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EDITORIAL

A Neglected Opportunity.

Attention has been called to the fact that had England permitted the construction of the tunnel under the English Channel she would be more independent of German submarines. It may also be said that had there been no tariffs, or other arbitrary restraints of trade, between European countries during the past forty years, the people would now be so well acquainted with and so much dependent upon each other that war would be far from their thoughts.

S. C.



One Pledge Inexcusably Violated.

Failure to provide definitely for Philippine independence is an act of omission by the present Congress as much deserving of severe condemnation as would have been failure to redeem the tariff pledge or any other pledge of the Democratic platform.

S. D.



Passing the Seamen's Bill.

Seldom has Congress shown greater reluctance in performing a manifest duty than it has in granting relief to American seamen. The withdrawal of the American flag from the high seas, and the subsequent disappearance of the American seamen, after their brilliant career in the first half of the nineteenth century, long ago set press and statesmen to devising ways and means of bringing them back. So long as the attempts at restoration were confined to subsidies there was little progress; but when the International Seamen's Union finally succeeded in enlisting the attention of a few liberal minded and aggressive men like Senators La Follette of Wisconsin, Chamberlain and Lane of Oregon, and Representatives Rufus Hardy of Texas, and Frank Buchanan of Illinois, and Secretary of Labor Wm. B. Wilson, the work took on definite and intelligent shape. But even after the seamen, under the able leadership of An-

drew Furuset, Victor Olander and Patrick Flynn, had answered every objection and overcome every doubt, Congress still hesitated. For unknown and apparently inexplicable reasons the ship building interests and the ship companies opposed every proposition made; and this was another instance where the little finger of Privilege was stronger than the thigh of Labor. Committee after committee was appointed, testimony was taken in various parts of the country, and volumes of evidence published. Bills were introduced in the House and in the Senate. Sometimes one passed, and sometimes the other; but never could both be got through at the same time until 1913, and that bill was vetoed by President Taft. At the present session, however, both the Senate and the House bills passed, and the conference bill was adopted. It is scarcely conceivable that the President should withhold his approval.



The bill as passed bears the stamp of a vacillating Congress. It grants to the seamen what they asked for themselves—though very grudgingly—but it withholds from the public what the seamen claimed for it. To raise the standard of seamanship 40 per cent of the crew on deck must be able seamen; and this percentage will be raised during a period of five years until 65 per cent will be able seamen. To prevent the manning of ships wholly by Lascars, or Chinese, seventy-five per cent of the crew in each department must be able to understand the language of the officers of the ship. Firemen, the hardest worked men of the crew, have three watches, which means an eight-hour day; the seamen stand two watches, or watch and watch. But the advantage most prized by the seamen, and the one that will be most far-reaching in restoring the flag and American seamen to the high seas, is the right to quit the ship when she is in port. The medieval idea of binding the workman to his work for a term of years has been abolished in country after country, until even Russia wiped out serfdom, and Mexico apologized for peonage. Yet during it all, and down to this very day, the seaman has remained bound to his ship; and if he quits his job when the vessel is safe in port, as all other workmen are privileged to do, the authorities seize him like a criminal, and put him aboard the ship.



It was this power of compulsory service that enabled shipmasters to keep down wages, and to render the seaman's life so hard that all but the lowest waged and most miserable men left the

sea. The crews were shipped in low-waged markets, and the men were compelled by the terms of their shipping papers to return to the point of shipping. But the new law relieves them of this handicap. A man can demand half his wages when the ship is in port, and he can quit—by sacrificing the rest of the money due him—without fear of being arrested, and compelled to sail with his ship. This will enable seamen coming from low wage countries to this country to quit the vessel when she reaches an American port, and refuse to go back until his wages have been raised to the American standard. The fact that the men can quit in this manner will compel ship masters to pay their crews decent wages, and when they do pay such wages they will select the best men in the labor market, which means raising the standard of seamanship. Treaties with foreign nations are to be amended in conformity with these provisions as rapidly as possible. This will put the American shipmasters, and foreign shipmasters entering American ports upon the same footing as to wages. And with the privilege of buying ships abroad there will remain no reason why American capital cannot meet the competition of foreign capital as successfully on the high seas as in any other free field.



There is one ugly feature, however, in the Seamen's bill. The public's wrongs still remain unredressed. As a matter of safety the seamen have contended for lifeboats for all, with a crew capable of placing at least two men of the rating of able seamen, or better, in each boat. The bill provides 75 per cent of life boats, and 25 per cent rafts for ships going twenty nautical miles from shore, which means the deep sea shipping. Vessels keeping within the twenty-mile limit must have 35 per cent life boats, and 35 per cent rafts; the remaining 30 per cent of the passengers and crew who may be deprived of their ship 20 miles from shore must trust to life preservers, or any old thing. Vessels operating on the Great Lakes must have 20 per cent of life boats, and 30 per cent of rafts—with 50 per cent of passengers and crew dependent upon a rabbit's foot. It may be an uncharitable thought, but it looks as though Congress had yielded to the demands of the seamen for the sake of the Labor vote; and that the safety provisions had been ignored because the general public was unorganized, while the shipping interests were. This, however, will doubtless be corrected when we have had a few disasters like the sinking of the Titanic. It is a heavy price to pay, but Congress seems determined to work for nothing

less. While the bill has been passed grudgingly, and is still short of what it should be, the public and the seamen may well congratulate themselves upon what has been done. The law wipes out the last great system of legalized involuntary service; and liberty has always proven to be good for the development of men.

s. o.



A Joke That Is Not Funny.

In reports of real estate during the past week is sale of a lot at 374 Fifth avenue, New York, for \$450,000 or at the rate of \$5,500,000 an acre. The owner who sold was a granddaughter of one William Astor who, in 1835, bought a farm of which this lot was a part, paying \$3,000 an acre. Mr. Astor was laughed at as a fool for paying such a price. It happens, however, that the joke was not on Mr. Astor nor on the person from whom he bought the farm. The joke in 1835 was on the people of New York who allowed a private individual to appropriate a value of \$3,000 an acre which they had created and which rightfully belonged to them. The joke today is on the present inhabitants of New York who are content to endure unemployment, poverty and distress, while values of \$5,500,000 created by them on a single acre, and of over five billions of dollars throughout the city are legally appropriated by a few favored individuals to whom they do not morally belong. But is it not a very tragic joke?

s. D.



Lack Courage of Their Convictions.

In the Wisconsin Legislature is pending the Nordman resolution to amend the constitution so that the legislature may allow home rule in taxation to local subdivisions of the state. Any locality under it may adopt any system of taxation it sees fit. The measure is favored by advocates of various systems of taxation, by Singletaxers like its author, Assemblyman Nordman, and by non-Singletaxers, such as Professor Adams of the University of Wisconsin. As is usually the case with a measure of this kind the opposition is based entirely on fear lest some locality should adopt the Singletax. One would naturally suppose that those opposed to the Singletax would be glad to furnish the opportunity for such a trial. Predicting all kinds of evils to follow adoption of the system and declaring the propaganda in its behalf to be hurtful they ought to welcome a demonstration which, without affecting other places than the one desiring it, would show the

truth of their predictions and would kill the propaganda for all time. But apparently these anti-Singletaxers lack the courage of their convictions. They don't want their forebodings put to the test of a practical demonstration, even by those willing to take chances. They want their arguments to be accepted on faith. But are they not themselves showing lack of faith?



One of these little-in-faith opponents, Assemblyman A. D. Campbell of Milwaukee, as reported in the Milwaukee Sentinel of February 26, declared that the amendment would make it harder for a beginner at farming "whose land would be taxed at as high a rate as that of the farmer who had good buildings and other improvements." In other words Mr. Campbell holds that agricultural communities in Wisconsin will adopt the Singletax, if given the chance, and that it will prove beneficial to the farmer who has improved his farm as it should be. That is a pretty liberal admission from an opponent, and it is no wonder that his faith is weak as to the alleged repelling effect of a trial of the system. Mr. Campbell's fears of the effect on the "beginner" ought to be removed when he considers that the beginner need but go to work and produce as good a crop on his farm as his neighbor to enjoy the same advantages. If he does not want to do that, would it not be a good thing all around if he made way for some other person who would be willing? Another objector, W. H. Hardy, Jr., of Waukesha, declares that settlers could not get money for development if the amendment were adopted. The disinterested nature of Mr. Hardy's position will not be questioned on noting that he is said to be holding a number of mortgages on northern Wisconsin land, a fact which makes him to all intents and purposes a large absentee landowner. Perhaps that is why he is more eager to present objections than to furnish the opportunity to prove or disprove them. Mr. Hardy overlooks the fact that he is asserting too much. No settler can borrow on his land at the present time any more than he has put into it and usually not as much. If the proposed amendment will make land too cheap to be good security for a loan, then the settler can get enough for his needs without any great outlay and will not need to borrow for development. Which is better for a settler: To pay a big price for land and go into debt to develop it, or to get the same land cheap and be able to develop it with his own money? Incidentally Mr. Hardy shows that the proposed amendment would

be an advantage to the "beginner," for whom his equally weak-in-faith brother, Campbell of Milwaukee, expresses such concern.



The faith of these objectors is like that of the ghost of comic vaudeville memory who sang a song declaring that a bullet could pass through him without injuring him, then quickly added:

But Oh! The experiment please do not try.

'Tis not that I fear for myself at all,

'Tis only for fear you will damage the wall.

S. D.



High Society.

