

"Know the Truth and the Truth shall make You Free"—St. John, 8, 32

THE BULLETIN

OF THE MANUFACTURERS AND MERCHANTS FEDERAL TAX LEAGUE

VOL. VI.

CHICAGO, JULY-SEPTEMBER, 1928

No. 3

MR. THOMAS TALKS ON FARM RELIEF

After being fed up on the unsound measures set forth by Messrs. Hoover and Smith for giving relief to the farming industry it is refreshing to find at last one presidential candidate that has some sensible ideas on the subject. He is Norman Thomas, the Socialist nominee. "Farmers in thousands upon thousands of cases," says Mr. Thomas, "are overtaxed because of the unsound basis of taxation. Tenant farming is increasing, and American tenant farmers, unlike tenants in other lands, have no rights in improvements they make save as leases may specify. Now, land is our common heritage, and the value of land—apart from improvements—as every thoughtful man must recognize, is peculiarly a social creation. What for instance made the value of the Astor estate in New York City? The intelligent labor of the family? By no means, but rather the fact that some 6,000,000 people came to live on or near the ancestral property. As long as farmers think less of reward for their arduous and honorable labor and more of the reward they may claim on swollen land values we shall have increasing taxation and increasing tenantry."

IS CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, HEADING FOR CHAOS?

Cook County, in which the city of Chicago is located, seems to be heading for a crisis. Because of the gross inequalities revealed in the quadrennial assessment made last year the State Tax Commission has ordered the assessment thrown out and a new assessment made which will hold good for the next four years. At the same time the State Tax Commission has laid down the rules and the standards by which the new assessment shall be made. (These rules and standards are very similar to those used by the well-known Somers System) and the County Board has appropriated \$857,000 to carry out the work.

But every possible means—means ranging from injunction suits to the refusal of the county treasurer to pay out the money—are being employed to prevent the job from going ahead. What the outcome is going to be is at this moment a matter of pure speculation. One thing is sure, last year's assessment is illegal and if a new assessment is not made in time with the State Tax Commission's orders there will be no taxes for the next twelve months to collect. "Police men, firemen, teachers, street cleaners and every other public employee," says Hayden N. Bell, attorney for the County Board, "will have to work for a year without pay. The result will be chaos—chaos beyond the experience or memory of man."

Kindly notify THE BULLETIN when you change your address.

WHAT WILL PRES. GLENN FRANK DO?

Three Faculty Members of Wis. U. Under Fire—Prof. Hibbard, Glaeser and Wehrwein Charged with Disregarding the Resolution Passed by the Board of Regents in 1925

Members are Accepting Favors and Subsidies from the Ely Institute—an "Educational" Organization Backed by Huge Monopoly Interests

"REPEAL THE REGENTS' RESOLUTION OR ENFORCE IT," PRESIDENT FRANK IS ASKED

Just as this paper goes to press the Education Protective Association of America, through its Secretary, Emil O. Jorgensen, announces that a letter has been sent to President Glenn Frank of the University of Wisconsin charging Professors Hibbard, Glaeser and Wehrwein of that institution with violating the resolution passed by the Board of Regents in 1925, and with accepting favors and subsidies from the Ely Institute in Northwestern University—an incorporated "educational" organization financed by the public utilities, the real estate boards and other large monopoly interests. Secretary Jorgensen's letter asks President Frank either to enforce the Board of Regents' resolution or have it repealed. His letter, which was copied to each member of the Board of Regents and which was released to all Wisconsin papers on the same day, follows:

September 29, 1928.

Mr. Glenn Frank,
President, University of Wisconsin,
Madison, Wis.

My Dear Mr. Frank:

It is frequently impossible for the president of a large state university to know all that is going on within his own institution. We therefore, respectfully beg leave to lay before you a matter which we are persuaded neither you nor the Board of Regents have any knowledge of—a matter that involves the very integrity and honor of the great seat of learning of which you are the head.

In the summer of 1925 the Board of Regents of your university passed the following resolution:

"That no gifts, donations nor subsidies shall in future be accepted by or in behalf of the University of Wisconsin from any incorporated educational endowments or organizations of like character."

The purpose of this commendable resolution was, of course, to keep the University of Wisconsin an independent and untrammeled educational institution—"free from the corrupting influences of special privilege and monopoly."

