

rive while democracy does. He fought for democracy as courageously as any old time battlefield hero. That his were bloodless fights takes away nothing from the courage required to make them. It was the same old enemy he encountered, the same subtle and merciless enemy; and they met in the last entrenchment of Privilege. What executives once were as defenders of Privilege and what legislatures became, such now are the courts that extend their function of applying law into the domain of making it. When the history of this last struggle is written, the name of John M. Harlan, another of those democrats for whom this country is indebted to Kentucky, cannot be inconspicuous.

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Dangers from Economic Malpractice.

Most thoughtful and valuable in all the editorial comment on the Austin (Pa.) disaster is that which the excellent editorial service of the American Economic League (Cincinnati) furnished its subscribers. Quoting its text from reports that the people of Austin feared a break in the dam but made no protest because the company owning it "was the life of the town," this Economic League editorial reflects: "That is, workers in the mill were afraid to complain for fear that they would lose their jobs. The possibility of death by drowning was not as bad as the greater danger of death by starvation. Land owners in Austin were silent for fear the Bayless Pulp and Paper Company would take some action that would depreciate land values. So the danger was allowed to continue until the disaster came. It is useless to denounce the Bayless Company. The individuals composing that concern were no more negligent than nine-tenths of those denouncing them would have been in their place. It is useless to denounce the State officials charged with the duty of inspection. The most conscientious inspector is unable to protect people from economic conditions they insist on upholding. As long as an economic system is maintained under which workers must depend on the favor of a few privileged ones for a chance to earn their living, so long will it be vain to devise ways and means to protect them from dangers from which they might, under different conditions, protect themselves."

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Singletax in Canada.

James Ritchie, the chief executive of Summerland, British Columbia, adds testimony in support of the growing tendency toward the Singletax in Canada. Writing to Joseph Fels in reply to a

question regarding the Singletax, Mr. Ritchie said: "There is absolutely no hesitancy on my part in replying that it is the only mode of taxation that can be successfully maintained in this country. We would never dream of enforcing any other kind here, and you can use this expression of opinion as having come from one who owns thousands of acres of land in a district where land values have increased three and four hundred per cent during recent years."

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Farmers and the Singletax.

A whole text book could be no more enlightening on the relation of farming interests to the Henry George movement than this statement from the Labor Press of Portland regarding the Oregon county in which a petition for the Singletax has been signed and is now being fought in the Oregon courts: "In Clackamas county there are 266,000 acres of vacant land held in tracts of from 160 acres up, absolutely unimproved, and now paying taxes of about \$70,000. The farmer is told that land value taxation exclusive of improvements and personal property would double his taxes on his land. If so, it would double it on these 266,000 acres, thereby adding \$70,000 to the public funds from that source alone. This is more than the farmers and townspeople together pay on improvements, livestock and implements."

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Death of Dr. Anna M. Lund.

Whoever knew Dr. Lund respected her, and all who knew her well honored and loved her. In her profession as a dentist, she was devoted to its uses and conscientious regarding all its responsibilities. She brought the same type of character into every other relationship. In the noble sense of a misused epithet, she was a "new woman." Without turning away from any domestic duties—indeed her responsibilities of that kind were generously enlarged,—she did not delimit home to those four walls within which a family eats and sleeps. Though voteless, she was consciously a citizen, with civic affections and intelligence—and not alone of her city or State or nation, but of the world. Her political philosophy was in all respects democratic, her ethics had spiritual vitality, she abhorred empty piety, and she worked her passage on the voyage through life. Dr. Lund was born in Norway in 1866. She practiced dentistry successfully in Chicago for nearly fifteen years. She reared a family of children, and lived long enough to taste the joys of grandmotherhood. Meanwhile she contributed from her hard earned

income, and used her mind as well, to promote social causes that loomed up before her larger than self. Her death came suddenly. A surgical operation, three weeks in a hospital, another operation, a touch of pneumonia, and she was gone. She died on the 13th; the burial was on the 15th. Well known in dental and radical circles of Chicago, Dr. Lund had sympathetic friends, especially among democratic radicals, in many other American cities from ocean to ocean.

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A SIGNIFICANT PARALLEL.

Many public men oppose the recall of judges, and offer some plausible but fallacious reasons for their opposition, such as that the recall will cause the judge to "pander" to the "mob." This assumes the weakness of the judge, for one thing, and next that the people are generally wrong in their conclusions. As to the weakness of the judge, no one is better qualified, perhaps, to pass on that question than the professional politicians who oppose the recall as applied to judges; for they have hitherto supervised the nominations and appointments of judges, and best know the weaknesses of their own creatures. But that public opinion is generally, or ever, wrong is not to be admitted, provided that it be fully and correctly informed.

President Vail, of the American Telephone & Telegraph Co., has risen from the ranks to his present high position, and he sums it up as follows (Ann. Rep. for 1910):

In all times, in all lands, public opinion has had control at the last word—public opinion is but the concert of individual opinion, and is as much subject to change or to education.

It is based on information and belief. If it is wrong, it is wrong because of wrong information and consequent erroneous belief.

It is not only the right but the obligation of all individuals or aggregations of individuals, who come before the public, to see that the public have full and correct information.

For President Vail, then, the "mob" does not exist; but there does exist for him a safe, sane, just, courageous, conscientious people capable of arriving and ready to arrive at correct conclusions once it is fully and correctly informed.

The laws are not made for honest folk—they are made for rogues; hence, no honest judge, even if reasonably incompetent, has anything to fear from the recall; for, as Mr. Vail tells us, all that has to be done to protect judges is for the public to be fully and correctly informed as to their acts. History bears him out fully. The long-suffering of the people is one of the marvels of history.

Let us examine into the judge's place and functions in the organization of society, and see just what they are.

As the evils of private war forced themselves upon the consciousness of mankind, men, to prevent acts of oppression and worse under the guise of vengeance or revenge, cast about for a means for settling disputes other than private war; that is, public opinion began to assert itself, and in course of time the jury and the judge were evolved.

The laws or customs themselves being merely public opinion, the office of the judge was merely to apply them to the facts in the case and decide accordingly. The first modern writing down of customary laws was at Barcelona, Spain, in 1068 A. D., yet two hundred years previously Nuño Rasuera and Leon Calvo were appointed judges to sit at Leon in the infant kingdom of the Asturias because of the distance litigants would otherwise have to go to get to the King at Oviedo. So it is clear that judges enforced customary laws, which were merely public opinion in action.

Yet this was prior to the time when a writer said (about 950) that "the Spaniards live like savage beasts, entering one another's habitation without asking permission, and washing neither their bodies nor their clothing, which they do not remove till they drop off in tatters."* But the Spaniard had then been living in perpetual warfare for upward of 200 years against the Moors and among themselves, and while his manners may have been poor, he had laws with judges to enforce them.

To-day, the warfare of society is against the predatory classes, whether these come from the slums or from bankers' offices; the weapons of society are not sword and spear, the weapons of the old private wars, but laws and penalties; and the wielders of these modern weapons are the sworn servants of the state, of society as a whole. These same weapon-wielders are, in the case of judges, the arbitrators of the law as between private parties, with juries to ascertain the facts.

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In time of war, nations do not hesitate to relieve (recall) an unsuccessful military or naval commander, and McDowell, McClellan, Pope, Hooker, Meade, of our own great war, are instances. Grant in the army and Farragut in the navy both fought under (and never thought about) a law denouncing the penalty of death upon them if they should fail in certain things. "The punishment of death or such other punishment as a court-martial may adjudge may be inflicted upon any commanding

*Burke: History of Spain, 1. 170. note.