

The Public

A National Journal of Fundamental Democracy, and
a Weekly Narrative of History in the Making.

Vol. XVII.

CHICAGO, FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 1914.

No. 847.

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Published by STANLEY BOWMAR, Manager
Ellsworth Building, 537 South Dearborn Street, Chicago

Single Copy, Five Cents Yearly Subscription, One Dollar
Canadian and Foreign, \$1.50

Entered as Second-Class Matter April 16, 1898, at the Post Office at Chicago,
Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

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EDITORIAL

Mediation Results.

General Huerta still holds Mexico City, United States troops occupy Vera Cruz, and the Constitutionalists refuse to declare an armistice; yet, although none of the specific things demanded have been accomplished, and the Mediators threaten to throw over their undertaking, history names few more momentous international events. Here were two nations whose hearts were filled with hatred and distrust, the one covering in fear, the other swelling with contempt; war was imminent, and to some it seemed inevitable. Yet the days of mediation have been spent in getting acquainted with each other. The Mexicans are after all human beings; and the Americans—well, they are human, too. The Niagara Conference is rationalizing the Monroe Doctrine, and strengthening the cause of international arbitration. Talk in time of peace is sometimes tiresome, but in time of war it is a great pacifier. So talk on, O Mediators, talk on, till we become so well acquainted that we shall be ashamed to kill each other. Mediation a failure? As well say the Golden Rule has failed! s. c.



The Nicaragua Treaty.

The proposed Nicaragua treaty contains a clause similar to the Platt amendment, forced into the Cuban constitution, which authorizes American intervention in case of internal disorder. This is an injustice both to Nicaragua and to the United States. It is unjust to Nicaragua because no government has a moral right to confer such authority on a foreign power. The present generation of Nicaraguans have no right to surrender the independence of future generations. The treaty does not insure peace. It puts a club in the hand of any adventurer who by threats of bringing on revolution and intervention may force the Nicaraguan government to submit to unreasonable demands. It is unjust to the

United States in that it furnishes an excuse to any imperialistically inclined administration to engage in a war of conquest. The present administration may be trusted to refrain from such a policy, but who can safely predict that none of President Wilson's successors will be too conscientious to take advantage of this clause? s. D.



Another Fly in the Ointment.

It is much to be regretted that an achievement such as the construction of the Panama Canal should have been preceded by unfortunate international political complications; and should have been concluded in the midst of treaty controversies. It stands as the world's greatest engineering feat, both in magnitude, and in brilliance of execution; yet at the very moment of its completion we fall to wrangling over a treaty having to do with its inception. For months we have wrestled with the question as to whether or not we should abide by our treaty with Great Britain; and no sooner is that settled than we face the Colombian Treaty.



This is likely to prove one of those altruistic acts that, however much it may be lauded in history, is likely to meet with little encouragement from contemporary politicians. It runs counter to the my-country-right-or-wrong sentiment; and hence it will receive little consideration on its merits. Just as men disputed over our rights and obligations on the tolls question, so they will contend over our obligations to Colombia. This much, however, may be said in behalf of the aggrieved State to give color to her claim: While the Colombian Senate was discussing the terms of the Hay-Herran treaty, which had already been ratified by the United States Senate, a popular uprising took place in one of the six districts of Panama, and although there was no representation from the other five districts, no formulated statement of grievances, no congress, no army, no navy, no courts of justice, this country forbade the movement of Colombian troops, already in the country, to the scene of the uprising; and one day, seventeen hours and forty-one minutes from the revolt, Panama's independence was recognized. Even should the right lie with us, this haste in dismembering a nation with which we were at peace, arouses suspicion; and the resultant gain to us from the act gives color to our opponent's claim.



Ethically considered, Colombia was in the

wrong in demanding a price for permission to dig the canal. Politically, we were in the wrong in resorting to force in imposing our judgment upon a helpless nation. The earth belongs to the people of the earth; and while nations, as well as individuals, have the right to maintain their individuality, and work out their destiny, no nation and no individual has a right to hold idle a natural resource of the earth, when such resource is needed by other nations or individuals. Colombia could not dig the canal, yet the world needed the canal, and the United States was ready to do the work. Our plain duty was to appeal to the world. The decision of the nations would have been received by Colombia in a far different spirit from that in which she received our decision. Two things prevented this obvious course of action, the Monroe Doctrine, and President Roosevelt. A certain class of Americans had made a fetish of the Monroe Doctrine, and the President was so constituted that he could brook no opposition from a weak opponent.



The Taft administration sought to evade Colombia's claims by delay, instead of meeting her in the Peace Court at The Hague, or submitting the matter to disinterested arbitrators. The Wilson administration undertook to re-establish amicable relations between the two countries, but it, too, failed to take advantage of the Peace Court, or of disinterested arbitrators. In attempting a settlement by treaty agreement the Administration has been embarrassed by a desire to be generous to an injured neighbor, and the necessity of placating native prejudice; the result is a treaty that stands little chance of endorsement by the United States Senate. Should the Senate refuse to confirm the treaty, the whole matter should be taken to The Hague. If the world is ever to disarm, it will be only when the nations are ready to submit questions to an international court; and this is a good opportunity to establish a precedent for others to follow.

s. C.



Successful Seamanship.

Horace Greeley, when asked how he knew he had delivered a successful lecture, answered: "When more of the audience remain than go out." This seems to be the test that Congress is asked to apply to seamanship. The La Follette Seaman's Bill, which is backed by the American seamen, provides for "boats for all," passengers and crew; but the House committee on Merchant

Marine and Fisheries proposes amendments that will allow vessels navigating the northern and northwestern lakes within three miles of shore, between May 15 and September 15, to run with only 50 per cent accommodation for passengers and crew. And of that 50 per cent two-fifths is to consist of boats, and three-fifths of collapsible boats and rafts. The press dispatches do not say just how the half of the passengers that is to be saved is to be distinguished from the half that is to be lost. Possibly this mere matter of detail will be left to the discretion of the ship owners. It might be disposed of on the "first come, first served" principle, at the time of the accident. Or, consecutively numbered tickets might be sold, the odd numbers to have life-boat privileges, and the even numbers to take their chances of swimming ashore. Such a trifling matter undoubtedly will be settled to the satisfaction of the shipowners and the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries; and so long as they are satisfied, the rest need not count. The interesting feature about it all is that it will offer a practical test of seamanship. The ship that brings into port more than it drowns may be considered a successful ship. Neither the "Titanic" nor the "Empress of Ireland" met this test.

S. C.



The Graft That Has Gone

Protectionists who still insist that the tariff has nothing to do with the cost of living will do well to study a recent circular sent out by the Federal Sugar Refining Company of Philadelphia. According to this circular the 25 per cent reduction in tariff already in effect has saved consumers \$48,700,000, and this saving, when sugar becomes absolutely free of duty will be increased to \$100,000,000. And yet Louisiana sugar interests are insisting that a great wrong was done when this graft was abolished!

S. D.



Reactionary "Progressives."

Reactionary in its tariff attitude, as is the Democratic party organization of Louisiana, an attempt to outdo it seems to be made by the Progressive party organization of that State. Judging by the platform adopted at a conference in New Orleans on June 18 the party is basing its hope for success on a plan to rob the sugar consumers of the United States for the benefit of Louisiana planters. Condemnation of the repeal of the sugar tariff is its loudest note. It declares in substance, but not in words, that Louisiana's sugar industry is a parasite which can only live by drawing trib-

ute from other industries, and considers the withholding of such tribute to be a great wrong. That is a fine position indeed for a party to take that claims to stand for social justice. Real progressives of Louisiana as well as of other States can not afford to recognize as co-workers, members of an organization which shamelessly insists on robbery for the benefit of a special interest of its own State. The tariff attitude of the National Progressive party is weak and indefensible enough. It can not well afford to let itself be further led into defense of a predatory privilege by giving the slightest encouragement to these Louisiana reactionaries. Louisiana needs a real progressive party badly—one that will offer some hope of relief from the reactionary, sugar-ring-dominated Democratic organization. But the offer of the fire as a refuge is exceedingly unsatisfactory to those who wish to escape the discomforts of the frying pan. This seems to be all that Louisiana's alleged "Progressive" organization has to offer.

S. D.



The Income Tax Disappointment.

The income tax seems to have been dodged to such an extent as to reduce its yield far below expectations. It will require more inquisitorial methods to uncover this dodging. This in itself shows that, while better than a tariff tax, the income tax is neither desirable nor just. Those who have honestly earned their incomes, who have given equivalents in useful service, cannot be blamed for dodging the tax. If they have reasonable consciences they need suffer no greater mental distress from successfully evading an attempted robbery by the government than from evading a similar attempt by an individual. Those whose incomes are unearned are mainly unaware of that fact. The government sanctions the means whereby their incomes are secured, while the system by which they profit is endorsed by influential publications, politicians and professors of political economy. It is easy to understand why they do not realize their obligation to help the government in collecting from them. To denounce these tax dodgers as dishonest is unjust. This trouble would not have occurred had Congress levied a land value tax instead of the income tax. That could not have been evaded, would have taken nothing from any individual that he has honestly earned, and would easily have yielded ample revenue. Congress is not to blame for failure to adopt this method since public opinion was not ready to endorse it. The income tax experience will help to educate.

S. D.

Enforcing the General Property Tax.

State's Attorney Hoyne of Chicago is trying to enforce the absurd and iniquitous tax laws of Illinois by arresting citizens who have failed to make personal property returns. Unless Mr. Hoyne's historical education has been neglected he must know that legal penalties, far worse than any modern court can impose, could not bring about general obedience to these laws. Unless his economic education has been neglected he must know that strict enforcement of the general property tax laws would be a greater calamity than a destructive earthquake or conflagration. Unless his moral education has been neglected he must know that robbery of industry by the state through enforcement of unjust laws is as indefensible as robbery perpetrated illegally by individuals.

S. D.



Barking Up the Wrong Tree.

