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## EDITORIAL

### Perkins' Diagnosis.

An excellent comment on economic conditions in the United States was offered by George W. Perkins to the Commission on Industrial Relations, when he said:

Anyone approaching this country in an airship and looking down on it and seeing our great fertile fields and rich mines and the comparatively small population, and then seeing the number of unemployed—the number of people who are not employed as they should be—would think this was a lunatic asylum.

But what would this airship navigator think, were he informed that the man, who made the statement quoted, solemnly insists that this state of affairs is due to the Sherman law and "unscientific" tariff revision?

S. D.

### Building Up a Department.

It must be a source of some consolation to the friends of Louis F. Post who have heard his recent addresses, to know that he occupies a place where his peculiar talent is devoted to constructive work. Keenly as these friends feel the loss of his counsel, as it appeared from week to week in the columns of *The Public*, they are now coming to understand how that counsel is being translated into deeds. Had Mr. Post gone into an old department, with well-established lines of procedure, he would have been greatly handicapped in his efforts toward constructive reform. Going as he did into a new department, however, where all is undefined and indefinite, and where the very act creating the department must be interpreted, it is the country's peculiar good fortune that it has the assistance of such a man to aid in the interpretation.

When Congress divided the Department of Commerce and Labor into the Department of Commerce and the Department of Labor, it said: "The purpose of the Department of Labor shall be to

foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners of the United States, to improve their working conditions, and to advance their opportunities for profitable employment." Here are provisions so indefinite, yet so broad, that they may mean very little, or very much, according as they are interpreted. Secretary William B. Wilson, at the head of the Department, has shown himself to be clear-minded and broad enough to grasp the new ideas of government. With Mr. Post as his assistant and confidant, those striving for the new order may rest assured that the plans now under consideration are such as will give force to the movement to "foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners of the United States, to improve their working conditions, and to advance their opportunities for profitable employment."

s. c.

### The Unemployed Problem.

Committees on unemployment have been appointed in many cities. If any one of them has shown itself competent to deal with the question the fact has not been reported. While no legal power to forcibly remove the cause of unemployment can be wielded by a municipal committee, much can be done by men, who know how, to call public attention to the cause and to arouse a strong sentiment against efforts to block removal. Unemployment is due to withholding of natural resources from use. Nothing else can cause it in a country capable of producing enough to support in comfort the population of the world. In every city where unemployment committees exist there is enough land withheld from use to furnish potential jobs for all of the unemployed whose plight has called these committees into existence. Yet the committees seem blind.

But while committees may be blind there are interested persons outside of their membership who can see, and are trying to furnish light. In Cleveland, for instance, the following comment was offered by Mr. A. B. du Pont, treasurer of the Joseph Fels Fund, on a suggestion offered by the local committee:

Mr. F. H. Goff, chairman, the Mayor's Committee on Non-employment, City.

Dear Mr. Goff: Any plan that will relieve the distress of the unemployed of our city has my hearty sympathy and I am pleased with the suggestion of the Committee of which you are chairman, to invite the workers of Cleveland who are employed to contribute a day's pay, whether it be large or small, to a fund to employ those who are out of work.

I wish to suggest that your Committee also invite

each Cleveland landowner to contribute for the same purpose an amount equal to the rental value for one day of their land.

The present value of all the land within the city limits of Cleveland is estimated by Tax Commissioner Fackler at \$600,000,000.00 which, rented at 6 per cent of its value will produce each day (not counting Sundays and holidays, days when most workers receive no pay), \$120,000.00.

I deem it most fitting that the landowners be urged to contribute the amount indicated for the reason that this \$120,000.00 that each and every day, our land laws permit them to appropriate, is produced by the workers of Cleveland, and upon the day that they are invited to contribute a day's wage to the fund for the unemployed, they also will be forced to contribute this \$120,000.00 to the landowners.



Chicago's municipal director of unemployment, James W. Calley, apparently sees more than the average official who deals with that question. He is said to be planning to put the vacant lot cultivation idea into operation. Mr. Calley is quoted in the Tribune as follows:

Think of all the land within the city limits that lies idle year after year—and of the use it might be put to. Some of the tracts are amply large to grow a considerable crop of some cereal. Others are large enough to raise considerable quantities of garden truck. The experience of the country school pupils in raising different forms of produce on small tracts of land throughout Cook county is proof that a little land may be made to yield considerable profit.

How to get possession of the land is a problem that bothers Mr. Calley. He sees no other way than asking permission of the owners. Some land can be obtained in this way. But experience in other cities shows that owners who will give such permission are comparatively few. Experience shows also that when some owners begin to see that there is back of this plan a Singletax object lesson they revoke the permission. In view of this fact it would be well for Mr. Calley, and those interested in the unemployment problem in other cities, to consider carefully the following suggestion submitted by the Philadelphia Singletax Society to the city councils:

In view of the distress caused by the involuntary disemployment of thousands of worthy citizens, this society requests that you consider the desirability of requesting all owners of unused land within the city limits to place it at the disposal of the Vacant Lots Cultivation Society to be prepared for use in the spring. We are informed that the German municipalities have commandeered much vacant land for this purpose, but a simple request from the city authorities should be sufficient to accomplish much good, without the danger of pauperization, the work of this Society having been eminently useful, highly productive and non-pauperizing. Moreover we suggest that you appoint a committee to confer with the

Board of Revision of Taxes in order that vacant land be assessed for taxation at full market value, the practice having been heretofore, here and elsewhere, to encourage speculation in land by low assessments, at the expense of those who give employment by improving. This practice should be so modified as to discourage speculation and to encourage industry.



As a matter of fact, the use of valuable city land for gardening purposes is an economic waste, excusable only on the ground that it is not as great a waste as no use at all. When Mr. Calley asks that we think of all the land within the city limits "and of the use it might be put to," he calls attention to far greater productive possibilities than farming or gardening. Land actually worth from twenty-five to several thousands of dollars per foot is capable of producing wealth each year of many times the value of a crop of vegetables. There would be no unemployment problem were this land put to its proper use. And until that has been done there will continue to be serious social problems to be solved.

S. D.



### Taxing or Leasing Mines.

So rapid has been the growth of the sentiment in favor of leasing mineral lands that still remain in the hands of the Federal Government, that scarcely a word is now heard in public favoring a return to the old method of surrendering their ownership into private hands for a nominal price. There is still a question of how to dispose of the rentals so received. The States in which these lands are situated feel that they belong to the State, and they protest against a discrimination, as compared with the older States, which deprives them of a fruitful source of revenue. But whatever understanding may be arrived at as to the bestowal of the rental, there is now little opposition to the method itself, save from a few individuals who feel that they have missed an opportunity of amassing great wealth. There still remains the question, however, of what to do with the mineral lands that have already passed into private hands. The abuse of such ownership, the strife, the confusion, and the injustice that have accompanied the old method, have led some to advocate the public purchase of such holdings, and the instituting of a system of leases. It is possible that such a proceeding might be better than the present method. Yet it contains so few of the elements of justice that it scarce warrants adoption when other and better methods are at hand.



To recover mineral lands alienated by the Gov-

ernment would involve the payment, not of what the holders paid the Government, nor even what they are at present worth; but what they will in the future be worth. For, as Ben Franklin says, he who kills a sow loses not only the sow, but all her future increase. And when is added to present and future prices for mineral lands, the hold-up prices that are generally seen in Government purchases, it will be realized that it will be practically impossible for the Government to receive in return the amount paid in purchase price. The chief claim to be made for this method is the better treatment of the miners. It is in this feature that the Singletax displays its unique advantage. Justified by the fact that the increase to the value of mineral lands has not been due to the efforts of the owners, but to the growth of the community, and fortified by the legal right to tax, the Government can, by means of the Singletax on land values, secure the same results from lands in private hands as those that will follow the leasing of such lands on Government lands. Not only will the people recover the value they have created, under the taxing system as under the leasing; but the natural commercial selfishness of the operators will compel them to treat the men with the same consideration. For the tax upon land values will fall upon unused as well as used mineral lands, thus forcing into use all that the market can absorb; and the demand for labor that will follow will compel fair treatment by the operators, in order to secure men. Hence it is that the land value taxationist approves of the leasing system for land still held by the Government, and the taxing of lands that have passed into private hands.

S. C.



### Immigration to Texas.

The Houston, Texas, Chronicle is endeavoring to attract immigrants to Southern Texas. It is conducting an active campaign to that effect, and is asking the co-operation of South Texans, offering the following inducement:

It is a demonstrated fact, has been proved time and again, that each home buyer added to the population of a community increases the value of other property in that locality to at least one-half the extent of his investment. Furthermore, that the actual money value of each new inhabitant to the business interests of the community is equivalent to at least one-fourth of his annual income. Therefore an influx of newcomers to any community adds new values to each individual's property holdings or business interests.

In other words, the influx of population will increase land values and enable land owners to get

higher rents and selling prices for their lands. It will also increase business, but business enterprises, unlike land, are not fixed in quantity, so that those whose money is invested in other things than land can not be assured of the same gain that immigration will bring to the landowner. The non-land owning business man may do more business, but he must expect to pay more rent for the privilege and, in most cases, will find himself no better off in the end.

But where does The Chronicle expect its immigrants to locate? In its editorial columns it calls attention to the increase of tenantry in Texas, and it clearly shows the cause in saying:

There are more than a million acres of unoccupied and untilled land in Harris county, and it is unoccupied and untilled because the owners will neither use it nor sell it—for to hold it at prices and upon terms which the man without capital can not meet is equivalent to refusing to sell it.

Then it goes on to say that similar conditions exist elsewhere. While they do exist would it not be well to inform prospective immigrants of the fact? Should they not be told that they must pay inflated prices to get land, that their coming will tend to still further inflate prices for later comers to pay, and that the benefit of all this will not go to them, but to certain speculators?

In the same issue the Chronicle suggests the following as a parallel to the land situation:

If the bakers and sellers of bread in Houston should keep baking bread and piling it up and would neither use it nor sell it, except at prices the people could not afford to pay, the people would not starve, but would find a way to get bread.

