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## EDITORIAL

### "Scientific" Rate Making.

Progressive partyites and progressive Republicans who cry for "scientific" tariff fixing by a non-partisan commission, should not object to the recent railroad rate increase. The Interstate Commerce Commission is just such a body as they would have to deal with the tariff. Its duty is to study and regulate railroad rates as they would have studied and regulated tariff rates. Yet in spite of that these Progressives and Republicans are displeased—and justly so—with the recent action of the Commission, although it was strictly in accordance with all the rules and regulations of "scientific" rate making. Senator La Follette has introduced a bill to overrule the Commission. This the Milwaukee Leader wisely declares to be a rather "unscientific" way to mend matters. The fact is that the idea of public regulation by commission is merely an effort to prevent the consequences of a mistake without correcting the mistake. The regulation of railroads does not work properly because the original mistake remains uncorrected, the placing in private hands of public highways. A tariff commission would be a far worse blunder, since it is a mistake to levy a tariff of any kind.

S. D.



### Protected Weather.

The protective spirit has manifested itself in so many ways that it has seemed as though it were impossible to develop a new form of foolishness. But that feat has been accomplished by the European governments in regard to their meteorological bureaus. An article in the Belgium Journal Ciel et Terre contrasts the work of the meteorological bureaus of the United States with that of Europe. The weather map and report published by the United States, the writer says, covers such a great territory that American meteorologists are able to make a more intelligent study of weather conditions, and hazard better forecasts, than can the meteorologists of the several countries of Europe,

who are confined for the most part to the data gathered within their own limited territories. And he suggests the formation of a general bureau, embracing all European nations.



Why should it be necessary for a meteorologist to make such a suggestion in this day and age? Why has there not been from the beginning a general bureau covering the whole of Europe? Is it not perfectly apparent that the work of each country will be enhanced in value by the work of all the others? Is it possible that the protective spirit has taken such deep root that the people of each country prefer the imperfect service of its own meteorologists to the vastly better service that would result from the co-operation of all the meteorologists in Europe? One would say at once that that was impossible, were it not for similar action along other lines. The tariff walls that have been erected between countries to prevent the freest exchange of the products of labor have robbed industry of a large part of its power. The chauvinistic patriotism that holds all foreign countries to be enemies, and that teaches that no good can come to them without corresponding harm to their own country, has deprived the world of a large part of the good that would have come to civilization through universal fellowship. Yes, as well protect weather predictions as minerals, water power, or any other natural force—and with similar results.

S. C.



### Henry Ford's Confession of Social Faith.

Of the representatives of great business interests who testified last week before the Commission on Industrial Relations, the only one who displayed more than superficial knowledge of economic principles was Henry Ford. Probably it is on this account that he could see his way clear to tell the commission that liberal treatment of employes is good business policy and should not be credited to philanthropy. Even clearer were his statements in an interview in the New York Evening Sun on the following day, January 23. Asked about the effect of tariff on business, Mr. Ford replied:

I think that the tariff should be abolished entirely. I believe in free trade all over the world. If we had it, things would adjust themselves and we would all be better off.

Such a statement must be startling to most business men—big and little—who consider it inconsistent with good business methods to follow a sound principle to its logical conclusion. But if Mr. Ford's declaration for absolute free trade

proves shocking, it is hard to imagine the effect on noting his comment on Daniel Guggenheim.

Where does Mr. Guggenheim get his money, anyway? Out of the ground, doesn't he? Well, I hold that all that should go back to the State. I believe in the public ownership of natural resources, such as mines and water power.

Of course Mr. Ford knows that all wealth is derived from land. Guggenheim's case differs from others only in that he deals in raw material taken directly out of the earth. It requires no great stretch of imagination to assume from what he has said that Mr. Ford must see that the State is entitled to the entire rental value of land. That logically follows from his remark about Guggenheim, which taken in connection with his outright declaration for absolute free trade, places him very nearly in accord with Henry George.

S. D.



### Natural Law Versus Statute Law.

Houston, Texas, is trying to serve two masters. The Constitution has commanded the officials to tax personal property, and all other products of labor, the same as though they were special privileges. Nature commands them to exempt personal property and the products of labor, and to lay the taxes only on privileges. On the theory that two winds make a calm, these conflicting laws produce business stagnation, and utterly derange social conditions. If some way could be found to repeal or suspend the natural law, the statute law, hourly amended by the advice of scientists and boards of experts, might be made to accomplish some result along the line desired. But since no way has yet been discovered of repealing or suspending the natural law, and man persists in his desire to progress industrially and socially, and since the opposing forces of statute law and natural law produce stagnation, it really begins to look as though the statutes would have to be modified. This is a difficult thing to accomplish; for few men have yet been convinced that the world would not have been far better had they been present to offer advice on the day of creation. Houston, however, is blessed with a citizen who, happening to be Tax Commissioner, has undertaken to obey the natural rather than the statutory law.



This sensible act of Tax Commissioner Joseph Pastoriza was a bold thing to do. Some might think it a presumptuous thing. But he is as honest as he is bold, and announced before election what he would do if elected. His fellow citizens were then enabled to defeat him if a majority thought differ-

ently. Nay, a single citizen could, if he so desired, call upon the law of the State to restrain him after election. The majority concluded to take a chance on natural law. They felt in a dim and half conscious way that if natural law had held the planets in their orbits and had made two and two, when added together, four since the beginning of time, possibly it would sustain Houston during one man's term of office. Besides, any citizen could stop him at any time with an injunction. The plunge was made. Pastoriza suspended as much of the statutory law as he thought his fellow citizens could stand—for he had to consider the solitary chucklehead who might swear out an injunction. The heavens did not fall. Houston did not sink into the earth. The milk in the cows' udders did not curdle. A great many people lived in momentary fear that these and other things would happen, but they were restrained from action by the opinion of their neighbors. A man may feel in his own mind that the earth is flat, but he will hesitate about swearing out an injunction against a ship that proposes to sail around it.



Mr. Pastoriza shut his eyes tight when he looked for personal property, and opened them just a little bit when he looked for houses; but when he came to vacant lots his eyes were wide open. This of course was very naughty; for statute law commanded him to keep his eyes open all the time, and he was putting his office in jeopardy by giving any heed to natural law, which forbade him even to squint at houses or any other products of labor. The strangest thing about it all was that no citizen of Houston could be found with sufficient courage to go into court and attempt to prove that the earth was flat. A good many still thought so, and a few said so; but none had the audacity to take their belief into court. They chose rather to wait till the next election, when the secret ballot would enable them to oust Mr. Pastoriza without themselves betraying the fact that it was their heads, and not the world, that was flat. But when election day came it was found that a greater number of voters than before expressed approval of the natural law. Then the popular Tax Commissioner squinted worse than before in making his assessment—except when he came to vacant lots. When he assessed lots he used the Texas measuring stick. Still no one had him enjoined, though a fewer number talked louder than before. Now this audacious man approaches another election. He again announces his allegiance to natural law, and challenges any one to

enter the lists with him—and no one dares to pick up the gage he has thrown down. By suspending some of the Texas statute laws, and permitting natural law to operate, Houston has found it easier to do business, and the flattest-headed man in town is ashamed to interrupt it. One man, backed by natural law, is a host. s. c.



**The South Dakota Legislature's Duty.**

In abolishing capital punishment the South Dakota legislature has made a beginning at following the recommendations made by Governor Byrne in his remarkably sound and progressive message. But the most important recommendation remains still to be followed, the one in regard to a change in the tax system so as to differentiate between land and products of labor. This is the more important because it will be not only a wise fiscal measure but the beginning of a badly needed social reform. The Governor has done his duty in pointing the way to place the State in the van of progressive and prosperous commonwealths. The legislature's plain duty is to follow. s. d.



**Conserving the Rights of the People.**

Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, makes a clear statement of the people's rights in the water power on the lands controlled by the Federal Government. The ownership of this power, he says, must not be permitted to pass into private hands, as has been the previous policy of the country; but should be leased to developing companies on terms that will permit a fair return to capital, and at the same time secure the lowest rates to consumers. Secretary Lane thinks the Ferris bill, which has passed the House and is now pending in the Senate, conserves these rights, and meets the present situation as nearly as present knowledge and conditions will permit. That phrase, "as nearly as present knowledge and conditions will permit," should not be lost sight of, either by the public or by its representatives. It is because legislators in the past have ignored such limitations that we are now having so much difficulty in righting the mischief that has come from their ignorant actions. By presuming to grant in perpetuity rights that morally they could hold only during their own lives, they have so bound the world that the people can secure no relief today except by repealing laws that have hitherto been looked upon as unrepealable. The Secretary himself verges upon this error when he says: "With possibly few exceptions the valuable power sites on lands not

owned by the Federal Government have passed into private ownership in perpetuity. They can not be recovered except at a prohibitive expense, nor can control be exercised thereover in any manner, except it be by regulation of transmission and delivery as a public utility."



Such an admission begs the whole question of natural rights. It cannot be stated too often that the earth belongs to the living; that this generation has the same right to it that the first generation had; and that it has no more right over it than the last generation will have. Each generation in turn has not only the right to use the earth, but the right to repeal the laws passed by any preceding generation that tend to limit that right. To say that power, generated by water that has been falling for countless ages, was free to anybody up to the moment that Congress passed an act, and that from that moment on to the end of time it became the private property of the person upon whom it was conferred, and to his heirs and assigns, is a monstrous perversion of reason and a denial of every sense of justice. Were there no other alternative it would be the right of this generation flatly to repeal any act of any preceding generation that interfered with present rights. Fortunately, however, it is not necessary to resort to any such drastic action. The very act that conferred title to water power upon private individuals limited that title by the obligation to pay whatever taxes might be assessed upon it. The amount of that power to tax is not limited. Hence, whenever the public comes to an understanding of the situation it can recover all the substance of its rights in the alienated water powers through the simple means of taxation. If there be any who wish to plead ignorance of such limitation to their right, let them heed the warning that is now heard upon every hand. The coming generation is certain to tax land values, and those who are unwilling to submit to such a tax should turn their holdings into labor products.

s. c.