President Wilson, speaking in behalf of Berea College, which was founded for the education of the mountaineers of Eastern Kentucky, emphasized a new phase of conservation. It is estimated that there are three million people in the mountains and hills of the South who, lacking education, are living the primitive, almost sterile, life of their ancestors who came to these wild mountain homes from British almshouses and debtor's prisons in the early colonial days. Rather than work for the slave-holding aristocracy of the South they pushed on into the wilderness where, though nature was niggard, she was yet kinder than a man-owner. They have maintained a high sense of honor and integrity, and are inefficient in the modern sense only through lack of education. Said the President:

What America has vindicated above all things else is that native ability has nothing to do with social origin. It is amusing sometimes to see the airs that high society gives itself. The world could dispense with high society, and never miss it. High society is for those who have stopped working.



Here also is work for the conservationist. Those who have stopped working need attention and assistance from a guiding mind, as much as those who have not learned to work. It is indeed a grievous thing that a large body of people, of the same blood and origin as the rest of the country, should be passed by, and left without the advantages of the accumulated wisdom of the world. But it is far more grievous that there should be some borne upon the current of progress, who should become so insensible to their opportunities and obligations that they should fail to see the harm they are doing to their fellow creatures. It is a pitiable thing that there should be American citizens tracing their native ancestry for many generations, so lacking in book learning as to be-

lieve the earth to be flat. But it is monstrous that there should be other citizens, of both old and new American lineage, who believe it morally right, and commercially expedient, for those who claim to own the earth to collect toll from these who use the earth. To believe that the earth is flat harms only the believer, and him not so very much; but to believe that the earth should be private property, in the sense that the product of a man's labor is property, is an injury to the human race. There is indeed a close connection between the idle members of high society, and the illiteracy of the mountaineers. The mountain people are not indifferent to education; but the meager substance that they have been able to draw from their unproductive fields has not warranted the employment of teachers. And the rest of the country has found that when the beneficiaries of special privilege have taken their toll, there remained too little to share with the mountaineers. But ways are being found by great hearted men and women to extend educational advantages to these people, and they are responding most eagerly. Hundreds of millions of dollars for the army and the navy, and Berea College pleading for voluntary subscriptions! It may be possible to find excuses for killing fellow beings in time of war; but how can we justify ourselves for neglecting our fellows in time of peace?

S. C.



Need of The Recall Demonstrated Again.

The constitutional right of free speech has been killed in New Jersey. This has not been done by legal enactment but through a decision of the Supreme Court of the State upholding the conviction and sentence of Patrick G. Quinlan. Quinlan was tried and convicted for some alleged remarks at a meeting of strikers in Paterson two years ago. Whether he actually said what he is charged with saying is entirely immaterial. It was not claimed that he libeled any one or in any way caused any one to be unlawfully injured. The case turned upon whether in the opinion of the judge and jury he should have said what he did. No speech is safe while officials are allowed the power to pass upon it in that way. In upholding this process the Supreme Court of the State has injured the public welfare far more than the most incendiary speaker could possibly have done. New Jersey badly needs the Recall of the Judiciary.

S. D.



Protection of Constitutional Rights.

Federal Judge Maurice H. Dooling of Cali-

ifornia has set a fine example for other judges to follow. In a recent case he condemned the entirely too common practice of arresting persons on suspicion, holding them for investigation and denying them the privilege of communicating with their friends. Judge Dooling declares this practice unconstitutional. Of course everyone knows that who has read the Constitution of the United States, even though not a lawyer. But so many judges have shown themselves reluctant to uphold constitutional rights of citizens that Judge Dooling's common sense action is looked upon as something remarkable. It is high time that the many frequent illegal acts of police authorities were judicially frowned upon. Arrests on suspicion without warrant, and holding of prisoners incommunicado are no greater violations of constitutional rights than the third degree, the assumed power to censor speeches, writings and plays, the practice of compelling delinquent poll taxpayers to work on the public roads and other abuses of various kinds. Judge Dooling has made a good beginning, but the good work should not stop there.

S. D.



Reversing Cause and Effect.

Those persons who were disappointed at the way the women voted at the Chicago primary, and imply by their comment a regret that they were allowed to vote at all, have failed to grasp the fundamental reason for woman suffrage. They have, as it were, put the cart before the horse, and are trying to go ahead backwards. It is but natural, under the circumstances, that they should stumble and cover themselves with confusion. To say that the women voted for the man of lesser morals, or for a "wide open" town, even if that were true, would in no way militate against their right to vote. The virtues of the officers chosen, and the wisdom of the government's policy is of but secondary importance. It is not so much a question of the effect of woman suffrage upon government, as of the effect of woman suffrage on women. Democracy does not mean necessarily a more efficient government, but it does mean a higher type of citizen. The benefits that society is to derive from universal suffrage may not come from woman's direct participation in present day politics. But the tendency of this political responsibility will be to strengthen her character, broaden her sympathies, and deepen her understanding. This higher type of woman will have a beneficial influence upon public opinion, and particularly upon the growing minds of children, who

are so immediately affected. To paraphrase Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes' statement that a child's education should begin with its grandparents, it may be said that the ideal state is to come through the development of the mothers of its unborn citizens.

S. C.



Election Disorder.

Newspapers that have regaled the American public with lurid accounts of disorders in Mexico used an extra amount of display type last week. "Members of two warring factions draw revolvers, and police wield clubs," "Riots in which revolvers were drawn, fist fights, wholesale arrests on charges of fraud, vote buying, and a short but bitter court battle characterized the voting," "Election day marked by general rioting, fighting at polling places tax the resources of the police department; stray shot hits girl," are headlines taken from some of the more conservative papers that treat of the recent election. In Mexico City? O, no; in Chicago. Had it been in Mexico City it would have demonstrated its citizens' incapacity for orderly government; but in Chicago it marked merely the exuberance of spirit of the citizens who participated in the primary election. S. C.



Hobson's Choice in Chicago.

With none but unworthy candidates to choose from at the primaries, Republican and Democratic voters of Chicago of course made bad selections. It required hair-splitting arguments for a thinking Democrat to explain his choice between Harrison and Sweitzer, or a thinking Republican to make clear why he had a preference between Olson and Thompson. Unless a strong third candidate shall develop the final choice will be between a Sullivan Democrat and a Lorimer Republican. The situation would not have been materially improved had the result brought on a contest between a Harrison Democrat and a Deneen Republican. As things are, the voters are at least spared the possibility of disappointment, certain to follow the election of a candidate who has much to say about superficial reforms and nothing to offer on fundamental matters.

S. D.



A Spoil of Office.

The political career of Carter H. Harrison probably came to an end with his defeat for re-nomination at the primaries on February 23. This career was remarkable for its wasted oppor-

tunities. Mayor Harrison was first elected in 1897 by progressive voters because he had given them to understand that he was one of them. But once installed in office he turned to the reactionaries and made peace with them. Perhaps he had the conventional politician's view that party harmony comes before principle. Perhaps he was shocked and surprised when he saw that the progressive element of his party had no desire for harmony obtained at the expense of principle. Though his double dealing and clever political trickery brought to him three successive re-elections and, after an interval a fourth re-election, yet his very success made more prominent the means by which it was obtained, and prevented him from becoming anything more than an ordinary local politician. The hope he had entertained of becoming prominent in national politics and of even becoming a presidential candidate came to naught. There were Democrats throughout the nation, in sympathy with John P. Altgeld, who let it be known that Harrison's treachery to democracy in Chicago made him intolerable, and the politically wise Democratic politicians heard and heeded. Harrison goes out of office with no act to his credit that has tended to make Chicago in any way a better city. There is nothing to show that in all his five terms as Mayor he has done anything to crystallize public sentiment in favor of any great principle. He goes into private life to be forgotten. What does it profit a man to gain political office through sacrifice of principle?



While Carter Harrison was so using the honors he had obtained to earn general contempt, a mayor of another city was demonstrating how an official devoted to principle may show himself worthy of the trust reposed in him. Tom L. Johnson served the city of Cleveland as mayor for four successive terms. Elected because he stood for true democratic principles, Johnson made his official conduct conform to these principles. Undaunted by the terrible fight made against him by predatory interests he waged a nine years' war regardless of how his political prospects might be affected. He won again and again even though he disregarded considerations of political expediency, whenever they came in conflict with principle. When finally defeated for a fifth term he left office with the knowledge that he had made Cleveland a better city. His services were well described by Edmund Vance Cooke:

He found us, striving each his selfish part,
He leaves a City with a Civic Heart,

Which gives the fortune-fallen a new birth
And reunites him with his Mother Earth.
Which seeks to look beyond the broken law
To find the broken life, and mend its flaw.

His memory today is revered, not alone in Cleveland, but throughout the nation and even beyond. It is a proud distinction to a mayor of any city to be recognized as "a Tom Johnson mayor."



What Tom L. Johnson was to Cleveland, Carter H. Harrison might have been to Chicago. But, lacking Johnson's vision, he let the opportunity pass. "I must go out with my work unfinished," he is reported to have said. He might have made his statement even stronger. He goes out after five terms with his work not even begun, and with no visible effort made to begin it. Tom Johnson also left office with his work unfinished. That was his misfortune and Cleveland's fault. Carter Harrison leaves office with his work not begun. That is his fault and Chicago's misfortune. Such opportunity for service came to Harrison as came to Johnson. He deliberately rejected it and in so doing, automatically rejected also the opportunity to be remembered, respected and venerated as are Johnson and Altgeld. He passes out of public life an object of pity.

S. D.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

LOUIS WALLIS' BALTIMORE CAMPAIGN.

Baltimore, Feb. 25, 1915.

Singletaxers and church people have worked in harmony to a common end in Baltimore in connection with the recent visit of Louis Wallis. What has been needed for some time in our movement is a line of thought which would interest religious people in the social problem on their own ground, and then lead into the singletax field. This purpose is attained by Mr. Wallis through an address which gives a popular statement of his book "Sociological Study of the Bible." He takes the modern "higher criticism" of the universities, showing that the Church originated along the line of warfare between Freedom and Privilege, and that it must come out on the side of Justice and Liberty.