This does not present a parallel situation, for in such a case bread could be imported into Houston, consumers could bake their own bread or use substitutes, or the makers, finding an ever-increasing supply of perishable stuff on their hands, would find themselves unable to maintain their monopoly. But such remedies are not available for land monopoly. Land can not be imported from outside, and the holders are not increasing the supply and piling it up. Their monopoly is made secure by the fact that the supply of land is fixed. In spite of this let us hope that it is true, as the Chronicle states, that the people will find a way to get land. Such a way is provided for in two proposed Constitutional amendments now before the Legislature. One provides for home rule in taxation, allowing Texas municipalities to raise all local revenue by taxing land values alone. The

other makes it possible to apply the same reform to agricultural districts. The adoption of these two amendments will force those who are holding land out of use, to let go of it, and give those a chance who want to use it. Then when immigrants come they can get sites for their homes without paying a monopoly price, and the benefit of whatever increase in values they may create will go to themselves. Texas will thus become a prosperous state. Let the Chronicle use its influence on the Legislature to submit these two amendments and then to secure approval by the people. And in this connection let its own words be quoted: "The time for letting things be because they have been, and for opposing any policy because it has not been tried before, has passed. The world moves, and the time is coming, let who mock that will, when the people will fix Constitutions and laws so they will get land, and get it without doing anybody injustice."

S. D.

### Guggenheim and Jeffersonian Principles.

Daniel Guggenheim was one of the few big business men to express progressive sentiments before the Commission on Industrial Relations. While his economic views can not be said to be altogether sound, he stated a fundamental truth in declaring that every man is entitled to a job. He would perhaps not have added, as he did, that it is the government's duty to see that every man gets a job, had he realized that government interference is what is keeping men out of jobs who want them. Government is responsible for monopolizing of natural opportunities by a comparatively small number, and this is the fundamental cause of involuntary unemployment. But perhaps Guggenheim does see this fact and instead of urging abolition of the wrong, suggests as compensation the government's duty to furnish artificial opportunities. It may be that he holds with Thomas Jefferson that "whenever there are in any country uncultivated lands and unemployed poor it is clear that laws regarding property have been so far extended as to violate natural rights. The earth is given as a common stock for man to labor and live on. If for the encouragement of industry we allow it to be appropriated we must take care that other employment be provided to those excluded from the appropriation. If we do not, the fundamental right to labor the earth returns to the unemployed." But if Mr. Guggenheim actually holds such principles the fact was not made manifest during struggles that have taken place in Colorado for partial recognition of them. It is a pity that

he was not asked by the Industrial Commission to explain this apparent inconsistency. S. D.

and starting at the same time, could not have gained like fortunes.

### Misdirected Energy.

The testimony of Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller, Sr., before the Commission on Industrial Relations reveals a remarkable state of affairs, and betrays a still more remarkable state of mind on the part of our two richest citizens. Amazing as it is that two young men—one an immigrant—should have begun life with nothing, and should have amassed such gigantic fortunes, the wonderment is still greater that they should have reached such an age, and remained untouched by the new thought on political and economic lines. They are men of keen perception, and their reasoning along commercial lines is sound; but regarding the laws that govern social relations, and underlie the progress of civilization, they seem to have no knowledge whatever. Commercial life to them has been a game whose rules were laid down by those who went before them. They have accepted the rules, and have played the game. That they had an unfair advantage is not apparent to them; for did they not start with nothing, and has anybody begun with less? Since all had at least as good a chance as they, why should those who failed complain of those who succeeded?

There are chances, it is true, in all kinds of business; but the varying fortune that attends all competitive business is such that the losses check the gains; and it is only exceptional ability and great industry that receive considerable rewards. But those who by accident or foresight acquire a business from which the law bars competition would be poor managers indeed if they did not prosper. Mr. Carnegie entered a business that was protected by an enormous tariff. As he was able he bought mineral lands, in which he was protected by laws that give to individual holders values that are created by the community. In all this he displayed great shrewdness, it is true, but he was all the time protected by unjust laws. Mr. Rockefeller had much the same experience. By agreements with railroads he secured advantages over his competitors. Ownership of mineral and oil lands favored him as it did Mr. Carnegie; but his control of public highways, railroads, waterways, and pipe lines enabled him to control the marketing of his products. The amassing of these fortunes were not therefore dependent so much upon ability, as upon first seizing the privileged businesses. Ten thousand men of equal ability,

Though these two men seem to be absolutely unconscious of the fact that they played the game with loaded dice, they do realize that the great mass of the players have failed; and they are eager to share their winnings with those who lost. They have pensioned many of those whom they think deserving. And they have established Foundations for the purpose of carrying on the work in a systematic and efficient way. Both men expressed the wish that the wage earners might share in the profits of the business. Mr. Rockefeller said he had thought of many plans by which stock and ownership could be transferred to the workers. But that would not solve the problem. To make his employes sharers in his monopoly privileges would in no way benefit the victims of those privileges. That would be merely an application of the fable of the perch that protested to King Pike because the pike ate the perch. The King thought the point well taken, and ordained that in the future two perch should each year be admitted to the ranks of the pike. The industrial problem is not to be solved by admitting a few perch to the privileges of the pike, but by stopping the depredations of the pike.

Mr. Carnegie and Mr. Rockefeller are no different at heart from other men. They have simply followed the rules we all try to follow; but, favored by exceptional ability, and more exceptional opportunity, they have outstripped their opponents. Change the rules, remove the legal privileges, that must of necessity be enjoyed by only a few, and the great talent of such men as these, which now works to the harm of society, will then work to its good. It is not the men, but the rules that are at fault; and the victims are to blame for the rules.

S. C.

### Taxing Liberty.

When a community imprisons a man charged with no crime, and holds him prisoner until he pays an amount demanded for his freedom, is that not morally the same as blackmail? Miami, Florida, is a community guilty of this act. The city council has recently levied what it calls street tax. Every man between 21 and 55 years of age must pay three dollars or go to jail. This is not to be confused with the poll tax, which also exists in Florida. The street tax is a supertax levied on poll taxpayers. A man may be destitute and out

of work, or his family may be in great need of the money, but that does not matter. The city demands nevertheless its pound of flesh. And this barbarous law is being enforced. So far all the victims have been Negroes, but, as a resident of the city states, the poor whites will not be long unmolested. About the only example of mercy in enforcement reported was the case of a laborer with a sick wife, and six children. He was not excused, but was given a week's grace in which to pay. Like the other states, Florida taxes labor products, compelling workers to pay either directly or indirectly in taxes for all benefits derived from government although their landlords have already compelled them to pay in rent for the very same thing. Then it levies a poll tax for the right to vote. And now the street tax is levied for the right to stay out of jail. What is there left to tax?

S. D.

### Premiums for Lying.

What chance have moralists to cultivate truth-telling habits among mankind, so long as the legislators continue to make it to the advantage of the individual to lie? The income tax, the personal property tax, the tariff tax, are as productive of lying as though that were their primary purpose. What American, man, woman, or child, ever returned from abroad without a secret purpose in the heart to evade as much of the import duties as was safe? What man or woman ever confessed to the tax assessor the literal truth about his or her hidden property? These laws, however, have the excuse of raising revenue for the Government; and so long as the people insist upon raising their revenue in the wrong way, the moralists will have to wage the uneven contest.

What shall be said, however, of the registration laws in operation in many cities that require the voter, upon pain of disfranchisement, to tell his or her age? There was a time when birth days could be celebrated, but times have changed. Jobs have become so scarce that employers fix a maximum age at which they will employ labor. Hence, it is as inexpedient for a job-hunting man, as for a husband-seeking woman, to betray his age. Some of the big corporations that have instituted pension systems will not hire a man after he has reached the age of thirty-five years. None cares to hire him after he is fifty. Gray hairs are tell-tales, but hair-dye may contradict them. A confessed age on the poll books, however, or elsewhere, is not easily disguised. Now that women

in many places are voters, the recording of the age might be a positive hardship. The only legitimate reason for requiring more than the statement that the person is of voting age is that it may serve for purposes of identification. But this is not a complete identification; and if the voter, feeling the necessity of concealing his age, lies about it even this service is lost. If a real and effective identification is needed, thumb prints will answer the purpose, and will at the same time relieve the voter from the embarrassment of confessing his or her age.

S. C.

### Where the Disgrace Lies.

Some partisans of European belligerents show a curious kind of sensitiveness regarding news reports of that struggle. They consider it an affront to their side to report any suffering, loss or defeat which the war is said to have brought upon it. They ought to realize that no defeat can increase the disgrace due to entering a needless and avoidable war. No victory can lessen that disgrace. The question of which side is best able to manipulate its brute strength has nothing to do with honor. The true friend of a belligerent will feel shamed at every report of slaughter in which its forces were engaged, regardless of whether it won or lost.

S. D.

### Another Scheme to Abolish Jury Trials.

The autocratic spirit that reluctantly yielded to democracy the right of trial by jury has never become quite reconciled to its loss. No age has passed from that day to this that has not seen some effort to modify or destroy the right. The most insidious attempt, perhaps, was that of the employers' use of the injunction to control labor organizations. When "friendly" judges enjoined strikers from doing what the law already forbade, the accused were as completely at the mercy of the judge as though trial by jury had never been. So plain and palpable was this subversion of common rights that a nation-wide protest has frightened Privilege into abandoning this particular form of usurpation, and compelled politicians to take steps to redress the wrong.

But no sooner is autocracy barred from the door than it tries to creep in at the window. The bills now pending in Congress, giving the Postmaster General power to exclude newspapers from the mails for certain offenses, are vicious not alone because they give new definitions to old offenses,

but because they suspend the right of trial by jury. Just as the offense of the injunction-governing judge lay in enjoining a striker from committing an offense already prohibited by law—thereby enabling him to punish the accused for contempt of court, instead of for breaking the law—so the proposed bills offend against democracy not by making acts unlawful that are morally wrong, but by putting their determination and punishment wholly in the hands of a department official. Even should there be a universal agreement as to the immorality of the acts, yet the determination of the fact itself would remain; and no citizen could be assured of even handed justice if placed at the mercy of a judge whose decisions were not subject to appeal or revision.



