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EDITORIAL

Who Laughs Last Laughs Best.

But two short years, and the impossible has come to pass! Secretary of State William J. Bryan, who humiliated his countrymen by serving grape juice to foreign representatives at a state dinner, has scarcely completed half his term of office, before reading the public announcement of George V:

By the King's command no wine or spirits will be consumed in any of His Majesty's houses after today.

Let the compassionate lover of his kind drop a tear at the plight of those who have been wont to laugh so long and loud at the idea of serving grape juice to ladies and gentlemen from foreign parts.

S. C.

"Mistakes" of the Fathers.

With what a sense of shame and humiliation must the militarists look upon the founders of this government, when they view the three-thousand-mile boundary between the United States and Canada. Not a fort along the whole line; not a battleship on the Great Lakes; and here we sit supinely, a nation of mollycoddles, not knowing what moment the Canadians may rush in upon us. And what a stimulus to business it would have been, had the frontier, like that between France and Germany, been fortified. We could have spent billions of dollars in forts and battleships, and employed hundreds of thousands of men. All these blessings are denied us simply because the Fathers of the Republic cravenly agreed with the British to leave the international boundary unfortified.

S. C.

England's Enemies.

"England's enemies are Germany, Austria and Drink," says David Lloyd George. Then he declares the last to be far more dangerous than the others. Accepting the statement as correct, it makes one wonder at the kind of statesmanship

which will engage in a bloody struggle with minor enemies abroad while believing that there is a more dangerous enemy needing attention at home. Is it not another illustration of the fact that foreign wars are waged to divert attention from domestic evils?



Just how Lloyd-George would fight the evil of Drink is not made clear. Nothing is said about removing the great underlying cause of the evil; the social conditions which create on one hand a poverty stricken class, driven by its own misery to seek comfort in drink, and which create on the other hand a class living in idle luxury, seeking in drink a refuge from ennui. Lloyd-George's fame rests on his championship of measures making a feeble beginning at an attack on this underlying cause. The land clauses of the 1909 budget, feeble and insufficient as they were, were stronger blows in England's defense than anything that Kitchener's army can or will do. But when the war began on England's lesser enemies, the war on the Great Enemy ceased—so far as Lloyd-George and the British government were concerned. But the Great Enemy has not slackened his fight on the British people, so that Lloyd-George is unable to longer ignore one of the evils spread by it over the nation. It remains to be seen how he will fight it. Will he confine his efforts to restrictive palliatives, or will he again take up the fight, which he so needlessly relinquished, against the underlying poverty breeding evil of land monopoly?

S. D.



Legislative Interference With Business.

The Illinois Manufacturers Association strenuously objects to the passage by the legislature of laws regulating the labor of women and children. It wants the regulation of business by law to stop. Little effort is needed to show that restrictive legislation of this kind is not the right remedy for the evils aimed at. But that is not the object of the Manufacturers Association. Its demand is in effect that conditions be left as they are, that nothing be done to stop exploitation of women and children. It aims to show that the particular bills before the Legislature will hurt business and assumes that, having shown that, nothing more is necessary to prove that the bills should be killed. But much more is necessary. Business is very important—that is, business apart from privilege is so—but of no less importance is the need that women be not overworked and that children be freed from requirement to toil. It is

the duty of the Illinois Manufacturers Association if it would oppose the pending measures, to show how these results can be accomplished without legislative interference with unprivileged business. What is more, it is the association's duty to work for adoption of a better method. That there is a better way is a fact. But since the association is doing nothing to push it, it should put nothing in the way of well meant efforts to abolish a crying evil, even though the methods be crude and unscientific; and likely to breed evils previously unknown. An honest experiment will, at least, help to educate public opinion along proper lines. The do-nothing policy, unreasonably insisted on by the Manufacturers Association, is unacceptable.

S. D.



A Dormant Social Conscience.

The effort to raise the child labor limit in Illinois from fourteen to sixteen years is meeting with more opposition than is creditable to the State. If the future citizens of this country are to be men and women worthy of their opportunities they must have a better beginning than is possible with children leaving school at the age of fourteen to enter the ranks of the bread-winners. The child of that age lacks the physical, mental and moral strength to withstand the strain of modern commercialism; and the education that has been acquired at the age of fourteen is not sufficient to form a basis for the culture that every American man and woman should have. Twenty-six thousand boys and girls in Illinois between the age of fourteen and sixteen are now engaged in industrial occupations. A too common result of this early labor was shown in the person of the Lithuanian girl who appeared before the House committee having the bill in charge. Her form was stunted, and her health broken, from working with dyes in a hair-dyeing factory when she was fourteen years old. This is not wise treatment for the possible mothers of Presidents.



Miss Anne Davis, of the Chicago public schools, testified that the work of these children is such as requires no education, and develops into no trade or calling. Beginning at this early age, Miss Davis said, the children were not only stunted in mind and body, but were subject to heart trouble and tuberculosis. And so evil were the influences, she said, that business men had told her they did not like to hire boys who had been messenger boys, because of the knowledge and habits they had picked up. Miss Jane Addams substantiated this

statement as to the immoral influences to which child-workers were subjected by calling attention to the fact that messenger boys had been required to visit opium dens and other sinks of iniquity, in the discharge of their duties.



In these days of conservation society can ill afford to neglect its children. When there is presented the alternative of having as citizens men and women fully developed in body and mind, or men and women stunted in body and dwarfed in mind, there should be no hesitation in making the choice. The answer to the question of the legislator who asked what was to become of the widow who had children under the age of fourteen, and no other means of support, should be that the State is amply able to bear the cost of that family's keep until the children have completed a reasonable course in school, and are old enough to go to work without detriment to themselves, and to their country. To talk of sending children of tender years to work when mature men are idle is madness. The child of today is the father or mother of the citizen of tomorrow; and whatever of its due is withheld now will be collected with compound interest in the future.



Better economic conditions is the real solution of the child labor problem; but in matters of life and death, and, what is worse, in the presence of the strangulation of human character, society cannot always wait upon the slow processes of evolution. With better economic conditions there will be less call for the employment of young children in gainful occupations; but whether it be economic necessity or parental cupidity that forces the child into the ranks of labor, when it should be at play and in school, the State is as much bound to stand behind that child, and protect it from harm, as though it were menaced by physical danger.

s. c.



Child Culture.

What to do with the boy has led to the raising of a question that may place the pacifist cause in a false light. One of the most successful movements ever attempted in boydom is the Boy Scouts. In England, where it originated, it had the form and intent of a military society. While seeking to develop the boy's resourcefulness, and cultivating within him a hardihood and love of out door adventure, it had as an end the making of soldiers. Transferred to this country the idea took on less of the military aspect and more of recreation and

character building. But it retained enough of the military form to cause some of the pacifists to condemn the whole movement. It may be questioned if this is wise. The present need of boy culture is greater than ever, both because we have higher ideals to realize, and the boy has more opportunities for failure.



Children begin life as savages, endowed with the instincts of the animal kingdom; civilization must be acquired. What is the best way to civilize the boy? Preaching to him is not sufficient; nor will the public schools and Sunday schools complete the work. Children lacking proper moral support at home must have their minds occupied with wholesome thoughts. It is a time when their minds are most acquisitive, and their wills weakest. They are filled with the spirit of activity and if not directed into sensible ways will fall into foolishness. To say that the child starts with animal instincts is to reflect in no way upon human nature. Animal instincts, when not perverted, are wholesome. The problem is to secure the development of these instincts to the limit of human intelligence.



One of the most marked characteristics of the boy is his social instinct. He wishes to be with his fellows. They are governed by what some have called the gang spirit, which leads to good or evil results according as directed. The Boy Scout organization seems to direct the gang spirit into wholesome ways; and though it has a military form, it need not necessarily have a military purpose. The boy's love of organization, of uniforms, and of mystery, may be taken advantage of in the development of his character. This appears to be the dominant purpose of the American Boy Scouts. In addition to their tours, camps, and drills, they have been interested in various public activities, such as sanitary inspection, fire prevention, and similar things which, though in charge of government officials, are as yet indifferently done. Doubtless many useful things will be found for the boys to do; not of such arduous nature as to oppress them with the idea of labor, but stimulate them with the thought of usefulness, and awaken a sense of responsibility.



Moralists have sometimes failed of their best efforts through marking out a line of conduct antagonistic to the natural desires of people. For instance, it may be questioned if those persons who would abolish dancing are not doing more

harm than good by repressing a natural inclination in the young. It has been suggested that if these purists would encourage dancing under good auspices they would secure better results. It is to be hoped that the pacifists will not, in their abhorrence of all things military, deprive society of a natural agent or means of developing the boy. Should there still remain too much of the military spirit in the Boy Scouts, sympathetic co-operation on the part of the pacifists can secure modifications. The order of the Camp Fire Girls is entirely free from this objection, and there would seem to be no reason why the boys' organization could not be shorn of all evil influences without depriving it of its attractiveness. Both boys and girls need every encouragement. Prohibiting wrong doing is not sufficient; and is never effective. It is only in encouraging right doing that progress is made in the development of character. And the encouragement of such organizations as the Boy Scouts and the Camp Fire Girls will lead to the development of both the physical and the spiritual in their natures. s. c.



The Railroad Rate Question.

Railroads of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan, not satisfied with the unjustifiable increases already allowed them are trying to secure repeal of the two-cent fare laws of these states. Their argument is contained in the following extract from a circular letter to individuals whose support they hope to get:

The enactment in 1906 of the present fare law in Ohio, came about as result of a political wave which swept over the entire country inimical to the interest of corporations in general rather than a well devised and thought-out plan of a reasonable adjustment of fares, and since that time numerous regulations expensive to railway operation have come about through the legislature or by order of the Interstate Commerce and the Public Utilities Commissions, which together with increased wages, increased cost of material and everything that enters into operation, to such an extent, that the income is not sufficient to meet the expenses.