The resolution—both as to letter and spirit—we regret to say, is being seriously violated. Several members of your faculty are accepting favors and subsidies from a certain incorporated educational organization—the very kind of an organization to which the Board of Regents has objected—and in return for these favors and subsidies are putting out, in the name of Wisconsin University, textbooks and other literature friendly to the monopoly interests back of this "educational organization."

That you need have no doubt as to the validity of these charges permit me to go a little more into detail.

In Northwestern University in Chicago there is a separately incorporated and privately financed organization called the "Institute for Research in Land Economics and Public Utilities." This Institute (which was moved out of state-supported Wisconsin University, where it was founded, into privately-endowed Northwestern University just a few weeks before the Wisconsin Regents passed their famous resolution) is directed by Prof. Richard T. Ely.

Now the purpose of the Ely Institute, we are told, is to investigate the various problems pertaining to land, public utilities and taxation and to investigate them in an absolutely "impartial, disinterested and scientific manner." The Institute is, therefore, training teachers and preparing a series of fifty text and reference books (fourteen of these have already been published) which teachers and text-books it has now got into more than three hundred schools, colleges and universities in the United States.

Investigations made by the American Federation of Teachers and other bodies during the past three years, however, have conclusively shown that the Ely Institute is not a genuine research organization, as it stoutly claims to be, but is a huge propaganda organization in disguise. In the first place the Institute has been found to be financed, not merely by the Rockefeller and Carnegie corporations, but by the National Association of Real Estate Boards, the railroads, the public utilities and other special privileged groups—several hundred thousand dollars have already been accepted from these sources—and it cannot

(Continued on page 3)

INVESTIGATION OF UTILITIES IS RESUMED

The Federal Trade Commission has again resumed its investigation of the public utilities and is pointing out a stream of new facts showing how these utilities are corrupting our educational institutions for the purpose of putting over their propaganda.

"Not in many a year," writes the famous historian, Dr. Charles A. Beard in the National Alumni Review for Sept., 1928, "have we had an investigation in Washington as important as the inquiry into the so-called 'power trust,' which is being conducted under the auspices of the Federal Trade Commission. In comparison the various senatorial investigations that have 'rocked the country' sink into trivial insignificance. The latter have merely involved temporary scandals, the reprehensible conduct of public officers and private individuals."

"The inquiry has revealed many things," according to the recently published preliminary report. It shows utility concerns hiring professors to carry on campaigns of agitation against municipal ownership, ostensibly under high university authority, subsidizing newspapers under the guise of advertising, deluging the public school with biased propaganda, as well as municipal ownership advocates as Bolsheviks and resorting to back-stair tactics to discredit them, and granting money to universities and research institutions with an eye to 'proper' results. In short, the propaganda of the utility interests stands fully revealed in all its nakedness, and a powerful light is thrown on the nature of the 'public opinion' made by newspapers, distinguished speakers and controlled school books."

CHICAGO PUBLISHES ITS ASSESSMENT LISTS

All of the property owners in Chicago and Cook County—and there are 1,011,600 of them—have now received their real estate assessment lists. This is the first time these lists have been sent out in 29 years and it required a special session of the legislature to get the assessors to comply with the law. The lists show separately the value of the land and the value of the improvements as fixed by the Board of Assessors and revised by the Board of Review. As was to be expected the lists disclose the most flagrant inequalities—many properties being assessed ten, fifteen and twenty times as much per hundred dollars of valuation as other properties in the same block. Wide publicity has been given the matter, intense discussion is going on all over the city and county and because of the heavy burden on property owners the fires of discontent, not merely with the present assessment methods, but with the existing tax system, are glowing underneath.

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THE THIRD HENRY GEORGE MEMORIAL CONGRESS

After a three day session held in the Congress Hotel in Chicago, the Third Henry George Memorial Congress came to a close on September 19. It was one of the most interesting and inspiring gatherings of its kind that has ever been held. Several hundred delegates were present, including representatives from Canada, England and Denmark.

