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# The Public

An International Journal of Fundamental Democracy

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Louis F. Post  
IN  
A Campaign Talk  
To Old Friends

Patriotism

Ellis O. Jones  
ON  
Fiction and Fact

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Published Weekly

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October 27, 1916

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CHICAGO

Volume XIX

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## EDITORIAL

There should be a companion piece to the New York Evening Post's fine cartoon entitled "The Widow's Mite," representing the war as a burly giant holding a bowl labeled "war loans" and demanding "more" from an impoverished widow. The companion piece should show that while the widow's mite is being levied upon repeatedly the great landed interests are being dealt with tenderly. Perhaps the Evening Post's cartoonist will see his way clear to present that fact.      S. D.

\* \* \*

Amid all this talk about preparedness against armed attack and commercial rivalry after the war, it may be in order to inquire what preparation is being made to fill the place of Mr. Roosevelt when he shall have been taken from us. Rail at the Colonel, and criticise him as we will, it must be acknowledged that he has written his name large on the page of American history. He is a doer as well as a talker; and many an act of vast portent can be traced directly or indirectly to his influence. His judgment has not been fault-

less, but his industry is ceaseless, and his spirit unflagging. He has broad vision, and is given to bold execution. Mistakes he has made, as who has not, but he has rectified some. In 1908 he gave us President Taft. But he regretted his act, and in 1912 he elected President Wilson. And there can be little doubt that his present "skin-'em-alive" speeches have made certain the President's re-election.      S. C.

\* \* \*

It is natural that protectionists should predict an "industrial conflict" after the war. Their confused notions of trade extend to other matters. So we hear much of the need of preparing for such a "conflict." This talk loses sight of the fact that the sole object of industry is to satisfy human wants. There is no occasion for a conflict over this. All that is needed is to keep opportunities open so that every one may do whatever he can do most efficiently. This implies that there be no interference with exchange of products between laborers anywhere. It means that there be no tariffs or other taxes on industry, no private control of public highways and no encouragement to withholding of natural resources that some one wants to use. Until all such obstructions have been abolished there will be industrial depressions, regardless of whatever else may be done. The way to prepare for an after-the-war industrial situation is to make industry free.      S. D.

\* \* \*

The war has not interfered with ocean-carrying trade on the Pacific. Under free trade there should be no obstacle to importation of goods from Japan. The American Protective Tariff League stoutly maintains that we have had free trade since the passage of the Underwood law. It insists that free trade must bring on a flood of goods from low-wage countries. It has sent broadcast a leaflet, entitled "The Defender," which claims that "American wages are more than eight times the average in Oriental countries," and presents figures alleged to show the low wage rate in a number of industries in Japan. So, according to the American Protective Tariff League, we are now being flooded with products of cheap Japanese labor. For the benefit of those who have not observed the flood it should be said that according to

the Protective Tariff League's leaflet it consists of agricultural products, clothing, various kinds of food and drink, textiles, machinery, houses, chemicals, and a number of miscellaneous articles! If there is any mistake about this, if the flood is not upon us, then there is something wrong with the American Protective Tariff League's logic. Its theories do not accord with fact. S. D.

\* \* \*

The people of New York State are finding that compulsory military training inflicted upon the school children of that commonwealth willy-nilly is not the only outrage springing from the new law for preparedness. A New York newspaper, noting the fact that the law requires every school district to employ a military training teacher, points out that it will lay a heavy burden upon rural communities in the matter of expense. Sullivan County, for instance, has 166 districts, and if teachers were to be had for \$600 a year the increased outlay would amount to \$100,000 a year. Is it possible that such laws would be put on the statute books if the people had the Initiative and Referendum? It is quite clear why some citizens do not wish to see the voters clothed with such power. S. C.

\* \* \*

The latest estimate of John D. Rockefeller's fortune is more than two billions, or more wealth than is to be found in any one of 21 States of the Union. It equals the combined wealth of Arizona, Delaware, Nevada, New Mexico and Wyoming. To justify a system that gives so much to one man it would have to be shown that he has performed services for society greater than those of the population of any of these States. Of course he has not done so. His fortune is the result of bad legislation that has given him power to appropriate what others produce. To get what he has it was necessary that others be impoverished. For this he is no more to blame than other citizens who uphold privilege creating laws. But he stands as an example of what privilege costs the people. S. D.

\* \* \*

One of the chief obstacles that prevents the average voter from making an intelligent selection for Congress or the Senate is the difficulty of getting intelligent and unbiased information regarding their work at Washington. The member himself sends to his constituents various speeches reflecting honor upon their author, but conveying little information as to his real activities. A partisan press adds but small enlightenment. This situation makes peculiarly serviceable the "Search-

light on Congress," published at Washington by the National Voters' League. Lynn Haines, editor of this monthly publication and Secretary of the League, is a trained observer of legislative bodies. He understands the political game in all its phases, and he is fearless in showing up the dereliction of Senators and Members of Congress. The last number of the Bulletin contains a table showing the vote of each Senator on all the important questions that came before the Senate during the session, together with a spicy comment on the members' political careers. No one who would be in close touch with the law-making branch of the Federal Government can afford to be without the Searchlight. S. C.

\* \* \*

Chicago is reserving sufficient attention from its chaotic local government and the approaching election to give a little thought to the problem of zoning the city into residence, merchandising, and manufacturing districts. Oscar E. Hewitt, in a series of articles in the Herald, has pointed out a few of the many abuses that have come from the unrestricted right of the land owner to do as he pleases with his lot. Residence neighborhoods have been destroyed, and business plants have been scattered about in a way to cause waste to themselves as well as injury to their neighbors. The chief objection urged against the city's establishing zones is that it will interfere with the right of the owner of land to enjoy the increase in its value. This can easily be remedied by taxing land values. If the land value, and only the land value, be taken in taxation, the owner, as owner, will be indifferent whether the value rises or falls. It will then be possible for the city to establish zones without interfering with the citizen's financial interests. S. C.

\* \* \*

Cleveland's plutocracy wants to get rid of County Auditor John M. Zangerle. He has opposed discrimination in favor of the rich. He has insisted that property in the city's business district and on fashionable Euclid avenue be assessed at 100 per cent of its value, like that of the small home owners. That required a tremendous increase in assessment of the most valuable property in the city. The owners of this property had been favored so long that they regarded it as a vested right. They were severely jolted therefore when Mr. Zangerle insisted on uniformity, and increased their assessments more than \$57,000,000. Now the word has gone out to defeat him for re-election. To accom-

plish this party lines are disregarded. The nominally Democratic Cleveland Plain Dealer supports Zangerle's Republican opponent approved by the big tax-dodgers. There may be some who consider it a coincidence merely that among other assessments increased by Zangerle was that of the Hollenden site, owned by the Holden estate, which also owns the Plain Dealer. It does happen occasionally that love of unfair advantage exercises a stronger influence than partisan affiliation. Some persons will be mean enough to attribute the Plain Dealer's position to that sentiment. But whatever its motive may be, there is no reason for the voters of Cuyahoga county to do otherwise than re-elect the Auditor who insists on a square deal for all.

S. D.

\* \* \*

Seymour Stedman, Socialist candidate for Governor of Illinois, is in an anomalous position. Together with candidates of the other parties he took his stand with plutocratic interests in favor of the pending fraudulent tax amendment. In doing this he ignored the strong opposition of organized labor, although his party aspires to be the champion of the laboring class. That he is out of tune with his party is furthermore shown by the action of the Cook County Socialist party executive committee, which has adopted resolutions concerning the amendment diametrically opposed to Mr. Stedman's position. This action was necessary, since advocates of the plutocratic measure are quoting the Socialist nominee's endorsement in the hope of influencing radicals and workingmen. The Socialist party has set itself right. Now let its candidate for Governor do the same.

S. D.

### Hobbling a State.

Advocates of the Tax Amendment to the Illinois Constitution profess a desire to put the State upon an equal footing with other States, by abolishing the general property tax, and permitting the Legislature to classify property for purposes of taxation. This power, they say, is enjoyed by the legislatures of twenty different States. Unfortunately for these advocates their illustration is at fault. The progressive States, whose example Illinois voters are asked to emulate, permit their legislatures to classify "property," not "personal property." Minnesota not only enjoys this right but its legislature exercises the right. Iron ore, mined and unmined, is assessed at 50 per cent of its true value; platted lands, 40 per cent; agricultural products and merchandise, 33 $\frac{1}{3}$  per cent; and household goods 25 per cent.

The Illinois Tax Amendment, should it be adopted, will give the legislature no power to distinguish between oil, coal and other minerals furnished by nature, and buildings and other improvements supplied by man. Taxation is in the experimental stage; new principles have been discovered, and new theories have been put forth. One of the greatest virtues of the federal form of government is that the several political divisions of this country can test the different ideas without involving the whole country. Yet it is deliberately proposed to hamstring Illinois by granting a little liberty in a way that will effectively block all further progress. For, owing to the peculiar nature of the Illinois Constitution, which permits but one amendment at a time, and that by a two-thirds vote of both houses, it will be possible for the men who oppose the broader powers of other States to prevent further amendment by controlling one-third of either house.

\* \*

These men have for years persistently opposed the amendment for the Initiative and Referendum—in spite of the fact that it was overwhelmingly endorsed by a popular vote in 1902 and in 1910; and, since the Initiative and Referendum in the hands of the voters would prove an effective check upon the Legislature's zeal in exempting from taxation the capital stock of corporations, it is a reasonable assumption that the present advocates of the Tax Amendment will see to it that they retain the necessary one-third of House or Senate. That this assumption is reasonable may be inferred from the fact that an association of leading men of affairs in Chicago has already been formed to oppose the Initiative and Referendum. All voters who believe in freedom, in equality and in justice will vote against this amendment, and thereby prevent the further hobbling of Illinois.

