receives service without paying for it, another must pay without receiving the service; or, conversely, if one citizen pays twice, another must escape without paying at all.



The difficulty with our Dallas correspondent seems to lie in the fact that he still harbors the old notion that taxation comprises nothing more than the payment of a sum of money by the citizen for the keep of a policeman to guard his house and person. The policeman does guard the house and person of the citizen, and the citizen, according to all the canons of reason and justice, should pay for that service. That, however, is not a complete statement of the case. When the citizen pays the grocer for a pound of sugar, the transaction, so far as these two persons are concerned, is complete. Neither is obligated to the other, nor to any one else. But the tax paid by the citizen for the keep of the policeman is merely the beginning of a long chain of causes and effects; and judgment should not be passed until the final effect has been traced.



The service of the policeman—and the police service may stand for all government service—must be rendered somewhere. No matter how efficient the police of Boston may be, they are of no direct service to the people of New York. The

citizen of New York can enjoy the service of the Boston police only by going to Boston, and then only so long as he remains within its jurisdiction. But the jurisdiction of Boston embraces a definite area of the earth's surface. In other words, the police service of Boston occupies space, and the would-be beneficiary of that service must place himself within that space.



But the area of Boston is fixed. While houses and goods may be multiplied indefinitely, the ground upon which to set the houses and goods cannot be increased, and all that land is privately owned. Consequently, any one who goes to Boston to enjoy the protection of its police must first make terms with those who own the land. Houses can be had for the cost of construction. The same is true of food and clothing, and all kinds of goods. The price of houses and goods will be similar to that of other cities in that part of the country, either with good or with bad police service; for it costs no more to build a house, or to produce goods under good protection from the police than under poor protection. Should there be any difference the cost will be less under good protection. But the land upon which these things stand, and upon which the citizens must move and have their being is limited in extent; and any increased demand results inevitably in an increase in value.



The tax collector excuses his demands of the newcomer by saying, "We have a fine police service in this city, and we look to you to pay your share of the expense." "Certainly," the newcomer answers, "I came here in order to get good service, and I'm willing to pay for it." And turning to the land owner he inquires, "Isn't your price for this lot a little steep?" "Not when you take into consideration the service you get," answer the owner. "We have the finest service in the country, and a man should not expect to enjoy such benefits without paying for them." "But," protest the newcomer, "I have just paid the tax collector for that very thing. If I must pay you because of this service why do not you pay the tax for its maintenance. Must I pay twice for the same thing?" "Ah," says the landowner, recalling the words of the Dallas critic, "do you think that any one should insist on enjoying the benefits that come to him through organized government without contributing something in a direct way to the support of that government?"

S. C.

The National Singletax Conference.

Under the most auspicious circumstances since launching of the movement will be the national conference of singletaxers to be held at the Hotel Raleigh in Washington on January 15 to 17. It will be the first one to be held with legislation on statute books within the United States, putting into effect an application of the principle. This is the case in Pueblo, Colorado, and in Pittsburgh and Scranton, Pa. In addition to this is to be noticed the spread of the Houston plan of taxation to other cities of the State, and its favorable consideration by many localities especially throughout the South. Most important of all is the growth of public sentiment in its favor made evident by the steadily increasing number of editorial endorsements where silence or hostility had prevailed before.

S. D.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

PASTORIZA'S WORK IN HOUSTON.*

Houston, Texas, December 27.

The following is from a recent editorial in the *Houston Daily Post*, a somewhat conservative publication:

Assistant Attorney General Cureton, who spent Tuesday in Houston, thinks that the State ought to adopt the policy of taxing unimproved farm lands so highly that they will have to be sold to small farmers who will improve them. He advocates the broadening of the tax system, as in operation in this city, so that it may be made to apply to agricultural lands as well. This system is but the entering wedge for the Henry George system of taxation of land values, known as the single tax plan of raising revenues for the support of the government and of giving to each individual his rightful participation in Nature's free gift to humanity—not to one generation, but to all generations—of land, air and water, without which, it is claimed, there can be no equality of opportunity. There is too much land monopoly in Texas, hence with the unearned increment evidenced by the rising values of unimproved land appropriated by those who hold title to it, there is growing dissatisfaction with the State's policy of land taxation.

Twenty-five years ago this same paper, under the same editorial management as at present, published in full, with editorial headlines and introductory remarks which were hardly courteous, the address delivered by me at a Knights of Labor celebration, which Henry George afterwards named the "Case Plainly Stated." I had announced myself a Henry George man and was severely berated by the editor for such a brazen avowal of faith in his teachings. It was even mildly intimated that dangerous personages like myself ought not to be tolerated among honest citizens. The Chicago Haymarket bomb had exploded but a short time before, and as I walked to my office that morning, after having read what the *Post* thought of me, I wondered how many of the

*See *Public* of November 7, 1913, pages 1061 and 1065; and December 19, 1913, page 1202.

people I met were staring at me with ill-concealed aversion and terror.



What a change has since taken place in the public sentiment of this community! At that time Joe Pastoriza was apparently a mere money grubber. He did not see the "cat" until years afterward, but even then, deep in his heart, was the plan to devote the remainder of his life to the public good after he had acquired a competency. As a penniless orphan boy he read Ben Franklin's autobiography, and he has never since swerved from the resolution then formed to emulate in all respects the example of that benign philosopher. He is now possessed of a great and taking idea, about which he thinks and talks and writes and acts with the shrewdness and force of his great exemplar. When Mr. Pastoriza first ran for city commissioner, three years ago, he went in with a whooping plurality. The mayor, at that time though bitterly opposed to him politically, was big enough and patriotic enough and intelligent enough to make him tax commissioner and back him up in his plan to introduce the Somers system and reduce taxation on personal property and improvements, for the mayor himself had become inoculated to some extent with the singletax virus which we had been stirring into things here in Houston for many years.

This was the situation when Joe Pastoriza took hold: The constitution and laws of Texas and the ordinances of the city of Houston, then, as now, required a tax levy for State, county and municipal purposes amounting in the aggregate to about two and one-half per cent on the full valuation of every kind of property owned by every citizen of Houston, including "credits," so-called, and money in bank. That was the law then, and it is the law now. Money on deposit in the banks of Houston, amounting to over \$30,000,000 on the first day of January next preceding Joe's election was subject to this tax of 2½ per cent, which would have amounted to \$750,000. But had Joe attempted, according to the plain letter of the law, to take from these bank depositors over \$500,000, the city's part of it, what a howl would have been raised. And what rack and ruin would have ensued when the next first of January came around, by the withdrawal of the \$30,000,000 from our local banks, in order to prevent 2½ per cent of it being grabbed by tax collectors. The banks had also loans outstanding on that fatal first day of January, amounting to say, \$15,000,000. Hence they were liable on these items alone to a tax of \$350,000; and citizens of Houston lending money on mortgages to the extent of at least \$10,000,000, as shown by the county records, were also liable because of these "credits" owned by them, for taxes amounting to \$250,000. Here were money and "credits" to the extent of probably \$55,000,000 clearly subject to taxation, and yet none of Joe's predecessors had ever attempted to compel the rendition of hardly any of it; and so, in plain violation of the law and contrary to the constitution of Texas, upwards of \$55,000,000 of money and "credits" had, year after year, escaped taxation. And not only so, but grand jury after grand jury had adjourned without indicting the hundreds and thousands of citizens who had committed perjury in swearing to the correctness of tax lists signed by them, in which no mention had

been made of money in bank and money loaned. This was certainly an awful condition of affairs for Honest Joe, as he is often called, to take hold of. Here he was, elected to office by a constituency, of which nine-tenths of those who had money enough for a bank account or for a loan, were perjurers, liable under the wording of the laws to imprisonment in the penitentiary. Great is the constitution of Texas and that of every other State in the Union where provision is made for the collection of taxes on money and "credits."



Of course every intelligent person knew that an attempt by the tax commissioner of Houston to collect from depositors a tax on money left by them in bank on the first day of January of each year, would cause the withdrawal before that day of nearly every dollar on deposit and break every bank and three-fourths of the merchants and manufacturers in the city, but this fact did not change the legal effect of the wording of the law. Neither was its legal effect changed by the fact that a systematic and persistent attempt to tax "credits" held by banks and individuals would enormously increase rates of interest and throw the full burden of the tax upon the borrowers. Yet these obvious facts had caused Mr. Pastoriza's predecessors in office and the grand juries of Harris county to ignore, year after year, the plain provisions of the law and thereby spit in the face of the sacred Constitution of Texas.