### Oklahoma's Plight.

Oklahoma was opened for settlement 26 years ago. The first comers were allowed to take each for himself a 160 acre farm or a town lot. No one could legally take more than his share. After five years' residence these settlers secured absolute title. So here was a pretty fair approximation to a State of small landowners or peasant proprietors. After 26 years what is the result? According to Mr. O. M. Morris of Duncan, a member of the Oklahoma

legislature, writing in the January number of the *International Socialist Review*, about 90 per cent of the farms of the State are mortgaged for all that they will sell for. The census of 1910 shows a majority of farmers to be tenants and 76 per cent to be either renters or mortgagors. In less than a quarter of a century a State of small independent proprietors has become one of tenants. There is nothing very strange about it. It is the inevitable result of a land system under which industry is penalized through taxation of labor products, and encouragement is offered to land speculation and other predatory activities.



Oklahoma has only gone through the experience of other places in a somewhat shorter time. Wherever private individuals are allowed to appropriate land values for their own use speculation becomes the primary object of land ownership, and productive use becomes secondary. Had Oklahoma legislators of twenty years ago been wise the State would not have gotten into its present plight. Had they provided that land values be taken in lieu of all taxation for public purposes the land would have remained in the hands of those who wanted to use it, and would have been kept out of the hands of those whose hope of profit is in the industry of others. When Oklahoma's constitution was framed provision was made therein for many things. But the framers overlooked the vital land question. It is not too late, however, for the people to remedy the oversight.

s. d.



### Praying for Public Revenue.

"Has Heaven one million for schools?" asks the *Chicago Tribune* of January 23 in reporting the fact that the local school fund for this year is short by that amount. The *Tribune* is the last paper that should ask such a question. One reason why the shortage exists is the *Tribune's* lease on school property which enables it to withhold legally every year thousands of dollars morally due the school fund. It would be quite in order for the School Board to ask the *Tribune* to do the fair thing, overlook its legal power, and pay to the schools all that it has withheld since its lease began. That would be a less humiliating and much fairer method than what has been proposed—that the teachers make up the deficit out of their well-earned salaries.



To ask Heaven for a donation of one million dollars or any other sum for public expenses would

be to make a request unworthy of a response. There is a saying that "God helps those who help themselves." There is an ample fund at hand for schools and all other public needs in the land values of Chicago. These values were created by the people and morally belong to the people by the same right as that which gives moral justification to all property claims. If taken, as they ought to be, for public purposes, there would be no deficit and no occasion to pray for special aid. As long as the people neglect this source of revenue they deserve no help.

S. D.



### More Franchise Robbery in Cincinnati.

Modesty is clearly not a prominent characteristic of Cincinnati's street railway monopolists. Some years ago they succeeded in grabbing a fifty year franchise covering all of the streets excepting the few held by a similar interest which monopolized transportation to Covington and other Kentucky suburbs. Now the franchise of this monopoly is about to expire and, unabashed by the knowledge that the city has already been very much robbed, the corporation has asked for another long time franchise on the old unfair terms. What is more surprising is that the city council and mayor promptly granted the impudent request. Twenty years ago such proceedings would have been commonplace enough in almost any city. But today Cincinnati is one of a very few cities where predatory franchise grabbing of the style so common in the 90s would be attempted with any hope of success. There is still a chance that a referendum may defeat the grab, and it remains to be seen whether the citizens are as blind and gullible as street railway monopolists and their tools in office seem to believe. Of course there are still some places where old political bunco games may be successfully worked, just as there are still some individuals who, in spite of numberless exposures, can be fooled by antique confidence games. It does not seem reasonable, however, to suppose that Cincinnati will prove to be one of these places.

S. D.



### Transportation Monopoly in Chicago.

Perhaps it was mere habit of thought that led the Chicago City Council to appropriate \$3,000,000 for a municipal jitney bus line and to neglect to open the way for private parties to operate motor buses. Because we have become accustomed to street railways as the principal means of public transportation in cities and because we see that there is a natural monopoly feature in that busi-

ness, it may be possible that Chicago's aldermen unthinkingly assumed that the same applies to jitney buses. Hence, perhaps, their favor of municipal ownership of what is not a natural monopoly, though that can probably be long delayed by litigation. There is no reason why private individuals should not be as free to run public motor buses on the streets as they are to run other vehicles. It is no more impractical to allow this than it is to throw open to all who desire the operation of public taxicabs. The only objection to this comes from the street railway interests whose monopoly is threatened. The opening of public transportation to free competition may not be a pleasant contemplation to those who imagined they had succeeded in getting control of the streets away from the people, but that is no reason why it should not be done. In the coming municipal campaign this matter should not be overlooked.

S. D.



### Useless Constitutional Guarantees.

Are all rights guaranteed by the Constitution to financially weak citizens subject to approval of the local police? No court has exactly defined matters in this way, nor probably would any lawyer render an opinion to that effect. But in practice a poor man has usually no more legal rights than police officials see fit to concede. Thus in Chicago a deputy police superintendent objected to the carrying of a black flag in a peaceful parade. Although no one claims that there is a law forbidding parading with black flags, the policeman's objections served as a practical substitute. This was by no means the first case of assumption by the police of despotic powers. They have done so much of it that it has come to be looked upon as a matter of course. They have interfered with street speakers whose views do not meet with their approval. Similar practices are indulged in in other places. It takes money to get one's case up to the higher courts, so that for the man with little or no money who can get no financial aid, these courts are practically non-existent. Consequently when the Constitution says one thing about the rights of a citizen and a policeman another, it is by no means certain that the policeman's view is not the one that will prevail.

S. D.



### More Censorship Threatened.

A dangerous censorship is proposed in an amendment to the post office appropriation bill presented by the Cannon Democrat, Congressman

Fitzgerald of Brooklyn. This practically makes a czar of the Postmaster General, empowering him to decide whether a publication is "indecent, immoral, scurrilous or libelous" and to arbitrarily exclude it from the mails. Even though one might favor accomplishment of the amendment's alleged immediate purpose—the elimination of a certain bigoted and frequently libelous publication—it would be a remedy far worse than the disease. It is not necessary at this late day to repeat the arguments in favor of freedom of the press, or the fact that those injured by false of malicious statements should seek redress in the courts without trying to endanger the freedom of others. Moreover, this measure would prove a double-edged sword. Statements capable of being construed as "scurrilous and libelous" are by no means confined to the publication aimed at or to publications in sympathy with it. There are church papers of various denominations which do not hesitate to indulge in sweeping remarks about each other or to indiscriminately vilify those outside of all churches. There is little to choose between the way many orthodox papers speak of liberal denominations, rationalists, agnostics, atheists, and others and the way some organs of the latter groups retaliate. There are papers which delight in speaking offensively of adherents of unpopular or unconventional ideas. Sometimes organs of certain financial interests indulge in scurrilous abuse of advocates of principles opposed to them, and it sometimes happens that these advocates become guilty of similar misconduct. It is too frequent a thing to call for remark to see labor leaders indiscriminately denounced as lazy grafters, or to see Socialists and Anarchists referred to as advocates of assassination, riot, or other kinds of wrong. If the proposed measure were used impartially it would destroy many of its friends as well as opponents. There would in fact be comparatively few papers of any kind left to go through the mails. But even that would not be as bad as the partiality and favoritism that certainly would be resorted to in its use. The Postmaster General would probably become the servant of interests desiring to suppress obnoxious publications regardless of their merit. There is already far too much despotism and censorship in the Post Office department. Certainly no more is desirable.

S. D.



### Better Representation in Prospect.

Persons addicted to speculating on the periodical returns of financial depression, the panic of 1837,

of '57, of '73, of '93, and of 1913, to say nothing of those between, may be interested in a corresponding revival in the cause of electoral reform. Thomas Hare proposed his system of proportional representation in the '50's, and after the usual amount of academic discussion that is accorded to all new ideas little was heard of it until the '70's, when General Garfield brought it before the House of Representatives. Again interest flagged and little was heard of the question in this country until the early '90's, when the agitation of a few devotees led to the formation of the American Proportional Representation League at the World's Congress at Chicago. And now it is once more a common topic of discussion. Possibly these periodical intervals of business depression cause a revival of the interest in proportional representation because the victims of the depression are then most interested in means of relief. It is to be noted also that each revival is marked by a more general and extended support of the movement.



The adoption of proportional representation in a number of the smaller and newer countries, and the growing favor with which it is received in others, encourages the hope that we are nearing practical results in this country. Congressman Warren Worth Bailey introduced in the House of Representatives on the 9th a bill providing for the election of members of the House by the new method. Congressman Bailey has sought to minimize opposition by adopting the simplest form that embodies the principle, for his bill is patterned after the so-called List system of Switzerland, rather than the Hare system. The List system recognizes party tickets and retains all the present election methods, save only the apportioning of the representation. There may be some who will object to the Bailey bill on the ground that it does not carry theoretical refinements of representation to the extent of the Hare system; but it has, on the other hand, the merit of securing the largest amount of principle with the smallest amount of change in present laws and customs. If, after the public has become familiar with the workings of the principle, it is found advisable to go on to the more refined applications of the principle, the change can be made with the required amendments; but for the present the Bailey bill offers a good rallying point for all friends of real representative government.

S. C.



### Religious Speculation.

Louis F. Post, who has given to the world so

much sound economic and political philosophy, once took the public into his confidence, and delivered an address on his religious convictions. The recent appearance of the latest edition of this remarkable address will serve as an excuse for comment that would have been considered out of place in the columns of *The Public* while Mr. Post was its editor. The friends who are putting out this edition of an already widely circulated pamphlet have been actuated by the thought that there may yet be friends of Mr. Post who have not seen it, or those who would like to put it in the hands of their friends. "A Non-Ecclesiastical Confession of Religious Faith" is not a proselyting sermon to convert readers to a particular creed. Neither is it for those who have already reached a satisfying religious conviction—save as it may help to explain the condition of mind of some still groping brother. It is not a plea to follow or to shun his course; but merely a statement of fact. The end of his mental wanderings, indeed, is of minor importance. The essence of its worth lies in its evident sincerity.