A man who has succeeded in business to the extent of accumulating \$20,000 in a general store, writes this: "I am disgusted with both the Democratic and Republican parties. I am becoming a Socialist. I am worse, I am nearing the anarchistic stage. Is it worse to assassinate the Rockefellers and the Morgans, than to be starved to death by them?" The question arises: When a man in such circumstances harbors these ideas, what is the state of mind of the poor laborer, with low wages, part time, and a large family to support? It is a matter that should give the defenders of things-as-they-are, pause. The natural kindness of the human heart prompts man to suffer much before he resorts to force; but there is always a limit to forbearance, and it is the height of unwisdom to press him too far. Violence begets nothing but violence; and when exhaustion brings peace, reason must then step in and do what she might have done in the beginning, had she had a chance.



Violence fails because it is never directed intelligently, that is, it is not opposed to the real cause of the evil. Our successful merchant asks if it is any worse to assassinate Rockefeller and Morgan than to have them starve us to death. This betrays lack of reason. Action following such a conclusion would inevitably lead to bad results. Rockefeller and Morgan—and these names are used generically—are in no wise to blame for the present industrial muddle. Had they followed absolutely the precepts of virtue, the lot of Labor would not have been bettered to the

slightest degree. The industrial laws of the country make for spoliation of the producer. The more honestly they are observed the more oppressive they will become. Their foundation being false, they tend inevitably to destruction; and the reason that the whole social structure does not come tumbling about our ears is because the statute laws governing the production and distribution of wealth are not constantly observed. Strong men, men of boldness and imagination, will not succumb without resistance; and the reason society as a whole is not swallowed up in a grand social cataclysm is because relief from oppressive laws comes through the rebellion of these strong men.



This is not to condone the acts of the Rockefellers, the Mellens, or the Morgans; nor to commend them for defying statutory law; but it is to call attention to the fact that it is the system and not the men, that is to blame. To illustrate: Certain lessees of lands in Chicago belonging to the public schools are charged with having made fraudulent bargains, by means of which they are paying less to the public than they should pay. But these lessees are paying something for the land they use. The rest of the occupants of land in the city—land that is made valuable exactly as the school lands are made valuable—pay nothing at all to the people, save the general property tax. Does it make any practical difference to the starved schools of Chicago, or to the imperfectly educated children, whether the land values created by the community are withheld by dishonest tenants of school lands, or honest owners of other lands? Honesty is to be commended over dishonesty; virtue is more estimable than knavery; but as slavery was slavery whether the master was honest or dishonest, so unjust laws work evil regardless of the personal integrity of individuals. Our economic ills come from laws that controvert the order of nature, and the Rockefellers and the Morgans are no more to blame than any other individuals of like prominence and capacity. The remedy lies, not in assassinating individuals, or in making war on classes; but in changing the laws; and this remedy is wholly within the hands of the victims.

S. C.



Involuntary Philanthropy.

Eleven thousand dollars for relief of the sufferers of the Empress of Ireland disaster has been contributed by the oil consumers of the United States and other exploited ones, through

their very efficient collector, Mr. John D. Rockefeller.



Another Test of New York's Courts.

News from Tarrytown is to the effect that Rockefeller's supporters in their efforts to suppress free speech have resorted to rioting and lawless violence. It will be interesting to compare the treatment accorded these plutocratic disturbers with what has been accorded to poor and friendless persons not guilty of riot. Will any of these rioters be as severely dealt with as Frank Tannenbaum, Bouck White or Marie Ganz? Or is there one law in New York for uninfluential persons who insist on exercising constitutional rights, and another for those who exercise lawless violence to suppress expression of opinion?

S. D.



New Jersey Needs the Recall.

The Supreme Court of New Jersey has upheld the sentence of Patrick Quinlan, convicted last August at Paterson for saying in a public speech: "Elect a Socialist mayor and you won't have cops like 'Bummy' Ryan batting you over the head with the club." Quinlan was sentenced to a term in the penitentiary. In view of the fact that the same court only recently set aside a similar unjust conviction in the case of Editor Alexander Scott, the decision in the Quinlan case comes as a disagreeable surprise. Probably there is some legal difference between the Quinlan case and the Scott case, but there is no moral difference. There should be no hair-splitting distinctions to allow freedom of expression in one case and to condemn it in another. The Quinlan decision makes a mockery of the alleged right of free speech in New Jersey. It furnishes another example of the great need of popular control of the judiciary and of judicial decisions.

S. D.



An Enlisted Man's Chance.

How much chance has an enlisted man in the United States army unjustly punished by his superiors to secure redress? The case of Kosti Leo Aryan, now convict 7942 at Alcatraz, California, shows that he has very little. Aryan got into trouble by writing the following letter on November 21 to the Secretary of War:

To my utter amazement I discover that a soldier is induced by the War Department to take a so-called "oath," promising to obey orders, even though those orders be in defiance of God and His commandments: "Thou shalt not kill for revenge is

mine." Under no circumstances can a promise be valid which defies the fundamentals of religion, especially when, in the name of God, one promises to act against His will. Since I have discovered this absurd and blasphemous act, my religious conscience compels me to ask for my immediate discharge, and I base my request upon the Constitution of the United States, which assures religious freedom to every individual.



This letter was not forwarded to its destination. The excuse for this given by Aryan's superior, Major H. E. Cloke, is paragraph 789 of the army regulations which says, "unimportant and trivial communications need not be forwarded to the Adjutant General of the army simply because addressed to him. Department, brigade and district commanders should decide whether a communication is of sufficient importance to be forwarded." In other words, there is no truth whatever in the assurance frequently given that a private may, without fear of punishment, present a complaint to the War Department. Whether the complaint shall be presented or not rests entirely with his immediate superiors. His alleged right to complain is but a mockery.



Not only was Aryan's letter withheld but he was courtmartialed on the ground that "he wrote a disrespectful and insubordinate letter to the Secretary of War." Naturally as a result of his religious views he was compelled by his conscience to act in other ways not to the liking of his superiors. This also constituted "insubordination" and resulted in additional charges. While a prisoner under conviction he brought additional punishment on himself through adherence to his principles, until finally he was sentenced to seven months in the penitentiary and a dishonorable discharge. The case attracted the attention of Thorwald Siegfried, a democratic attorney of Seattle, who endeavored to have the wrong righted. After months of delay the War Department has finally rejected the demand for justice. The letter to Mr. Siegfried, explaining this decision, shows that the Judge Advocate General did not even look into the matter sufficiently to become aware that it was not an appeal for clemency, but for justice. Was there anything exceptional in this disposition of an appeal without even considering its true nature? If so, it does not speak well for those who passed upon it. If not, it shows that the alleged right of a soldier to appeal from injustice, is but a sham.

S. D.

Suppressing Criticism of "Constituted Authority."

"No picture will be permitted to show ridicule of constituted authority" is one of four prohibitions announced by Chicago's moving picture censor. What a moral weakling "constituted authority" must be! If its safety requires such an order then there is justification for ridicule. Moreover what is there in ridicule shown in moving pictures that is not just as bad when shown in stationary pictures, in cartoons, in public print or in public speech? Let one form of censorship once be tolerated and it will not be long before it will be regarded as justification for other forms. Ridicule is a form of criticism. To defend its suppression is to argue for suppression of all other forms. "Constituted authority" is a very broad term. It may easily include all public officials, without exhausting even then its possibilities. Government censorship is too dangerous a measure to be applied as a remedy to any real or imaginary evil. S. D.



Slaughtering the Innocents.

One of the interesting investigations to be made during the coming year is that of the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor. Miss Julia Lathrop, chief of the bureau, will make an effort to discover why 300,000 babies die annually in the United States before they are a year old. There is reason to believe the investigation will not end in the publication of a many-volumed report to be hidden away unread, but that the public will receive honest information and practical advice. The annual loss of 300,000 babies in their first year, and as many more in the next four years, is an enormous economic drain on the country. The cause and the responsibility should be definitely fixed, and such remedy as is possible, applied. Such part as is due to ignorance should be made known, in order that our educational institutions may furnish enlightenment to those in need. And that part due to economic conditions should also be made plain. If economic conditions that encourage vice are found also to increase infant mortality, the fact should be made so plain that none can blink it. Miss Lathrop has a great opportunity. S. C.



LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

No part of a daily newspaper is more worth reading than the letters from the people, and it should count to the credit and honor of the

press that they publish such letters with commendable freedom. Why these letters are of particular value and interest is a question which leads back to a more interesting question involving the progress of the democratic spirit. Let us see the connection. The subject is more important and far-reaching than at first appears.

I suppose no one will deny the statement that when we all have the democratic mind we shall value opinions for what the opinions are worth, or for what they seem to us worth. It is not so to-day. It is especially not so in the view of newspaper managers, editors and reporters. These, and in fact most of us, value opinions not for the intrinsic worth of the opinions, but in accordance with the notoriety, or the position, or the reputation of the person who writes or speaks the opinion. Naturally the newspapers want to print what will be read, and they know that a statement from a person of whom the chance reader has previously heard is much more likely to be read than a statement coming from a person of whom he has not heard. The words of a person of notoriety, or the words of a person in a position of notoriety, make "good copy" in the publisher's point of view. Nor does it matter very much to what the notoriety is due. It may come from position, or politics, or crime. Your essay on family relations may be extremely valuable and full of excellent suggestions, but it would hardly be printed, or if printed read. If, however, you should have ventured to kill your mother-in-law, you would find that next morning the papers would be keen to print, and the public to read, anything that you might have to say on the subject of family peace or family jars. Or if you have been elected to some prominent position, say Governor of the State, your words will be valued, even if you should drop a few opinions on the Greek drama or the nourishment of babies, or any other subject of which you are equally ignorant. In other words it is the fictitious you, and not the real you, whose opinions count. And, as I have said, this is especially true, naturally so, of the public press.