So far as income not being sufficient to meet the expenses is concerned, it might easily become so if the railroads would abolish the expensive lobbies, such as the one which prevented passage of a postal appropriation bill by Congress, in order to defeat a proper readjustment of railway mail pay. As long as such lobbies can be maintained under two-cent fare, then other expenses can be met also.



Whatever may have caused adoption of the two-

cent fare laws they were justified by the fact that previous charges were exorbitant. The roads charged at the time the same rates that were charged when population was more sparse, travel was less, less powerful locomotives than now exist had to be used, and efficient labor saving methods of the present day were not in use. Moreover, those were the days when any man who had a speaking acquaintance with a local politician could get a pass. It does not seem reasonable that with modern business methods in force; and all the old waste and abuse eliminated, that two-cent fares can not be made to pay expenses. The claim indicates something wrong with the management. The corporation representatives should be told that if they can not get along with the privileges they have it would be better that they quit business and leave the way open for public ownership. s. d.



Amending the Illinois Constitution.

There need be little regret over the defeat of the constitutional convention proposition in the Illinois Legislature, should there be submitted an acceptable amendment to the amending clause. Of the two methods of changing the Constitution the amending process is to be preferred. With the way once cleared to that, it will be possible to get the Initiative and Referendum, and then a constitutional convention will be unnecessary. Whatever constitutional changes will be required can then be submitted through the Initiative without the danger of being made unrecognizable, as might easily result, were the work left to a constitutional convention. The defeat of the convention makes it impossible for the interests back of the Chicago Civic Federation's proposed tax amendment to push that, without brazenly admitting that they wish to block all reforms except those of financial benefit to themselves. Since only one amendment at a time can be submitted, an amendment to the amending clause is the only one that deserves consideration provided the Initiative and Referendum cannot be obtained at once. In the new process of amendment no limitation of the number of propositions that may be submitted should be included. No more than a majority of the Legislature should be required for submission and a majority of voters voting directly on the proposition should be enough to carry it. One measure now before the Legislature, which would allow no more than three amendments, is not a sufficient improvement. An arbitrary limit means that there will always be a fight to crowd meritorious measures off the ballot by filling it with

frivolous ones. There should therefore be no restriction.

S. D.



No Plutocratic "Tax Reform" Wanted.

"Help us secure exemption of our stocks and bonds," say Chicago plutocrats to tax reformers, "and then you can proceed to get other exemptions you may want." The appeal is a fair example of plutocratic trickery. With their own property once safely exempt these interests will oppose with might and main any further exemptions favored by those whose aid they now ask. That is one reason why the "half a loaf" argument should not be accepted in behalf of the proposed tax amendment being pushed by the Chicago Real Estate Board, Civic Federation and similar bodies. They are working to secure classification of personal property for taxation, but oppose classification of real estate, and also oppose home rule in taxation. The only way to ensure plutocratic good behavior, while a fight for just taxation is in progress, is to withhold relief from injustice from plutocratic interests unless similar relief be granted at the same time to more useful interests.

S. D.



Unwelcomed Improvements.

A great many Americans have been shocked at the treatment accorded our sailors and man-o-warsmen in their own country. While there has been a vociferous demand for more men in the army and navy, and the general feeling for the men in the service is one of friendliness and pride in their achievements, there is a line beyond which this does not go. When Jack appears at certain theaters, restaurants, and other places of entertainment, he is refused admission. It is a shock to think that the men whose exploits have thrilled us, should be barred from any public place; and that the uniform that is associated in our minds with some of the most heroic deeds of history, should be a badge of dishonor in our own country.



Something akin to this is now taking place in Chicago. A militia regiment of cavalry is looking for a place to set its armory. The State has purchased a piece of land for that purpose, but the neighboring property owners have made such a vigorous protest that the sympathetic politicians have prevented its use. A solution was attempted by locating the armory on one of the principal parks. A military livery stable, the politicians admitted, might be objectionable to property own-

ers, but there could be no objection to putting it on ground devoted to public recreation. It so happens, however, that Chicago is beginning to appreciate its parks, and such a vigorous protest has been offered that the park officials are afraid to admit the armory.



One can scarcely blame the property owners, under present conditions, for protesting against locating the armory in their midst. In buying land in that locality they bought with the full expectation that it would increase in value with the growth of the city. The location of such a huge livery stable would very likely interrupt that growth of value; and possibly decrease what had already accumulated. This looks unfair to the citizens. But there is a way in which this can be avoided. If the city will take for its own uses the value that it gives to the land, it will free the citizen from all fret and worry over the question of whether his land is increasing or decreasing in value; because, whatever the amount of the value it will be paid annually into the city treasury. Under such conditions the presence of the military livery stable would not so much matter. If it depressed the values in the neighborhood, the taxes would fall accordingly; and the citizen would have the choice of continuing in a less desirable neighborhood for a less amount of money, or of moving to a better part of the city where he would be freed from the objectionable presence, and pay a sum similar to what he did before. It is merely another illustration of the ease with which the tangled skein may be unraveled, when the right thread has been discovered.

S. C.



Poor Missouri.

That the "Show-me" State did not finally dispose of the question of taxation when it voted down the so-called Singletax amendment to the Constitution is evident from the continual recurrence of the subject in public discussion in the press, in the legislature, and among the people generally. William Marion Reedy, *The Inimitable*, in *Reedy's Mirror*, gives the defenders of present conditions no rest. He has coaxed and threatened, praised and abused, jollied and denounced, but all to little purpose. That is, to little immediate purpose, for his jibes and flings give the self-satisfied no rest, and his logic leaves them no means of escape. The cities, he says—and many corroborate his words—pay the major part of the State taxes, to the relief of the farmers, and re-

ceive in return only the sumptuary legislation that seeks to regulate urban pleasures according to rural codes. Mr. Reedy declares that St. Louis, Kansas City and St. Joseph would be justified in setting up as independent states, which is another way of saying they must have home rule in taxation.



There might be some color of justice in the claim of rural citizens that the cities should not have the power to compel the taxation of land values in rural communities; but there is no reason why the cities should not have the privilege, if they wish it, of taxing land values within their own borders. Home rule in taxation is the right of all communities, whether urban or rural, and home rule in taxation there must be before Missouri or any other State can have peace. For the farmers of Missouri to hold the cities of that State in leading strings is to deny them justice, and justice withheld means incessant strife. s. c.



Hoyne's Tax Laws.

The burden of framing tax laws for Chicago has been assumed by State's Attorney Maclay Hoyne. However objectionable such a course may be, it is not as much so as subjection to arbitrary and unchangeable rules laid down 45 years ago in a Constitution framed by men who are now dead. Mr. Hoyne is at least alive and may be reasoned with. Moreover, he can lay down no rules to remain in force after he dies or leaves office. Autocratic as is the power he assumes, there is nevertheless a greater degree of popular government in his illegal declaration than was granted by the framers of the Illinois Constitution.



The quality of Mr. Hoyne's legislation is not, however, commendable. He declares that household goods, savings deposits, personal estates of widows and orphans and corporation stocks representing property taxable elsewhere are to be hereafter exempt. So far this is sensible. But he further announces that large owners of personal property and especially those drawing a profit from such property are to be taxed. After himself classifying personal property in this way, he announces that classification of property for taxation at different rates is wrong. Consistency evidently is not a virtue with Mr. Hoyne.



The exemption of small owners of personal property from taxation is right, not because they

own little property, but because ownership of such property does not necessarily imply that there is any debt due the State. The value of services performed for a citizen by the government is not always shown in the extent of his personal possessions, or in the size of his income. It is only shown in the value of possessions, the title to which has not been obtained from the producer. Such property is land. The extent to which the government confers benefit on a citizen is shown in the value of land which he occupies and owns. The man who owns no land pays for all benefits that the government properly confers in his ground rent. This ground rent ought to go into the public treasury and should be the only tax. But because it is allowed to remain in private pockets, the government collects a second time in taxes on personal property and improvements for services that have already been paid for in rent. There is the same reason for exempting large owners of personal property as there is for exempting small ones. There is the same reason for exempting improvements as there is for exemption of personal property. The owners of such property are justified for this reason in resisting efforts to force them to pay. s. d.



Inequality Unavoidable Under General Property Tax.

Wherever personal property is taxed the smaller owners are assessed far more in proportion to true value than the larger ones. This is not always due to neglect, indifference or incompetence on the part of assessors. If personal property is to be taxed at all, assessments must be made in that way. This has been shown again and again whenever an effort has been made to tax large holdings at the same rate as small ones. Whenever this is seriously tried the large holder transfers his residence and the entire tax is lost. The recent removal of Charles R. Crane from Chicago to Massachusetts is but one of a long list of similar examples which show the folly of trying to tax personal property uniformly. The City and State formerly received from Mr. Crane a tax of \$30,000 a year, which he was under no moral obligation whatever to pay. The foolish and unjustifiable effort of State's Attorney Hoyne, to increase the assessment, resulted in loss to the public treasury of that much income. The way to abolish inequality in taxation is to follow the advice of Enoch Ensley to the constitutional convention of Tennessee:

Never tax anything of value to the State that would

or could come to you or would or could run away from you.

Ensley's wise principle would put all labor products on the exempt list. Those opposed to applying his principle are only upholding conditions under which it is unavoidable that the less a man has the more will he be taxed.

S. D.



Lack of Food.