As Stevenson said, "To travel hopefully is a better thing than to arrive." Every man or woman who has wandered through the wilderness of doubt has been glad to get in touch with a fellow wanderer; and if that fellow wanderer was a man of great discretion, sound judgment, and sterling integrity, his fellowship was all the more welcome. No man, however great he may be, can by any pronouncement set entirely at rest the doubts of an inquiring mind; but every man whose life and work and character are such as win the approval of man's better self has a beneficial influence on the development of that better self. It is in this that lies the peculiar merit of this confession of faith, for in it is laid bare the soul of a man who has proven to the world the saneness, the steadfastness, and the wholesomeness of his character. And the quaintness of his style, the disingenuousness and the simplicity, bring us at once into such complete accord with him that we follow with keen personal interest his progress from a narrow-minded sectarianism through free-thought, agnosticism, atheism, on to the simple faith that has brought him peace.



No words but his own can convey an adequate idea of the beauty, the sweetness, and the sympathetic kindness that runs throughout the address; and one catches a glimpse of a great soul

when he reads in the conclusion: "I feel once more that I am a miserable sinner; though it is when I wrong a brother or drift away from the principles of absolute right, as I perceive them, and never because I miss a prayer meeting or amuse myself on a Sunday. Once more I try to pray, but in my work rather than on my knees." And in closing his confession he says a faith that was dead has revived. "But this faith is not the old terror-fostered credulity; it is implicit confidence simply in the practicability of what is right."

S. C.

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## EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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### CALIFORNIA FARMERS AND SINGLE-TAX.

Willows, Cal., Jan. 15, 1915.

I received a telegram and letter some weeks ago from the President of the Board of Directors of the newly organized Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District, asking me to come up to Shasta County, 250 miles north of San Francisco, and tell the farmers in their district of the "singletax" system of taxation that will be used under our California law in their irrigation district when their bonds are issued.

Last Wednesday I addressed a meeting of 150 farmers at Anderson. They applauded vigorously when I read to them the statement on the back of the card of the real estate firm in Modesto called the Modesto Land Co., that "In the Modesto Irrigation District, the industry of the farmer is not taxed. The farmer who builds a house and barn, plants alfalfa or sets out trees pays no more taxes than the speculator who allows weeds to grow on his land."

The same evening I talked with others to a meeting of about fifty of the leading business men at Redding, the county seat of Shasta County (about 50 miles east from the Lassen Volcano). I talked pure singletax to them, and they applauded it, too. I also told of the prosperity resulting from irrigation in other sections of California and how the singletax system of taxation used in those districts causes a subdivision of the lands, and greatly increases the population of the districts.

Thursday afternoon a meeting of farmers was held at Cottonwood, which is in the southeasterly part of the district. The chairman, President Barkuloo, told them that, as the law required the singletax system to be used in all new irrigation districts they had me come up there to explain it to them. These farmers also expressed their approval of this singletax system of taxation as applied to their lands under the irrigation laws of California.

In the evening there was a meeting of about 30 of the business men of the town of Anderson at the office of the Irrigation District. The Singletax and the results brought to other irrigation districts by it were explained to them. They showed their hearty approval of this system by the applause which they gave when I had finished my talk.

This new Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District

comprised 32,000 acres, and extends from the city of Redding, about 25 miles southerly along the Sacramento River, and includes within its boundaries the two towns from which it receives its name. One of the members of the Board of Directors, Mr. Brown, proprietor of a flour mill at Cottonwood, is an old-time Singletaxer. Mr. C. W. Barkuloo, the President of the District, is president of the Bank of Anderson.

On October 29, last, the Imperial Valley Irrigation District (which was organized in 1912), by a ten to one vote, decided to issue \$3,500,000 of bonds, and take over the works of the California Development Co. This Imperial Valley Irrigation District comprises 500,000 acres. It is probably the largest publicly-owned irrigation system in the world. It is located on the southern border line of the State of California, and takes its water out of the Colorado River in old Mexico, in a ditch or canal that runs ninety miles before it reaches American soil. This Irrigation District, like the Anderson-Cottonwood District (which is about 600 miles north of it), uses the singletax system of taxation.

There are three other Irrigation Districts in California operating under the Singletax: Oakdale, Modesto and South San Joaquin. They have a total area of about 250,000 and are located in San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties at about the center of the great Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley, which extends for about 400 miles from Redding on the north to Bakersfield in the south. Thus a total of about 750,000 acres of rich, irrigated valley land in California is now operating irrigation systems under the Singletax.

The Pitt River project in Shasta County will place about 300,000 acres under irrigation, and the Iron Canyon project will be able to deliver water to 225,000 acres in Shasta and Tehama Counties. In a few years by the development of these great projects California will have a total of 1,275,000 acres of the richest land in the world, upon which will grow oranges, lemons, figs, olives, peaches, pears, grapes, alfalfa, grains and a multitude of other products of the soil. A forty-acre farm in these irrigation districts enables a farmer to give his family every comfort, and the man who has sixty acres "under the ditch" is rich. And this in great valleys where the snow never falls and the temperature in winter rarely reaches the freezing point.

The continued extension of the Singletax in the irrigation districts of California is giving the farmers and business men in all parts of the State practical examples of the benefits that flow from a system of taxation that punishes indolence and rewards thrift.

EDWARD P. E. TROY.



## POLICE DESPOTISM AND CITIZENS' RIGHTS.

New York, Jan. 18, 1915.

Some men are pugnacious, and others are pugnacious only when opposing an infringement on their rights. Samuel W. Simpson is such a man.

Judge Rosalsky of the Court of General Sessions of the City of New York, on the 16th day of October, 1914, reversed the conviction of Mr. Simpson for distributing a circular with a petition attached, and addressed to the Governor and to members of the Leg-

islature of the State. Judge Rosalsky based his decision on the ground that the law did not apply to distribution of petitions on the streets of the City of New York.

Promptly thereafter Mr. Simpson was again arrested for distributing a circular entitled "The Cause of War," and advertising the meetings of the Manhattan Singletax Club, without a petition attached. He was again convicted and an appeal was taken to the higher court. Judge Joseph L. Mulqueen decided that "The distribution of advertising circulars to people in or upon any of the streets, avenues or public places of the City of New York is not a violation of Section 408, Subdivision 5 of the Ordinances of the Corporation of the City of New York," and reversed Mr. Simpson's conviction and ordered that his fine be remitted.

The Police Commissioner of New York City was then notified by me, as Mr. Simpson's attorney, if any more arrests were made under Section 408 of the Ordinances of the Corporation of the City of New York for the distribution of circulars, handbills, leaflets or pamphlets, action would be brought against the City of New York and against the individual policeman for false imprisonment, and he was requested to instruct the police of the City of New York accordingly.

Infringements of rights must be pugnaciously fought.

HARRY WEINBERGER.



## AN ARTFUL DODGER AS ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Philadelphia, Jan. 12, 1915.

Recent experiences of a taxpayer in an application to the Hon. John C. Bell, Attorney General of Pennsylvania, should be brought to public notice. The General Assembly, by Act of May 12, 1911 (P. L. 287) exempted machinery of all kinds from taxation in the second class cities, Pittsburgh and Scranton. Under the law (1844, P. L. 486, Sec. 32) machinery in all other parts of the State is taxable as real estate when owned by the owner of the real estate on which it is situated (70 Pa. 381). It has been so taxed, and is so taxed today, in other parts of the State, except in Philadelphia; there the Board of Revision of Taxes has ignored the General Assembly, the Supreme Court and the following provisions of the Constitution, viz.: Article 9, Section 1—"All taxes shall be uniform upon the same class of subjects within the territorial limits of the authority levying the tax." Also, Article I, Section 12—"No power of suspending laws shall be exercised unless by the Legislature or by its authority."

Regardless of the policy or impolicy of taxing machinery, it is impolitic and dangerous to allow an irresponsible County Board to override the Constitution, the General Assembly and the Supreme Court. Therefore on September 26, 1914, a taxpayer of Philadelphia applied to Hon. John C. Bell, Attorney General, for permission to use the name of the Commonwealth (that being a necessary form) without expense or trouble to the Commonwealth's officers in a taxpayer's suit to compel the Board of Revision of Taxes of Philadelphia to observe the law. On September 29 the Attorney General asked for authori-

ties justifying the application to him; these were furnished, and the rules of his office having been complied with, a hearing was appointed for November 6 in Philadelphia before Hon. Morris Wolf, Deputy Attorney General; defendants were duly served with copies of the charge with ten days' notice. The accused officials did not contest the application; it would naturally appear that permission should issue as a matter of course. But instead the Attorney General suggested that the complainant, instead of serving the Board of Revision of Taxes, should serve the individual assessors (their appointees and subordinates). This was done; new papers were prepared and served, and another day appointed for a hearing. Again the defendants failed to contest the application. Again the permission should have issued as a matter of course; it did not.

Later another day was set for a hearing; again the defendants failed to contest; permission was then expected as a matter of course; it was not granted; and on December 10 the Attorney General refused permission, suggesting that permission be obtained from the District Attorney. This was a matter that had been passed on before; his attention was called to the fact that the proceeding was not of a criminal nature; that the violation complained of was not of city ordinances, but of a statute of the General Assembly; that no local body or power in Philadelphia had any control over the Board of Revision of Taxes; furthermore, that the Attorney General had already made this objection two months previously, and had yielded the point; and that having already held two hearings and much time having elapsed, it seemed late in the day to raise an objection already disposed of. Finally, however, on December 30 the Attorney General declined to grant permission (a mere formality), again suggesting that application should be made to the District Attorney.

From the statements made the public may draw their own conclusions. The question before the Attorney General was not complicated; his office was not responsible in case of error; his requirements were met; a prima facie case was made out, not disputed. His delay seems inexcusable, and may amount to a denial of justice.

SAMUEL MILLIKEN.

### FOOD PRICES IN GERMANY.

Starnberg, bei Munich, Bavaria (Villa Lipps),  
Dec. 23, 1914.

