

The eldest voter winked his eye,
 And shook his hoary head—
 Meaning to say, he did not choose
 To pay a tax on bread.
 "You see, I do remember when
 There was a tax," he said.

The Brewer and the Feudal Lord
 Felt staggered at this blow.
 Then turned their fiscal arguments
 Congenially low;
 Whilst all the listening voters stood
 And spluttered in a row.

"The time has come," the Brewer said,
 "To talk of many things;
 Of ships, and shoes, and sealing-wax,
 And air machines on wings;
 And why to see them cheap is what
 Our inmost bosom wrings."

"Tariff Reform," the Lord replied,
 "Is what we chiefly need.
 Well-cooked sawdust-bread and horse
 Are very good indeed.
 So, if you're ready, voters dear,
 We'll dock you of your feed."

"Oh, no, you don't!" the voters cried,
 Turning a little blue.
 "To tax our food will surely mean
 A dismal end to you!"
 The worthy pair said nothing, but
 Just faded from the view.

NOBODY LOVES ME!



Nobody loves me. I'm going to the
 backwoods to eat my words.

(With apologies to V. C. Anderson.)

Cartoon from the London Daily Chronicle of January 18.

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Nature hath given to every one a right to all.—
 Thomas Hobbes.

BOOKS

LOWES DICKINSON'S SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY.

Justice and Liberty: A Political Dialogue. By G. Lowes Dickinson, author of *Letters from a Chinese Official*, *The Greek View of Life*, *A Modern Symposium*, etc. Published by The McClure Company, New York.

Readers of Lowes Dickinson's subtle satire, "*Letters from a Chinese Official*" (vol. vii, pp. 414, 607; vol. ix, p. 500), will expect to find in this book by the same author a peculiar literary charm, and they will not be disappointed. But there is more to the book than literary charm. It is a highly polished literary report of a profoundly thoughtful controversy between three friends with different points of view on the subject indicated by the title.

They are a university professor with socialistic leanings of a type that would be hard to label, a banker who represents a sort of pluto-democratic idea, and a gentleman of leisure who is distinctly aristocratic. The value of the controversy comes from the effort that each of these men makes to understand the others, a feature which enables the author to inject a good deal of clarification into his subject.

Any reader might fairly be excused for wishing that Mr. Dickinson had brought in a fourth person to point out some of the large facts which the others stumble over but do not observe, although they are facts which if observed would explain more than one of the points in controversy. An example is afforded in the analysis of property, which might have been improved by an intelligent listener who, like the onlooker in chess, was not so deeply engrossed in the controversy as to lose sight of big things in the confusions of the game.

But the controversy leads up to one great and true generalization which is put into the mouth of the socialistic professor: "Society is not a deliberate exploitation of the few by the rich; it is a silly, sordid muddle grown up out of centuries of violence and perpetuated in centuries of stupidity and greed. In many respects the rich are as much to be pitied as the poor, and the poor as much to be reprobated as the rich. If people would come to see that and to feel it, we might really begin to move along. For with the right wills we could discover the right means."

The antithesis to the interpretation of history which regards history as a succession of materialistic phenomena, is admirably stated by the professor. It may be fairly regarded as Mr. Dickinson's own attitude. We make a brief quotation: "I find in men a real fact, the impulse to create the ideal, and this I represent to myself as a seed

sown into the soil of Earth with her insufficiency and insecurity, of the flesh with its needs and desires. What therefrom grows up is the tree of human history, receiving its form from the seed, but its matter from the soil and air, warped and stunted, blighted and starved, battered, mutilated, broken, but always straining upward to the light and the sky, and throwing out branches and bearing leaves by the law of its inner impulse."*

PAMPHLETS

Prohibition Year Book.

The American Prohibition Year Book for 1910, containing Prohibition statistics and studies, may be procured of the Prohibition National Book Store, 92 La Salle street, Chicago; price 25 cents.

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Stinting One Children's Teachers.

"From 1897 to 1907, inclusive, the salaries of experienced elementary teachers in Chicago increased only 9% per cent, while the cost of living increased 44 per cent." This fact, by charts and very brief text, is set forth in a thoroughly well-done leaflet sent out by The Teachers' Salary Conference (Oct. 30, 1909), which consisted of two delegates from each of 235 out of the 249 public schools of Chicago, and whose proposed salary schedule was endorsed by the signatures of 4834 teachers.

A. L. G.

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Labor Laws.

The American Association for Labor Legislation is responsible for two more very useful publications: (1) A bulletin printing in full the Labor Legislation enacted or proposed in the Forty-sixth General Assembly of Illinois, prepared by Ernst Freund and issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Springfield, Illinois; and (2) A Summary of Labor Laws in Force

*See page 163 of this Public.

in the various States in 1909 having to do with two aspects of woman's work, Hours of Labor and Provision for Seats while Working. This latter pamphlet is prepared by Maud Swett under the direction of John R. Commons at Madison, Wisconsin.

A. L. G.

PERIODICALS

Mrs. E. C. G. Ferguson, president of the Arena Club of New Orleans, writes effectively and impressively in the January number of *The Light* (La Crosse, Wis.) of "The Socio-Economic Causes and Effects of the White Slave Traffic."

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The Only Way is a new little land tax paper issued monthly from 619 Filbert street, Philadelphia, at fifty cents a year, by Anthony E. Crowell, Holt Hamilton and Thomas Kavanagh. "Making the earth an open shop" is the war cry of this aggressive, downright little magazine.

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News in regard to the workers for land value taxation seems to be the predominant feature of the January-February issue of the *Single Tax Review* (150 Nassau street, New York). Many deaths of the older holders of the faith are recorded. The tributes to Samuel Brazier (vol. xii, p. 1204, 1218) are especially affecting.

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"Some Early Roman Suffragists"—yes, old Roman, if you please—is a fascinating page of history to be found in *The Englishwoman* (Grant Richards, 7 Carlton street, London, S. W.) for January. They were almost suffragettes, these Roman ladies of the days of the wars with Carthage. "These pestilent women" insisted at the close of a war, on the repeal of a war measure which had deprived them of the right of possessing more than \$10 in gold, of wearing gay dresses, and of riding in carriages un-

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EMIL SCHMIED, Manager.