Commenting upon the failure of the economists to rationally dispose of the rising cost of living, the editor of the *Malthusian* (London) cites the present situation as a proof of his society's contention that the world is overpopulated. In answer to his own question, What are the plain facts of the matter? the editor says: "In the first place, as our readers know from the work of M. Hardy, the world's food supply in ordinary times is only between two-thirds and three-fourths of the physiological needs of its inhabitants. Hence the starvation of large numbers, and the folly of talking about a legal living wage." As to the sanity of the *Malthusian's* proposition that people having excessively large families would have been better off with a lesser number of children, nothing need be said at this point. But to say that one-third or one-fourth of the food-needs of the human race is unsupplied in times of peace is to set forth a state of affairs that has no likeness outside of Alice in Wonderland.



That one-third or one-fourth more food would be used if every stomach in the world were filled may not be an extravagant claim; but to conclude therefrom that these stomachs are not filled because the food cannot be raised is a monstrous perversion of logic. It is needless to point to the vast areas of fertile land still unused, and to corresponding areas that are only partially used; it should be sufficient to show on the one hand that nobody with means goes hungry, and on the other hand that food growers as a rule complain of lack of remuneration for their labor. It might be possible to raise so much food that there would be no market for it; or that there would be so many mouths to fill that they could not all be supplied; but how in the name of reason can these two predicaments happen at the same time? If the food growers were able to put the prices of food so high that only the rich could pay them, we should expect farmers and gardeners to be rolling in wealth. But such is not the case. Those who depend entirely upon their labor—that is to say, those farmers and gardeners who have no monopoly to sup-

plement their labor—are in much the same position as the three-quarter fed urbanites. True, they do not actually suffer for want of food; but man does not live by bread alone, and the lot of a large portion of food growers is little above that of a bare subsistence.



The plight of the three-quarter fed families is not due to a shortage of food, any more than the fact of their having three-quarters house room, three-quarters clothing and three-quarters of the various comforts of life are due to the fact that there is any shortage in houses, clothing or of the other products of labor. It is due solely to the fact that they lack the power to purchase these things. But to say that Labor cannot purchase these things that Labor makes is an economic contradiction. If, however, the wealth produced by Labor be divided between those who labor and those who idle, it may readily be seen how labor may be short, not only in food, but in all other things made by labor. The very land upon which these three-quarter fed people of London live pays a princely revenue to the owners, who give in return not one solitary penny. In this thought be applied throughout the world, and if it be realized that the labor throughout the world is contributing a heavy toll to the owners of the earth, who render no service in return, a stupendous fact will be apparent. This forced toll is gauged by the average ability of society to pay, and those falling below the average in productive ability, will to that degree be short of supplying their normal needs. A remedy, however, for such a state of affairs is not to be found in the limitation of the growth of population, whatever advantages there may otherwise be in checking the fecundity of the race; but in shutting off the waste in wealth that goes to idlers. Whether the world will ever be overpopulated is a question for future generations to handle; that it has been underfed is apparent throughout history; and that a normal economic condition must be established, in which the producers of wealth shall consume the wealth, is a matter that directly concerns this generation.

S. C.



The Tragedy of the Commonplace.

The Wisconsin State University was recently compelled to pay \$17,000 for a bit of land that it had itself sold some years before for \$80. The rise in value was largely brought about through the presence of the University in Madison. It was therefore compelled to pay for value it had

itself created. But this is in fact an every day occurrence. Wherever land values are privately appropriated the experience of the university is being repeated, and it is not hard to find even more glaring examples than the one noted. The very frequency of such happenings blinds people to their significance. The average man must stop to think before he realizes the real significance of a tale of some lucky individual enriched through unearned increment. He is more likely to wish himself in that lucky person's place than to realize that in the laws which make possible private appropriation, by a few, of socially created values is the underlying cause of widespread poverty and distress. That the problem of poverty should seem so difficult of solution, while examples pointing to the solution are so commonplace, is one of the tragedies of civilization.

S. D.



LAND OR MONEY.

The old question as to which came first, the hen or the egg, seems destined to be repeated in the problem of the relative importance of land and money. A Colorado correspondent takes exception to the idea that the taxation of land values will aid the people in that State. He says:

It is not high-priced land, but high-priced money that hurts the West. It is money that is held out of use, and the money stricture that stifles farm production. There are millions of acres of cheap wheat lands in the mid-west. Their acre-cost is not prohibitive of grain-raising, yet they are idle. There are thousands of entrymen on Government lands whose holdings cost no more than residential compliance with Federal homestead laws. Few of these settlers bring wheat to market. Why? Because they lack money—working capital. . . . No wheat-field under the sun will justify land loans at from 10 to 30 per cent interest and commissions. . . . Western banks are full of State and Federal moneys, school funds and the like. This money costs them 2 per cent. The farmers pay taxes to help furnish it. Then the banks and the middlemen hand this same money back to the farmer at from 10 to 30 per cent. . . . There are thousands of acres of choice valley lands in this State irrigated only for wild hay. And why? Because no man can turn heavy sod into paying farms with high-priced money. . . . The sinful land-owner must not hold land out of use. No, he must borrow 12 per cent money to buy seed wheat, and he must mortgage all his earthly belongings, to the last carpet tack to get it. He must gamble at odds against the weather clerk and sow that wheat. He must throw in his own time, labor, and experience to make good weight. If nature is grouchy, and refuses a paying crop, does the money lender stand by to ease up the loss?



The remedy proposed for this state of affairs is

a new department of Government that will lend to the farmer cheaper money. But has the correspondent correctly analyzed the problem? Will cheap money remove the farmer's troubles? All business is conducted on a credit basis; for money itself is credit, and the business man who has not borrowed a dollar must charge himself with interest in order to prove his business sound. Price is fixed by supply and demand. An increase of credit, or money, by increasing demand tends to raise prices. In competitive businesses increased price stimulates production, and the greater supply restores the normal price. But in monopolies the increased price is maintained at the will of the monopolist. Since the supply of land in any given community is absolutely fixed, any increase in demand means a permanent advance in price. Should the United States Government, therefore, enter the money-lending business, and place money at five per cent at the command of Colorado farmers, who are now paying ten to thirty per cent interest, it will enormously expand the credit of those farmers, and proportionately increase their demand. Insofar as that increased demand calls for labor products, of whatever form, they will be supplied, and prices will remain normal. But to the extent that that demand calls for "acres of choice valley lands," the supply of which is fixed, the price of those valley lands will advance in proportion to the demand.



This result may be considered from one of two points of view. To the man who already has a great quantity of land, five per cent money will be a great boon, because it will make purchasers of men who are now unable to buy with ten to thirty per cent money. The present owner can sell at a sharp advance, or use the land with cheap capital, and in either event will profit. But of what avail will cheap capital be to the man who has no land? All future farmers will have to pay the enhanced prices that go to enrich the present owners. And these enhanced prices will represent to the last cent the fall in interest.



Interest, like all things else, is subject to the law of supply and demand. If it is high in the rural districts of Colorado it is because few men are lending money in those places. If more men are not so engaged it is because, all things considered, the risk and expense, as compared with risk and expense in an eastern city, represent the difference in interest. The mass of men would

rather lend money on prime security at five per cent in Chicago or New York than at ten per cent in Colorado. The principle involved is well illustrated by the man who expected to enrich himself by raising chickens in a community where eggs sold for eighty cents a dozen. Experience soon taught him that it was worth eighty cents to produce a dozen eggs in that community. The price of a thing, the world over—barring monopoly—represents the cost of producing that thing in that place. Money is high in rural Colorado because it is costly to furnish it in that place under present conditions. Land is cheap in those localities because there is little demand for it. Arbitrarily increase the supply of money by Governmental interference, as is proposed by the rural credit people, and the price of land will rise accordingly. This will be of great benefit financially to the present holders of the land, but it will be of no advantage to tenants or to future users of the land.



The relief that is to come to the struggling farmers of Colorado is not to be found in supplying them with cheap money, but by bringing them back to cheap land lying nearer to civilization. Men and women have no right to cut themselves off from society by going to remote frontiers, and look to the Government to supply them with all the benefits of civilization. In the very act of doing this they pass vast areas of vacant land near the railroad stations, and within the reach of civilization. The reason for passing these lands of great advantage is because they are held by speculators at prohibitive prices. Thus the settlers are driven on to frontier lands which, though of naturally fertile, are yet so far from the market that it does not pay to crop them. Taking land values by taxation would not burden the farmer pictured by our correspondent. It would not touch him at all, for he has no land value. Land value is to be found only in the midst of population, and the denser the population the higher the values. By taxing these values in the midst of civilization it would compel the use of all lands held for speculation, and would put partially used lands to their best use. This would draw remote settlers back to established society, where men work to best advantage, and place them upon cheap land that would pay for cropping.



Again, the rural credits advocates should realize the partiality of their proposition. They ask the Government to use its credit to arbitrarily cut the rate of interest for poor farm owners. But the

credit of the Government belongs to all citizens alike. Why, therefore, should it lend money on easy terms to men who have farms, and not to men who have no farms at all? Is not the man with no capital, and no property to pledge, in greater need than the man who has some capital, and some property to pledge? Besides, the city man is subject to the same disabilities as the countrymen. In the very place where the big borrower with ample security obtains money for five per cent, the small borrower, the clerk or artisan, with no security, must pay ten to thirty per cent to the pawnbrokers and money lenders. If the Government is to disregard the law of supply and demand at all, and lend money at a nominal rate to people in rural Colorado, it should in all fairness do the same for people in like circumstance in Chicago and New York, and lend to them at a nominal rate of interest. Farmers should have justice; but they are entitled to no more than justice. The cheap money proposed by the rural credits bill will benefit rural landowners, but not farmers who rent. It will not cure the evil that is gnawing at the vitals of the country, but will pass it on in increased intensity to succeeding generations. It is merely a repetition of the old attempt to cure the injustice suffered by one class of people by shifting it upon another class. Injustice can be overcome only by sweeping it away entirely.