I would like to ask the authority for the statements on p. 1164 in regard to prices of food in Germany. We live in a small town, about twenty miles from Munich, and we have hardly found any difference so far in prices, and all sorts of food are as abundant as usual. The good house bread, the staple food of middle class people, is exactly at the old price, fifty pfennigs for the two and one-half pound loaf. Remember 50 pfennigs are only 12 cents, and that the German pound is 500 grams, that is nearly one-tenth heavier than the American avoirdupois pound of 453 6/10 grams. Work out the problem and you will find that we are paying almost exactly 4½ cents per pound for house bread.

Vegetables are as plentiful as ever. Why should they not be? They are too bulky to send in large

quantities to the front and the supply was large this year.

We get all the eggs we want at about the usual winter price for prime fresh eggs, 3 cents apiece.

We had a big English cock pheasant the other day. It furnished dinner for four. It cost two marks, that is 48 cents. Step into a poulterer's in Chicago and ask him what he will charge you for an English pheasant or even a Canadian grouse, which is not half as large.

ROBERT W. HALL.

## NEWS NARRATIVE

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

Week ending Tuesday, January 26, 1915.

### Commission on Industrial Relations.

In the hearing before the Industrial Commission at New York on January 18, Roger W. Babson declared absentee landlordship the greatest handicap to both labor and capital. The Associated Press reports made him say absentee ownership of industries. On January 19, Ida Tarbell testified. She advocated scientific management, saying that it resulted in shorter hours and higher wages for efficient labor. "We know," she said, "that people have a right to short hours, to recreation—in a word to more life." On being asked her opinion of the cause of inequality of women's wages as compared with men's, she said: "There are many reasons why women's wages are low. For one thing they are an unstable quantity. And then they go into industry untrained. They are not worth much to industry naturally." She spoke very highly of the treatment of its employes by the Steel Trust. The employes, she said, were opposed to the abolition of Sunday work since it would reduce their earnings. The company stores of the Frick Coal and Coke Company she considered a philanthropy. Upon this Chairman Frank Walsh read from a report showing that these stores yield a profit of 517 per cent. Miss Tarbell declared that the Steel Trust maintains a model village in Vandegrift, Pa. She was asked whether workers are not forbidden in this town to attend organization meetings. She knew of no such prohibition. Whereupon Chairman Walsh read a proclamation of the Burgess referring to "demonstrations by persons, mostly non-residents," which "engender ill-feeling among our neighbors and citizens," and forbidding any assemblages, marches, parades, public meetings or public demonstrations upon the streets or private properties "until such time as may seem more expedient." Miss Tarbell was followed on the stand by Congressman David Lewis of Maryland. He remarked that he had come to the conclusion reluctantly "that the whole theory of private

property has broken down in the case of mines." Speaking of this he said:

Let us suppose a man discovers 10,000 acres of mine land in the wilds of West Virginia and wishes to serve himself and the community by exploiting this land. Well, in the first place, he has to hire labor, and the relation of employer and employe arises right then and there. But in this new wild country let us say the laborers have to be housed, and he builds them houses, and so the second relation that of landlord and tenant arises. Then they need a commissariat, and he builds a company store, and so it goes. It may be that the man who controls their job has any number of relationships to them. If they are discharged, they lose not only their jobs, but their home and their food supply. Almost every relation that they have with their immediate family may be broken. The result of discharge in such a case is drastic, indeed. It means a more complete feudalism than ever existed in England. If we are going to have a coal industry we must either revise our system of private property or see the republic go to pieces. There is bound to be violence and struggle so long as we have the instinct of self-preservation in common with the animals, and so long as the employer can oust the workingman off the raft in this way.

Mr. Lewis then argued for nationalization of the telegraph and telephone. These industries and monopolies, he said, and their evils cannot be remedied by competition. He stated further:

Compare this country with New Zealand, for instance. That is a fair comparison, because the rate of wages is about the same. There the people send nine telegrams a year per capita as against 1.15 per person in the United States. The rate in New Zealand is 12 cents for twelve words. Just half what it is with us. The telephone isn't the answer, either, for that is run on the same private financiering lines. Our telephone rates are the scandal of the civilized world. It costs more in this country to send a conversation to Baltimore from New York than it does to send a ton of freight.

Because of the high rates of the Bell system the United States ranks only thirteenth in its use of the telephone plants. Even little Norway is in advance of us in this respect.

Here are some figures showing the rates of telephone messages sent there and on the continent:

For 25 miles, continent rate, 8 cents; Bell rate, 25 cents.

For 100 miles, continent rate, 20 cents; Bell rate 60 cents.

For 200 miles, continent rate, 37 cents; Bell rate, \$1.80.

For 300 miles, continent rate, 39 cents; Bell rate, \$2.40.

For 400 miles, continent rate, 46 cents; Bell rate, \$3.

[See current volume, page 84.]



Jacob Schiff testified on January 20. He is financially interested in ten corporations. He declared nonsensical the statement of Samuel Untermeyer in testifying on the 18th that two groups of banking houses control most of the railroads. He then

told of his work as trustee of the Baron de Hirsch fund. It is not a charity, he said, but is used in maintaining a trade school at Woodbine, New Jersey, in starting a farm colony and in giving loans to farmers. Industrial unrest, he thought, was decreasing. He was followed by Professor Jacob Hollander of Johns Hopkins University. He declared unrest to be due to poverty and that society has made a mistake in failing to treat poverty as a disease. There is enough produced to go around but many people are nevertheless in want. He denied, however, that this shows the present system to be diseased beyond repair. Economists, he said, hold that every possible remedy should be tried before taking "the leap in the dark implied by Socialism." He held as one thing necessary that men should be employed steadily, even at casual labor, just as firemen are kept for days doing nothing, but waiting for a fire to occur. He considered strikes and lockouts inevitable incidents of present social warfare. He was followed by August Belmont, who said it was no part of the duty of a corporation director to be informed on labor conditions. The Interborough Rapid Transit Company in which he is interested had discharged men for trying to organize. This, he said, was a matter of principle. He claimed that the company did welfare work in maintaining club rooms for employes. On being asked by Commissioner Garretson whether this was not done to keep the men within reach when wanted, he answered that that was the original idea.



Daniel Guggenheim of the American Smelting and Refining Company testified on January 22. He said that "there would be a revolution in this country if it were not for the philanthropy that is being done." Private charity tends to pauperize he further declared, and hurts the feelings of those who want work and not charity. "It is the job of the United States," he said, "to look after the people. I think it should see that there are jobs for all those who want to work. This may be a socialistic sentiment, but I can't help it." The causes of unrest he declared to be the high cost of living and "the canker of envy," but much of this envy he said is legitimate. He endorsed profit-sharing, but added that workers do not save, and their share of profits should be deposited for them in a lump sum in a savings bank, once in so often, since otherwise they would spend it. Edward I. Berwind, a director of the Berwind Coal Company, said that men in his mines earned three to five dollars a day, but only worked about nineteen days out of twenty-six. The men had stayed from work voluntarily, he explained. His company also operates a line of barges, the captains of which received \$45 a month up to 1913, when after a strike their wages were raised to \$50. They are also allowed to live on the boats with their families. He will not

allow his men to come in contact with union organizers, but said he did not discriminate against union labor. George W. Perkins followed on the stand. He denounced competition, declaring it no longer the life of trade. He favored organization and co-operation for both capital and labor under control and regulation of the Federal government. He does not believe that the tariff is responsible for trusts. He holds the present business depression due to the Sherman law and the Underwood tariff. The centralization of industry, he said, is due to improved means of communication such as the telephone, telegraph and railways.



Henry Ford, the automobile manufacturer, took the stand on January 22. The profit sharing plan in his factory, he explained, amounts to paying a minimum wage of \$5 a day. He found that men could not live decently on less. The current rate of wages, he said, is 15 per cent below a decent living one. His plan was adopted to increase efficiency, not as an advertisement. It had increased efficiency 15 to 20 per cent, daily absentees had decreased from 10 per cent to three-tenths of 1 per cent. An eight-hour day has been substituted for the former nine-hour day. Annual profits of his company are from \$25,000,000 to \$28,000,000 on a \$2,000,000 capitalization. Many of his employes are ex-convicts, he said, but it is a rare thing for any of them to be arrested. All that is needed to make a man of any one is to give him work. "I will guarantee to make a man of everyone in Sing Sing by the same means," he added. He operates an open shop and does not discriminate against unions. Samuel Gompers was the next witness. He disagreed with Perkins' suggestion for incorporation of labor unions, saying that it would only increase opportunities to harrass them. He denied that organized labor restricts output or installation of improved machinery and declared its position to be the very opposite. He declared detective agencies to be largely responsible for labor troubles. He charged them with breeding and provoking strikes as well as breaking them afterward. In corroboration he read a circular sent by the R. J. Coach Company of Cleveland, which offered to furnish spies who would inform each employer concerning "The innermost thoughts of all his men." A question by Walter Drew, representing the Erectors' Association, as to criminal activities of unions Mr. Gompers considered insulting and declined to answer. Chairman Walsh offered to let Drew go on the stand, but he declined.



Louis D. Brandeis testified on January 23. He declared the cause of discontent to be the conflict between political liberty and industrial absolutism. Profit sharing and liberality could not remedy conditions. A division of responsibility is needed. Absentee owners should be held responsible for condi-

tions among employes. "There is no such thing as an innocent stockholder," he declared. He holds philanthropic foundations inconsistent with democratic aspirations. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., testified on January 25. He defended his position during the Colorado strike much as he had done while that event was in progress. He had engaged Ivy L. Lee to attend the publication of facts about the strike situation and he had freedom to say what he considered proper. All of the profits made by his father in the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company had been put back in the property to raise wages and improve living conditions. In 1913 wages were increased by \$550,000 in consequence. His father had invested in the company about \$24,000,000 and this has shrunk in value now to about \$19,000,000. He believed, he said, that labor should have easy access to those who have management of the business, but the owner of the property should not turn control over to them.