S. C.

### Where the Singletax Will Fall.

In a state where railroad corporations are among the largest landowners it requires considerable assurance to publish a statement that the Singletax would relieve them of taxation. Yet the Anti-Singletax League of California has such assurance and so expresses itself in published resolutions. It is not noticeable that the California railroad corporations, or any of the papers that advocate their interests, are favoring the Singletax. Probably they realize, if the Anti-Singletax League does not, that their roadbeds, terminals and depot sites would be taxable, as well as their enormous land grants. The league repeats also the absurd assertion about putting more taxes

on the farmer. But this is ably answered by a country paper, the Ceres, Stanislaus County, Courier. In its issue of October 12 the Courier says of this argument about burdening the farmer:

This is a decidedly wrong view of the proposed amendment, as it is not a system to "make the farmer pay the other fellow's tax," but would benefit the farmers most of all, inasmuch as it will shift the burden of taxation from their shoulders to the holders of valuable city lots and vast tracts of fertile, idle lands who are now paying from 4 to 8 cents per acre tax, and make them pay the same tax as that land would if put to profitable use. And this tax would be such that the holders of idle lands would find it expensive and would either improve the land or let go. . . . Farmers should have nothing to fear in the proposed amendment which seeks to tax land values only. While farmers have land it is in the cities where the land values exist, and which would pay the greater share of taxes.

\* \*

The Ceres Courier speaks from practical knowledge. It is published in a region where irrigation is carried on by local district governments, and where the people of a number of districts have voted to raise irrigation expenses by taxation of land values only. None that has adopted the system wishes to abandon it. Their experience alone refutes the Anti-Singletax League's objections.

S. D.

### Wages and Cost of Living.

A letter in the Chicago Herald of October 19 from a supporter of Mr. Hughes will probably not be given wider circulation by the Republican campaign committee. The writer, Mr. H. C. McWhinney of Thornburg, Iowa, gives the following reason for his preference:

Uncle Sam has a good constitution, but I am afraid that if he is ever forced to sample such quack remedies as material increase in wages or shorter hours of labor for any great length of time he will have stomach trouble. Let me suggest that a little more labor at a lower wage scale might have a tendency to reduce the cost of living. Any increase in the wages of the present is made at the expense of the savings of the labor of the past. I expect to vote for Hughes this fall, and believe he will prove to be a friend to both capital and labor.

Evidently Mr. McWhinney has no confidence in the claims of his candidate and party that the protective tariff, which they promise to institute, will raise wages. There he shows wisdom. He is not unreasonable in looking for reduced wages to result from fulfillment of Republican tariff pledges. But from the standpoint of public interest that is not a recommendation.

That increased wages are responsible for the high cost of living is disproved by the fact that products of better paid labor are sold in successful competition with products of labor not so well paid. Henry Ford could not turn out cheap automobiles if high wages meant high cost of production. The high cost of living is due to obstacles which certain laws place in the way of production and exchange. The voter who looks to wage reduction to bring about a lower cost of living is going to be disappointed.

S. D.

### Is a Favorable Balance an Evil?

Forgetful of the protectionist claim that an excess of exports means prosperity, some opponents of the Administration demand an embargo on foodstuffs to check the increasing cost of living. They seem to have forgotten or lost confidence in McKinley's explanation that the favorable balance will come back to us "in pure gold," and that we should not mind the high prices on that account. That shows some progress, although belief in old fallacies is still strong enough to lead the victims to demand new restrictions instead of more freedom.

\* \*

Why should there be scarcity of foodstuffs, with all our exports, when millions of acres of arable land lie unused? Why not lift that embargo on production rather than place a new embargo to balance it? What justification is there for complaint against sending of needed commodities from the country when the complainants oppose repeal of tariff laws that keep goods out? As long as we hamper industry through taxation why object to scarcity of anything that industry creates? As long as we refuse to abolish privileges that furnish power to monopoly, why should we bewail the high prices that monopoly enforces? If land monopoly is a benefit, if taxation of labor products is just, if duties on imports are defensible, if private control of public highways is good policy, and if other forms of privilege should be tolerated, then the result of these institutions must be a blessing, even though it be disguised as a steady increase in the cost of living. In that case any effort to check it would be a mistake. If the high cost of living is not a blessing then the laws and institutions responsible for it must be evil and should be abolished.

S. D.

### Making the Tenant Pay.

Philadelphia real estate organizations are preparing a strong protest against a prospective in-

crease in the local tax rate. Every tenant in the city will be told that the increase means higher rents. In other words, the real estate men will argue that renters and not property owners pay the taxes. It is evident that these real estate men have never read the San Francisco Chronicle's anti-singletax editorial, or, if they have, have not been impressed. The Chronicle preaches that those who own no property have no personal reason for being interested in the tax question, since, it says, they pay none. That doctrine would not receive much approval just now from Philadelphia's real estate organizations.

\* \*

To the extent that the proposed increase in tax rate falls upon improvements it will have a tendency to raise rents, and thus be shifted on the tenants. To the extent that it falls on land values the tendency will be the other way. Taxes on improvements increase the cost of making and maintaining them, act as a check on their production, lessen their supply, and consequently increase the price that must be paid for their use. Taxes on land values, however, have no effect on the supply of the land, but make it burdensome to withhold valuable land from use. Consequently these taxes tend to force land into use, make more of it accessible and thus force down the price that must be paid for its use. Philadelphia renters who would safeguard their interests will oppose any increase in taxes on improvements and urge as big an increase as possible on unimproved land values.

S. D.

### President Wilson's Idealism.

It is ever the lot of the idealist to be misunderstood by the materialist. The materialist interprets life in concrete terms; riches are measured only in dollars; politics, in offices; religion, in numbers; statecraft, in power; government, in force. The idealist sees in life, influences, tendencies, and aspirations; riches are the acquirements that enable man to live a fuller life; politics enables him to unite with his fellows in the use of social forces; religion gives play to his spiritual being; statecraft permits the adjustment of national and international interests; and government is the outward manifestation of the inward conception of social order. The idealist appeals to the conscience of his fellows; the materialist relies upon his physical strength and intellectual cunning.

\* \*

President Wilson exposed the heart of materialism when he said in his address to women at the Chicago Auditorium:

Some of the difficulties in our foreign relations in the last two years have been due to the fact that it was not comprehensible to some foreign statesmen that the United States was really disinterested. They had never heard of such a thing. And in proportion as the United States demonstrates to the world that its influence in the family of nations is disinterested it will have that part of power which does not come from arms, but comes from the great invisible powers that well up in the human heart.

He might truthfully have included many American publicists with the foreign statesmen who cannot comprehend the idea of disinterestedness. It is indeed due to this handicap of the materialists at home that we have made no more impression abroad.

\* \*

These two forces, idealism and materialism, have from the beginning struggled for the control of this country. Sometimes one, and then the other, has prevailed. In the earliest days of the Republic the passion for liberty was uppermost; and America, young and weak as she was, stood as an inspiration to the struggling peoples of all lands. France, Greece, the South American countries, all received the hand of fellowship when they rose against their oppressors. But a time came when Americans forgot their own ideals. They made war upon Mexico, and seized her territory; they engaged in internecine strife over slavery—slavery in a land boasting that all men were created equal. Then followed a period in which bold and masterful men effected a combination between government power and private business that amassed great fortunes, and corrupted men's consciences. Liberty was not dead in America, but it was the weaker force, and had often to yield to the stronger power of might. In the war with Spain mean and exalted motives mingled. We freed Cuba, but we held the Philippines. And because we held the Philippines we dared not extend the hand of fellowship to the Boer Republics, when the British Tories made war upon them, as we had welcomed all other nations fighting for freedom. The theft of Panama from Colombia was in keeping with this doctrine of might.

\* \*

But the tide has turned. Idealism is asserting itself. The spiritual is challenging the material. The line is not clearly drawn. It cannot be said that all of one party is spiritual, and that all of another party is material; but the line is there, and the predominating force that finds expression in President Wilson springs from idealism; while the force back of Mr. Hughes is based upon materialism. The one stands for the rights of man,

the other for the rights of property; which in concrete terms means that the President stands for the rights of all, while his opponent stands for the rights of the few. In a word, one represents democracy, and the other plutocracy. This is not a sharply defined division, but it is so plain that none can mistake it unless he wishes deliberately to deceive himself. Not all democrats are supporting President Wilson, nor are all plutocrats behind Mr. Hughes, but this is the division of the controlling forces. The men who make things, who produce wealth, like Mr. Edison and Mr. Ford, have aligned themselves with the President. The men whose chief financial interests are in some form of legal privilege, who levy toll upon the people, like Rockefeller and the Guggenheims, are supporting Mr. Hughes. Surely, none save the self-deceived can fail to choose aright in this election.

s. c.

### A CAMPAIGN TALK TO OLD FRIENDS.

In last week's Public I considered President Wilson's administration with special reference to its achievements in domestic policy. One more item remains to consider in that connection.

#### I.

Recently the whole country held its breath while a nation-wide railway strike impended.

Is it difficult to picture such a catastrophe? What business man was there—legitimate business man—who did not dread the possibility? Fear of it had penetrated every home, and housewives laid in supplies ahead lest the household starve, while travelers rushed homeward lest they be held up in distant places.

President Wilson prevented this strike. How? To understand "how," one must understand a "why" or two.

Why the danger of a strike? Either side could have prevented it by yielding to the other. But neither would yield, and one side represented half a million men or more, while the other represented all the economic and political power that goes with concentrated ownership of great public privileges. So the President had to interpose or the strike would have come.

Perhaps the railroad managers wanted it to come. At any rate they made arbitration of all questions their *sine qua non*, knowing full well that the other side would not accept. Knowing, too, that their employes knew that the slogan with employers when they have the upper hand is not "arbitration" but "nothing to arbitrate." Also, at any rate, when President Wilson had pre-

vented the strike, the Santa Fe management publicly expressed regret that he had succeeded in doing so.

But the President had to make an adjustment or the strike would have come.

What, then, was the issue? The freight train men used to be kept on duty as long as 60 or 70 hours at a stretch. Senator La Follette had stopped that—against tremendous railroad opposition, and without any such investigation as the prudent Judge Hughes would doubtless have thought necessary in so novel a situation—by securing a law limiting consecutive service to 16 hours. But 16 hours' service was still exacted, with regular pay for extra hours after 10, and the men demanded reduction of those regular hours to 8.

