

ish system are slipshod and unjust, and only approximate to the real annual value in the case of small properties and of the dwellings of the poor.

As to the value of London land and the futility of making calculations based on "rateable value," we have independent testimony from the ex-Lord Mayor, Sir Vezey Strong, who, speaking at a meeting of the City Corporation on June 12, 1913, said: "Even on the assumption that the new proposals (the taxation of land values) were entirely in substitution for present charges, an imposition of, say, 3d. in the £ would be equal to something like £1,250,000 added to its (the city of London) annual burdens." We do not know whether Sir Vezey Strong was speaking of local burdens or of local and national burdens combined, but as the purely local annual burden by way of rates on the city of London is £1,866,834,† it follows that 3d. in the £ would, according to Sir Vezey Strong, raise at least £3,116,834, and accordingly the capital land value (apart from improvements) must at least be £249,347,000 corresponding to an annual land value of £9,973,900. In his declaration Sir Vezey Strong has only proved how extremely unsatisfactory our present assessments are, for the net rateable value of the city of London (land and improvements included) is only £5,759,323.*

A. W. MADSEN.

TRUE LIBERTY.

Charles Mackay.

We want no flag, no flaunting rag,
For Liberty to fight;
We want no blaze of murderous guns,
To struggle for the right.
Our spears and swords are printed words,
The mind our battle plain;
We've won such victories before,
And so we shall again.

We love no triumphs sprung of force—
They stain her brightest cause;
'Tis not in blood that Liberty
Prescribes her civil laws.
She writes them on the people's heart,
In language clear and plain;
True thoughts have moved the world before,
And so they shall again.

We yield no more to earnest love
Of freedom's cause sublime;
We join the cry "Fraternity!"
We keep the march of Time.
And yet we grasp not pike or spear
Our victories to obtain;
We've won without their aid before,
And so we shall again.

We want no aid of barricade
To show a front to wrong;

We have a citadel in truth,
More durable and strong,
Calm words, great thought, unflinching faith,
Have never striven in vain;
They've won our battles many a time,
And so they shall again.

Peace, progress, knowledge, brotherhood—
The ignorant may sneer,
The bad deny; but we rely
To see their triumph near.
No widows' groans shall load our cause,
No blood of brethren stain;
We've won without such aid before,
And so we shall again.

BOOKS

ANCIENT AND MODERN SOCIALISM.

A History of Socialism.* By Thomas Kirkup. Fifth edition, revised and largely rewritten by Edward R. Pease, Adam and Charles Black, Soho Square, London. 1913. American agents, The Macmillan Company, New York. Price, \$1.50 net.

That Socialism is a cosmopolitan movement, not of German origin, is a fact that some need to learn in order to overcome a bias based on erroneous notions. Mr. Kirkup's history does not go further back than the nineteenth century and shows that Socialist movements in France and England ante-dated Karl Marx by many years. But these movements of Robert Owen, Count Henri de Saint-Simon and Louis Blanc left no permanent results. The two former depended more on the help of aristocratic elements than on the working class to put their ideas into effect, while Louis Blanc seems to have suffered from the unfair experiments with national workshops made by his opponents to discredit him.

German Socialism first became prominent about the middle of the century through the activity of Ferdinand La Salle. Karl Marx appears on the scene about the same time, but in spite of his German nativity his writings can not be fairly attributed to observation of German conditions alone. There are chapters giving satisfactory histories of the International, of the Social Democracy of Germany, of the movement in England and in Russia, and brief accounts of the movement in other countries, including the United States.

In the chapter on the English school of Socialism appears a regrettable error. After mentioning in a friendly way the work of Henry George and crediting him, rather than Marx, with the awakening to action of English leaders, Mr. Kirkup states that to George's advocacy of taking by the community of the rent of land, "his

†Ibid., pp. 626-7.

*London Statistics 1912-13, p. 667.

*See Public of July 31, 1908.

modern disciples add the capital value of land." If the English Socialist leaders whom Progress and Poverty stirred to action have studied that work no more carefully than to fail to see the absurdity of such a statement, it is perhaps no wonder that it failed to completely satisfy them.

