penguins-or, to speak more scientifically, not simply a religions, scientific, learned, educated biped. If we are human beings we can change the world by our reason. If we are penguins, we shall muddle along, very amusingly, with our passions. Perhaps those passions will lead us to the Co-operative Commonwealth; and perhaps-if old Karl Marx made a mistake in his logarithms-they won't. We can build bridges and cathedrals as a beaver builds a dam and a bird its nest, write poems with an instinct only slightly refined upon that of the nightingale, we have a varied and elaborate life of the senses, and a mind which dreams itself out of their trammels. But-a politician can draw men to the battlefield with the noise of a fife and drum. Can the best thought of the best minds ever hope to defeat that poor sensual appeal? "Upon the answer to that question depends the fate of the world." F. D.

Joseph Fels

"A ^N eager, imperious little man," as someone described him, "with a soft felt hat tilted over his face at an impudent angle"—American in his cheerful, homely manners and frank speech, Jewish in his shrewd practicality and large prophetic vision, a millionaire and a democrat, one of the most passionately alive persons of our generation—Joseph Fels lives again in the pages of this book written by his wife.² Whether he is getting up a demonstration in Hyde Park, or financing a meeting of Russian revolutionists, or tramping over New Jersey in the effort to get McQueens out of jail, or telling Andrew Carnegie what he thinks of his "free" libraries, there is a flavor in his words and deeds which sets him apart from the tamely benevolent millionaires of contemporary fact and fiction—a robust imaginativeness, a spiritual daring, a tremendous sincerity a man whose whole life was built around the saying, "I'll see human freedom yet."

His beginnings were the familiar ones of the successful American business man. He went to work at fifteen in his father's soap factory. He thought he could make a particular kind of soap that every housewife would hear of—and he did: "Fels' Naptha." Meanwhile, he married. The death of his first child, and the attempt of his wife to find a new center for her life in social and intellectual activities brought into their house artists, poets, reformers. From them Joseph Fels learned "the irresistible charm of thinking new thoughts and dreaming new dreams."

But what he did was characteristic of himself. He got the owners of some unused building sites to let some workingmen plant gardens there. It had been done before—but the visible sight of those weedy and rubbish filled lots turning into rich and beautiful garden-plots, proved something to him that he could never forget: the fact that workingmen wanted to dig and plant and water and tend the earth and gather crops from it. After that it was no use to talk to him, as no doubt many Socialists did, about the inevitable processes by which machine production had supplanted agriculture as the dominant mode of livelihood of the epoch. To him it wasn't inevitable, the crowding of men in cities, it was wrong. He knew, because he had seen.

So he gradually built up a working political economy. If ² Joseph Fels, His Life-Work, by Mary Fels. \$1 net. B. W. Huebsch. men had at all times free access to the land, they would not work in factories except at a decent wage. Hence the way to abolish poverty was to restore that freedom. In Philadelphia, and on a larger scale in England when his growing business took him there, he pursued his experiment of restoring men to the land. But the more successful his projects were, the more clear did it become that any such projects, privately pursued, were inadequate. He pressed his plans upon local boards, and finally went into national politics, supporting the Liberal party in its land-tax measure.

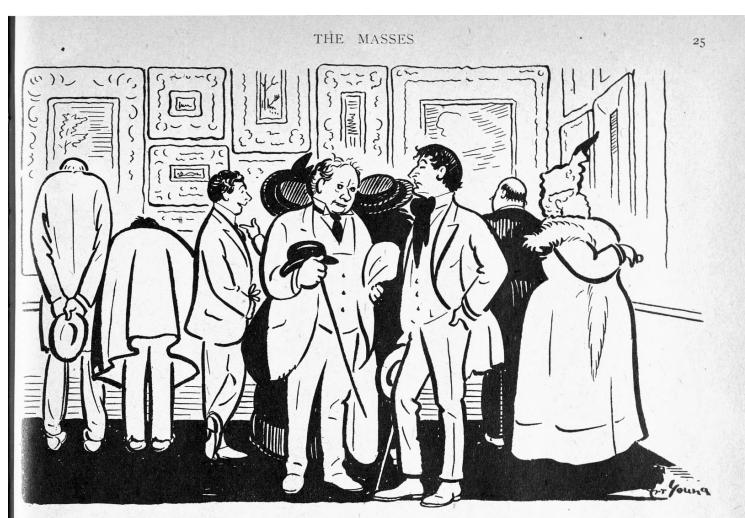
He had in the meantime read Henry George's book, and discovered that he was a Single Taxer. It became henceforth the leading motif of his life to persuade society to recover its birthright and with that its freedom.

Politics proved, in some measure, a blind alley; the candidates whom he had supported proved timid or lukewarm in carrying on the work of land reform; and the Fels Fund Commission was created to lay the foundations of the movement deeper in the public mind. Joseph Fels himself was indefatigable. He wrote thousands of letters, and sent to every inquirer a copy of "Progress and Poverty," which he had had translated into Italian, Bulgarian, Swedish, Yiddish and Chinese. He attended every trades union congress, and distributed pamphlets. He spoke his convictions on every available occasion. And with all this there was no narrowing of interests; he found time to help many causes that might seem to have only a remote theoretical connection with his own education, the care of children, woman suffrage, Zionism.

The flavor of the man comes out in scores of the incidents related in the book. He wrote to Carnegie, who had said that the single-tax propaganda was hopeless: "No work done anywhere at any time for furthering the cause of economic freedom was ever hopeless; and you-of all men-should know this, seeing that you have done so much to make it hopeless, without succeding in breaking down the courage of the common people." Your libraries, he said, "are a noose around the necks of the common people, for which they will yet rise and curse you." Carnegie had said that "the deserving rise out of their poverty"—to which Joseph Fels, restraining his wrath, rejoins: "Are you not talking through your hat?"