Now there are people, and I believe a constantly increasing number, who value a book, or a speech, or an article, or any statement, upon its merits, quite regardless of the notoriety of the author. And there are people who wish to promulgate their opinions even when these opinions are not sought by the publishers and reporters. Furthermore, there are people whose thoughts are worth while, even if they are not people of position. It is for such as these, and for the readers of independent mind, that the letters from the people serve a

good turn. Let us hope that the practice will increase, and that newspapers will continue to be receptive and liberal in welcoming such contributions. As a rule the writers of these letters have given thought to the matters of which they write, and have opinions worthy of consideration. They appeal too to the best class of readers, those who have the democratic mind, and judge and value thoughts in themselves and not as coming from this or that person of some rank or notoriety.

JAMES H. DILLARD.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

THE FIGHT FOR JUSTICE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington, D. C., June 15, 1914.

Ever since 1878, when the so-called Organic Act was passed by Congress, the District of Columbia has been one of the strongholds of plutocracy. This act left the District disfranchised and established the famous "half-and-half system" of raising District revenues, Uncle Sam undertaking to appropriate 50 per cent of the amount of all estimates approved by Congress. As a result of this Federal subsidy, the rate of taxation on real estate has been comparatively low. Low taxes have, in turn, helped to produce high land values and high rentals. This Federal District has been a gold mine for land speculators and real estate operators.

As far back as 1892, gross discriminations in the assessment of Washington real estate were revealed in the report of a congressional committee whose chairman was Tom L. Johnson of Ohio. Twenty years later (in 1912) another congressional committee, whose chairman was Henry George, Jr., after a thorough investigation of the assessment and taxation of real estate in the District, published a report in which it was shown that there is "heavy discrimination against the small home in comparison with the better house and the business property, while the large suburban, speculative area bears less than a third of its proper burden." Mr. Herbert J. Browne, a local expert in realty values, prepared the technical data for the George report.

To carry out some of the practical recommendations contained in this report, Mr. George introduced a bill last February which provided for the annual assessment of real estate at its true value, the rate of taxation to be fixed annually by the District Commissioners, and for an increase in the number of assistant assessors. This bill contained no single-tax features. It merely provided the necessary machinery for raising local revenues and securing equitable assessments. Mr. George was assured that this bill would receive the favorable endorsement of the House District Committee, and it probably would have passed both the House and the Senate with very little opposition if it had not been for certain unfortunate amendments which were proposed by Representative S. F. Prouty of Iowa, and supported by Representative Ben Johnson of Kentucky, chairman of the House Committee, which so

completely changed the scope and character of the bill that Mr. George was compelled to go upon the floor of the House and oppose the so-called George bill.

Briefly stated, these amendments provided for an increase of 50 per cent in the tax rate of the District, and made this enhanced rate apply to all personal and intangible property as well as real estate. Judge Prouty, who honestly believes that the half-and-half system should be abolished, made no secret of the fact that his amendments were designed to make the District pay all of its own expenses without any contribution from the Federal treasury.

The business interests of Washington became alarmed. The cry was raised that the half-and-half system was in danger, and that our local taxes would be doubled. A Committee of One Hundred was hurriedly formed and members of Congress were bombarded with arguments against the Prouty amendments. The aid of the Washington newspapers and of several national organizations was enlisted. The fact that a large proportion of District property, especially land values, now evades taxation, was skillfully concealed. Among the plutocratic "defenders" of the District, not a voice was raised in favor of the original George bill. The result was that the House not only voted down the Prouty amendments by a small majority, but also defeated the original George bill by a viva voce vote.

In spite of this temporary setback, the disfranchised residents of the District owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. George for his able leadership in the local fight for tax reform. The fight will go on. Victory is only a question of time.



There are many "signs of promise" in District affairs. The two civilian Commissioners, Messrs. O. P. Newman and F. L. Siddons, who were appointed by President Wilson in June, 1913, are men of democratic and progressive principles, who have made a special study of municipal problems. They are entirely free from entangling alliances with real estate or corporate interests. The privileged interests are doing all in their power to embarrass the new District regime. An attempt is being made in the courts to disqualify Mr. Newman from holding the office of Commissioner on the plea that he is not a legal resident of the District. Mr. Newman's defense is being ably handled by Mr. Jackson H. Ralston.

Another hopeful "sign of the times" is the Crosser bill for the public ownership of the street railroads of Washington, on which a favorable report was recently made by the House District Committee. Mr. Crosser deserves great credit for his excellent work in connection with this bill. Robert Crosser of Cleveland, Ohio, is a true follower of that "happy warrior" of municipal progress, Tom L. Johnson. On Decoration Day the writer was present at the hearing on this bill, and heard the three District Commissioners testify in its favor. The Commissioners presented masterly arguments in behalf of public ownership. Whatever may be the outcome of the Crosser bill, these hearings were of more than local significance.

WM. DUNCAN MACKENZIE.

PROGRESS IN GRAND JUNCTION

Grand Junction, Colo., June 17.

The Initiated Municipal Ownership Ordinance, heretofore presented and filed with the city council of Grand Junction, Colo., was yesterday withdrawn by its friends, and a new ordinance providing for the inventory and appraisal of the present electric light, power and gas plants, and for estimates of new and complete plants, was unanimously adopted by the city council. This ordinance will come up for second reading and final passage in ten days, and will undoubtedly pass.

The new ordinance is satisfactory to the friends of municipal ownership, and is the first step officially taken by the city towards municipal ownership of electric light, power and gas. It is the second step towards the ideal city, outlined in "Nature City," the other step having been taken in 1909 in adopting our charter, followed by a large program of constructing a mountain water system by the city, the paving of the streets, new sewers, cleansing and beautifying the streets and parks, new public buildings, fountains and other public improvements. The bill for a grant of 640 acres from the U. S. Government to the city of fine coal land only eight miles distant is still pending in Congress, the land having been reserved from private entry by the land department. Congressman Taylor writes that there is a fair prospect of its passage this session of Congress.

Our plan is at the next regular election to initiate an ordinance for the gradual exemption of personal property and improvements from municipal taxation, although we intend to move slowly and conservatively at all times.

JAMES W. BUCKLIN.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

A WORD FOR CHARITY.

Salem, Mass., June 14.

It seems time for someone to throw a kind word to the dog. The dog is Organized Charity, trotting humbly at the heels of the noble company of Social Reforms, picking up the crumbs that they, in their occasional lordly moments, drop, and taking the frequent kicks that they turn to bestow on it. Charity suffereth long and is kind. So a devout single taxer, who is yet a friend of dogs, may be permitted to say a word for it.

The ministrants of Organized Charity recognize that their service is temporary and, in the broad sense, superficial, that they but patch the holes in underlying conditions. They may be found supporting the propaganda of all the fundamental social reforms—which seldom reciprocate. They take up their work knowing that "There is no end—the end is death and madness," but yielding to the obvious need of immediate relief—an act of renunciation which, in its personal quality, compares favorably with that of espousing a profound and Utopian cause, and bearing its banner quite harmlessly through a respected life to a tranquil grave.

To say that self-respect is the price demanded by charity, one must have seen charity at its worst, not

at its best. I have watched for some time the Anathema Maranatha itself—the Charity Organization Society of a big city [Associated Charities of Boston] at work, and I am not yet through marvelling at the difference between what it is, and what the people who don't know think it is.

If one lives in the country, or a small town, he has dally helped and been helped by his neighbors. If he lives in a big city, he knows that there are no neighbors—that the people in adjoining houses, adjoining tenements, adjoining rooms, are as likely as not to remain strangers. Well, the Charity Organization Society—began to keep various charitable institutions from treading on each other's heels—has become just a device for making neighbors. It distributes no doles, and the least of its services is to give food to the hungry. But its laborers find jobs for the jobless, treatment for the sick, guardians for the feeble-minded, friends for the lonely. Where the accidents of our industrial chaos have left a family literally without sufficient support, these workers collect the necessary pension from the agencies most nearly concerned—relatives, friends, the church, funds, public or private, provided to meet such emergencies—finally, if necessary, "benevolent individuals." But for one case where they do this, in nine cases they simply help a family in difficulties to stand on its own feet, finding suitable work for the husband, sobering up the errant son, fighting off the loan shark, getting the sick girl into a sanitarium, dropping a few hints on hygiene and cookery to the wife. People in trouble come to the agents of this Society without loss of self-respect, for they are offered nothing but neighborly advice and assistance, and their self-respect and self-reliance are encouraged by what they receive.

This organization, with no showy beneficences to appeal to emotion, depends for support on the efficiency and economy it can demonstrate. No private business could be run so well and cheaply, for good men who would demand their full worth for Capital, work here for love and a living; and I doubt if any public welfare department, with a hand in the treasury, and the authority of government behind all its decrees, could work so simply, so humbly and so well.

I do not know whether other cities are equally well served. As human institutions go, this is a good one, and a present well-spring in a desert that stands no chance of being irrigated by Singletax for many years to come. We owe it more crumbs and less kicks.

J. W. HELBURN.



A LAND OWNER—NOTHING MORE.

La Porte, Texas, June 16.

The other day the papers in Houston, Texas, mentioned the fact, in speaking of the funeral services of a man who had just died in that city, that only thirteen people were in attendance. The man in question left a fortune estimated at \$10,000,000. True, he was somewhat of a recluse and no members of his family lived with him in Houston, but the fact that a man worth so many millions should pass away and only thirteen people should attend his funeral services is worthy of comment, and brings to the thinking man the question of why it should be so.

Often we learn of the vast concourse which pays the last tribute of respect to the memory of a man or a woman who has left nothing at all of this world's goods, but whose life has been a boon to humanity. Only the other day a vast throng followed all that was mortal of a little child from the modest home of its parents who could boast nothing of worldly wealth, but as a tribute to a little life that was all sunshine and happiness and to the parents whose first thoughts are the service they may render to others.

This man with the millions had merely accumulated lands from his earliest manhood, and the growth in population of the cities and the country in which his lands and lots were located had swelled his fortune from a meager beginning of fifty dollars, his first investment, to ten million dollars, the estimated value of the fortune he left, and he carried with him nothing, not even tears of wife and children, for he had none, but died alone, as he had lived. The vast estate he left goes to distant relatives. Here was a vast wealth not created by him, not used by him, not even enjoyed by him and not carried away by the man who knew so little of real living that he is not missed by one when he is gone. How much longer will it be possible under our laws for a man to take such toll of the heritage of humanity, the lands that were created for homes for all?