It is impossible in this brief space to do more than mention some of the able speakers who were there. Among these were George E. Evans, the President of the Henry George Foundation of America; Percy R. Williams, Secretary of the Foundation who deserves much credit for the splendid manner in which the Congress was managed; Joseph Dana Miller, the editor of "Land and Freedom"; Charles LeBaron Goeller of Union, N. Y.; Otto Cullman of Chicago; Prof. Aage Moller of Nysted People's College in Nebraska; Vernon Rose of Kansas City; Alderman Wiley W. Mills of Chicago; Prof. Harry G. Brown of Missouri University; Will Atkinson of New York City; Dr. Frederick W. Roman of Los Angeles, Calif.; Honorable Charles O'Connor Hennessy of New York; John Z. White of Chicago; Rev. H. S. Bigelow of Ohio; Fiske Warren of Mass.; Ernest B. Gaston, the indefatigable editor from Fairhope, Ala.; Dr. Mark A. Minkin of Ohio; Edward White of Kansas City; Robert C. Macanley of Pennsylvania; Mrs. Anna George DeMille (daughter of Henry George) of New York; Dr. Preston Bradley of Chicago; Charles B. Rogers of Wisconsin; J. C. Lincoln of Cleveland, Ohio; Mrs. Emily E. F. Skeel of New York City; S. Warner of London, England; Lincol Victor LaTaste of Dallas, Texas; and Charles R. Eckert of Beaver, Pa.

Many different viewpoints with respect to tactics and procedure were presented by the speakers but the greatest harmony prevailed throughout the entire session. It was indeed an interesting and inspiring Congress, full of helpful suggestions, and the memory of it will linger long in the minds of those who attended.

OUR RAILROAD PROBLEM—AND THE WAY OUT

Some one has been kind enough to send us a little pamphlet entitled "Lower Freight Rates and Adequate Railway Revenues," by Warren S. Blauvelt, formerly of Terre Haute, Indiana, but now of Troy, N. Y. It is not the first time we have seen this pamphlet—in fact, we have a few copies of it left ourselves. In our opinion much of the public indignation now being spilled against the public utilities would have been avoided if the railroads and other transportation lines had been handled in the sensible manner outlined by Mr. Blauvelt in this little booklet.

Here is the essence of his argument: Mr. Blauvelt does not believe that the road body, terminal facilities, sidings, loading stations, etc., of our transportation lines should be privately owned; these are natural monopolies, he says, and should be publicly owned.

But the business of hauling freight and passengers is an entirely different thing; it is competitive in its very nature and the best results will be obtained by leaving it to private enterprise. In other words, private enterprise freed from all taxes and operating under competitive conditions on the publicly-owned rail highways (which would be maintained and policed by the Federal government just as the channels in the Great Lakes are now maintained and policed) would bring about, not merely the lowest rates to the public, but the fairest returns to the owners, the management and the employees.

We certainly wish, in view of the growing seriousness of our railroad problem, that our friends would acquaint themselves more with the idea so well developed by Mr. Blauvelt in his little pamphlet. Copies of it may be had by addressing this office and enclosing postage.

A SQUARE DEAL AND GUARANTEED DEMOCRACY

By S. S. Taber

Special privilege and monopoly can be abolished, thus ending the process of enriching the few by impoverishing the many, and incidentally, purifying politics by removing occasion for The Third House.

Equality of opportunity in natural resources, can be established; thus ending unemployment and the resultant criminality.

Private ownership or possession of land and property can be confirmed; thus inducing a loyal and stabilized citizenship.

Freedom of production and exchange can be introduced; thus reducing the cost of living and stimulating industry.

Public tax assessors can be relieved of their impossible task of estimating values, and citizens from their inclination to fraud and perjury; thus inculcating honesty.

Modern inventions can and should be made to signify increased wages to labor and increased profits to capital; thus eliminating conflict.

Condensing the above declarations into one:

The square deal among men—the Golden Rule in our economic life—can and should be inaugurated, by simply transferring as gradually as required all governmental or community taxes, from the private property values created by industry and trade—the products of human labor—to the social or community created values by the governments and society itself, as expressed and reflected in ground rent. Ground rent keeps pace with public need. This would be scientific taxation, in harmony with every day business principles—a levy upon the citizen in exact proportion to the benefits conferred.

The voters can enact scientific taxation into law, whenever they make a majority demand; thus introducing all the benefits and blessings of a square deal and a guaranteed democracy to all people; a new era of liberty and justice.

POPULATION AND THE FOOD SUPPLY

The problem of the world's future food supply, no matter how great the population, has been solved by science. So declared Dr. H. E. Barnard, Chicago, industrial chemist, before the Institute of Chemistry.