"We can't get rich," he told a Chicago audience "under present conditions, without robbing somebody. I have done it; you are doing it now; and I am still doing it. But I propose to spend the money to wipe out the system by which I made it."

He became acquainted with a man who had been in prison, and persuaded him to write down the story of his treatment there. "From the torn little bits of dirty paper, from an illwritten, ill-spelt and utterly disconnected narrative, there was ultimately pieced together a condemnation of the conditions in a certain state penitentiary such as no words can describe. Horrified at this, Mr. Fels had a fair copy of the man's narrative made and sent it to the Govenor of the State concerned. He received no reply. He wrote and urged that such a rvelation suggested at least the need for an inquiry. To this, response was made that the Governor could take no steps in the matter. Mr. Fels was furious at this rebuff. It was, as he said, at least worth while to have the indictment investigated; it might happen to be true and the Governor would have the satisfaction of knowing that he had remedied an injustice. To



Drawn by Arthur Young.

The Rising Young Artist: "All that I have accomplished in art I owe to the struggle for the necessities of life." The Cartoonist: "That's the way to look at it,—if the cost of living goes high enough, you'll be greater than Michael Angelo."

this request, also, he received a curt refusal. He could stand it no longer. He wrote to the Governor, demanding an immediate inquiry at which a representative nominated by himself should be present; otherwise he threatened to publish the statement and the correspondence in every journal in the United States. Within a month the inquiry had been held to his satisfaction."

On an occasion, hearing that the Crown Prince of Denmark was interested in land reform, he tried to meet him, but was prevented by the red-tape of the Danish court. But, soon afterward, he found himself on a ferryboat with the Crown Prince and his suite. He came up, held out his hand and said, "How do you do, Crown Prince. I am Joseph Fels, interested in bringing the land and the people together." Consternation in the royal suite. But the Crown Prince and Joseph Fels went aside and talked for two hours about land. . . . Another sentence in the book begins: "If he conversed with the butler at his friend's dinner table"—but it does not say whether the butler, like the Crown Prince, rose to the occasion. One would like to believe that he did!

The book ends with a description, quoted from his friend and co-worker, Margaret McMillan, of a speech made by him at Balliol College, Oxford. He dashed up in a motor car, was introduced as an American business man, and began speaking in

a brisk, colloquial way. The undergraduate audience was polite, tolerant, bored, conscious of his deficiencies in culture, resentful of him as a rich busybody. . . . Then all that vanished. "Learning itself-I make claim to none," he said, "and am an ignorant man in comparison with many of you-must flourish best at last on a soil that is free from evil undergrowths. . . . Below every movement that calls itself progressive but puts off the consideration of the evil of private monopoly in land values, there is a moral evil that poisons everything." Miss McMillan's account goes on: "Now the voice gathered strength. . . . Through the calm sun-bathed space between the college walls, and over the green shaven mound, it rose and fell-the voice as of one crying in the wilderness. With passionate faith, in perfect self-surrender, in quiet acceptance of all labor and loss and all suffering, and with a hope that bore up the soul to fair and cloudless heights, it beat against every heart as at a heavy door. And when the speaker ended at last,-falling back in his rôle of diffident, half-jocular millionaire philanthropist . . . there was deep silence for a moment. . . . Looking spent, and very white and small, he sat down."

Joseph Fels did not live to see human freedom. He died in February, 1914, before the Great War came to set back the clock of human progress. Shall we ourselves live to see it?

Original from UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN The day has passed by, I think, when we, as Socialists, can question the authenticity of such an ideal of human freedom as that involved in the single tax program. Its predisposition to be content with a world of "free competition" may be weighed in the balance against the Socialist habit of easy acquiescence in monopoly, and let Rhadamanthus judge between them. Just now, in Mexico, I should imagine a Single Taxer would be nearer to the heart of revolutionary progress than a Socialist unless, by chance, he were both! F. D.

Non - Resistance, Utopian and Scientific

H^{OW} ironic it is to have a belief which can only be expressed in ridiculous language! I have recently become a convert to the theory of non-resistance. "Non-resistance"—what a foolish sound the phrase has. As if I did not resist something or other every day of my life! "Passive resistance" is scarcely better: there is nothing passive about my resistance. "The law of love"—a maudlin phrase!

Some day-soon, I hope-somebody will invent a new terminology for this theory, and the comic, sentimental old phrases can be chucked aside-as the terminology of the alchemists was thrown aside with the advent of the science of chemistry. For the theory of non-resistance is the pre-scientific phase of a new kind of knowledge, the knowledge-to put it vaguely-of re-. lationships. Here is a field as yet unexplored save by the seers and the poets. Its laws are as capable of being discovered as those of astronomy or botany; and the practical application of this knowledge is capable of effecting far greater social changes than the invention of the steam-engine. At present, however, we have only rhapsodies and maxims, the biography of an Oriental god-and a few contemporary anecdotes. For, as there were wizards before wizardry became science, there are scattered about, here and there, people who make some use of this knowledge, intuitively or empirically, in business, in friendship, in politics, in administration-with results that seem miraculous. Thus a man who has had his house robbed many times takes the locks off the doors-and remains unmolested. Another goes unarmed into the midst of savage and bloodthirsty tribes-and returns safely. Another takes the leg-irons off a prisoner with a notorious record for attempted escapes-and the prisoner stays faithfully to serve out his sentence. A merchant, finding that a clerk has stolen from him, lends him the money to pay back-and gets a devoted and honest employee. We do not burn these people at the stake, but we do generally fear and hate them. And when a man is found willing to treat the enemies of his country in a similar fashion, he is usually stood up against a wall and shot.