#### Labor Trouble in New Jersey.

One man killed and eighteen wounded was the result of firing on a group of unarmed strikers at Roosevelt, New Jersey, by deputy sheriffs on January 19. The strikers had been employed by the American Agricultural Chemical Company. The strike was due to failure of the company to redeem a promise alleged to have been given to the men some months ago. At that time there was a wage cut which the strikers say the company agreed to restore on January 1. It did not do so and the strike resulted. The strikers at once sent a telegram to Frank Walsh, chairman of the Commission on Industrial Relations, asking an investigation of the trouble. Twenty-eight of the deputies were arrested on January 22 and charged with murder. On the same day two investigators of the Commission on Industrial Relations were denied admittance to the plant of the chemical company.



#### Tax Reform News.

Two resolutions have been introduced in the Texas legislature for amendment of the taxation clause of the Constitution. One recites the experience of the city of Houston in exempting personal property and improvements and provides for submission at the regular election in November, 1916, of the following clause:

Any municipal corporation in the State of Texas, by ordinance duly ratified by a majority of the qualified voters voting at any election, may exempt from taxation, for municipal purposes, personal property, buildings and other improvements on land, in whole or in part.

The other resolution provides for submission in 1916 of an amendment regarding taxation in the agricultural districts, as follows:

Whereas, The farmers of the State of Texas have

heretofore paid more than their just share of taxes; and Whereas, The farmer who improves and uses his land adds value to the adjoining vacant and unused land held for investment and speculative purposes; and Whereas, To tax the farmers' improved land more than the adjoining unused and vacant land of equal value as raw land is to impose a fine on the farmer for giving employment to labor on his own land and thereby increasing the value of his neighbor's land and benefiting the community generally; and Whereas, Since all unused agricultural lands held for investment and speculative purposes would be valueless but for the work of farmers in improving lands and in giving employment to labor on same, it is obviously unjust to tax the farmer more for using his land to the benefit of the community than the speculator is taxed for withholding his land from use to the injury of the community, and charging exorbitant sums in the form of purchase money for the privilege of use, the sums so charged usually far exceeding the valuation of the land as assessed for taxation; and Whereas, To impose upon the lands withheld from use their just burden of taxation will tend to cause such lands to be put to use, and thus enable the cultivators of the soil to own and control their own farms, and tend to solve the problem created by the growing number of tenants. Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas, That Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended by adding thereto Section 20 to read as follows: Section I. All building improvements and all other improvements, including fencing and the clearing of land and breaking and reducing same to cultivation lying outside of the boundaries of incorporated cities, towns and villages, shall be exempt from all taxation, and all such lands shall be valued for taxation, whether improved or not, according to the site or raw land value of same, regardless of any improvements thereon.



The Taxation Committee of the Chamber of Commerce of Reading, Pa., through its chairman, W. G. Stewart, made a recommendation which was published on January 18 that the Chamber take action to secure for third-class cities, of which Reading is the largest, exemption of machinery from taxation as Pittsburgh and Scranton already have, and also the same partial exemption of buildings and other improvements enjoyed by these cities. In its report the committee shows that the exemption of machinery provides an inducement for the locating of new industries, while exemption of improvements make it easier to secure sites "because of the resulting partial transfer of the tax burden from improvements to unimproved or disfigured sites." It says further: "Cities of the third class should not be barred from a policy which encourages enterprise both by reducing the burden put on improvements and by opening up opportunities to make improvements." The Johnstown Chamber of Commerce has already taken action along the same line and the committee recommends co-operation by the Reading body. A move-

ment is also under way in Reading, apart from the exemption movement, to secure separate assessments of land and buildings. [See vol. xvii, p. 784.]



Vancouver re-elected L. D. Taylor, known as "Singletax Taylor," as mayor on January 5. He was the mayor in 1911 when the policy of exempting improvements from taxation was first completely applied. In 1913 he was defeated for reelection on other than taxation issues. Of the four candidates for mayor at the recent election, Mr. Taylor and one other were Singletaxers and the other two, opponents. Two-thirds of the vote went to the Singletaxers and this is looked upon as an indication of how public opinion on that subject stands. [See vol. xvi, pp. 106, 387, 990; vol. xvii, p. 511.]



#### Correction.

On page 17 the vote for Fredericks, Republican candidate for Governor of California, should have been 271,990 instead of 236,328. In the report on the vote on Home Rule in Taxation, Imperial County should have been included in the list of those carried. [See current volume, page 54.]



#### Good Roads and Land Values.

The effect of good roads on land values is shown in a press dispatch of January 23, quoting officials of the Federal public roads office:

Manatee County, Florida, built 64 miles of macadam and shell road. From 1911 to 1912 land on this road increased in value \$20 an acre, and land a mile away increased \$10.

Spotsylvania, Va., improved 41 miles of road, and land which formerly had sold for \$25 an acre changed hands within three years at \$45.

In Dinwiddie County, Virginia, where 125 miles of road were built, land between five and ten miles from Petersburg advanced on an average from \$24.25 to \$30 an acre in about fifteen instances, while land ten miles away increased an average of \$16.32 an acre.

In Franklin County, New York, where 124 miles of good roads were built, eight pieces of land, selected at random, showed an increase of 27.8 per cent.



#### Spread of the Jitney Bus System.

Jitney busses are causing so much competition with street railways in Seattle that the latter are asking for repressive legislation, and the Seattle Times agrees with them. Bills to regulate the service are to be introduced in the legislature. In an interview Mayor Gill opposed such interference, saying that public sentiment would not tolerate drastic legislation which might be interpreted as an effort to restrict the service. He predicts, however, that eventually the business will be controlled by

the traction monopoly. In Portland, Oregon, on January 16 the president of the traction company demanded in a public address that the busses be eliminated as competitors of the company. In Spokane on the same day the traction company protested to the city authorities against allowing the busses to operate. In the four Pacific Coast cities of San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland and Seattle there are now 2375 of these busses in operation whose daily receipts are said to aggregate \$19,000. On January 20 a line was started in Kansas City and another one in Des Moines, Iowa.



#### Mexico.

Announcement is made of a new movement headed by General Alvaro Obregon, Carranza's military chief, and General Eulalio Gutierrez, the first Provisional President of the National Convention, who fled from Mexico City on the 16th, to eliminate both General Carranza and General Villa. General Gutierrez, with several thousand troops, is heading north from Pachuca, a short distance northeast of Mexico City. General Roque Gonzales Garza, the new Provisional President, has possession of the capital. There is much confusion from the charges and counter charges of the various factions; and little can be told at present of their real strength, or the justice of their claims.



#### The European War.

The week began with a dramatic raid on England by German Zeppelins, and closed with a naval victory of the British fleet in the North Sea. Land activities resulted in little change. In the East the Russians appear to have made gains north of the Vistula River. In the West the deadlock continues, with both the Germans and the Allies claiming slight gains. Little of importance has been reported from the Turkish scene, either on the Egyptian front, or in the Caucasus and Armenia. [See current volume, page 82.]



The Germans cling to their position before Warsaw, where they have continued vigorous attacks, but have been unable to cross the Bzura or Rawka Rivers, which separate them from the Polish capital. The advance of the Russians on the German fortress of Thorn must soon result in a battle that will compel the retreat of the Germans from before Warsaw, or the abandonment of the Russian movement north of the Vistula. A more spirited resistance on the part of the Austrians in Galicia and Hungary tends to confirm the rumor that Germany has sent re-enforcements, and is directing the Austrian campaign. The Russians claim gains in Armenia over the Turks, but nothing decisive has occurred since the Turkish retreat after the battle of Kra-Urgan.

Comparative quiet has succeeded the victory of the Germans at Soissons on the 14th. In the Vosges and in Belgium spirited fighting has continued. Slight changes in the battle line have occurred both on the eastern and on the western end, but the net result is of slight moment. The Germans continue their aggressive tactics, and the Allies their effective resistance.



Greater activity among the air fleets is apparent. On the night of the 19th a German air fleet, supposed to consist of six Zeppelins, sailed over the eastern coast of England, and dropped bombs on Yarmouth, Sandringham, King's Lynn, Cromer, and Sheringham. Little damage was done beyond killing a few women and children and other non-combatants. The raid was without military significance, except to demonstrate the practicability of crossing the North Sea in airships. The fact that the airships were compelled to operate at night in order to escape firing from the land prevented them from striking effectively. An air raid of the Allies' aeroplanes on Essen, the home of the Krupp works, is reported to have taken place on the 20th, but no details are given of the result.



A sea battle occurred on the 24th northwest of Heligoland, in the North Sea, between German and British fleets. The German fleet, consisting of four armored cruisers, four light cruisers, and two flotillas of torpedo boats, was steaming toward the English coast when surprised by a British fleet, consisting of five armored cruisers, several light cruisers and a flotilla of destroyers. The Germans, pursued by the British, sped for their home base. During the running fight of four hours that followed, the German armored cruiser Bluecher was sunk by the British. The pursuit ceased when the fleets approached the mined waters off Heligoland. The Bluecher was of 15,500 tons, and carried a crew of 885 men, of whom 123 were reported saved. The British report none killed, and but slight damage to the ships. The British armored merchant vessel, Viknor, is announced lost off the coast of Ireland from a floating mine.



It is officially announced from Pretoria, Union of South Africa, that a force of 1,200 rebels under Lieutenant Colonel Maritz was defeated at Upington, Bechuanaland, by the Union forces.



Italy, which is barely recovering from the earthquake disaster, is apparently approaching a political crisis. The committee of the radical party has declared unanimously in favor of entering the war to aid the Allies. The radicals of Padua and of revolutionary societies in a congress at Milan de-

nounced the triple alliance, and declared in favor of the war.



In order to prevent a possible shortage of food-stuffs in Germany before the next harvest, the Federal Council has put into effect the following regulations:

All stocks of corn, wheat and flour are ordered seized by February 1. All business transactions in these commodities are forbidden from January 26. All municipalities are charged with the duty of setting aside suitable supplies of preserved meat. The owners of corn are ordered to report their stocks immediately, whereupon confiscation, at a fixed price, will follow. A government distributing office for the regulation of consumption will be established, distribution being made according to the number of inhabitants.