Even if the world's population continues to increase at its present rate until, 500 years hence, there is only one square yard of arable land left for each human being, said Dr. Barnard, man will be able to nourish himself with food synthesized from the sunlight, the atmosphere and the atomless reservoir of the sea.

For his proteins, the future man will turn to the yeast plant instead of beef-steak.

"Thirty men working in a factory the size of a city block can produce in the form of yeast as much food as 1,000 men tilling 57,000 acres under ordinary agricultural conditions," asserted the chemist.

For his carbohydrates, man will turn to new types of "vegetation" that will store up solar energy with the same efficiency that coal has done. He will grow these in the Sahara Desert, where a section forty miles square receives in six hours as much solar heat as is produced by all the coal burned in twenty-four hours throughout the world.

For his fats and sugars, he will, it necessary, turn to shale oil, coal, sawdust or petroleum. And even the mysterious vitamins which are necessary for growth and health will be synthesized in the laboratory, predicted Dr. Barnard.

In an interview, he added that long before the globe becomes overcrowded legislators will limit the number of new human beings who can be brought into the world.

Science is "teaching men to co-operate intelligently with God," and is not disproving the theories of theology, Professor Harry N. Holmes, head of the chemistry department at Oberlin University, said.

"It is charged that scientific research is grossly materialistic," he said. "It is true that some able research workers are atheists or agnostics.

"But we insist that there is an ethical side to our search for truth. Science shows a devotion to duty and honesty that is worthy of imitation in other walks of life."

Professor Holmes pointed out that science had reduced the average man's working day from fifteen hours to eight hours in a century. The result has been "opportunities for a richer, more cultured and genuinely human life."—Chicago Evening American.

NATURAL TAXATION

"Is it true that there is and can be no science of taxation? If it is, then Nature can have nothing to say about government, and all talk of the science of government is folly. For government implies taxation, as truly as the existence of animated nature implies food. Taxation is the indispensable condition of all government. Taxes are the food upon which it lives. Without taxes it must die. If all offices of government were filled gratuitously, it would none the less be maintained by taxation, although the only direct taxpayers would be the office-holders. Just as certainly as the existence of the body implies a science of food, the existence of human society implies a science of taxation.

"For society and civilization, the value of which is beyond all computation, cannot exist without government, and government cannot exist without taxation. If there is any real social science, that science must include all things which are essential to the existence of society. . . . We may be sure that there is a science of taxation, and that Nature has much to say about it, if we will only listen to her voice."—Thomas G. Sheahan in "Natural Taxation," pp. 1-2.

If you do not get THE BULLETIN regularly please advise us.

WHAT WILL PRES. GLENN FRANK DO?—Con.

therefore be disinterested. In the second place the Institute has made a practice of submitting its manuscripts to representatives of the large privileged corporations back of it before these manuscripts have been published, and it cannot therefore be impartial. In the third place the Institute has laid down its conclusions in advance of its investigations—conclusions, by the way, that are worth billions of dollars to the public utility and land speculation interests—and it cannot consequently be scientific. Instead of being a genuine research organization, the Ely Institute is, therefore, a colossal deception and a fraud.

But the fraudulence of the Ely Institute is a matter that in this connection need not be considered. The main point is that the Ely Institute is an incorporated educational organization, financed chiefly by special interests with big axes to grind—an organization, therefore, whose "gifts, donations and subsidies" your Board of Regents has ruled shall not be accepted "by or in behalf of the University of Wisconsin," but which are, nevertheless, being accepted by various members of your faculty.

One of the faculty members who has long accepted the favors of the Ely Institute is Dr. George S. Wehrwein of your Department of Agricultural Economics. Dr. Wehrwein, in return, has given the Institute some of its most precious assistance—has helped Prof. Ely in writing his three "foundation books" upon which an announced fifty other volumes are to be based, has frequently written articles himself for the Institute's Journal, has organized many classes of students and teachers, and has aided in the preparation of numerous text-books for use in our colleges and universities—all of which are highly prized by the great corporations back of the Institute but the teachings of which are, in the opinion of many thoughtful men and women, a grave danger to the future welfare of the whole people.

Another member of your faculty who has accepted the subsidies of the Ely Institute and who in turn has rendered much valuable service to it, is Prof. Martin G. Glaeser of the Department of Economics. Prof. Glaeser has devoted his attention mainly to the public utilities, which, as has already been stated, are among the chief supporters of the Ely Institute—the National Electric Light Association alone having given the Institute a total of \$75,000 during the last three years.

