

had before been held in Glasgow, but last winter they were more ambitious. Three classes were held in the rooms of the League, and one at Rutherglen, of which Mr. William Cassels taught two, Mr. M. W. Paul, M. A., other two, and Mr. Douglas taught one at Barrhead. These classes have drawn new men into the movement who will help to spread our teaching all over the country. Already it is seen that in consequence of this work new interest is springing up in unlooked for places.

Just a word here about the necessity for such classes. All other plans of social reform are breaking down. Earnest minded men will either become Socialists or come to us. Knowledge is power; the people are ready for our teaching, and the thing we need most is more propaganda—more teachers. Political economy classes are a way of making new propagandists and teachers.

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THOMAS F. BINNIE, EDINBURGH.

Thomas F. Binnie was teacher of the Political Economy class held last winter in Edinburgh. This class was held under the auspices of the Edinburgh League founded under the leadership of Mr. Edwin Adam, a well known writer on the legal and other aspects of land value taxation in Scotland. Mr. Adam was succeeded as president of this league by Mr. F. E. Umpherston, and on his appointment to the office of Sheriff of Dunfermline Mr. Binnie was elected president. This led him into the position of teacher for the class that was formed to study political economy. The lecturer, being acquainted with various phases of the land question in city and rural districts, and also in the United States of America, was able to give illustrations from personal observations and experience. He was thus able to show the evils of the present system and the benefits which might reasonably be expected from the change advocated by the promoters of the taxation of land values. Only a small attendance was anticipated at the class meetings but the numbers rose from 14 at the first to 28 at the last meeting. Great interest was manifested by those who did attend and questions were freely and intelligently put to the lecturer. If all who attended were not fully convinced they were at least brought face to face with many facts that were new to them, and secured a rearrangement of their ideas regarding land tenure and taxation.

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MR. DAVID CATTERALL, MANCHESTER.

Mr. David Catterall has been the head and front of the Economic classes at Manchester. He picked up Progress and Poverty about twenty years ago, and became an ardent disciple of Henry George. Having got something worth preaching he sought opportunities for spreading the gospel, and began to attend the Manchester County Forum where for years he was single handed in his advocacy of the Single Tax. The title he earned for himself by this work was "John the Baptist preaching in the

wilderness." He is by no means alone now in his desire to spread the gospel in Lancashire. Among his compatriots are John Bagot, who has got out one of the best and certainly the cheapest edition of *Progress and Poverty*. There is also Dr. Percy McDougall and the active secretary of the League, Mr. A. H. Weller, among many others assisting in the work. Mr. Catterall can take much credit to himself for bringing all this about. On June 29th, 1912, he was married to Miss S. Musson, who had been connected with the league for some four years prior to that event. This assures him of one constant companion in his advocacy of the Single Tax, but he is not the least likely to lose the others. There is much work still to be done in Manchester as elsewhere and Mr. Catterall may be trusted to do his share.

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J. H. McGUIGAN, PORTSMOUTH.

Mr. J. H. McGuigan is an Irishman by birth, a Roman Catholic in Religion, a Liberal in politics and a Single Taxer in his economic views. There are several Macs from Ireland who have done a lot for the Single Tax, including McGhee and McHugh. McGuigan was converted to the Single Tax by Richard McGhee, M. P. He is of the physical type that is sometimes described as a likely looking chap; he has grown a bit since he came into the world, and it will not be his fault if the movement does not make a similar satisfactory progress. What your readers will be interested in is his growth in grace. He is a ship's carpenter by trade and follows this occupation now. When an apprentice in Glasgow the late Henry George delivered a lecture and Mac bought *Progress and Poverty* in order to learn and expose its fallacies. He did not find these fallacies, but a gospel instead, which has remained with him and has strengthened its hold on him ever since. He has sailed the sea as a ship's carpenter; he worked for some time at his trade in the United States, returning to Glasgow and afterwards settling in Portsmouth. There he has had an uphill fight to gain adherents for our cause, but his optimism, earnestness and courage have carried him through. Always ready to make a sacrifice for the cause he has supported in his endeavors by Mrs. McGuigan. The Portsmouth League owes its existence to him; and when a class was started for the study of political economy it was quite natural that he should be chosen as teacher. A snob might smile at the idea of a ship's carpenter teaching political economy, but if this subject had been left in the hands of men like McGuigan it would have had some pretensions to be called a science. In the hands of the scholastic fraternity it has resolved itself into a mere jumble of words. Its theories so far have only been formulated in order to be abandoned. The science of political economy requires men who are not afraid of the truth whatever be the implications and our Portsmouth teacher is of that type. No badge can improve any man; he is informed or ignorant, and it matters little in what kind of building he develops his information or his ignorance.