If there is a single political right that American democracy is agreed upon it is that a man accused of crime shall be tried by a jury in the place where the crime was committed. To permit a postal official at Washington to bar any newspaper from mailing privileges—which means to destroy it—because of an alleged offense is to place publishers at the entire mercy of the Postmaster General. Upon charges of an unknown accuser, that official may gather evidence with his own detectives, and condemn the accused without fear of an overruling by a higher court, thus denying both the right to a trial by jury, and the right to be tried where the offense was committed.



The claim that this authority would be exercised only for the suppression of acts universally condemned by a public sense of decency is entirely aside from the point, since it leaves the determination of the fact to a single human being, who may be subject to political bias, religious prejudice, or economic pressure, and who is fortified in his exercise of arbitrary authority by the knowledge that the Supreme Court has held the rulings of the postoffice department to be of the nature of the army and navy rulings which are not subject to revision by the courts. No more authority should be given the Postmaster General. Rather should some he now has be taken from him.

S. C.

### A Significant Decision.

In annulling the Kansas law which prohibited an employer from compelling employes to renounce trade unionism, the United States Supreme Court has made clear that existing economic conditions nullify Constitutional guarantees of religious free-

dom, freedom of speech, or any other rights. If the Kansas law had forbidden coercion of employes in religious or political matters, it would have been just as unconstitutional under the Supreme Court's ruling. This does not mean that the court's reasoning was wrong, but it does mean that if the court is right then the laws must be wrong which make jobs so scarce that in order to get one a worker may be compelled to surrender his Constitutional rights. If it does not mean that then the United States Constitution is but a "scrap of paper."

S. D.



### A Safety Valve.

Speaking at a meeting at the Chicago City Club regarding the disturbance at a meeting of the unemployed at Hull House, Jane Addams said she had noticed that young men from abroad were sometimes inclined to speak recklessly when they arrive in this country; but that they grow more conservative after they have become better acquainted with our institutions. It were better, she thinks, that the problem of the unemployed were not so much in the keeping of the young and less experienced; but that if they do wish to talk it will be well to let them. Talking relieves a stress of feeling that may otherwise find expression in violence. If only we had enough Jane Addamses to appoint one as the Chicago Chief of Police!

S. C.



### Lawless Anti-Anarchists.

Considering what little respect Chicago's police heads have for law or Constitution, the horror, hate and fear they express concerning anarchy and anarchists seem a trifle inconsistent, if not hypocritical. And the same may be said of police heads in New York and other cities.

S. D.



### A Politician's Ideal Mayor.

There are four candidates in Chicago for the Democratic and Republican mayoralty nominations. Each has had much to say about what he thinks an ideal mayor ought to do. According to the expressed views of these gentlemen they seem to feel unanimously as follows: An ideal mayor should not worry about the question of unemployment beyond encouraging charitable donations for the unemployed. He should have no opinion to express concerning an effort, which he must know is being made, to bunco the city out of its rights to a telephone system. He should ignore unprovoked attacks by policemen on peaceful

meetings and parades, and an outrageous, as well as illegal, police policy of interference with free speech. He should have no ideas worth mentioning regarding the taxation system. He should, in short, be very careful to have no opinion before election of any kind except such as will meet with no serious oppositon.

While these views have not been openly expressed by Messrs. Harrison, Schweitzer, Olson or Thompson, their silence on these and similar matters makes it clear that they have not been misrepresented. It is deplorable indeed that in the second city of the country neither of the two largest parties should be able to produce a candidate for mayor possessed of sufficient knowledge and ability to present some plan to settle the city's most serious questions.

S. D.

## EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY IN ILLINOIS.

How impetuously the "industrial unrest" has launched itself into the educational world was evident to any onlooker at the First Annual Convention of the Vocational Education Association of the Middle West held in Chicago February 5 and 6. It would be hard to find a more alert roomful of citizens in America than those three or four hundred teachers, business men and labor leaders who on Saturday morning heard and fought each others' views on "Proposed Vocational Education Legislation in Illinois." Difficult also would it be to find a body of Americans deliberating on a more important question, if its true import be considered. "Shall our children continue to leave the common school, unprepared for any specialized life work and untrained in the rudiments of mental efficiency?" asked some partizans. "Shall our children during their few short years in the public schools be educated into life, or merely trained into a job?" asked others. The particular question before the house was whether vocational education—which all agree must in greater measure somehow be introduced into public education—shall come in as an integral part of the present system, administered by the same head, offered in the same schools (that is, under the "unit" system), or whether such vocational curricula shall be brought in under a separate administration in separate and special schools, that is, under the "dual" system. Impassioned arguments were presented by both the "unit" and the "dual" advocates. We shall not go into them now. One or two facts, however,

stood out boldly to the observer in the back of the room. First, the speakers who advocated the dual system all represented in one way or another what are known as "the business interests"; the speakers who wanted the unit system represented the educational and labor world. Second, the "duals" talked of "efficiency," the "units" spoke of "life." Third, the business men discussed the job and its child; the teachers and workingmen discussed the child and his job. One speaker, not immediately in the controversy, summed it all up when she said: "The question is not, 'What will the children do for Industry?' but 'What will Industry do to the children?'"

A. L. G.

### SUSAN LOOK AVERY.\*

"To cease upon the midnight, with no pain."

—Keats.

The death of this woman was as natural as her life, which was typical of what all lives should be and prophetic of what all might be. She lived vitally through nearly a hundred years of advancing social thought; she died as the tired child sleeps, weary but not worn out.

When Susan Look entered public life as a school teacher, a girl in her teens, chattel slavery was the social problem which our country faced, and by which it was in another generation to be wrecked and torn. She found herself in Kentucky where slavery prevailed and where, therefore, partly from tradition, partly from associations, and partly from self interest—as it is with all social questions—public sentiment buttressed this wretched institution. But she was a democrat. Not by party label, not by mere profession or lip service, not for herself and hers alone, but a democrat in all that the word implies. To her heart and intellect the rights of man were vastly wider in scope than the privileges of race or family, of wealth or culture. So, in a slave community, she was an abolitionist.

Neither was her democracy circumscribed by the limitations of the first democratic struggle that had seized upon her young imagination. It was with her a vital principle by which for more than three-quarters of a century she tried every social problem that challenged public attention. Her democracy made her a woman suffragist in the earliest years of the agitation for woman suffrage. It made her a greenbacker when the industrial problem entered the political arena in that guise. It made her a champion of the free coinage of silver when this was the battle banner of democ-

\*See page 159 of this paper.



racv. It made her throughout a free trader and finally a Singletaxer. Whether or not she was right on all these questions or any of them is of secondary importance. The great consideration is that in deciding upon them she made democracy her touchstone.

But her decisions were not reached without weighing the questions themselves with reference to their own respective merits. Although democracy was at all times her inspiration, reason was her guide. Her reason may not have led her where yours would have led you or mine me; but it was her reason, not ours, and whoever tested it would wisely hesitate to discount its clarity or power. Her democratic faith was logically articulate whatever the concrete instance—chattel slavery, suffrage, free trade, money-monopoly or land monopoly.

With all her interest in public affairs, an interest as comprehensive and intense as that of an ideal senator, this champion of democracy was none the less a model home maker. Married to the founder of the famous Avery agricultural implement factory at Louisville, Ky., Susan Look Avery was the mother, the grandmother and the great grandmother of a family notable for personal virtues and civic spirit. In her home affairs no less than in her public interests, her career puts to shame the spineless theory that women must despise common duties to be efficient in private ones. That they must be negligible fools in the larger home to be wives and mothers in the smaller.

Not all, whether men or women, can live the useful life that Susan Look Avery lived, or pass out of it as normally and happily. Industrial maladjustments do not yet permit this to the many. Her economic path was nearer the line of those who are rich enough to be free but not rich enough to domineer. It is the line toward which all industrial life seems tending and to which it must come if civilization is to go forward instead of backward. To bring on this better life for all Mrs. Avery donated her abilities and her energies, her time and her means; and soon after the close of her ninety-seventh year, without pain, without any gnawing regret, without fear, but as at the end of a good day's work, in full possession of her mentality and full enjoyment of her outflowing love, she slept.

The love of this wonderful woman, strong in its personal qualities as all normal human love is, overflowed the bounds of personality as all democratic love must. Her democracy neither bent nor cringed; it was upright and stalwart. To condescend in a world in which all are equals, brothers and sisters of one great family, would have been

as impossible to her as cringing. Of brummagem democracy she hadn't a particle; with God's democracy of human brotherhood she was all aglow always. Cremation has dissipated the physical elements of her body; but is it rational to suppose that she herself, that splendid spirit of democracy personified, is no more? Are not the probabilities greater that her body's death was her own re-birth? Be that as it may, however, there is at any rate, about the long life she lived before this death, a reality that invests the memory of her with angelic charm—the charm of love and thought free and unafraid.

LOUIS F. POST.

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## EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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### THE LOWER RENTS DINNER.

New York, January 31, 1915.

On Saturday night, January 30, about 250 ladies and gentlemen met in the well fitted dining parlor of the Fifth Avenue Restaurant to listen to Surgeon-General W. C. Gorgas, and other speakers expound the doctrine of lower rents and the reduction of taxes on homes. Incidentally they heard Hon. Frederic C. Howe explain the gospel of political democracy.

Frederic C. Leubuscher introduced Hon. S. S. Goldwater, Health Commissioner of New York City, as the toastmaster, who paid a high compliment to the guest of the evening, and said he shared with General Gorgas his belief in the economic cause of disease.

Mr. Howe expressed his belief not only in the economic cause of disease but in the economic foundations of society. He said Mr. James Bryce had given currency to the idea that American democracy had failed because our people were too greatly interested in money-getting, and thus had but little interest in their government. I want to characterize this as untrue. American democracy has failed because the institutions under which the people have been compelled to work would have failed in any country.