How well Prof. Glaeser has served the Institute may be seen, for instance, in his recent book "The Outlines of Public Utility Economics." This book, which was published by MacMillan in 1927 (two years after the Board of Regents passed their resolution) was stated by John B. Sheridan, leading propagandist for the National Electric Light Association in his recent testimony before the Federal Trade Commission, to be a very "desirable textbook from the standpoint of the public utilities." That it should be a "desirable textbook" from their standpoint is not strange. The manuscript of the book was examined by Vice-Presidents Edwin Grull and F. W. Doolittle of the North American Company, by Arthur F. Herwig, Director of the Wisconsin Public Utility Information Bureau, and by various other spokesmen for the utility companies before the editor, Dr. Ely himself, went over the manuscript and wrote the introduction to it. Prof. Glaeser's book was, of course, financed by the Ely Institute.

A third member of your faculty that has long accepted the favors of the Ely Institute is the head of the Department of Agricultural Economics—Dr. B. H. Hibbard. Like Professors Wehrwein and Glaeser, Dr. Hibbard has assisted the Ely Institute very greatly in carrying out the purpose for which it was organized. Not merely has he lent his professional talents to the Institute on numerous occasions, not merely has he aided in the preparation of text-books and other literature for use in our schools and colleges, but he has definitely come to the defense of the privileged organizations back of the Ely Institute when their monopolies have been in danger.

In 1920, for example, a bill known as the Ralston-Nolan bill, was introduced into Congress for the purpose of relieving the excessive tax burden on business earnings, wages of labor and the necessities of life. The bill was bitterly opposed by the National Association of Real Estate Boards—one of the leading supporters of the Ely Institute—who saw in it a heavy blow to land speculation and the monopoly of natural resources. At the behest of the Ely Institute, therefore, a special article opposing the Ralston-Nolan bill was prepared by Dr. Hibbard for the National Association of Real Estate Boards—an article that was distributed throughout the United States by the Real Estate Boards in the summer of 1921, and which article probably did more than anything else to bring about the bill's defeat.

Dr. Hibbard has denied, in the Wisconsin papers of August 15, 1928, that he ever received any compensation either from the Ely Institute or from any other organization for writing this article. The statement is not correct. Dr. Hibbard has received many favors from the Ely Institute, both direct and indirect, for the assistance he has given it, as a mere reference to the preface of his "History of the Public Land Policies" will sufficiently indicate.

Dr. Hibbard has also stated in the Wisconsin papers of August 15: "I have never had the slightest connection with any legislation affecting public utilities. It is entirely outside my line of interest." This statement is not merely incorrect; it is a flat falsehood. The Ralston-Nolan bill, for example, not only had for its object a reduction in taxes on the fruits of human industry, but it specifically provided for a one per cent tax on the privilege of holding natural resources of all kinds, including the franchises, terminal sites, waterpowers and lands owned by the public utilities. Since the value of the lands owned by the public utilities, according to Dr. Hibbard's own estimate, frequently reaches thirty per cent of the total value of these corporations, his leadership in defeating the Ralston-Nolan bill has saved the public utilities more than \$200,000,000 in taxes since this time.

What more need be said? The above facts conclusively show that

the resolution passed by the Board of Regents is being contemptuously disregarded by certain members of your faculty. As a result Wisconsin University is now becoming more dangerous to democracy than it had passed no resolution at all. Outwardly it is posing as an institution in which the corrupting influences of predatory wealth are not allowed to enter; inwardly it is permitting these corrupting influences of predatory wealth to hold full sway.

This is clearly a two-faced policy and ought to be promptly stopped. Either the Board of Regents' resolution should be enforced or it should be repealed. If the favors and subsidies now being accepted by Professors Hibbard, Glaeser and Wehrwein from the Ely Institute—and the Ely Institute, let it be reiterated, is an incorporated educational organization supported by funds derived from huge monopoly interests—the very kind of an organization, therefore, whose gifts, donations and subsidies your Board of Regents has decreed shall not be accepted, if "by or in behalf of the University of Wisconsin"—let us repeat, if these favors and subsidies are to be accepted by Professors Hibbard, Glaeser and Wehrwein it would be vastly better if they were accepted with the full sanction of the Regents than if they are to be accepted without their knowledge or approval. For while a reactionary institution is bad, a liberal one that permits a great deception to be practiced, is worse.