This is the point at which Judge Hughes stumbles. He reasons that if the men were to get the same pay for 8 hours as they were getting for 10 their wages would be increased. Accordingly, further echoing the railroad managers, he says that the issue was not over a question of hours but of pay. As matter of abstract mathematics, very good. But the practical point is that the standard distance required was 100 miles in 10 hours, whereas the men demanded opportunity to make 100 miles in 8 hours.

Why shouldn't the railroads accede to that demand? Not on account of higher wages, for the wages of the men would have remained the same.

Was it, then, because the cost in coal would be more for 12½ miles an hour than for 10 miles an hour? But that question is subject to investigation under the Wilson law; and after experience, not in advance of experience as Judge Hughes would have had it.

Was it because the trains are extra long under the pressure of more profitable business, and therefore cannot be moved so fast? If that is true, why should the companies get all the extra profit of better business and the men none of it? But that aside, this point also is subject to investigation under the Wilson law.

It would appear, then, that the roads really stood out upon their determination to have the extra expense (if any) of making 100 miles in 8 hours instead of 100 miles in 10 hours, guessed at instead of being found out by investigation on the basis of experience.

President Wilson did not permit them to have their way. His solicitude for the public interest was stronger than it was for monopoly interests—something quite unfamiliar to the "invisible government" which now seeks restoration. He asked

Congress to pursue the only course open to it or to him—except possibly one. Is it asked what that might have been? Judge Hughes' chief lieutenant states it approvingly. It would have been to declare a military necessity and to put the operation of the railroads into the hands of the army! In his rejection of this course, what legitimate sentiment did President Wilson offend?

Judge Hughes says that the President was coerced in this matter. By whom? By hundreds of thousands of citizens who earn their living in the sweat of their own faces. By men who have no public privileges nor corresponding obligations, as the railroad companies have. And about a matter which concerns their livelihood, the safety of railroad service to all who travel, and efficiency of commercial transportation. If this is coercion, what would it have been to side with the railroad companies which "stood pat" upon the power of their privileges for the purpose of enforcing their demands?

If the President had not done as he did, and the strike had come, what would the reasoning public then have said, and been entitled to say? Would not the inference have been plain that he had been coerced by railroad financiers, by our plutocracy of transportation, by the "invisible government"? That might have been more agreeable to the plutocratic cohorts whose cause Judge Hughes is leading, but would it have been more agreeable to the public at large?

If President Wilson was coerced to do what he did, by the determination to quit work of a large body of citizens who had a right to quit, let plutocracy make the most of it. It was, at any rate, not behind closed doors nor by threats that must be whispered that this so-called coercion was effected. It was in the open, as all demands for legislation ought to be, and by men who had an absolute legal right to do what by an overwhelming vote they had decided to do. The obligation, both legal and moral, to maintain railroad service, was not upon the unprivileged railroad wage workers; it was upon the owners of highway privileges.

## II.

The Mexican situation might have been considered in connection with domestic problems. It involves, as they do, the question of whether a plutocratic few or the democratic many shall rule.

Intervention in Mexico, which President Wilson has set himself against, and his plutocratic adversaries are in effect demanding, would mean validation by the United States of the Mexican land grants of a few American plutocrats at the cost of the blood of an army of American youth.

It would mean to the south of us such a hell on earth as has broken loose in Europe.

## III.

But Mexican problems are only one of a series of war problems that have confronted President Wilson during his administration. The President had been able to make only a beginning in his work of cleaning out domestic evils and clearing up the Mexican situation, when the European war burst upon the world, bringing to him a host of new and perplexing problems.

\* \*

Can any of us forget the thrill with which the whole country welcomed the President's proclamation of neutrality? No one at that time condemned it. Everybody praised it. It was alive with common sense and it rang with a note of sincerity as from a whole people. No document from any book of forms or bundle of precedents was that proclamation, which phrased a nation's purpose to be neutral not only in act and word but in thought.

Has, then, the nation under President Wilson's leadership been true to that proclamation? So far as he could influence a people's thoughts and words and acts, it incontestably has been. What better evidence of this need there be than that the unreasoning partisans of both sides have condemned the President's neutral policies.

Is not this one of the tests of all genuine neutrality? Is it not one of the embarrassments that neutrals must be prepared to face?

\* \*

Because President Wilson would not challenge war with one side by proposing an embargo on commercial transactions with it in munitions which it could transport across the ocean, partisans of the other side, which is as free to buy our manufactures, but not so able to carry purchases home, have denounced him; and some pacifists, uninformed of the nature of international obligations, or indifferent to the partisan implication of an embargo under such circumstances, have echoed those partisan outcries. But no calm judgment, impartially applied, can condemn that policy. An opposite one, not this one, would have been the unneutral policy.

Because the President made imperative demands upon one belligerent for cessation of novelties in warfare which endangered American lives, and did not make like demands so imperative upon the other for cessation of novelties that affect nothing but personal comfort or property rights, there went up from some sources assertions of his partisanship. These were echoed and re-echoed by the biased and the thoughtless. But is there not a difference between wrongs that affect only per-

sonal comfort or property, and those that endanger human life? One kind can be redressed in money damages after a war, as the "Alabama" depredations were; the other cannot be redressed at all. President Wilson has recognized this humane distinction; and who dares condemn him for it, except by innuendo?

In every way, to the fullest extent of the possibilities of human judgment, has President Wilson's administration preserved the neutrality which at the beginning of the European war he proclaimed. In doing so he has kept this country out of war, and has done it without yielding anything that a generous American patriotism ought not to yield.

\* \*

No idle saying is it that "Wilson has kept us out of war." He has done it in very truth.

With national honor, too.

With a kind of national honor, to be sure, which swashbuckling patriots can no more appreciate than the bully with a chip on his shoulder can appreciate the honorable self-restraint of the man who won't knock it off.

But to Americans who love their country for the ideals to which it is dedicated, and their flag for what it symbolizes, the President has kept us out of war to the true honor of the country and the great glory of its flag.

We now know that if unhappily we should become involved in war under an administration of his, it would not be a "war at the drop of a hat," it would not be a war of our seeking, it would not be a war that we could avoid. If war should come under him, it would be truly a war of defense which no responsible statesmanship on a President's part could avert.

#### IV.

It is said, however, that President Wilson has belied his peace professions by warlike policies. How would that dispose of the fact that nevertheless he has kept us out of war?

A militarist in the White House would have had us in war waist deep long ago. It is at least doubtful if a consistently strict pacifist there could have kept us out. He would probably have been run over and trampled upon by the stampede which his absolute peace attitude would have been used to stimulate, at a time when militarists had almost everything their own way—from newspapers and magazines to moving picture shows and pulpits.

But Wilson has honorably kept us out of war. The blessings of a peace-loving people should be

his reward; their prayers for his further success in this humanizing policy should encourage him.

\* \*

Can we ignore the significance of the fact that the overwhelming militaristic propaganda collapsed with the going of the militia from all parts of our country to the Mexican border? This was the most pronounced military act of the President. Its sole intention was doubtless to prevent by military force conditions that might force us into war with that country. But it had a greater effect.

No sooner had the men begun to march, and the meaning of war been thereby brought home to mothers and sweethearts and wives the whole country over, to the business interests also which do not depend for prosperity upon bloodshed—no sooner had this occurred than the militaristic scream for "preparedness" was hushed.

The people really did not want war. They really did not want militarism, however acquiescent they may have been in prudent military preparation. And the realistic dramatization of the march of masses of young men to a foreign border made this undercurrent of sentiment articulate.

The march of troops to Mexico was vastly more effective upon the public mind, to say nothing of its being infinitely more wholesome, than the pernicious moving-picture drama which the munitions makers had so expensively staged.

\* \*

Is "preparedness" legislation counted among President Wilson's warlike acts? Read, then, its provisions toward taking out of private hands the manufacture of munitions of war. These are a long step toward removing one of the impelling causes of war—the influence of interests which find their profits in wars and rumors of war.

Read also this saving clause in the naval appropriation bill, a clause which gives us the key to President Wilson's "preparedness" policy:

**"If at any time before the construction authorized by this Act shall have been contracted for there shall have been established, with the co-operation of the United States of America, an international tribunal or tribunals competent to secure peaceful determinations of all international disputes, and which shall render unnecessary the maintenance of competitive armaments, then and in that case such naval expenditures as may be inconsistent with the engagements made in the establishment of such tribunal or tribunals may be suspended, when so ordered by the President of the United States."**

#### V.

To compare the unexpectedness and the gravity of the problems of Wilson's administration with

those of Lincoln's is not at all to exaggerate. Nor is there any exaggeration in comparing the wisdom of the solutions Wilson is making now, with the wisdom of the solutions Lincoln was making as his first term expired. Very much as Lincoln's defeat for re-election would have been a national calamity while our states were at war, so would Wilson's be while the world is at war.

And great as is the crisis in our foreign relations now, complicated and novel and delicate and momentous as our international problems are, calamitous as it would be to turn these over for solution to the political party which in this campaign is either the war party or nothing, nevertheless those problems are no more complex or novel, nor at a more delicate stage of solution, nor more momentous with reference to progress toward democratic ideals, than the domestic problems which President Wilson was chosen to solve, and which the record shows he is solving in righteous spirit and with wise discriminations.

To turn over either our international or our domestic problems to the party of plutocracy, would be to surrender this people's government again to the "invisible government" which Hanna fostered and which President Wilson is putting down.

A vote against the re-election of President Wilson would be a vote for giving a free hand to plutocracy; a vote for President Wilson's re-election will be a vote of confidence in him, in his foreign and domestic policies, in democracy. The record plainly shows that his re-election would mean progress toward democratic ideals. To achieve these in their fullness is only a matter of keeping on in the direction toward which the policies of his administration are turned.

LOUIS F. POST.

### FICTION AND FACT.

There is too much time, energy and expense wasted on fiction in this country, and not enough on fact. Fiction pays and pays big. Fact goes a-begging. Dozens of writers busy themselves on fiction to one who is busying himself on fact. In nine-tenths of the magazine offices the worry and the struggle is for good fiction, while good fact, if it is used at all, is more likely to be classed as "filler." Book publishers grab eagerly for novels, but look askance at books of fact.