#### American Neutrality.

Secretary of State, William J. Bryan, in a letter to Senator William J. Stone, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, made public on the 24th, defined the position taken by the United States on certain disputed questions. Mr. Bryan denies explicitly every act of favoritism of this country toward the Allies, and quotes facts to substantiate his position. He answers nineteen specific charges that this country is unneutral or partial. Regarding the charge that the export of arms favors the Allies because Great Britain controls the seas, Secretary Bryan says there is no obligation either in international law or in domestic law of the United States to prohibit private trade in munitions of war. In the past the present belligerents, when they were neutrals, maintained no such prohibition. "In fact," says Secretary Bryan, "it is only necessary to point to the enormous quantities of arms and ammunition furnished by manufacturers in Germany to the belligerents in the Russo-Japanese war and in the recent Balkan wars to establish recognition of the propriety of the trade by a neutral nation." [See current volume, page 62.]



#### Woman's Peace Party.

The Washington conference of women resulted in the formation of the Woman's Peace Party, with the following officers: Jane Addams, chairman; Carrie Chapman Catt, honorary chairman; Anna Garlin Spencer, Mrs. Henry D. Villard, Mrs. Louis F. Post, and Mrs. John Jay White, vice chairmen. Money may be sent to Juliet Barrett Rublee, 1105 Sixteenth Street, Washington, D. C. The statement issued by the conference says:

The purpose of this organization is to enlist all American women in arousing the nations to respect the sacredness of human life and to abolish war. The following is adopted as our platform:

1. The immediate calling of a convention of neu-

tral nations in the interest of early peace. (2) Limitation of armaments and the nationalization of their manufacture. (3) Organized opposition to militarism in our own country. (4) Education of youth in the ideals of peace. (5) Democratic control of foreign policies. (6) The further humanizing of governments by the extension of the franchise to women. (7) "Concert of Nations" to supersede "Balance of Power." (8) Action toward the gradual organization of the world to substitute Law for War. (9) The substitution of an international police for rival armies and navies. (10) Removal of the economic causes of war. (11) The appointment by our Government of a commission of men and women, with an adequate appropriation, to promote international peace.

The conference further adopted the following resolution:

Resolved: That we denounce with all the earnestness of which we are capable the concerted attempt now being made to force this country into still further preparedness for war. We desire to make a solemn appeal to the higher attributes of our common humanity to help us unmask this menace to our civilization.

[See current volume, page 58.]



The preamble of the platform is as follows:

We, women of the United States, assembled in behalf of World Peace, grateful for the security of our own country, but sorrowing for the misery of all involved in the present struggle among warring nations, do hereby band ourselves together to demand that war should be abolished.

Equally with men pacifists, we understand that planned-for, legalized, wholesale, human slaughter is today the sum of all villainies. As women, we feel a peculiar moral passion of revolt against both the cruelty and the waste of war.

As women, we are especially the custodians of the life of the ages. We will not longer consent to its reckless destruction. As women, we are particularly charged with the future of childhood and with the care of the helpless and the unfortunate. We will not longer accept without protest that added burden of maimed and invalid men and poverty stricken widows and orphans which war places upon us.

As women, we have builded by the patient drudgery of the past the basic foundation of the home and of peaceful industry. We will not longer endure without a protest which must be heard and heeded by men that hoary evil which in an hour destroys the social structure that centuries of toil have reared.

As women, we are called upon to start each generation onward toward a better humanity. We will not longer tolerate without determined opposition that denial of the sovereignty of reason and justice by which war and all that makes for war today renders impotent the idealism of the race.

Therefore, as human beings and the mother half of humanity, we demand that our right to be considered in the settlement of questions concerning not alone the life of individuals but of nations be recognized and respected.

We demand that women be given a share in de-

cing between war and peace in all the courts of high debate; within the home, the school, the church, the industrial order and the State.

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## NEWS NOTES

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—President Waters of the Kansas State Agricultural College says the Philippines are capable of supporting in comfort 40,000,000 people.

—Louis Brownlow was on January 20 appointed Commissioner of the District of Columbia in place of Frederick L. Siddons, resigned. [See vol. xvi, p. 633, 681.]

—It is officially announced from Vienna that subscriptions for the Austrian war loan amount to \$670,000,000, of which Austria subscribed \$433,000,000, and Hungary \$237,000,000.

—Figures from the French Customs Department indicate a falling off of foreign commerce for ten months of 1914, as compared with the same period of 1913, of \$400,000,000.

—Levi H. Turner, well known in Quincy, Massachusetts, as a Singletax advocate and one of the pioneer speakers on that subject on the Boston Commons, died on January 16 at his home, 463 Hancock street. His wife survives him.

—The Spanish Cabinet decided on the 22nd not to send the battleship Espana to the opening of the Panama Canal, because of the presence of Admiral Dewey, which, it was feared, might provoke demonstrations that would be disagreeable to Spanish sailors.

—The commission appointed three years ago by the Rhode Island legislature to report on constitutional changes recommended on January 22 abolition of the property qualification for voters, biennial sessions of the legislature and decision in civil cases by three-fourths vote of a jury.

—It is reported from Washington that President Wilson is about to send a commission to Haiti to confer with the leaders of the warring factions with a view to holding an election that will unite the country in the support of a government that the United States can recognize. [See current volume, page 83.]

—The American Red Cross has spent \$760,510 in the European war since August 1. Hospitals in charge of American surgeons and nurses are maintained at Paignton, England; Pau, France; Kiev, Russia; Gleichwitz and Kosel, Germany; Vienna and Budapest, Austria-Hungary, and Belgrade, Serbia. Forty-five surgeons and 150 nurses are employed.

—The Supreme Court of the United States declared unconstitutional on January 25 the Kansas law forbidding employers from requiring employees to agree not to join a labor union. The court held the law contrary to the clause in the Fourteenth Amendment, which forbids depriving a person of his liberty without due process of law. Justices Day, Hughes and Holmes dissented.

—Joseph J. Ettor of the I. W. W. was arrested at St. Clairsville, Ohio, on a charge of treason on January 19, and although this is a capital offense, was admitted to \$5,000 bail on January 21. He signed his

own bond and, according to the dispatches, agreed to leave for New York at once and not return. The dispatches further state that under the circumstances the grand jury will take no action.

—After serving eleven years in the Tennessee penitentiary for a murder of which he has now been proven innocent, a Negro, John McElwrath, was pardoned by Governor Hooper on January 16. He had been sentenced to death at his trial in 1904, but since the evidence was circumstantial, Governor Frazier commuted sentence to life imprisonment. The real murderer confessed a year ago on his death bed, but McElwrath, having no friends or relatives interested, was, nevertheless, allowed to remain in prison, until the case came accidentally to the notice of Duke C. Bowers of Dresden, who is pushing a bill for abolition of capital punishment. Through his efforts the pardon was secured.

—John Z. White will speak in Pittsburgh on the following dates: Monday, February 1, morning, Twentieth Century Club; evening, Realty Owners' Association, Chamber of Commerce. Tuesday, February 2, morning, Wilkinsburg High School, noon, North Paddock High School; evening, Wilksburg Board of Trade. Wednesday, February 3, morning, Pennsylvania College for Women; noon, Rotary Club. Thursday, February 4, morning, Allegheny High School; noon, Builders' Exchange, Fulton Building; evening, Ambridge. Friday, February 5, morning, University of Pittsburgh; evening, Carrick Civic Club. Saturday, February 6, evening, Singletax Dinner. Sunday, February 7, evening, Tree of Life Synagogue. Monday, February 8, morning, Allegheny High School; noon, Hungry Club; evening, North Side Unitarian Church.

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## PRESS OPINIONS

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### Truth in a Nutshell.

Land and Liberty (Hayward, Cal.), January.—What are the unemployed doing for themselves? Practically nothing, save where they take to crime. What can we do for them? Practically nothing so long as we uphold the monopolies that keep them unemployed.



### Where to Get Revenue.

Grain Growers Guide (Winnipeg), Jan. 13.—A tax of two per cent on the unimproved value of the land in Canada would produce a revenue of \$150,000,000 a year. The customs tariff in the twelve months ending November 30, 1914, produced \$84,663,903. Remember that the tariff adds on the average approximately 25 per cent to the cost of every manufactured article you buy and figure out which form of taxation would be most to the advantage of the farmer, the workingman, the merchant, the country generally and the federal treasury.



### No Excuse for Motor Bus Monopoly.

Chicago Herald, November 29.—A motor bus company which has already received a certificate of "convenience and necessity" from the State Utilities Com-

mission objects to others entering the field. The objection is natural, of course. We all object to competition in our special line of business. However, it is not easy to understand why the commission should entertain objections at all. It has, as Chairman Quan reminded the objector, "no right to grant exclusive privileges." It is probably expedient, on police grounds, that projectors of motor bus lines should be required to register their enterprises. They propose to operate vehicles for hire on public highways. . . . But a motor bus is not like a tram car. It requires no special track which is more or less of an obstruction to other vehicles. It is just another wagon in the street. It adds to general wear and tear of the pavement, and that is all. The advent of the motor bus is regarded with hope by the long suffering straphanger. It is evident that not many more tram cars can be run on the existing tracks in the loop. But motor buses can run anywhere. So why not give all the motor bus projectors a chance? Let them see what they can do. The supply will not be in excess of the demand. Let them have an equal field for their exertions. The fittest will survive.



#### How to Secure Respect for Law.

The Star (San Francisco), January 9.—Laws will be respected by all right-minded persons when the laws are respectable. Authority will be respected generally, and by the great majority of the people, when it does not trespass upon human rights. When the laws and authorities are democratic, there will be no complaint of any widespread disregard of and disrespect for them.

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## RELATED THINGS

### CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

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#### TO A TRAIN ANNOUNCER.

For The Public.