Now here is where the genius and hard common sense of Mr. Pastoriza came in. If his predecessors and the business men of Houston could, for the public good, ignore with impunity the existence of \$55,000,000 of values, clearly subject to taxation, as shown by mortgage records, bank reports and accounts kept by banks, easily listed and put upon the tax rolls, why couldn't he, for the same reason, ignore the existence of large amounts of personal property and improvement values? Anyway, he went to work on this idea, and the mayor and the other commissioners readily acquiesced, for they were pretty good near singletaxers themselves; and besides, Pastoriza and James Charlton, the county treasurer, an indefatigable singletax worker re-elected now for the third time, had demonstrated that belief in the singletax was really a valuable asset for any politician to hold, especially in Harris county.



And so, to begin with the Somers system of assessing property for taxation was adopted. It revealed here, as it will probably everywhere else, that as a general rule, the real estate of the rich was being assessed at about 40 per cent of its value and that of the poor at about 80 per cent. The assessed values of land, exclusive of improvements, in the business part of the city and in the suburbs held in large tracts, was raised, often from 100 per cent to 200 per cent and sometimes more, in one instance the increase was 1500 per cent, and that of the small homestead owners, and that also of the very rich, was reduced in many cases. Yet no one seriously contended that the assessment rolls, as finally approved, were not fair, and immensely nearer exact right and justice than had ever been the case before. Land ex-

clusive of improvements, whether platted into lots and blocks or not, was put in at 70 per cent of its value, and improvements at 25 per cent. Taxpayers were encouraged to forget all about "credits," and money in bank, household furniture, watches and jewelry and nearly everything else pertaining to personal property, except in the case of merchants, whose stocks of goods went in on the 25 per cent basis. The franchises of public service corporations, never taxed before by the city, were assessed in all, \$1,800,000 at one fell swoop, and Pastoriza gave them to understand that he would make it \$3,000,000 if, by refusal to sign assessment sheets prepared according to his valuations, a predicate was laid for an injunction or any other kind of legal disturbance. They paid up with eagerness. This year these franchises are assessed at \$2,200,000, in addition, of course, to the many millions assessed upon the value of the plants and land held by the corporations owning the franchises. Joe's policy is to raise the franchise assessment values in broken doses, for fear of shocking a management here and there into an apoplectic fit at the idea of a public service corporation paying taxes on anything like the real value of its property, as required in the case of an ordinary citizen. He will probably educate them up to it, however, within the next year or two.

The necessities of the city government required the raising of several hundred thousand dollars more than had been derived from the taxes of the preceding year. Nevertheless, when tax-paying time came around, over 5,000 taxpayers, constituting a clear majority of all the taxpayers of the city were gratified to find their taxes, instead of being raised, had actually been lowered. Of course, Joe was re-elected at the election last spring by a phenomenal vote. With four commissioners to be selected, and the vote divided among thirteen candidates, he secured the nomination by a vote not far short of the aggregate vote of all the other candidates put together. And this, too, after coming out two days before the election in a communication, published in all the papers, requesting every one who did not believe in the system of taxation which he had inaugurated, to vote against him, and winding up by saying in effect that he was an out-and-out, full-fledged, uncompromising Henry George man to the extreme limit of the singletax doctrine.



Now who in Houston objects to Joe's work, resulting in what is widely known as the "Houston Plan of Taxation," and which has advertised the city far and wide? The people here are practically a unit in its favor, including even the owners of suburban lands held for speculation. These owners also are peculiarly benefited by it, and this is being clearly seen by the intelligent ones among them. The almost total elimination of fines formerly imposed for doing business in Houston and for erecting buildings for business and home purposes, has naturally enough greatly stimulated the growth of the city and immensely increased its land values. The population was 78,000 in 1910. Now we are claiming 140,000. The city's directory for that year contained 50,490 names; it contains 70,881 names for

the year 1913. Total bank deposits September 1, 1911, the year of Joe's first election, were \$33,039,450; total deposits September 1, 1913, \$40,127,723. Total postoffice receipts for year ending June 30, 1911, \$454,316; for year ending June 30, 1913, \$552,011. Everything indicates an even more rapid growth of the town in the future than in the past. Building permits, for instance, for the first six months of 1913 show an increase of 55 per cent over the corresponding period of 1911.

We will next consider the legal aspect of the matter—what would be the outcome should proceedings be brought in the courts for the purpose of destroying the "Houston Plan of Taxation"? In the first place, it is not likely that Houston contains a single citizen so narrow minded and blinded by selfishness and prejudice, as to imagine for a moment that he could be benefited by the payment of thousands of dollars to lawyers hired for the purpose of annulling the entire assessment rolls of the city, for that is what it would amount to if he were successful. His effort would be nothing less than an attempt to bankrupt the city treasury, block all pending public improvements and produce indescribable chaos and confusion in the management of city affairs during the years which would elapse before the litigation could finally be settled by the Supreme Court. To be successful, he would have to destroy the entire tax fabric of the city, and if successful, the depreciation of his own land values resulting thereby would exceed by many fold such slight reduction in his own taxes, as he could hope to accomplish. Not having the support of any considerable body of taxpayers, he could hardly stand the storm of public indignation and contempt which such action on his part would arouse. At best he would only be biting off his own nose to spite his own face.

But we have little fear of a successful resort to the courts, even if attempted. A lawyer would be greatly puzzled in trying to find out where, and in what way to begin a legal onslaught and carry it through to a successful termination. No city ordinance has ever been passed adopting or authorizing the "Houston Plan." The law makes no provision for a direct appeal from the discretion exercised by the city council in approving tax rolls and fixing finally the assessment values of property. Any legal method effectively invoked to compel the city council to raise improvement values, could be invoked with equal efficiency to compel them also to put upon the rolls those \$55,000,000 of money and "credits," and no sane person having the welfare of the people at heart wants anything of that kind done. The courts would be loth to lay down a rule of procedure under which the tax rolls of every county and city in the state could be invalidated, for nowhere in Texas is the law requiring a complete rendition and full valuation of property, even attempted to be observed. The people of Houston have had a taste of something approaching scientific taxation. They have tried it out, they like it, and in my opinion no laws are in existence which will ever deprive them of their right to its continued enjoyment.



And finally, what is the lesson to be learned by Singletaxers all over the United States, from the

great work accomplished here by Mr. Pastoriza? It is this: Waste no time or energy in organizing or training with a new party, or even running for office on a pure Singletax issue. If a Singletaxer sincerely wants an office for the good he can do if elected, let him run for it in the primaries of one of the existing parties, whose platform most nearly conforms to his views on pending issues. Other things being equal, the fact of his being an avowed singletaxer will prove no handicap. In nine cases out of ten it will be a vote-catching asset. Avowed singletaxers in considerable numbers are already members of both houses of Congress, and this will soon be the case as to more and more of them. And especially as opportunity offers, put men in control of the taxing machinery of government, whether singletaxers or not, who favor the Houston plan and who are likely to exercise some of the force and shrewdness of a Pastoriza in putting it into operation.

H. F. RING.



SOUTH AMERICAN FINANCE.

Buenos Aires, Argentina, December 14.*

Things down here continue to wear a very sombre hue. The crop losses round Bahia Blanca are reported to be complete and very extensive. The *Prensa*, one of the largest papers in the country, estimates the acreage lost at 1,250,000 from drought, while there must be a further million acres destroyed by floods in the central south of the Province of Buenos Aires.

In the rest of the wheat area things look very promising, although the persistent rains are doing damage, as rust is appearing in some places.

Financially things are in queer street. The recently published balances of the banks show that 14 banks have had, during the past six months to face a shrinkage in their deposits amounting to over \$71,000,000.

The list makes interesting reading:

	Shrinkage in deposits.	Per cent of deposits held March 31, 1913.
Banco Español.....	\$22,743,000	9.9
Banco Galicia.....	13,006,000	45.6
Province of B. A. (Banco).....	11,765,000	7.9
Frances del Rio Plata.....	4,910,000	5.5
London & River Plata.....	4,807,000	2.9
Transatlantico Aleman.....	3,969,000	6.4
Italia & Rio de la Plata.....	2,685,000	2.6
Popular Argentino.....	1,809,000	2.5
London & Brazil.....	1,368,000	7.4
Comercio.....	1,357,000	23.6
British Bank of S. A.....	1,235,000	2.2
New Italian Bank.....	1,943,000	2.5
French & Italian Bank.....	558,000	11.1
Bank of Castile & R. P.....	128,000	8.3
Bank of Spain & America.....	70,000	8.1

Two of the above institutions are at present very much in evidence on the Bolsa or Exchange. The shares of the Galicia have dropped very heavily, but during the last few days have recovered somewhat.

*See Public of August 22, 1913, page 797.