S. C.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

OHIO'S MUNICIPAL TAX PROBLEM

Cincinnati, Ohio, April 3, 1915.

That the budget necessities of municipalities and other governmental units is forcing the taxation of land values upon the attention of the people is apparent to anyone interested in the trend of revenue discussion.

Scorning sentiment, with no thought of justice, alien to religion, foreign to patriotism, the hammer of events is rapidly shaping the shaft of land value taxation.

No Congress convenes, no Legislature assembles, hardly, indeed, does a City Council or Commission meet but some project is adopted that requires revenue for its successful operation.

"But where is the money coming from?" asks the administrator.

Where for a truth is it coming from? Every keg has been tapped that convention says should be tapped. Still the needs of nation, commonwealths, counties, cities and school districts increase.

A remarkably interesting report has just been laid before the General Assembly of Ohio, interesting quite as much in any other State of the Union as in Ohio.

It is entitled "Report of the Committee for an In-

vestigation of Finances of Municipalities." It is a bulletin of the Ohio Legislative Reference Department, and a copy can be obtained by addressing Stuart R. Bolin, Director, Columbus, Ohio.

In January, 1914, the Ohio Municipal League, after reciting the plight of cities for lack of adequate revenue, petitioned the General Assembly to provide by law for the appointment of a committee to investigate the subject of municipal finance.

The idea was favored by Governor James M. Cox and the legislation being enacted he appointed a commission of five able men representing every viewpoint on taxation: S. L. Tatum, former City Solicitor of Springfield and president of its Charter Commission; M. A. Gemuender, secretary of the Board of Sinking Fund Trustees of Columbus; Thomas Coughlin, City Auditor of Cleveland; W. C. Huston, lawyer and capitalist of Bellefontaine, and Emmett R. Curtin, a banker and newspaper owner of Lima.

Concluding the report the Commission says: "We find the present demand of Ohio cities for additional revenue to be fully accounted for by the actual decrease in the general purpose tax receipts now taking place under the present statutory limitations and accompanied by a loss of liquor revenue. Under a diminishing revenue, municipal extravagance does not appear to be increasing, but on the contrary we find that methods of attaining greater efficiency and economy are being more generally adopted.

"We find that many Ohio cities, economically administered, are not obtaining sufficient revenue to meet the growing demands of their increasing population and expanding functions together with the many compulsory requirements of recent legislation entailing local expense, all of which demands are augmented by that general increase in the cost of labor, materials and provisions which is commonly referred to as the rising cost of living.

"We believe that financial relief must be promptly afforded or many of the necessary functions of municipal government will be seriously impaired, and that the Legislature owes no more important duty to the State at this time than that of learning the facts respecting the financial straits of cities and of putting into law such proposals as may, in the judgment of the Legislature, assure to all the cities of the State the necessary means of accomplishing their natural growth."

Having tried coercion, so-called boards of equalization, the employment of tax ferrets, and all other means to get out personal property on the tax list, Ohio four years ago tried bribery. The form of this bribery was a one per cent tax limit law known as the Smith One Per Cent Law.

But it has failed to coax out personalty. The report of the commission recommends that this law be amended and says:

"In making this recommendation we are not unmindful of certain political pledges that the tax rates would forever remain within specified figures. Such pledges were made in the unrealized expectation that personal property would, upon the enactment of the one per cent law, rush out of hiding and increase the tax duplicate to such an extent that ample revenue would be yielded at the lower rate. But the amount of personal property now upon the duplicate is not

much greater in proportion to real estate than it was before the Smith law was passed, both classes of property paying about the same amount of taxes in dollars as formerly."

Recommendations in the report are along conventional lines and confined to such in all likelihood because the commission was not asked to recommend or suggest any change in the basis or subject matter of taxation. But however inadequate may be these recommendations to bring any real relief the report is a document that carries this conviction together with the belief that something thorough-going and radical will alone work relief.

ALFRED H. HENDERSON.



LITTLE ROCK EQUITABLE TAX ASSOCIATION.

Little Rock, Ark., Apr. 2.

Since the Little Rock Equitable Tax Association was formed February 25th, with Chas. S. Stiff as temporary president, and K. P. Alexander as temporary secretary, further work of the Association has been to increase to 100 the number of those favoring the land-value tax principle, the businesses represented being as follows:

Manufacturers	9
Jobbers and brokers.....	21
Department store proprietors.....	3
Retail store proprietors.....	11
Professional men.....	23
Architects	5
Building material men.....	3
Public officials.....	5
Miscellaneous businesses.....	20
	100

These one hundred men, exceptionally representative of perhaps a million and a half dollars of Little Rock's strongest business interests, have expressed themselves as favorable to justly equalizing taxable values and so modifying the municipal tax system that site values will be ultimately assessed at 75 per cent and improvements at 25 per cent of the valuation; cash, evidences of debt, and household goods to be exempt; the tax rate to be reduced as rapidly as public revenue requirements will permit.

The primary purpose is to double Little Rock's population, for the manifest gain that will accrue to every commercial and industrial interest resulting from untaxing business enterprises and shifting a greater proportion of taxes to public-created land values.

The increasing interest being taken in the subject of land-value taxation, which is now somewhat intensified by the City, County and State revenues being inadequate to meet present and future public expenditures, has induced the Wilson & Webb Book & Stationery Company, at 212 Main street, to put in a display of 150 volumes on economics and the land-value tax. Among the standard works displayed are, "Natural Taxation," "The Taxation of Land Values," "Progress and Poverty," and "Social Problems." Any of these works should give a fair conception of how business may be rapidly and permanently stimulated

K. P. ALEXANDER.

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, April 6, 1915.

Commission On Industrial Relations.

The Commission on Industrial Relations began its investigation on April 5 at Chicago of a number of corporations with headquarters in that city. The Pullman Palace Car Company is the first to be investigated. L. S. Hungerford, general manager, was the first witness on the opening day. He said the company employs 2,500 conductors and 6,500 porters. Conductors generally get from \$70 to \$90 a month. A few favored ones get \$100. Porters get from \$27.50 to \$35 a month. In spite of the low wages, Mr. Hungerford said the porter's positions are sought after on account of the tips. He denied at first that the company had tipping in mind when fixing wages at so low a figure, but in answer to questions by Chairman Walsh he admitted that if tipping were prohibited the company would have to pay higher wages to get service. He evaded all questions as to the social responsibility of the company. He admitted that attempts to organize the men had been met by summary discharge of those active in the movement. He said he could get all the men he wanted on existing terms. There is a waiting list of from 500 to 700 applicants. No experience is necessary for the work. An inexperienced porter on a tourist train receives more than an experienced man on standard cars, because travelers on tourist trains are not so generous with tips. R. W. Bell, a former conductor, testified that he had been discharged for trying to organize a Pullman Conductors' and Porters' Federation. [See current volume, page 306.]



Lincoln Steffens On Violence.

A petition for pardon of Frederick Sumner Boyd was filed with the New Jersey Board of Pardons on March 25. Boyd had been convicted of inciting to riot during the Paterson strike of 1913. The petition asked for clemency on the ground that Boyd had changed his opinions. It was signed by Theodore Roosevelt and a number of other prominent men, including Lincoln Steffens. On March 29 Mr. Steffens sent the following letter to the Governor and Board of Pardons:

May I have my signature stricken from the petition for the pardon of Frederick S. Boyd, and this, my own statement, considered along with, but, so far as I am concerned, instead of that petition?

I signed the Boyd paper after only a glance at it,

and did not get the full meaning of it until I was taking it to Trenton to present to you. Then, since you were ill, I handed it to your secretary with an explanation, which I asked him to repeat to you, that that petition did not represent my view of the matter. The assertions in it are true. Boyd is all that is said for him there, and he has changed his view as to the use of force by labor. And I have long agreed with him and with the other petitioners in his present opinion that force is all wrong, but not only in the hands of labor, but in the hands of the employers of labor and of the state.

And that is why I add my petition to the others for Boyd's pardon: because I believe it is as wrong for you and the State to "stand for" violence and revenge upon Boyd as it is for Boyd to have advocated violence upon New Jersey and her employers.

And that the spirit of his prosecution was revengeful and violent I know from the man who prosecuted him. Mr. Dunn said to Boyd in my presence a few days ago:

"Boyd, you wouldn't have got into this trouble if after that speech (for which alone he was put on trial) you hadn't come back here (to Paterson) making a fool of yourself (agitating for the strike)."

One more request I have to make—that, if there be anything in this address of mine that is displeasing to you and your colleagues, you will charge it against me, not Fred Boyd.



Alleged Bomb Throwers' Trial.

At the trial on April 2 of Carmine Carbone and Frank Abarno in New York, charged with attempting to blow up St. Patrick's cathedral, Carbone declared that Police Detective Polignani had instigated his participation in the alleged plot. He said further that Polignani's talk about plots and his threats had so alarmed him that he had kept away from the cathedral, and he knew nothing of the attempt until six detectives came to his home to arrest him. He denied further having mixed the ingredients for the bomb, and accused the detective of having manufactured them. While taking him to the station in an automobile, after his arrest, he said the detectives struck and shook him. On arriving at the station, Captain Tunney in charge, told him that he would go free if he would confess that he had been directed to make the bomb by certain individuals named. But that if he did not, he would receive a forty or fifty year sentence. When he refused he was told that if he accused the police of anything he would be beaten. Carbone was most severely cross-examined by the prosecutor after thus testifying, but instead of entangling the witness the prosecutor brought out the statement that the interpreter at police headquarters had misreported Carbone's statements, and when his fellow prisoner, Abarno, who was present and understood, protested, he was beaten severely. Abarno on the stand told of meeting Detective Polignani at a Union Square meeting, at which the latter, he declared, had expressed a desire to throw bombs

at the police. He said Polignani had kept after him for weeks and finally threatened terrible things if he would not join in the plot. When at the church on the morning of the alleged attempt he wanted to back out, but Polignani, he said, forced him to go in. He had the bomb in his pocket and had not taken it out when arrested. [See current volume, page 263.]