Mr. Wallis shows that the development of the church traverses three periods of struggle between democracy and aristocracy: (1) A war between Jehovahism and Baalism, in which the principle of monotheism triumphs over the worship of many gods, and signalizes the first great victory of popular freedom in the history of the world. The Hebrew nation arose at the point of assimilation between the Israelite clans of the desert and the Amorite cities of Canaan. Jehovah, or "Yahweh," turns out to have been a local, tribal deity, representing the justice and brotherhood which always prevails among des-

ert wanderers. The Amorite Baal represented the principle of graft and special privilege. The struggle between these gods was a warfare between the monopolists and the oppressed peasantry. (2) In the second chapter of the evolution of the church, the fight revolves around the question how the One God, who has triumphed over the many gods of graft, is to be worshiped. Is religion primarily a matter of theological dogma, or of justice and righteousness? In our times dogma has been discredited and morality has triumphed over priestcraft, thus registering another victory for the people. (3) But we are now entering a new crisis. The evolution of religion has come to a center on the ground of justice, and a great struggle is coming on over the question whether justice is to be interpreted from the individual or the social point of view. Does God call merely for personal righteousness? Or, do the divine laws of justice reach deep down into the structure of human society? The struggle in the church today is between two different Gods, or rather, two different conceptions of God. The grafters and the conservatives hide behind the "individual" God. The radicals proclaim the God of social justice.

In conclusion Mr. Wallis points out that the Bible, as interpreted by modern scientific scholarship, will inevitably stand at the center of the greatest struggle for liberty that mankind has ever known.

This lecture is followed by an address on the Singletax. Mr. Wallis addressed nine audiences altogether in Baltimore, speaking in two pulpits on Sunday and making a most favorable impression everywhere. He certainly opens a whole new field for our propaganda, the importance of which can hardly be overestimated.

His visit here was arranged by Mr. William F. Cochran of this city who, though inclined toward Socialism, recognizes that the Singletax offers a practical and advanced step for human betterment.

CHARLES J. OGLE.



LITTLE ROCK EQUITABLE TAX ASSOCIATION.

Little Rock, Ark., March 1, 1915.

About eighty business men, representing Little Rock's largest jobbing, manufacturing, mercantile and professional interests have signified their approval of the Land Value Tax principle advocated by K. P. Alexander at a recent address before the Little Rock Science Club at the Chamber of Commerce parlors.

A meeting was called at the Marion Hotel last night, at which a number of business men were present. The tax plan was explained in detail and discussed by Chas. S. Stiff, Chas. T. Abeles, K. P. Alexander, J. H. Parkin, J. A. Tellier, Theo. M. Sanders, and others.

An organization was perfected with Chas. S. Stiff as temporary Chairman, and K. P. Alexander as temporary Secretary. The Association adopted the following, which was subscribed to by all present:

This Association is formed for the purpose of creating public sentiment toward justly equalizing taxable values and securing legislation which, by gradual changes in a period of three to five years, will relieve the products of

human industry from taxation at least 75 per cent of their true value. Household goods, evidences of debt and cash in bank to be exempt. Site values to be ultimately assessed at not less than 75 per cent of their selling value; the tax rate to be reduced as rapidly as conditions will warrant.

Adjournment was made subject to call of the Chairman, when permanent officers are to be elected.

It is affirmed by the Association that the adoption of this plan of taxation will result in very material increase of Little Rock's population, and prove of great advantage to the business and industrial interests of the city.

W. W.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

ENFORCEMENT OF BAD LAWS.

South Bend, Ind., February 22, 1915.

The Chicago Singletax Club in condemning the indictment of Julius Rosenwald takes the position that a bad law ought not to be enforced, but left like dead timber in the law's lumber-room. The Club doubts the practicability of such enforcement even from the standpoint of securing its repeal. Perhaps Pastoriza's way is the better one, but it must be true that the supposed inefficacy of enforcement as a means to repeal is due to the spasmodic manner in which the enforcement is made. If a bad law were enforced universally, there could be no question of its repeal, for as Edmund Burke once said, "You cannot indict a whole nation."

However, an historic example comes to my mind where the enforcement of a bad law in the case of a distinguished individual shocked the public conscience to demand a quick repeal. I refer to the murder of the venerable George Wythe, chancellor of Virginia, signer of the Declaration, teacher of presidents. He was poisoned by his great-nephew for his inheritance. The job was done by putting arsenic in the old gentleman's coffee. The only eye witness was a negro "mammy." At that time the law of Virginia rendered a slave an incompetent witness in a criminal case against a white man. When the case came to trial William Wirt, later Attorney General of the United States, was assigned for the defense. Public opinion, of course, cried to heaven for vengeance. After much agitation of conscience Wirt decided to enforce the bad law; he kept from the stand the sole witness for the Commonwealth and the murderer went free.

The result was the repeal of a very bad law.

The great audience of humanity is so constituted that the protagonists of liberty must stage their efforts with dramatic setting to secure their finest results. I do not despise the histrionic element in affairs. If the bad law had not been enforced at the trial of the murderer of Chancellor Wythe, scores of criminals would have gone free at less dramatic trials before Virginia awoke to its wrong.

Take courage, Julius Rosenwald! You are not the first to bear the cross alone.

SAMUEL B. PETTENGILL.



"The good critic is he who relates the adventures of his soul among masterpieces."—Anatole France.

SOCIALLY CREATED POVERTY.

Brooklyn, N. Y., Feb. 1, 1915.

The land is rich in the raw materials (elements) of wealth. Labor abounds with potential strength to produce abundantly for all. God gives to man potential dominion over an inexhaustible store-house of supply, and endows him with vision to discern the laws through which that vast reservoir of wealth may be unlocked for the benefit of all mankind. Under these circumstances is it not strange that a very large proportion of the human race is actually in want for the simple necessities of life?

Thousands of unoccupied houses, including those built with the people's money (schools and churches) and supposedly devoted to human welfare, stand empty and idle the greater part of the time, while thousands of families suffer for want of shelter. Millions of acres of land, including vacant lots in the most populous centres, capable of producing an abundance of food, are held in unprofitable idleness, while a large portion of the population languish for daily bread. Tools and equipment in numerous mines, factories and mills, scattered over the country, are being used to not more than one-half their maximum capacity, yet hundreds of thousands of homeless, hungry families are unable to procure the clothing and supplies which health and decency demand.

Possessing everything necessary to provide every man, woman and child with the greatest abundance of the necessities and comforts (not omitting the refinements) of life, why is it that nothing better than destitution and despair are the principal possessions of a majority of the human race?

Thoughtful men, everywhere, are agreed that society itself produces the poverty from which the human race suffers. It is slowly becoming apparent that society is not organized upon the basic principle of the good of all; hence its machinery does not operate for the common welfare. The social organization is planted upon the sordid basis of Greed and Grab, with special privileges, subsidies and monopolies for a few arrogant exploiters and despoilers of mankind, and it operates for their especial advantage. Poverty for the masses is the inevitable result.

Controlling the machinery of the social organization these powerful plunderers of the people lock up the elements of wealth, through crooked legislation, and close the doors of opportunity to labor. No thoughtful man can fail to perceive that the way to abolish poverty is for the people to directly control their own social organization, oust the freebooters of Privilege and Monopoly, remodel the social structure until it rests firmly upon the basic principle of impartial and impersonal justice, and place at the top of the arch of government the democratic key-note words "Free and Equal."

Mankind already possesses, in the ballot, the power; when will it acquire the common sense to abolish socially created poverty?

WILLIAM WALTER WHEATLY.



It is true that poverty brings out the best that is in men. But it brings it out by the roots.—Charles Tellier.

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, March 2, 1915.

Congressional Doings.

The conference report on the Seamen's bill was agreed to by the Senate on February 27. It only needs the President's signature now to become law. It puts an end to arrest and imprisonment for desertion. A number of regulations regarding the labor of men on board are also provided. It forbids the practice of sending stokers to work on deck after working in the heat of the stoke hole. Deck men must work in two shifts and stokers in three shifts. The life-boat provision varies with different classes of vessels. In ocean ships going more than 20 knots from land, boats must be provided for 75 per cent of those on board and rafts for 25 per cent. On ocean vessels within the 20 knot limit, lift boats need be provided for only 35 per cent of those on board and rafts for the same number. On lake vessels, life boats for 20 per cent and rafts for 30 per cent are all that are required. [See vol. xvii, p. 1230.]



The Senate on February 26 passed the naval appropriation bill providing for two battleships, and 21 submarines. The total appropriation is \$152,000,000. On February 27 the Senate agreed by 37 to 10 to the House proposal to make public whatever endorsements are submitted in behalf of an additional federal judge to be appointed in the Georgia district. On February 25 the Senate adopted as an amendment to the Agricultural appropriation bill a provision for direct government loans to farmers to the extent of \$10,000,000. This amendment was rejected in the House on March 1 by a vote of 237 to 89, and a substitute adopted providing for a system of farm loan associations formed in individual communities to make loans on farm mortgages at six per cent. [See vol. xvii, p. 491.]



A favorable report was made to the Senate on February 27 on four of the five appointments to the Trade Commission. The exception was George Rublee. [See current volume, page 205.]



The taking of testimony by the Congressional sub-committee investigating Judge Dayton came to an end at Washington on February 24. Upon the report of the sub-committee largely depends

whether impeachment proceedings will be instituted. [See current volume, page 205.]



Pottery Manufacturers Inefficient.

That American pottery plants are inefficient and that owners do not know the cost of production in their industry was announced in a report issued by Secretary of Commerce Redfield on February 23. The report is based on investigation following an announcement made by the United States Potters' Association that any reduction in prices following tariff reduction must be followed by cuts in wages. The tariff reduced duties but, the report says, for the first year under the new tariff importations increased less than \$500,000. The report finds as follows:

1. The potters of the United States are without adequate knowledge of the costs of production in their own industry.

2. Extreme costs of production were found in the different potteries of the United States. There were also large variations in earnings and profits.