The shares of the Comercio are also being made a gambling counter, by both the bulls and the bears. However, apart from this the position of the Banco de Galicia calls for more than passing consideration. A shrinkage of deposits of 45.6 per cent in six months must affect the institution very seriously, while the terrific losses that have been disclosed in some of the bankruptcies has not enhanced the public opinion of the way this institution is handled by its directors. Whether withdrawals will continue or not remains to be seen; but if public confidence is not restored, and the drain continues, the Galicia will, inside of another eight or nine months, be reduced to trading on its own capital.

The Comercio is only a small tin pot institution; but in the face of heavy failures it has managed to pay out 23.6 per cent of its deposits, and at the same time to increase its cash reserve in relation to deposits held from 14 per cent to 30 per cent. Not at all a bad performance, but as yet it is impossible to say at what cost this improvement has been effected.

In Uruguay things continue very quiet. Those advocating singletax continue very active, especially Drs. Herrera and Vitale.

In Brazil* the declaration of the Governor of Rio Grande do Sul—the most southerly state of Brazil—in favor of singletax has created a considerable flutter in some circles. The declaration of Dr. Borges de Medeiros is very clear and concise, and his message to the Assembly of his state makes very good reading for those who have been advocating industrial freedom for years past. Since 1903 the State of Rio Grande has been gradually increasing the land values tax. In that year it produced only \$996,443, rising steadily year by year until in 1912 it produced \$2,125,099. In presenting the reforms entailed by separating the improvements from the value of the land, Dr. Borges de Medeiros says in his address to the Congress:

On this point I have now to deal with the only question that is debatable and opposed by some, in the extension of this tax [land values tax]. Should the improvements be included in the taxable value or should they be excluded? When I had the honor to present to this Honorable Assembly in 1892, the estimates for that year, I put forward considerations that today I must refer to—and in referring to them I find that I must advocate their repeal. In that message I said: "The valuation of the rural land for taxation has to be considered from four points of view: (1) The land as it was—in its natural state; (2) the permanent improvements; (3) the capital invested in stock, and (4) the labor of the proprietor."

Now I am convinced that this statement of the case from a valuation standpoint is neither equitable nor just. We must separate the selling value of the property from its improvements of whatever sort, and exclude those from the operation of the tax. . . . You will note the world over a general movement in favor of reducing all taxation that falls on Capital and Labor—it being easily demonstrable that the former should receive a better remuneration, and the latter be allowed to employ itself without being subject to taxation [a reference evidently to the business taxes or patents that exist in Brazil and this country.]

C. N. MACINTOSH.

*See Public of December 12, 1913, page 1185.

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, January 6, 1914.

Dissolving Interlocking Directorates.

J. P. Morgan & Co. announced on January 2 that members of the firm had withdrawn from the directorates of a number of corporations. The announcement stated that the withdrawal was due to "an apparent change in public sentiment" and that "in view of the change in sentiment upon that subject we shall be in better position to serve such properties and their security holders if we are not directors." [See vol. xv, pp. 1225, 1227; vol. xvi, p. 824.]

Mr. J. P. Morgan has resigned as director from the following corporations: New York Central & Hudson River Railroad; West Shore railroad; Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad; Michigan Central railroad; New York, Chicago & St. Louis railroad; Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis railroad; New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad; Central New England railroad; New York, West Chester & Boston railroad; Harlem River & Portchester railroad; Milbrook company; New England Navigation company; New England Steamship company; Rhode Island company; Rutland Railroad; Hartford & Connecticut Western railroad; New York, Ontario & Western railroad; Western Union Telegraph company. Other members of the firm have retired from directorships in: Jersey Central railroad; United States Steel corporation; American Telephone & Telegraph company; Astor Trust company; Guaranty Trust company of New York; Chemical National bank; Bankers' Trust company; Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company; Utah Copper company.

Members of the firm still retain directorships in a number of corporations. J. P. Morgan remains in the United States Steel corporation, Northern Pacific railroad, International Mercantile Marine, National City Bank and National Bank of Commerce of New York City. Other members remain in the Santa Fe railroad; Lehigh Valley railroad; Erie railroad; Southern railroad; Chicago, Indianapolis & Louisville railroad; Chicago & Great Western railroad; Alabama Southern railroad; General Electric company; International Harvester company, Adams Express company; Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroad;

Western Union Telegraph company; Liberty National Bank of New York; First Securities company; Bankers' Trust company; United States Life Insurance company; Pere Marquette railroad; Remington Typewriter company; H. W. Johns-Manville company; Fidelity & Casualty company; Cruikshank company; Associated Land company; International Agricultural corporation; First National Bank of New York, and Guaranty Trust company.

Following the announcement of J. P. Morgan & company, Mr. George F. Baker, president of the First National Bank, and also a prominent figure in finance, announced his intention to withdraw from "all the companies that will let me."

Mexico and the United States.

Interest in the diplomatic phase of the Mexican trouble was quickened by Special Envoy John Lind's visit to President Wilson at Pass Christian. Mr. Lind left Vera Cruz on the 30th on the scout cruiser Chester, and was closeted with the President on board the cruiser off Gulf Port on the 2d. Mr. Lind returned to his post on the 3d, and the President announced to representatives of the press that the visit had no significance beyond the fact that a personal interview made possible a freer exchange of views than was possible by mail and telegraph. The President expressed satisfaction with the course of events, and declared anew his faith in passive resistance. [See current volume, page 10.]

Twenty-six of the Deputies arbitrarily arrested by Dictator Huerta last October were released on the 2d. It is expected that most of those remaining will shortly be set at liberty. Huerta is still unable to negotiate an European loan. The National Railways and subsidiary lines defaulted interest January 1st on \$111,000,000. Rumors from Mexico City persist that Huerta will soon resign to take the field against the Constitutionalists.

It is announced that the British Minister, Sir Lionel Carden, has been appointed Minister to Brazil. Minister Carden has been looked upon as holding views distinctly antagonistic to the policy of the United States, having continued the course of Henry Lane Wilson, former United States Minister to Mexico. His removal is said to be in deference to the protests of the Washington Administration. This action on the part of the British government is likely to have a very depressing effect upon General Huerta's fortunes.

Military operations for the week have centered

about Ojinaga on the Rio Grande, where the Constitutionalists have battled six days to drive the Federals, who fled from Chihuahua to Ojinaga, into the river. The attacking force, under General Ortega, is given as 6,000, and the Federals as 4,000. The fighting has been fierce, though intermittent, during the six days. The dead and wounded of both sides are thought to number about 1,000. The wounded of both Federals and Constitutionalists are sent to the American side of the Rio Grande to be cared for by the Red Cross Society of the American army. General Villa, who paid a flying visit to Juarez on the 4th, is on his way to Ojinaga to take command of the Constitutional forces. He will meet en route reinforcements from Chihuahua numbering 2,200.



Illinois Senatorial Situation.

Formal announcement was made on January 1 of the candidacy of Roger Sullivan for the Illinois Democratic Senatorial nomination to succeed Senator Lawrence Y. Sherman, Republican. He is so far the most prominent representative of the reactionary element to be mentioned. The leading candidates opposed to him are John Z. White, Carl Schurz Vrooman and Harry Woods, now Secretary of State. Mr. Woods in announcing his candidacy referred to the fact that the term of a reactionary Republican was coming to an end. Regarding the choice of a Democrat to succeed him, he said:

The battle will be in the primary. To select a reactionary Democrat as the standard bearer for the State would jeopardize every candidate's chance for success. I have been requested by many who fear the result of the primary to be the candidate of the democratic Democrats for the United States Senate.

[See vol. xvi, pp. 531, 916.]



In behalf of his candidacy, Mr. Vrooman has issued the following signed statement:

Last winter as the candidate of the Wilson-Bryan progressive Democrats, I received 34 votes in the Illinois Legislature for the United States Senatorship. These representatives and senators were all believers in the brand of progressive Democracy now dominant at Washington, and voted for me because they knew that I was, and for twenty years had been, an active and uncompromising advocate of the great principles they hoped to see prevail.

After consulting with leading progressive Democrats in various parts of the state, as well as with a number of our foremost national leaders at Washington, I have decided to allow my name to be presented to the voters of Illinois at the primaries next September, for the Democratic nomination for United States Senator.

I am unalterably opposed to the baleful alliance between predatory finance and crooked politics, with its illegitimate spawn of "bosses" and financial freebooters, that fatten and batten off of the toll, the tears,

and the very souls of the defenseless men, women and children. This pestilential alliance must be broken up and utterly destroyed, if we are to remain a nation of self-respecting and self-governing freemen.