Isn't it deplorable that this should be the case? Doesn't it indicate that, as a nation, we lack somewhat the solidity and seriousness of purpose that makes for progress? Fiction is relatively the easy thing to write. Fiction has no right or wrong. It is limited only by the imagination. Fiction, therefore, can be written by slovenly thinkers, just as

it so often provides the recreation for slovenly readers.

True, to write good fiction requires much hard work, a command of technique, a gift of expression and a smattering of the facts of life, but beyond that the fictions' writer has little to do in the way of hard work. With the fact writer, it is different. He can not allow himself to wander in the delightful fields his imagination pictures. He must confine himself to the thing just exactly as it is. There is absolutely no limit to the assertions which the astrologer, for instance, may make about the stars and their relations to the human race severally and collectively. But the astronomer must be exact. He must confine himself to assertions that he can demonstrate. To do this requires a vast amount of study and calculation. The astrologer requires few real facts about the stars. The astronomer requires nothing but facts. With the astronomer the primary thing is a large amount of study. The telling about what he has learned is but the secondary thing. The man who is full of his subject has no difficulty in expressing it. Many things may be said in behalf of the entertaining theories of the astrologers, but we must remember that, in the long run, the astrologers pass away and must be forgotten, while the astronomers persist and are important members of the community.

A large amount of fiction is devoted to matters of love, and, if it were only in this realm that fiction crowded out fact, perhaps we could be relatively complacent, though even here, it is difficult to see how a little more fact and a little less fiction would hurt us. When we come to social, economic and political matters, however, the matter becomes much more serious. An interesting example of this is furnished by recent happenings in regard to our railroads. By adroit bookkeeping and a well-organized press bureau, the railroads of the country a year or two ago, made it appear that they were in bad shape. Men who took the trouble to find out the facts in the case knew that the fiction writers of the railroad press bureau were committing a great outrage on the American people, and that the railroads at that moment were on a very profitable basis; but nevertheless, the fiction writers were believed, while the fact writers could get but little attention in the public prints. As a result, unwarranted freight and passenger rate increases were fastened upon the people, and now, when stock-jobbing is the order of the day, the railroads are advertised as never more prosperous.

So, in the Preparedness campaign, the fiction writers and fiction orators could make the most astounding and incredible assertions about the defenselessness of the country, while those who had the facts to present, if they received any attention at all from the newspapers, were buried at the bottom of the column on an inside page.

Those who were willing to write fiction on behalf of the interests were organized into highly paid press bureaus, while those who wanted to write facts on behalf of the people could command no compensation whatsoever for their time and their labor.

Fiction writers are plentiful and well paid who keep alive the hoary legend about the "favorable balance of trade," who by shrewd word-juggling induce the unthinking or the slovenly-thinking to believe that the more goods we ship out of the country and the fewer goods we bring in the better we are off. Writers and orators who wish to point out the obvious fact which contradicts this fairy tale so profitable to the interests who are preying upon the general public, are howled down.

These are but a few typical examples of the general situation. To be sure, there are many fact writers who are well compensated and highly honored. So also, there are many avowed fiction writers whose work is really fact cast in fiction reform, accurate analyses of things, it is important for us to know. For both of these we may be truly thankful, but the general truth that fiction reigns while fact is kicked about as rubbish, we must consider with the deepest regret.

ELLIS O. JONES.

### PATRIOTISM.

And it came to pass that the devil, possessed of a desire to curse mankind with greater wretchedness, conceived the perversion of a noble sentiment, and he named it Patriotism. For he was exceeding wise; and so, knowing the nature of man to be good, he clothed his artifice with "love of kindred and love of native place." And he watched the working of his clever scheme with much glee, perceiving the wretchedness it caused.

Great was the power of this Patriotism. It caused the children of men, segregated within their respective national barriers, to proclaim aloud the boast that they were better than any others. Their patriotism was measured by the enmity they held toward other nations. These international barriers were then vastly strengthened and fortified by tariff walls. By subtle inspiration from the Evil One men in authority were led to teach that the foreigner was a natural enemy whose good was their harm and whose harm was their good; who would, if not prevented by a tariff, curse them with an embarrassment of riches in merchandise, gold alone being a desirable importation. Patriotism, therefore, made it a crime, punishable by fine, penalty or imprisonment, for men to trade with foreigners; Patriotism demanded a persistent policy of unfriendliness to foreigners, let the cost and sacrifice be what it might. And thereat the devil was well pleased and became even more industrious.

As time went on Patriotism became more intense. Battle flags multiplied; battle cries, in song and

verse, resounded more frequently. As the stirring music was heard in public places all, save molly-coddles, stood in reverent attitude, bowing before the god of Patriotism. While at banquet board men would wax red in the face standing upon chairs, yea, upon the white linen of the table, waving with frenzied zeal the emblem that signified international prejudice and ill will. And the devil was well pleased. For even in the sanctuaries dedicated to the One God, the Father of all men (including foreigners), the battle flag was proudly displayed. And upon occasion miniature battle flags were pinned upon the coat lapels of worshipers lest they should forget the god of belligerency while ostensibly worshiping the God of love. Yea, and in lodge rooms dedicated to the brotherhood of man and to the Divine Architect of the Universe the battle flag was placed by law of the order to remind the brethren of the limitations of their brotherhood. And each public school raised the war emblem so that the rising generation might salute and chant phrased worship to the god of Patriotism. Sundry foreigners and undesirable citizens were publicly forced to salute or to kiss the emblem. And it came to such a pass that a special day was set apart for all good patriots to forget Jesus of Nazareth and to worship at the altar of Patriotism, and they called it Flag Day. And in the principal cities there were preparedness parades, the dignified "war dance of civilization." And the devil was well pleased, for his plans were maturing famously.

Now it came to pass that Patriotism had, by means of its legitimate child Protection, so crippled the nations of the earth by restraint of trade that exceeding great and widespread jealousy was caused among them. The northern nations desired warm-water seaports, and other nations nursed a desire to extend their national boundaries so as to secure an extension of trade. True, the problem could easily have been settled by international free trade, but No! Patriotism forbade the very suggestion. (The devil was in danger and he trembled.) Trade freely we might with compatriots, but with foreigners—never! It would be all right, however, to subjugate foreigners conveniently located, to take their lands, their cities and their seaports, to then remove custom houses from the old boundaries and to trade freely with the newly acquired subjects (who were no longer foreigners) while extending our own superior culture to them! For of such is the kingdom of Patriotism. It was then found that Patriotism was ready for the exact occasion with another legitimate child, Militarism, and yet another, Preparedness, and they were more than ready to do the work they were intended for. Patriotism in its full flower then reigned supreme. Followed weeks, months and years of wholesale brutal, heartless murder, arson, rape,

destruction, hatred, suffering and misery, to the accompaniment of National Anthems and the apotheosis of Patriotism. And the devil was exceedingly pleased with his work so logically and well carried out.

HENRY WARE ALLEN.

## NEWS OF THE WEEK

Week ending Tuesday, October 24, 1916.

### Presidential Politics.

President Wilson addressed three meetings at Chicago on October 19. In the first one, at the Press Club, he said in regard to political discussions, "What we want is more light and less heat." In an address to women at the Auditorium he said regarding foreign relations:

It is much more interesting to help a man than to hit him.

Anybody can use brute force, but not everybody can refrain from brute force to use that force which is infinitely greater, the spiritual force of mankind.

Some people have thought that the golden rule sounded as if it were meant for weak people, whereas there is not a weak person living that can follow the golden rule. . . .

I take leave to say that some of the difficulties of our foreign relations in the last two years have been due to the fact that it was not comprehensible to some foreign statesmen that the United States really was disinterested.

They had never heard of such a thing. And in proportion as the United States demonstrated to the world that its influence in the family of nations is disinterested it will have that part of power which does not come from arms, but comes from the great invisible powers that well up in the human heart.

In his address to naturalized citizens at the Stock Yards pavilion he said:

America was set up in order that men everywhere should know that here was a place where men who desired justice and freedom were welcome to come, and that, having come, they would be received as real brothers and partners in the common enterprise which was for the interest of all men of every kind.

Let us never forget that. Let us never allow ourselves to do the things which are contrary to those ideals. Let us never allow ourselves to desire a single inch of foreign territory. Let us never allow ourselves to question a single right of men who belong to other nations. Let us particularly charge ourselves with the responsibility of standing by the little nations that need to be stood by and show to all the nations of the world that we are not interested in the geography of politics, not interested where national boundaries lie, but interested only to see that there are no boundaries and frontiers to the rights of mankind.

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At Sioux City, Iowa, on October 17, Charles E. Hughes was heckled in regard to the Adamson law. Asked whether he would repeal it he said,

"You can not repeal a surrender," and stated further:

Under the Adamson bill (it goes into effect the first of January) there is a provision that for six months or nine months there shall be observations of its working. Six months is the minor period, nine months the maximum period, and then the wages which are to be upon this new basis shall continue to be paid until thirty days after the report of the commission.

Now, sir, this will have been in operation for a very long time before I should even take the executive chair, if elected, and will have completed its purpose before Congress would have its session in the following December.

I do not suppose that any question of repeal would be involved, but I do say that when that question arises, if it does arise, if I am elected, I will follow the principle that I now state, and have just stated, of ascertaining the exact facts and what justice would dictate ought to be done at that time.

Asked further as to what he would have done had arbitration been refused, he said:

If arbitration had been refused I should have gone right to the American people, stated the facts and put the responsibility where it belonged. I should at the time have secured a commission of inquiry so impartial, so fair as to command the respect of the entire country and directing public opinion to that end, there is no group of men in the United States that would have dared hold up the instrumentalities of commerce if that were done.

\* \*

Samuel Gompers issued a statement on October 21, urging support of Wilson. Judge Arthur Gray of Nebraska, prominent Progressive, has endorsed Wilson. The re-election of President Wilson was predicted by Alan C. Benson, Socialist candidate, at San Francisco on October 20, in an interview in *The Bulletin*. William English Walling, prominent as a writer on Socialism, in a statement on October 19, expressed the hope that Wilson would be elected. Victor Murdock, Progressive party nominee for United States Senator from Kansas in 1914, declared for Wilson on October 22, in his paper, *The Wichita Eagle*. In a public statement Dr. Washington Gladden, who has always been a Republican or Progressive, declared for Wilson on October 20. Former Republican Governor, Joseph M. Carey of Wyoming, who supported Roosevelt in 1912, has taken the stump for Wilson. At Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, on October 21, William J. Bryan was introduced at a meeting in behalf of Congressman Warren North Bailey by Lynn Brua, Progressive party candidate for Congress against Bailey in 1912 and 1914.

