

Not at all improbable. When the Supreme Court was placed by the Constitution upon an equality with Congress, the seed of judicial despotism was sown. When Judge Marshall raised it above Congress politically by deciding that it was empowered to veto Congressional legislation in private law suits, the seed began to sprout. Its despotic fruits will be ripe for picking as soon as an aristocratic President and a plutocratic Senate pack it with graduates from the law offices of great corporations. Short of a revolution (or impeachments of a revolutionary character), the United States will then be governed, not by the people through Congress, but by plutocratic corporations through five judges of their own selection. It is possible that President Taft will be the aristocratic President to complete the judicial usurpation which Hamilton designed with so much aristocratic forethought and Marshall fostered so skillfully.

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"A Cold Day" in the Philippines.

If Congressman Martin of Colorado can induce Congress to look into that Philippine land deal (pp. 3 and 245) which Mr. Taft's attorney general finds warrant for, he will have done a good piece of work. But can he? He says that 55,000 acres of Friar lands acquired by the United States at approximately \$18 an acre in settlement of the Catholic question in the archipelago, have been sold to the Sugar Trust by President Taft's secretary of war for \$6 an acre, and that President Taft's attorney general, a former law partner of President Taft's brother (who was a lawyer for the Sugar Trust), decides that this is no violation of the law against sales of more than 2,500 acres to one person or corporation, because that law was passed before the government bought these lands. If Congressman Martin has his facts right about this cozy politico-business affair, it will be "a cold day" in the Philippines when he gets a Republican Congress to investigate. Muck-raking has got to stop.

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A Business Boosting School Board.

No prophetic powers were necessary to foretell as we did (pp. 194, 222) the removal of Architect Perkins by the Busse Business school board of Chicago. It was a foregone conclusion months before the fact. What is a Business school board for but to serve private business interests at the expense of public educational interests? Such a board has no use for an architect who has a long record of faithful service to public educational in-

terests at the expense of the building contractors' ring. Mr. Perkins is to be congratulated upon his removal by the Busse business board. It is a certificate of professional competency and personal probity.

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Progressive Public Opinion.

Like Henry George, Jr., whose letter of travel and observation in the Middle West appears this week in Editorial Correspondence, John Z. White has found a pronounced tendency toward radicalism in public thought. Leaving Chicago last autumn he has been constantly busy keeping lecture appointments in places and before audiences that have only begun to open the doors either of their auditoriums or their minds to the kind of sentiment that Mr. George and Mr. White are offering. Before reaching Denver, where he has been doing platform work for two weeks, Mr. White had worked through the Middle and the Pacific as well as the Rocky Mountain States. In the Pacific States, from Seattle to Los Angeles, through Portland, Sacramento, San Francisco, and many other cities on the route, he spoke to clubs, churches, chambers of commerce, labor organizations, universities, schools; and almost everywhere the newspapers multiplied the influence of his work with full and fair reports. The Sacramento Bee, for example—California's ablest, cleanest and most progressive daily—was notable for its co-operation. The experiences of Mr. White and of Mr. George in the West, like that of Herbert S. Bigelow in Delaware and Maryland (also under the auspices of the Henry George Lecture Association), are but indications of a trend and growth of public opinion, which is constantly expressing itself in these and other ways, to the gratified comprehension of such as have ears to hear and eyes to see the signs of the times.

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Death of Simon Mendelson.

Simon Mendelson, an old friend and early helper of Henry George, died on the 5th in New York, at the home of his son-in-law, August Lewis, another of George's friends and coadjutors and one to whom, along with Tom L. Johnson, George dedicated his posthumous book the "Science of Political Economy." Mr. Mendelson was nearly 89 years old. His interest in George's teachings was awakened in 1886, when Mr. George first ran for Mayor of New York on a "land for the people" platform; and though he took no conspicuous part in the George movement, yet among those who did he has been well known