I believe in "regulated competition," as advocated by President Wilson and other exponents of the "new freedom"; I heartily approve of voluntary co-operation in business and industry wherever it is possible successfully to conduct co-operative enterprises. Wherever regulated competition and voluntary co-operation are not practical, however, I believe in the gradual adoption of public ownership and operation of what are commonly known as "natural monopolies." As first steps in the carrying out of the demand in the Democratic National platform for the abolition of all private monopoly, I am in favor of the recommendation by President Wilson and Secretary Lane, that we proceed at once to the building of a system of Government railroads in Alaska, and of Postmaster-General Burleson's suggestion that we nationalize the telephone lines of the country, to be run by the nation as a combination telephone and telegraph system.

As a result of a long and careful first-hand study of the workings of the initiative and referendum in Switzerland and in the various states, I strongly favor the passage by the nation of the "Gateway Amendment," so ably championed by Senator Owen—in order that the people of the United States may have the power, after due consideration and discussion, to amend their constitution expeditiously and intelligently. Moreover, I shall use whatever influence I may possess to secure an amendment to our state constitution, giving the people of the state a workable constitutional initiative, as well as a legislative initiative and referendum.

I am in favor of the recall, properly safeguarded and intelligently applied; home rule; the short ballot, as a much-needed corollary of our present primary law; and the full right of suffrage for women.

I believe in the right of Labor to organize, and hold the fact to be self-evident, that the Government should not impose the same restriction upon Labor Unions, organized for mutual protection and benefit, that it finds necessary to impose upon predatory combinations of Capital, organized primarily for the purpose of exploiting alike competitors, employees and the consuming public.

I pledge myself to work unremittingly for the abolition of human exploitation in *all* its forms.

Every day it becomes clearer that it is now the duty and the supreme privilege of progressive Democrats to get together and from this time on to conduct the most vigorous educational campaign ever seen in the State of Illinois. Questions of principle should be brought to the fore and questions of personal political ambition made secondary. Later in the campaign, the progressive Democrats of the entire state undoubtedly will rally around the men, who, during the critical and crucial months that are upon us, shows the requisite qualities of leadership, and in the natural course of events, will unite upon him as their candidate for the United States Senate.

In common with the other progressive Democratic Senatorial candidates, I feel that the occasion demands the heartiest co-operation on our part in the

forthcoming battle against "bossism," financialism and reaction. Let us sound the advance, all along the line, and, in a spirit of friendly emulation, see who can do most between now and next September to advance our common Cause and build up in this state a permanently victorious progressive Democratic party.



The active campaign on the progressive side was opened on January 6 at Austin, when both John Z. White and Carl S. Vrooman, leading candidates of that wing of the party spoke.



Illinois Public Utilities Commission.

The members of the new Public Utilities Commission of Illinois were announced by Governor Dunne on December 30, as follows: Richard Yates of Springfield, Republican, Governor from 1901 to 1905; Frank H. Funk of Bloomington, Progressive party candidate for Governor in 1912; James E. Quan of Chicago, Democrat; Walter A. Shaw of Chicago, Democrat, and Judge Owen P. Thompson of Jacksonville, Democrat. None of the appointees, excepting Mr. Funk, has recently been politically prominent. Ex-Governor Yates has held no office since termination of his gubernatorial term; at which time his affiliation was with the Lorimer wing of his party. Mr. Quan is a wholesale grocer, and is said to have always been in sympathy with Governor Dunne's policies. Mr. Shaw was at the time of his appointment a member of the State Rivers and Lakes Commission. Judge Thompson is known as a long-time follower of William J. Bryan. The new board will have control over all public utility corporations of the State. It began its official existence on January 1. Governor Dunne holding it unnecessary to call the State Senate in special session to confirm the appointments. [See vol. xvi, pp. 636, 653; current volume, page 4.]



Suffragists and Federal Amendments.

Dr. Anna H. Shaw, president of the National Woman's Suffrage Association, issued the following letter on December 28 to "Unfranchised American Women":

The enactment of an income tax law has caused assessors to be more insistent in their demand that an accurate statement of all personal as well as real properties shall be listed and returned within a specified time, in order that no property may escape the government tax collectors. Here women may make their passive protest and decline to aid the government in levying taxes upon them by refusing to render an account of their property. In this manner we can show our loyalty to those who struggled to make this a free republic and who laid down their lives in defense of the equal rights of all free citizens to a voice in their own government.

On the 31st the Congressional Union for Woman

Suffrage—a body organized last year to carry on an active campaign for a Federal Suffrage Amendment—gave out a statement of its attitude toward the income tax. No widespread resistance would be organized, it is reported as announcing, but "if any society or individual, however, should refuse to pay income tax or to give information as to amount of income, the Congressional Union would have every sympathy with such action," and, it continues, "Resistance to the income tax law would have excellent educational value, and would be thoroughly justified morally."



The Congressional Committee of the National Suffrage Association, of which Mrs. Medill McCormick of Chicago is chairman, opened headquarters in Washington on December 30, whence will be directed the work of pressing Congressmen through influence in their home districts to advocate a Federal Woman Suffrage Amendment. [See vol. xvi, p. 1185.]



The Labor War.

The efforts of the United States Department of Labor to settle the Michigan copper strike have apparently been without result. Mr. John B. Densmore, solicitor of the Department, who has been representing it in this case, announced on January 3 that he had been unable to bring about a truce and that negotiations were off. The officials of the union, he said, would have been willing to call off the strike and withdraw from the district if the strikers would have been re-employed without giving up their membership in the union. This the mine officials refused but demanded that the miners take a secret vote on the question of returning to work. To this the union officials would not agree. [See current volume, page 12.]



An open verdict was rendered by the coroner's jury at Calumet, Michigan, on December 31, concerning the Christmas eve panic which cost seventy-two lives. The jury rejected the charge that the Citizens' Alliance was responsible for the raising of the false alarm.



The Houghton county, Michigan, grand jury was specifically charged on January 3 by Judge O'Brien of the Circuit Court to investigate the kidnapping and shooting of Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners. On this grand jury are several mine superintendents, a chauffeur in the employ of James McNaughton, general manager of the Calumet and Hecla, and two men said to be socialists.



Since issuing an order of dissolution on Septem-

ber 29 of a previous injunction against the strikers, Judge O'Brien has been socially ostracized. This ostracism extends to members of his family. The Supreme Court of the state at the time promptly ordered the injunction restored. [See vol. xvi, pp. 996, 1212.]



Clarence Darrow of Chicago, attorney for the Western Federation, called on Governor Ferris of Michigan on January 1, to secure his endorsement of a plan of arbitrating the strike difficulties. Accompanying him were John Mitchell, former president of the United Mine Workers of America, and Charles H. Tanner, auditor of the Western Federation of Labor. The Governor announced on January 4 that he would personally investigate conditions in the copper country. "I am not going," he said, "as representative of the labor unions, of the miners, or of the mine owners, I am going as the representative of every citizen of the State—workmen, farmers, business and professional men—to learn all I can. I want to find the exact truth. I can use no coercion in my investigation, but will hear all sides and all factions impartially. After that I may be able to suggest a plan for settling the strike." The Governor arranged for a conference on January 6 with the sheriffs, prosecuting attorneys and other officials of Houghton and Keewanaw counties.



Seven members of the United Mine Workers were on January 3 driven out of Steamboat Springs, Colorado, by a mob said to be composed of members of the Routt County Taxpayers' League. This league was formed a week before with the declared object of "maintaining industrial peace." It has issued a notice that every miner in the county must work or leave. Two of the deported men wired a protest to Congressman Edward Keating and to Secretary of Agriculture Houston. They charge that the mob which deported them was led by Harry Ratcliff, superintendent of the forest reserves at Steamboat Springs.



On arrival at Trinidad, Colorado, on January 4, to deliver an address, "Mother" Jones was at once taken charge of by a detachment of militia acting under orders of Adjutant-General Chase, placed on a train and forced to go to Denver. She was informed that General Chase had ordered that she be kept out of the district while the strike lasts. She announced her determination to return and General Chase has declared that she will be promptly imprisoned and held incommunicado if she does. Governor Ammons of Colorado was interviewed and upheld the action of General Chase. [See vol. xvi, p. 1229.]

Senator Borah, made public on January 4, his report as a member of the sub-committee of the United States Senate which investigated the West Virginia coal miners' strike. It must still be passed upon by the full committee. He declares that during the reign of martial law in West Virginia a number of persons were arrested, tried, convicted, sentenced and punished by the military courts without warrant of law. There was no trial by jury. Proceedings were by court martial. In some instances arrests were made by civil authorities outside of the zone of martial law and the prisoners turned over to the military nevertheless for trial and punishment. The punishments in many cases were unknown to the statutes. The civil courts could have handled all cases of crime and the resort to courts martial was not justified. [See vol. xvi, p. 900.]