Referendum News.

Referendum petitions were filed at Olympia on March 25 for a popular vote on five bills passed by the Washington legislature. Two had been previously filed, so that seven measures must go to the people and be adopted by them before becoming law. These measures include a requirement that initiative and referendum petitions be signed at places of registration; a similar requirement for recall petitions; an anti-picketing bill; a bill to prevent competing companies entering a field already occupied by a public service corporation, and three bills of local character. Referendum petitions were offered for two measures, which carried emergency clauses, but were refused by the Secretary of State. An appeal has been made to the Supreme Court. One of the measures concerned requires jitney bus operators to file a \$2,500 bond; the other forbids transfer of money between special funds in first class cities.



Petitions are being circulated in North Dakota by F. O. Hellstrom, recent Democratic candidate for Governor, to subject to a referendum twelve laws passed by the legislature. These measures relate principally to appropriations. [See vol. xvii, pp. 1092, 1207.]



Wisconsin University's Losses.

The report of Wisconsin's State Board of Public Utilities shows tremendous losses incurred by the State University in selling land between 1850 and 1887, which is now worth millions. The university has been compelled to pay a large advance to get some of this land back. Land in the city of Madison sold by the university for \$13,630 is now on the assessment rolls for \$1,575,000. A large part of 300,000 acres of timber lands granted to the university by the Federal Government was sold for \$1.25 an acre to the great lumber corporations. Cornell University at Ithaca, N. Y., holds only a fraction of what the University of Wisconsin once held. Yet Cornell gets \$500,000 a year from its holdings, while Wisconsin gets less than \$25,000.



Tax Reform News.

A Tax Reform Conference under the auspices of the Commonwealth Club of Detroit has been

called to meet at Lansing on April 21 at the Chamber of Commerce. The call, signed by Judson Grenell, as committee of arrangements, states:

While this will be a Michigan conference, persons engaged in tax reform propaganda elsewhere have been invited to be present to aid, by their advice and experience, in inaugurating a real tax reform movement in this commonwealth. It is proposed to have as full and free a discussion as is possible of "programs" for relieving the general public of the growing burdens placed upon it by vicious tax laws which discourage industry and enterprise, fine those who make improvements in their possessions, and too often favor those needing no coddling. There have been invited to be present members of:

Granges and other farmers' organizations;
Progressive clubs and associations;
Women's clubs;
Labor organizations;
Detroit, Saginaw, Grand Rapids, and other Boards and Chambers of Commerce;
Upper Peninsula Development Bureaus;
Assessing officers of state;
Others interested in Tax Reform.

Primarily the Conference will consider Site Value Taxation, the Exemption of Improvements from Taxation, and the most equitable method of dealing with personal property taxes; but all who are open-minded on the subject of taxation are earnestly urged to be present and take part in the deliberations. There are at least two objects in view:

- (1) Determination of the best procedure to advance real tax reform, even to the extent of taking advantage of the initiative provisions of the Michigan constitution; and
- (2) The formation of a state organization which will persistently and consistently work for definite methods of tax relief.



The Chicago Singletax Club is circulating the following petition to the legislature:

The undersigned citizens of Illinois request your Honorable Body to support House Bill No. 212 which repeals all personal liability for taxes, abolishes the tax schedule and provides that taxes on personalty shall be levied and collected exactly as are taxes on realty, thereby rendering the collection of personal property taxes practically impossible, causing a larger share of the expenses of the State, County and Local Governments to fall upon land values, and reducing correspondingly the taxes on labor products.



Governor Willis of Ohio removed from office on April 1 William Agnew and John Fackler, tax assessors of Cleveland, who increased John D. Rockefeller's personal assessment to \$311,000,000 and increased previously undervalued real estate assessments. James Ruhl and Charles Salen were appointed in their stead, and announced that assessments made by their predecessors would be reduced.



The report on Virginia's income tax law on

page 334 stated erroneously the amount exempted. It should be \$1,200.



The Kansas legislature passed an act abolishing the tax on farm mortgages and providing a registration fee of 15 cents on \$100 of face value. It further provides for a State guarantee of mortgages, after investigation by the State treasurer, when requested by the holder. If approved by the treasurer a guarantee certificate is issued to the mortgage holder and he is allowed to cut up the mortgage into small bonds bearing 5 per cent interest and nontaxable in Kansas. These bonds are guaranteed by the State.



The Chicago Election.

William Hale Thompson, Republican, was elected mayor of Chicago on April 6 over Robert M. Sweitzer, Democrat, by 139,489 majority. Seymour Stedman, Socialist, received 23,826 votes. Hill, Prohibitionist, received 3,590 votes. The new city council will consist of 33 Republicans, 30 Democrats, 3 Independents, 2 Socialists and 2 Progressives. [See current volume, pages 278, 324.]



Emma Ford Altgeld.

Emma Ford Altgeld, widow of former Governor John P. Altgeld of Illinois, died on March 30 at her home in Chicago, aged 66. The immediate cause of her death was pneumonia, but she had been in poor health for many years. The malicious attacks made on Governor Altgeld during his incumbency had so distressed her as to seriously undermine her health. From this she never recovered entirely. She was born near Mansfield, Ohio, in 1849, and was a graduate of Oberlin College at Oberlin, Ohio. The funeral took place at Graceland cemetery, Chicago, on April 1. The only surviving relative is her brother, Professor J. H. Ford of Demarest, Georgia.



Failure of the Russian Treaty.

Negotiations for a new treaty between the United States and Russia to replace the treaty of 1832, which expired December 31, 1912, and has not since been renewed, have come to a halt over the question of passports. Russia interpreted the clause in the old treaty providing that foreigners should receive "the same security and protection as natives of the country wherein they reside on condition of their submitting to the laws and ordinances there prevailing," as subjecting Jews to the restriction of resident Jews. This interpretation was so objectionable to Americans that the treaty was terminated as "no longer responsive in various respects to the political principles and commercial needs of the two coun-

tries." As the new treaty drawn by trade advisers leaves out the passport question Mr. Bryan refuses to sign it. [Vol. xiv, p. 1290, Vol. xi, p. 34.]



Peace Day Celebration.

The American School Peace League, of which Mrs. Fannie Fern Andrews, 405 Marlborough street, Boston, is secretary, issued on March 30 a letter advocating a special appeal for international peace on Peace Day, May 18. The letter states:

When the delirium of war is over, an iron law will compel those now engaged in mutual destruction to seek one another again. The day must come when the peoples of the world will work in common once again. This idea should be impressed in the Peace Day observance this year. The spectacle of human suffering and devastation should fire every boy and girl with a permanent revulsion against war, and the thought should be ingrained that war can be eliminated by the will of the people. Peace Day this year should also give the youth of our country a conception of the practical means of obtaining permanent peace among the nations, and should point out the particular bearing of American democracy on the world situation.

School teachers are urged to read literature prepared for Peace Day on the subject. Information regarding literature will be given by the league. For the higher grades and normal schools Katrina Trask's "In the Vanguard," is recommended, for secondary school boys "The Enemy" is recommended and for elementary grades "A Pageant of Peace."



The European War.

Russia's campaign in Galicia is the only one that marks progress. The Austro-German defense of the Carpathian passes has slowly yielded until Russian troops have reached the Southern slope of the mountains. Possession of the passes, together with the steady stream of re-enforcements that are pouring in from the North, indicate an invasion of the level plains of Hungary. The campaign in the West still awaits the advent of settled weather to permit the movement of heavy artillery, and the various preparations that indicate an aggressive campaign. One of ominous meaning is the provision of vast hospital accommodation. No further progress is reported from the Dardanelles. It is reported that the British battleship Lord Nelson grounded inside the straits and was wrecked by Turkish shore batteries. [See current volume, page 330.]



Strict censorship of Italian dispatches prevents a knowledge of Italy's movements. The German Ambassador, Prince von Buelow, continues his efforts to secure Italy's neutrality through the cession of Austrian territory; but the war critics

have little belief in the success of his negotiations. Bulgarian irregular troops invaded Serbia, but were driven back. The act is thought to be without sanction, and an official disavowal is looked for from Bulgaria.



Sea activities, like the land campaigns, show small results. The German submarines continue to pick off something more than a ship a day in the war zone, all of them of the smaller class of vessels, and some of them trawlers, or fishing boats. The sinking of the passenger boat *Falaba*, bound for Africa, resulted in the loss of 100 lives of passengers and crew, all noncombatants. About fifty other noncombatants have been lost on other ships torpedoed. The only apparent result is the irritation caused by the destruction of merchantmen and civilians. During the week ending March 31 five ships were lost out of 1,559 ships entering and leaving port. Meantime Great Britain continues her open sea blockade of German ports, searching all ships and taking into port those that come within the provisions of her orders in council.



Secretary Bryan has submitted a claim to the German government amounting to \$228,059.54 for the sinking of the American sailing vessel loaded with wheat from Seattle to England by the German cruiser *Prinz Eitel Friedrich*, January 27, 1915. It is unofficially reported from Berlin that the German government recognizes the Prussian treaty with the United States, under which the claim is made, and will pay the bill, with proper expressions of regret for the unwarranted act of her officer.



