

er's 'Dream in a Desert'; the woman falls prone, under too great a burden made up of little nagging things; the human race cannot go forward as it ought until men and women are in all respects co-workers."

"Yes," Madam Wilton said, "it's there, and in ten thousand other books. But we need never fear that love and marriage, home and companionship, will mean less than they do now." Spoke one of the young women who sat in the circle, sat so close to the older woman that the strong brown hand was clasped over the thin, white, blue-veined one, "Yes, dear, yes. They'll mean more, a thousand times; they will lie on a bed-rock foundation." She laughed a little. "It's just give and take; it's to make less of the material items and more of the spiritual ones. It isn't to do like the Randall girl, up on Mission Peak. They say she took the other route; said she wanted French pastries for dessert every night and got them by mail from a confectioner's. She told poor Jim that he ought to eat them with her, or be mean. He stood it for the honeymoon, and then things broke. She went home 'cross lots with her sunbonnet in her hand, and he went home to his mother's for some doughnuts, apple sauce and beefsteak."

"Yes, I know," said Mrs. Wilton. "She and her mother came here afterwards, with his mother, and we talked it over. The poor child had never had 'French pastries' at home and but once or twice anywhere else. She had really grown sick of them herself when the trouble came, but did not know how to stop gracefully. Then Jim came over, too, and they made it up right here in this room. He had sold out and moved into another county, and the trouble was kept out of the newspapers. They write me every now and then, and send me pictures of the baby. It's a very nice little girl, but—" The eyes lit up, the old face shone with a merry look—"she has a very plain name to carry through life."

"O, Grandma Wilton!" the girls cried as they rose to say good-bye, for the nurse was at the door to "shoo us off," as they said. "We can guess that! Dozens of nice babies have been blest by being named after you, you dear old peacemaker!"

CHARLES HOWARD SHINN.



THERE, THERE, LITTLE TRUST!

Ellis O. Jones in Life.

There, little trust—don't cry!

They have made you dissolve, I know;

And the wicked laws

Have made you pause,

And struck you a brutal blow:

But the price of your stock is soaring high;—

There, little trust—don't cry!

There, little trust—don't cry!

They have changed you about, I know;

They stormed and cursed

Till your bonds they burst,
And they gave you a mark to toe:
But you still hold tight to things we must buy;—
There, little trust—don't cry!

There, little trust—don't cry!

They have torn you apart, I know;

The law has said

You must hide your head

Away from the passing show:

But raise your prices with never a sigh;—

There, little trust—don't cry!

BOOKS

CONSERVATIVE RADICALISM.

A Primer of Political Economy. By Alfred Bishop Mason. Published by A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago. Price, 50 cents net.

Radical conclusions are not usually expected in a work on political economy which defines wealth as "anything for which something can be got in exchange," including land and labor in the category; which accepts the wage fund theory and which is strictly orthodox in its presentation of the money question. Yet a work of this kind is furnished in "A Primer of Political Economy" by Alfred Bishop Mason. For this reason it will probably not prove entirely satisfactory to any class. If no distinction is to be made between land and other material possessing exchange value, conservatives and radicals alike may question the validity of the author's final conclusion in advocating a limited form of the Singletax. The treatment of the wage question is similar to the manner of some orthodox writers and would probably fail to arouse the interest of one to whom a satisfactory solution of that problem is all important. The chapter devoted to the Singletax, in spite of its advocacy of that principle, is liable to be criticized by most of those who have followed the reasoning of Henry George. The parts devoted to the money question make one wonder why the author—before endorsing the artificial gold standard—did not give some consideration to what kind of a system would result were natural laws allowed free play, unhampered by man-made restrictions. Mr. Mason's work is a fair example of one that is neither altogether radical nor altogether conservative. For those who favor middle ground it may fill a long-felt want.

S. D.



AN ECONOMIC INQUIRY.

Cost and Price of the Product and the Market. By Isaiah Skeels. Published by the David Gibson Company, Cleveland, O. Price, \$2.00 net.