Mr. Howe declared that Hamilton and the Hamiltonian distrust of the people constituted the heaviest burden the American democracy has been compelled to carry. His philosophy was based on a fear of the people. I want to say that any people would have failed who based their political philosophy on the conviction that the people can not be trusted. In the first place, we start out with an inflexible constitution, a constitution which cannot be changed except by almost superhuman effort. Then the Hamiltonian fear or distrust of the people introduced the practice of the veto. The upper house can veto the lower house, the President can veto both houses, and the supreme court can veto the action of the two houses and the President. Think of trying to run a business on such a principle as that; think of running any agency of modern life with such a philosophy.

Our state constitution took the Federal Constitution as its model, and refused even to permit the gov-

error to select his own cabinet, another expression of the same fear of the people. The constitutions of many of our states limit the biennial session of the legislature to 40, 60 or 90 days, though the work of organizing and getting bills introduced and considered takes usually 30 days at least. Most of the men who are going to form the new constitution are animated by the same distrust of the people.

Foolish conservatism or reaction and privilege have but to control only one of the five or six agencies of government to control the entire government. Is it fair to ascribe to democracy the failure of many of our institutions under conditions by which the people's action is everywhere blocked? Is it any wonder that democracy so paralyzed has failed?

Mr. Howe urged the adoption of the Initiative and Referendum and told of a recent debate in the House of Representatives, when Congressman Kent was told by an opponent of the measure that "under the system of Direct Legislation the people would go straight to hell." "Maybe they would," replied the Congressman, "but in that event they would have a return trip ticket."

The speaker declared his belief that a constitution should describe and provide only for the machinery of government. He said he was in favor of abolishing the bi-cameral system and vesting power in one chamber. He declared for home rule in cities, and said the cities were in bondage to men living one hundred miles away, who meet for a few months once a year, and he closed with a plea for a form of government that shall recognize not property but people, and in which the collective will may organize and make its purposes effective.

Gilbert E. Roe told something of what had been accomplished for democracy in Wisconsin and kept the audience in good humor by his sallies.

General Gorgas, whose subject was "The Economical Cause of Disease," began by a review of the work of the United States for the suppression of yellow fever and other diseases of an epidemic character; told of the disappearance of fevers in Panama as a result of the transfer of the workers to free land where, at a slight cost they were able to erect habitations. He said, "What we did there on a small scale you are trying to do here on a greater. The principle is the same."

Gen. Gorgas said the cause of pneumonia was well known. It is of a vegetable parasitic character. But its exact form of transference is not so well known, though it is probably much the same as in typhoid forms. But we know that as men are moved further apart the ratio of transference is smaller, and when maintaining healthful relations of distance from each other the ratio of transference is nil. The general effect of lower rents would be to maintain this healthful relation of distance—in other words, to do away largely with unhealthful congestion.

Gen. Gorgas said that his remarks might properly end here, but he was tempted to go further. He then devoted his time to the relation of higher wages to disease and boldly avowed his belief that a higher rate of wages tended to the decrease of all forms of disease. He said this conclusion was the result of observation and experience, and he instanced illustrations drawn from "what he had seen and part of what he had been."

The speaker said he had been where he had the

power to say go, and men went, come, and they came. It was in his power to adopt any regulation of a purely sanitary nature. But though he hoped to see this reform adopted by the people he would not impose it upon them, even though he possessed the power. (Cries of "You're a democrat.") The people must be educated to want it. "But I have to recommend to my friend, the toastmaster, Hon. S. S. Goldwater, the Single Tax as the most important sanitary measure that could be adopted by the department of the city government over which he presides."

An address by Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, the most eloquent of women orators, concluded the speechmaking.

The social attractions of this most successful dinner of the Society to Lower Rents and Reduce Taxes on Homes were notably increased by the presence of Mrs. Mary Fels, Tenement House Commissioner Murphy, Hamlin Garland, Registers Hopper and Polak, Dr. A. Jacobi, Chas. H. Ingersoll, Dr. Mary D. Hussey, Benjamin Doblin and others whose work for economic and civic betterment have made them distinguished figures in the life of the city.

JOSEPH DANA MILLER.



## OHIO SINGLETAXERS ORGANIZE.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 3, 1915.

Ohio Singletaxers celebrated Groundhog Day, February 2, at the Hotel Hartman, Columbus, by the first state gathering held in fifteen years, and plans were made for the organization of a state league which will endeavor to plant at least one club or committee in every county in the state.

The name chosen was The Ohio Site Value Taxation League. Henry P. Boynton of Cleveland was made president; Carl P. Brannin of Cincinnati, vice-president, and George T. Spahr of Columbus, treasurer. Discussion of a political program brought out conflicting views as to the expediency of home rule, specific exemptions of classes of property from taxation and the repeal of all constitutional checks on taxation. Decision was deferred for one month.

Among those who took part in the general program of the day were Carl Nau, Peter Witt, Mayor Newton D. Baker, John D. Fackler, A. B. duPont, Edward W. Doty and J. P. Vining of Cleveland; Herbert Bigelow, Daniel Kiefer and W. P. Halenkamp of Cincinnati, William Holloway of Akron, George Edwards of Youngstown, H. P. Skinner of Middleport, and Elizabeth Hauser of Girard.

During the noon hour, David Gibson picketed the so-called Chittenden corner in the business center, carrying a box sign which set forth the rise of values on that site from \$3,500 in 1837, to \$280,000 at the present time and asking, "Who made this increase in value?" Speculative land prices were coupled with hard times in the argument on the sign, which attracted much attention from passing crowds.

H. P. BOYNTON.



## LEVI H. TURNER.

Boston, Mass., Feb. 5, 1915.

The death of Levi H. Turner on January 16 at his home in Quincy, Mass., calls for a review of his life

work. Mr. Turner was one of the pioneer Singletaxers in Boston, and one of the able group that first commenced Sunday meetings on Boston Common in advocacy of Henry George principles. At that time no limit was placed on time, and the meetings used to be kept going all the afternoon. Now each holder of a permit is limited to two hours, and the hours and location are set by the superintendent of the Common.

A number of years ago the then mayor of Boston gave orders to have all meetings on the Common stopped. Singletaxers circulated petitions protesting against such denial of the right of free speech. Mr. Turner, who then lived in Boston, was selected to present the numerously signed document and he performed his duty bravely and successfully, for Mayor Matthews at once rescinded his order. Since then no attempt has been made to prohibit the Sunday afternoon meetings on Boston Common.

Mr. Turner was an able, earnest, clever speaker and writer, and was widely and favorably known. A few years ago he became a Socialist and was a nominee for various offices in Quincy on the party ticket. But he only remained in the Socialist Party a short time, for he realized that the land question was at the bottom of our economic ills, and that it must be settled first by the taxation of land values before public ownership is adopted. He resumed being an enthusiastic propagandist for the Singletax and allied reforms, and spoke on Boston Common many Sunday afternoons the last three summers.

Mrs. Emily T. Turner, who survives her husband, is an earnest advocate of all principles based on justice and freedom, and shared with Mr. Turner in his enthusiasm for the ideas that will make this old earth a better place on which "to live, move and have our being." We all sympathize with Mrs. Turner and lament the death of her husband.

W. L. CROSMAN.

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## INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

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### A RELIGIOUS LESSON FOR BILLY SUNDAY.

Philadelphia, February 1, 1915.

The following letter was sent to Mr. Sunday, now holding revival services in Philadelphia:

Rev. William A. Sunday,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:

During the past four weeks I have heard and read a number of your sermons. You are endeavoring to preach the religion which Jesus Christ summed up in the two commandments, "Love thy God with all thy heart," and "love thy neighbor as thyself." People are flocking to hear you. They weigh your words and believe them. Would you inspire them with the true spirit of Christ? Let me suggest one aspect of the neighbor problem in Philadelphia, which offers you an unusual opportunity for service.

You are preaching in a winter almost without parallel for the frightful amount of distress and suffering among the poor, yet you have directed your invective against the churches mainly. Why? Are the churches the chief culprits? Is not the world beginning to realize that today the most sinister crimes against the ideals of Christ's religion are committed by the system of industry for profit—a system which pays wages so hideously low that

if the poor were made spiritually and morally perfect, they would still be abjectly poor. Interpret your doctrine of salvation in terms of modern life! Would not Jesus, if he were face to face with a multitude of ten dollar a week men feed their bodies before he attempted to save their souls?

You have declared your interest in the salvation of Philadelphia. Look around you and ask yourself what salvation means here. The city is filled with unemployment and poverty; multitudes are literally starving; thousands of little children toil in the city's factories and stores; its workers, a third of a million strong, have no workmen's compensation law for their protection; meanwhile the railroad interests which control the hard coal fields are reaping exorbitant profits; the traction company exacts the highest fares paid by the people of any American city; the manufacturers, entrenched at Harrisburg, are fighting, tooth and claw, to prevent the passage of up-to-date labor laws; and the vested interests are placing property rights above men's souls. These monstrous offenses against humanity—this defiance of the spirit of Christ's gospel—exist today in the city which hears your message.

And further! The well-fed people, whose ease and luxury are built upon this poverty, child labor and exploitation, sit in your congregation, contribute to your campaign funds, entertain you socially, and invite you to hold prayer meetings in their homes. These are they that bind grievous burdens on men's shoulders, that make clean the outside of the cup and the platter—the devourers of widows' houses against whom Christ hurled his curses. Here is Dives, yonder is Lazarus, and it is Dives who has made your campaign financially possible.

Make no mistake. The chief priests, scribes and pharisees of Philadelphia will never crucify you while you deal in theological pleasantries. Has it occurred to you that their kindness is a return for your services in helping them to rivet the shackles of economic servitude upon the bodies of those who do their bidding? The employers of labor have always welcomed anyone who could divert men's minds from worldly injustice to heavenly bias. Turn your oratorical brilliancy for a moment against low wages, overwork, unemployment, monopoly, special privilege, and the other forces which "grind the faces of the poor," and watch them show their fangs.