The protest of the United States government to Great Britain against the blockade order was made public on the 5th. The note that the Secretary of State directs the American Ambassador to hand to the British government is kindly, but firm, and declares it a time for plain speaking in order that misunderstandings may not arise. Acknowledging receipt of the British orders announcing the open sea blockade, the note says:

These communications contain matters of grave importance to neutral nations. They appear to menace their rights of trade and intercourse not only with belligerents but also with one another. They call for frank comment in order that misunderstandings may be avoided. The Government of the United States deems it its duty, therefore, speaking in the sincerest spirit of friendship, to make its own view and position with regard to them unmistakably clear.

The order in council of the 15th of March would constitute, were its provisions to be actually carried into effect as they stand, a practical assertion of unlimited belligerent rights over neutral commerce

within the whole European area, and an almost unqualified denial of the sovereign rights of the nations now at peace.

This Government takes it for granted that there can be no question what those rights are. A nation's sovereignty over its own ships and citizens under its own flag on the high seas in time of peace is, of course, unlimited; and that sovereignty suffers no diminution in time of war, except in so far as the practice and consent of civilized nations has limited it by the recognition of certain now clearly determined rights, which it is conceded may be exercised by nations which are at war.

A belligerent nation has been conceded the right of visit and search and the right of capture and condemnation, if upon examination a neutral vessel is found to be engaged in unneutral service or to be carrying contraband of war intended for the enemy's government or armed forces.

It has been conceded the right to establish and maintain a blockade of an enemy's ports and coasts and to capture and condemn any vessel taken in trying to break the blockade. It is even conceded the right to detain and take to its own ports for judicial examination all vessels which it suspects for substantial reasons to be engaged in unneutral or contraband service and to condemn them if the suspicion is sustained. But such rights, long clearly defined both in doctrine and practice, have hitherto been held to be the only permissible exceptions to the principle of universal equality of sovereignty on the high seas as between belligerents and nations not engaged in war.

It is confidently assumed that His Majesty's Government will not deny that it is a rule sanctioned by general practice that, even though a blockade should exist and the doctrine of contraband as to unblockaded territory be rigidly enforced, innocent shipments may be freely transported to and from the United States through neutral countries to belligerent territory without being subject to the penalties of contraband traffic or breach of blockade, much less to detention, requisition or confiscation.

Moreover, the rules of the declaration of Paris of 1856—among them that free ships make free goods—will hardly at this day be disputed by the signatories of that solemn agreement.

His Majesty's Government, like the Government of the United States, has often and explicitly held that these rights represent the best usage of warfare in the dealings of belligerents with neutrals at sea. In this connection I desire to direct attention to the opinion of the chief justice of the United States in the case of the *Peterhof*, which arose out of the Civil war, and to the fact that that opinion was unanimously sustained in the award of the arbitration commission of 1871, to which the case was presented at the request of Great Britain.

From that time to the declaration of London of 1909, adopted with modifications by the order in council of the 23d of October last, these rights have not been seriously questioned by the British government. And no claim on the part of Great Britain of any justification for interfering with these clear rights of the United States and its citizens as neutrals could be admitted.

To admit it would be to assume an attitude of un-

neutrality toward the present enemies of Great Britain, which obviously would be inconsistent with the solemn obligations of this Government in the present circumstances; and for Great Britain to make such a claim would be for her to abandon and set at naught the principles for which she has consistently and earnestly contended in other times and circumstances.

The note of his majesty's principal secretary of state for foreign affairs, which accompanies the order in council and which bears the same date, notifies the Government of the United States of the establishment of a blockade which is defined by the terms of the order in council to include all the coasts and ports of Germany and every port of possible access to enemy territory. But the novel and quite unprecedented feature of that blockade, if we are to assume it to be properly so defined, is that it embraces many neutral ports and coasts, bars access to them, and subjects all neutral ships seeking to approach them to the same suspicion that would attach to them were they bound for the ports of the enemies of Great Britain, and to unusual risks and penalties.

It is manifest that such limitations, risks and liabilities placed upon the ships of a neutral power on the high seas, beyond the right of visit and search and the right to prevent the shipment of contraband already referred to, are a distinct invasion of the sovereign rights of the nation whose ships, trade or commerce is interfered with.

The Government of the United States is, of course, not oblivious to the great changes which have occurred in the conditions and means of naval warfare since the rules hitherto governing legal blockade were formulated. It might be ready to admit that the old form of "close" blockade, with its cordon of ships in the immediate offing of the blockaded ports, is no longer practicable in the face of an enemy possessing the means and opportunity to make an effective defense by the use of submarines, mines and air craft, but it can hardly be maintained that whatever form of effective blockade may be made use of it is impossible to conform at least to the spirit and principles of the established rules of war.

If the necessities of the case should seem to render it imperative that the cordon of blockading vessels be extended across the approaches to any neighboring neutral port or country, it would seem clear that it would be easily practicable to comply with the well-recognized and reasonable prohibition of international law against the blockading of neutral ports by according free admission and exit to all lawful traffic with neutral ports through the blockading cordon.

This traffic would of course include all outward-bound traffic from the neutral country and all inward bound traffic to the neutral country except contraband in transit to the enemy. Such procedure need not conflict in any respect with the rights of the belligerent maintaining the blockade, since the right would remain with the blockading vessels to visit and search all ships either entering or leaving the neutral territory which they were in fact, but not of right, investing.

The Government of the United States notes that in the order in council His Majesty's Government give as their reason for entering upon a course of action which they are aware is without precedent in

modern warfare the necessity they conceive themselves to have been placed under to retaliate upon their enemies for measures of a similar nature which the latter have announced their intention to adopt and which they have to some extent adopted; but the government of the United States, recalling the principles upon which His Majesty's Government have hitherto been scrupulous to act, interprets this as merely a reason for certain extraordinary activities on the part of His Majesty's naval forces and not as an excuse for or prelude to any unlawful action.

If the course pursued by the present enemies of Great Britain should prove to be in fact tainted by illegality and disregard of the principles of war sanctioned by enlightened nations, it cannot be supposed, and this government does not for a moment suppose, that His Majesty's Government would wish the same taint to attach to their own actions or would cite such illegal acts as in any sense or degree a justification for similar practices on their part in so far as they affect neutral rights.

It is thus that the Government of the United States interprets the language of the note of His Majesty's principal secretary of state for foreign affairs which accompanies the copy of the order in council which was handed to the ambassador of the United States near the Government in London, and by him transmitted to Washington. . . .

This Government, therefore, infers that the commanders of His Majesty's ships of war, engaged in maintaining the so-called blockade, will be instructed to avoid an enforcement of the proposed measures of non-intercourse in such a way as to impose restrictions upon neutral trade more burdensome than those which have been regarded as inevitable when the ports of a belligerent are actually blockaded by the ships of its enemy.

The possibilities of serious interruption of American trade under the order in council are so many and the methods proposed are so unusual and seem liable to constitute so great an impediment and embarrassment to neutral commerce that the government of the United States, if the order in council is strictly enforced, apprehends many interferences with its legitimate trade, which will impose upon His Majesty's Government heavy responsibilities for acts of the British authorities clearly subversive of the rights of neutral nations on the high seas.

It is, therefore, expected that His Majesty's Government, having considered these possibilities, will take the steps necessary to avoid them, and in the event that they should unhappily occur, will be prepared to make full reparation for every act, which under the rules of international law constitutes a violation of neutral rights.

As stated in its communication of Oct. 22, 1914, "this Government will insist that the rights and duties of the United States and its citizens in the present war be defined by the existing rules of international law and the treaties of the United States, irrespective of the provisions of the declaration of London, and that this government reserves to itself the right to enter a protest or demand in each case in which those rights and duties so defined are violated or their free exercise interfered with by the authorities of the British Government."

In conclusion, you will reiterate to His Majesty's Government that this statement of the views of the

Government of the United States is made in the most friendly spirit and in accordance with the uniform candor which has characterized the relations of the two governments in the past and which has been in a large measure the foundation of peace and amity existing between the two nations without interruption for a century.



China and Japan.

It is apparent from dispatches from various sources that the European governments will not interfere in behalf of China to restrain the demands of Japan. When the war ceases the congress called to establish peace terms is expected to review the terms of the agreement between China and Japan. Count Okuma, premier of Japan, has assured China and the United States that no encroachment on Chinese integrity or the policy of the open door is contemplated. To this assurance the Chinese government replies:

Chinese official circles are gratified that Count Okuma in Tokio has given expression to his appreciation of the frankness with which the Chinese government is negotiating.

Regarding the real purpose of some of the demands, the Chinese government hitherto has been interpreting them according to the usual meaning of the words employed. Now, however, that Count Okuma has placed an extra-textual interpretation on these demands, the Chinese government feels assured.

[See current volume, page 329.]



Mexico.

Reports of a battle at Ebano near Tampico between Carranza and Villa forces for the possession of the oil field and port give heavy losses but no decision. General Villa is still collecting troops and artillery for the attack on Matamoros, opposite Fort Brown, Tex. The Villa-Zapata forces hold Mexico City, whence it is reported banks and commercial houses have resumed business. Smallpox of a virulent form is reported to be spreading in Vera Cruz. [See current volume, page 329.]

NEWS NOTES

—The invention of moving pictures which can be plainly seen in broad daylight, was reported from New York City on April 3.

—A storm of extraordinary severity raged along the Atlantic Coast on April 3. In Philadelphia 19 inches of snow fell in 12 hours.

