

veal the writer's philosophy; but the reader is invited to seek and find for himself the secret of joy and courage in the unworldly wisdom of "Optimos."

It is always the verity of things that the true poet strives to put into words, though the words at the last may be the falsest things of all. But as Mr. Traubel says:

The substance of a man is not in what he measures himself to be but in what he is.

The collateral of a man is not in his perishable conquests but in his imperishable loyalty,

For the only real victory of all victories coming to a man is the victory of love though it is a victory of defeat.

A. L. M.

PAMPHLETS

The Parcels Post.

Congressman Sulzer has put into the Congressional Record (and franked copies may be had of him on request), a report on the parcels post, prepared for the Manufacturing Perfumers' Association by its committee on freight and transportation, of which Frederick F. Ingram of Detroit is chairman. This report makes a startling exposure of the fact that it is really not country retailers but city "mall order" houses, that are interested to oppose the parcels post. "Mall order" houses give their unprofitable business only to the mails; their profitable business goes through the express companies; and they are in collusion with the express companies to discredit the parcels post. In view of the disclosures in the body of this pamphlet, very well may the president of the Perfumers' Association, Frank B. Marsh, ask in the introduction to it, why the post office department should "stagger under a deficit, while the express companies take the cream, express companies that pay 100 and even 200 per cent profit in spite of their extravagant and unscientific methods?"

Everybody's.

In "Watch Your Congressman"—Everybody's for May—Lincoln Steffens gives good advice in general, and advice that is especially good in particular at the point where he urges voters to keep tab on Congress by reading the Congressional Record systematically. "Any group who would combine in a request to their Congressman," he writes, "could have the Record, and they could read it together," a good plan being to ask "any clever young man or woman to do the first reading, mark out the parts to skip [formalities, courtesies, dead stuff, etc.], and then read the rest aloud to the group, say once a week or every few days." Such a group would indeed soon come to be the best informed persons in their community on all that is worth knowing in national politics.

✦ ✦

The American.

Albert Jay Nock's taxation paper in the May American (New York) compares taxation in Canada, where there are no constitutional restraints, and in the United States where so many State constitutions foolishly make the wretched "general property tax" imperative. The spirit of Mr. Nock's articles may be inferred from this quotation from his latest: "The American Magazine has received no end of letters inquiring whether this series is going to lead out to the single-tax. I do not want to escape the responsibility of saying that I am a single-taxer and, naturally, a free-trader. But this is a small matter. However visionary I may be, it is not likely that my associates on this magazine would allow me to devote many pages to recommending reforms that are not rather immediately practicable. The single-tax (as I think, unfortunately) is not one of these. The abolition of the general-property tax, however, is a reform of far-reaching import and immediate practicability. Constitutional restraint can be taken off

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the taxing power of the legislature at once, in the way indicated at the close of my last article. Then, Constitutionally, the United States would stand where Canada does. The State legislatures might then enact tax-laws freely, as local circumstances required. The sources of State and local revenue might be separated, county option, or municipal or even village option, might be granted. There would be room then for a correct theory of taxation to be worked out experimentally. But absolutely nothing

can be done as long as the general-property tax remains in our Constitutions, or as long as the taxing power of the legislature remains under constitutional restraint of any kind. Canada simply affords the most convenient example of the progress made under the utmost liberty of the taxing power."



"These stocks of yours are worthless."
"I don't care," said the woman. "The broker is

MEMORIAL of the Testimonial Dinner to TOM L. JOHNSON

in New York, May 30, 1910.

on which occasion Mr. Johnson was presented with a large bronze medallion, made by Richard F. George, commemorative of his public service under the influence of the spirit that animated Henry George. (See Public of May 27, page 490; of June 3, page 515; and of June 10, page 537.)

THIS Memorial contains seventy-one pages, set in old style type, and is printed on natural tint Strathmore Japan paper with deckle edges. It includes an Introduction; the Addresses delivered at the Dinner; a list of the persons present at the Dinner; a list of the contributors to the Medallion; and Portraits of Henry George and Tom L. Johnson.

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