Before you leave Philadelphia will you speak these truths? Dare you preach them from your pulpit? Will you champion the cause of the poverty stricken, the underpaid, and the exploited? Dare you tell the masters of industry and the takers of profit that they have no right to enjoy ease and luxury while their fellow men suffer the pangs of hell on earth?

We pray "Thy Kingdom come on Earth." While men are underpaid, while women are overworked, while children grow up in squalor, while exploitation and social injustice remain, the Kingdom of God never can come on earth and never will.

Yours truly,

SCOTT NEARING.

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## NEWS NARRATIVE

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

Week ending Tuesday, February 9, 1915.

### Commission on Industrial Relations.

John Mitchell and J. P. Morgan were the principal witnesses before the Commission on Industrial Relations on February 1. Mr. Mitchell criti-

cized at great length the testimony of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Mr. Morgan was unable to tell of how many corporations he is a director. He does not hold it to be part of a director's duty to be informed concerning labor conditions, and he holds that stockholders have no responsibility for such conditions. A workingman, he said, is entitled to all that he can get, and if not contented with that, should quit. The United States Steel Corporation had spent much money in installing safety devices, and he believes that the men feel friendly toward it. He thinks that industrial discontent is decreasing. [See current volume, page 129.]

On February 2 the witnesses were Edward P. Costigan, counsel for the United Mine Workers; F. H. Goff, head of the Cleveland foundation, and Jerome D. Green of the personal staff of John D. Rockefeller. Mr. Costigan declared the Rockefeller foundation an unfit agency to conduct an investigation of industrial affairs. While investigating vice conditions in the cities, Mr. Costigan said Rockefeller sent expert and incorruptible investigators. But "he kept his eyes closed and ears deaf to the sorrow and cries of men, women and children in Colorado." He referred to the testimony of the younger Rockefeller before the congressional committee in April, 1914, and said that it proved the danger and unreliability of charity, the inferiority of charity to justice, and that absentee landlordism is at the base of "a feudalism on the part of employers toward employes." He questioned the sincerity of Mr. Rockefeller's claim that he left management of his Colorado property entirely to his subordinates, and quoted letters written by him to McKenzie King which indicated that he was well informed and active in Colorado affairs. Finally Mr. Costigan said that justice and charity are alike functions of the state which should employ them in the interest of all. Mr. Goff of the Cleveland foundation which is slightly more than a year old, said that the principal work it has so far done is to begin a survey of the city of Cleveland. Mr. Jerome D. Green denied that there was anything dangerous about the Rockefeller foundation. The character of its directors, he said, insured against any such misuse of power as corrupt control of a legislature or other unsocial policy. In answer to questions he informed the commission that the foundation was not formed to deal with economic questions, such as are involved in the Colorado situation. That was why it could devote effort to giving relief to Belgium where no question of capital and labor had arisen.

Two Ludlow women, Mrs. Mary Petrucci and Mrs. Margaret Dominski, told the commission February 3 about destruction of the strikers' tent colony there. Mrs. Petrucci, an American by birth,

told of being trapped in a cellar where she had taken refuge with her three children by the burning of the tent above. The children, aged respectively six months, two and four, were smothered to death. She herself was found unconscious after the fire, was sent to Trinidad by the soldiers, and did not learn for several days of the fate of her children. Mrs. Dominski repeated the familiar account about the arrest of Louis Tikas and of the shooting which resulted in the killing of five men, two women and twelve children.

On February 4 the Commission took testimony regarding the strike at the Roosevelt and Chrome, New Jersey, plants of the American Agricultural Chemical Company, which resulted in shooting and killing of strikers. Anthony Wiater, a striker, has lived in Chrome twenty-three years. He was getting \$2.00 a day at the Liebig plant of the works. His wages were cut after the recent election to \$1.60 a day. His rent is \$9 a month and he has been in debt ever since the reduction was ordered. Working in acid in the plant, his clothes and shoes constantly wear out, making his needs more than that of the average man in his position. Besides he has several children. Working seven days a week, he was unable to save, but on the contrary was getting deeper into debt. He is now facing eviction. A. Barton Hepburn, a director of the company, followed Wiater on the stand. Mr. Hepburn is one of the trustees of the Rockefeller foundation. He knew nothing about the condition of the employes at the plant. He had been told that the men were striking for more wages and shorter hours, and that there were many unemployed ready to take the strikers' places. He did not hold himself in any way responsible for either the strike or the shooting. Morris Hilquitt, the next witness, pointed out that Belgian relief was the only charitable work conducted by the Rockefeller foundation. These foundations, he said, are business enterprises at the bottom founded by capitalists to strengthen their own social and economic position.

John D. Rockefeller, Sr., and Andrew Carnegie testified on February 5. Mr. Rockefeller declared that he would accord all men the right to organize, that he holds payment of good wages to be a better way to help the laboring man than to pay charity; that his sole motive for forming the Rockefeller foundation was desire to serve his fellowman, and that corporation directors are not responsible for labor conditions in their plants. He gave evasive answers to questions about the Colorado labor trouble, and denied that he had ever tried to influence the educational policy of any institution.

Mr. Carnegie declared his business to be to do all the good in the world that he could. When in business, he said, he had always enjoyed confer-

ences with his workmen. He regretted the Homestead affair of 1892. He was in the Scottish highlands at the time and did not hear of the riot until several days after it had occurred. He then wanted to come home, but his partners urged against doing so. He quoted from his "Gospel of Wealth," in which he advocated as cure for economic evils that the millionaire become but a trustee of the wealth he has accumulated and distribute it for the benefit of mankind.



Frederick A. Cleveland, director of New York City's Bureau of Municipal Research, testified on February 6. He volunteered his testimony in order to publicly deny a charge by Dr. William H. Allen, who had resigned from the bureau, that its work had been influenced through a gift from John D. Rockefeller. He was followed by Dr. Allen who quoted in defense of his charge a statement by R. Fulton Cutting, head of the bureau. He said that after a meeting with Mr. Rockefeller Mr. Cutting had declared as conditions of accepting a \$110,000 gift, the stoppage of out-of-town work, stoppage of postal card bulletins, severing of connecting with a training school founded by Mrs. E. H. Harriman, and stoppage of New York school work.



The Commission's New York hearings ended with this testimony.



#### Congressional News.

By a vote of 261 in favor to 132 against, the House on February 4 refused to override President Wilson's veto of the immigration bill. It failed by five votes to secure the necessary two-thirds. The naval appropriation bill providing for expenditure of \$144,648,902 passed the House on February 5 by 165 to 149. It includes provision for two battleships to cost \$7,800,000 each. [See current volume, page 130.]



#### Tories Planning to Control Congress.

The National Voters' League, of which Lynn Haines is secretary, issued a statement on February 3 of which the following is a part:

The new House machine will be born February 4th. That is the meaning of the caucus of Democratic Congressmen to be held on that day. Behind barred and bolted doors, the Democrats of the next Congress will then do five most important things: (1) Champ Clark will be chosen as the Democratic candidate for Speaker and an attempt made to insure his election by binding to his support all who participate in this closed caucus; (2) a floor leader, to succeed Underwood, will be selected; (3) all old members of the powerful Ways and Means Committee will be re-elected, and vacancies on that Committee filled; (4) the Ways and Means Committee

will be authorized to organize the new House; (5) the majority party caucus, for the new Congress, will be formally organized by the election of Chairman and other officers.

The machine that has dominated throughout the present House had its origin in just such a closed caucus, with just such a carefully arranged program. In the Sixty-third Congress, a few leaders have been dominant, the rest of the membership mere figure-heads. This caucus, if the program is approved, means another House controlled by a few. To a few old members the success of this closed caucus means continued supremacy, continued control of coveted chairmanships, of the best committee positions, and of all the spoils and perquisites of the dominant machine. This closed caucus will not in any sense be deliberative or democratic. Its program is cut and dried. The plums and plunder connected with the organization of the new Congress have already been agreed upon, and parcelled out.

To new members, this closed caucus will mean the loss of all that is to be gained by the old machine leaders. By participation, and approval, they will consent to remain in the background. The senseless, unjust rule of seniority will be re-established.

The public is not expected either to see or understand. This caucus means that the power to whitewash, to suppress legislation, to conceal records, to continue the present undemocratic, irresponsible, parliamentary system, to make Congress a playground of partisan politics, will again be vested in a machine—a machine controlled by less than a twentieth of the membership of the House.

The headquarters of the League are at 829 Woodward Building, Washington, D. C. [See vol. xvi, p. 611.]



#### Practical Peace Propaganda.

In furtherance of its peace plans the Emergency Peace Federation has called a national conference at Chicago, February 27 and 28, 1915, for the purpose of:

1. Formulating and adopting a plan by which the sympathy, influence and aid of the American people may be tendered our sister nations in arms and the cause of an early peace promoted;

2. Preparing a constructive program for peace which shall stand as the expression of unofficial America on the problems arising out of this war; and

3. Devising ways and means by which the program adopted may be spread and discussed throughout the nation and in foreign countries.

The tentative program that forms the basis for discussion at the coming conference includes: Offers of mediation by the President of the United States; peace terms that will not cause other wars; the establishment of international courts, international congress, and an international police force; a permanent league of neutral nations; national disarmament; protection of private property at sea; and the extension of democracies of the world by the application of the principle of self-government and by the extension of suffrage

to women. Louis P. Lochner, secretary, 116 S. Michigan avenue, Chicago, may be addressed for particulars regarding the conference.



#### Conference on Vocational Education.

The Vocational Education Association of the Middle West held its first annual convention in Chicago on February 5 and 6. The vocational experience of Indiana, Wisconsin and New York was reported by officials from those States; the proponents and opponents of contemplated legislation in Illinois discussed vocational education from the businessmen's, working men's and educators' points of view, George Landis Wilson, Chairman of the Committee on Education, Chicago Association of Commerce—in the absence of Mr. Edwin G. Cooley—being the chief speaker for the "dual system" or separate schools plan, and Frederick W. Roman of Syracuse University being among the champions of the "unit" system. At the closing session, after several addresses on Child Welfare in its relation to vocational education, Professor Frank M. Leavitt of the University of Chicago was elected president of the Association for the coming year, to succeed William J. Bogan. [See vol. xvii, p. 86.]



