

tion has already been called to the fact that land values, which constitute such an enormous part of what is commonly called capital, are not capital at all.

I could give you numerous other quotations, showing that George insisted upon distinguishing the natural instruments of social service from the artificial ones under all circumstances, and that he recognized the evil powers of capitalism as springing fundamentally from land monopoly disguised as capital. But it is unnecessary, for that was the key to his solution of the social service problem, and you may read it at leisure in his books.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

THE RELATION OF AERONAUTICS TO CIVILIZATION.

Zurich, Switzerland, September 27.—It was my intention to write you a letter about the Zeppelin airship after having seen it flying, but unfortunately it was destroyed before I had an opportunity to see it. The 1st of July it was sailing above Zurich, making in 12 hours a flight of 400 kilometres through the northeastern part of Switzerland, where it was greeted with enormous enthusiasm. Unfortunately I missed the opportunity to see it that day, and I learned only in the evening that the famous airship had been above Zurich in the afternoon. You may well imagine what an enormous sensation it had created throughout the country. For many days there was nearly no other news but that of Zeppelin in the newspapers, and the climax was reached with the tragic destroying of the airship at Echterdingen in Wurtemberg.* There was then a general exclamation of pain and compassion for the famous inventor; a subscription was opened to place funds at his disposal to build a new airship, and to-day six million marks have already been collected, so that Zeppelin would be able to build ten airships of the type of the destroyed one. Count Zeppelin is now, after having formerly been considered as a crank and sneered at, the most famous man in Germany. After all, with what is known about him, he seems to be a splendid man.

It has been said that the Germans consider the airship only as a machine of war, and that it was for this reason that they have given their money so willingly to construct new airships. Though some of them have been influenced by this reason, it is nonsense to say so of the whole people. The appearance of an airship, as big as a modern ocean-hunter, sailing against the winds at the will of its inventor, strikes the imagination most powerfully, and that is enough to account for the emotions of the people. The excitement in Switzerland was as intense as in Germany, though the Swiss have no interest in a machine of war built for the German Government. Nevertheless it goes without saying that the international mischief-makers, the patriotic idiots, and hirelings of a well-paying patriotism, are

doing their best and their worst to teach the world that it is absolutely necessary for a Christian people to use the greatest discovery of the age chiefly for the purpose of murdering other people on the other side of the frontier. To one who has travelled the world their arguments sound as intended for a comedy-joke. We maintain armies and navies as if we were surrounded by Huns and barbarians waiting only for the moment of weakness to burn down our cities and sell us into slavery; whereas the greatest mischief that could befall us would be that our parliamentary representatives would have to travel to Paris, instead of to Berlin, and that on the public buildings instead of a little bit of cloth with red, white and black stripes, there would be fluttering another with red, white and blue stripes. This cry for armies and navies to protect one nation against another in our little Europe, where all nations are on the same level of civilization, have the same trend of thought, exchange every day the products of their labor, give to their citizens the same rights in their countries as to a foreigner, is so wholly nonsensical and ridiculous that it will furnish a riddle for the historians of a more enlightened future.

There is only one explanation of this general madness, which holds good in my opinion, and that is that the latent cruelty and moral insanity in human nature which formerly found an outlet in religious persecutions and witch-burning, has now turned to patriotism. Otherwise it would be absolutely incomprehensible.

GUSTAV BUESCHER.

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POLICE ANARCHY IN INDIANAPOLIS.

Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 2.—A simple tale of municipal blindness and police brutality and ignorance may be told; this time about Indianapolis, a quiet and sleepy town where there is no labor movement and where most good citizens seem to think this is the best of all possible worlds.

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Emma Goldman tried to speak in Indianapolis last week. Her lectures were to be delivered on October 27th, 28th and 29th, and the subjects were: "Anarchism and What It Stands For," "The Revolutionary Spirit in the Drama," and "Patriotism." She had never been in Indianapolis before and she did not know what she was running up against.

I was the only person she knew here, so that her manager, Dr. Reitman, came to me and asked my assistance in finding a hall. We went together to the Propylaeum, the most "respectable" hall in Indianapolis. I am a stranger in Indianapolis, or I would never have selected a place the directors of which were all women, and moreover women who are of our "best people."

But Dr. Reitman signed the contract for Emma Goldman, who was lecturing in Ohio at the time, made arrangements for printing, advertisements, etc., and left for Cincinnati, where Miss Goldman was to speak previously to coming to Indianapolis. The local papers announced the lectures, several thousand circulars were distributed by an agency, and many

*The Public of August 14, page 470.