

### Independent School of Political Economy

At last the Independent School of Political Economy is under headway. Two books have started out on their mission—Del Mar's "Science of Money" and Parsons' "The City for the People," both the very best of their kind.

The Director did not expect to do much in the actual work of circulating books for some time yet, although he had so arranged that all who desire books may be accommodated. There is much yet to do in arranging a neat list of books in pamphlet form, giving also the membership to date, etc., but all this requires time, especially where one has other duties to perform.

In some respects just criticism might be made of the plan. It requires an initial outlay of money as great for the borrower as if he purchased the book outright; but it has this advantage that after he has had the book thirty days, the school affords him a means of disposing it at 90 per cent of the price he paid. No other plan seemed quite so feasible, because the deposit made insures a return of the book; it furnishes an incentive for remembering to return it—and book borrowers are noted for a defective memory in this respect.

But not all the books will be circulated in this way. Last week Mr. Shandrew, of Germantown, Pa., made inquiry if the Director would accept a gift of some of Henry George's books and circulate them. Of course, the answer was in the affirmative. The Director has not fully determined just what the conditions will be, but these books will cost the members no rental fee for reading them. All he desires to do, is to make some rule which will insure that the books are kept going and performing their mission—giving instruction in political economy. And as has been said before, as soon as any book has been paid for by rental fees, it will be known as a "free book" thereafter.

No additions will be made this week to the list published in The Independent last week except that the deposit on Cowles' "A General Freight and Passenger Post" will be \$1.25.

#### MEMBERSHIP.

Although every subscriber of The Independent is a potential member, yet he will not be so regarded until he asks to have his name enrolled. The following have done so:

- A. L. Caskey, Oregon, Mo.
- Thomas Childers, Jamestown, Mo.
- W. S. Dean, Delhi, N. Y.
- F. E. Dodson, Trenton, Neb.
- C. E. Doty, R. F. D. 12, Nehawka, Neb.
- Frank E. Dowd, Bloomington, Neb.
- H. C. Diggins, Petersburg, Tenn.
- John D. Edwards, Eaden Station, St. Louis, Mo.
- H. Ellingston, Minnehaha, Minn.
- Dr. F. Engelhart, Rising City, Neb.
- E. W. Ferguson, R. F. D. 1, Hartington, Neb.
- George Fessant, Springview, Neb.
- Howard Fields, Bedford, Ind.
- Alfred Hallman, Granite Falls, Wash.
- Wm. Jordan, Odessa, Neb.
- T. J. Killion, Prosser, Neb.
- Francis Leander King, 8 Downing st., Worcester, Mass.
- Joshua Leonard, Emerson, Neb.
- W. E. Moore, Blossom, Tex.
- J. C. Owen, Burnside, Ky.
- E. J. Payne, R. F. D. 1, Clayton, Mich.
- Perry D. Plain, Atwater, Ill.
- Mrs. Fannie Gray Wheeler, 515 McClure st., Bloomington, Ill.

C. E. Doty, R. F. D. 12, Nehawka, Neb.: Am pleased to get the chance to read the standard works on political economy. Count me as one of the members of the club.

Wm. Jordan, Odessa, Neb.: I am quite sure that your proposed educational campaign would be a success if you go on with it.

J. C. Owen, Burnside, Ky.: Your suggestion as to school of political economy is in the right direction. Will get up a club here if you carry out your idea.

T. J. Killion, Prosser, Neb.: I am most heartily in favor of your plan for the Independent School of Political Economy.

Thomas Childers, Jamestown, Mo.: Send information of your reading circle.

#### "SCIENCE OF MONEY."

Editor Independent: I wish to become a pupil in your school of political economy and enclose a dollar bill as deposit for "Science of Money" by

Del Mar. JOSHUA LEONARD.  
Emerson, Neb.

"THE CITY FOR THE PEOPLE."  
Editor Independent: Find enclosed 35 cents, for which please send me "The City for the People," by Frank Parsons, in paper binding.  
A. L. CASKEY.