The trouble between the Frisco railroad and its telegraphers was finally settled on December 31 by a grant of concessions by the company. The telegraphers will be given an increase of from five to six and a half per cent in pay, a nine hour working day, extra pay for overtime, and double pay for Sundays. [See current vol., page 12.]

NEWS NOTES

—John Purroy Mitchel was inaugurated mayor of New York City on January 1. [See vol. xvi, p. 1113.]

—Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, well known author and physician, died at Philadelphia on January 4. He was in his eighty-third year.

—Two Japanese women, millionaire residents of Tokio, have gained the right to vote at municipal elections through their property qualifications.

—John Z. White is announced to address a meeting at Oak Park, Ill., on the evening of Saturday, January 10, at the Municipal Building on the Commission Form of Government.

—Text-books for the schools of Kansas will hereafter be printed by the State, the legislature last winter having appropriated \$250,000 for the purpose. [See vol. xvi, p. 1134.]

—Toronto, Ontario, voted on January 1 to extend the municipal franchise to married women, spinsters and widows having at a previous date been given the vote. [See vol. x, p. 1139.]

—The completion of the Triennial assessment in the District of Columbia on December 31 shows an increase of \$40,000,000 in real estate values. The total value will be approximately \$380,000,000. [See vol. xv, p. 827; vol. xvi, pp. 939, 1231.]

—The Italian Minister of Public Works has authorized the expenditure of \$4,500,000 for public improvements to meet the problem of increasing unemployment. Naval estimates have been increased to \$20,000,000, with a yearly increase up to a total of \$24,000,000 in 1917. Armorplate has been imported from the United States, and armaments from

England, but hereafter plate and armaments will be manufactured in Italy. [See current volume, page 13.]

—Katherine Bement Davis, well known through her successful constructive work as Superintendent of the Bedford, N. Y., State Reformatory for Women, was on January 1 appointed by Mayor Mitchel Commissioner of Correction for New York City. [See vol. xvi, p. 1090.]

—Senator Bristow of Kansas announced on January 8 that he would seek re-election as a regular Republican. On the same day Congressman Murdock of the same State, the House Progressive leader, announced his candidacy for the Senate subject to the Progressive party primary.

—Germany, according to recently issued vital statistics, will have 80,000,000 population in 1930, or twice the number of people at the formation of the empire in 1871. Although the births in Prussia fell off 3,042, as compared with 1911, the births in non-Prussian States increased 2,000 in the same time. [See vol. xvi, p. 1138.]

—Portugal continues a distraught country. Republican sentiment is too strong to admit of the return of the monarchy, but lacks cohesion sufficient to secure general support of popular government. This is the cause of the continued rumors that anarchy must inevitably prevail, and cause the disappearance of Portugal as an independent nation. [See vol. xvi, p. 1115.]

—A. B. Farmer of Toronto, secretary of the Tax Reform League of Toronto, and well known as an active Singletax worker, has been nominated for alderman in the fourth ward of his home city. His campaign will be made principally on the issue of reform and assessments. He has the energetic support of the Toronto Globe. [See vol. xiv, p. 511; vol. xvi, p. 33.]

—The Manhattan Single Tax Club has arranged to give a dollar dinner on Wednesday, January 21, at 200 Fifth Avenue, New York, to which as many as possible of those attending the National Conference at Washington are asked to come. The club's headquarters are at 47 W. 42nd Street, where all requests for information should be addressed. [See vol. xvi, p. 1211.]

—Singletaxers of Pueblo, Colorado, organized the Pueblo Singletax League on December 21. Edwin B. Haver was elected president and B. V. D. Reeve secretary and treasurer. A publicity campaign was decided upon to call general attention to the advantage Pueblo offers to industry on account of its singletax policy. The secretary's address is Central Block. [See vol. xvi, p. 1089.]

—A State conference of Colorado Singletaxers was held at Denver on January 2. It was decided to institute a State-wide campaign to reduce taxes on labor products. There will be local fights made also in the principal cities, similar to the successful one waged in Pueblo. The conference chose five delegates to represent the State at the National gathering in Washington. [See vol. xvi, p. 1089.]

—The free wool schedule of the Underwood tariff law went into effect on January 1. The date originally fixed was December 1, but had been extended by the Secretary of the Treasury. The prohibition of

exportation of matches containing white phosphorus went into effect on the same day. This is under the provision of the Esch "phossy jaw" law adopted March 28, 1912. [See vol. xvi, pp. 135, 946, 969.]

—Opening of the first daily aeroplane passenger and express service in the United States was reported on January 1. The service is to be between Tampa, Florida, and St. Petersburg on the other side of the bay. The distance is eighteen miles. The fare one way is five dollars, with an extra charge for baggage. The first flight was made in twenty-three minutes. A hydro-aeroplane was used.

—Germans are looking forward to continued advance in the cost of living. The privilege of importing meat from Russia free of duty expires in March, and the conservative party, under the domination of the agrarians, refuses to re-enact the law. Under this act various German municipalities imported Russian meat and sold it direct to the consumers. The Berlin municipal markets are reported to have lost \$35,000 in trying to cheapen the price of meat to the people. [See current volume, page 13.]

—Statistics of exports and imports of the United States [See vol. xvi, p. 1167] for the eleven months ending November, 1913, as given by the statistical sheet of the Department of Commerce for November, 1913, were as follows:

	Exports.	Imports.	Balance.
Merchandise..	\$2,250,929,517	\$1,608,829,114	\$642,100,403 exp.
Gold	81,226,017	58,631,475	22,594,542 exp.
Silver	58,319,092	33,057,451	25,261,641 exp.
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$2,890,474,626	\$1,700,518,040	\$689,956,586

—Delegates from the Social Service Commission of Victoria, British Columbia, have laid before the labor commission at Victoria the economic advantages of mothers' pensions, citing the example of a number of European countries, and of some of the states in this country. The claim is made that it is far better to give the mother a sufficient pension to enable her to support herself with light work at home with her children than to compel her to leave them in the care of strangers. [See vol. xvi, pp. 563, 684.]

—The monthly statement of the United States Treasury Department for November, 1913, (being the ninth month of President Wilson's administration), shows the following for that month. [See vol. xvi, p. 1167.]

Gold reserve fund.....	\$150,000,000.00
Available cash.....	119,466,111.39
	<hr/>
Total	\$269,466,111.39
On hand at close of last fiscal year, June 30, 1913.....	314,708,689.52
	<hr/>
Decrease for first five months of fiscal year ending June 30, 1914.....	\$ 45,237,578.13

—The opium monopoly of the English colony of Hongkong has been for a number of years in the hands of a man who had the sole right of selling in the colony. For this privilege the government received \$1,183,200 local currency, or \$579,768 American money. The government has appropriated \$993,631, local currency, for buying the complete plant for the manufacture and sale of opium. During the coming year the authorities expect to make \$1,600,-

000, local currency, from sales of opium in the colony. [See vol. xvi, p. 805.]

PRESS OPINIONS

Reversing the Dartmouth College Decision.

Dubuque (Ia.), Telegraph-Herald, December 8.—Ever since it rendered the decision in the Dartmouth College case, a decision that unduly exalted the rights of private property, the Supreme Court of the United States has been modifying its position until now, in a case from Kentucky, it has decided that rights conferred by charter are not absolutely irrevocable. In the original charter of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, granted in 1850, maximum freight rates were fixed. For many years the company carried at special rates to and from points within the state barley, malt, corn, rye and other raw material for distilleries. Then it raised charges on these commodities to standard rates. The latter were less than the maximum rates authorized by the charter and, when the State Railroad Commission directed the company to return to the still lower rates, the company pleaded its charter rights. Justice Hughes says in the deciding opinion in the case that, notwithstanding the contention of the irrevocability of a charter, the repealability of charters has been frequently asserted and the contention sustained by the Supreme Court. The Justice also held that "a statute permitting the State Railroad Commission to fix rates potentially repealed that part of the charter which named rates." Unless we mistake the meaning of the court, this decision means that notwithstanding charter rights a corporation may enjoy, with respect to rates these rights may be modified by legislative enactment. This conclusion being warranted, the decision marks a long step forward and puts it within the power of the generation of today to correct injustices imposed upon them by preceding legislatures, and covered in the term, "vested rights."



Have Good Cause to Rebel.