J. W. CANADA.



IN MEMORIAM.

Boston, June 19.

The Executive Committee of the Anti-Imperialist League has now to mourn the death of the widow of Edwin Burritt Smith, whose name the League had the honor of enrolling among its Vice-Presidents after the death of her husband—the first citizen of Chicago and one of the early heroes of the cause.

Mrs. Smith's sympathy and support were continued for our work, as it was for all the reforms, educational, political and social in which her husband was a leader and in which she had been wise counsellor and efficient helpmate.

In expressing its own sorrow and in extending sincere condolence to their sons, it may be permitted to invoke for them the worthy heritage of noble parents promised from generation to generation.

ERVING WINSLOW, Secretary.

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, June 23, 1914.

Congressional News.

The Secretary of State, Mr. William J. Bryan, appeared before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on June 17, to urge ratification of the Treaty with Colombia, which expresses regret for certain incidents connected with formation of the

Republic of Panama and agrees to pay Colombia \$25,000,000. Mr. Bryan declared that the Treaty would restore good feeling between the United States and Colombia as well as between Colombia and Panama. It would furthermore, he said, regain for the United States its lost prestige with Latin America. The expression of regret was merely a confirmation of one tendered by the American Minister under Taft's administration. [See current volume, page 543.]



What is said to be the terms of a treaty with Nicaragua now before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee was published on June 20 by the Chicago Tribune. It grants the United States proprietary rights necessary for construction of an inter-oceanic canal, leases for 99 years, two Caribbean islands and a base on the Gulf of Fonseca, gives the United States the right to veto any treaty with a foreign power entered into by Nicaragua and authorizes intervention by the United States in case of internal trouble, or difficulty with a foreign nation. In return the United States agrees to pay Nicaragua \$3,000,000. [See vol. xvi, pages 753, 989, current volume, page 86.]



The Senate on June 19 ordered an investigation of the use of stationery of two Senate Committees in promoting the Gold Hill Consolidated Mining Company. The names of Senator Overman of North Carolina and of Senator Chilton of West Virginia were used in this promotion. Both declare this to have been unauthorized and without their knowledge, and it was on the demand of Senator Overman that the investigation was ordered.



The La Follette Seamen's bill was reported to the House on June 19 by the Committee on Merchant Marine. As reported the provision for life boats in lake steamers operating within three miles of shore is amended so as to require only enough life boats for one-half of those on board. [See current volume, page 586.]



The House on June 18 unseated Representative Dyer of Missouri, Republican, and seated his contesting opponent Michael J. Gill, Democrat. The vote for unseating Dyer was 146 to 98 and was along party lines. To seat Gill the vote was 126 to 108, many Democrats voting with the minority.



Following recommendations of the Secretary of the Interior, Franklin K. Lane, the House Committee on Public Lands reported on June 16, a bill for conservation of water power still remaining under Federal control. It provides that all water power shall be leased for no longer a term than 50

years, and that these leases shall leave with the government regulation of services and prices. Leases may be made to states, counties or municipalities as well as to private concerns. [See current volume, page 9.]



Important Supreme Court Decisions.

The United States Supreme Court on June 22 upheld the right of the Inter State Commerce Commission to establish a zone system for rates. The decision also upholds the long and short haul clause of the inter-state commerce law. This decision reverses the defunct court of commerce. In connection with the recent decision in the Shreveport case, in which rates fixed by the Inter-State Commerce Commission in inter-state shipments were declared to prevail against contrary orders issued by state railroad commissions, the decision just announced clears away considerable doubt on questions that entered into the discussion of the proposed increase in freight rates. The Supreme Court also upheld the law placing all inter-state pipe lines, except those of the Uncle Sam Oil Company, under control of the Inter-State Commerce Commission. Another decision confirms the Southern Pacific in possession of 200,000 acres of oil lands in California said to be worth \$700,000,000. This decision was in reference to a suit brought by private individuals against the company, and does not apparently affect a suit for possession of the same lands being brought by the government. [See current volume, page 541.]



Industrial Relations Commission.

The United States Commission on Industrial relations subpoenaed on June 13 different persons known to have made a study of labor matters, for suggestion of a solution of the unemployed problem. Much testimony along this line was given. Mr. Harry Weinberger of New York testified as follows:

Whenever there are more men than jobs, labor is a commodity, and following the law of supply and demand, wages are forced down to the lowest point of subsistence. For a limited number of men unionism may be an alleviating circumstance, but for the vast majority, this is an iron law.

If anything can be done by the government to create more jobs than men, jobs would be the commodity, each job competing with every other job for the services of men, and wages would then be forced up to the highest economic point that the industry can endure. That is the problem of unemployment and the question of wages.

Idle land means idle men. It is immediately apparent, even upon superficial thought, that if all land is kept out of use, that the human race would become extinct. If a part of the land is kept out of use the natural means for subsistence is to that extent limited. In every city and in every state we

find thousands of acres of land being held out of use awaiting the speculator's rise in value.

New York, let us assume, has only 50,000, or even only 5,000 men out of work, and yet in and around New York City, on Staten Island, Long Island, upstate and across the New Jersey fields are more than 100,000 acres of land, absolutely idle. This idle land is sufficient, if only used for farming purposes, to support these men and their families.

If your Commission would advocate that each state should take the entire rental value of land (and land does not include improvements) no owner could afford to keep his land idle, but would have to put it to its fullest economic use, and thousands, aye millions of jobs would be thus created. As the population increases, the value of land and its rental value increases, and this fund would be more than sufficient for all governmental purposes, thus enabling the government to take all other taxes off industry, and benefiting it thereby. The increased value of land of every state is caused by no man's labor but by the growth of the community, the goodness of its public improvements and the efficiency of its government. This public-created value should be taken by the public for its use and no private individual should be allowed to pocket the same. The New Freedom means that that which a man produces shall be his, but no man shall be entitled to anything which is not the product of his labor.

All land, whether consisting of forests, prairies, mines or water falls now owned by the government, should never be divested from ownership by the government, but all said lands should be leased for a yearly or a longer term at a fair rental value with a further proviso in said lease that upon complaint of employes in said mines, lands, forests, prairies or in or about said water falls, as to the hours of labor or wages or conditions, a board of arbitration shall listen to the lessee and his employes, and the findings of the board upon said controversy shall be final, but if said lessee refuses to accept said findings said lease shall terminate within a time to be fixed by the lease. This would do two things: it would insure that all the vast domain of the States and the United States would be used to its fullest economic extent, and not be kept out of use as is now being done, the condition of labor and the wages of labor would be a proper one, and the increased rental values of the lands and water falls of all the domains as the years roll by, which would be caused by the growth of population of this country, would go to the government for the benefit of all the population.

Let us consider this in reference to the Colorado mining situation, not to mention the former West Virginia situation. The Colorado mines at one time were owned by the United States Government and then sold to private individuals. But if the above method had been used no private individual or corporation would have seen fit to tell the government that they refused arbitration, and if the men had grievances the government would rectify them. Civil war, with its attendant bloodshed, would not have darkened the pages of history, as it will have to be written.

Texas alone, if all its lands were put to its fullest economic use, would be sufficient to house and em-

ploy and support every man, woman and child of the United States. And yet we find that there are people out of employment who desire and seek work, and yet are unable to find it; we find low wages, and poverty, and hunger.

The proposal of taking one per cent of the unearned increment was drawn in bill form by me for the late Mayor Gaynor. The State Legislature has had before it a bill to take off half the taxes on all improvements in the city of New York. Also a bill to take off all taxes on all personalty and all improvements.

Two hands come into the world with every mouth, and in a rude state of society man has earned a living for himself and his family. With the advance of civilization he should be able to make more, when it is considered that the development of industrial power of time and labor saving machinery is one of the principal facts of the last century.

Forcing all land into its highest economic use is the only thing which will restore those conditions, remove unemployment, increase wages, and better conditions—and this can be done by the States and the United States taking the full annual rental value of all land.



Mr. Morris Hillquit said that the remedy is the nationalization of industries. He declared the Socialist Party would abolish the private, irresponsible ownership of property and would substitute social ownership in such form as is in each case best adapted to a given industry. Some industries would be owned nationally and others by the State or municipality. Purely individual industries, such as the various arts and crafts, not based on the exploitation of labor, but based purely upon personal effort, would continue to be owned and managed privately. This system, Hillquit said, would effect a cure of the capital-and-labor war by the simple expedient of abolishing capital. He believed the cure should be brought about politically, through the peaceful use of the ballot.



Vincent St. John, representing the Industrial Workers of the World, declared militant aggression to be the cure. There is a class war in progress, he said, there can never be peace between employers and employed, and the war must continue until the employing class has been annihilated. He advocated organization of workers in one industry, instead of in separate trades, then the general strike and if necessary sabotage and destruction of property.

Samuel Gompers, representing the American Federation of Labor, declared organization and collective bargaining to be the cure. The American Federation of Labor, he declared, aims to promote and advance the interests and rights of the working people, economically, politically, socially and legislatively, and to make their life the better for living in this day, and to let the far-distant

future take care of itself. [See current volume, page 587.]



Sugar Prices and the Tariff.

The Federal Sugar Refining Company of Philadelphia has issued a circular in which it speaks as follows concerning the new tariff law:

Three months' operation under the new tariff shows that the consumer is receiving all the benefit of the 25 per cent deduction in the duty on sugar. Since the new rates went into effect refiners' selling price has averaged 3.819 cents per pound, as compared with an average price for the last ten years of 4.85 cents per pound. The average in-bond price of 96 degree test raw sugars for the same period has been 4 cents per pound. Reduction in the duty, combined with the fact that the world's production this year is the largest on record, is responsible for the prevailing low prices, but that the reduced tariff is directly responsible for a large part of the decline is shown by the following comparison of prices between March 1 and June 1, 1914, with prices for other years when the in-bond price of raw sugars was on the same basis. The average price of refined sugar in other years, when raw sugars were selling in bond at 2.9 cents per pound, as compared with 2.04 cents now, was 4.40 cents per pound in contrast with 3.819 cents per pound during the last three months. It is, therefore, clear that a saving of .581 cent per pound is being effected by the reduced duty, which, figured on the amount of sugar consumed in the United States last year, namely, 8,384,631,360 pounds, would be equal to \$48,714,708.

