

or the Maid of Orleans. What the orthodox of two or three generations in the days when self-examination was more common than it is today called "conversion" was very real to them, and for the most part had an enduring effect upon their lives. So with Sinton's "illumination," which was a spiritual experience which determined the whole of his after life. Give what name you may to these spiritual crises through which some gifted souls are destined to pass they are to them as actual as the more mundane experiences which are the sum of most human lives. It does seem as if Sinton were one of the prophets, as Henry George himself was, as Emerson was, as Carlyle was, despite his physical crabbedness. Such men are rare.

Walter Sinton had little use for polite conversation, but his Irish wit was often manifest at social gatherings.

Bolton Hall's "Things as They Are" is based on Sinton's life and letters. Reading it we learn more of Sinton, the Man.

Byron W. Holt

IN the death of Byron W. Holt, Dec. 11, 1933, justice and truth have lost another champion. Mr. Holt was always on the alert for opportunity to exert his influence in favor of a just cause.

For years, this indefatigable, patient and scrupulous statistician produced volumes of tariff literature, the most part of which was credited to his pen. He was not only a student of facts and figures but had a perception of principles, giving exceptional value to his deductions. The special faculty which he possessed would have commanded a high price in the open market provided it had been made available for selfish ends.

His talent was often utilized by organizations and political aspirants; his careful words often gave unearned reputations to their users; but never was evasive or untrue matter furnished. The recompense, far exceeding any stipulated payment for service, was the opportunity for diffusing and advancing the cause of real democracy.

The American Free Trade League and the New York Reform Club were indebted to Mr. Holt for some of their most authoritative literature. In Congress and in the press his figures inspired speeches and editorials and furnished campaign orators with trustworthy ammunition. His unbiased judgment and sterling integrity compelled the respect of his associates.

As editor of "Plate," and "Ready-Print," for the Sound Currency Committee of the Reform Club in the 1896 campaign, Mr. Holt's work was especially effective. The matter edited by him was used in 3,000 newspapers, largely in the doubtful states of Iowa, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota and West Virginia. It would have required less than 20,000 additional votes properly distributed among these doubtful states to elect Mr. Bryan president.

Mr. Holt edited the Democratic campaign book of 1902,

some of the matter being used in the books of 1904 and 1912. Early in 1912, the Tariff Reform Committee, of which Mr. Holt was then chairman, decided that Governor Wilson, of New Jersey, a free trader, was the best man to boost for the Presidential nomination. They gave him a dinner at the Hotel Astor and started rolling the ball that ended in his nomination and election. Mr. Holt planned the campaign and wrote practically all of the speeches that were used to elect W. L. Douglass Governor of Massachusetts in 1904. He was Mr. Douglass' writing secretary after election, and was called the "Sherlock Holmes" of that administration.

Mr. Holt was an ardent believer in taxing land values and untaxing everything else so far as possible, believing that this would result in the destruction of monopoly, a complete recognition and protection of private property rights and a commonwealth based on the antithesis of socialism or communism.

At the time of his death Mr. Holt was treasurer of the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation. He leaves not only a vast amount of useful work accomplished in the interest of economic truth, but many co-workers and friends who lament their loss, and who will miss him sadly.

G. R.

THE evil is expressed in a few words, and sooner or later the nation will appreciate it and rectify it. It is the alienation of the soil from the State, and the consequent taxation of the industry of the country.

PATRICK EDWARD DOVE, "Theory of Human Progression," 1850.

BOOK REVIEWS

AN INTERESTING WORK*

The future historian, surveying the administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt must devote considerable space to the "Brain Trust" surrounding him.

We venture to predict that the historian will rub his eyes in amazement to read that in this age, so-called "Wise Men" could be found who would seriously advocate the destruction of wealth amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars, in the form of cotton, wheat, hogs as the road to national recovery.

In this book Mr. Neilson, with gentle ridicule, exposes these blind professors who are leading a blind President up a blind alley.

As our author well says, (page 90),

"They are landlord's men to a man, and pretty nearly every scheme that has been passed by Congress since Mr. Roosevelt took office will make the landlord richer some time or another."

B. W. B.

A ROBBERY OF THE LIVING AND THE UNBORN*

Here is a book which will provide an armory of facts for those of our British friends who are advancing against the fortress of land

*Control From The Top. By Francis Neilson; clo. 190 pp. Price \$1.50. G. P. Putnam's Sons, N. Y. City.