3. Large differences in the cost of production between the potteries of the United States and those of Europe were found to exist. The general level of costs was considerably higher in the United States. In fact, the lowest cost of production in any American pottery exceeded that of the highest cost of production in any European pottery, except one establishment in Austria.

4. Competitive prices of American and foreign ware in the United States are not determined solely by the difference in cost of production at home and abroad. Other factors, including customs duties, transportation charges and incidental expenses are sufficient, as shown in the report to offset the difference in cost of production.

5. Many of the American potteries are poorly situated and the plants are badly arranged, owing to the haphazard character of their development. There are few American potteries that have thoroughly modern plants equipped throughout with up-to-date machinery.

6. In spite of the fact that the average wages paid in American potteries in the different occupations are higher than those paid in European potteries by from 90 to over 600 per cent, the labor cost per unit of product never shows so great a difference as 82 per cent (except in German china plants). This indicates the greater efficiency of American workmen.

7. The standard list upon which American potters base their selling price is absolute. It establishes for different articles selling prices that vary widely from the relative cost of production. Complete revision is necessary before American potters can intelligently sell their ware.

8. There is a distinct need for more scientific methods of production which can be brought about only by highly skilled instruction and more scientific research work.

9. Finally, this report has aimed to be constructive in its analysis of the pottery industry. There are means, and these have been pointed out, by which the cost of production may be materially re-

duced. And these costs must be reduced, not only that the American industry may compete with foreign products brought into this market, but in order that American products may compete in foreign markets.

[See vol. xvi, pp. 1034, 1043; vol. xvii, p. 1232.]



Canal Zone Employees Claim Unfair Treatment.

Government employees in the Canal zone whose compensation has hitherto included rent free use of dwellings, have been required by a recent Presidential order to pay rent hereafter. No increase in pay goes with this order, so that in effect it is a reduction of salaries. In protesting against this order the Canal men under date of February 15 have issued a statement presenting the facts as follows:

The Canal Zone is a government reservation, in which we are allowed to have no real property rights of any kind, no business opportunities, no vote and no voice in our government or civic life. Our quarters are barracks in a government reservation and not private homes.

We have no private rights in the quarters assigned to us such as we ordinarily enjoy in our homes in the States; we cannot make any alteration or change in the buildings, nor keep a cow, or horse, or have a stable of any kind near our quarters, nor keep chickens; nor gardens; nor have a settled home, as we must always move on when the government is through with our services. We are forced to adopt a communistic plan of living, which may be efficient in some ways, but is very irksome to free Americans.

The government monopolizes everything in the zone, including stores, amusements, sports, railroads, laundries, farms, houses and public utilities. We recognize the fact that this policy may be desirable from the government's standpoint, but it deprives us of personal rights and freedom of selection and patronage to which we are accustomed as Americans, and we feel that the government and not the employes of the canal should support and pay for the policy adopted for its own benefit.

The Panama Canal Act limits our wages to those paid by the government in the States, with not to exceed 25 per cent increase, which extra allowance (if it should be granted) is not sufficient to pay for the trips to the States which are necessary about once a year to maintain good health and to visit those from whom we have exiled ourselves.

Congress proposes to reward by promotions the officers of the Army and Navy. They have in many cases received for years on the Canal more than twice their regular pay; they are assured of life employment by the Government; have been educated at the expense of the nation; and their services to the Canal are no more entitled to recognition than the services of the other Americans whose wages it is now proposed to reduce.

With the Government's policy of monopoly it is absolutely essential that quarters for the employes be provided. The quarters for the employes are as

much a part of the Canal plant as the locks or the stables for the mules.

Congress has appropriated money for the Army barracks and will appropriate more; but there is no intention of charging rent to the Army officers stationed here with the troops, who are not as necessary as the operating and maintenance forces and who are paid just as liberally for the work they do as the Canal forces.

Life down here is not as desirable as it appears to be to the tourist or Member of Congress who spends a week here and sees only the palm trees, the tropic moon, the picturesque but dirty pickaninnies, and the Canal we have built. It all possesses a glamour for a week or two, but when boat after boat goes back to the States without you the glamour fades.

[See current volume, pages 134, 206.]



Labor News.

An emergency employment act passed the Idaho House of Representatives on February 19, after passing the Senate. If signed by the Governor it will allow any unemployed citizen of Idaho to apply for emergency employment to the County Commissioners of the county in which he resides. He must swear that he is an American citizen who has lived in the State at least six months. The County Commissioners must then employ him on the public highways or on any other work they may see fit. Eight hours will constitute a day's work and he shall be paid if a married man no less than 90 per cent of the customary wage for work of the same kind in the district. If unmarried and without dependents, he need be paid no more than 75 per cent of the usual wage. No person will be entitled to more than 90 days employment in any year. The bill was introduced and championed by Senator Earl W. Bowman, Socialist.



A strike of sugar cane workers in Porto Rico is spreading throughout the island, and the planters organized as the Sugar Producers' Association have demanded 200 extra policemen of Governor Yager to prevent disorder. Several fires have been charged by the association to the strikers. The strikers complain that they can earn but forty to forty-five cents for a day's work of fifteen hours. They demand a minimum wage of one dollar for a nine-hour-day. Complaint is also made of operation by the planters of "pluck me" stores. Housing conditions are said to be so that families of ten and twelve live in one room. Cigar makers and tobacco workers have struck in sympathy in some sections. These have also complaints of their own. Women and girls are said to work from twelve to fourteen hours for from 30 to 40 cents a day.



The recent strike in the Colorado coal fields cost the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company approxi-

mately \$1,250,000 according to a statement issued on February 25 by President Jesse F. Welborn. [See vol. xvii, p. 1211; current volume, page 59.]



The National Women's Trade Union League of America has issued a call for the fifth biennial convention to be held in New York City beginning June 7, 1915, at 43 East Twenty-second street.

The call signed by Margaret Dreier Robins, president, and S. M. Franklin, secretary-treasurer, states the purpose as follows:

The facts of women in industry have everywhere to be met with increasing knowledge if we are to achieve an efficient industrial democracy in the United States.

The calamitous effects of the terrible European war are being felt in more or less degree in every civilized country. The United States is always suffering through the dislocation of industry following upon the partial suspension of the world markets. The problem of unemployment is flinging us a sterner challenge and this condition of workers idle brings into bold outline the effects of unorganized women in industry. The danger of women being used as underbidders in an increasing number of trades must be squarely faced. There is only one woman among the hundreds of thousands forced to earn a living by grim economic pressure who will refuse to take the place of a man for lower wages. This is the organized woman, who recognizes the fundamental necessity of standing with men in the demand for equal pay for equal work.

And so the duty of the hour urgently demands that every affiliated organization be represented by its most experienced, thoughtful and faithful members who will bring to this pressing question of the trade union organization of women a rallying spirit of courage, faith in the future and common sense.

The national headquarters of the League are at 1644 Unity Building, Chicago.



Tax Reform News.

The case of the Harris County Taxpayers' Association against the city of Houston, Texas, came up before the District Court in that city on February 22. The complainants wish to compel the city to abolish the Houston plan of taxation instituted by Tax Commissioner Pastoriza, and to go back to old methods. Objection was made to the intervening petition of H. F. Ring which demanded literal enforcement of the law. In objecting to the intervention the attorney for complainants, W. H. Wilson, said: "No single taxpayer wants the law obeyed; what they seek is a way to break the law. No single taxpayer should ever have the nerve to look a judge in the face and tell him he wants the law of taxation or anything else really enforced. What he really wants is to seek the court from enforcing the laws of the constitution." Judge Read, presiding in the case, temporarily ruled out the intervention of Mr. Ring, but said he would keep open

the question of refileing until several questions are considered. Mr. Ring will appeal if permanently excluded. [See current volume, page 182.]



Objection to an increase in the tax rate proposed by Mayor Curley of Boston was offered on February 14 by former Mayor Fitzgerald. Mr. Fitzgerald showed how the present tax rate is burdening merchants and business men and that the proposed \$2 raise would prove in many cases the last straw. His own idea as to how the situation should be met was as follows:

Roughly speaking, the property on Washington street between Boylston and School streets has increased in value more than \$200,000,000 during the last ten years, due to the activities of the public, the subway, for instance, and the use of the public moneys. The property owners have done absolutely nothing toward increasing their property worth. The lessees of the properties have paid the increased taxes. Now, I believe in a tax on unearned increment. I would force the property owners to pay into the city treasury a certain part of the amount their property values have increased. For instance, if a piece of property worth \$400,000 ten years ago is now worth \$500,000, I would make the owner, who has done nothing to earn that \$100,000 profit, pay the city \$25,000.

Mr. Fitzgerald said he had made the same proposition to the finance commissioners three years ago and was turned down. [See vol. xv, p. 1160, current volume xvii, pp. 86, 220.]



Senator Arnold, Socialist, has introduced a bill in the Wisconsin Senate providing for the gradual reduction of the valuation of personal property and improvement on real estate at the rate of 20 per cent for a period of five years so that in 1922 there would be only a direct tax on land value. Senator Arnold also introduced a bill doubling the amount collectible on the income tax and tripling the amount to be received by the State inheritance tax.



