

as the only one that can permanently improve the lot of the workers.

One can understand that after the way Labor leaders have referred to our policy as "the capitalist's last ditch" and a "red herring drawn across the path of the workers," they will need to be very careful in the manner of bringing forward our policy.

As one who speaks in many parts of the country and to all kinds of political and social reform organizations, I am convinced that the rank and file of both Labor and Liberal parties are strongly in favor of our policy; and, not only these, but many men in the Conservative Party are ready to give their support to the party that will put up a real earnest fight for Land and Liberty.

Since the foregoing was written, the Liberal Federation meetings have been held at Birmingham and referring to these meetings, a correspondent has written me as follows: "The Manchester people strengthened a little the resolutions on Land Value Taxation at the National Liberal meetings but, as you know, the whole question is kept well in the background. Asquith never mentioned it in his address. The position is most unsatisfactory but I must say that I don't like the idea of joining the Labor party. Liberal principles, put into practice, include all we want."

Just now a bye-election is taking place in Spennithorne, a Yorkshire constituency. Sir John Simon is the Liberal candidate.\* He is considered one of the best Radicals among the front rankers, but in this contest he is ignoring the question of the Taxation of Land Values. These things go to prove, as Henry George said, that "we cannot safely leave politics to politicians.... The people themselves must think, because they alone can act."

F. SKIRROW

## Puerto Rico

OUR friend, Antonio M. Molina, reports that during his Summer's holiday in Puerto Rico he was invited by the leaders of the Socialist or Popular Party there to speak on economic problems. Of course, in dealing with the subject he pointed out the fallacies and shortcomings of Socialism as a remedy, and was pleased to note that both the audience and party leaders "saw the cat" when the Georgian philosophy was put before them. He was repeatedly asked afterwards to speak on the subject and literature was requested for distribution.

This incident seems to illustrate, like the action of the Socialist Party in Buenos Aires, what our old friend, Charles Frederick Adams, said of the Latin mind as being more logical and receptive than the Teutonic and therefore more inclined to accept the Georgian philosophy.

Send the REVIEW to your public library if it does not already take it.

\*Since this was written the campaign has been fought, resulting in the defeat of Sir John by the Labor candidate for Parliament.—EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW.

## New South Wales

### AN UNEQUALLED OPPORTUNITY

THE termination of the war has enormously increased the opportunities of the Single Tax movement to make real progress in every part of the world, and nowhere more so than in New South Wales. One result of the tremendous waste and destruction caused by the war, and the unparalleled increase in taxation to meet an equally unparalleled expense, has been to concentrate public attention on the question of how to obtain the necessary funds in an equitable way. The almost daily increase in the price of everything we use has added to the complexities of the question, for wages have no sooner been raised to meet the increase in cost of living than prices again go up to meet the additional expense caused by the increased wage, so that, as the *Daily Telegraph* very aptly puts it, it is like a dog chasing its own tail. Then comes the Prime Minister and announces that the tariff is to be raised with the view of "protecting our industries," and the manufacturers, eager to dip their hands still deeper in the public purse, placard the ferry boats and trams with attractive looking posters beseeching the public to buy only "Australian made goods," declaring that the £626,000,000 worth of goods imported by Australia during the last ten years was a "tragic waste," every penny having been a loss to the country, preventing the people here from obtaining work! Thousands of pounds are being spent by the manufacturers in attempting to gull the public in this way, but the public are beginning to get tired of paying such heavy prices for everything they want, and the proposed raising of the tariff, which means that prices will go up still higher, threatens to lead to widespread revolt against the whole system of tariff taxation. This is giving the League an unequalled opportunity of contrasting the Georgian method of obtaining revenue by the appropriation of land values with the old-fashioned but still lingering system of taxing the products of labor. The most surprising thing is that the Labor Party in Australia has long been and still is in favor of a protection policy, although it has never done the workers any good. Only 7 per cent. of their number are engaged in protected industries, and the increasing cost of living, due in a large measure to the protective tariff of which they are so fond, very considerably reduces their purchasing power. They do not even yet see that the only person a protective tariff protects is the manufacturer, who is enabled to charge a higher price for the goods he makes, while the purchaser is prevented from obtaining the imported article at a cheaper rate.

### THE FALLACY OF THE BASIC WAGE

To make matters worse the N. S. W. Board of Trade has just declared a basic wage of £3 17s, or 17s more than the ruling rate, to be immediately applied to all industries in New South Wales, which will mean an estimated addition to their cost of £14,000,000, and so overweight many of them that they will stop producing sooner than submit to such an exorbitant charge. This is just the opposite of