Peal forth melodiously, clear-throated Cryer,  
 Each magic name; fill the tense, crowded room  
 With golden tones! Out where huge sheds engloom  
 The day, the steeds of steel on Mail and Flyer  
 Impatient wait, and with loud blasts respire.  
 I pause enrapt, and while your voice's boom  
 Rings out, bell-like, the distant Towns assume  
 Forms wondrous fair, in visions you inspire:  
 Not longer merely Capitals of Trade,  
 Great throbbing Centers where unceasing strife  
 Is waged for favor of the monarch Gold,  
 But in the processes of Time remade,  
 As man himself, they stand, their sordid life  
 Grown beautiful, beneficent, high-souled.

—CHARLES H. WINKE.



## THE SAME BRAND

For The Public.

Tweedledum and Tweedledee — Deutschland  
 über Alles and Rule Britannia.

CHRISTINA BARKER.

## HOW NEMAHA SETTLED IT.

For The Public.

In a wonderful country, we will name Nemaha, there are 10,000,000 acres of land. It contains fertile valleys of farm land; great forests of pines and hardwood cover the hills; waterfalls appear in its rivers and beneath the rough lands imbedded in the earth are gold, silver, copper, coal, iron and stone.

Years ago by conquest, by Government grant, and by payments of small sums, a certain man, whose name was Felix Monopoly, came into possession of this vast tract. The laws of the land gave him full rights, as owner, to do with all these natural resources what he pleased.

One day there appeared before Felix Monopoly two men by name William Capital and John Labor.

Said Mr. Capital to Mr. Monopoly: "We have come, Mr. Labor with brain and brawn, I with money and tools, to develop these vast resources of this State. It has little value as it lies. We wish to fill these valleys with prosperous farmers—we will send men into the earth in mines that we may have steel to build railroads, implements and machinery; that we may have coal for fuel, that gold may be provided for coin and exchange. We wish to fell the appropriate trees of the forests and build them into homes and cities. We will build great power plants at the waterfalls. A great and prosperous people will have their existence here in a high state of civilization and intelligence."

Mr. Monopoly heard their stories and replied: "I own this land—I have deeds for it. The Government protects me in my rights; it is my partner in holding this land to do with it as I please. I do not choose that you, Capital and Labor, shall have it. I might, however, consider its lease to you for a period of years for a consideration."

Capital and Labor agreed to the lease but did not want to pay in solid cash the amount Monopoly asked. They argued: "These natural resources are given by God to all men for their uses," but the Government had given Monopoly dictatorship over this land of Nemaha and he demanded certain terms. A lease was therefore drawn and signed by Capital and Labor.

Felix Monopoly left his land, meaning the soil, the forests, the mines, the water power and the natural resources, his 10,000,000 acres, to John Labor and William Capital and went on a long and extended journey to foreign countries.

Under the mutual hands of Capital and Labor, as if by magic, the land began to blossom as the rose. The mines yielded forth the rich minerals and precious ores. Homes were built and cities flourished by the river sides. Railways, ships of commerce, and electric conveyances were constructed and used to transport the plentiful products to the markets of the world. Population came.

While the value of land was low, wages and interest were high, but lo, the time came when the terms of the lease expired and Mr. Felix Monopoly returned to demand higher rewards.

The increased population made an increase of desire for the land. Where one wanted a tract in the beginning, now hundreds wanted to use it, hence the value was increased many fold. Every baby born, every immigrant coming to the land to live increased its value.

Mr. Monopoly saw this and demanded as the price for renewing the lease this full increase and value. Did he not own the land? By virtue of his ownership, was he not entitled to the gains in value made solely by the community—by the people?

William Capital and John Labor concluded that he was, and, though "it didn't look right," they agreed to a new lease at a greatly increased rental cost.

Monopoly again went away and this time became an officer of the Government, gave large charities and built up a great political machine with thousands of followers and beneficiaries through which he expected to perpetuate this system of government by which he so greatly profited.

Prosperity flourished in Nemaha until population became so numerous that there was not enough available land—for the price was so high, much of the land was held unused and there was more than one man for every job. Heretofore, there had been more than one job to every man.

It was seen that the land was increasing astonishingly in value; that the cost of living was also getting higher and higher, that wages and interest were comparatively low and it was necessary to form labor unions which employed costly strikes to force through demands for sufficient wages to meet social demands.

Anxiety and restless discontent began to be felt in the land and John Labor conceived the idea that William Capital was getting the best of the partnership. From fierce arguments quarrels ensued until Capital and Labor were in actual war at one another.

Monopoly and his henchmen were seen to live in lavish wealth, while haggard poverty stalked through the land. These henchmen of Monopoly were sometimes so intimately connected and associated with Capital that Labor mistook them for Capital's friends, when indeed they were his enemies.

It is likely that revolution, destruction and death would have been the ultimate end in the land but one day Intelligence wrote a book—he called it "Progress and Poverty." He presented a copy to William Capital and one to John Labor. The book was so simple in its truth, so plain in its statement, so sound in its logic and indicated the cause and cure of the trouble so clearly that Capital and Labor were ashamed of their disagreement

and the havoc they had done each other. They saw that as the simple and easy way to help the poor is to "get off their backs," so the surest way to get universal justice is to destroy Privilege.

So the people of Nemaha passed a law, for fortunately that land was under a government *by the people*. It provided that all men should be protected in the possession of the land and all other property; that all the products of Capital and Labor, through their industry, should be exempt from taxation; that all government revenues should be derived from rental or community made values of Natural Resources or Land.

They agreed to allow Mr. Felix Monopoly to possess the Land of Nemaha if he wished but that he must pay the full price for the full worth of the Privilege.

So now the People of Nemaha own their own homes and possess the land on which their homes stand. The Public Treasury receives from the users and developers of the mines, the forests, the waterfalls, and the land the value of the privilege. Mr. Felix Monopoly has gone from the land forever. John Labor and William Capital receive the full benefit in interest and wages of their outlay. They are no more at war; increasing industries require all their time and attention. Vast wealth is produced and shared by all who work—and there is work for all. The incentive to work has increased a thousand fold. The people are at peace with themselves and their neighbors and are prosperous and happy. Not only are they devoted to the farms and marts but the Fine Arts and "Keen-Eyed" Sciences flourish. A great and noble race is evolving—physically strong, mentally capable. Culture and enlightenment are reaching high accomplishments and this vigorous race is approaching the state of the Idealist's dream—Brotherhood of Man and Harmony with God.

GEORGE DODD CARRINGTON, JR.

## TO A FINISH.

Henri La Fontaine.

(Belgian Senator and President of the International Peace Bureau.)

This is the unanimous cry of the belligerents! In Germany and in Austria as in France, in England and in Belgium, this cry goes forth with a rare misunderstanding of what it means.

A fight to a finish! To the finish of what? Of militarism, will be the answer. But nobody reflects on the terrible sacrifices, the frightful massacres, the unheard-of ruin that this answer implies. Day by day the journals of the Allies repeat, with an enervating and disgusting monotony, a wearisome anthem like a litany: "Along the whole front a huge battle from the Swiss frontiers to the shores of Flanders, no notable change

has been produced. The German attacks have been everywhere repulsed and considerable losses have been inflicted on them."

As to the losses of the Allies, they are hardly referred to. In reply to a member of Parliament, the British Government has recently admitted that in 75 days the "casualties," to use the English euphemism, amounted to 57,000. During the ten days of the battle of the Yser those of the Belgians were reckoned at 12,000. Competent military authorities estimate that, if the war should last for a year, 75 per cent of the soldiers will be killed or wounded; that is to say that in sixteen months all the combatants will be maimed or dead.

It is estimated that at the present moment 20,000,000 men are under arms, and those who, in their wicked dream, wish for a fight to a finish, to the final exhaustion, to a collective suicide, are talking of levies *en masse* which would bring up the effective armies to 40,000,000 combatants destined to become 40,000,000 corpses or invalids.

It must finish some day, unless in their turn the mothers and daughters are armed, and already in London women have shouldered the rifle and are being trained for the impious work of death, they who are, by destiny and duty, the creators of life.

An end must be put to the young, the growing, and the adults in all the force of their experience and development. An end must be put to the savants, the thinkers, the highest intelligences, and the most brilliant artists. An end must be put to civilization, progress, inventions, and beauty. An end must be put to the age-long madness of men in loving and trusting. An end must be put to shining prospects and splendid hopes. Under the impassive stars and the triumphant sun, an end must be put to the human race. That is the real meaning of the fatalistic cry which is hypnotizing the world! Indeed, if in presence of the horrid spectacle of muddy trenches filled with putrefying corpses and wounded men awaiting tetanus and gangrene, humanity does not rise and shout, in an access of clear-sighted madness, "Enough, enough!" it had better come to an end.

Better that the earth unencumbered with the dwellings of men, freed from the criminal multitudes who, thirsting for blood and murder, abuse it with their shells, delivered from the frightful cacophony of their war-cries mingled with the deafening roar of cannons and the crackling of the mitrailleuses, better that the earth roll inert and verdant, inhabited by birds and filled with their songs, in the vast spaces restored to their eternal calm.



Why don't the railroads take the people frankly into their confidence? asks an exchange. Perhaps the people have been "taken in" so often by the railroads they are getting timid.—Appeal to Reason.

## GERMANY AND "UNITED STATES OF EUROPE."

For The Public.

It is doubtless true that any extension of German territory would be accompanied by an extension of the Zollverein—or free trade—therein. In Bismarck's time, however, as at the present day, German ambition could scarcely aim to annex the world, and as the extension of the Zollverein is not promoted by any international conscience but only for the beneficial consolidation of the Empire, the nations not swallowed by the Teuton would still be challenged by his prohibitory tariff wall.

The voice of the free trader has been unfortunately silent in the present opportunity for emphasizing his fundamental doctrine that tariff is potential war and is now following out a natural development in the actual battlefield. One ringing word has indeed been spoken, and may yet find echo, by Prof. Giddings of Columbia in the "Survey" who said that unless her tariff were taken down, war was a necessity for Germany.

ERVING WINSLOW.



### TO MY FRIEND INDEED.

Jo Labadie.