A bill introduced in the Colorado Legislature allows affirmation to be made instead of oath in returning personal property for taxation. The argument advanced by the member introducing it, Rev. Mr. Green, is as follows:

Long experience has shown that many persons have no conscientious scruples against taking and subscribing to the oath subjoined to tax schedules and that many religious and other persons have scruples in such matters. They furthermore feel that in their civil and business relations the state should not appeal to the religious motives behind their acts to their disadvantage. They, therefore, feel that all taxpayers should be placed on an equal moral and religious basis in listing property for taxation. But few people know that they have a right under the law to erase and interline their affirmation

into our present form of tax schedules and they feel that the law requires them to call upon God to witness the truth of the statements they make. The tax returns show that religious people are thereby placed at a great disadvantage with their unscrupulous business rivals. Therefore, they think this bill should be enacted into law.



High Rents Prevent Sanitary Bakeries.

A ruling of the Pennsylvania State Department of Labor forbidding the opening of bakeshops in cellars at locations not so occupied before has brought protests from the bakers in Philadelphia, whose case it states as follows:

"Virtually 80 per cent of the bakers are doing business in rented properties. One readily can see that it will put us at the mercy of the landlords. If a man has expended \$1,500 on his cellar bakery and is forced to pay an exorbitant rent, there is only one thing for him to do, and that is quit the property. Where can he go? It will be impossible for him to open another cellar bakery and impossible for him to pay the high rents asked for stores large enough to install ovens and other facilities needed."



Fighting Comstockery in New York.

An appeal to the public in behalf of a free press and personal liberty has been issued by the Free Speech League on account of the arrest in New York City of William Sanger, whose case is set for trial on March 15. A jury trial is being applied for. The appeal follows in part:

"Comstockery" has been called by Bernard Shaw "the world's standing joke at the expense of the United States," and the latest Comstock case more than sustains the force of this characterization. Only it should be added that "Comstockery" has become more than a joke. It is a shame and an outrage, and it involves a violation of the most elementary rights of American citizenship, guaranteed by the National and State Constitutions.

On December 19, 1914, there came to the studio of William Sanger, at 10 East 15th street, New York, a certain Charles Bamberger, who introduced himself under a false name and who claimed to be interested in the writings of Margaret Sanger. He stated that he had received two of her books, "What Every Girl Should Know," and "What Every Mother Should Know," and he asked for a pamphlet she had written, entitled "Family Limitation." Mr. Sanger hesitated a moment. He had never before given to any one a copy of this pamphlet. There had been an understanding between himself and his wife that she was to carry on her work independently of him. Nevertheless, since the visitor seemed to be an honest inquirer, Mr. Sanger looked through a package of Mrs. Sanger's papers, found a copy of "Family Limitation" and gave it to the man.

Bamberger turned out to be an agent of Anthony Comstock's. On January 19, 1915, he appeared again, this time in company with Comstock. The latter carried a warrant calling for Mr. Sanger's arrest on

the ground that he had circulated "obscene, lewd and lascivious" literature. He also carried a search warrant and proceeded to open Mr. Sanger's desk, and to confiscate certain of his papers.

Mr. Sanger was brought before Magistrate Freschi and held in jail over night under \$500 bail. On February 2 he was arraigned before Magistrate Breen, who sent the case to Special Sessions. Mr. Sanger will demand a jury trial. His case is being handled in the courts by Gilbert E. Roe.

The Free Speech League holds that the arrest of Mr. Sanger should be resented by every fair-minded man and woman. Anthony Comstock, self-appointed censor of our morals, backed by governmental authority, appears once more as a man who is ready to steal upon his victims like a thief in the night and use any weapon, however dirty, to accomplish his purpose. He may have a "case", in the present instance, from the viewpoint of our absurd and antiquated laws, or he may not; but he has no case whatever in the real Court of Reason.

America is now almost the only civilized country in which it is "against the law" to discuss the most vital and important sex questions. . . .

Margaret Sanger deserves great credit for the work she has done as educator and agitator in this field. Her husband has—as it happens, unwittingly—raised an issue of immense importance. Though he gave the pamphlet out only once, he gave it in good faith and he believes in it. He does not think it is "obscene" or "lewd" in any way.

He desires to defend his right to do what he did. If he is successful, the importance of the victory cannot be overestimated. If he is unsuccessful, he must pay the penalty, but the larger public will have learned of the despotism under which it lives.

The Sanger case involves much more than Mr. Sanger and his wife. It involves broad social questions. It involves the issues of personal liberty and of a free press. It raises squarely the questions: How much longer will liberty-loving men and women submit to "Comstockery"? How much longer will Comstock be given the right to pry into the most private affairs of men and women, and determine what they shall and shall not read?

If you are interested in these questions, this is your fight. The time to fight is now. If you want to help, communicate at once with the President of the Free Speech League, Leonard D. Abbott, 241 East 201st Street, New York City.

THE FREE SPEECH LEAGUE. Theodore Schroeder, Bolton Hall, Lincoln Steffens, Hutchins Hapgood, Leonard D. Abbott, Chairman; Stella Comyn, Secretary.

[See current volume, pages 16, 101, 174.]



Quinlan Denied a New Trial.

The Supreme Court of New Jersey on February 26 refused to order a new trial for Patrick L. Quinlan, convicted in 1913 at Paterson of inciting to riot. Quinlan had addressed a meeting of strikers and his words were construed to mean that he wished his hearers to attack a mill and pull out the non-union workers by force. He was sentenced to serve from two to seven years in the

penitentiary. Unless some Federal question can be found he will have to serve sentence. [See vol. xvi, p. 682, 731.]



Chicago Primaries.

Primaries to nominate candidates for mayor and other city officials were held in Chicago on February 23. Robert Sweitzer, an adherent of Roger Sullivan, was nominated to head the Democratic ticket; William Hale Thompson, a former Lorimer follower, was made Republican nominee. Sweitzer received over 87,000 plurality over his principal opponent, Mayor Carter H. Harrison. Thompson received 2,508 plurality over his chief opponent, Judge Harry Olson. None of the candidates presented any other than superficial issues. Mayor Harrison asked indorsement of his administration, which his opponent, Sweitzer, denounced as inefficient. Judge Olson's nomination was urged by a coterie which wished a non-partisan fusion of Republicans and Progressives. Judge Olson's platform was of the usual good government kind and, like the others, was silent concerning practical ways of handling the street railway situation, the local tax situation, or the pending forfeiture of the Automatic Telephone plant. William Hale Thompson placed stress on his advocacy of public playgrounds. Anonymous circulars were sent by friends of all candidates designed to appeal to religious and national prejudices of voters. Whether this was done with the knowledge and approval of the candidates is not known.



Peace Convention.

The national conference of the Emergency Peace Federation was held in Chicago at the Hotel La Salle on February 26 and 27. It resulted in formation of the National Peace Federation. Jane Addams was chosen permanent president, and Louis P. Lochner of Chicago permanent secretary. President Wilson's neutrality policy was endorsed and the calling of a conference of the neutral nations of the world was urged to form a court of mediation. [See current volume, pages 110, 157.]



The European War.

Once more the seemingly irresistible German tide that swept the Russians out of East Prussia has apparently come to a stand. When the Russians had been pressed back to their fortified positions on the Niemen River they checked the German rush, and began to recover some of their lost positions. The German forces in front of Warsaw have made no progress, and the drive from the northern part of Poland appears to be losing its force. In Galicia also the Russians appear to be holding in check the Austro-German forces. Little change is to be noted along the en-

trenched line in Belgium and Northern France.
[See current volume, page 202.]



The fleet of the Allies has succeeded in entering the Dardanelles. The forts at the Aegean entrance have been silenced, and the minesweepers have cleared the channel for the advance on the second series of forts. No serious damage has been done to the ships. Constantinople is reported to be panic stricken. The Sultan is moving his harem to Broussa, a city of 77,000, at the foot of Mt. Olympus in Asia Minor, a short distance south of the Sea of Marmora. It is confidently expected that the fleet will succeed in making its way through to the Black Sea, and so opening the way to Russian wheat and troops to western Europe.



The ship *Dacia*, of the Hamburg-American Line, bought by an American citizen, and transferred to the American flag, and loaded with cotton for Germany, was seized by a French warship and taken to Brest, France. This has been looked upon as a test case to determine whether the American registry of German ships, bought since the breaking out of the war would be recognized by Great Britain. The fact that the *Dacia* was taken by a French, instead of a British ship shows that the Allies are in accord in denying this right. No action as yet has been taken by the American government.



The notes of the Washington Government to the German and the British governments in regard to the establishment of the war zone and the interruption of neutral commerce have not been made public. They are supposed to have contained proposals looking to an amicable settlement. The German reply has been delivered to the American Ambassador at Berlin, but has not been made public. Great Britain and France have indirectly answered the American note by announcing to the Washington government an embargo on all shipments to and from Germany, and the intention of the Allies to seize all neutral ships found engaged in such commerce.



Following is the text of the Anglo-French note presented to the United States on the 1st:

Germany has declared that the English Channel, the north and west coasts of France, and the waters around the British Isles are a war area, and has officially notified that all enemy ships found in that area will be destroyed and that neutral vessels may be exposed to danger.

This is in effect a claim to torpedo at sight, without regard to the safety of the crew or passengers, any merchant vessel under any flag.

As it is not in the power of the German admiralty to maintain any surface craft in these waters, this

attack can only be delivered by submarine agency.

The law and custom of nations in regard to attacks on commerce have always presumed that the first duty of the captor of a merchant vessel is to bring it before a prize court, where it may be tried, where the regularity of the capture may be challenged, and where neutrals may recover their cargoes. The sinking of prizes is in itself a questionable act, to be resorted to only in extraordinary circumstances and after provision has been made for the safety of all the crew or passengers.

If there are passengers on board, the responsibility for discriminating between neutral and enemy vessels and between neutral and enemy cargo obviously rests with the attacking ship, whose duty it is to verify the status and character of the vessel and cargo and to preserve all papers before sinking or even capturing it.