—The New York Telephone Company announced on April 2 a reduction of rates in compliance with orders of the Public Service Commission.

—The Massachusetts House on April passed a bill amending the law forbidding display of a red flag in public. As amended it allows all organizations

“not opposed to organized government” to carry a red flag.

—Experts of the United States Census Bureau have calculated that the population of this country reached the 100,000,000 mark at 4 p. m. on the 2d.

—The Illinois House of Representatives on March 31 rejected by a vote of 92 in favor to 32 against, a resolution for a constitutional convention. It failed of passage by 10 votes.

—The stockholders of the Detroit United Railway decided on April 2 to accept an offer from the city of \$24,900,000 for the street railway lines. A special election must be held on the matter.

—Rear Admiral B. A. Fiske of the United States Navy resigned on April 2 on account of disagreement with Secretary of the Navy Daniels, who had reprimanded him for publicly criticizing the Department.

—The mayoralty election in Vancouver, made necessary on account of Mr. Taylor's faulty land qualification in the previous election, resulted in a vote of 5,834 for Mr. Taylor, 4,656 for Alderman Hepburn, and 85 for Mr. Whiteway. This re-election of Mr. Taylor is an emphatic endorsement of his broad liberality and aggressive Singletax ideas.

—The Chicago Teachers' Federation, the Federation of Men Teachers and the Federation of Women High School Teachers will give a large reception in honor of the graduating class of the Normal School on the evening of April 16 at the Chicago Art Institute. A musical and social program has been arranged and the purpose of the Federations is to emphasize unity of ideals instead of professional rivalry among Chicago teachers.

—Mrs. Louis F. Post will sail for Holland on April 13 as a delegate from America to the International Congress of Women which meets April 28 at The Hague. Aboard the same ship, the Noordam of the Holland-America line, will be Miss Jane Addams, head of the American delegation and president of the Congress, together with a large proportion of the thirty other women who have been chosen by the Woman's Peace Party and other large organizations to represent them. [See current volume, pp. 110, 310.]

PRESS OPINIONS

Enough Bloodshed.

Lady Selborne in The Herald (London), March 20.—A certain poor widow, who had lost her husband in the Good Hope, was told that his death was avenged in the action off the Falkland Islands, and that the ships which had destroyed the Good Hope had themselves been sunk. She answered: “That only means more sorrow elsewhere.” This is a finer temper than that of your correspondents who are calling for vengeance on the crews of the German submarines who have been captured. They are not guilty. What could they do but obey their officers? And what could these do but obey their Admiralty? Let the responsibility rest on the man who orders these things, and not on the men who do their duty according to their lights, in obeying their chiefs.

Surely enough blood is being shed to satisfy the most ferocious professor; we need not add to it.



Political Assassins.

Reedy's Mirror (St. Louis) April 2.—In our city election campaign there has been an outbreak of contemptible religious bigotry. The Independent Voters' League is conducting a fight to defeat Catholic candidates or those who do not favor the disfranchisement of Catholics. The League fights from the ambush of a postoffice lock-box. Two letters from the League sent to the Post-Dispatch, were signed with bogus names purporting to be those of its officers. This is the secret society in politics. If "Romanism" were a menace, which it is not, the secret society method of counteracting it is worse than the alleged evil it attacks. The secret society in politics is a poisonous thing that must be stamped out. Anonymous slander and threats are instrumentalities of blackmail. Those who inject religious hatred into political affairs are enemies of society, a sort of social mad-dogs. But there are few anti-Catholic bigots these days. The Independent Voters' League frightens some people because it skulks in darkness. But it will drive more people to vote for the men upon whom it makes war. Americans despise the kind of politics that operates through anonymous assassination of character. They will stand for many things but not for the proscription of any man or class of men for religious opinion's sake. The Independent Voters' League is neither numerically, mentally nor morally strong. It will not influence the casting of two hundred votes, except, as I have intimated, to the extent of impelling people to vote for those it assails.



Prof. Seligman Should Study Taxation Principles.

Tenant's Weekly (New York, March 29.—Prof. Seligman is Chairman of the Executive Committee of Mayor Mitchel's Tax Committee. That Committee has recommended, or, as they phrase it, "suggested" changes in the tax system to increase taxes on those least able to pay. The most disgraceful of these taxes is the so-called habitation or occupancy tax, which will increase rents by about one-fifth for most tenant families, and will affect many small home owners. A second disgraceful tax is the municipal income tax on small salaries, which will fall heaviest on struggling professional men, young clerks, clergymen, physicians, lawyers, teachers, shopkeepers, etc. A small land increment tax, emasculated evidently by the land speculators and their tools who control this committee, will yield relatively little revenue, and will be derived chiefly from small property owners in outlying districts. It merely proves that the Committee recognizes that land values should be taxed more than buildings—but feels itself retained to protect the monopoly privilege of the big land owners of the city, especially Manhattan. Prof. Seligman owes it to himself to repudiate these suggestions.



Mr. Rockefeller's Unfortunate Slip.

The Masses (New York) April.—Mr. John D.

Rockefeller, Jr., subscribed to The Masses the other day, and I feel warranted in extending him a little personal advice. In objecting to Mr. Walsh's candid championship of the oppressed as chairman of the Industrial Relations Commission, Mr. Rockefeller said: "You are stirring up exactly that industrial unrest which your Commission was 'appointed to allay.'" Now, by some unhappy accident, Mr. Rockefeller, the Federal Commission was not appointed to "allay" industrial unrest. At least nobody ever was foolish enough to say so. It was appointed to "investigate the causes" of unrest. And in ushering the Rockefeller Foundation, your own little optimism factory, into the same field, I recommend that you cling to the established terminology. Your own partiality must not become too obvious—especially when you are objecting to Mr. Walsh's. In other words, the "aliaying" should be brought in on the side. The people of the country have enough self-respect to demand that, even if they haven't enough to wipe your now perfectly transparent enterprise off their earth.

RELATED THINGS

CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

FRANCISCO FERRER.

For The Public.

He died for Truth, and as he died
The vultures gathered 'round his grave;
His every weakness magnified,
And most by those he strove to save.

He died for Truth, but as he died
The eagles circled from the cloud,
And screamed defiance at his side;
While Freedom rose above his shroud.

SAMUEL BARRETT PETTENGILL.



CHARITY'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE LAND QUESTION.

Extract from report of Fifth Conference of New York Charities and Correction, issued from 287 Fourth Ave., New York City. This tells of proceedings following an address by Bolton Hall, published in vol. xvii, p. 882. Mr. Hall is to address the Conference this month at Pleasant Valley, N. Y.

After Mr. Hall's address Mr. Heberd asked: Why don't these people who want gardens get out into the country? Why do they want property specially on Fifth Avenue?

Bolton Hall: Because the land speculator gets there before them. The cheapest land within a ten-cent fare of New York where poor families are and which neighborhood their poverty prevents them from leaving, is worth two, three and four thousand dollars an acre. Where my interests are at Berkeley Heights, in New Jersey, twenty-seven miles from New York, the land

within two miles of the railroad station brings \$200 an acre; it is worth about \$50, but it is held at \$250.

Mr. Hebbard: Isn't the land more valuable still on Fifth avenue?

Mr. Hall: Yes; I went to R. T. Wilson to ask him to allow a couple of people to show what could be done to relieve poverty by the use of the land, in cultivating the lot at the southeast corner of Fifth avenue and Forty-third street, where people could see them. And what did he say? "That is very valuable land, and we would not like to have it touched at all."

Chairman Simkovitch: This is a most important question. This matter could perhaps be taken up in a succeeding conference, where more time could be given to it than today, when the programme is already arranged.



Dr. Bohn, of the Ethical Culture School: I am very deeply touched by what Mr. Hall has just said. I believe we ought to face this problem; if we do not we are cowards and hypocrites; but I do not feel that I am called upon to face it in five minutes.



Howard Bradstreet: Mr. Hall has brought out a fundamental point which cannot be ignored, in asking why it is that people do not have sufficient to enjoy recreation. While we may have a conference now without giving great space to the question, we surely cannot have another without allotting it proportionate time.

We may differ from him. We may be more cowardly in tracing from cause to effect and effect to cause, but if so, it is for the reason that in the intricacies of the social mesh, we are in danger, as so many others have done, of selecting a fallacious for a real cause and devoting a life to fallacy.



I HAVE SAVED TO MYSELF SEVEN THOUSAND MEN.

Henry Slade Goff.

"I have saved to myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal."—Rom. xi, 4.

I have saved to myself seven thousand men—

Ho! watchmen on Liberty's tower;

Oh! soldiers for Truth in Humanity's cause,

Overcome by the enemy's power—

Hear ye the averment from Israel's God,

Whose justice shall ever prevail,

I have saved to myself seven thousand men

Who have not bowed the knee to Baal.

Seven thousand men hath he saved to himself,

Each warrior inured to the strain

And the toil of the conflict—unseen they shall come

To their work on the struggling plain.

Seven thousand strong they shall hasten in line,
Their leader the Captain of Light,
Unseen they shall haste, and with allies unseen,
To strengthen the forces of Right.

A strong wind shall blow from the east, and a host
Shall perish beyond recall.

A low blast of horns shall drift out on the air,
And the walls of a city shall fall.

A river shall turn, and a tyrant king

And his armored host shall be slain,

An angel shall call, and the crucified Christ
Shall rise from the dead again.

Unseen they shall aid on a mountain pass,
And a peasantry shall be free;

Unseen they shall give to a peasant maid
A marvelous victory.

Unseen on a meadow they shall stand—

No battle need there be,

But a quaking king shall accord to an isle
A charter of liberty.

I have saved to myself seven thousand men,
Says the Lord of the centuries.

