

*Post* put its last nickel into the mechanical music box the old Wurlitzer reneged and played a tune inharmoniously at variance with our old Republican battle-hymn, "We're Taxing Tonight on the Old Camp Ground." And now—and now—the *Post* is convinced that "Power corrupts like nothing else on earth," and we assume that the *Post* includes the power to tax labor and capital whilst landlords exercise the power to collect publicly-created site-values.

Messrs. Alsop and Kintner have done an illuminating job in "We Shall Make Over America." They have exposed the New Deal's purpose to jockey the Supreme Court into either reversing the case of *Hammer vs. Dagenhart* or invalidating the Wages-and-Hours Act. The clever constitutional lawyers who framed the Wages-Hours bill are serving a very useful purpose in the ultimate adoption of Single Tax, because each time the Supreme Court is jockeyed into either repudiation or invalidation of acts relating to political economy it is inevitable that the High Court at last must find refuge and security in George's principles of Single Tax.

Our condolences to the *Post*.

## Working Together For Success

IN 1857 Lord Macauley wrote to those on this side of the Atlantic:

"As long as you have a boundless extent of fertile and unoccupied land your laboring population will be far more at ease than the laboring population of the Old World, and while this is the case, the Jefferson politics may continue to exist without any fatal calamity. But the time will come when wages will be as low and fluctuate as much with you as with us. You will have your Manchesters and Birminghams, and in these Manchesters and Birminghams hundreds of thousands of artisans will assuredly be out of work. Then your institutions will be brought to the test."

We have reached that point now; we have our Manchesters and Birminghams in the United States and while we have not proportionately as much unoccupied territory as you in Canada, we have hundreds of thousands of acres of desirable unused land. Indeed, according to Mayor LaGuardia's report there are approximately 40,000 acres of unused land in New York City.

But through stupid ignorance of natural law we have permitted the margin of cultivation to be pushed so far that our "frontiers" seem to have disappeared and labor and capital are becoming beggars in a land of vast opportunity. Fulfilling Lord Macauley's prophesy, our institutions are "brought to the test."

"Doing for men," says Emerson, "what they should do for themselves, is the one ugliness in all the governments of the world."

If that were true when Emerson wrote those words how much truer it is now. And yet in spite of European examples of what totalitarian programmes really entail in the crushing of freedom that we, on this continent count our birthright—paternalism of one sort or another is being urged by some, in both Canada and the United States, who, a generation ago, would have shied at anything remotely resembling it, since it is the antithesis of the American ideal—liberty. And these urgings toward regimentation come chiefly through ignorance of the *science* of political economy. Certainly it is for us, who realize that it is economic maladjustment which is dragging nation after nation into the morass of hatred and force, to work together as we have never worked before. Single Taxers are of necessity individualists, but now is the time for "united we stand," if we hope to point the only way for a lasting peace for a war-crazed world.

There are many different ways of carrying our message as there are Single Taxers to carry it. Obviously, however, if we work together, since that gives us greater power, we must choose the greatest common denominator—and the one programme on which we can all agree, I believe is *education*.

Some of us may contend that political action is the quickest road to education although it develops bitter resistance and tolerance. Judge Jackson Ralston thinks that putting an Amendment on the ballot for the voters of California to pass on, is the quickest and surest means of educating them. Be that as it may, I wish there had been a hundred extension classes and a few thousand students taking the correspondence course up and down California for two solid years before Judge Ralston had again launched the measure.

If that had happened enough voters in that State would know what the economics of Henry George connoted to make a telling stand against lying opposition and could force proper interpretation where now is powerful misinterpretation. But without such far-reaching preparation by the Henry George School of Social Science the Ralston Amendment is on the ballot, to be voted on in November, and it seems plainly the duty of Single Taxers everywhere, regardless of national or state lines, to help our valiant cohorts in California combat the vicious onslaught made by the privileged powers under the banner of the "Anti-Single Tax League."

Therefor I beg that this Conference make it a major accomplishment to use this great opportunity to spread education in a field where the fear on the part of our enemies proves our strength; that we do everything possible immediately to make the voters of California understand what the taxation of land values in lieu of all other taxes and the philosophy that goes with it, mean—for ignorance is the only thing we Georgeists dread and



we are working together for certain success when we work to spread the Henry George School of Social Science.