So also is the humane duty of providing for the safety of the crews of merchant vessels, whether neutral or enemy, an obligation upon every belligerent.

It is upon this basis that all previous discussions of the law for regulating warfare at sea have proceeded.

A German submarine, however, fulfills none of these obligations; she enjoys no local command of the waters in which she operates; she does not take her captures within the jurisdiction of a prize court; she carries no prize crew which she can put on board a prize; she uses no effective means of discriminating between a neutral and an enemy vessel; she does not receive on board for safety the crew and passengers of the vessel she sinks.

Her methods of warfare are therefore entirely outside the scope of any of the international instruments regulating operations against commerce in time of war.

The German declaration substitutes indiscriminate destruction for regulated capture.

Germany is adopting these methods against peaceful traders and noncombatant crews with the avowed object of preventing commodities of all kinds, including food for the civil population, from reaching or leaving the British Isles or northern France.

Her opponents are, therefore, driven to frame retaliatory measures in order in their turn to prevent commodities of any kind from reaching or leaving Germany.

These measures will, however, be enforced by the British and French Governments without risk to neutral ship or to neutral or noncombatant life and in strict observance of the dictates of humanity.

The British and French governments will, therefore, hold themselves free to detain and take into port ships carrying goods of presumed enemy destination, ownership or origin.

It is not intended to confiscate such vessels or cargoes unless they would otherwise be liable to condemnation.

The treatment of vessels and cargoes which have sailed before this date will not be affected.



China and Japan.

Negotiations between the Japanese and Chinese governments have resulted in the withdrawal by Japan of the more objectionable of her demands.

These include the demand that China shall consult Japan on the employment of foreign advisers in political, military and financial matters; that China and Japan jointly police the important places of China; that China purchase half its arms and ammunition in Japan, and employ Japanese experts and materials in Chinese arsenals; that Japan shall have special privileges in railroad construction, shipbuilding, mining, and harbor improvements; that Japan shall have the same rights as other countries in establishing missions, schools, and hospitals. This leaves for discussion the twelve demands that China had already agreed to consider. It is supposed that some compromise agreement will result. [See current volume, page 202.]



Mexico.

Protests of foreign representatives in Mexico, against the special tax of 20,000,000 pesos (\$10,000,000) levied by General Obregon on the business men of Mexico City for the relief of the poor, became so strong that the part falling upon foreigners has been remitted. General Obregon became bitter in his denunciations of those who were slow to pay, and warned them that "the revolution has just begun." Reports and rumors of military activities in various parts of the country continue, but nothing decisive seems to have taken place. [See current volume, page 202.]

NEWS NOTES

—The New York Court of Appeals upheld on February 25 the state law prohibiting employment of aliens on public works.

—The woman suffrage bill which passed the House of the Vermont legislature was defeated in the Senate on February 24. [See current volume, page 205.]

—An attempt to arrest Chief Tse Ne Gat of the Plute Indians near Bluff, Utah, on a murder charge, resulted in an uprising in the early part of February. No serious results have yet occurred.

—Governor Kendrick of Wyoming signed on February 27 the mothers' pension bill passed by the Legislature. Mothers with but one child under fourteen will receive \$20 a month. Those with more will get \$10 a month for each additional child. [See vol. xvi. p. 684.]

—Rather than submit to vaccination Lieutenant Samuel Peacock of the coast guard ship Miami sent in his resignation to the Secretary of the Navy, Daniels, on February 27. He declared that he did not wish to submit to an infringement on his individual constitutional rights.

—The New York State Public Service Commission February 27 fixed \$82,000,000 as the total value of the property of the New York Telephone Company, and eight per cent thereon as a fair return. The company was asked to submit a new schedule of rates

which would bring its net earnings down to that basis.

—A demurrer to the suit to dissolve the Fairhope Singletax Corporation was overruled in the Chancery Court at Mobile on February 17. The Corporation has 30 days in which to appeal. At a meeting of the members of the corporation on February 20 it was unanimously decided to take the matter to the Supreme Court.

—At the recent opening of the parliament of the Union of South Africa, the guard of honor for the new British governor was composed entirely of burghers in khaki. British soldiers have hitherto performed this duty. General Botha, who is still at the front, reports making progress through German Southwest Africa. [See vol. xvii, p. 1205.]

—Prohibition goes into effect in Iowa on January 1, Governor Clarke having signed on February 25 the bill repealing the mulct law. Governor Alexander of Idaho signed on March 1 the state-wide prohibition bill which goes into effect on January 1. Governor Hammond of Minnesota through his signature made a law the county option bill. The Utah House passed on March 1 a state-wide prohibition bill which has already passed the Senate and now goes to the Governor.

—A bill of particulars was filed on February 27 by Theodore Roosevelt in his defense in the libel suit brought against him by William Barnes Jr. The bill was filed in answer to a demand by Mr. Barnes for a specification "of the several matters in regard to which the administration of the state government of New York has been inefficient, wasteful and in some instances corrupt." Mr. Roosevelt cites editorials in Mr. Barnes' paper and statements in the Republican platform charging the Democrats with gross abuses. He then declares that from 1898 to 1914 there has been co-operation between the Democratic and Republican organizations. [See vol. xvii, p. 1165.]

—The United States Supreme Court on February 23 upheld President Taft's withdrawal of oil land in 1909 in California and Wyoming, thus reversing a contrary decision of Judge Dooling of California. Other decisions rendered on the same day uphold railroad corporations in refusing the Interstate Commerce Commission access to their correspondence, uphold the California eight-hour law for women, uphold the Interstate Commerce Commission in according damages to shippers for unfair rates and discriminations, uphold the power of states to censor moving picture films and uphold a law of the state of Washington which forbids editions of any paper "tending to encourage disrespect for the law." [See vol. xvii, pp. 541, 556, 1210.]

PRESS OPINIONS

Unfair Publicity Methods.

Chicago Evening Post, February 26.—A pamphlet labeled "Minimum Wage" is laid on our desk. We pick it up with interest, which is keenly increased when we read the subtitle: "In Debate at the Annual Dinner of the National Retail Dry Goods Association, Hotel Knickerbocker, New York, Feb. 10,

1915, between Mr. Norman Hapgood of New York (Affirmative) and Mr. Rome G. Brown of Minneapolis (Negative)." But interest falls when we read the final title: "Negative Argument by Mr. Brown." We are glad enough to get any good negative argument on any of the "social justice" moves of the present day. It braces up the cause by making it face the test of criticism. But a debate is a debate. If we are going to hear any of it, we ought to hear it all. To hear one side only is not merely unfair but utterly unintelligent. We have not the remotest idea who sent us "Negative Argument by Mr. Brown," but we have not the remotest intention of reading it until the same unknown sends us "Affirmative Argument by Mr. Hapgood." These United States have passed by the time when they were interested in hearing but one side of any question.



European Murders Won't Overshadow Domestic Issues.

The Times-Star (Cincinnati), Feb. 27.—There has been some talk of a combination of German-Americans for political action against any candidate whose attitude does not seem to the members of the combination sufficiently friendly to Germany's cause in the European war. It is said that President Wilson is to be opposed on account of his recent diplomatic activities. Within the past few days the claim has been made that the defeat of Carter Harrison in the Chicago primaries was due to opposition growing out of the problems of the European war. This talk of massed political action by German-Americans is more or less vague. . . . It probably could not enlist the support of more than a comparatively small minority of the Americans of German blood in the United States; and if put into effect it would inevitably bring results the exact opposite of those expected by its promoters. It is very certain that a large majority of the voters of this country would object to voting on election day on any other basis than that of their duties and views as Americans. Of course, it is possible that a few people who have been very deeply stirred by the events of the past six months in Europe might take kindly to the idea of running American politics on a European war basis. But as soon as it became clear that a considerable number of voters meant to act in this way, support would come to the attacked official from other sources and in the end he would be, not the loser, but the gainer by the agitation.

RELATED THINGS
CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

TODAY IS MINE, I AM TODAY.

For The Public.

Thinking much, desiring much to know, I reach out with my strength and try to stop the stream of Time—that ancient river—
For the blue mountains say to me, Only Today is for you, and the stars in the night tell me that I am only for the Present.

But whether sleeping under the June sky, or walking on the October mountains I say to myself
—Yesterday was my Father!

And so rejoicing, I do good work thinking that Tomorrow is my child—the son of my body, and the flower of my mind.

So it shall be in the Earth, for it is written in the Book of Life.

EDMOND FONTAINE.



CHRISTIAN ETHICS AND THE LAND QUESTION.

A lay sermon for the readers of The Public.

A science as distinguished from an art, is a statement of the sequences and uniformities which we generalize as laws of nature. A science properly so called simply generalizes from groups of observed facts and formulates them as laws or first principles. An art on the other hand is a statement of human achievements, actual or possible, based upon one of the sciences. Thus astronomy is a pure science, being a statement of the laws by which the heavenly bodies seem to move; meteorology is a science being a statement of the laws which determine climatic conditions; and navigation is an art based upon these two sciences. Mechanics is a science which treats of the laws governing bodies in motion and at rest, and engineering is the human art based upon it. Similarly we may define political economy as a statement of the natural laws by which wealth is produced and tends to distribute itself; and politics as the human art of government based upon this science.

