

Independent School of Political Economy



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Do you want to understand the aims and objects of the single tax? if you do, you can obtain literature on the subject free of cost by writing to the Brooklyn Single Tax League, 1467 Bedford ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Members of the school, both actual and prospective, are asked to be lenient with The Director. The Henry George Edition is making considerable additional work, which prevents preparation of some book reviews which were expected to be ready for this week. Subscribers who do not wish to read books should nevertheless have their names enrolled and be ready to take advantage of the opportunities next fall.

In a short time The Director hopes to give a review of the "American Farmer," by A. M. Simons, editor of the International Socialist Review, Chicago, which treats of socialism in a way to appeal to the farmers. A prominent eastern socialist regards this as one of the best books published on this phase of socialism.

The Director wants several names yet of those willing to pay postage one way on Henry George's "Land Question" in exchange for privilege of reading it. No deposit required. Write postal card today.

In a letter to The Director, The Cambridge Encyclopedia Company says: "We are getting out a History of Yachting in French levant, price \$26 net; and all our energies are centered on the coming cup race." Whew! If our friends would only get out a History of Walking 57 Blocks to Save Street Car Fare, in American cotton, price 30c, The Director might hope to purchase.

SINGLE TAX.

The Director is pleased to acknowledge receipt of a number of valuable books on the single tax. Bolton Hall, the well-known author, send the following: "The Single Tax," by Louis F. Post, editor of The Public, Chicago, paper covers, 102 pp.; "The Story of My Dictatorship," by an anonymous author, preface by William Lloyd Garrison, paper, 133 pp.; "Natural Taxation," by Thomas G. Shearman, paper, 268 pp., including index; "The Condition of Labor," by Henry George, paper, 157 pp.; "The Land Question," by Henry George, paper, 87 pp. Mr. Hall says:

"My attention has just been called to The Independent of March 5 and the column headed "Independent School of Political Economy," in which reference is made to your plan of circulating books.

"I take pleasure in sending you, under separate cover, five books for your school. They are paper bound, and while not so lasting, there is one advantage over the cloth bound books in that the postage will be less from member to member."—Bolton Hall, Trinity Building, New York.

And Frank Vierth, Cedar Rapids, Ia., publisher of the single tax monthly magazine "Why?" sends a copy of Post's "Single Tax" and "My Dictatorship." The Director is sincerely grateful to these gentlemen for their kindness and is ready to start the books out on their journeyings. The postage will be from one to three cents on each book. This The Director will pay in sending to the first reader; this reader in turn to pay postage to the next. They are "free" books—no deposit, no rental fee. Any member is entitled to read them. Any subscriber of The Independent is entitled to become a member, without payment of fees of any kind, by simply asking to be enrolled. Write a postal card today. Ask for any of these books you desire to read.

LOYAL FILIPINOS

The Manila American Has Doubts Upon the Subject—A Play That the Police Suppressed

Not long ago the editors of the Manila American were fined for lese majeste in criticising the Taft government, but the paper is still published. In a recent copy it gives an account of the suppression of a play that was running in the Rizal theatre at Manila. It seems to be a Filipino production throughout, entitled "Hidli

Aco Patay," which, translated, means "I am not dead." In describing the play the Manila American says:

"While there is not a line in it that would appear revolutionary on its face, there is a double meaning to almost every word in the play. The heroine is a young woman who is costumed as 'Filipina Libre.' The villain is made up as an American soldier, and what the heroine does not say about that young man is not worth saying from a revolutionary standpoint. The play is cheered from beginning to end, and it is easy to see from the expression on the faces of the audience that it understands well the revolutionary sentiments expressed by the players. The final scene is typical of the whole play. The rising sun, the emblem of the crushed 'Filipino republic,' is seen to rise behind a stage setting representing a mountain. As it rises the orchestra plays Aguinaldo's march. By the time the march is finished and the audience has ceased cheering, the sun has reached its zenith, and remains stationary. Then the 'Star Spangled Banner' is played. This is done solely to comply with the law recently passed by the commission permitting Aguinaldo's march to be played, provided the national air of the United States is played immediately afterward. But there is no cheering while the 'Star Spangled Banner' is being played. However, there is no dearth of hissing and cat-calls and other demonstrations of disapproval. And all of this has been done right here in the city of Manila, not once, but many times, during the past month. And yet it is claimed by those who claim to know, and who should know, that the revolutionary sentiment has finally died out among the people of these islands."

Eighty Grinning Skeletons

A single vessel of the Spanish fleet sunk at Manila, when raised, presents the ghastly spectacle of 80 skeletons. The Reina Christina, flagship of Admiral Montojo, went down under the fire of Admiral Dewey's guns. She has now been raised, and the grinning skeletons of 80 of her crew, who were sunk with her, greeted the horrified gaze of those who descended into her hold.

And yet each of these skeletons represents what was a man when the ship plunged beneath the waves.

A man with warm blood in his veins, with love of life, with home and wife and children, it may be, awaiting his coming, but waiting in vain. A little incident this, in war, scarcely worth mentioning, but individualized, how horrible!—Boston Traveler.

"Temple Hall"

It should be understood by those who desire to criticise somebody besides Mr. Rockefeller in connection with the offer of two-thirds of the money required for a "temple hall" connected with the university of Nebraska that the board of regents have nothing to do with the matter. Some time ago the chancellor having been informed that the northwest quarter of the block fronting the university grounds, which is about the only vacant property adjacent to the campus, was for sale, bought it with his own money and subsequently gave the refusal of the purchase to the regents. The regents agreed to take the ground knowing that it would soon be needed for such a building as has been proposed and the legislature authorized its purchase later in an appropriation bill. In the meantime, Mr. Rockefeller, who is an old acquaintance of the chancellor, being informed of the matter, made his offer. If the remainder of the sum is raised by friends of the university the regents will not be very apt to refuse to use it. If not, the property will be held by the regents until the money for the building, which is much needed, is provided in some other way.

But the action of the regents was taken in the matter without any knowledge of any movement to raise the money in any other way than the usual way by an appropriation from the university funds when the condition of the temporary fund is such as to allow such an expenditure. A hundred thousand dollars would put up a very handsome and spacious temple hall and as soon as the money is available it is the policy of the board to erect it. The Journal confesses that it would as soon have the whole or a part of the fund come from Mr. Rockefeller's surplus as from anybody's. It will be honest money as soon as it gets into the hands of the

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university authorities in a lawful manner. Does a person with the sort of uneasy conscience exhibited by those who talk about the inappropriateness of a building contributed from the Rockefeller accumulations care to take the trouble to trace the ancestry of the ten-dollar bill in his purse? So he got it honestly, the money is good enough for all his practical purposes.—State Journal.

Certainly a very ingenious defense. Isaacstein, the burglars' "fence," could not conjure up a more plausible excuse. Oh, yes; Isaacstein got the goods "honestly," he paid Red Mike good cash money for them. Isaacstein couldn't be expected "to trace the ancestry" of those jewels—possibly they once belonged to some harlot, but he couldn't help that—he bought them of Red Mike, and that is a suf-

ficient mercantile genealogical tree for Isaacstein to keep.

So far as The Independent has observed there is no disposition to censure either the regents or chancellor. If the people of Nebraska approve the idea, they will "dig up," but if they have too much spunk to be treated like tenderfeet by the man who has fleeced them, it may take a world of coaxing on the part of the Temple Fund committee to get the people to "stay in" on the Rockefeller "jack-pot."

The height of impudence is when a merchant uses rubber stamped stationery to write to the editor of the local paper complaining about the editor accepting advertising from merchants in another town.