The principle involved in such actions has no adequate name as yet. "Love," "charity," "tolerance," "returning good for evil"—these terms are not much better than the ones applied to it by way of insult—"sentimental folly," "milk-and-water humanitarianism," "mollycoddling" and "insanity." The principle, however, is the same which was involved in the two great achievements of early mankind, the taming of animals and the domestication of plants. Do you imagine that it was by force that the wild horse, the wolf, the wildcat, became the friends and servants of men? It was rather by a patient and passionate sympathy, half understanding and half affection, for which "love" is not, after all, a bad term. There are a few people who can tame even tigers and snakes; and they are precisely the persons who like tigers and snakes. Anybody can catch fish with a hook; but Thoreau could pick them up in his hand; and if you think it was by force, you are mistaken. And what is the patient and passionate understanding of growing things, half understanding and half affection, by which Burbank produces new species, but a new manifestation of an ancient love which transformed the wilderness of the world into orchards and fields and gardens? The earth itself-does force get better crops out of it than love and understanding? Tools-is he the worse carpenter who, as we say, loves his tools? Is he a bad sailor who loves his boat? Is he the poorest writer who loves words? The very instruments of death-Rudyard Kipling uttered an extremely "non-resistant" sentiment when he advised:

"When 'arf of your bullets fly wide in the ditch, Don't call your Martini a cross-eyed old bitch. She's human as you are—you treat her as sich, And she'll fight for the young British soldier."

Ask the cowboy who conquers a bucking broncho whether he hates that horse or not. Ask the captain of ships that have been overwhelmed by storms whether he hates the sea. Ask the man to whom life has brought many heartaches and disappointments and pains, if he hates life. It is possible, it is even customary, to love such enemies. And, not to overlook anything, let us add that soldiers sometimes, in fact as well as in fiction, love war. "Return good for evil, and do good unto them that hate you," is in the light of these instances revealed as a maxim of efficiency. Thoroughly understood and broadly applied, it means that our blundering and stupid humanity will at last succeed in managing its affairs.

Hitherto, humanity has been too easily scared into the use of force. Like the man I read about in the paper the other day, it shoots first, and discovers afterward that the supposed burglar is a darling son. It does, to be sure, require some spiritual courage to treat something which may be a burglar as if it were a darling son—and no wonder scary people like Colonel Roosevelt want conscription! But if the wolf hadn't been treated like a dog he never would have turned into one: and men have made fortunes precisely by treating scoundrels as if they were honest. Nothing is so disarming, burglars say, as to be treated like a darling son. They may resist it once or twice, and carry off your silver, but if you keep it up long enough they can't stand it; they give up their profession, and become plumbers.

But, as the conscription boards are in the habit of asking non-resistants in England, "What would you do if a German soldier were to ravish your wife and kill your child before your eyes?" The answer is that I am so weak in faith that even a smaller thing—the asking of such a foolish question, for instance—would make me want to commit murder; even though sober reason told me that the killing of one member of a conscription board would be as irrelevant to human progress as the killing of one German soldier.

In fact, speaking for myself as a non-resistant, I have no particular desire to abolish murder. A little murder now and

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Original from UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN then, of a passionate and unreasoned sort, will do society little harm. It is the reasoned belief in murder, and in the other forms of force, that I object to. A great war is now being waged on the theory that international relations can be arranged satisfactorily by the use of force. Well, the theory is wrong. The device of force in international, social and personal relations is ineffective and wasteful. As a method of progress it is a tragic and terrible failure. It leads only to cynicism and despair. And it can and must be abandoned. There will be violence, and crimes of violence, as long as man is man; but violence will not be the deliberately chosen Way of Life for mankind. I am moved to these reflections by John Haynes Holmes' "New Wars for Old."⁴ It belongs, like these reflections, to the utopian stage of the non-resistant theory It concerns itself, among many other things, with just what Jesus meant when he said, "I came not to send peace, but a sword." But it is an eloquent, keenly argued, splendidly sincere and extraordinarily interesting discussion of the gospel of force versus the gospel of love. If you believe in force—and of course you do—I dare you to read it! F. D.

⁴New Wars for Old: Being a Statement of Radical Pacificism in Terms of Force versus Non-Resistance, with Special Reference to the Facts and Problems of the Great War. By John Haynes Holmes. \$1.50. Dodd, Mead & Co. For sale by the MASSES BOOK SHOP.

Love Like a Cave Man and Other Problems Charles W. Wood

EAR George Bernard Shaw,-

Won't you please write an intellectual farce about one or more persons agreeing to tell nothing but the truth for a given time? Thanking you in advance, I remain—

Well, I wish somebody would—somebody besides James Montgomery, who dramatized Frederick Isham's novel and gave William Collier one of his best opportunities at the Longacre Theater. Not that Montgomery hasn't done well; but the theme is so simple and so rich that a dozen playwrights couldn't exhaust it. The Longacre production is a good beginning. Besides, it is more than successful. It's a rage. Financially and dramatically, it is too good to be kept in a single play. If any producer will give me \$1,000 cash, I'll give him a great tip. It's this: get a dozen of the funniest writers you can think of to handle this same theme, "Nothing but the Truth." Let each handle it his own way. Then put all the plays on simultaneously. Everybody will then have to see all the interpretations and all the other theaters in town will have to close.