But a repeal of the resolution is something that we hope and pray you will not consider. An unparalleled effort, as the present investigation of the so-called "power trust" by the Federal Trade Commission has shown, is now being made by vast privileged interests in the United States—the same interests that are back of the Ely Institute—to exploit our public school system for their own selfish ends, and if Wisconsin University with its great reputation and its high ideals is to surrender to these interests, it will mean a blow to democracy from which it may never recover.

In his Magazine of February, 1925, the late Senator Robert M. La Follette wrote:

"The time is at hand when the American people must meet this issue of Monopoly control over higher education. More particularly, the University of Wisconsin, with its old traditions of academic freedom, must take the lead in restoring that fearless 'winnowing and sifting of truth' which is paralyzed by the subsidies, direct and indirect, of the Monopoly System."

We earnestly hope, therefore, that you will work, not for the repeal of the resolution, but for its strict enforcement. In this effort we feel sure you will have, not merely the loyal backing of the Board of Regents, but the enthusiastic support of the people of the whole state. The Republican Party of Wisconsin, as you may recall, declared in its platform of 1926:

"We believe that the State of Wisconsin should maintain her educational institutions free from the corrupting and dangerous subsidizing of organized wealth and monopoly. We are wholeheartedly opposed to permitting Rockefeller or other monopolists, or their instrumentalities, from corrupting democracy at its source. We pledge ourselves to the maintenance of our educational institutions free from trammeling influence from any source and declare our recognition of the principle of free and unrestrained search for the truth in all our institutions."

Very respectfully yours,

EDUCATION PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.
Emil O. Jorgensen, Secretary.

ENCLOSURE

Copied to all members of the Board of Regents:

Mr. Adolf Gundersen, La Crosse, Wis.
Miss Zona Gale, Portage, Wis.
Mr. Fred E. Bachman, Appleton, Wis.
Mr. John C. Schmitzmann, Manitowoc, Wis.
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Mr. Franklin A. Nace, Iola, Wis.
Mr. John E. Caselman, Denmark, Wis.
Mr. Ben F. Paast, Eau Claire, Wis.
Mr. George A. Nelson, Milton, Wis.
Mr. John Callahan, Madison, Wis.

LO, THE POOR INDIAN!

Nearly \$32,000,000 in bonuses, royalties and taxes have been paid to the Osage Indians in Oklahoma in the ten year period ending in 1927, according to statistics given out by the Phillips Petroleum company and other operators in the Burbank field. Figuring the total of 2,229 headrights on the tribal roll, the Phillips company alone has paid in nearly \$14,000 to every buck, squaw and papoose in the tribe. And all without them lifting a little finger or doing a stroke of work in return. Wouldn't it be wonderful if all of us were Osage Indians?

POLITICAL ECONOMY

"Political economy is the science of common welfare and is to democracy what ORGANIZATION and TACTICS are to an army. Without a fair, working understanding of its simple, fundamental principles, a democracy is a mob led by swashbucklers. It is never the special friend of any political party or candidate but it is at all times, the special friend of every man, woman and child. It is hated by the professional politician since it tears the mask off the spoils and strategy of political parties. Secular and often religious organizations hate it because it uncovers the tainted money in their budgets."—N. A. VYNNE.

SOME MORE RESOLUTIONS

(Resolution adopted July 2, 1928, by the National League of Teachers' Associations)

WHEREAS, the findings of the Federal Trade Commission of the United States Government have revealed the fact that a nation-wide and insidious propaganda of profligious proportions has been and continues to be carried on by the private power companies of this country, and,

WHEREAS, this propaganda has attacked the entire public school and educational system of the country, undertaking to censor and revise existing text books, hiring college professors and prominent educators to write and deliver lectures under academic auspices without disclosing their private power company connections; establishing and subsidizing bureaus of so-called research under high sounding names in universities, paying the expenses of college professors to attend conferences conducted under private company auspices and otherwise attempting to introduce their propaganda into the public schools, and,

WHEREAS, the public schools and educational system of the country constitutes the very citadel of American democracy upon which its future depends, and, WHEREAS, the Classroom Teachers are the ones who must use those censored text books and literature and are held responsible for the proper guidance and training of the youth who are to become our future citizens, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that we most earnestly protest against the use of the public schools and educational system of our country by any private concern or organization in behalf of selfish and class interests against the general and public welfare; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that we call upon the general public to give closest attention to the findings of the Federal Trade Commission that they may be informed and fully aroused to the peril involved; and particularly do we urge upon the press of the country their solemn duty to give the facts and findings of the Commission the prominence and publicity which their overshadowing importance demands.