I have saved to myself seven thousand men
To execute my decrees.

I have saved to myself seven thousand men—
Think ye that earth's progress shall fail!

I have saved to myself seven thousand men
Who have not bowed the knee to Baal.

And still he shall save seven thousand men
Of such as shall never quail;

Or whether in camp or the battle's surge

They shall not bow the knee to Baal.

And still he shall save seven thousand men

For the succor of those in distress,

And over the hills their strong allies shall come
To further his righteousness.

And still they shall move o'er the continents,
And on to the struggling plains.

And still they shall strive, and their conquering
strokes.

Shall sever the bondman's chains.

And still they shall strengthen the forces of Right,
And still they shall win the day.

And evil shall perish and wrongs be o'erthrown,
And justice shall conquer away.



True liberty from every kind of temptation, from every kind of wrong, from every kind of evil, can and will come in only one way: as we test things by conscience, and decide for ourselves what is right.—Henry Dawtrey.



In the darkest hour through which a human soul can pass, whatever else is doubtful, this at least is certain. If there be no God, and no future state, yet even then it is better to be generous than selfish, better to be chaste than licentious, better to be true than false, better to be brave than to be a coward. Blessed beyond all earthly blessedness is the man who, in the tempestuous darkness of the soul, has dared to hold fast to these venerable landmarks.—F. W. Robertson.

BOOKS

A BRIEF FOR CARRANZA.

Carranza and Mexico. By Carlo de Fornaro, with chapters by I. C. Enriquez, Charles Ferguson and M. C. Rolland. Published by Mitchell Kennerley, New York, 1915. Price, \$1.25 net.

The story of the war in Mexico through the glasses of Carranza's friends is told with frank partisanship and an unmistakable foreign idiom in a book just issued, and therefore closely down to date.

Villa is acknowledged to be of honest intention; but his illiteracy is considered by the author to be an insurmountable barrier to his ever sharing in the responsibilities of government. This unhappy ignorance, which puts him at the mercy of his secretaries, is also, in Mr. de Fornaro's opinion, at the root of Villa's seeming unconsciousness of the fact that he is "slowly being surrounded by all the reactionary elements in Mexico"; at the root, too, of his estrangement from Carranza and his failure efficiently to distribute the land in Chihuahua.

Zapata is admired by the author, and the agricultural situation in his devoted State of Morelos is hopefully described:

The State of Morelos is a very small state and has a population of about 180,000 inhabitants. The land is very fertile, needing no irrigation, as the periodical rainy season and the rivers irrigating the whole State makes the growth of every kind of fruit trees, vegetables, coffee, sugar cane, tobacco, corn, etc., luxuriant in the highest degree.

Zapata did not only include the officers of his staff and army in the land distribution, but every soldier who had fought for him and every peon and every family of peons in the State of Morelos.

The national situation is summed up as follows:

In Mexico, over 65,000 hacendados [owners of great estates] are in possession of the country, but a great majority of them are not on their haciendas, many are in exile. The revolution has lasted about four years. The longer it lasts the more chances there are that the original proprietors will stay away and the latifundiae will be divided automatically. The peons are more interested in the ownership of the land than the question of peace, the ballot, or who is going to be president or governor; they are indifferent as to who will loan or will not loan money to the Mexican government; if the Mexican consols are rising or dropping in value, a great majority long enough to give him a chance as long as the hacendados keep away long enough to give him a chance to claim the land as his own. . . .

For the success of the revolution it is vital that it should continue until every reactionary element, the clergy, the land owner, the army chiefs, have been so thoroughly beaten that they will have no opportunity to come back and play a political game

of which they know all the tricks. . . . Carranza is right and so is Cabrera when they say that the land must be taken wherever it can be found; that the revolutionists must carry out the reforms with the power of their bayonets or they will never be consummated. That those who speak of a constitutional government and of elections are the reactionaries who want to play the game and arrest the triumphant march of the revolution.

A. L. G.



FOR OUR NEW CITIZENS.

Makers of America. By Emma Lillian Dana. Published by the Immigrant Publication Society, 241 Fifth Ave., New York. 1915. Price, paper, 50 cents, net.

Immigrant and Library: Italian Helps. By John Foster Carr. Published in co-operation with the Publishing Board of the American Library Association by the American Education Society, 241 Fifth Ave., New York, 1914. Price, paper, 35 cents, postpaid.

The best ideals of American life and institutions are perhaps nowhere more usefully or more truly being expressed than in the little paper-covered books sent out from time to time by the Immigrant Publication Society of which the Director is John Foster Carr. One pamphlet by Mr. Carr published last autumn contains, after a very sympathetic and wise introduction, a list, with brief comments for the use of librarians, of books printed in Italian which will serve to introduce the new immigrant to the public library and to his new country during the lonely time before he learns English. Incidentally it makes one long to know Italian—the books sound so enticing.

A second book, published very recently, contains brief biographies of four great Americans, Franklin, Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln, written with a charming simplicity that is not in the least childish or moralizing and with dramatic insight as well as historical knowledge—best of all with democratic faith. American parents could go farther and fare worse than to choose these little biographies for their sons and daughters to read—and for themselves, to correct mistaken impressions from the aristocratic traditions of their old school history and the teacher that perhaps was neither democrat nor historian. A. L. G.



A POLICEMEN'S TEXT-BOOK.

Police Practice and Procedure. By Cornelius F. Cahalane. Published by E. P. Dutton & Co., New York. 1914. Price, \$1.50 net.

There is nothing that can be more entertaining, and is commonly so dull, as confidential literature—shop-talk by one person of a group to his fellow members exclusively. How tiresome, to the non-professional, are most mothers' talks to mothers, for instance, or successful business men's sermons to young failures! But how fascinating

to the honest adult plodder would be a burglar's book for burglars, or a schoolboy's book for school-boys! Frankness and an unusual point of view give pleasure. Egotism and an anxiety to preach acceptable doctrine bring merely the dull pain of an unwilling listener.

Mr. Cahalane's book of advice to his fellow policemen—the author is in charge of the training school of the New York Police Department—is neither uninteresting nor lurid. Its philosophy is a matter-of-fact one, taking society "as is." Its calm and tacit division of all mankind into actual and potential law-breakers is, of course, not unusual. The careful classification of the various sorts of thieves, however, with illustrated descriptions of how each works and with what sort of "jimmy," is rare reading for any layman. But there is much very useful and respectable information in the little book—especially for a citizen of New York, where its legal scene is laid. Serious lessons in the taking of finger prints, the collection of evidence, in court manners and correct personal deportment all surprise the reader into a

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Secretary American Peace Society

Will speak before the Chicago Single Tax Club, in the Schiller Hall, Friday, April 9, 8 p. m. Subject

Some Lessons of the Great War

Miss M. Catherine Lyons will also speak, and J. W. Bengough of Toronto, Lecturer and Cartoonist, will give one of his famous Economic Chalk Talks.

April 10, Dance at Ogden Park Hall. Admission by ticket.

April 16, Judge William Prentiss, "Thomas Jefferson."

Otto Cullman, President. E. J. Batten, Business Secretary.

Women's Trade Union League

of Chicago

PUBLIC MEETING

Regular Monthly Meeting, Sunday Afternoon, April 11, at 3 o'clock, Schiller Hall, 64 West Randolph Street

Wallace Bruce Amsbary
Recitation

Tales from Tolstoi

Report of the Legislative Committee on the Eight-Hour Bill. Election of Delegates to National Convention. Refreshments.
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new look at the officer on his beat. Here may be a perfectly honest, industrious man, called to a difficult profession the intricacies of which he has determined to master and its dangers to confront.

A. L. G.



Girl (reading letter from brother at the front)—"John says a bullet went right through his hat without touching him."

Old Lady—"What a blessing he had his hat on, dear."—London Opinion.



"What is your reason for believing in the nebular hypothesis?" asked the man who is always seeking information.

"I don't know that I exactly believe in it," replied

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Mrs. Jessie L. Lane, President, Riverdale, Maryland; Miss Alice L. George, Room 132, House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C.

Massachusetts Single Tax League

Executive Committee meets on second Friday of each month in Room 322 Exchange Building, 16 Congress St., Boston, at 7:15 P. M. All persons interested are welcome at these meetings.

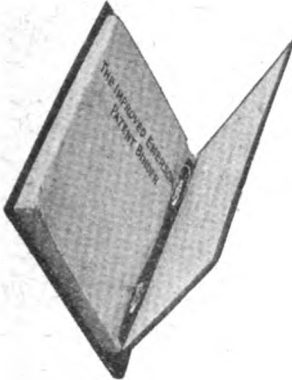
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the scientist. "But after a man has gone to the trouble of finding out what it is, it seems a shame to contradict it."—Washington Star.

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the Land Question are still very few, but the number of those who are "catching on" is growing rapidly. Keep it growing—keep pushing the circulation of The Public.

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Here is some employment at least and an opportunity to make a few dollars, open to anyone.

Some friends of Bolton Hall's have got his "Mastery of Grief" and other books of his as advertised in the "Public" bound in limp leather with gilt tops, to sell at \$2.00 per volume, set of six for \$10.00. The agent makes one-half of the price, \$1.00 on a \$2.00 book.

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The book is not a devotional one and is the only book of comfort ever published that can be given to a sceptic or non-religious person. At the same time it appeals strongly to church people, among whom Mr. Hall's name is generally known as the son of the late Rev. Dr. John Hall of the 5th Avenue Presbyterian Church.

Of course it has the single tax principles imbedded in it. Some church people are doing well with it among their acquaintances, and so far no one has wished to accept Mr. Hall's own offer to refund the money to any who are dissatisfied with their purchase.

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