#### Tax Reform News.

The lower house of the Arkansas legislature passed on February 1 a joint resolution to submit a constitutional amendment empowering the legislature to impose a graduated land value tax and a graduated income tax. It passed by a vote of 69 to 17. The measure imposes a graduated tax on all tracts of over 320 acres that are unimproved. Improved lands are to be exempt from this special tax. It was framed by Representative R. H. Carruth of Bradley County in order to hit at land monopolists that have in the past few years acquired great tracts of Arkansas timber lands, and after clearing them have left them unimproved. They are now, according to Mr. Carruth, holding these lands at exorbitant prices, and so thousands of acres are lying idle that should be open to settlement.



An ordinance to exempt personal property from local taxation was introduced into the city council of Providence, Rhode Island, on February 4, by Alderman John Kelso. A movement has been under way to exempt municipal bonds and Mr. Kelso has sought to broaden it to include all forms of personal property.



The following amendment to the charter of Colorado Springs, Colorado, will go to a popular referendum at the April election:

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS, That Article VII

of the Charter of the City of Colorado Springs shall be amended by the addition of a new section, to be known as 48-a, to read as follows:

48-a (1) PERSONAL PROPERTY AND THE PRODUCTS OF LABOR AND ALL IMPROVEMENTS IN OR UPON LAND ARE HEREBY DECLARED TO BE EXEMPT FROM TAXATION FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES IN THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS, SUCH EXEMPTION TO BECOME EFFECTIVE ON AND AFTER JANUARY FIRST, 1916.

PROVIDED, that nothing in this amendment shall be construed to abolish or in anywise affect such licenses or taxes as usually come within the police powers of the city.

(2) On and after January the first, 1916, land, exclusive of all improvements thereon and all interests in land including easements, privileges and rights of way over private lands, and franchises in public roads, streets and alleys shall always be subject to taxation for municipal purposes.

PROVIDED, that nothing in this amendment shall be construed as imposing any tax on or subjecting to taxation any property exempt therefrom by the Constitution of the State of Colorado.

(3) The purpose of this amendment is to have installed and put into effect in the City of Colorado Springs what is known as the Single Tax for municipal purposes, and to that end the Council is hereby instructed and directed, on the adoption of this amendment, to provide by ordinance some just and equitable system for the valuation and assessment of land and interests in land for taxation; and also to provide by ordinance such other rules and regulations concerning taxation for municipal purposes as may be requisite or necessary to carry out the purpose of this amendment.

Anything in the Charter of the City of Colorado Springs or in any of its several sections in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions of this amendment to Article VII is hereby repealed.



The House Committee on Constitutional Amendments of the Texas legislature reported favorably the Dixon resolution providing for home rule in taxation. This action followed a public hearing in which the committee was addressed by J. J. Pastoriza, Land and Tax Commissioner of Houston, in favor of the resolution. Mr. Pastoriza had a discussion with the Austin assessor, Mr. Sterzing, who opposed the Houston plan of exempting personal property. "Why is your system just when it taxes the little fellow who owns a home worth, perhaps, \$1,500, and does not tax the man who has \$50,000 loaned out at interest?" asked Mr. Sterzing. "Because, if you tax this man he simply adds the tax to the interest he takes for his money," retorted Mr. Pastoriza. "Is money any cheaper in Houston than in Austin?" asked Mr. Sterzing. "We can get money from the banks on short time loans at 6 per cent," was the reply. "What is your rate?" Mr. Sterzing was compelled to answer that it was 8 per cent. Mr. Pastoriza then told how bank deposits have increased in

Houston since he announced he would not tax deposits. [See current volume, page 130.]



The committee appointed by Mayor Mitchell of New York to investigate the taxation situation has made the following recommendations: An increment tax, a municipal income tax and a rental or occupation tax. A protest against this was sent to the mayor by Benjamin C. Marsh, secretary of the Lower Rents Society, in behalf of his society. Mr. Marsh wrote:

You appointed that Committee to exonerate you for your failure to keep your pledge, made before election, not to interfere with a local referendum on gradually reducing the tax rate on buildings here to one-half that on land values. We were assured that the Committee would give public hearings, since its recommendations, if enacted into law, would affect every man, woman and child in the city. They have not held a single public hearing, but have submitted "suggestions," if not recommendations, to the Board of Estimate for raising revenue, by compelling the poorer classes of tenants to pay \$25 to \$40 a year more taxes in their rents. Every suggestion of this Committee, as reported in the press, would bear heavily upon the working classes, and leave the privileged classes of the city, practically untouched. Of course, you packed the Committee with land speculators or their agents. Has not the wide-spread misery and suffering from unemployment, with which your Committee on Unemployment is playing, touched you in any degree since? Won't you instruct your Taxation Committee to give public hearings at once? Won't you refuse to be a party to the nefarious schemes of the majority of your Taxation Committee to mulct the workers of the city for the benefit of land speculators, by railroading legislation? Why not night hearings, so the workers can attend?



#### Woman Suffrage Progress.

The New York State Senate passed on February 4 the joint resolution for a woman's suffrage amendment to the constitution. It now goes to a popular vote for final adoption. A similar resolution in Pennsylvania which passed the last legislature and must pass again this year before going to the people passed the House on February 8 and now goes to the Senate. The same situation exists in New Jersey, where a resolution adopted by the legislature in 1914 passed the House on February 1. The Massachusetts State Senate on February 4 passed a bill to submit an equal suffrage amendment. The West Virginia legislature took final and favorable action on a similar amendment on February 5, to be voted on at the regular election of 1916. The Tennessee legislature on February 4 adopted a suffrage resolution which must pass again two years hence and then be submitted to a popular vote. In Texas and Arkansas woman suffrage resolutions are pending with favorable prospects. [See current volume, page 57, 62.]

#### Death of Susan Look Avery.

Near midnight on the 1st, Susan Look Avery died at Wyoming, N. Y., at the age of 97. Mrs. Avery was born at Conway, Mass., October 27, 1817. She was educated at Utica, N. Y., in private schools, and became a school teacher herself. In April, 1844, she married Benjamin F. Avery, founder of the Avery plow factory at Louisville, Ky., who died in 1885. Among her children is Lydia Avery Coonley Ward, well known in Chicago, and at whose home at Wyoming Mrs. Avery died. Avery Coonley, whose public service in Chicago has worthily distinguished him, is one of her grandsons. Founder of the Woman's Club of Louisville and of the Susan Look Avery Club of Wyoming, N. Y., she was also an honorary vice-president of the Federation of Women's Clubs. Mrs. Avery was an abolitionist, a free trader, a woman suffragist, an advocate of silver coinage, and a disciple of Henry George. From his first Presidential campaign until her death she was a firm friend and loyal supporter of William J. Bryan. When 94 years of age, her eyesight dimmed and her hearing dulled, but her mental and moral faculties still alert, Mrs. Avery charmed her audience at the Fels Fund dinner of 1911, held in Chicago, at which the late Joseph Fels was another of the principal guests, with this impromptu address:

I am incidentally asked to define money. A prize was once offered for the best definition of money. It was awarded to Mr. Henry E. Baggs of Sheffield, England, who said:

"Money is the universal provider of everything but happiness; the universal passport to everywhere but heaven."

While this is strictly and literally true, it is neither a definition nor a description. Money is anything on which a Government places its stamp and makes full legal tender for debt.

I wish to express my hearty approval of the attitude this organization has taken on the color line. We can never be prosperous and blessed as a nation until we are just to the colored man.

We have many problems of deepest interest to be solved, to which we cannot too soon or too earnestly address ourselves. Not only the Singletax on land values, but woman suffrage, free trade the world over, and I am very desirous that honest commerce shall perform the Christian missionary work of the world. At present we are at vast expense of life and treasure sending missionaries to people who are better than we—and who would be justified in sending missionaries to us. For example, the Filipinos and the Chinese, who live up to their idea of the precepts of the Golden Rule and the Sermon on the Mount better than we do.

I am a lover of aphorisms. The one that oftenest appeals to me is: "It is bad for the ignorant and the vicious to do ill, but it is worse for the educated and the honest to do nothing." Another: "The strongest force in human affairs is inertia." And Voltaire was quite right when he said: "It is more difficult and more meritorious to win men from their prejudices than to civilize barbarians."



[See vol. xiv, pp. 1217, 1236; vol. xv, p. 1069; current volume, page 127.]



### Mexico.

Interest centers in Mexico City, where General Obregon of the Carranza forces still exercises authority. General Zapata is reported to be surrounding the city with a large force. Business within the city is at a standstill because of General Carranza's repudiation of the Villa currency. Representatives of foreign governments in Mexico City are apprehensive of new dangers to their nationals. Reports of military actions in other parts of the country are too conflicting to be intelligible. [See current volume, page 132.]



### The European War.

No decisive actions have taken place during the first week of the seventh month in any part of the field. Desperate fighting is reported in Poland and Galicia, and on the western front, but no material changes have occurred in the battle lines. Nor has there been any demonstration by the Turks on either their eastern or western front. [See current volume, page 133.]



Interest centers more in speculations regarding the enduring powers of the several countries, their ability to get sufficient food, and their limitations in men and credit. Germany is reported taking precautions to prevent the waste of food. Bread riots are reported from both Austria and Italy. Further embargoes laid by Italy have stopped practically all exportation of foodstuffs. Switzerland feels the restrictions laid on trade by the surrounding countries, and announces a readiness to use force if necessary to protect herself.



Germany issued on the 6th a proclamation reading:

Just as England has designated the area between Scotland and Norway as an area of war, so Germany now declares all the waters surrounding Great Britain and Ireland, including the entire English Channel, as an area of war, and thus will proceed against the shipping of the enemy. For this purpose, beginning February 18, 1915, it will endeavor to destroy every enemy merchant ship that is found in this area of war, without its always being possible to avert the peril that thus threatens persons and cargoes. Neutrals are therefore warned against further entrusting crews, passengers, and wares to such ships. At the same time it is specifically noted that shipping north of the Shetland Islands, in the eastern area of the North Sea and in a strip of at least thirty sea miles in width along the Netherland Coast is not imperiled.