Of course, all the plays would have to be funny, as the truth is always so absurd. The reason I want Shaw to horn in is that Shaw understands the psychology of truth. Most people imagine that telling the truth depends upon the teller. Shaw knows better. He knows it depends upon the person you are telling it to. I don't remember his ever saying so: but I know he knows it because he knows everything. There is only one reason why people tell lies and that is fear. Nobody ever told me a lie, because, up to date, nobody has ever been afraid of me.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of fibdom. 'The fear of your boss and your neighbors and your wife each begets untruths after its own kind. If we didn't have any Lords, bosses and wives, I'm inclined to think we might not be afraid of the neighbors, and there wouldn't be any moral necessity for telling lies. So long as we have them, however, "Nothing but the Truth" will remain a farce.

> Fraternity's the word, All else is empty sham. Am I my brother's keeper, Lord? I feel and know I am. I hear his anguished cry;

I feel his pain within: I share his tears, his hope, his joy, His sorrow and his sin.

On Life's great troubled sea Our craft together ride. What though the course is clear to me If unto him denied? Together on the main, By storm and tempest tossed. If both may not the harbor gain, May I with him be lost.

O God, if so it be That Thou hast cursed the race, And only they who know of Thee Shall find redeeming grace, One humble boon 1 crave, A prayer by priests un-named, If I may not my brother save, Let me with him be damned.

That's poor poetry, but you can't imagine how wonderful it seemed to me when I wrote it. I was very young and very rebellious. I wasn't feeling a bit religious—at least, I didn't know that I was: I thought I was very devilish and I just wanted to shock the gizzard out of a certain Presbyterian minister.

The next Sunday he read the thing before his congregation and declared that "it breathed the true spirit of Christianity." Wouldn't that get your young rebellious goat?

All of which is by way of remarking that I wish every "radical" in town could see "Hush," now playing at the Little Theater. "Hush" is the story of a rebellious girl, a "Daughter of Revealment," who wants to shock the smug Victorian public by tearing the conventional draperies from the sex question. So she writes a most "daring" play—and everybody enjoys it. She doesn't even shock the bishop.

"Hush" has been damned by the critics—and then picked up and damned again. They seem to feel intuitively that it is worth damning, which is more than can be said for most Broadway productions. To tell the truth, it is a little amateurish and squeaky, something like my hymn; and it runs off into farcical comedy at times, giving the impression that the author, with a big, new theme, had to compromise with some "practical" playbuilder in order to get it staged at all. The result is a sort of hodge-podge of fine satire and shop-worn stage banalities. But it is worth seeing at that. Radicals will be more intelligently radical after picking it to pieces.

To be sure, they may become a trifle sore at the playwright for intimating that they are not nearly so shocking as they think they are. But I like to see radicals get sore. When conservatives get sore, they can call in the police, but radicals can't. Their only resource is to do some thinking; and that's what we need. Blessings on the dear amateurish heart of Violet Pearn, whoever she may be. If I am not much mistaken, she has made a lot of people try, at least, to think.

I SUSPECT that the Washington Square Players are having a lot of fun with New York, especially with the New York dramatic critics. Their high-brow reputation is apparently unshakable; and if a critic should roast them, the laugh would be on the critic.

"Not up to the high-brow stuff, eh? Better go down to Miner's on the Bowery."

Well, me for Miner's. I'd rather go there any time than to sit through two such productions as "The Sugar House," by Alice Brown, and "A Merry Death," by Nicholas Evreinov, translated from the Russian—the Lord knows why—by C. E. Bechhofer.

"The Sugar House" was listed as a "New England" play. It wasn't a play. It was hard work. It was dreary drudgery. And neither the language nor the psychology was that of New England. They might have palmed it off on me as a "Southern" play, as I have never been in the South and I have a gullible faith in playwrights. But imagine three young farmers of New England commissioned by the neighborhood to tar and feather a young woman for stealing another's husband. And imagine a New England where men and women wear their emotions inside out and never attempt to disguise a passion. Such was this "New England" play. Of course the Washington Square Players know that there is no such New England. The joke was entirely on the audience.

New England is the home of repression. If a man falls in love with a girl there, it is a point of honor with him never to let her know. Even the children grin when they bump their noses, lest somebody should suspect that it hurts. The only time they cry is when they're tickled. When New Englanders feel themselves getting happy, they sulk; and their idea of a glorious drunk is to quarrel with their wives. They might tar and feather a woman just to show their good-will, but I can't imagine any other motive.

"A Merry Death" is worse yet. I won't undertake to tell why. It is a daring bunch of high-brows who will dare to be as dull as this, even in a joke.

Nevertheless, the Comedy is the most interesting theater in New York. Nowhere else could anyone hope to see such a bill as this. "Lovers' Luck," by George de Porto-Riche, is the smart and pleasant comedy, with a lot of reality under its artifice. A gem of farce in the oddest of settings, is "The Sisters of Susanna," by Philip Moeller. It has a charming insouciance. And

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both plays showed that the players, who couldn't get away with the unplayable lines of "A Sugar House," are actors when they have anything to act.

I S rape going to be popular in New York? Personally, I rather shrink from it. It doesn't seem hardly fair, and I believe there is a law against it. But every time I have seen a woman raped on the stage this season, the audience has howled its appreciation.

The most perfect of the stage rapes I have seen so far is in "Upstairs and Down" at the Cort. Tom is in love with Alice. Alice is in love with Terance O'Keefe. Tom has fifteen millions, but Terance has a "way with women." Alice threatens Terance with matrimony; and Terance, to get her off his hands, tells Tom how to gain a lady's affections. Tom takes the tip and straightway commits a successful criminal assault upon his sweetheart to the entire satisfaction of everybody.