[See current volume, page 969.]



Labor Trouble in Butte.

Seceders from the Western Federation of miners formed an independent organization at Butte on June 21, and chose Mr. McDonald for president. The officials chosen are said to be members of the I. W. W. The local mine owners are under contract with the Western Federation to employ none but members of that organization which, it is claimed, will debar members of the new organization from employment. [See current volume, page 590.]



Free Speech Fight in Tarrytown.

A meeting led by Upton Sinclair was held on June 21 at Tarrytown on the estate of Mrs. Charles J. Gould. Resolutions were passed urging federal seizure of the Colorado coal mines, and the following communication was sent to Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.:

A public meeting was held in your village this afternoon to discuss the Colorado situation. It was attended by about 500 people. A resolution was carried without a dissenting vote declaring that the crimes committed by the coal operators were such as to prove them unfit to hold the responsibility of operating mines and to justify the President in seiz-

ing and operating them for the public benefit. This proves what the people of your village think of the course you have taken in this matter.



Another meeting at Tarrytown was attempted on June 22, but was broken up by a mob which assaulted the speakers. The police did not interfere with the rioters until their actions resulted in obstructing street railway traffic. The news dispatches say nothing concerning arrests. [See current volume, page 562.]



Mexico and the United States.

Conferences at Niagara Falls continue in spite of deadlocks and rumors of breakups. President Wilson maintains his stand that the provisional Mexican president must be a Constitutionalist, and friendly to the peons. The Huerta delegates contend for a neutral, and the Carranza delegates declare an armistice at this time would cause the disintegration of their army. As a result of Minister Naon's visit to Washington the Mediators have modified their demands that the Constitutionals declare an armistice as a prerequisite to admission to the conference. It is now proposed that the Carranza delegates be admitted "unofficially" to the Conference. [See current volume, page 588.]



General Carranza reiterates in his last note to the Mediators that he is willing to participate in the conferences whose sole object is the pacification of Mexico. To discuss internal affairs is futile. Among the subjects that must not be discussed are the proposed armistice, the military movements of the Constitutionals, the agrarian question, and the designation of a provisional president of Mexico. The Constitutionals alone, General Carranza holds, can decide what is best for their country. Luis Cabrera, one of the three delegates appointed by General Carranza, says in a statement issued on the 21st:

All attempts to convince Huerta and Carranza that they should abandon their pretenses and agree on a neutral candidate who would call new elections are very dangerous.

In the present struggle in Mexico we find on one side the moneyed elements, deeply conservative and reactionary and interested in the continuation of a regime that has the hatred of the masses, and on the other hand we find the revolutionary elements deeply interested in the complete transformation of the country.

Under these circumstances, no possible compromise can take place.

The constitutionalists mean to begin immediately such economic reforms, and especially such agrarian reforms, as are necessary to offer the lower classes an opportunity of improving their conditions—division of large estates, equalization of taxation and in

places where it would be necessary the re-establishment of the egides or communal land system.



Quickened interest in the Mexican situation was aroused by reports on the 17th that General Carranza and General Villa had quarreled. These were afterwards denied, but circumstances point to strained relations between the two men, and a rearrangement of duties and responsibilities. General Villa now commands the central department of the North, with General Gonzales commanding operations on the East Coast; and General Obregon in command on the West Coast. Fighting at Zacatecas has been resumed under direct command of General Villa. The city is reported to be entirely surrounded by the Constitutionals, and though enjoying strong natural defenses, can easily be starved out. The Federals are said to have 15,000 men, while the Constitutionals have 25,000.



General Obregon has invested and is ready to attack Guadalajara, the capital of Jalisco, a city of 118,79, situated 275 miles W N W. of Mexico City.



English Affairs.

The latest exploit at gun-running by the National Volunteers, when they landed on the Conemara coast a large consignment of arms from America, was so bold and determined as to provoke protests from the Unionists and Tories in Parliament. These protests from the men who have been taunting the government with its inability to control the Ulster Volunteers lent a tinge of humor that was enjoyed by the Liberals. Sir Edward Carson announces that he will have nothing to do with the amending bill introduced in the Commons on the 23d, and embodying the government's original offer of temporary exclusion for such of the Ulster counties as may vote for exclusion. [See current volume, page 590.]



The comparative lull in Home Rule agitation gives prominence to Sylvia Parkhurst's feat in securing an audience from the Prime Minister for a delegation of East End working women. After taking up a position on Parliament House steps where she declared she would remain without food or water until the audience was granted, Mr. Asquith surrendered. To the delegation of six women who waited on him on the 20th, the Prime Minister said that while the government would suppress organized violence, it had no desire to interfere with free speech, or with proper organization of opinion. He promised consideration of the women's representations, and said he would present to Reginald McKenna,

the Home Secretary, the deputation's request for the release of Miss Pankhurst, unconditionally.

Asia Minor to investigate the charges. [See current volume, page 590.]

NEWS, NOTES

—Kansas City will vote on July 7 on the granting of a 30-year franchise to the Metropolitan Street Railway Company.

—The initiative petition in Missouri for woman suffrage had received the necessary number of signatures on June 20 and will be voted on in November.

—Governor Eberhart of Minnesota was defeated for renomination by William M. Lee at the Republican primary on June 16. Eberhart was the candidate of the old machine, and Lee is reported to be a progressive.

—Secrecy in wireless telegraphy is promised by Captain A. N. Hoyland of the Norwegian navy, who has devised a machine for transmitting printed messages in the manner of typewriting. The sending device may be changed to include 720 different code arrangements.

—Emperor William christened the new ship launched by the Hamburg-American Line on the 20th. Bismark, the ship, is a reproduction of the Vaterland, but is six feet longer, and has two more boilers. The Vaterland is 950 feet long. The new ship is expected to make more than 22½ knots an hour.

—The North German Lloyd steamer Kaiser Wilhelm II., bound from Southampton to New York, with 1,000 passengers, was rammed on the 17th by the grain steamer Incemore in the English channel. The accident occurred in a dense fog thirteen miles south of Nab lightship. Both vessels were injured, but were unable to make port. No lives were lost.

—During the Austrian army maneuvers near Vienna on the 20th a military biplane struck a dirigible, killing the nine men in the two crews. The dirigible, which was manned by seven men, was doing scout duty. The biplane, with two men aboard, soon overtook the dirigible and, flying above it, to show its mastery, came too close, and ripped open the balloon envelope. An explosion followed that destroyed both vessels and killed all the men.

—The French government issued regulations on the 22nd giving effect to the income tax law of last March. This law, which will go into effect July 1, levies a five per cent tax on incomes derived from foreign stocks and bonds. Opponents of the law declare that capital will be driven from France and that many large holders of foreign securities will take up residence abroad. Objection is also made that the law is too complicated to be enforced.

—On the assurance of Greek representatives that their purchase of the battleships Mississippi and Idaho would tend to preserve the peace between Turkey and Greece, and in spite of the protest of the Turkish Ambassador, President Wilson decided to sell the ships. The Senate has already adopted the proposal, and the House will be asked to concur. Turkey has made a temperate reply to the Greek protest against the expulsion of Greeks from Asia Minor, and has invited the powers to send agents to

PRESS OPINIONS

Futility of Charity.

The Trimmed Lamp (Chicago), June.—A young woman. . . stood in contemplation of an unusually beautiful country estate. Then she raised her voice in condemnation of the man who had spent his money on such luxury and loveliness when there was so much ugliness and poverty in the world. Asked what she would do with the money were it hers, the burden of her answer was "charity"—although she did not use the word. But it seems to me that as far as coming generations are concerned, the money which went into that estate was far better spent than if it had been put into charity. As it is the owner will leave behind him something of concrete value, and an ideal of beauty in a world that sadly needs beauty; whereas charity would leave behind it only the usual residuum of a need for more charity. It is curious that those who give so freely themselves and of their riches find this so hard to understand. Hurt beyond expression at the bitterness and ingratitude of those they seek to help, they cannot see that alms-giving is only a social anodyne—useful in emergencies, but perilous to the patient if used too much. Those who depend for social regeneration upon charity alone fail to distinguish between the poor and poverty. There is something more needed. As one thoughtful student of the time has put it, "there will be no effective solution of the problems confronting society until we undergo a fundamental reconstruction of motive in our treatment of our fellow men."



"Brother Charley's" Unintentional Radicalism.

Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat, June 15.—Hurrah for Charles P. Taft! He is seeing the light. In a recent editorial in the Cincinnati Times-Star Charles says:

"Only a few years ago we grabbed considerable land from Spain. In 1848 we grabbed a huge chunk from Mexico. Can any human being in his right mind doubt that that territory has been more useful to humanity under the stars and stripes these sixty years than if it had been allowed to stagnate under the conditions that have prevailed south of the international border?"

That's a fine thought. When land is stagnating it should be seized. Some of Charley Taft's land is stagnating. It is idle and in densely populated centers. What a fine idea it would be, since Charlie is allowing "land to stagnate," to go out and seize the property. Charlie could not possibly object. He is for grabbing land that is stagnating.



An Illuminating Illustration.