As Germany's marine arm of offense at this time is the submarine fleet, which lacks the means of

cruisers and battleships of removing crews before sinking merchantmen, this proclamation aroused some feeling in neutral nations until an explanation was issued, stating that submarines and warships will endeavor by every means in their power to avoid sinking American or other neutral ships. It was further stated that the Germans have no intention of sinking an American ship unless she is carrying contraband of war, and then only if her crew can be given every possibility of escape.



The British House of Commons has been asked by the Administration for an indeterminate amount of money, sufficient for the war, and specifically for the equipment of 3,000,000 men. The naval estimate asks for an additional 32,000 officers and men, which will raise the naval force for this year to 250,000 men. Premier Asquith announced that the British casualties from the beginning of hostilities to February 4th, including killed, wounded, and missing, amounted to 104,000.



The British steamship *Lusitania* is reported to have raised the American flag as a protection against German submarines while passing through the Irish sea.

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## NEWS NOTES

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—January imports into Great Britain decrease \$3,020,000; exports decreased \$97,790,000. Food imports increased \$36,250,000. Cotton decreased \$17,500,000.

—A state wide prohibition bill passed finally in the Arkansas Legislature on February 6 and was signed by Governor G. W. Hays on the same day. It goes into effect on January 1, 1916.

—A hearing on the Bailey Bill now before Congress, which proposes to elect Congressmen by means of proportional representation, is to be held on February 16th at ten o'clock, by the Committee on the Election of President, Vice President, and Representative in Congress. [See current volume, page 131.]

—Statistics of United States foreign trade, from January 2d to 30th, through customs ports handling 86 per cent of the nation's commerce, show the imports to be \$107,440,208, and the exports \$238,574,096. Should this excess of exports over imports continue throughout the year it would amount to \$1,500,000,000. The largest previous excess was in 1908, when it amounted to \$666,000,000.

—The Women's Henry George League of New York will give a Lincoln's Birthday dinner on February 12 at 6:30 p. m., at the Fifth Avenue Restaurant, Broadway and 23rd streets. Speakers and subjects are as follows: "Philanthropy or Justice," Miss Elma Dame; "Can the Land Value Tax be Shifted," August Weyman; "Site Value and Revenue," Frederick Cyrus Leubuscher; "Is the Land Value Tax a Tax



on Land?" Miss Grace Isabel Colbron; "Unearned Increment Tax or Singletax," Bolton Hall; "Factors in Production," Mrs. Mary Ware Dennett. Mrs. Mary Fels will be the league's guest. The dinner committee is Mrs. Tillie Lustgarten, Mrs. Louise L. Stretton and Miss Amy Mall Hicks.

—A message from Sir Ernest Shackleton, who seeks to cross the Antarctic continent, dated South Georgia, November 30, says the ice conditions will probably prevent him from getting through this season. He expects to be ready to start November 1st; and to come out on the other side in March, 1916. South Georgia Island is in the South Atlantic, about 34° due east of Cape Horn. The island has a population of 2000.

—The Federal Children's Bureau, of which Mrs. Julia C. Lathrop is the head, published its first report on infant mortality on February 2. The report is based on a study of conditions at Johnstown, Pa. It shows a death rate of 271 per thousand in the poorest districts or more than five times as much as in the wealthy sections. Where the fathers earn \$10 a week or less the death rate was 256 per thousand. Where fathers earned \$25 a week or more the death rate was 84 per thousand. When mothers were employed a large part of the time in heavy work the babies died at a rapid rate. Insanitary housing and neglected streets were found in coincidence with a high rate of infant deaths. In houses where water had to be obtained from the outside the death rate was 198 per thousand as against 118 per thousand in houses where water was supplied by pipes. The report can be obtained free of charge from the Children's Bureau, Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

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## PRESS OPINIONS

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### Battlefield Hyenas Appear.

Bodenreform (Berlin), January 5.—That after a victorious war prices of land in Germany will increase considerably is the universal belief of all land speculators and is based on experience with former wars. Especially in our harbor stations is this increase in value looked for, to create which our soldiers are now shedding their blood. We find, for example, in No. 257 of the *Neueste Nachrichten* of Kiel the following advertisement:

**Land Speculation.**—I want to invest a small sum in land, to be sold after the war at an advance. Only low-priced offers will be considered. Address . . .

The future of our national life depends largely on whether timely and farsighted measures are taken to assure to all that for which all have fought.



### Another "Scrap of Paper."

The Herald (London), December 12.—We do not apologize to our readers for again mentioning a "scrap of paper," the solemn obligations of which have been ignored by successive British governments. We refer to the agreement, signed in the late Lord Salisbury's time, by the British and German governments to raise the school age. . . . We agree that we must maintain our solemn national

word of honor to small nations, but it is equally imperative upon us to hold it sacred when pledged on behalf of small and defenseless children. Germany, if we are allowed to write treason in crediting her with any good deed, honored her obligations and raised the school age. That she has not suffered in consequence is proved on the battlefields of Europe. Safeguarding the physique of her children, she is reaping the reward in a contest wherein the physical counts. Our government has a favorable opportunity at its command. . . . Let it be a part of our national policy that above everything we will protect and safeguard childhood. Of course this is not to be done in the manner much favored of autocrats by simply declaring the employment to be forbidden. Children are driven out to work because the family wage has to be supplemented to maintain existence. Can anyone justify the effects? Undersized, mutilated, ignorant little humans are produced. Truly we are a great nation. We must face the problem in a statesmanlike manner and recognize clearly that we must as a nation pay for the education of our children, so as to build up a great and noble community for the future. . . . Let us help in the sane manner, not by charitable doles, but by taking care of our children.

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## RELATED THINGS

### CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

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#### THE ANCIENT CODE.

For The Public.

Before him lay the man he slew—  
They'd fought until the sun went down  
For title to a field, these two—  
A field which none should own.

At least the victor won the field,  
And when the sword was sheathed, he saw  
That land his own, with all its yield—  
So ran the Ancient Law.

Today we kill that lands may pass  
To kings—and scarce a man of all  
Can own a rood of native grass,  
Whether he stand or fall.

If peace availeth not, and war  
Be but the sad world's only mode,  
Alas, though brothers that we are,  
Give us the Ancient Code!

—Joseph Dana Miller.



#### WAR AND CHILDREN.

For The Public.

You want to abolish war? Then begin with the children.

We seem to be at a loss when attempting to explain the remarkable change in usually sane, level-headed men, when war is threatened or declared. All clear-thinking vanishes; they see red

and are eager for the fray, regardless of consequences, deaf to reason.

But why not, pray? What else is to be expected after the training they have had, and the influences to which they have been systematically subjected? From their very infancy, war and war trappings have been made attractive to them. While mere children the greater part of their amusement was furnished by toy soldiers in gaudy uniforms. They played with miniature armies, conducted make-believe battles, killed imaginary enemies, and were encouraged by their elders to do so. They were taught to admire the soldier, his sword, his gun.

The boy entered the kindergarten, and soldier worship was constantly before him. It was "March like a soldier," "Stand like a soldier," and

"Soldier boy, soldier boy,  
Where are you going?"

It was carrying imaginary guns, aiming, firing. It was drilling, marching.

Later, the boy found himself in the lower grades of his school life. He heard and read stories of war heroes, seldom of peace. It was General This and General That, great victories, magnificent campaigns, enemies routed, armies triumphant, spoils of war, etc., etc. To make these ideas more real and vivid, he was given books containing pictures of gallant men on horseback, galloping in brave array; regiments of stalwart warriors, in bright uniforms, bayonets glistening in the sunlight—mighty battleships, masts manned, guns grim and threatening. Sometimes he saw the picture of a wounded soldier, bloody bandage on his brow, but in a graceful attitude, a look of exaltation on his face, and below, his inspiring farewell message.

And when he reached the higher grades of school, the boy was again subjected to stronger impressions of the same kind. Again he heard and read glorifications of military leaders, detailed accounts of campaigns and battles and became imbued more and more with admiration for skill and strategy in man-killing. War was shown to him as a mighty game, from which the brave and strong, the wise and skilful, emerge triumphant, applauded. In many schools, military organization and drill, fostered and carried on by school authorities, served to translate ideas and impressions into actual experiences.

The child is father to the man. What wonder then that these boys grew into manhood with such ideas almost ineradicably impressed on their minds? What wonder that when they are men they are so ready to volunteer, and enthusiastically advocate war on the slightest provocation? It would be extraordinary if they acted otherwise with the training they have received.

And now imagine that another course of pro-

cedure were followed in educating the young, and that we attempted to mould them quite differently. Suppose we accustomed our children to associate guns and swords with the idea of man-killing; not a man in the abstract, but some definite, real man—father, brother, uncle, cousin, playmate. Suppose weapons of war were placed by them in the same category as poison, fire, disease—possible means of causing the death of a loved one. Suppose we referred to armies and navies as dreadful evils, sometimes necessary, it is true, but as horrors of whose existence humanity is ashamed, and for whose final extermination all are hoping and striving.

Suppose wars and battles were studied by our children as events affecting concretely the lives of untold numbers; women made widows, children orphans, families homeless; not men, women and children in the abstract, but possibly themselves, their mothers, their fathers. Suppose we told them of the numberless men lying on the battlefields, crushed, bleeding, under rolling wheels of heavy artillery, under feet of marching soldiers, under hoofs of galloping horses. Suppose they were shown survivors returning to their homes, maimed, disfigured, shattered, wrecks of their former selves; and ruins of cities, shelled and destroyed, the inhabitants left penniless, shelterless, hopeless.

Suppose we showed them pictures of ruins and battlefields strewn with mutilated bodies, agonies indescribable on the faces of the dead and dying. Suppose throughout their school life children were to be shown war in its awful reality, its sordidness and brutality, and not idealized, softened, sentimentalized. Suppose they were told the truth, instead of the monstrous lies to which they are accustomed.