Much confusion of thought seems to have been caused by the failure to preserve a clear distinction between the areas covered respectively by the sciences, and the arts which are founded upon them, and the confusion has been greatest in the case of the science of political economy and the art of government. The orthodox economists, while professing to define the natural laws governing the production and distribution of wealth, started their observations at a point where natural law had already been interfered with. That is to say, they took a condition of things under which government had already conferred upon certain men the right to monopolize nature's bounty, to fence in the earth and dictate terms for its use; and assumed that to be natural. Starting from this basis of government-conferred monopoly (wrongly assumed to be a natural condition) the economists inevitably reached those melancholy conclusions which raised the righteous soul of Carlyle to a white heat of indignation against the whole tribe of logic-choppers and theory-grinders. "The tendency of wages to a minimum" was a necessary corollary to the assumption that certain members of the community were to be privi-

leged to control the access to nature's workshop and to levy toll upon the labor of those permitted to toil. That human labor should have to be regarded as a commodity, the price of which would determine itself in inverse ratio to the supply, was but another way of saying that laborers, being debarred the opportunity of employing themselves at nature's invitation, were compelled to offer their labor to the holders of the opportunities at the best price obtainable.

The definition of the terms of the so-called science of political economy has suffered serious confusion from the fundamental error referred to. As a general postulate, land and labor are rightly assumed to be the two primary factors in production, and the total product is called wealth, a portion of which being reserved for further production, is named capital. So far all is clear, but when we seek for intelligible definitions of those subject terms from the economic authorities the utmost confusion confronts us. Land, which in a scientific analysis ought to include everything not included in the other or human factor, is contracted in its scope to mean agricultural land only. Labor, which ought to include the totality of human activity of hand intellect and emotion, is narrowed to denote manual labor alone; and a variety of other terms are searched for by which to describe the higher manifestations of human energy, ability, skill and so on.

The definitions of the term "wealth" have been the most indefinite of all, and it is perhaps here that the greatest confusion has arisen. Some writers have included in the term "wealth" mines and natural resources which obviously belong to the first or passive factor in production, land. Some have made wealth to include slaves, who would require by that inclusion to be ruled out of the second factor, labor. Others have attempted to class as wealth special aptitudes or personal gifts, technical skill or inventive powers, evidently without noticing that logical consistency should have compelled them to include life itself in the category of wealth, and to say that a man is possessed of wealth in virtue of being alive instead of being dead.

It would be an ungrateful task to attempt to expose all the confusions and impossible positions into which economists have lodged themselves in their attempts to make the conclusions of their science square with, and justify, the actual facts of human society. The disrespect into which the science has fallen is almost pathetic, and the truth seems to be that political economy has entirely failed in its mission because of that initial error which has been referred to. Setting itself up as a science, it ought to have contented itself with expounding the few first principles or laws according to which men seek to satisfy their desires with the minimum expenditure of effort; it ought

to have dealt with natural laws only, as is the proper function of science; leaving it to the practical man, the man skilled in the art of government, to make the necessary allowance for all disturbances of natural law such as those caused by monopoly. This is the line followed by all true sciences. The theory of science of mechanics for example, ignores the fact of friction and leaves the difficulty of lubrication to be dealt with by the art of the engineer. It assumes forces acting under ideal conditions and takes no account of the resistance of atmosphere or the refractory nature of various metals.

Now, if the science of society had started its observations from a basis of natural law only, it is surely evident that it would have reached very different conclusions from those dismal ones with which we have become so familiar. And if those conclusions had not squared with existing facts it would then have been the business of the practical politician, the man skilled in the art of government, to find the cause of difference and provide the remedy.

This brings us within sight of the problem which to Christians ought to be the most vital and searching of questions. Is it, or is it not, in the very nature of things that increasing wealth and prosperity should be accompanied by struggle, poverty, unemployment, and destitution? Do the laws of God or nature work out to the dire results that face us in every city, in every country, under every political constitution whether republican, monarchial, free-trade or protectionist? Is it the will of the Lord of Hosts that the people should labor as in the fire or weary themselves for very vanity? On the answer we can find to this question will it depend whether we can continue to believe in the fatherhood of God or the brotherhood of man. The orthodox economist offers a reply in a kind of qualified affirmative, but the man of robust faith repudiates the economist's conclusions as a calumny upon the laws of God and proceeds to investigate the matter for himself.

We believe that a true science of society will vindicate the laws of nature as working out, when undisturbed by artificial law, towards absolute justice and equity. It will show us primitive man stimulated by hunger, applying his labor to land and reaping the product or wages of his labor, according to natural law. It will show us how, having by his exertions satisfied his first animal necessities of food and shelter, he undergoes a change or development of character. He develops new wants which in their turn require new exertions to satisfy them, and so he rises to successively higher planes with more complex needs, and greater capacity for meeting their demands; all in accordance with natural law. We shall see that with every new effort to satisfy his wants his productive power would increase, and

his natural wages would be raised. As Adam's muscles became stronger in delving, and Eve's fingers more nimble in spinning, the product of their labor would increase. Under natural law the tendency of nature's wages would always be towards a maximum. When the first capitalist-inventor presented his labor-saving delving machine and his patent spinning jenny, our Adam and Eve would require to be tempted away from the primitive spade and distaff by the offer of higher wages than self-employment would yield. Thus would set in the tendency of wages to a maximum. And all this would happen according to natural law, and is a simple deduction from the first postulate of a true political economy, *i. e.*, that men always seek to satisfy their desires with the least expenditure of effort.

With such a real science to guide us, should we not long ago have discovered that the cause of social distress and the downward tendency of wages, is to be found in monopoly of nature's bounty? Should we not have discovered that it is because some men have been permitted to fence in the earth and call it their own that others have to beg of their lordly fellow-worms for leave to toil? Would it not have become plain that this is the reason why landless men and manless land stand everywhere facing each other, why cold and starving human creatures and stores of food and clothing confront each other in a contrast that would be full of a grim humor were it not the most tragic, the most ungodly, and the most revolting spectacle that has ever been witnessed on our planet?

ALEX. MACKENDRICK.



THE FOLLY OF THE WISE ONES.

For The Public.

But ask now the beasts and they shall teach thee.—Job 12:7.

In an African thicket covered two jackals, sheltered from immediate danger, they crouched still lower with blinking eyes as the rattle of musquetry and the boom of cannon came to them over the distant landscape.

"Mother," said the young one, "what are those frightful noises?"

"My child," replied the old one muzzled with gray, and burdened with the experience of years of self-defense, "those are the ravings of the super animals."

"And what are they doing?"

"They are destroying each other for they are sick with the spasm of war."

"And why do they do these things?"

"We animals do not know," replied the aged one. "They build but to destroy. They sing strange songs of peace and slay like the lion.

Their work is the achievement of superfluous labor."

While they yet spake, the battle ceased.

'Twilight came on apace, and rapidly sank into the blackness of night.

Profound silence hovered over the field of battle.

"Come, my child," said the aged one, "let us gather the bones of their dead. Let us feast while their tired bodies sleep."

FREDERICK E. MAYER.



WAR'S DELUDED VICTIMS.

W. N. Ewer, in London Nation.

First Soul—

I was a peasant of the Polish plain;
I left my plow because the message ran:
Russia, in danger, needed every man
To save her from the Teuton; and was slain
I gave my life for freedom—this I know:
For those who bade me fight had told me so.

Second Soul—

I was a Tyrolese, a mountaineer;
I gladly left my mountain home to fight
Against the brutal, treacherous Muscovite;
And died in Poland on a Cossack spear.
I gave my life for freedom—this I know:
For those who bade me fight had told me so.

Third Soul—

I worked in Lyons at my weaver's loom,
When suddenly the Prussian despot hurled
His felon blow at France and at the world;
Then I went forth to Belgium and my doom.
I gave my life for freedom—this I know:
For those who bade me fight had told me so.

Fourth Soul—

I owned a vineyard by the wooded Main,
Until the Fatherland, begirt by foes
Lusting her downfall, called me, and I rose
Swift to the call—and died in fair Lorraine.
I gave my life for freedom—this I know:
For those who bade me fight had told me so.

Fifth Soul—

I worked in a great shipyard by the Clyde,
There came a sudden word of wars declared,
Of Belgium, peaceful, helpless, unprepared,
Asking our aid; I joined the ranks, and died.
I gave my life for freedom—this I know:
For those who bade me fight had told me so.



The whole system of a people crowing over its military triumphs had far better be dispensed with, both on account of the ill-blood that it helps to keep fermenting among the nations, and because it operates as an accumulative inducement to future generations to aim at a kind of glory, the gain of which has generally proved more ruinous than its loss.—Hawthorne (in "Our Old Home").

BOOKS

"FEMINISM."

What Women Want. By Beatrice Forbes-Robertson Hale. Published by Frederick A. Stokes Co., New York. 1914. Price, \$1.25 net.

Not since Olive Schreiner wrote "Woman and Labor" has there been published so valuable a book on "The Woman's Movement" as Mrs. Hale offers in her interpretation of "Feminism." The two books are not on the same plane of literary achievement. "Woman and Labor" was an original argument, eloquent, creative; "What Women Want" is merely an exposition, but clear and critical. It happens, however, that a competent and trustworthy explanation of "Feminism" is precisely what the American public longs for. Here is a fair-minded attempt to satisfy this demand—how successfully, it is for the public to judge. At least Mrs. Hale is brave enough to begin with a definition and to end with prophecy:

"Feminism is that part of the progress of democratic freedom which applies to women. . . . Democracy is the mother of Feminism, as it is of all the most beautiful aspirations of our day. . . . Woman could not be free under feudalism, under patriarchy, nor under priestcraft." The birth of Feminism "was in the ideal of individual liberty. . . . Its maturity is reached today, when the workers and the leisured women are uniting with each other and with men to demand for both sexes opportunities, not *equal* to those men already possess, but *greater than either have hitherto enjoyed*. Feminism only comes of age when it ceases to be Feminism, and becomes Humanism."

Mrs. Hale, actress-niece of Sir Johnstone Forbes-Robertson, English born and American resident, wife, mother, professional woman and working suffragist, is not only by experience apt for observation, but by talent fitted to write. Part One of her book, the history of woman's progress, and Part Two, the testimony borne by the arts to woman's rise, are related with a discriminating emphasis and brevity that leave the reader grateful for a new breadth and clearness of vision. Part Four is a happy prophecy. But it is Part Three that the American woman of today will care most to read—the author's outlook on present problems and their relation to the ideals of Feminism. Very optimistic, but wholly sane, are the writer's views for the most part. One's hope is that they are representative.