Cleveland (O.), Press, December 8.—Without land, water and air, man couldn't live. Whoever can corner one of these gifts of nature will have humanity at his mercy. The air is free. Private corners on water, once common, are fast ceasing as communities learn to own their own water supply. But land remains largely in private ownership, often with startling results. . . . In Mexico 11,000 landlords own 44 per cent of all the land. Forty-two per cent of all the property in Mexico is owned in the United States, and much in England and Germany. The working masses in Mexico own less than a fifth of the land and much less than a fifth of the other property. In other words, they are disinherited. In the country of their birth, where they and their children must live, they must pay rent for the means of living and are without voice in determining what the rent shall be. . . . In the state of Morelos, before Zapata raised the standard of revolt, there were 28 landlords and 200,000 tenants. Today there are approximately 200,000 landlords and no tenants. The

peons have simply swept the land monopolists out of the way and, by the right of superior numbers and strength, have taken over the land themselves. It is clear that what is happening in Mexico is fundamentally an instinctive refusal of the workers to be pushed off the earth.



Squinting Toward Singletax.

Saturday Evening Post, November 1.—Assessed valuation of real estate in New York increased this year by one hundred and sixty-eight million dollars, but of this increase one hundred and forty million dollars was due to added improvements—that is, to new buildings—and that addition was taxed at the same rate as the land itself. In Manhattan the value of land alone, exclusive of new buildings, increased seventeen million dollars. In Brooklyn there was an increase of twenty-six million dollars, due wholly to new buildings which numbered nearly twenty-four hundred—showing that they were mostly comparatively small, inexpensive residences in the outlying portions of the borough. A great many of them, we may safely assume, were homes built by persons of modest means. Now the twenty-six millions of value that was created in Brooklyn by the effort of men was taxed at substantially the same rate as the seventeen millions that was created for the landlords in Manhattan with no effort or abstinence whatever on their part. Certainly that's no way to tax. Here are ten vacant lots worth a thousand dollars apiece, and the tax rate, say, is two per cent. Nine men buy a lot each and build homes costing five thousand dollars apiece. That improvement makes each of the lots worth three hundred dollars more. The improvers are taxed a hundred and twenty-six dollars each and the non-improver, who has had three hundred dollars' value given to him, is taxed twenty-six dollars. City real estate taxes must be overhauled.



Anti-Imperialist League's Good Work.

Christian Science Monitor (Boston), December 10.—There is ample evidence in the proceedings of the annual meeting of the Anti-Imperialist League, held this week in Boston, that its members regard their purpose as a continuing one with its possibility of constant application to national policies. It is neither a lost cause nor one fully accomplished. . . . In any fair estimate of the changes in prevailing opinion, the stand taken by this group of men in 1898 must be seen to have come to be essentially the attitude of the American people. The demand it then made for the establishment of the independence of the Philippines, winning as it did denunciation as disloyalty, has come to be, we judge, the demand of the people of the country. The doctrine of benevolent assimilation is no longer preached and the policy of holding distant islands either as subject or dependent is not now justified on any of those humanitarian, military or financial grounds which were at first curiously mixed in the defense of the new venture. The violent difference over the independence of the Philippines has been modified to a tempered discussion of the time when it shall be accorded. . . . So long, however, as the soberer thought

of the nation, better in accord with its declared standards of human liberty and equality, remains but partly fulfilled, the sentiment for freedom of the Filipinos will need its organized expression and its insistent proponents. . . . The great nation's promise is clear on all points except as to time; but the promise has evident need of its organized friends to make its application definite and to bring it from a generality to fulfilment. . . . There is need of every means of refreshing the thought of the primary truths of the Republic's being, and to the extent that the Anti-Imperialist League performs that office its continuance is the common gain.



Municipal Ownership Pays in San Francisco.

The Star (San Francisco), December 13.—At 11:59 last Wednesday night, 84 men were working 10 hours a day at an average of about 27 cents an hour for the Presidio & Ferries Railway Company—a private corporation. One minute later, those 84 men and twelve others began working eight hours a day at 37½ cents an hour for The People of San Francisco, because at midnight the city took over the street railway line and began to operate it. Those figures and facts are worthy of consideration. In addition to that, last Wednesday afternoon the city drew its check for \$50,000 from the profits of the Municipal Railway, and gave it to the Presidio & Ferries Railway Company as the first payment for the new addition to the Municipal Railway. The line will be paid for out of the \$3,500,000 bond issue for Municipal Railway extensions, but the bonds are not yet on the market—and the city had \$50,000 of profits from the Geary street line to use for that purpose. The newly acquired line has been making a profit of \$14,000 a month.



Tragedy of a Race.

Gorman H. White, in a letter in New York Herald, December 21.—To begin my letter I will not say what sort of a man I am, for if I did it might not be read, and if read the matter would be biased from the outset. This is the Christmas week, and those who want to give something that won't cost them a penny and will make the week happier for many good and honest men may read this letter. If you had been barred from good theaters for a year, stared out of countenance when you took a seat in any car, laughed at when you got dressed up a little bit, and given pennies as change for every purchase you made during the year, together with as many petty and unkind things as your mind can possibly conjure up, you would appreciate what it would mean for a week of decent treatment to suddenly come along. I am a negro man, and I speak of decent negro people.



Teacher.—"Now children, can you tell me what are the national flowers of England?"

Class.—"Roses."

Teacher.—"And France?"

Class.—"Lilies."

Teacher.—"And Spain?"

(Silence for a minute—then small voice at back of the schoolroom.)

"Bullrushes, ma'am."—Life.

RELATED THINGS

CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

THE DISINHERITED.

Vorley Wright in (London) Everyman.

I.

I saw a million rabbits
Where a thousand men might be,
Yet a bent and ancient husbandman
Was the only man to see.

And amazement leaped to a question:
"What manner of land is this?—
Voiceless and vermin-ridden,
Empty and man-forbidden,
Where the field hath forgotten the harvest,
And the furrow forgotten the plow."

(The face he turned was a Viking face,
His hair was white as the white sea-mew,
And his eye was a Viking blue.)

"I remember the time, m' marster,
When the countryside was filled
With flock and herd and folk, sir,
And a mort o' the soil was tilled;
But the lords o' the land dwelt otherwhere,
And the rents were racked and short,
So the land was leased to a millionaire
Who coveted it for sport."

"And where are the folk, O ancient friend,—
The heritors of toll,
Who clogged with their impoverishment
The profits of the soil?"

"What comes o' the birds, m' marster,
When the breath o' the winter blows!
Some o' them live and some o' them die,
And nobody counts or knows:
A many a man's turned vagabond,
And many a woman worse;
Many a young 'un's over the sea,
To be shut o' the landless curse;
And the old, they wait in the poorhouse
Their turn in the parish hearse."

II.

I saw a hundred gentlemen
Where a million men might be,
Yet gentlemen and serving men
Were the only men to see—
Save one of a tattered raiment,
Who quickened his steps from me.

But I flung out a word and checked him:
"What blight-bitten land is this?—
Wasted and weed-perverted,
Barren and man-deserted,
Where the forest reconquers the farmstead,
And the meadow succumbs to the moor."

(The stamp of his race was on his face,
As he stood there, stark and stern:

He spoke—and I heard;
But my fancy ran, far past the man,
To the clans at Bannockburn.)

"Time was—and I mind it well, sir—
When yon braes were dotted thick
With herds of kye and sheep, sir,
And many a cotter's rick;
But the laird o' the land dwelt elsewhere,
And the rents were racked and short,
So the land was sold to a millionaire
Who coveted it for sport."

"If the braes be all for the huntsman's call,
And the fallows won for the hound and gun,
Why tarry here, O landless one?"

"I was born in a crofter's cot, sir,
Not far frae where we stand,
And every year I gae m' way
Back to the bit o' land;
And I sit b' the road and remember,
Where I played as a bairn alone;
Then I look for the housie, and find there
Just a crumblin' cairn o' stone.

"They call me a tramp, and I am, sir,
And a thief when I needs maun be,
Since to beg at best and steal at worst
Is the trade that is left to me;
For the honest work I ken, sir—
The toil of the croft and the mere—
Was taen when they ousted the crofters
To re-forest the land for deer."

III.

I saw a million lackeys,
In the pomp of a liveried land,
Smug with the scorn of the funkey
For the grime of a callous hand.

And my thought made bold to a question:
"What manner of brood is here?—
Servile and supple and slavish,
Stealthy and subtle and knavish;
Helotry feathered of peacocks,
To grace us at board and at bier."

(The eyes that I turned to clouded
With a bitterness that crowded
Into the answer I heard.)

"These are men of our manufacture,
Branded as national ware;
Whatever they be, we made them,
Whatever their shame we share:
Yet their sires were English yeomen,
Who measured with mates or foemen,
For these are the issue of men who stood
Shoulder to shoulder with Robin Hood."

IV.

I saw a million starvelings,
In the streets of a hundred towns,
And a million sotted fingers
That clutched at the draught that drowns.

And my doubt made bold to a question:
"What manner of men be these?—
Stunted and meagre and craven,

Brutal and rum-enslaven,
Abasing themselves to the stranger,
And whining their mendicant pleas."