I don't mean, of course, that—well, I may have been a little bit bald in my terminology. But he grabs her and smothers her screams and holds and chokes and "loves" her until she gives in. If you don't believe that is a criminal assault, try it some time in front of a policeman. But it is assumed in very much of our modern drama that this sort of thing is just "what women want."

"Love her like a cave man," advised Henry Dixey, in the title rôle ôf "Mr. Lazarus," a plotless comedy by Harvey O'Higgins and Harriet Ford. Whereupon Tom Powers also quit being decent and captured his bride. Now, anyone must know what it means to love a woman like a cave man. They are sending men up to Sing Sing for that, right along. I know I'm in the minority, but I don't like it.

To me, Tom Powers was fine, up to that point. He was fascinating, humorous, kind and companionable, and never seemed to forget that a woman has some rights. But this play, along with so many others, voted eventually against allowing women to be people. It assumed that they want to be mastered.

I admit that a lot of women do want to be mastered. But some are self-respecting. The whole trend of modern life is away from the sex-slavery of women: Why should the modern stage so generally ignore the fact? The modern love affair, also, is much more dramatic than the cave man coup. It's twice as dramatic, because there are two actors instead of one. "Two souls with but a single thought" is a worn-out concept. A single thought isn't hardly enough for one soul: and when you try to spread it over two, they look terribly bare and unfurnished.

But this isn't any roast of "Upstairs and Down." The play isn't meant to teach anything. It is meant as pure fun. At least, it is fun—how pure it is I'll leave to the Puritans. For "Upstairs and Down" is *super-risque*, with considerable of that flavor which modern society denominates as "pep," "spice" or "tobasco," but which my Methodist forbears used to call sin. It's rippingly acted throughout. And its sin, of course, is perfectly moral sin, *a la* New York drama. For after it is all over, the audience is assured that nothing seriously out-of-the-way has actually happened, and even the bounding Terance has found his one and only love. Of course, nobody believes these moral climaxes: but the New York drama must be New York. It must not be drama.

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THE NATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE COUNSEL

T HE five following lawyers have formed a National Labor Defense Counsel. They are Frank P. Walsh, C. E. S. Wood, Edward P. Costigan, Austin Lewis and Amos Pinchot. These men are known throughout the whole country not only in their legal profession but for the position they have taken in the struggle of labor against capitalist exploitation. The members of the Counsel are serving without compensation.

In order to give the unorganized workers the advantage of the services of eminent lawyers which organized workers command, the National Labor Defense Counsel has been formed. It is obviously impossible for the Counsel to give personal attention to the innumerable cases which continuously arise. Therefore, the Counsel proposes to employ a man who is intimately connected with the labor movement; who is competent to report situations to the Counsel; who is able to carry out the advice of the Counsel; employ local attorneys; who will represent the Counsel locally; and who will raise the money for the conduct of the trials. To maintain such an agent in the field will need money. It will need \$5,000.

It is only necessary to name Pittsburgh, Youngstown, Minnesota, and Bayonne, to prove the necessity for such a Counsel.

The existence of this Counsel gives to every man and woman in the country who stands behind the unorganized workers a chance to make an investment where the returns to labor will be the greatest. All sympathizers of labor, all advocates of fair play in the courts, all members of well organized trades will make the work of this National Defense Counsel possible by becoming a subscribing member—by giving his share to the fund of \$5,000 necessary to maintain the field work.

The individual subscription is not fixed at a definite sum. The Finance Committee believes that in a project as important as this is to the most helpless workers, if the sum be left to the decision of individuals, they will contribute more. The Counsel are giving their service without compensation. You who cannot give such service can give money. The small service can give money. sum of \$5,000 will enable the agent to collect at meetings throughout the country many thousands for the de-fense of labor. In this way your original investment in the fund will yield unlimited returns for labor.

Help us to crush the forces that are trying to crush labor.

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HELEN MAROT, FREMONT OLDER, DANTE BARTON, LINCOLN STEFFENS, IDA RAUH.

Remittances to be sent to Ida Rauh, Sec.-Treas., 33 West 14th street, New York City.

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EUROPE

S INCE Athens died, the life that is a light Has never shone in Europe. Alien moods, The oriental morbid sanctitudes, Have darkened on her like the fear of night. In happy augury we dared to guess That her pure spirit shot one sunny glance Of paganry across the fields of France, Clear startling this dim fog of soulfulness.

But now, with arms and carnage and the cries Of Holy Murder, rolling to the clouds Her bloody-shadowed smoke of sacrifice, The Superstition conquers, and the shrouds Of sanctimony lay their murky blight Where shone of old the immortal-seeming light. Max Eastman.

Arturo Giovanitti's Play

O^N Tuesday evening, October tenth, a great and enthusiastic house witnessed the first production of Arturo Giovanitti's fine war-play, "Red Shadows," in Italian, at the People's Theater, with the distinguished Sicilian tragedienne, Mimi Aguglia, in the part of Blanche Jourad.

Most war-plays have to do with the superficial aspects of war —battle, rape, violent death, and the exaltation of animal courage, patriotism, and brute cunning. "Red Shadows," however, though almost too full of the horrors of war, is concerned with the fundamental proposition that war makes beasts of men.

The author takes as his study the figure of Maurice Jourad, Socialist, distinguished French poet, and one of the foremost champions of the Brotherhood of Man in Europe; and upon this commanding personality he causes to break the full tide of the German advance in Northern France, with its inevitable accompaniment of looting, drunken license, and the violation of women. Blanche Jourad, his wife, a great musician, is assaulted by the drunken soldiers; and from this springs all the terrible train of events that make Maurice Jourad an avenging fiend preying upon his own ideals.