Arthur H. Dodge in The Culinary Craft (San Francisco), June.—The city of San Francisco owns a small piece of land, 275 by 275 feet, located at the southeast corner of Market and Fifth streets. This lot

was leased in October, 1908, by the Board of Education to the Wise Realty Company (later merged into the Lincoln Realty Company), for a term of thirty-five years at a total rental of \$2,835,000. For the first five years the rental was \$3,780 per month, and for the remaining thirty years a rental of \$7,245 per month. These lots, known as the Lincoln School lots, included no improvements of any kind at the time they were leased. The four-story structure now on the lots was erected by the Wise Realty Company. The point that the writer wishes to make clear in regard to these lots is this: Sixty-four years ago, when San Francisco was a hamlet lying on a few sandy, windswept hills, these lots possessed little or no value. It is the wonderful growth of San Francisco during the last half century that has made this small parcel of land so immensely valuable. The question now arises: Why should not San Francisco derive revenue from all of its valuable land? If it is the increase of population that enables us to collect a rental of \$7,245 per month from a small piece of unimproved land, then is there any good reason why we should not also collect some of the "unearned increment" that has attached itself to all of the land on this little peninsula?



Economic Aspect of City Planning.

The American City, June.—If a stranger from Mars had wandered into a session of the National Conference on City Planning in Toronto last month, he might almost have imagined himself at a religious convention. And if the love of justice is the chief element of true religion, our visitor would have had ample grounds for his supposition. . . . If the stranger had prepared a report of his observations for transmission by ethereal wireless to the Planetary Conference on Town Planning in Mars, it might have started somewhat along these lines:

"Our young neighbor Earth is at last beginning to learn some things in the planning and building of its cities. It is learning that a thousand men have more rights than one man, and that a million have more rights than a thousand. It is learning that unrestricted liberty of individual action is not synonymous with community welfare. It is learning that to landholders as a whole restrictions are more valuable than full liberty. It is learning that the right of the individual to light and air and ease of access in a growing city is dependent on the giving up of the far less important "right" of doing as he would with his land—if, indeed, he is not one of the great majority whose economic condition does not permit the owning of any land whatsoever."

Our Martian visitor could not fail to comment also on the growing recognition of the community's right to a just share of the values which it creates. He would have heard, from two men who had taken leading parts in the planning of the world's greatest subway scheme, a declaration of their belief in ultimate municipal ownership, and in assessments for benefits as a correct principle in the financing of urban transportation systems. . . . In his report to his Martian friends the stranger would have referred to the discussion of these economic questions as among the most fundamental features of the Conference. He would look forward to the time when

the cities of the world will learn to finance their public works and maintain their government entirely by assessments or taxation on land and on other natural or legalized monopolies—on those things, in other words, which automatically absorb the financial benefits of community growth and of wise governmental expenditures.

RELATED THINGS

CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

QUESTIONS

For The Public.

Strong sons of toil, whose hands have built
A thousand palaces of stone,
What profit have you for your years?
Have you no homes to call your own!

Your arms have dugged from gloom of night
Earth's hoarded warmth, in fears untold;
The firelight gleams on many a hearth—
Your children perish with the cold!

In countless mills, in gloom and grime,
Your daughters' nimble fingers fly
To clothe the multitudes of earth—
But they who weave, in rags must die!

—Thomas Curtis Clark.



HOW LABOR CAN BE HELPED.

From a Letter to Louis F. Post Dated Copiague,
N. Y., Aug. 15, 1913.

Complying with your invitation to write a letter giving my opinion as to what can be done by the Department of Labor to advance the opportunities for profitable employment of wage earners, I submit the following:

Where two men strive for one job wages fall.

Where two jobs strive for one man wages rise.

The problem, then, is to eliminate one of the two men, so that the other man may meet the job (or the owner of it) on an equal footing, where a dicker can be made as between man and man, and not, as now, between a master and a suppliant for work.

How can this be brought about?

That is for your Department to ascertain; but I would say that it can be brought about by broadening or opening up the road to opportunity—to bring about a condition where the surplus man can remove himself from rivalry for the aforesaid job and become self-supporting.

How can he do it?

Here we descend from the heights of theory into the valley of experience and fact.

Less than seventy years ago 147 men, women and children were driven from their homes in what is now the Middle Western section of the

United States because their religious creed and the practice of it did not accord with the religious creeds and practices of their neighbors.

In 1847 all beyond the Missouri and Mississippi rivers was practically unexplored territory, inhabited almost wholly by Indians and trappers. The outlawed little band made its way Westward through this unexplored country, and stopped only because its food supply was running short. The halt was made in the Valley of the Great Salt Lake, where the outlawed plowed fields and planted the crops that would furnish them food to their destination—California.

It happened that the crops were bounteous. It happened, also, that the leaders and the prophet of the little band found that they were in a place far from traveled roads, isolated from other human kind, and where nature had so disposed her material gifts as to be easy of access while apparently the country seemed to the unpracticed eye to be arid.

The prophet and the leaders thereupon determined that the little band should stay where it was; and in order to overcome some opposition that was manifesting itself Brigham Young went up into the Wahsatch mountains and had a vision, after the manner of Moses on Mount Sinai. The Lord appeared unto Brigham in his vision and told him his chosen people, the Latter Day Saints, should make their homes in the desert valley, should build churches there in which to worship Him, should increase and multiply and should gather unto them the downtrodden and oppressed of all the earth.

Thus began, in my opinion, the most gigantic experiment in history for the uplifting of human kind.

Has it been successful? Let us see.

In 1847 the membership of the Mormon Church, or that part of it which preferred expulsion to abandoning their creed was 147. In 1913 the Mormon Church has a membership within easy reach of Salt Lake of nearly a million souls, and it can when occasion requires control the politics and policies of eight sovereign States of the United States, perhaps more.

This in sixty-six years!

We hear and have heard but little of this experiment for many years. Perhaps it has been such a tremendous movement that the majority of the people of the United States have not been able to comprehend it.

When the Mormons were young and struggling, from 1849 to 1874, they had to fight for every inch of their ground. In the latter year the government even threatened to wipe them from the face of the earth. They were charged with every crime on the calendar; and in 1856 and 1874 troops were sent to Salt Lake to drive them out. But Brigham Young was a great diplomatist, as well as a prophet. When the lion's skin was not

long enough for his purposes he eked it out with the fox's. The result was that in these two instances the soldiers who had come in war departed in peace.

There is a reason for every growth; there is cause for every decay. There is a reason for the growth of the Mormon people apart from their creed. Religion per se can be found on every hand, of all kinds and in all languages. So that their religion has not been altogether the reason for the tremendous growth in numbers of the Mormon people. Perhaps the reason may become apparent in the story that follows:

I was in Salt Lake City in 1874 when the Mormons were holding a conference in the Tabernacle to decide what they should do when the army of the United States came upon them. Naturally it was a period of intense excitement. I was stopping as a guest at the home of a Mr. Caine, a Mormon and a son-in-law of Brigham Young. This home was a beautiful one for those days. It occupied an acre or more. In the house was every material comfort, a good library and music room. Flowers, shrubs and trees profusely ornamented the grounds. Mr. Caine's family made as delightful a home circle as could be wished.

I had been over to the Tabernacle watching the proceedings. The question before the conference was, in substance, "Shall we yield to the force which threatens or shall we undo our work of the past years, destroy all our stakes (towns, villages and settlements) and again follow our Church into the wilderness?"

The voters were thunderous. "No," answered ten thousand voices to the first proposition. "Yes," screamed, yelled, howled, roared they all to the second with a fervor and unanimity that has seldom been heard on this globe.

I was sitting on Mr. Caine's porch when he came to the conference. He, his family and I went in to supper—a meal as remarkable for its quietness as other meals had been for their good feeling and jollity. Soon after Mr. Caine and I had taken seats on the porch he asked if I had attended the conference. I had. Was I there when the votes were taken on the future action of the Mormon Church? I was.

"And, Mr. Caine," I said, "what are you going to do about it? If the occasion demands, will you set fire to this beautiful home and destroy this property and, afoot, lead your charming family away from these scenes into an unknown wild country, to endure the resulting hardships and privations?" Solemnly he raised his hand as if to invoke a blessing, or a curse, and said:

"I will, so help me God. I will do all these things if the Church calls upon me to do them."

"Then," I said, "your creed must be a pretty strong one. What is there in it that would induce you to go to such an extreme?"

He gave me the answer which led me to make

a thorough study of the whole Mormon situation:

"This—Through the Church I was able to get this home, to surround myself with not only the necessaries but the comforts of life; to rear about me a family which I love and which loves me. If we are forced from here we will follow the Church, certain that when she again drives her stakes it will mean that we will again have homes as good as these in which to shelter those we love."

Here we have it in a nutshell. A part of the work of the Mormon Church, and perhaps its largest part, is to see that its people are provided with homes and subsistence.

How does the Church do this work?

Sensibly.

A new proselyte is asked if he knows enough about farming to get his food from the soil and if he has a trade or profession. The first is a prime requisite; the second he may or may not have, according to his own inclinations.

In due course the proselyte is sent to a stake which has lands that need hands. Arrived there, the local Bishop offers a selection of the land that is unoccupied, generally a patch of from twenty to forty acres. Then the tithing yard is called on for lumber sufficient to build a house that will meet the requirements, the land is laid out and the brethren in the vicinity are notified of a house raising and a field plowing on a certain near date in honor of a new brother. There is a general rally of the neighbors. The tithing yard furnishes the necessary supplies for the working of the place—farming utensils, seed, fixtures for the new home, poultry, a pig or two and a cow, and arrangements are made for the supplying of food, etc., until the proselyte is able to support himself.

As said above, the neighbors have come in. It is to be a day of laboring for love and rejoicing over the new brother. By evening of the first day, perhaps, and certainly by the second evening, the house is up and in running order, a barn and other shelter for the animals are ready for use, a well sunk and the fields plowed and sowed. Then comes a house warming. At its conclusion those who have done so much to give the brother a start in the world bless him and go back to their homes, leaving the recipient of all this loving help in a maze over his good fortune.

Who had been but lately an abject slave has become a godlike man under such circumstances. Fancy! A home and opportunity to make his way without hinder! There are higher ideals in this life than surety of food and shelter, but the human being cannot reach for or contemplate them until these desires have been gratified and assured.