A. L. G.



There is time enough for everything in the course of the day, if you do but one thing at once; but there is not time enough in the year, if you will do two things at a time.—Lord Chesterfield.

THE ART OF TEACHING.

Natural Education. By Winifred Sackville Stoner. **Learning and Doing.** By Edgar James Smith. **The High School Age.** By Irving King. **The Child and His Spelling.** By W. A. Cook and M. V. O'Shea. Childhood and Youth Series, edited by M. V. O'Shea. Published by the Bobbs-Merrill Co., Indianapolis. 1914. Price, per volume, \$1.00 net.

In variety of study-subject, of child's age, of pedagogical problem considered, no other volumes of the Childhood and Youth Series which Professor O'Shea of Wisconsin is editing, can well differ more than the four in this group. They may, perhaps, therefore, be taken as fair examples of the large series planned and already partly published.



Unquestionably the most original contribution of the four and that of the widest appeal, is the story of Winifred Sackville Stoner, Jr.'s education by her mother from her first week until her tenth year. One may discount to the full in every possible way the miraculous results of the mother's methods as she relates them herself—the unusually bright, strong child of a remarkable mother, uncommon material advantages in healthful surroundings and travel, and so forth. But when one is all through, there remains an amazed admiration for this plan of education and an increased and sturdy doubt about the wisdom of the let-alone babyhood and the uncultivated early childhood of our American citizenry. "By the time that Winifred reached her fifth milestone she was able to express her thoughts in eight languages" and then she learned to speak, read and write Esperanto. "She learned to read at the age of sixteen months." "As I believe that next to the power to read, the ability to appreciate good music gives mortals the greatest pleasure, I began to teach Winifred something of musical sounds in the cradle. Her ears were trained to love good music by hearing it, and she learned to distinguish tones by means of the bells which were hung at the foot of her bed." Winifred's cradle was certainly a very busy spot in a most industrious room.

Next to entire lack of the fear of beginning too young the most noticeable part of Mrs. Stoner's method was her use of games in teaching. Anyone who knows children, knows their extreme fondness for games, and the constant and multifarious use of new and old, simple and elaborate games as teaching aids was a very practical and impressive part of this child's education. Many of the little plays are described in the book and will be welcomed into use by any wide-awake mother or teacher.



"Learning and Doing" is a common-sense talk

with teachers on the problems of the schoolroom, advising patient study of the children themselves and adaptation of curriculum to their natures as disclosed. The author makes a practical, reasonable answer to the "study for discipline" advocates. He says much about real efficiency in teaching the child how to study, about encouraging his versatility and remembering that "living" not "learning" is the child's main business.



Professor Irving King of the College of Education in the University of Iowa, contributes in "The High School Age," a brief study of the physiological period of adolescence with its accompanying mental traits, and a somewhat superficial discussion of how the high school may cope with the difficulties and take advantage of the benefits of this age.



The fourth volume, "The Child and His Spelling," although on a topic of almost universal concern, is safe reading for none but impeccably good, or hopelessly bad, spellers. All others open it at their own peril. They will see all their "wobbly" words gloriously misspelled; but the fun is almost worth the risk. The results of certain experiments are presented in analysed tables from which some major pedagogic conclusions are drawn. The great misspelling public, however—to its relief or its discouragement as temperament dictates—will be particularly interested in the "minor inferences" drawn: (1) the evil influence on spelling of those methods of teaching reading which delay too long the mastery of the alphabet, or direct attention too much away from the letters of words; (2) the disintegrating effect produced in one's own spelling by exposing to one the errors of others; (3) the disadvantage of a reflective attitude toward spelling; (4) the rareness of pure types of spellers, such as audiles or visualizers; (5) and the impropriety of dwelling long on syllabication after pronunciation has been worked out.

Part II of the book, however, is wholly worth an acquaintance. It contains three lists of words, gleaned from the written vocabularies of thirteen typical Americans. List I comprises 186 words used by all thirteen in their correspondence; List II is 577 words used by a majority of these same letter writers; and List III, 2,207 words used by more than one of them. Lists I and II should, in the author's opinion, "be thoroughly mastered by every elementary school pupil" with as much drill as possible in the higher grammar grades on List III.

Everyone knows there are three classes of spellers: (I) Those who do. (II) Those who don't. (III) Those who doubt. If only Professor O'Shea could reform the dictionary man, many,

perhaps most, of class III might climb into class I. If only our dictionaries, regardless of "rules for forming," would consent to *spell out in full all participles, past tenses and plurals!* That would be a happy day for many a teacher, pupil—and publisher of dictionary, too.

A. L. G.

BOOKS RECEIVED

—The Harbor. By Ernest Poole. Published by the Macmillan Co., New York. 1915. Price, \$1.40 net.

—The Audacious War. By Clarence W. Barron. Published by Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. 1915. Price, \$1.00 net.

—Carranza and Mexico. By Carlo de Fornaro. Published by Mitchell Kennerly, New York. 1915. Price, \$1.25 net.

—The New Map of Europe. 1911-1914. By Herbert Adams Gibbons. Published by the Century Co., New York. 1914. Price, \$2.00 net.

—Social Evolution. By Benjamin Kidd. New and revised edition. Published by the Macmillan Co., New York. 1915. Price, \$1.50 net.

—The Single Tax Index. Volume One, Number One. For the Quarter ending January 1, 1915. Issued quarterly. By Ralph Crosman, 121 Second St., San Francisco, Calif. 1915. Price, per number, \$1.

—Emile Durkheim's Contributions to Sociological Theory. By Charles Elmer Gehlke, Columbia University Studies, Whole Number 151: Longmans, Green & Co., Agents, New York. 1915. Price, \$1.50 net.

PAMPHLETS

War Cartoons from the Chicago Daily News. By L. D. Bradley, 1914. Price, 10 cents.

Exposure and Indictment of the Reading Combination. By Albert H. Walker, Floor 10, Park Row Bldg., New York.

Objections to a Compensated Dollar Answered. By Irving Fisher, Yale University. Reprinted from the American Economic Review.

The Town Hall of the Nation: Why Chicago Must Have a Municipal Auditorium. Published by the Local Division of the Chicago Association of Commerce. 1914.

A Uniform Classification of Accounts for Electric Utilities, ordered into effect January 1, 1915, by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. Published by the Commission, Columbus, Ohio.

Report of the Chicago Municipal Markets Commission on a Practical Plan for Relieving Destitution and Unemployment in the City of Chicago. Frederick Rex, Secretary, 1005 City Hall, Chicago.

PERIODICALS

Singletax Review.

The January-February number of The Singletax Review (150 Nassau St., New York) is full of in-

teresting news of the Singletax movement and of discussions which must enlighten the seeker for information and also prove helpful to the Singletax propagandist.



S. D.

A professor in a medical college had one exasperating student.

"You see, Mr. Smith," said the professor to this young man one day, "the subject of this diagram limps, because one of his legs is a trifle shorter than the other. Now, what should you do in such a case?"

"I should limp, too, I think, sir," replied the student, with an expression of perfect innocence on his face.—Tit-Bits.



"Now, Dorothy," said the teacher to a small pupil, "can you tell me what a panther is?"

"Yeth, ma'am," lisped Dorothy. "A panther ith a man that makths panths."—Chicago News.



Brown (on fishing trip)—Boys, the boat is sinking! Is there any one here who knows how to pray?

Jones (eagerly)—I do.

Brown—All right. You pray and the rest of us will put on lifebelts. They're one shy.—New York Globe.



"Have you anything to say before I pass sentence?"

"Yes, your honor. I would call your attention to the fact that the fool lawyer who defended me was assigned to the case by yourself."—Philadelphia Public Ledger.



"Mother," asked Tommy, "is it right to say that you 'water a horse' when he is thirsty?"

"Yes, my dear," said his mother.

"Well, then," said Tommy, picking up a saucer, "I'm going to milk the cat."—The Labor Clarion.



Voice from the Well—Help! Help!

Philanthropist—Be patient, my good man. Your case will be investigated, and, if found deserving, you will receive assistance in due course.—Life.

What Advertising in The Public Will Do.

R. C. Marr of Glasgow, Mo., by advertising exclusively in the Public, has a list of customers in Chicago, New York, Brooklyn, Providence, Pawtucket, Wakefield (Mass.), Cleveland, St. Louis, and other cities.

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Advertise in The Public

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washday mean to you? Standing all day, drudging over the washboard, rubbing the dirt out of your clothes, and boiling them to pieces; filling your house with steam and smell, and making yourself tired out? Or

Thirty minutes for the clothes to soak in cool or lukewarm water with Fels-Naptha Soap; a light rub with the hands, rinsing and hanging on the line in half the time, with less than half the trouble than ever before?

"Is Civilization a Disease?"

If the question were modified to "Is Patriotism a Disease?" most thinking people would promptly reply, "Certainly." As it stands—"Is Civilization a Disease?"—well, we wonder.

Dr. Stanton Colt

of London, England, one of the foremost lecturers of the Ethical Society, has taken this vital query as the subject of a lecture which he will deliver in Chicago, next Sunday evening, March 7.

People's Open Forum

Cor. Robey and Warren Ave., One Block North of Madison.
7:45 P. M.

Admission Free.

Questions from the Floor.

CHICAGO SINGLE TAX CLUB

SCHILLER BUILDING

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March 12—Rev. William E. Jones, "Human Values versus Land Values."

Freeland G. Stecker, "The Single Tax."

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E. J. Batten,
Business Secretary.