Although the scene is France, and the people French revolting under German oppression, Giovanitti takes no sides. The German Colonel, reverencing the great poet and his famous wife, attempting to restrain his maddened soldiers, and finally committing suicide, is as noble a figure as any in the play. Here, too, the author manages to convey the impression that it is war, and not the German or French people, which commits atrocities; that it is war, and not merely guns, which destroys the only life worth saving—the life of love, intelligence, and genius.

LOUISE BRYANT.

The Girl on the Cover

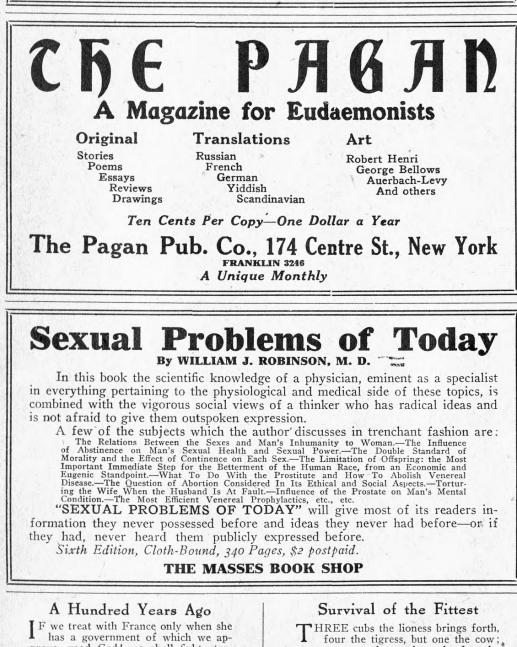
L IFE-you will perceive from her expression-is still worth living. We are indebted for this reassurance to Miss Gerda Holmes, the film-actress, who posed for the picture, and Frank Walts, who drew it.

People Used to Say-

that Pearson's Magazine was so deadly serious that you could only read it when you were in a solemn mood.

PEARSON'S is still serious but since Frank Harris became its editor there is many a smile in its columns and now and then a good big laugh.

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Teachers

A SHORT article in a recent numb of THE MASSES provided food for thought about "Educating the Teach ers." The writer said, apropos of the dismissal, in Chicago, of 38 members of the Teachers' Federation: "These discharged teachers, excused from their positions on the pedestal, will have a chance for the first time to find out what life is in its adventurous aspects." The security of their jobs was another thing mentioned as detrimental to their getting the best out of life.

As to the Union I have nothing too say, preferring to leave its working out to those most concerned, but 'twas that pedestal that caught my atten-tion. Whatever used to be the attitud toward teachers, the pedestal has long since been knocked from under them. Unwise mothers still threaten their anruly children with the teacher's pun-ishment, so, in consequence, the pedes-tal is well thorned for those particular boys: the parents couldn't find it with a telescope: the general public topple it over long ago;—so the pedestal i "an exploded idee."

The male teachers-though why an able-bodied man should ever resort to teaching in a public school is a mystery-may feel secure in their positions especially if their politics are sufficiently elastic to stretch to those of the superintendent and school committee; but no woman teacher--and it's to be taken for granted that the 38 dismissed teachers were women—ever felt her position secure. Young graduates are always waiting for the places filled by older teachers, and frequently, even before the Union was thought of, the most ex perienced of them were removed wit no reasons given. If these women w sure of their positions there would a vast improvement in the yearly re sults, for they could work for the wel fare of the pupils with a freer han and a mind at ease.

Life "in its adventurous aspects" not wholly denied the women w drudge in the public schools, for with the children, the parents, the principal the superintendent, the school comm tee and the general public to satisf something is doing. The adventur lack the snap of a broader, more citing encounter with life under supervision,—for the ordinary teach becomes, in years, somewhat narrow point of view and cut and dried in ge eral outlook,-but a week's experier in any public school would open t eyes of many a critic doubtful as to t adventures.

If to leave the school room for goo would give teachers "a better time that they have ever had before," may the day be hastened when they give up theil jobs and begin to live. If they could be educated to take life more gaily more easily, they would get a long way on the road to happiness.

What would become of the schools should all the women take up some other line of work is a question wort considering, but in that case the ma teachers would find life wasn't "beer and skittles."

JULIA E. DEANE.

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has a government of which we approve, good God! we shall fight eter-nally.—*Charles James* For. UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

I four the tigress, but one the cow; yet many are the meek cattle, few the beasts of prey .- Buddha.

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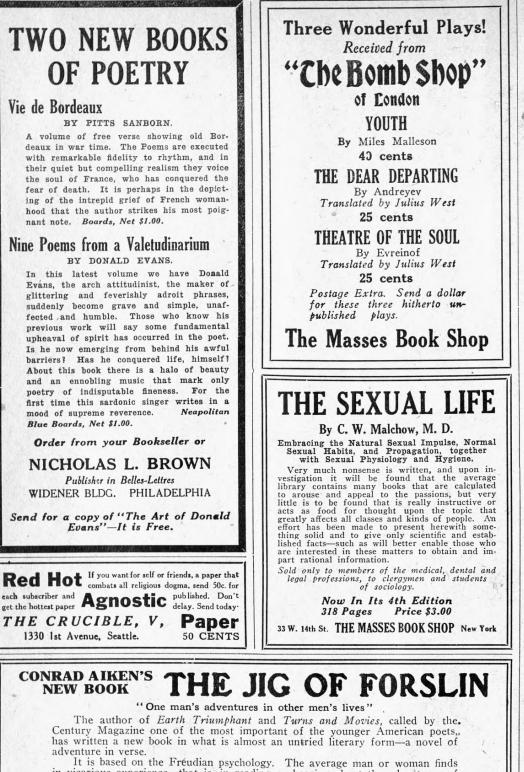
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That Mexican Conference F OR the past two months six de gates have met in a joint pea conference. Its main object suppose was first the withdrawal of the Ame can troops from Mexico (who, ever long, have been a thorn in the side the people), and second, the adjustm of the border difficulties between two nations. Three of the delega hailed from beyond the Rio Grande three were appointed by President W son.