### Presidential Candidates Quizzed.

The following letter, addressed to all candidates for the Presidency, was signed by H. Q. Alexander, M. D., Herbert S. Bigelow, James Wesley Bryan, William L. Chenery, Walter Clark, John Dewey, Sid Evans, John Fitzgerald, Zona Gale, Gilson

Gardner, Percy S. Grant, John J. Hopper, Robert Hunter, Stiles P. Jones, William H. Johnston, Helen Keller, Paul U. Kellogg, Frederick M. Kerby, Daniel Kiefer, Judson King, Harry W. Laidler, W. Jett Lauck, Julian Leavitt, Basil M. Manly, Benjamin C. Marsh, James H. Maurer, Darwin J. Meserole, George Middleton, Scott Nearing, Charles Johnson Post, William Macleod Raine, John Reed, Eugene M. Rhodes, Harry A. Slattery, Wm. Leavitt Stoddard, Theodore F. Theme, Laurence Todd, H. Martin Williams, Arthur Young and C. G. Hoag:

Gentlemen—This letter is being sent to the candidates of the political parties competing for the control of the Federal Government for the next four years. We are greatly impressed by the fact that the vital questions of human welfare have been generally neglected by the parties in the campaign.

We believe that the great mass of citizens will be deeply interested in your answers to the following questions:

1. Do you believe that the fact that 2 per cent of the people of the United States own 60 per cent of the wealth constitutes a matter of grave public concern? If so, what do you propose to do about it?

2. The United States Public Health Service states that less than half of the American wage earners receive enough to maintain themselves in health and decency. What do you propose as a remedy for that condition?

3. For the last ten years the cost of living has been increasing faster than either the wages of the workers or the earnings of salaried employes. What do you propose as a remedy for this situation?

4. Do you favor the conservation and development of the resources now in public ownership by the national government for the public? Does your general answer on this point apply to water power? To oil? To coal? To timber?

5. How do you propose to force the development of the land and natural resources now being held out of use by private interests?

6. What do you propose to do about monopolistic control of the great basic industries of the country?

7. Are you in favor of government ownership and operation of the railroads?

8. Do you favor the postal operation of telephones and telegraphs?

9. Do you favor the conversion of the present postal savings system into a genuine public banking system making loans to the people at low interest rates?

10. Are you in favor of a comprehensive system of unemployment, accident and sickness insurance, old age pensions and workmen's compensation?

11. Do you favor publicity of all income tax returns?

12. Do you favor the "gateway" amendment to the Constitution, providing for an easier method of amending the same?

13. Do you favor measures for democratizing diplomacy? If so, what measures?

14. Do you favor changing the present system of plurality voting for a system of proportional representation?

15. Do you favor using the army and navy to protect the property of American citizens in foreign lands and to collect debts due American investors abroad?

16. Do you favor universal compulsory military training?

17. Do you favor eliminating private profit in war by means of:

(a) Government manufacture of munitions.

(b) Government development of naval oil reserves?

(c) Government development and operation of public water power rights for producing nitrates for explosives?

#### Farm Marketing and Credit Conference.

A call has been issued for the Fourth National Conference on Marketing and Farm Credits at the Sherman House, Chicago, on December 4 to 9. The convention offices are at 230 South La Salle street, Chicago. The secretary, Charles W. Holman, is in charge. The Crosser bill is among the subjects outlined for discussion.

#### Tax Reform News.

The Houston system of taxation is the issue at the approaching city election in Jackson, Mississippi. Robert S. Phifer, candidate for mayor, declares in his platform for the same system, and practically the same exemptions as Tax Commissioner Pastoriza has introduced in Houston. He promises results as follows:

It will discourage gambling in land, it will be a perpetual bonus to working men, business men, and home owners. It will encourage thrift and industry in every line of industrial activity. Consider the vacant lot. It toils not, neither does it spin. It produces nothing, it hires nobody, and is the enemy of both productive capital and the working man. It stands as a block to progress and prosperity and to every civic improvement. As it is now, men are heavily taxed if they work and build, but are lightly taxed if they gamble in land. But under my administration, the present policy will be reversed.

Phifer's candidacy and platform have been endorsed by Governor Bilbo's personal organ, The Issue, which comments thereon editorially on October 19 as follows:

His arguments are unanswerable, and he backs up every proposition he makes, in his speeches on the stump. Mr. Phifer's theory of taxation is not altogether new, and is being practiced by other cities similar to Jackson with great success.

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The Illinois State Federation of Labor in session at Quincy on October 19 reaffirmed its opposition to the pending taxation amendment as expressed at the meeting at Alton in February. The official weekly News Letter of the Federation shows that the Legislature disregarded the popular vote which called for submission of a general classification amendment and says further in part:

But, you say, the proposition approved by the people in the vote of 1912 was much broader than the amendment now proposed. It covered all property, and that includes personal property also. What about that?

You're right, brother. It provided for the classification of all property. But that did not please the corporation interests. You see, a lot of common, ordinary folks from all over the State might go to the legislators and demand that farm improvements, such as houses and barns, and the cottages of working men in the cities, which are not rated as personal property, be exempted from taxation. The legislators might listen, since the farmers and other workers are voters. Under such circumstances the legislature might even decide to increase the taxation on the capital stock of corporations to make up for the exemption of other classes of property!

Naturally the big corporations sought to safeguard themselves. They did so by getting the tax commission and the legislature to inject the personal property limitation into the tax amendment, to avoid the possibility of the farmers and other workers obtaining the advantages which might be secured if the amendment included all property.

We say the tax amendment is dishonest. It is downright trickery. It will relieve the corporation, not the people. It should be defeated decisively.

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In regard to the pending Taxation Amendment in Illinois, the executive committee of the Socialist party of Cook county adopted resolutions reciting the objections thereto and concluding as follows:

Therefore be it resolved by this Executive Committee, that the Socialist Party of Cook County denounces this amendment as a dishonest trick intended to make possible further oppression of the wage-earning classes of the State of Illinois.

That we are opposed to the amendment as being in fact useless for the purpose of getting rid of our present infamous condition of forced perjury as the alternative of confiscation.

That we call upon all Socialists in Cook County and in the State of Illinois, to use their utmost efforts to defeat the proposed amendment.

That we urge all citizens of the State to seriously consider the actual facts of this shady transaction, believing, as we do, that no man with sense of fairness or honesty can support it if once its origin, its purpose, and its effect are known.

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The Central Labor Union of the District of Columbia adopted on October 2 the resolutions introduced by E. W. Oyster in part as follows:

Whereas, Under the present system of taxation the enormous increase of land values, due entirely to the growth of the community, is monopolized by a comparatively small number of the people; and

Whereas, An assessment of 1½ per cent on the true land values in the District would produce sufficient revenue to meet the District's share of expenses for the upkeep and beautification of the National Capital; and

Whereas, The effect of relieving improvements from taxation and raising the public revenues by a

tax on land values would be to encourage the building of more and better homes and business houses, to take from the land its speculative and monopoly value, and thereby enable many more of our people to secure homes of their own or lower rents than under the present unjust and unscientific system of taxation; therefore

Resolved, That the Central Labor Union of the District of Columbia is opposed to the present system of taxation and against the tax on personal property, but favors a tax on land values exclusive of improvements, on franchises, on banks, on incomes, on inheritances, and on such business as it may be deemed wise to tax for the public welfare.

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Central Labor Union that the law regulating the assessment of real estate in the District of Columbia should be so amended as to authorize and direct the removal of the present assessment on improvements at the rate of not less than 10 per cent each year until the tax thereon is entirely removed; and that the percentage of value removed from improvements each year be transferred to land values.

#### Labor Notes.

A vigorous fight for an anti-injunction act in Illinois, similar to the Federal law, was decided on by the Illinois Federation of Labor, in convention at Quincy on October 18. The convention also denounced Senator Sherman for his attack on Gompers. It went on record once more against the pending tax amendment, and in favor of postalization of telephone and telegraph lines.

\* \*

A settlement was arrived at on October 19 of the strike of oil workers at Bayonne, New Jersey, which virtually amounts to defeat of the strikers. After a conference with representatives of the Federal Board of Mediation the strikers voted to return to work in the hope that the Standard Oil Company would, on consideration, see the justice of their request for an increase to \$3 a day for workers getting less than that amount. [See current volume, page 997.]

#### Bolton Hall Wins.

Bolton Hall was acquitted on October 20 of the charge of having distributed birth-control literature. He had presided at a meeting on May 30 to protest against the conviction of Dr. Ben Reitman. This was the basis of the charge against him. [See current volume, page 564.]

#### Mexico and the United States.

The election on the 22d of deputies and alternates to the ratification convention called by General Carranza in Queretaro for December 1, resulted in an overwhelming endorsement of the Carranza government. No disorder at the polls is reported. There will be 200 deputies in the convention who must conclude their work within two months. It is expected that the election for presi-

dent and members of congress, which will not be announced till after the convention, will take place in January or February. [See current volume, page 998.]

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A battle is reported between Carranza forces and Villa forces near Santa Ysabel. The accounts of the engagement are indefinite and confusing.