Oregon, Mo.

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.

WELLMAN'S list, precious metals \$3; Hist. money \$2; 1st. Monetary crimes \$5; Science of Money \$1; 1st. Money in America \$1.50; Hist. Money China \$3; Hist. Money Netherlands \$3 Cambridge, Mass. Box 169 M. N. Y.

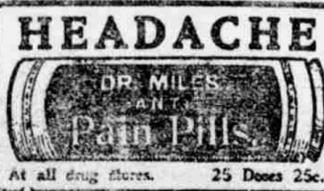
Professor Simon N. Patten of the University of Pennsylvania publishes through The Macmillan Company a new volume on Heredity and Social Progress. Professor Patten's other books on The Development of English Thought and The Theory of Prosperity have already given him a place among original and forceful writers. In his recent book, The Theory of Prosperity, he endeavors to show that prosperity depends on two factors—existing economic conditions and heredity. Prosperity and the progress depending upon it seem therefore to depend upon two groups of laws—those of economics and those of biology. This independence of the two parts is, however, only apparent. Economic laws reflect environing conditions; biologic laws are those of the adjusted organisms. The peculiarities of the adjusted organisms must match those of the environment to which they are adjusted. If this is true for each law in economics there should be a parallel expression in some biologic law, and biologic laws should conversely have some expression in the realm of economics. An endeavor is made in the present book to correlate these theories and thus to show that the laws on which social progress depends have a real unity. The issues of the book are clearly presented in the following questions: How is the social surplus of an epoch transformed into permanent conditions and mental traits? Does progress start from a deficit or a surplus? Does education improve natural or acquired characters? Does progress come by strengthening the strong or by helping the weak?

Hon. Flavius J. Van Vorhis, one of the best writers in the United States on political economy, has been paying his respects to those pretended democratic journals that are more republican than democratic, and the Indianapolis Sentinel is no exception to the rule. We need more Flavius J. Van Vorhis.—R. A. Winn, in Marion (Ala.) Democrat.

A new work by Lester F. Ward is on the press (Macmillan) for immediate publication. Its title is Pure Sociology: A Treatise on the Origin and Spontaneous Development of Society. The work displays the author's characteristic originality and boldness. It differs from his previous works in dealing exclusively with the pure science. It is all that its title implies and much more, as no title could fully express its character and scope. Its thesis is that "the subject matter of sociology is human achievement," and it deals with the fundamental conditions to and results of human achievement.

It is divided into three parts, the first of which deals with method and taxonomy, called "Taxis." The second deals with social "Genesis," and plunges deep into the problem of origins. The third deals with the factor of intelligence, called "Telesis," and portrays the workings of the higher mind. The titles of the last two chapters, "The Conquest of Nature," and the "Socialization of Achievement," express well the climax of the author's thought.

J. O. Smith, Ord, Neb.: I commence on the first page of The Independent and read it just like I would a book. Think every issue gets better. It is the only paper in America I can rely on for truth.



## A SPECIAL PAINT OFFER

We have just received word from the manufacturer who supplies us with paint, that in view of the fact that their warerooms are overtaxed and in order to reduce stock immediately we can make a special 10 day discount of 5 per cent on all house and barn paint listed below. This reduction is good for but 10 days. No orders honored after this time. All our paints are guaranteed to be absolutely the purest to be had. Your money back if this is not true. In ordering remit by draft, express or money order. Color cards free.

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Shingle Paint, per gallon.....	.60	One 3 inch China Wall Brush all Bristles.....	40
Wood Filler, per gallon.....	1.25	Genuine English Venetian Red, per pound.....	2 1/2 c
Oil Stains, per gallon.....	1.20	American Venetian Red, per lb.....	1 1/2 c
Light Hard Oil, per gallon.....	1.25	French Yellow Ochre, per lb.....	2 1/2 c
Wood Alcohol, per gallon.....	1.25	French Gray Ochre, per lb.....	2 1/2 c
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