

The Tory instinct is to strengthen sectarianism at the expense of the general community, and while sectarianism in the shape of an "established" creed is present both in England and Scotland the position of Wales is the worst of all. To it the established creed is that of an alien church. Out of this proceeds the difficulty of providing sectarian schools without injuring the interests of the general ratepayer. Educational problems have absorbed much of Mr. Raffan's time. He is a member of the Council of the South Wales and Monmouthshire University College, Cardiff, and of the Court of Governors of the University of Wales. He also serves on the Education Committee of the County Councils Association, and has been Chairman of the South Wales district of the Workers Educational Association since its formation.

In the work of the Land Values movement Mr. Raffan has been in it, first, last and all the time. At one time he is presiding over a Conference in Wales, at another he is lecturing in Scotland or speaking at a demonstration in London, or some other important English town. Mrs. Raffan co-operates with him in his social work, and is a member of various Educational and philanthropic committees. She is one of two lady members adopted as one of the Board by the Monmouthshire Education Committee and she is a member of the Abercarn Old Age Pension Committee. Much more could be written regarding the work of both, but sufficient has been said to indicate the activities of the man who does the machine work for Land Values inside the gates of Parliament itself.

**FRANCIS NEILSON, M.P.**—He is at present the President of the English League. He was born in Birkenhead, Cheshire, in 1867. Living for a time in Shropshire he got his early education there. Returning to Birkenhead, he was able to attend the Liverpool Institute where he finished his school life. In 1886 he went to New York, and after a somewhat rough experience found congenial employment. Eventually he became associated with theatrical affairs, first in New York and later in London. He has had a share in the production of plays and operas, both as author and manager. Details of his career in this field would require much space, and there would be still much to relate as to his activities in other directions. He has written two novels, "Madame Bohemia" and the "Folly of the Wise." Besides he has read for publishers, written articles, lectured on Ibsen, Shaw, Whitman and Wagner, while he has not failed in the prime duty of a man. It is in connection with this duty that this sketch is concerned. Knowing that everything is not for the best in this world, he has set himself the task of discovering the real wrong and the remedy.

Reared amongst relatives with Radical views this may have helped him to find the right side, but experience of life and independent inquiry have assuredly played their part also. In America he had the opportunity of hearing several leading Continental Socialists, and ultimately he came into contact with the philosophy of Henry George. As a lecturer he has been a great asset to the Land Values movement. Along with Mr. E. G. Hemmerde



he has swayed many a hostile audience. He has turned defeat into victory for others besides himself, and the writer could name one constituency where the sitting member would have had as much chance as a snow ball would have in Hades if it had not been for the brilliant work of Francis Neilson. Many American readers will be able to judge Mr. Neilson from personal contact. In the autumn of this year he made a lecturing tour of the States.

Associated as he has been with E. G. Hemmerde in play writing they have likewise been associated in pushing the propaganda for the Taxation of Land Values. If the fact that they sit together in Parliament brings them a few more invitations to lecture on the question, the movement owes the people who elected them a great debt of gratitude.

**E. G. HEMMERDE, M.P.**—Mr. E. G. Hemmerde, K.C. M.P., has won distinction in various walks of life. We have only to deal with his Single Tax work, but much could be written about his other attainments. During his college career he won honors both in classics and athletics. Today he is known as a Dramatist as well as a brilliant Advocate. His first Parliamentary contest was in Winchester in 1900, but this was—like many first contests offered to candidates—a forlorn hope. In 1906 he unsuccessfully contested Shrewsbury, but in that same year he was elected as the candidate to fight a by-election in East Denbigh, Wales. As there were many aspirants for this duty the selection had to be determined by ballot. After three votes had been taken Mr. Hemmerde was chosen, and his election to Parliament was an easier matter than securing the nomination, his majority being 2,791. Two years later he had to fight another by-election on being appointed Recorder of Liverpool. His majority on that occasion was twenty less, but it established a record for him, as the Liberal majorities had fallen by much more in other constituencies. In the General Election of January, 1910, he increased his majority by about 800. Electioneering by this time had become an expensive luxury, and less than a year elapsed before another General Election was practically forced on the Government by the House of Lords. Mr. Hemmerde surrendered his safe seat and went to Portsmouth in order to fight Lord Charles Beresford and his jingo creed. There was no chance of a win for him there, but he shook the confidence of the Admiral and kept him busy in his own place. Many another Tory candidate would have reason to regret this, as "Condor Charlie" is just the man to mop up a few votes from the unthinking with his "quarter-deck politics."

Out of Parliament Mr. Hemmerde found time for some effective platform work. When the by-election in North West Norfolk became necessary in May, 1912, he secured the nomination and after a stirring fight he returned to Parliament. His election has not been without effect in pushing forward the Land Policy of the Liberal Government.

**R. L. OUTHWAITE, M.P.**—Mr. Outhwaite's work in the movement is well known to those who are in close touch with its propaganda. Not only