#### European War.

Interest still centers on the eastern front, and particularly in the Balkan operations. General Mackensen's spectacular advance in the Dobrudja region, and the capture of Constanza is hailed by Berlin as the most important event since the beginning of the Somme advance in July. The German operations in Transylvania came to a deadlock in the Carpathian passes leading to Roumania. Then followed the taking of the Black Sea port that forms the terminus of the only railroad in Dobrudja running from the Danube to the sea. Constanza, though but a city of 13,000, served as the base of the Roumanian navy, and was used by the Russians to send supplies into the country. The victorious army now threatens Tchernavoda, where the road crosses the Danube. In the southern field fortune favors the Allies. The Serbian forces continue their advance upon Monastir, which if unrelieved may soon be untenable by the Bulgarians. German troops are reported to have appeared on this front in the last few days. The French and British forces continue their advance, but have been delayed by heavy rains. Greece is seething with discontent. French and Italian marines have been put in charge of Athens to maintain order, and to prevent pro-German moves. The Greek forces in Thessaly in the rear of the Allies have been transferred to the south, and the munitions gathered at that point in furtherance of the plan of the King's party to aid Germany, have been turned over to General Sarrail. Troops are reported to be flocking to the Venizelos government at Saloniki. [See current volume, page 998.]

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Operations on the Somme front mark the success of the Allies. The French have completed their capture of Sailly-Saillisel on the road joining Peronne and Bapaume. This fortification was spoken of by German troops as being impregnable. The French have continued the process of pocketing Peronne by advancing their lines north of that stronghold. The British have made numerous small gains on their front, and between Gueudecourt and Lesboeufts they captured a thousand yards of German trenches on the 23d.

\* \*

Italy has resumed her advance on Trieste, and reports small gains on the Carso plateau and in the Trenteno. No reports are given out from Armenia or elsewhere in Asia Minor. The Ger-

man forces in German East Africa have broken up into a number of small units which the British and Belgian forces are gradually subduing. The main German force continues to retreat over the wide, unsettled territory.

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The Austrian Premier, Count Karl Stuerghk, was assassinated at Vienna on the 21st by Ludwig Adler, the publisher of a Vienna newspaper. Adler's act appears to have been entirely personal. The Socialist party, with which he was affiliated, has repudiated his act.

\* \*

Sir Edward Grey, British Secretary for foreign affairs, speaking at a meeting of the Foreign Press Association, at which the diplomatic representatives of neutral countries were present, said the Allies were not prepared to discuss peace terms, but welcomed any efforts of neutral countries for a combination to prevent future wars. Continuing, he said:

I believe the best work neutrals can do for the moment is to try to prevent a war like this from happening again. If the nations had been united in such an agreement and prompt resolution to insist in 1914 that the dispute must be referred to a conference or The Hague, that the Belgian treaty must be observed, there would have been no war.

Nations fighting for their existence, with daily increasing prospects of seeing victory brought nearer, still knowing that if they stop short of victory they stop short of everything for which they are struggling, cannot be expected to spend much time thinking about what might happen after victory.

But the neutrals can do it. I observe that not only President Wilson but Mr. Hughes is supporting a league started not with the object of interfering with the belligerents in this war, but which will do its part in making peace secure in the future.

It is a work of neutral countries to which we should all look with favor and hope. Only, we must bear this in mind, if the nations after the war are able to do something effective by binding themselves with the common object of preserving peace, they must be prepared to undertake not more than they are able to uphold by force, and to see, when the time of crisis comes, that it is upheld by force.

The question we must ask them is: "Will you play up when the time comes?" It is not merely the sign manual of presidents and sovereigns that is really to make that worth while; it must also have behind it parliaments and national sentiments.

Supposing the conditions of 1914 occur again and there is such a league in existence. Everything will depend upon whether national sentiment behind it is so permeated by the lessons of this war as to compel each nation, as a matter of vital interest, to keep peace other than by force. . . .

I take it on the word of the prime minister that we shall fight until we have established the supremacy and right of free development under equal conditions, each in accordance with its genius, of all states, great and small, as a family of civilized mankind.

In this struggle we have put all our resources, our wealth, our material, our labor, and now we have had time to equip and train a large army. We have put all the best life blood of the nation, shedding it side by side with our allies, stimulated by the energy they are showing in defense of their countries, and shedding it because we know our cause is theirs and that for the future we shall stand and fall together, without separation of one from the other, feeling that unity is essential not merely to victory, but to our future life and success.

### NOTES

—The earthquake was felt throughout the southern States on October 18, as far north as Louisville, Ky. But little damage was done.

—The International Agricultural Institute at Rome estimates the total wheat crop of the world to be 7 per cent below the average, and 25 per cent below that of last year.

—The freezing point of mercury has been determined, after very elaborate tests by the United States Bureau of Standards, as  $-38.87^{\circ}$  C., or  $-37.97^{\circ}$  F. The point fixed by the British Government in 1862 was  $-38.85$  C., or  $-37.93$  F.

—The discovery of a Spanish dictionary of the 16th century, containing a vocabulary of 2,500 words of the language of the Mostenan Indians of Bolivia, was announced on October 18 by Professor Walter Lichtenstein of the Northwestern University of Chicago.

—The Town Council of Punta Gorda, Florida, as a result of activity by Councilman William H. Whitten, has increased land value assessments 20 per cent, while keeping personal property and improvements down to former figures and, in some cases, reducing them.

—The Illinois Equal Suffrage Association in convention at Springfield on October 21, decided in favor of a Constitutional convention as the best means of getting full suffrage. Mrs. Grace Wilbur Trout was elected president. A faction in favor of submission of a straight suffrage amendment formed the Illinois Suffrage Alliance and elected Catherine Waugh McCulloch president.

—The Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor has published an inquiry into public and private work done for infant welfare in 599 American cities with 10,000 or more population. This bulletin is intended not only for health officers and social workers, but for all who are interested in comparing infant welfare work in their own communities with that of other places. Copies may be obtained from the Bureau at Washington.

## PRESS OPINIONS

### What One Man Owned.

The Day Book (Chicago), October 21.—H. Miller died at San Francisco last Saturday. He owned at time of death an empire in California, Nevada and Oregon land. Taking the Central California valley

route, he could drive his herds of cattle from Arizona to Oregon and each night camp on his own land. Experts said his lands totaled about 14,539,200 acres, about 1-134 of the total area of the U. S. proper. Man is called a land animal, which is somewhat of a reflection on other animals. No other animals on earth are so stupid as to permit one of their number to own 1-134 of that upon which the lives of all depend.

### Untainted Charity.

Dr. Frank Crane, in New York Globe.—If I want to redeem the world I can come nearer my object and do less harm, by being just toward myself and just toward everybody else, than by "doing good" to people. The only untainted charity is justice. Often our ostensible charities serve but to obscure and palliate great evils. Conventional charity drops pennies in the beggar's cup, carries bread to the starving, distributes clothing to the naked. Real charity, which is justice, sets about removing the conditions that make beggary, starvation and nakedness. Conventional charity plays Lady Bountiful; justice tries to establish such laws as shall give employment to all, so that they need no bounty. Charity makes the Old Man of the Sea feed sugar plums to the poor devil he is riding and choking; justice would make him get off his victim's back. Conventional charity piously accepts things as they are, and helps the unfortunate; justice goes to the legislature and changes things. Charity swats the fly; justice takes away the dung heaps that breed flies. Charity gives quinine in the malarial tropics; justice drains the swamps. Charity sends surgeons and ambulances and trained nurses to the war; justice struggles to secure that internationalism that will prevent war. Charity works among slum wrecks; justice dreams and plans that there be no more slums. Charity scrapes the soil's surface; justice subsoils. Charity is affected by symptoms; justice by causes. Charity assumes evil institutions and customs to be a part of "Divine Providence," and tearfully works away at taking care of the wreckage; justice regards injustice everywhere, custom buttressed and respectable or not, as the work of the devil, and vigorously attacks it. Charity is timid and always is passing the collection box; justice is unafraid and asks no alms, no patrons, no benevolent support. . . . The best part of the human race does not want help, nor favor, nor charity; it wants a fair chance and a square deal. Charity is man's kindness. Justice is God's.

### Hughes's Bombastic Claim.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican, October 19.—Mr. Hughes's Louisville statement of how he would have prevented the sinking of the Lusitania amounts to this, that the strongest military power the world has ever known, a power that did not hesitate to march its armies through Belgium at the high price of making Britain the deadliest of its enemies in a world war—that this power, so determined and so ruthless in attaining its ends, would have been afraid of Charles Evans Hughes!

The best way of avenging thyself is not to become like the wrongdoer.—Marcus Aurelius.

## CORRESPONDENCE

### A FERRIS INSTITUTE GRADUATE'S VIEW.

Ewart, Mich., Oct. 7, 1916.

The comments of the American Economist on Mr. G. Masselink and the Ferris Institute must have created a smile among many ex-students of that institution. Most of them will recall how they earned their own money to go. Since Michigan voters have twice sent the president of the Ferris Institute to the gubernatorial chair, and since most of the students are Michigan young folk, it must follow, if the Economist be correct, that Michigan is not afraid of being managed by Free-Traders.

Mr. Masselink, public-spirited citizen of Big Rapids, has won the enmity of gamblers and liquor dealers, the respect of Christians, the confidence of parents, the love of little children, and is the inspiration of thousands of young men and women. He will tell the truth in spite of men or devils.

A GRADUATE OF THE FERRIS INSTITUTE.

### LOS ANGELES ASSESSMENTS.

Los Angeles, Oct. 2, 1916.

Statistics of the current year's tax assessment figures, and the rates and amounts of tax monies raised on the various parts of Los Angeles, as compared with similar figures for last year are now available, and are a most interesting study.

The final net total as adopted by the Board of Equalization for Los Angeles City, as of March 1st, 1916, and exclusive of the railroad operative rolls, and similar values, is \$457,845,995, compared with \$394,744,600 last year. Included in the total for the current year are the assessed valuations of the Annexations of 1915, viz.: San Fernando Valley, Bairdstown, and the Palms, amounting to \$19,206,765. As these were not included in the Tax Assessment of 1915-16, this amount should be deducted from this year's total for purposes of comparing the total value of this year, with 1915-16.

The result of the above deduction leaves the comparison as follows for similar areas: Full NET, assessed value, 1916-17, \$438,639,230; 1915-16, \$394,744,600, or an increase of \$43,894,630, or 11.11 per cent. The gain, over last year, due to annexations is 4.87 per cent. The value of the 1915 annexations in the terms of the current year's tax assessment is 4.21 per cent.

The above valuations are net, with all deductions made for the usual exemptions for \$100 of furniture; \$1,000 for veterans; and usual church, school and other city properties. The values include personalty and money.