(The eyes that were on me glittered
With the flash of a thought embittered,
And the voice spoke as before.)

"These are men of our manufacture,
Branded as national ware;
Whatever they be, we made them,
Whatever their shame we share:
Yet their sires were English bowmen,
And 'tis an evil omen
That such are the heirs of the men who bore
The brunt of the burden at Agincourt."



SPORT AND AGRICULTURE IN ENGLAND.

From an Article By Edward Carpenter in The Humanitarian for November.

The damage done by fox-hunting to fences and crops is obvious enough to everyone. But there are other complications. In a hunting district the tenants far and wide are invited to find homes for the puppies which are being reared for the replenishment of the pack. It is an ungrateful task. The puppy is a pest on the farm; it is in everybody's way, and it has its muzzle eternally in the milk-buckets. Its board and lodging are not paid for; but (oh, gracious compensation!) the farmers who "walk puppies" are given a dinner at the end of the puppy-rearing season, and get their chance of a prize for the best exhibited. Partly in consideration of these favors, but more because they do not want to offend the gentry in general or their own landlords in particular, the tenants put up with these obnoxious additions to their households. Furthermore, as foxes must on no account be killed by private hands, even though they are constantly raiding the farmyards, the owners of the hunt offer compensation for fowls killed or wounded, as they also of course do for fences and crops damaged.

But what a situation for any self-respecting farmer! To see a tribe of "gentlemen and ladies" tearing over his land and making havoc of his new-sown wheat, to find half a dozen fowls some morning with their heads bitten off, to have his wife at her work tumbling over an intruding puppy—and then to have to go, cap in hand, to ask for compensation for all these things! What an unworthy position for him to be in, and how galling to think that his lifework and the very dignity of his profession are so lightly regarded, or that the loss of them can be counted as easily atoned for by a few shillings.

As to the grouse moors, the damage done to agriculture and to the popular interest in connection with them—though it might not appear obvious at first—is very considerable. A hundred

years ago the moors in my neighborhood—as in many other parts of the country—were common lands. The people had rights of pasture over them for their cattle and sheep, they kept down the rabbits, using the latter largely for food, and they were able to grow farm crops up to the very edge of the heather. Today these same lands (enclosed on the plea of public benefit!) are given over to grouse.

The rabbits have become to a great extent the gamekeepers' perquisites, and very valuable "perks" too. They are allowed to swarm; and consequently they not only destroy what pasturage there is on the moors, but penetrating into the farms along the moor-edges they damage very seriously the cereal and other crops.

On some farms—especially, I believe, in Devonshire—where grouse are not concerned, but where rabbit shooting is a favorite recreation of the landlord class—the spinneys and copses are allowed to become so infested with bunnies that general farming is greatly paralyzed in consequence.

It all comes to this: Are we going to continue forever playing at the land question—that question whose vitality and importance we daily more and more perceive—or are we going to be serious about it? We cannot take both ways. On the one hand, we have the Scottish Highlands depopulated for the sake of deer; we have English farms more or less ravaged, and farmers terrorized, for the sake of fox-hunting; we have grouse-moors and pheasant-covers, with their concomitant evils, let to rich Americans and titled grocers; and on the other hand we *may* have a real live agriculture and a brisk independent rural population. We cannot have both. If we retain the present system—conducing no doubt to a healthy schoolboy type of squire—it means a downcast, stupefied, unenterprising peasantry. If we turn seriously to the re-establishment of agriculture, and of a real live, manly population on the land, that will undoubtedly mean the abandonment of a good deal that goes by the name of sport.

The time grows short, for indeed anxious problems lie in the near future before this country, and a choice has to be made—a choice that may have a good deal to do with the position of England in the world. The country sides have got to stop playing at rural life, and to take it up seriously. Nor, after all, would the abandonment of sport as the chief object of the country gentleman's existence, mean the abandonment or discouragement of all wild life. Rather the contrary. We all in these over-civilized times, appreciate the value and importance of wild Nature; and however effective and widespread we may make our agriculture, we shall surely also demand the establishment of extensive natural reserves for all kinds of free plants and creatures.

We have seen that "sport" is not really favorable to wild Nature life, but only to some very artificial and limited forms. With the abandonment of sport in its present shape, it is possible that the land owners of the future—whether private individuals or public bodies—will turn their attention to the making of splendid Nature resorts in wood and mountain and moor, where every kind of creature may have free access and free play, unharmed by man, and open to his friendly companionship and sympathetic study.



SOME FRIENDS OF OURS.

No. 1. A Summer's Experience.

For The Public.

This tale is the true account of what once happened to some people whom, knowing a little, we somehow like. As for names (which are nothing-worth) they need not be written down. All which requires the saying is, that the two of whom this is chiefly told had won onward towards life's realities through many veils of illusion (like the King's son in the Upanishads).

These two, man and wife, lived in the edge of a forest, among the granite rocks, by ice-cold springs. But they had begun to feel old in moments, and it frightened them; their little savings were but copper cents and well-worn quarters. Heavier grew the dull sense of a long, rocky downgrade, miles and miles from the pine-clad ridges, the trimphant peaks they had once climbed so joyously—a descent into deserts of cactus and lava. Their tired moments began to grow into tired hours.

A strange Indian woman came to the house where they lived; she brought her fever-sick baby, a little girl less than a year old. She had carried it all night along starless trails, hoping to find help. She had borne it all day through scattered settlements, looking people in the face to see what they were like inside. Her last crust was in the feverish mouth of the baby, and still she had gone on and on, asking no question, offering no explanation, until she sat on the doorstep of the little house where these two aging people dwelt. She was very tired, and she thought her baby would soon die, but she spoke no word, though she knew English.

The woman and the man came side by side to the doorstep, took the baby, lifted up the Indian mother, half carrying her to a bed. Neither did they make "foolish talk-talk," as the Indians would have called any questions at this time. Only the American woman called the Indian mother by the sacred name of "sister," and was very gentle with the baby.

Soon they sent for a "white-man doctor"; they sat up night after night, took turns with the baby,

BOOKS

THE PHILOSOPHER IN PRIVATE.

Journals of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Edited by Edward Waldo Emerson and Waldo Emerson Forbes. Published by Houghton, Mifflin Co., Boston. 1913. Price, \$1.75 net.

This is the ninth volume of the Emerson journals, dating from 1856 to 1863 and covering an interesting period in private and public life. Here, as in previous volumes, we find the seed from which sprang the larger growth of world-famous essays. In a way the spontaneous, unpolished thought on vital subjects is often even more attractive and binding than the extended thesis that gathers the scattered fragments under some happy title that we have treasured for the wealth of wisdom that it covers. Equally appealing to the lovers of Emerson are the glimpses given through private journals of domestic joys and delightful friendships that make us more intimately acquainted with the man who is greater than the philosopher.

Character sketches of his Concord neighbors—almost unconsciously given—are as interesting as his judgments of the public men of the particular times of which he writes.

If a man is to have his thought-world turned wrong side out after he loses his grip on earthly possessions, happy is he if he leaves a record as unblemished and beautiful as this.

A. L. M.

red for the mother. In two or three weeks the baby "turned the corner," gained strength, and before long the Indian mother went away with her own. Before leaving, however, she said to the woman: "You 'fraid?"

"No, indeed; there is nothing to be afraid of in this world or anywhere else."

"You 'fraid me?"

"Not a bit," and she patted the Indian mother's well-worn hands.

"Me come cross valley. Woman live there—my house. See sick baby; come take. She man in tell her trow baby down, say mebbe die, mebbe make other folks die, mebbe make Indian doctor go devil-chase. Then she 'fraid; she run in house. Me come on long time after that."

The woman smiled upon her. "That was too good, but we are very glad that you came here." She knew all about the midnight devil-chasing Indian performances. They are weird and noisy, but they do not hurt anyone, though some weak-minded, superstitious Americans are afraid of them.

After this little glimpse of her adventures, the Indian mother, as has been told, went back into the speechless distance, with gifts and kindly words, and a "standing invitation" to come again, with the baby.

Husband and wife looked at each other as they sat by the fireside. "After all is told," they said, "we seem to be back on the hill-tops, and our cups of life run over once more. How absurd!" Then they laughed together. But they missed the brown-faced little Indian baby.

CHARLES HOWARD SHINN.

THE WORLD'S AGE.

Who will say the world is dying?
 Who will say our prime is passed?
 Sparks from Heaven within us lying,
 Flash, and will flash till the last.
 Fools, who fancy Christ mistaken;
 Man a tool to buy and sell;
 Earth a failure, God-forsaken
 Ante-room of Hell.