But none of these benefits and blessings bestowed on the proselyte have been given to him, nor are they sold to him for profit. He is in-

debted to the tithing yard for them at cost. He is to pay for them as he can, presuming, of course, that he is reasonably industrious. When his debt has been liquidated the Church asks of him but one thing more outside of loyalty, and that is that he give yearly to the Church one-tenth of the increase in his material wealth, the wealth made possible to him when the Church gave him his start in the world. He gives gladly, as a rule, for he knows that this small addition to the working funds of the Church will enable it to do for others as it has done for him.

I have gone over the story at great length and perhaps wasted words and your patience, if you have gone thus far with me. My excuse must be that of all the experiments I have ever seen or read of, the Mormon experiment comes the nearest to being reasonable and applicable.

I do not venture to say that it is one that can be taken and operated as a whole as the Mormons operate it. The sentiment of the American people would be against such a thing. The eliminating of certain features of the Mormon creed would be absolutely necessary. Some other method of giving out the land and supplies would have to be devised. But I have developed the fact that the Mormon method disposes of the surplus man, of whom I spoke in the beginning of this letter. And I know that a scheme that has increased the membership of the Mormon Church nearly seven thousand fold in less than seventy years—while the population of the United States has increased but four-fold in the same time—must be a superior scheme and worthy to be followed.

And I am not alone in this belief. Less than a year ago an item appeared in the New York city newspapers stating that Cardinal Farley was working on a scheme to take care of Catholics who could not hold their own in the struggle for the necessaries of life—in other words, the surplus of the Catholic faith. This scheme is, in substance, the Mormon scheme and its object undoubtedly is to bring the average Catholic closer to the faith and thus make that Church a still more powerful influence in American affairs. There is no doubt but that it will succeed.

The United States government has more to gain by action in this direction than either the Mormon or Catholic churches and it has the lands and money to carry them out. What the government does in this direction will be for the advancement of the whole citizenship and not for a portion of it.

The Department of Labor should inaugurate such a scheme. The experiences of Mr. Wilson in the trades union field and your long studies in the wide field of labor economics would make you two the ideal men to undertake a work that will add so much to the well-being of those who labor.

WILLIAM MCCABE.

A CHIP OF THE OLD BLOCK.

For The Public.

Sammy East (as people called him) was more or less in government service. He hunted, trapped, went with pack trains for surveyors and timber cruisers. He had carried the mail, in pioneer days and places, on snow-shoes, climbing up to the crest of the Sierras, sliding down to little mountain camps otherwise wholly cut off from communication with the outside world for weeks at a time. He had as many adventures with hunger, cold, wolves and grizzlies as did that more widely known "Snow-shoe Thompson," another of those hardy mountaineers, the fellow who carried the winter mails from Placerville to Genoa, Nevada, before the Southern Pacific was built.

Sammy East earned money enough to educate his only son, Paul, and then he died. It is with Paul that this tale has to do—Paul, a quiet young man just ready to practice medicine in a valley town, just married to one of his university classmates. He took her up in the forest, miles away, to see his father's grave, and there he told her: "The old man never knew what fear was, and never let go of anything he had begun till it was somehow finished. Once he was caught in the head of a gulch, by a snowslide, and lived there for days; his fight would make a book. I don't think I could have done it."

"Yes, you could," she replied. "You don't know yourself very well."

A couple of years passed, and the tragedy came into his life. There was a dear little baby girl by that time, and Dr. Paul took his wife and baby out for a drive. They went along a narrow hill-road, in a steep canyon. The bank above had caved with the spring rains. He tried to lead the horse around the break, but the animal "went plumb crazy," as old ranchers say, reared, plunged, rolled over the edge on the rocks far below, dragging him along. When people came later, they took out all that was left alive, this poor Dr. Paul; he was patched up in a San Francisco hospital, minus an arm and a leg, and at last resumed his practice in the town where he had started.

His oldest and best friends, looking at him, found it impossible to do more than shake hands, with tears in their eyes, and go off. Every morning when he got up he went to the little grave-yard, and put fresh flowers on the mound where his wife and baby were resting, but he never spoke an extra word to anyone; he simply threw himself into his work. One of his classmates who had been at the wedding and used to play with the baby, once came a good many miles to see Dr. Paul. He lived so much alone, she thought; maybe some one might persuade him to have more social life and to board with pleasant people, instead of eating at the hotel, and sleeping in his office. She had it all planned

out in her matter-of-fact mind—just as people will, you know. She took his hand, looked into his quiet face, and suddenly felt that they lived in different worlds and spoke in different languages. She could find no bi-lingual inscription by which to translate herself into his terms, or him into hers. She came away, and said to a friend: "The Doctor looks a million years old, and absolutely alone, as if he were buried in a snow-drift. And yet he seems as big as all out-doors."

More years passed—five, ten, twenty. Then one of the people who cared, and remembered, met Dr. Paul at a convention of medical men where he read a monograph of the sort that gives one "an inside reputation" among specialists. She was astonished, and almost ran home to tell her story. "I just happened to see that he was to read a paper, and I went there. Of course I didn't understand it, but it was plain the rest did. Dr. Paul looks transparent as glass. His eyes are shining with the light of peace. He sits still, for he is such a cripple, and everyone goes to him. It is beautiful to see him, and to hear him speak. His voice warms you clear through. He has ripened and mellowed, sweetened and brightened until now the mortal seems ready to put on immortality. When he shook hands with me he spoke of her (you know we went to school together). He said: 'Mary, you and she knew each other, and it is so pleasant to meet you again.' All I could answer was: 'O yes, Dr. Paul; yes.'"

At last Dr. Paul's work was done, his body was worn out; he rested, waiting for release. To one of his oldest friends he said: "My father, who was a rough mountain diamond of a man, once froze in the snow for a month or more. His companions were killed by an avalanche, and he was battered and crippled. He got a fire, drew threads from his clothes to make snares, and caught birds and small animals. He turned a saddle into a pair of snow shoes and slid on them 6,000 feet down into the valley among the homes of men. My father's only son . . . has had . . . to do . . . about . . . that sort of thing, you know."

His face lit up as if from within: "At last, I saw that it was all right, that my treasure was . . . laid away . . . where neither moth nor rust . . ." His voice failed, he closed his eyes and passed into the dreamless sleep. His friend, a dour Scotchman who had never shown emotion before, came out weeping, unashamed. "The best man o' this generation has gane to meet his ain folk."

CHARLES HOWARD SHINN.



When fewer shoemakers make more shoes for fewer farmers and fewer farmers raise more food for fewer shoemakers, why does the cost of living rise? Somebody has quit work and is living off the worker.—Grain Growers' Text Book.

OUT IN THE OPEN PLACES

By Will Maupin, in *Mid-West Magazine*, May-June.

Out in the wide open places,
Afar from the mart and its strife;
Out in the far reaching places
Where living and loving is life.
Where man is my brother and neighbor,
Not merely a man dwelling near;
Where each gets the fruits of his labor,
And toil brings reward full of cheer.

Far from the striving and tolling
For merely the uplift of self;
Far from the scheming and molling
For nothing but glittering pelf.
Out where the sunlight is brightest,
Where winds ripple billows of grain;
Where hearts are gayest and lightest
And love sings its sweetest refrain;

Over the hills and the valleys,
By streams and their shady retreats;
Away from the hot, steaming alleys.
Away from the hot, noisy streets.
Out in God's open are winging
The birds that are fearless and free;
Softly and sweetly their singing
Is bringing a message to me.

Of wide, far places I'm dreaming;
Of reaches of prairie and fen:
Where Nature's own colors are gleaming
And God draws the nearest to men.
I long for the soft breezes blowing,
For scent of the flower-strewn sod;
Where reaping comes sure from the sowing,
And man draws the nearest to God.

BOOKS

WHAT ONE WOMAN DID.

Letters of a Woman Homesteader. By Elinore Pruitt Stewart. Published by Houghton, Mifflin Company, Boston. 1914. Price, \$1.25 net.

As told in the publisher's note these genuinely interesting letters were written by a young woman who, after the loss of her husband in a railway accident, went to Denver to seek support for herself and her two-year-old daughter Jerrine. With the brave spirit that shrinks from no hardship in necessary employment the writer of these charming letters to a friend who had known her readiness to serve, accepted the position as housekeeper to a Scotch ranchman who had taken up a quarter-section in Wyoming.

The delightful humor of her artless account of the journey, and of her arrival at Burnt Fork way up close to the Forest Reserve of Utah and sixty miles from the railroad, wins in the first letter, the interest of the reader to whom the romance and heroism of actual life appeals more

forcibly than the impossible situations of sentimental fiction.

From the filing of her land claim and her becoming, as she says, "a bloated land owner," Mrs. Stewart passes into the busiest, happiest life she can remember, though it appears to hold the usual hardships and privations of the pioneer settler. These, however, are so lightened and glorified by the radiance of a sunny spirit that we find the record of them as captivating as the original characters that figure in the various situations which the reviewer would be happy to transcribe if space permitted. Not the least interesting of these pioneer personages is the employing ranchman himself with his delightful Scotch dialect which most certainly possessed a wooing charm for the letter writer who finally confesses to her friend, "The thing I have done is to marry Mr. Stewart." And life after that quiet, unparaded event seems to have moved along with "joy waves radiating from this ranch" in progressive home comforts and refinements described with loving simplicity that serves as a model for those removed from the alluring vanities of civilization.

A. L. M.



THE TAXATION PROBLEM.

Essays On Taxation. By Edwin R. A. Seligman, McVickar Professor of Political Economy, Columbia University. Published by the Macmillan Co., New York. 1913. Price \$4.00 net.