Comparative valuations for Los Angeles County for the items of land and improvements only are as follows: 1916-17, \$703,501,500; compared with 1915-16, \$615,850,545, which show an increase of \$87,650,955, or 14.22 per cent. The segregation as between land and improvement values is as follows:

	1915-17.	1915-16.	Change.	Per cent.
Land .....	\$533,617,675	\$440,390,555	\$93,227,120	21.16 Inc.
Imps. ....	169,501,500	175,459,990	5,576,175	3.17 Dec.

Excluding the assessed values of the City Annexations of 1915, above noted, and using gross land

and improvement values, as passed by the City Board of Equalization, with no deductions for the several exemptions noted, a series of most interesting comparisons is possible.

For Los Angeles City, as of March 1st, 1916, the total land value is \$310,421,735, compared with \$240,699,030 for 1915-16, a gain of 28.96 per cent, or \$69,722,705. (The land value of the 1915 annexation is \$17,629,435, or 5.37 per cent of last year's figures.)

To offset this large increase in assessed land value, there is a very considerable reduction in improvement valuations, as the following figures show. For this year buildings are assessed at \$116,747,600 (annexations excluded, total, \$1,785,040, and bring the total to \$118,533,040), compared with \$141,616,495, a decrease of \$24,869,055, or 17.56 per cent.

Continuing the comparisons with the same areas and periods, the total amount of taxes assessed against the foregoing property is \$6,154,284.08, for 1916-17, compared with \$6,120,125.75 in 1915-16, which is an increase of only \$34,158.33 expressed in percentages by the following decimal: .00558 per cent, or less than six-tenths of one per cent.

The tax rates vary so with each portion of the city that a comparison in any specific terms is out of the question. The Annexations of 1915 will pay into the city treasury \$260,831.86, or 4.05 per cent of the present year's tax levy of \$6,415,115.94.

Changes in the land and building values were the result of the application of Modern Analytic Methods of Realty Valuation, under the supervision of James G. Stafford, as used in the offices of the Joint Bureau of Appraisal, and merely coincide with actual conditions and follow the modern trend in tax valuation work throughout the United States. For years the assessments on building and improvements have stood almost without change on the assessors' books, after first having been placed there. The decreases in improvement values are due to a scientific appraisal of reduplication costs, less the depreciation for age and condition, and an added, although faulty applied schedule of depreciation for lack of utility and obsolescence, written off the present going values as reported to the assessors by the Joint Bureau of Appraisal Building Valuation Department.

Land values throughout the county are the result of consulting the opinion of representative committees of business men, property owners, and real estate men, as well as others who had made a study of local conditions, and were familiar with the factors affecting value of frontage throughout a certain given district. These values reflect as nearly as possible the consensus of opinion of the property owners themselves, and while there are some considerable increases in land values, this is no real argument against the values themselves, nor against the methods followed in obtaining the appraisal, but rather does it point to a lack of information as to value of land throughout the city on the part of the Assessor's office. Otherwise there would not have been the very radical increases in value in certain very high class sections of the Old City, which have been under assessed for many years.

Opinions of property owners who have been interviewed since the work of the Bureau was completed indicate a general appreciation of that work, and the growing realization that an equalization of assessed

values more nearly approximating actual conditions than any previous assessment, and much more equitable to individual taxpayers, has been arrived at, and that the individual who had made the greatest protest was he who had been under assessed in years past.

JAMES G. STAFFORD.

### RULER OR REPRESENTATIVE.

Chicago, October 21.

In discussing the merits of the candidates for the presidency one would infer from the turn the discussion has taken that the President, when elected, is free to follow his personal prejudices. No one who believes in democracy will admit this. That he should act as he believes the people would have him go without saying. No faithful public officer will do otherwise.

In the matter of the tariff specific instructions were involved in the campaign of 1912. The President used his influence to carry out the pledge made in the Baltimore platform to revise the tariff downward. Not to do so was to be derelict in his duty.

In our relations with Mexico has Mr. Wilson done what the people would have had him do? If he has where does Mr. Hughes get his kick? And by the way what would he have done? He hasn't told us.

In our controversy with Germany did the people want the President to break off diplomatic relations and resort to arms or did they want him to secure satisfaction by negotiation if he could? Mr. Hughes says he would have broken off diplomatic relations with Germany when the Lusitania was sunk, had he been President. If so would he have faithfully represented the people?

In the matter of the railway dispute a nation-wide strike was threatened. The employes' delegates and railway heads could not reach an agreement. In fact, the date for a walk-out had already been set. In taking a hand in the dispute, and finally averting the strike, did the President do what the people would have him do, or did the people prefer that he keep hands off, or impose conditions that would amount to the same thing?

In view of the turn the issues of the campaign have taken we should ask ourselves these questions in deciding which of the candidates is better fitted to serve as President.

M. J. FOYER.

### THE NIAGARA FALLS DECISION.

Philadelphia, October 2, 1916.

As a "veteran" Singletaxer who is not often able to be present at Singletax conferences, may I be permitted a little space in your columns to express my great satisfaction with the action taken at the Niagara meeting?

It seems to me that Mrs. Fels has put the Fels benefaction upon a firm foundation, in exact accordance with the principles of Singletax philosophy, which go far beyond the fiscal measure thus designated. Her own contributions will be given for such purposes, in furtherance of the general movement, as may from time to time seem wise to her and her trustees, while the contributions of other individuals will likewise go to the particular purposes of which they approve; and local societies and individual en-

terprises will be conducted along lines that seem best to those immediately concerned, without interference from any central or other source.

We have thus gotten back, in our own actions, to the principle that "each has the right to do as he wills, provided he infringes not upon the equal right of all others."

Mrs. Fels is to be congratulated upon the profound understanding that she has shown of the true basis of an ideal society; and under her wise inspiration it is to be expected that still better work will be done for human freedom than that for which men are already so much indebted to Joseph Fels and to Daniel Kiefer, and to all the others who have given earnest work and single-hearted devotion to the cause.

SOLOMON SOLIS COHEN.

## BOOKS

### A TREATISE ON MONEY.

**The Great Conspiracy.** By H. L. Loucks. Published by the author. P. O. Box 9, Watertown, South Dakota. Price, \$1.25.

The author of the book was for many years a practical farmer, and, for a great part of the time, the representative of the organized farmers, including the largest organization of that time. He first deals with discriminations against agriculture, legislative and otherwise; by the means of which it is made the prey of the organized beneficiaries of special privileges. His remedy is not special privileges to or for agriculture, but the repeal of all special privileges in connection with the operation of public utilities for private profit. Free trade for one; free trade for all (p. 11). Free money for one; free money for all (p. 185). All that is necessary for agriculture is that it be placed upon an "equal footing with any other business or industry."

The book is wholly non-partisan, stating facts as the author sees them, regardless of the effect on political parties. From page 3, "Foreword":

Our medium of exchange for the future: shall it be legal tender, lawful money, issued by the Government and administered without private profit, as a public utility, or shall it be as at present intended and administered, bank ledger credits, wholly controlled by the bankers as to amount of credit, and rate of interest to be charged, and the far more dangerous proposition of the banker loaning a book credit and insisting on the obligation being made payable in one kind of money that has disappeared from circulation in Europe, Asia, Africa, South America, and practically so in the United States? What little there is I claim will be hoarded in the vaults of the creditors, to be secured on the payment of a premium only (pp. 175-257).

In tracing the conspiracy to control the money of the nation, he points out facts, and gives evidence on which he makes the charge: That the debt obligations now controlled by The System, which he designates "The House of Morgan," ex-

ceeds 100 millions, are made payable in "gold coin of the present standard weight and fineness." (The form is now being changed to "American gold coin" in view of their ambition to become the world's bankers, and at the same time they are decoining the American gold coin.) (pp. 80-203.)

That our laws have been gradually but persistently amended for the past fifty years, providing for the issue of a currency which, although an obligation of the Government, is not lawful money—a gross deception and a fraud upon the people (p. 209).

That even this currency is also being rapidly retired from circulation (p. 48) to force the use of bank ledger credits.

That the policy of the Federal Reserve Board, to whom has been delegated the constitutional right to issue money (p. 56), is retiring it.

That the policy of the Federal Reserve Board is to concentrate all banking into their one system, and they are now actually persecuting, discriminating against, and trying to force the Independent State Banks and Savings Banks into the system, or starve them out of business (pp. 278-80).

That the policy of The House of Morgan is to use this vital power, delegated to them as a public trust, to develop and exploit Europe, Asia, Africa and South America, in preference to, and at the expense of, our own country (pp. 140-256).

That they are promoting the campaign for military preparedness to coerce American labor when the result of that discrimination becomes apparent, and naval preparedness, that may force collection of their investments in foreign countries (p. 298).

That they have complete control of both dominant political parties (pp. 194 to 201, 287, 288, 292); and their intention is to rush through Congress during the short session such amendments as are now recommended by Paul Warburg and the Federal Reserve Board, to perfect the plans of the conspirators (address of Warburg's at recent session of the National Bankers' Association at Kansas City).

These recommendations will include the elimination of all Government control, and the abolition of the office and duties of the Comptroller of the Currency, because he had the temerity to suggest that these "public servants should at least obey the laws governing their—our—business" (pp. 59, 164, 176).

The author appeals to all good citizens who love and wish to develop our country to unite to wrest this power over all labor, industry and commerce from this small group of selfish, greedy, unpatriotic, law-defying exploiters and extortioners.

R. F. PETTIGREW.

\* \* \*

Preparedness is the ability to enforce right by an appeal to might. Christianity is the ability to enforce right by an appeal to love.—Scott Nearing.