Mr. Isaiah Skeels has produced in "Cost and Price," a book that clearly shows many existing

evils and just as clearly shows the remedy. Its style is interesting and though the book is unnecessarily long it is easy reading throughout. But for one error, or perhaps an unfortunate manner of expression, it could easily be recommended as a valuable guide to economic truth. This error is the claim that ground rent is included in the price of commodities. The author carries this error to the extent of asserting: "With the average family, even though they may own their home, it can be asserted that fully three-fourths of necessary expenses for the year comes from paying for the land value—ground rents—costs that have been attached to whatever the family may buy and covered in the selling price." That assertion seems to make his whole position untenable, since he advocates the Singletax as a remedy. If ground rent could be included in commodity prices, then taxes on ground rents could be also. If Mr. Skeel's assertion were correct, then goods bought in a store on a side street, where rent is low, would be cheaper than the same goods bought in a store on a high-priced location. What, perhaps, he had in mind is that speculative land prices by keeping land out of use and restricting production, affects many commodity prices. If so, it is unfortunate that the meaning is not more clearly expressed. On the money question the author's views are clear and logical. It is refreshing to find one who sees the errors of the existing money system and at the same time, in offering a remedy, avoids the all too common error of suggesting either government loans or furnishing by the government of artificial employment. His plan of "Taxation Currency," with some modification of detail might well serve as an illustration of the ideal currency system.

S. D.

BOOKS RECEIVED

—Overland Red. Anonymus. Published by Houghton, Mifflin Company, Boston. 1914. Price \$1.35 net.

—A Handbook of Stock Exchange Laws. By Samuel P. Goldman. Published by Doubleday, Page & Co. 1914. Price \$1.50 net.

—The Carpenter and the Rich Man. By Bouck White. Published by Doubleday, Page & Co., Garden City, New York. 1914. Price \$1.25 net.

—Arrows in the Gale. By Arturo Giovannitti. Introduction by Helen Keller. Published by Frederick C. Bursch, Riverside, Conn. 1914. Price \$1.00 net.

—Where and Why Public Ownership Has Failed. By Yves Guyot. Translated from the French by H. F. Baker. The Macmillan Company. 1914. Price \$1.50 net.



A Kansas undertaker advertises thus: "Why pay \$75 for a coffin when we will sell you the same thing for \$25? Try one and be convinced."—Appeal to Reason.

PERIODICALS

The Honor of the Army.

Tyrannical and barbarous treatment of enlisted men in the United States army seems conclusively shown in the series of articles on "The Honor of the Army" in Harper's Weekly by Charles Johnson Post. The fourth paper of the series in the issue of March 14 is devoted to deserters. Mr. Post tells of one case after another of men who deserted under circumstances that made desertion the very course that any man, fit for anything, ought to take or that should, even from a militarist's point of view, have deprived the act of all reprehensible features. Yet in these cases the unfortunate ones on being caught were sentenced to prison terms and to dishonorable discharge—involving loss of citizenship. This series should have a wide circulation.

S. D.



If I have done anything to deserve the good will that I feel here tonight, it is because I have done something to earn the ill will of the people back home who defend Special Privilege. Once I had a dream that my time had come and I found myself before the gates of Heaven. Saint Peter demanded of me some reason why I should be admitted. I told him some of the things I had tried to do. I told him I had been good to my neighbors. I told him to ask the children if I had not been kind to them. Saint Peter said, "That won't do. Anybody will be good to children." Then I told him some other things. He was not satisfied. "I want to know," he said, "whether you have been effectively good enough to have earned the ill will and the opposition of the great, powerful people in your community." I had anticipated that question and took out of my pocket some copies of Brother Charlie's Cincinnati Times-Star and said, "Peter, read these editorials." He looked them over and, with a broad smile, handed them back and said: "You can go in. There is nothing better for recognition of a man up here than that the Cincinnati Times-Star should have abused him on earth." I was very happy. I put the papers back into my grip and started in. He called me back and asked, "What have you in that grip?" "The Declaration of Independence, a volume of Progress and Poverty, some speeches of Abe Lincoln, a volume of Robert Browning's poems, the Life of Tom Paine, and these copies of the Times-Star." "The other things are all right," he said, "but you must leave out the Times-Star."—Herbert S. Bigelow, at the Washington Singletax Conference.



That is The Great Adventure: to find, to choose, to make one's place in human service and to fill it; Adventure of a lifetime, of many successful lifetimes; Adventure never achieved, always rich in the joy of pursuit, the vision of fulfillment; Adventure not consummated in a year or two, nor limiting itself to the happiness of a few, but always opening before us, and carrying help and service to all the world.

All legitimate human work can be that.—The Fore-runner.