

to continue our campaign of education another season.

W. I. SWANTON,
Secretary Tax Reform Ass'n of the Dist. of Columbia.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

WHAT IS THE REMEDY?

Chicago, August 4.

The United States Industrial Commission, which recently visited Chicago, held public meetings at the La Salle hotel, for the purpose of taking testimony of the men and women who are supposed to know the real cause of the general unrest of the people of the United States, that some conclusion might be reached and a remedy applied. That there is unrest is apparent, and that the present administration recognizes it is commendable. At no session of these commission meetings, which I attended, did I hear, or have I read a report of any witness having suggested an intelligent remedy which could be universally valuable.

There were suggestions, such as arbitration in labor troubles, and raising of wages of working people, such suggestions which would apply only to a small portion of the people in any community, and thus these meetings were disappointing to the laymen who were not supposed to be competent to give testimony or suggest remedies. It was surprising to listeners to find that our professional reformers were so uninformed in regard to ways and means of social, political and industrial betterment—in fact, they seemed to be ignorant that there is a real effective specific.

In the first place, it is true that there is "discontent and restlessness," all of which is a sign of universal health, and shows a receptive condition, and that the masses are ready to adopt a remedy; it also indicates, if a change is not forthcoming, and the restlessness settles down to despair, that there is a danger of revolution.

In my humble opinion the cause of discontent is due to the fact that the great masses of the people are disinherited.

The ground or soil upon which they move and have their being is not their own, and thus the landlord is forever calling "Step lively," "Be quick or you're dead."

Human beings being land animals and unable to exist without land, and having no land upon which to exist, feel consciously or unconsciously unsafe, insecure, for the only people who are really safe are those who have access to the land.

Now, then! Feeling unsafe, being insecurely situated, is quite enough to create restlessness, is it not?

For a concrete example, review the Philippine Islands. Americans had not titles to the lands of the Philippines before we invaded that territory (so a learned bishop who visited those islands for the purpose of investigation, said recently in an address to a Chicago audience. "But," he further said, "the first thing the splendid big business men of our country did was to secure titles to their

lands," and this bishop declared it a great stroke of successful diplomacy.

He then told of the fine roads that have been built by the Filipinos for the use of the Americans and their automobiles, while the roads for themselves were inferior. He declared the Filipinos a happy class of people, and "all they needed today was an opportunity to work." "They want jobs," he said. Now, then, why are they thrown out of jobs? Why are they jobless and becoming restless and discontented? Any one capable of reasoning from effect back to cause will see that it is directly traceable to the fact that these Filipinos were disinherited when the "American gentlemen" secured deeds and titles to their lands, and the Filipinos must now "step lively" to the tune of their landlords.

History is repeating itself, and our industrial commission need look no further. Let them investigate the Henry George idea and experiment with his theories, and put a stop to the cause of inequality of opportunity.

The Henry George idea can be put in operation without working hardship to any living thing.

There is another kind of restlessness which is temporary and artificial, and is founded upon pure cussedness on the part of men who have been deprived of political power, political office, or some special privilege. These people are willing to lose money, to lay off help, to shut down factories, to refuse to loan money, to talk panic, to exhibit fear and mistrust, to fake news for the purpose of educating the people to believe that there is no prosperity possible unless the Republican party is in power and they spend money to prove it, and so they breed discontent and restlessness, but the people are no longer to be fooled. The Missourian spirit "Show me," is becoming dominant.

MINONA S. JONES.

NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of The Public for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Tuesday, August 18, 1914.

The European War.

Western Europe.

The formation of the gigantic battle-line on the Franco-German frontier, where along the amazing distance of 216 miles millions of German soldiers have been preparing soon to meet millions of French, English and Belgian troops—this stupefying fact has dominated the news from Europe since August 11. During the long resistance of the Liege forts in Belgium, almost regardless of such repulses as that of August 15 at Dinant in Southeastern Belgium and both defeats and victories in Alsace, the Kaiser's infantry battalions, well screened by cavalry, have moved hugely on