When the delegates met they w immediately surrounded by a mob well-trained lobbyists. They represen every corporation in Mexico which exploited the natural resources of unfortunate land; the very same of porations which have been the loud and most persistent in the demand intervention. Mining operators, h land owners, bankers and oil men, t all had their trained spokesmen, and American delegates listened to them In fact, the American delegates did have to be coaxed; they capitulated once. The only one they did not list to was Big Brother Samuel Gompe He was received by the Mexican de gates.

Needless to say, the mission of conference was forgotten by the Am ican delegates. They instead began dabble into the internal aairs of Mexican people and began to ad them how they should treat fore inem now tney should treat fore corporations. They pleaded that m ing operators should not be taxed heavily. The laws must not be rigid. Mexico must not be a law u itself, but should consider the fore investors. The American troops are still in Mexico were very adr used as a club to impress the Mex delegates with the wisdom of American colleagues.

Paradoxical as it may seem, no single delegate appointed by Presid Wilson, who is trying to tell the Ma cans how to conduct their affairs, ever been in Mexico, has the slight knowledge of the Spanish language I doubt if they are in sympathy the revolution. And yet some p wonder why the Mexicans look suspicion upon the United States. BERNARD GALLAN

Behind the Times

MEANWHILE, may I drop you a hint? Yours is a magazine of ref and super-progress. Why then are yo antiquated in regard to religion? Do not know that in the faith we are h rebellions as red as Bill Haywood Social Yet almost every mention you make ligion sounds as if you were living in th of St. Francis. Why don't you, get to the real situation in this quarter? WI you have realized it or not you have unfair to religion as you claim the cap and bureaucrats are to the workers. many of your readers suppose to be the latest kink in morals and social ideals, long been stale in hundreds of theolo works.

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Commentary

YOU asked me once what I thought of THE MASSES as propaganda; and I have been waiting until I could make a cheerful reply. This last number of THE MASSES strikes me as having more purpose than any of its predecessorsalmost it seems as though it had at last found itself.

Heretofore, Max Eastman has wast-ed too much space in mere pirouetting and I rejoice at seeing him pick out a job suitable to his size and ability. In attempting to infuse into Marx what has happened since Marx, seems to me about the most needful treat-ment Socialism needs, and he (Eastman) has shouted that he has diagnosed properly; so I am hoping that he keeps his feet on the ground until he sweats this stunt out properly.

A few of your pictures and more of your verse are still, thank God, be-yond me—though I am not always quite sure in which direction.

Also at times, it seems to me that your fear of the dear old library table takes you a little too close to the sawdust floor.

The "Ballad" was a delight and a glory! While admitting that the prose in the last verse came from an ecstatic heart, I must also confess that it detracted rather than added to my own ecstacy. To me it was a descent from realism to naturalism.

You had a burlesque show thing last winter which was a regular joy-ride for me. Your confounded book reviews are so infernally tantalizing that they wring my heart. A private eco-nomic slump has put me in the posi-tion, while reading them, of a bum looking through a cafe window and as this is both reminiscent and possibly prophetic, I am forced to be of two minds while reading them.

At times THE MASSES displays an intellectual priggishness which rubs me a little. Mere youth, I presume; but I prefer the mental freedom which is sufficiently seasoned to appreciate the state of those who still trust their spiritual pastors and masters. What I mean is, that while still fighting slav-ery lustily and hating the master without let or hindrance, one should still be patient and sympathetic with the slave—in print. When a young slave can be isolated, a sound cussing is due him; but it is undignified to throw bricks at the good old slaves who honestly believe that their loyalty is a virtue.

There was lots of good in the old family ideal even though there was lots of oppression in the old family as a fact. I'expect a magazine like THE MASSES to show an instinctive discrimination between good and evil, and not to boil the dog in order to kill the fleas.

At the same time, I realize that THE MASSES is about the only magazine in existence which holds up the mirror to To-day which is a high enough mission for anyone.

Sinceerly,

R. A. WASON. Original from Will Norwalk, Conn. I GAN

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MARGARET SANGER

165 Lexington Ave., New York City

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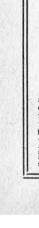
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Sworn to and subscribed before me 13th day of Oct., 1916.

(My commission expires March 30,

C. A. INGA

gir(SEAL)



Mrs. Sanger's Magazine

We Don't Advise People to Do Things We Aren't Up to Ourselves

ME few years ago I remember reading in the *Illustrated London* we this sentence from the pen of K. Chesterton: "It may be true t many South American presidents shamelesly shot, but it is even the true that many North American lionaires are left shamelessly unit." And now I read in THE MASSES in the pen of Wilber Byner a poem dressed to the unemployed, in ich he advises the desperate to "kill king," presumably an "American w"

Are these writings of Chesterton Bynner to be taken at their face ue, literally and seriously? Is this Revolutionist answer to King ckefeller, King Morgan, King Car-gie, et al? These things make one ak a bit. Instead of the "interional war of capitalists," as waged Europe, are we to have here in erica a national revolution against capitalists precipitated by a homewn Prinzip of the "unemployed" or 'exploited." Some clean-cut exsion on this point in THE MASSES m the next thing in order. Is this tence of Chesterton's only a sence, this poem of Bynner's only a em, is the "feeling" in these only eling or are these to be accepted weapons and counsels of revoluto put into execution?