Still the race of Hero-spirits
 Pass the lamp from hand to hand;
 Age from age the Words inherits—
 "Wife, and Child, and Fatherland."
 Still the youthful hunter gathers
 Fiery joy from wold and wood
 He will dare as dared his fathers
 Give him cause as good.

While a slave bewails his fetters;
 While an orphan pleads in vain;
 While an infant lisps his letters,
 Heir of all the age's gain;
 While the lip grows ripe for kissing;
 While a moan from man is wrung;
 Know, by every want and blessing
 That the world is young.

—Charles Kingsley.

APPLIED CHRISTIANITY.

The New Alinement of Life. By Ralph Waldo Trine. Published by the Dodge Publishing Co., 220 E. Twenty-third Street, New York. 1913. Price, \$1.25 net.

In his preface Mr. Trine says: "The fact of the coming of *Democracy*, world-wide in its entry, and differing from anything in Democracy the world so far has ever known, and advancing everywhere with rapid strides, is probably the most pronounced and the most significant fact of this our time."

And the thirteen chapters of "The New Alinement" proceed to unfold to the cavilling pessimist the wonderful progress we have made and are making toward the high goal of true human endeavor. Passing over the long dark centuries of misinterpreted and misapplied Christianity by self-appointed authorities, our vision is directed to the new age, the new era where tradition and authority must show credentials or drop into the background as human illusions generated by ignorance, selfishness and fear.

"Thinking men and women," says Mr. Trine,

"who can't understand or have grown careless and indifferent to the pre-mediæval theological systems and dogmas of orthodox Christianity, are beginning to interpret the life and teachings of Jesus for themselves. Freed from the incubus of speculation *about* him they are finding new inspirations and life-giving powers in the teachings and injunctions given *by* him."

It is back to these teachings that "The New Alinement of Life" carries the reader for instruction in the spirit of that true Democracy which reformers in every direction are seeking. And it will do the reformer no harm to take a glimpse through the Trine glass at all deplorable situations which need the optimist's vision to see them coming into line with the ideals of the New Democracy.

A. L. M.

PAMPHLETS

Birds as Agricultural Laborers.

A most practical and beautiful pamphlet about birds has been prepared this last year by the Federal Bureau of Biological Survey. (Fifty Common Birds of Farm and Orchard, Farmers' Bulletin 513, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.) There is in it a colored picture of each bird drawn from life by Louis Agassiz Fuertes; and the brief description alongside tells precisely what an ordinary man most wishes to know about a common bird. Why the farmer should be singled out as the particular recipient of this pretty booklet, can be understood, but not forgiven—until one recollects that it is free to any one for the asking. The few introductory pages are worth every American's reading; but they will destroy forever what slight remnant he may have left of the notion that nature made the little birds just to frolic and sing, and the big birds to prey upon innocence.

The current idea in relation to hawks and owls is erroneous. These birds are generally classed as thieves and robbers, whereas a large majority of them are the farmers' friends and spend the greater part of their lives in pursuit of injurious insects and rodents. As many as 100 grasshoppers have been found in the stomach of a Swainson's hawk, representing a single meal; and in the retreat of a pair of barn owls have been found more than 3,000 skulls, 97 per cent of which were of mammals, the bulk consisting of field mice, house mice, and common rats. . . . A few hawks are injurious. . . . The farmer's boy should learn to know these daring robbers by sight, so as to kill them wherever possible. . . . As a rule birds do not live very long, but they live fast. They breathe rapidly and have a higher temperature and a more rapid circulation than other vertebrates. This is a fortunate circumstance, since to generate the requisite force to sustain their active bodies a large quantity of food is necessary, and as a matter of fact birds have to devote most of their waking hours to obtaining insects, seeds, berries and other kinds of food. . . . It is interesting to observe that hungry birds—and birds are hungry most of the time—are not content to fill their stomachs with insects or seeds, but after the stomach is stuffed until it will hold no more, continue to eat till the crop or gullet also is crammed. . . . A tree swallow's stomach was found to contain 40 entire chinch

bugs and fragments of many others, besides 10 other species of insects."

What an agricultural disaster a Fletcher in birddom would be!

A. L. G.

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In the three States of North and South Dakota and Minnesota, there were in 1900, 47,654,452 acres of unappropriated and unreserved lands and in 1910 but 7,536,333 acres. With the reduction in the available government land, farms have become more valuable and less easily obtained by those of small means. The average value per farm of all farm property has increased from \$3,649 in North Dakota in 1900 to \$13,109 in 1910. In South Dakota the average value in 1900 was \$2,901 and in 1910 it was \$15,018. In Minnesota the average value in 1900 was \$3,549, increasing in 1910 to \$9,456.—Howard Elliott in "The Truth About the Railroads."

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The following was received from our Budapest correspondent. We reprint it exactly as sent to us:

When the Hairs Give Way.

A good joke is circulated in medical circles about a Budapest dermatologist, reputed as cosmetic surgeon, too. A patient came to him complaining about falling of hairs. The dermatologist having examined the scalp of the patient gave a prescription to him and said:

"Use this ointment but call at intervals in order to see the results and examine your scalp."

The patient gets sorry:

"Oh, doctor, that is impossible because I live in the hindest corner of the country, and I cannot come so often to Budapest."

"Doesn't matter," said the doctor, "Then send some hairs. I shall examine them by microscope and advise you what to do."

And so it happened the patient has diligently sent hairs, and he got new and new ointments.

After some months the doctor received the following letter from his patient.

"Enclosing I send a few hairs, however I am sorry to write I cannot continue sending more, because there are none on my head."—Journal of the American Medical Association.

❁ ❁ ❁

"Who gave you that black eye?"

"Who gives me anything? I had to fight for it.—The Masses.

❁ ❁ ❁

The small boy entered the store and said, "Give me a pound of tea."

"Black tea or green tea?" asked the grocer.

"Don't make no difference," the boy replied, "It's for a blind woman."—Successful Farming.

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Columbus had returned to Spain bringing news of wonderful new lands across the sea.

"How much shall I write on it?" queried the maritime reporter of the Cadiz Evening Bulletin, who had brought in the story.

"Don't write anything," replied the editor. "Let

Columbus pay for his advertising if he wants any. It's probably a real-estate promotion scheme."—Newark News.



She.—Did you have any trouble with your French while you were in Paris?

He.—No but the Parisians did.—Boston Transcript.

Inter-Collegiate Socialist Society

Dinner, Monday, Jan. 12, 6.30, Delvies, 19 No. Wabash Ave.

Address by
Mon. J. Stitt Wilson, "Socialism and the Present Intellectual and Moral Crisis."

Make reservations on or before Saturday, Jan. 10, with Miss E. Mills, 111 N. Market St. Phone Franklin 4275. If you wish to be put on the mailing list send your name to Miss Mills.

The Woman's Trade Union League

Sunday, Jan. 11, Schiller Hall, 12th Floor,
64 West Randolph Street

PUBLIC MEETING—ELECTION OF OFFICERS
POLLS OPEN 2 TO 4 P. M.

After the election refreshments will be served and at 4 o'clock "Scenes from Trade Unionism in the Past" (tableaux) will be given, followed by Roumanian dances by some of the Roumanian members of Local 152, U. G. W. A. Mrs. Laura Daisy Pelham will recite. Everybody Welcome.
EMMA STEGHAGEN, Sec. AGNES NESTOR, Pres.

JOHN Z. WHITE

Candidate for United States Senator for Illinois
will speak before the

Chicago Single Tax Club, in the Schiller Hall,
Schiller Building, Friday, Jan. 9, 8 p. m., on

"The French Revolution"

Jan. 16, Edward Gates, "Capital Defined."
ADMISSION FREE.

OTTO CULLMAN, Pres. MILTON D. BRYCE, Sec.

Post Card Propaganda

HENRY GEORGE Postcards

Done by the Arden Printery, Printers of Quality.
25c per dozen.

"JANET CALDER" Postcards

Published by "Land Values," London. 10c for 20.

"PUBLIC" Postcards

Free to Singletax Clubs and others who use postcards for sending out notices of meetings, etc.
Write for a supply.

Pass the word along—on a postcard.

THE PUBLIC, ELLSWORTH BLDG.,
CHICAGO.

The financial success of a publication depends on the success of its advertising pages. The success of honest, legitimate advertising depends on the patronage of readers who appreciate honest, efficient service.

Does It Pay to Get Something FOR Nothing?

Governor John P. Altgeld didn't think so.

Not long before his death, he wrote a book in which he showed that the getting of something for nothing has in it the germs of dissolution.

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The Altgeld Memorial Association has very generously turned over to The Public, not for sale (they cannot be bought anywhere) but to be used as premiums for new subscriptions, a few copies of this book.

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