## ANALYZING SCRIPTURE.

**The Story of the New Testament.** By Edgar J. Goodspeed. Published by the University of Chicago Press. Price, \$1 net.

The author is a professor of Biblical Greek in the University of Chicago. This little book is not intended to be an erudite disquisition for scholars; it attempts to tell the intelligent non-specialist what scholarly research has discovered about the actual origin of that part of the Bible which we call "the New Testament." Over against the aristocratic assumptions of the older, conventional theology, Professor Goodspeed quietly and tactfully sets forth, in clear and untechnical terms, the democratic meaning of early Christian history. He emphasizes that religion does not spring from the Bible; but that, on the contrary, the Bible springs from religion. The New Testament shows us the early church deep in its missionary enterprise of spreading the gospel; then seeking a religious explanation of the history amid which the church is moving; then bracing itself against the shock of persecution; and, finally, plunged into controversy over its own beliefs. This volume gives the layman a great deal of information which he would otherwise have much difficulty to find. Short chapters relate, in a vivid and unconventional way, the circumstances and conditions which called the various writings of the New Testament into existence. The book is recommended for public libraries, clergymen, and adult study classes.

LOUIS WALLIS.

## Periodicals

### The Outlook.

In an article in the Outlook of October 18 entitled, "An Asiatic View of the Japanese Question," the writer, a distinguished lawyer of Lahore, tells incidentally how militarism works its way and spreads its pernicious influence. "I remember," says the writer, "that in the course of conversation a Japanese statesman of the highest rank told me how the tendency in the United States towards militarism and the new preparedness cry were forcing them to starve the internal improvement of their country in order to be ready for any military emergency." So it goes, the world over. There is another article in this number which is well worth reading. It is a straightforward account of two executions in Sing Sing, with some remarks from the late warden, Mr. Osborne, on the folly and crime of capital punishment.

J. H. DILLARD.

\* \* \*

If a State is governed by the principles of reason, poverty and misery are subjects of shame; if a State is not governed by the principles of reason, riches and honor are the subjects of shame.—Confucius.

## PAMPHLETS

### Pamphlets Received.

Decisions of Courts Affecting Labor: 1915. Bulletin Whole Number 189 of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Illustrated City Book of Houston containing annual message of Mayor, Reports of All Departments and Analysis of the City by the Chamber of Commerce, Houston, Tex., 1916.

California Commission of Immigration and Housing. Second Annual Report, January 2, 1916. Published for the office of the Commission, Underwood Bldg., San Francisco, Calif.

The Betrayal of the People in the Aldrich-Wilson Federal Reserve Act and Rural Credits Act. By T. Cushing Daniel. Published by the Monetary Educational Bureau, Washington, D. C. Price, 25 cents.

Democracy or Imperialism—The Alternative that Confronts Us. By Frederic C. Howe, Ellis Island, N. Y. Reprinted from the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, July, 1916.

A New System of Money. Address before the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Banking, May 23, 1916. By Alfred B. Westrup, care of the Bronson-Canode Printing Co., 1241 S. State St., Chicago. Price, 25 cents.

A Graphic Summary of American Agriculture. By Middleton Smith, O. E. Baker and R. G. Ainsworth. Bulletin Separate 681, from the Yearbook of Department of Agriculture, 1915. Division of Publications, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

How to Lessen the Burden of Taxation in Massachusetts. Argument by John S. Codman before the Special Commission on Taxation, November 10, 1915. Second Edition. Published by the Massachusetts Single Tax League, 120 Boylston St., Boston.

\* \* \*

When a doctor is irritable, it may be because he is out of patients.—Unidentified.

**BEAUTIFUL LADIES' NECK CHAIN**  
 No. 6666 15 Inches Long, Guaranteed 12 K. Gold Filled  
 Perfect Spring Ring. Sent for 25c Stamps.  
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## What the Postman Brings

I like the new cover.

RAY STANNARD BAKER.

The Public looks fine in its new dress and it is fine.

JAMES H. DILLARD CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.

I wish to congratulate you on the changed cover and paper of The Public. The paper presents a fine appearance. I hope you will feel justified in keeping it up to its present mechanical excellence. I am confident that you will keep the reading matter up to its long continued high standard.

LYMAN PERLEY, OMAHA, NEBR.

Some friend in your city has sent me The Public, which I have read with avidity. You can rely on me as a regular subscriber if it continues to be as high class as it is today.

JOSEPH A. WIDMER, RIMINI, MONT.

You may be sure that I appreciate the new dress of The Public. It makes it very much more attractive and is well worth the additional expense. I intend to send you lists of ten or twenty names occasionally, assuming that you will send The Public to them for three or four weeks at ten cents each.

HENRY WARE ALLEN, WICHITA, KANS.

You are putting out not only a good paper but a good looking one too—I like the late change. The other day I met a man to whom I had sent the paper and he said to me: "By the way, don't you think this week's issue of The Public was a particularly good one—it was full of good things."

HAROLD SUDELL, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

I believe in democracy as represented by Theodore Roosevelt. You prefer that of the vacillating Wilson. I believe in an adequate preparedness for the protection of American lives and property in all parts of the world, and for the establishment of universal military training in our country. You believe in what I consider dangerous and unpatriotic pacifism. Discontinue The Public when my subscription expires.

S. EUGENE WHITESIDE, INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

### THE OFFER:

The Public, six weeks, and one booklet on taxation, 10c; a club of 12, \$1.00.

Offer Closes November 15

# Subscriptions Gaining

Receipts from both yearly subscriptions and short-termers have shown a healthy increase this month. It is a supremely opportune time for educational work. Line up and be one of the many workers—be a Hero and not a Coward of Peace.

STANLEY BOWMAR.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Small classified advertisements we will insert in The Public at the rate of 2c a word, cash with order.

Subscribers who want to buy or sell something which would not, in their opinion, warrant a large advertisement will find here a method of advertising specially adapted to their needs.

CHEAP ENGLISH EDITION of Progress and Poverty. Only 10 copies. Postpaid 15c. Public Book Dept.

HERBERT S. BIGELOW will give two evening lectures in Chicago (notice of place later) on Nov. 3 and 4. Admission Free. Barbara C. Leu, 1652 W. Monroe.

A SINGLETAX PLAY.—The Singletax play, by James G. Blauvelt, referred to in a recent number of The Public, can be obtained from us. Send 2c postage. The Public Book Dept.

WANTED—A COPY OF "The Pope in Politics," by Father McGlynn, published in "The Standard" in 1889 or 1890. Will pay well for a good copy. M. H. McDowell, 817 Union St., New Orleans, La.

BEEKEEPING PAYS IN TEXAS—We can sell well established apiaries or furnish bees in single colonies or car lots. If contemplating removal to Texas or if interested in a profitable business write to Southwestern Bee Co., San Antonio, Texas.

BUY A PRETTY HOME IN ALABAMA for \$2,000.—Fifty-room house, with bath and toilet; lot 66x140 ft., with plenty of trees and shrubbery; fronts on park in sight of Mobile Bay in the famous Fairhope Single Tax Colony. Average winter climate 52, and summers are more pleasant than in the north. Will send picture if desired. Address P. Y. Albright, Fairhope, Ala.

PROSPERITY IN CANADA—\$900,000,000 in new wealth added in 1915. Enormous crops and low taxation make farmers rich. Wheat average, 36.16 bushels per acre in Alberta, 28.75 bushels per acre in Saskatchewan, 28.50 bushels per acre in Manitoba. Taxes average \$24 and will not exceed \$35 per quarter section, includes all taxes; no taxes on improvements. Free schools and full religious liberty, good climate. Get your farm home from the Canadian Pacific Railway, 20 years to pay. Good land from \$11 to \$30 per acre; irrigated lands from \$35, and the government guarantees your land and water titles. Balance, after first payment, extended over nineteen years, with interest at 6 per cent; privileges of paying in full any time. Before final payment becomes due your farm should have paid for itself. We will lend you up to \$2,000 in improvements in certain districts, with no security other than the land itself. Particulars on request. Ready-made farms for sale. Special easy terms. Loans for livestock. In defined districts, after one year's occupation, under certain conditions, we advance cattle, sheep and hogs to farmers up to a value of \$1,000. We want you; we can afford to help you. We own the land; we want the land cultivated. Our interests are mutual. Buy direct and get your farm home from the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY. Send for free book. J. S. Dennis, Assistant to the President, Canadian Pacific Railway, 119 Ninth Ave., Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

## Chicago Radicals

are invited to join with some friends at luncheon at Rothschild's Restaurant (8th floor Rothschild's Department Store), every Friday. A table is now reserved for the group and it will be continued, if interest is shown in the idea.

## NEW TARIFFS AFTER THE WAR

The proposed schemes for business international boycotts, after the present conflicts, will, if enacted, produce disaster. Help the Free Trade movement by joining the American Free Trade League. \$1 a year, and that includes a subscription to the Free Trade Broadside, our quarterly journal.

American Free Trade League, 6 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

## CHICAGO SINGLETAX CLUB SCHILLER BUILDING

Oct. 27—Professor Frederick D. Bramhall, of the University of Chicago: "Constitutions, Do They Aid or Obstruct Progress?"

OTTO CULLMAN,  
President.

E. J. BATTEN,  
Business Secretary.

# Our Photoplay Contest

All entries in the Singletax Photoplay Contest must be mailed on or received by December 31.

Particulars from

The Scenario Competition Editor

THE PUBLIC, Ellsworth Bldg., CHICAGO

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OF

# "The Struggle For Justice"

By Louis Wallis.

An entire special edition ordered by the Christian Social Service Union of Pittsburgh, Penna., for use among religious people in that city.

Singletaxers can start attention to the land problem in new quarters by giving copies of this low-priced book to progressive clergymen.

Remember what Henry George said in "The Condition of Labor": "The social question is at bottom a religious question. The beneficent and far-reaching revolution we aim at can be carried by nothing less than the religious conscience."

Well-printed, in strong paper covers, 25c. Two copies to one address, 45c; five copies, \$1.10.

The Public, Book Department  
Ellsworth Building Chicago

## Public Ownership of Public Utilities

The movement for the people to gain control of those activities that are natural monopolies, will be aided by the wide distribution of the best literature on the subject. In addition to the suggestions made below, the student is referred to several books by Frederic C. Howe, to "Social Problems," by Henry George (Chapter XVII), and to Mr. Crosby's "The Orthocratic State," all of which can be ordered from us.

### Municipal Ownership.

Debaters' Handbook. Both sides presented. Cloth \$1.

### The Collectivist State in the Making.

By Emil Davies. Cloth \$2.00.

### The Telegraph Monopoly.

By Frank Parsons. Paper 25c.

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