For God's sake, where are we at? Yours, a bit perturbed,

Incognito.

A Conscientious Objector

RECEIVED the copy of THE MASSES in lieu of the New Review, and am, th others no doubt, disappointed that New Review has found it necessary consolidate with THE MASSES.

The kind of illustrations used in THE asses are, to me, absolutely meanings and I believe I am just as much in nest in having society revolutionized you. We need just such a *Review* has now become buried in an entirely ferent type of magazine, for the enntening of many people who would t be drawn to THE MASSES. I hope t you will see the advisability of a turcless magazine that will give inmation on economic matters for a ss that is every year becoming greatbut which is not identified wholly th the revolutionary class.

No! I do not care to subscribe to HE MASSES. • Its pictures give me the Vers.

Yours for a better social state,

H. N. BARTLETT.

From a Preacher

AM a preacher and I read THE MASSES. There is one trouble with your paper. It ald appear every week. It is the finest intertual stimulus of the month and I look ward to it with Keen pleasure.

thank your for Boardman Robinson's "The erter," and John Reed's "At the Throat of Republic." I wish we could get some of "good news" on the required reading list ar courses which bring up the young minin the straight and narrow. DG B. O

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The cost of crime in the United States now amounts to one-third the total cost of the government, and the burden is yearly increas-ing. Crime is seven times more prevalent in this country now, in proportion to population, than it was sixty years ago. According to Professor Kellicott, of Goucher College, one in every thirty persons in the United States is now defective or dependent, or both defec-tive and dependent.

In every thirty persons in the United States is now defective or dependent, or both defec-tive and dependent. When Blackstone wrote his commentaries upon the common law of England, he gave as one of his reasons for so doing a desire to epitomize, in a maner, and to popularize, an intricate but important branch of learning, and at the same time he expressed the belief that every gentleman ought to be familiar with the common law. For a much greater reason, at this day, every man and woman who feels an interest in civilization, who pre-fers racial improvement to racial deterioration and degeneracy, and who would foster the up-ward growth of society rather than witness its disintegration, must aspire to a degree of familiarity with the comparatively new science of criminology.

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"I am tired of the artificialness (life; bored with the endless monotom of trying to be perfectly happy; dis gusted with the society folk who g about in gaudy dress with enamel faces; sick of the religious-good peo ple in their way, but awfully tireson who wander from place to place with fatuous smiles of contentment on their pale faces.

"I wish I were living the primitiv life. I want to meander over the hill and through the woods; to inhale copi ous draughts of ozone; to bask in th sunshine, nude, when possible and scan tily clad when necessary, without th everlasting fear of shocking the prude I want to eat the wild fruits, nuts an grains; to fry corn cakes on the sur heated rocks and eat them with wi honey. With the assurance that I could satisfy my bucolic nature, I want to h by the brook in the meadow and wat the gentle bovine as they nonchalant nip the succulent, juicy grasses romp like the fawn in the forest.

"But paramount to these pleasures an inducing cause to my strange desir is my extreme repugnance to wear is my extreme repugnance to wear a high, stiff collar and a heavy unifor on a hot summer's day, lugging baggag to the thirteenth floor and runnin around the lobby paging Mr. Levy, M Isaacs and Mr. Cohen.'

A Wife's Troubles

HERE is a letter from the wife of a m who came out for militarism. I pass on to you. G. L

[Enclosure.]

"Were I a sentimentalist, I should we ingly assure you that Henry is now offe me the first Great Disappointment in our I fect Union. As I'm not, all I can say is after all these years he has jumped the t on me! I took it hard for awhile and m him as uncomfortable as I could around house according to the best traditions wifely duty toward an erring spouse. I finally reflected that he was only one of that numerous species of irrational, mature, destructive adult, male biped kn as Man, whom women have made the mist all these centuries of treating as though were mature, rational contemporaries. thermore decided that the world will know anything approaching sanity and zation-until the above species is ext minated and matriarchial dominance re-in gurated, But as they seem to be attending the job of wholesale self-destruction themselves, I have washed my hands of whole outfit of them. I feed Henry a yore, and pick up after him, and see that puts on his rubbers when it rains, and flourishes, unabashed by my moral dis proval, like the wicked and the green tree, but I will not even talk to him (or of his kind) on a subject requiring mature telligence like the war. I reserve all discussion for my own rational sex (such them as did not take part in the Prepareda Parade).

"John has been over here for a few to see his father. The two of them had beautiful time killing Germans, for meal!"

OF MICHIGAN

"Chick Lorimer"

W E once informed our readers that they ought to buy and read "Chiago Poems," by Carl Sandburg. We suspect that a few of them haven't done it yet, and that gives us an excuse for reprinting one of the poems in that volume—a poem as perfect in its way as the "Ode to a Grecian Urn," or the Shropshire lyrics of A. E. Housman. It is entitled "Gond," and here it is:

Everybody loved Chick Lorimer in our town.

Far off

Everybody loved her.

So we all love a wild girl keeping a hold On a dream she wants. Nobody knows now where Chick Lor-

imer went.

Nobody knows why she packed her trunk . . . a few old things, And is gone,

Gone with her little chin

Thrust ahead of her, And her soft hair blowing careless

From under a white hat,

Dancer, singer, a laughing, passionate lover.

Were there ten men or a hundred hunting Chick?

Were there five men or fifty with aching hearts?

Everybody loved Chick Lorimer. Nobody knows where she's gone.

Happy Thought

W HEN we say that we are getting old, we should rather say that we are getting new or young, and are affering from inexperience; trying to to things which we have never done before.—Samuel Butler in "The Way of All Flesk."

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