For then, with the ever-growing army that understands the natural law "if" as says Henry George, "while there is yet time, we turn to justice and obey her, if we trust liberty and follow her, the dangers that now threaten must disappear, the forces that now menace will turn to agencies of elevation."—ANNA GEORGE DEMILLE at the Toronto Henry George Congress.

## Fool's Gold

THE above title seems most appropriate for certain attempts made to satisfy the average man's appetite for literature. One such attempt is "The 101 World's Classics," edited by Dr. Charles Gray Shaw, Professor of Philosophy at New York University. The inside cover of the volume states that "The editor has selected the books which are of *perpetual interest* to the human mind, those which every *cultured person should know*." The underlinings are ours. Among the 101 classics we find in condensed form an extract from the Leviathan, by Thomas Hobbes; The Social Contract, by Jean Jacques Rousseau; The Wealth of Nations, by Adam Smith, and Capital, by Karl Marx. The reader will search in vain for any reference to the greatest humanist of them all, Henry George, the American. Surely in 101 World's Classics many a work inferior to "Progress and Poverty" might have been omitted in favor of George; in fact it would have been easy to leave out two, include "Progress and Poverty" and call the work "The 100 World's Classics." But Prof. Shaw saw fit to do otherwise, even to including Karl Marx, which to the writer's mind is a mystery, since by no stretch of the imagination can "Das Kapital" be called a classic. Perhaps some one might be able to get Dr. Shaw to explain why Henry George is not as much as mentioned.

Another attempt is "America Now," edited by Harold E. Stearns. It is "an inquiry into civilization in the United States," by 36 Americans. In it is no reference to Henry George or any of his works. We do find many references to labor and industry, to Kant, Marx and Marxism, LaFollette, John L. Lewis, laissez-faire, Malthus, Communism, etc. Stuart Chase is mentioned three times. Dr. Townsend is mentioned once. In his "Introduction," Mr. Stearns says this, "For the men and women who make up the list of contributors to this book are, many of them, personally not acquainted with each other. . . . But they are united in something which is stronger than mere chance neighborliness or mutual business and professional activities. They instinctively know the difference between interested propaganda and disinterested ideas; they have been disciplined by facts and reality rather than have they felt impelled to dress

up fancy and desire into a pretty picture or a "perfect" system. In a word, they are united in that strongest fellowship of all, because it sets men free—the fellowship of truth." This is a very strong endorsement of all those who have contributed to this work. Let us see how it works out in one case where the facts are known to Georgeists if not to the rest of mankind.

In "Corporals of Industry," by E. D. Kennedy, we find this on page 208:

"It may be objected that if an industry overprices its output, new and more genuinely competitive industrial units will appear. This is another piece of reasoning which dates from Adam Smith and which also retains nothing more than an historical importance. Remember that if you and I decide to go into the copper business, we should have to raise several million dollars to make any impression on existing capacity. But anybody who was interested in putting his money into the copper business would put it into one of the existing large companies, which are always happy to get new capital and which can offer the investor the innumerable advantages connected with long experience in the business, . . ."

Mr. Kennedy by the above has justified his own belief and thus has convinced himself of the power of his own logic. But this is the old Socialist argument that the money power is able to monopolize all of the opportunities and thus exploit the purchasers. It is true that big business is better able to serve the public in many lines than small business would be. And the copper industry is of necessity big business. But the copper business depends upon land first of all. The control of the best copper lands is what prevents capital from competing with the existing companies and not the fact that men with money to invest will pick out the well-established companies to invest in. Of course they will and the well-established companies control the best copper lands. If they had to pay to the treasury of the state or states in which their lands are located the full economic rent of those lands and no other taxes of any sort they would not have a monopoly. As long as they paid the full rent to society they could do business. The fact that they could be ousted for non-payment of rent would prevent them from "overpricing their output." But Mr. Kennedy is a young man; he has been at work but sixteen years since graduation and the first six years he wrote advertising copy. Then he graduated into writing the Business and Financial section for the magazine *Time*. For the last nine years he has been studying the depression and publishing articles in *Fortune*. Naturally he does not know that what Adam Smith said so long ago is as true today as it was then because he does not know what is at the bottom of all monopoly and privilege.

So in looking for an easy road to the enjoyment of gems of literature of the past and the understanding of some