Mr. Kirkup is far from being a thick and thin Marxian. Excessive loyalty to the views of Marx "shaped by a time which has passed away," he shows, has hindered the movement. The Marxian school, he finds, has provided new chains for the proletariat to replace those which Marx declared were all that they had to lose. Socialists and non-Socialists alike will find Mr. Kirkup's work worth studying.



New Worlds For Old. By H. G. Wells. Published by The Macmillan Co., New York, 1913. Price, 50 cents.

Mr. Wells presents an argument for Socialism, as he understands it. His argument is addressed, not to the proletariat, but to the middle class. He avoids the common mistake of presenting Socialism as a class movement. He makes clear the evils of the existing order and shows how little to lose in the proposed change and how much to gain have the small shopkeepers, the oft-heard-of but rarely seen poor widow with safe investments, the thrifty individual with a few shares or a "bit of land," the clerks and other genteel workers, and others who think themselves capitalists and not of the working class.

The Socialism which Mr. Wells advocates is not the brand which is so presented as to give one the impression of a state of society wherein the whole life of the individual citizen is to be subjected to regulation by higher authority. He presents what he calls modern Socialism from which the more objectionable features of the more ancient brands have been eliminated.

The economic student who takes fundamental principles into consideration will be able to pick flaws in Mr. Wells' suggestions. But there will be little in such criticism to give aid or comfort to the upholder of the existing order. Along with such criticism must go an admission from the critic that he can travel a long way with Mr. Wells toward his goal and, until the point of separation has been reached, discussion of what lies beyond is not necessary.

S. D.

PERIODICALS

Proportional Representation.

The Proportional Representation Review, which for several years has been published as a department in Equity, resumes the separate publication that was given up in 1896. It is published quarterly at Haverford, Pennsylvania, by C. G. Hoag, General Secretary

of the American Proportional Representation League at an annual subscription price of 20 cents. Among the interesting features of the October number is an exhaustive analysis of the political complexion of the House of Representatives. Using the last election in Illinois, the writer shows that the Democrats secured one Congressman for every 23,059 votes cast; whereas the Republicans have only one Congressman for every 72,988 votes; and the Progressives one Representative for each 125,778 votes. That is to say, the Illinois Democrats have three times as much representation in Congress as the Republicans, and five times as much as the Progressives. The Socialists cast more than three times the average vote of the Democrats per Representative, and got no representation at all. Had the representation of the state been apportioned in accordance with the vote cast, "the Democrats would have elected eleven instead of twenty, the Republicans eight instead of five, the Progressives six instead of two, and the Socialists two instead of none."

The reverse of the Illinois mis-representation is true of Michigan, for the writer shows that had the representation been in proportion to the votes cast, "the Democrats of Michigan would have won four seats instead of two; the Republicans five instead of nine; the Progressives four instead of two." In Indiana the Democrats polled less than 46% of the vote for Congressmen, and yet elected them all. It is by such concrete examples that the writer demonstrates the necessity of adopting proportional representation, and it is by such articles as this that the Proportional Representation Review demonstrates its right to a place in the sun.

S. C.



A school teacher was trying to impress upon a scholar's mind that Columbus discovered America in 1492.

"Now, John," he said, "I will tell you the date in rhyme so that you won't forget it. 'In fourteen hundred and ninety-two Columbus sailed the ocean blue.' Now, can you remember that, John?"

"Yes, sir," replied John.

Next day the teacher said: "John, when did Columbus discover America?"

"In fourteen hundred and ninety-three Columbus sailed the dark blue sea!"—Sacred Heart Review.



"Dinah, did you wash the fish before you baked it?"

"Law, ma'am, what's de use ob washin' er fish what's lived all his life in de water?"—Philadelphia Ledger.



"Yes, yes," said the doctor; "you're all right now. You will not need to come again."

"But sir," remarked the patient, "vot about der bill? I ain't got mooch money. Vill you dake der bill out in trade?"

The doctor looked the man up and down. "Well, I might do so," he replied. "What is your business?"

"I am der leader of der liddle Cherman band, sir. Ve vill play in front of your house every evening for von month."—Unidentified.