The student of taxation wishing information concerning its historical development and the legal status of certain forms will find Professor Seligman's book an interesting and valuable work of reference. Especially will this be realized on reading the chapter devoted to the General Property Tax. No one who studies the facts therein presented can fail to realize the utter futility of all efforts to enforce so discredited a system. It makes clear the ignorance of those legislators who are still trying to discover some device by which this fallacious scheme may be made to work and to have good results. "As a system it is open to every conceivable objection," says Professor Seligman and he seems to thoroughly prove his case, even though the objections he presents are not as strong as some that he omits. He fails to note that the practical effect of taxing labor and its products is to discourage and check the production of wealth. Entirely beyond him is the fact that taxation of labor products is merely legalized robbery. Yet his very omissions make more clear the weakness of the case for the General Property Tax, inasmuch as the Professor is able to discredit it without even touching on fundamental principles.

The greater part of the book is devoted to explanations of various methods of taxation tried or in force in various states of the Union and

in foreign countries. Facts are presented at sufficient length to enable them to be properly understood and yet the presentation is brief enough for the busy student to avoid waste of time with non-essentials while securing the information he may wish.

But while the work is deserving of praise insofar as it tells of or comments on the results of legislation enacted, it is defective in its discussion of methods proposed. This is probably due to the fact that the Professor has apparently no clear idea of any basic principle on which a just system of taxation should be founded. His rejection of the General Property Tax, and his ability to see flaws in various specific taxes on certain forms of property, leave him unable consistently to recommend strict adherence to the doctrine of taxation in accordance with ability to pay—strong as his inclination to do so, appears to be. He rejects the principle of taxation according to benefits conferred, apparently oblivious to the fact that this puts him in the position of recommending that some should pay more to government than its services to them are worth and others should pay less. This failure to present a fundamental principle would not be so surprising but for the fact that the author is Professor of Political Economy at Columbia University, and may therefore be fairly presumed to be sufficiently acquainted with that science to need no reminder that it clearly and definitely enables its students to see the fundamental principle on which a correct system of taxation must be based.

The chapter on the Singletax is the one in which the Professor's disregard of fundamental principles leads him into the most serious of errors. It is nearly twenty years since these same errors presented in an earlier edition were pointed out by Thomas G. Shearman in his *Natural Taxation*. Yet the original statements are repeated herein and no mention whatever is made of Mr. Shearman's comments. Can it be that the Professor has not read *Natural Taxation*? No, for in a footnote, he makes a somewhat ill-tempered allusion to it. The omission of any answer to Mr. Shearman's comment renders unnecessary anything further, except that Mr. Shearman spared the Professor any reference to certain ridiculous parts of this chapter. One of these ridiculous parts is bringing in as serious argument Voltaire's story of the man of forty crowns. That story—however it might apply to what Voltaire had in mind—requires a most distorted conception of George's proposition to be applied to it. One does sometimes hear persons, ignorant of political economy, say that the Singletax would exempt holders of securities. The Professor needs no instruction regarding the fact that in taxing the property represented by securities the holder of them is taxed. Yet he seriously presents as a fact Voltaire's imaginary untaxed heir to "money

and securities." Professor Seligman himself advocates abolition of the personal property tax. If Voltaire's story is to be considered as an argument at all, it applies to the Professor's own proposition as well as to the Singletax. His bringing it in illustrates the difficulty if not impossibility of arguing against the Singletax and the General Property Tax at one and the same time without blundering into absurd inconsistencies. However, these defects should not blind one to the many scholarly and valuable parts of the book.

S. D.

PERIODICALS

The Singletax Review.

A timely article in the May-June number of the *Singletax Review* (150 Nassau St., New York), is that of W. B. Northrop on "Who Owns The United States?" This article, accompanied by a map, shows the railroads to be owners of 200,000,000 acres. These corporations are thus readily seen to be the biggest land owners in the United States. A "Plain Talk with Farmers on the Singletax" by Charles Hardon is an excellent addition to the number of articles which make clear the benefits of the Singletax to the very class whose self interest ought to make the most ardent advocates of that reform. The Bi-Monthly news letter furnishes the usual interesting information concerning the progress of the movement. "The Real Cause of the High Cost of Living" by Henry H. Hardinge makes clear the answer to the most pressing question of today. There is much other information of value in this exceedingly interesting number of this useful magazine.

S. D.



This great discovery [the Hare system of Proportional Representation], for it is no less, in the political art, inspired me . . . with new and more sanguine hopes respecting the future of human society, by freeing the form of political institutions towards which the whole civilized world is manifestly and irresistibly tending [i. e., democracy] from the chief part of what seemed to qualify, or render doubtful, its ultimate benefits. . . . I can understand that persons, otherwise intelligent, should, for want of sufficient examination, be repelled from Mr. Hare's plan by what they think the complex nature of its machinery. But any one who does not feel the want which the scheme is intended to supply; any one who throws it over as a mere intellectual subtlety or crotchet, tending to no valuable purpose, and unworthy the attention of practical men, may be pronounced an incompetent statesman, unequal to the politics of the future.—John Stuart Mill in his *Autobiography*.



Every theory must be judged, not only by its power of making grimaces at opposing theories, but also and chiefly by its own positive adequacy to the facts.—Bowne in "Studies in Theism."

Occasionally in court proceedings which some reporter is trying to get into the record some witness will insist on simply shaking his head in answer to questions put to him by the attorney.

There was present such a witness at a hearing recently held in the county of L—. Again and again the attorney was obliged to repeat the answer for the benefit of the official court reporter. Presently the patience of the attorney gave out.

"Please answer that question," he said. "Why don't you answer the question?"

"I did answer," was the retort of the injured witness. "I shook my head."

"Yes," assented the quick-witted attorney for the defense. "I heard it rattle, and so did the court reporter; but he doesn't know whether you shook it up and down or sidewise."—Unidentified.



"Yes," said the fat man with the gold watch-chain spread across his ample waistcoat, "I have two and a half-dozen children."

The other men gasped. Then one of them said: "Surely—two and a—"

"Quite so," said the fat man. "Two, and a half-dozen, which is six, makes eight. Two and a half-dozen."—Tit-Bits.



"Shure it's married Oi am," said Murphy.
"You don't tell me so," said Moran.

"'Fai' yes," said Murphy, "and Oi've got a foine, healthy boy, which the neighbors say is the very pictur' o' me."

"Ah, well, what's the harm so long as the child's healthy?"—Unidentified.



A little boy reached school with very untidy hair, and his teacher asked him:

"Why don't you brush your hair?"

"Ain't got no brush, sir," replied the boy.

"Why don't you use your father's brush, then?" asked teacher.

"He ain't got no brush, either," was the reply.

"No brush! Why hasn't he a brush?" asked teacher again, in astonishment.

"He's got no hair," was the gloomy reply.—Sacred Heart Review.



The Bench: How far away were you?

Witness: Dunno, boss.

The Bench: Come now, how far? Far as from here to the door?

Witness: Yes, boss. 'Bout that much. 'Bout a mile.—Sydney Bulletin.



George, who lives in London, happened to meet the vicar of his native parish the other day, and eagerly asked after some of his old acquaintances.

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Land Monopoly's Trail Through History

A Free Society cannot develop while the land is monopolized. Land monopoly is dependent on the keeping of political power in the hands of the few—the victorious groups. The State, as we know it, is the means by which the hold of the monopolist is maintained.

This is the line of argument Professor Franz Oppenheimer makes in his new book on the history and development of the state, viewed sociologically.

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"And old Mr. Jones?" he asked. "Have you seen him lately?"

The vicar shook his head. "I shall never see him again," he answered, slowly. "Mr. Jones has gone to heaven."—Tit-Bits.



Little Girl: No, I am not English. I was born in France.

Lady: Which part, dear?

Little Girl: Why, all of me.—Sacred Heart Review.



"What's the price of this piece of goods?" asked a deaf old lady.

"Seven cents a yard, ma'am."

"Seventeen cents!" she exclaimed. "I'll give you 13."

"Only 7 cents, ma'am," shouted the honest shopman.

"Oh, 7 cents!" rejoined the lady, sharply. "Well, I'll give you 5."—National Food Magazine.



"Gentlemen," said a Congressman, "a member of this House has taken advantage of my absence to tweak my nose behind my back. I hope that the next time he abuses me behind my back like a coward he will do it to my face like a man, and not go skulking into the thicket to assail a gentleman who isn't present to defend himself."—Sacred Heart Review.

The right way

to clean clothes is to wash them with Fels-Naptha Soap in cool or lukewarm water. No boiling or hard rubbing to weaken the fabric. Fels-Naptha won't harm delicate fabrics.

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FAIRHOPE

Mrs. Marietta Johnson, founder of the famous Organic School, will speak on

ORGANIC EDUCATION

before the

Chicago Singletax Club, Shiller Hall, Shiller Building, Friday, June 26, 1914, 8 P. M.

Mrs. Johnson will also have something to say about affairs in Fairhope. John Z. White will speak on the Single Tax.

At 7:30—that is, before the meeting—Mr. Frank Pearson, well-known to old Chicago Singletaxers as an accomplished singer, will meet with those interested in forming a Songs of Freedom Glee Club. If you can sing just a little or are at all interested in the project, you are urgently requested to attend at 7:30.

OTTO CULLMAN,
President.

E. J. BATTEN,
Business Secretary.

TOM L. JOHNSON AS WE KNOW HIM

Under a title like this the six eloquent speeches made at the banquet given in honor of Mr. Johnson at the Hotel Astor, New York City, in 1910, would, in book form, have rapidly run out of print.

Unfortunately, the beautiful volume in which they were published (printed by Horace Carr, the artist-printer) went to press with the heavy-footed title, "The Tom L. Johnson Testimonial Banquet." Naturally readers who were not at the banquet assumed that it was no less dull than big banquets usually are, and they didn't buy the book. A few copies have just come to our book department. We want to get them in the hands of appreciative people.

The speeches referred to were made by Herbert S. Bigelow ("Johnson, the Man"), Henry George, Jr. ("Johnson, the Friend and Disciple of Henry George"), Louis F. Post, John Dewitt Warner, Newton D. Baker and Edmund Vance Cook, whose now well-known poem, "A Man is Passing," is published as part of his speech on "Johnson in Defeat."

The few copies we have will be sold, while they last, at 25c, postpaid. Three copies to one address, 60c.

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