In the Vale of Pleasure I've built a den  
Where the sweetest wishes grow,  
Where, in deep desire's deepest glen,  
Soft sunbeams ever glow;  
Fresh fruits of friendship everywhere  
Entice the taste and fill,  
And the paths of peace cross here and there,  
And contentment comes at will.

I've built a cabin of logs of love,  
My heart chinks the cracks from cold,  
And the larder I've filled, below and above,  
With all the joys it can hold;  
Its fireplace burns the telltale wood,  
And the flames paint pictures rare,  
That bring to memory a pleasing mood  
And griefs dissolve in air.

I've made a conveyance that carries the heart  
Wherever it wills to go,  
If on the ground, in cloudland mart,  
Or on the waters flow;  
Its motive power is a sunny thought,  
Its body of silvery dew,  
And in satisfaction all this was wrought  
With the wish of pleasing you.

I've romped the dreams of Pleasure Vale,  
Collecting the richest of spoils,  
So I could place them within the pale  
Of your friendship's silken tolls;  
I've hunted its glens and I've climbed its hills  
For the gems of love and leal,  
And the net result is the wish that thrills  
For your ever-increasing weal.

## BOOKS

### HOW FOOD SUSTAINS LIFE.

**The Fundamental Basis of Nutrition.** By Graham Lusk. Published by Yale University Press, New Haven, Conn. 1914. Price, 50 cents; postage, 4 cents.

Dr. Lusk's clear little book of sixty small pages, including a good index, is a satisfying example of what the great, unscientific public desires: a plain and careful statement of the discoveries and conclusions in a department of science, expressed in language that introduces the reader to a few useful technical terms and still remains perfectly intelligible.

One actually has a vision of how the "fuel factor" and the "repair factor" do contain "the essence of the science of nutrition." "Calories" emerge from their laboratory hiding places, and some of the numerous varieties of protein seem like old friends. The distinction between two different foods and merely two different preparations of the same food takes on a bigger meaning, although not mentioned by the author. In truth that is just why the book is so unusually satisfactory. It provides the material for one's own answers to countless questions—one realizes, for example, precisely why the nations of Europe are so particularly anxious over their wheat supplies.

Noted dieticians may disagree radically with some of the author's conclusions—about high protein diet, for instance, or the amount of "storing up" profitable for the body's future emergencies. But herein is just an added pleasure to the lay reader: he has discovered what the professional fight is about and can now watch it with the zest of an amateur.

A. L. G.



### THE "DESERVING" POOR.

**Round About a Pound a Week.** By Mrs. Pember Reeves. Published by G. Bell & Sons, London. 1913. Price, 2s. 6d. net.

What tragedies the cheap lace curtains of London's Kennington Lane must be hiding these war days! The monotonous, threadbare respectability of all the Kennington Lanes of Europe must by now have dropped into the ruin of despair. If only those Lambeth curtains could be parted now as they were by Mrs. Pember Reeves last year! If only oftener the exact truth were told with such vivid simplicity, one-half the nations would not war or wish war against the other half, for we should understand our "enemies"—which is to love them—and should make common cause against social injustice, the one great foe of humanity.

Two million families of England, at the lowest estimate, live habitually on something like six dol-

lars a week. How—intimately how—they spend their starved and straitened lives, what their never-ceasing routine of drudgery and deprivation makes out of them and their children, Mrs. Reeves, from a four years' record of a Fabian Society committee's work, tells with the eloquence of deepest sympathy, kindest humor, and an indignant soul. No one, not the most hardened hypocrite, nor his most innocent imitator could say aloud, after reading this life-study in brave misery, that the cause of the poverty of these six or eight million human beings is drink, or idleness, or extravagance (on six dollars a week!), or anything that is their own least fault.

From such existences as this, it is, that Europe is calling and ordering men into the trenches to die, each for his own country. Why should *they* go? Why should they *not* go?

A. L. G.



### RELIGIOUS BELIEFS.

**A Century's Change in Religion.** By George Harris. Published by Houghton, Mifflin Co., Boston. 1914. Price, \$1.25 net.

While Professor Harris gives us a vivid picture of the contrast between the religious opinions of today and those of a century ago, he appears to draw his conclusions from the study of his own intellectual class rather than from the great body of church communicants who subscribe to the old creeds without the trouble of thinking about them. Personal salvation and social support are the drawing power of the Church without much reference to the doctrines which are being slowly modified to meet the unfolding spiritual insight of those who turn believingly to the inflow of fuller light.

The present advance in freedom of thought in all departments of human life is clearly defined in the later chapters of Professor Harris' book where he forecasts the kingdom of God on earth as coming indeed, "but not with pomp and observation." It is doubtful if it will ever come so perfectly that there will not be a higher good to strive for.

About the present war—which indicates a condition of disordered thought and desire far enough from the kingdom of heaven within—our author has this optimistic conclusion at the end of his book: "One hundred years ago Europe was swept bare by wars of might against right, yet out of those catastrophes came an advance of civilization. So it may be, must be, will be, now."

To which we respond, Amen.

A. L. M.



### TRADE AND WAR.

**Arms and Industry.** By Norman Angell. Published by G. P. Putnam's Sons. New York. 1914. Price, \$1.25.

It is pleasant, after reading the many conflicting opinions ascribing causes to the present war, to

find Arms and Industry,—a series of essays on international polity—ably reasoned from considerations of economic phenomena. Mr. Angell's theory that war is uneconomical is not new. Cobden preached it. But the fact that statements have been made alleging the present war to be a refutation of "Norman Angellism" shows how little his theory is grasped.

Mr. Angell urges that only when a general recognition of the profitlessness of war and the interdependence of nations, not as economic rivals, but as groups of individual merchants in one nation depending upon those in another who thereby establish credit, this economic relation rendering the alleged conflict of nations fallacious—only when such recognition is grasped by the masses will war cease.

If Mr. Angell fails to note that there still remain factors to be considered which range men into warring classes, we are nevertheless grateful that he so irrefutably obliterates political frontiers in the economic world.

BLANCHE KLANIECKA.

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## PERIODICALS

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### A Starvation Disease.

The recent rapid increase in deaths from pellagra in the United States, according to The Survey of January 16, is believed by the Federal Public Health Service to be due to the rise in the cost of the richer protein foods, such as milk, eggs and meat. Poor people have been substituting for these the cheaper corn and beans, which lack some of the protein elements absolutely necessary to life.

A. L. G.

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## PAMPHLETS

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### From the Children's Bureau.

Parental Care, and Infant Care, Numbers 1 and 2 of the Care of Children series, by Mrs. Max West, have been issued by the Federal Children's Bureau under the charge of Julia C. Lathrop. Both may be had free by addressing a postal to the head of the Bureau. These pamphlets give plain, commonsense directions and advice to mothers, and for the care of the newly-born infant. The best methods of feeding, bathing and dressing the baby are given, and such other directions as modern hygiene approves.

S. C.



### The Federal Vocational Aid Commission.

As recommended by act of Congress just a year ago, January 20, 1914, President Wilson appointed a Commission on National Aid to Vocational Education which was composed of Senators Hoke Smith and Carroll S. Page, Representatives Hughes and Fess, John A. Lapp of Indiana, Florence M. Marshall of New York City, Agnes Nestor of Chicago, and Charles A. Prosser of New York. This body was directed to consider the subject of national aid for

vocational education and report its findings and recommendations not later than June 1, 1914. Their report, which was duly made to Congress, referred to the Committee of Education of the House of Representatives and later officially printed in pamphlet form (House Document, No. 1004), is a clear, concise discussion of the present need and desirability of vocational education in agriculture, trade and industry and the reasons why Federal grants to the States seem to the Commission advisable. The need of such education is demonstrated, but the prophecy of resulting social and economic good seems somewhat over-rosy. The whole discussion is of interest to every American citizen, but only the Commission's recommendations which are embodied in a proffered bill can be briefly reported. This proposes that Federal grants in aid of vocational education shall be made (1) to each State roughly in proportion to population, and (2) for the establishment and expense of a Federal Board of Vocational Education to be composed of the Postmaster-General and the Secretaries of the Interior, Agriculture, Commerce and Labor, with the Commissioner of Education as executive officer—the duties of this Board to be the disposition of the grants in aid to the States, and the organized gathering and distribution of national information on industrial education. The grants to the States shall be through the medium of a Board created by each State and shall be used for education of the secondary grade only—that is, adapted to boys and girls between 14 and 18 years old; and this money shall be used only in two specified ways: (1) for the training of teachers of agricultural, trade and industrial, and home economics subjects; and (2) for the part payment of the salaries of such teachers. The bill further directs that vocational instruction shall be given in three sorts of trade and industrial schools; (1) all-day schools, (2) part-time schools for youthful workers, and (3) evening schools for adult workers. The debated question as to whether this vocational instruction shall be offered in separate schools and systems of schools, or shall be made an intrinsic part of the already established curriculum and institutions, is not touched upon by the Commission, which contents itself merely with the advice that Federal moneys shall go to public schools only. Wary Commission not to take sides—though an "anti-separatist" could wish in the interests of impartiality that the phrase "vocational instruction" instead of "vocational schools" had been used in some parts of the report. Thirteen appendices contain a very good bibliography and replies to questions. In some of these there are hiatuses painful to Illinoisans; for, along with Rhode Island, Connecticut and Nevada, Illinois shares the distinction of having returned no schedule of replies to the Commission's inquiries.

A. L. G.



"Was your Christmas present in the nature of a surprise?"

"I should say so. It was just what I wanted."—  
Judge.



Dot had seen trained animals at the show, and loved their tricks. Not long ago her grandmother

was sick and a trained nurse was called in. "Are you a trained nurse?" asked Dot of the woman.

"Yes, dear. Why?"

"Then please perform some of your tricks for me. I want to see whether they are like the other trained animals I saw last week."—Jewish Exponent.



Uncle John—"Whew, we must stop now! The horse is tired.

Willie—"You aren't a horse, Uncle John; you're an automobile!"—Sacred Heart Review.



Passenger—I'd give you a tip, only I've nothing but a \$10 bill.

Porter—Oh, that'll be enough, sir.—Boston Transcript.

# La Follette



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