Do you suppose that if taught thus they would become advocates of militarism, lovers of war?

There must be a thorough and complete change in all of our school work that is related to war. We must pursue some such methods as suggested here, if we want to feel in any degree assured that when our boys become men they will not allow themselves to be carried away by jingoistic appeals of self-seeking demagogues, but will ponder long and deeply before assenting to war and all it means.

Too horrible for the little ones? They must be spared such awful things? Yes, but how about the actual horrors of war? Is not the end to be accomplished well worth the price? And then we are constantly employing similar methods in attempting to prepare our children for life. We are continually warning them of dangers that result from improper use of fire, poison, narcotics, alcohol; we paint as vividly as we can the consequences of lying, stealing, and other vices; similarly do we attempt to prevent disease and disease

spreading. Do not the results justify the means? No, the truth must be told, to children, if necessary, if the world is to be made better and happier.

You want to abolish war? Then begin with the children.

ALEXANDER FICHANDLER,  
Principal Public School 165, Brooklyn.



### A SONG FOR WOMEN.

Annie Matheson.

Within a dreary narrow room  
That looks upon a noisome street,  
Half fainting with the stifling heat,  
A starving girl works out her doom.  
Yet not the less in God's sweet air  
The little birds sing, free of care,  
And hawthorns blossom everywhere.

Swift, ceaseless toil scarce wins her bread:  
From early dawn till twilight falls,  
Shut in by four, dull, ugly walls,  
The hours crawl round with murderous tread.  
And all the while, in some still place  
Where inter-twining boughs embrace,  
The blackbirds build, time flies apace.

With envy the folk who die,  
Who may at last their leisure take,  
Whose longed-for sleep none roughly wake,  
Tired hands the restless needle ply.  
But far and wide in meadows green  
The golden butterflies are seen,  
And reddening sorrel nods between.

Too poor and proud to soil her soul,  
Or stoop to basely-gotten gain,  
By days of changeless want and pain  
The seamstress earns a prisoner's dole.  
While in the peaceful fields the sheep  
Feed, quiet; and through heaven's blue deep  
The silent cloud-wings stainless sweep.

And if she be alive or dead,  
That weary woman scarcely knows;  
But back and forth her needle goes  
In time with throbbing heart and head.  
Lo, where the leaning alders part,  
White-bosomed swallows, blithe of heart,  
Above still waters skim and dart.

Oh, God in heaven! Shall I, who share  
That dying woman's womanhood,  
Taste all the summers' bounteous good  
Unburdened by her weight of care?  
The white-moon daisies star the grass,  
The lengthening shadows o'er them pass,  
The meadow pool is smooth as glass.



The world is so full  
Of a number of Kings!—  
That's probably what is the  
Matter with things.

—Winfred Arnold.

## BOOKS

### A RECORD OF PROGRESS.

**Progressive Men, Women and Movements of the Past Twenty-Five Years.** By B. O. Flower. Published by The New Arena, Boston, Mass. Price, \$2.00 net.

While political progress of the past twenty-five years in the United States, has not been as great as it should have been, it has nevertheless been considerable and gives good ground for confidence in further advance in the near future. It is clear that history is being made, the importance of which will probably be more generally realized after the generation engaged in it shall have passed away. Should any historian in that time to come, be in search of facts relating to the changes now being made, he will find much material conveniently prepared for his use by Mr. Flower.

In his book Mr. Flower describes the progress of various movements and tells of the persons connected with them. Many of these individuals were contributors to The Arena during Mr. Flower's editorship, when it was the only magazine of any prominence which kept its columns open to new ideas that promised to lead to some possible consequences. He tells of the fight for Direct Legislation, records the progress of the Singletax movement, gives the history of the Socialist movement, and mentions with appreciation of their services the names of many leaders in all these fields. He speaks also at some length of the farmers' organizations, of the movement for public ownership, for woman suffrage, for progressive control of great political parties, and of other reforms. He tells of the writers who have done much to arouse discontent with existing evils, and of the fight to preserve freedom of speech and press. Included in the progressive list are the unconventional religious movements and workers. The fight for medical freedom is described and the workers therein named.

The book can not fail to be interesting to the men and women who have participated in the struggle for political and economic progress, and, moreover, may reasonably be expected to do much to encourage and stimulate effort in the future.

DANIEL KIEFER.

## PERIODICALS

### About Vocational Education.

Two conservative articles on Education appear in the January-March number of the Unpopular Review (Quarterly, 35 W. 32nd St., New York). The first, on "The Passing of the Educated Man," is a stock criticism of the present-day American undergradu-

ate college for its attempt—predestined to be futile—to be both broadly cultural and narrowly vocational in the same few years. The colleges are advised: (1) to have vocational training to technical colleges; (2) to offer fewer courses and more of these planned to “broaden the horizon of [the general student’s] intellectual interests,” instead of devised for the “embryo doctor of philosophy.” The second article, “The Nation’s Adventures in Education,” is an argument against Federal subsidies to the States for vocational education. The writer’s objections to the proposed bill are: (1) Its discrimination in favor of the richer States by the match-the-State’s-contribution plan of the National government; and (2) its discrimination in favor of certain types of education which do as matter of fact imperceptibly grade into all other types and which must lead to an ever-widening definition of vocational education and an ever-increasing demand for more Federal moneys. In national aid, too, there is always danger of national control. The writer’s reasoning is neither new nor particularly convincing. The proposed bill has abler foes. But his subject is important enough to command a thorough scrutiny of whatever principles, old or new, may be invoked to uphold either side of the controversy.

A. L. G.

### Where is Stefansson?

The recent announcement that a relief expedition is to be sent to Polar regions in search of Stefansson is welcome news to the reader of the account in the February Harpers’ Magazine of the Rescue of the “Karluk” Survivors. Burt M. McConnell, Meteorologist of the Stefansson expedition—the Canadian Arctic Expedition by official title—tells the story. The expedition was divided into a land and a boat group by the suddenly drifting ice-pack, the leader with others left on the ice, the party aboard the sturdy old whaler, the Karluk, drifted helpless in the floating ice-field for months, only to be shipwrecked and left upon a lonely island. Of this party separated into two wretched groups by the hope of rescue, some died, some reached human habitations and sent a successful rescue ship back to their companions. The whole story—well, one would not like to telegraph it south to Shackleton just now; it might unnerve even him. And Stefansson with two companions may be still alive on the Arctic ice-pack, cut off from all human kind, waiting.

A. L. G.

### From English Magazines.

The Fortnightly Review of January (American edition, 249 W. 13th St., New York), a Conservative journal prints first a letter from Russia on “Eastern Battle Deeds,” a most illuminating essay on what is happening in and around Poland. The writer gives an idea of the main points in German and Russian strategy, tells a few typical battle incidents and sketches the character of the Cossacks in action. In this magazine also is a curious account purporting to be what an English governess saw within the past few years in the house of a German prince—how the boys were trained from babyhood in the elaborate modern art of warfare, and what remarks were dropped in her unsuspecting presence, to be inter-

preted by her only now in the light of the war they anticipated.—Diligent prying into the Prussian mind is alternated these days on the part of Americans with study of the character of Russia. “The Soul of Russia,” by Percy Dearmer in the January Nineteenth Century (American edition, 249 W. 13th St., New York) is written by a great admirer of the peasant Slav—of his virile versatility, his religious fervor, his deep sense of racial unity that easily may turn into a zeal for human unity. “The two races,” writes this Englishman, speaking of Briton and Slav, “are very different but strangely complementary, and in Russia the value of English influences is realized; her nascent constitutionalism looks to ours as its mother and model, her people admire our characteristics and read our literature, her most carefully trained children are put into English hands and taught our language and our ways. We have something in our spirit that Russia needs. And she has something that will be good for us.”

A. L. G.

## PAMPHLETS

### Pamphlets Received.

The Colorado Mine War. By A. A. Berle, Cambridge, Mass., 1914.

Investigation of Fire Insurance Conditions and Rates in Illinois: Report to Governor Edward F. Dunne, by Rufus M. Potts, Insurance Superintendent, Springfield, Ill., 1914.

Wages and Hours of Labor in the Cotton, Woolen and Silk Industries, 1907 to 1913. Bulletin 150, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

Wages and Hours of Labor in the Lumber, Millwork, and Furniture Industries, 1907 to 1913. Bulletin 153, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

Taxation Made Interesting: Description of the Taxation and Assessment Conditions in the District of Columbia, illustrated by charts and diagrams based on Official Reports. By W. I. Swanton, 1464 Belmont street, Washington, D. C., and “The Public,” Chicago. Price, 5 cents.

Education: Thirty-seventh Annual Report of the Minister of Education of New Zealand for the Year 1913: 1, General Report; 2, Primary Education; 3, Native Schools; 4, Special Schools and Infant-Life Protection; 5, Manual and Technical Instruction; 6, Secondary Education; 7, Higher Education; 8, Annual Examinations; 9, Teachers’ Superannuation Fund; 10, Subsidies to Public Libraries. Published by John Mackay, Government Printer, Wellington, New Zealand, 1914.

Mama.—And were you at the party?

Bobbie.—Yes, ma.

Mama.—You didn’t ask twice for anything at the table, did you?

Bobbie.—No, I didn’t; I asked once and they didn’t hear me, so I helped myself!—Sacred Heart Review.

## Subscription Cards

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"How useless girls are today. I don't believe you know what needles are for."

"How absurd you are, grandma," protested the girl. "Of course I know what needles are for. They're to make the graphophone play.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

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A man of good business ability to travel on salary in the interests of a great reform movement. Must be a fundamental democrat of good address and unquestioned integrity. References required. Address "Forward" care of The Public.

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As we go to press word has come that

## Mrs. Louis F. Post

will be in Chicago Friday evening, 12th.

Her friends will have the opportunity of meeting her at a dinner at City Club, 6 p. m.

Readers of The Public who can be present should telephone their reservations immediately.

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