FRANCES E. HARDEN,
Chicago Teachers' Federation, chairman.
IRENE RIPLEY,
Portland Grade Teachers' Ass'n.
EMILY S. SMITH,
San Francisco Teachers' Ass'n.
Mr. R. M. CALDWELL,
Dallas High School Teachers' Ass'n.

(Resolution adopted July 26, 1928, by the Public Ownership League of America)

WHEREAS, the findings of the Federal Trade Commission have disclosed the existence of a nation-wide conspiracy on the part of the private utility monopolies of this country to revise the text books and to influence and employ the teaching force in order to prejudice the minds of our youth in the schools, colleges and universities against municipal and public ownership and in favor of private ownership, and,

WHEREAS, the findings of the commission have shown that the success of this effort has been so great and far reaching as to threaten the integrity of the whole educational system of the country, and,

WHEREAS, the "Institute for Research in Land Economics and Public Utilities," directed by Prof. Richard T. Ely at Northwestern University is one of the agencies which is subsidized by the public utilities and which is putting out, under the cloak of "disinterested research," teachers and text-books hostile to municipal ownership and favorable to the private corporations from which its subsidies are received; and,

WHEREAS, in many other universities, notably Harvard, the state universities of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Colorado, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and other states as well as in the public schools of Connecticut, Nebraska, and elsewhere, similar conditions have been shown to exist; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Conference of the Public Ownership League of America held at Seattle and Tacoma July 23-26, 1928, condemn all such dishonest, undercover and deceptive methods of propaganda and protest most earnestly against their use by utility monopoly agencies in prostituting public education to the purposes of private profit against the public interests; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Public Ownership League urge upon public spirited people everywhere to do everything in their power to rid the public schools, colleges and universities of the United States of these baneful influences; and that all candidates for regents of universities, members of school boards and others having in charge the policies of educational institutions be carefully scrutinized and interrogated as to their position and views regarding these matters, all to the end that the educational system of the country shall be maintained at all times free and untrammeled.

(Resolution unanimously adopted September 19, 1928, by the Third Henry George Memorial Congress)

WHEREAS, the purpose of our schools, colleges and universities is to carry on, not special propaganda for the few, but impartial education for the many, and WHEREAS, numerous investigations have disclosed the fact that the Institute for Research in Land Economics and Public Utilities, directed by Prof. Richard T. Ely at Northwestern University, has accepted hundreds of thousands of dollars from the National Association of Real Estate Boards, the public utilities and other monopolistic corporations and is now putting out through our schools and colleges—and under the pretense of "disinterested research"—teachers and text-books hostile to the welfare of the masses and advantages to the privileged organizations from which its contributions are received, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Third Henry George Congress in convention assembled in Chicago, September 10-13, 1928, denounce the aforesaid Ely Institute in Northwestern University as a threat to economic freedom, a menace to democracy and a grave danger to the future welfare of the American people, and be it further

RESOLVED, that all members of the Henry George Congress use every honorable means within their power to have this fraudulent "research" Institute removed from the public schools, colleges and universities of the United States as speedily as possible.

THE ELY INSTITUTE AGAIN

In the last issue of the "American Review of Reviews" (September, 1928) there is an article boosting Prof. Ely's "Institute for Research in Land Economics and Public Utilities" in Sam Insull's favorite university—an article which we suggest our subscribers get and read. The article is well written—very cleverly written, in fact—as it gives the Institute credit for some good legislation in Illinois which we happen to know belongs chiefly to Miss Margaret Haley and the school teachers of Chicago, and in the securing of which the Institute played

but an accidental part. However, the article contains considerable information of real value. We quote in part (the words in brackets are ours):

"There are now on the Institute's Board of Trustees [besides Dr. Ely himself, Albert Shaw, editor of this REVIEW, as president; Rufus C. Dawes [public utility magnate]; John H. Finley of the New York Times [an old friend of Dr. Ely's]; Director Henry S. Graves of the Yale School of Forestry; William S. Kies, the New York Banker [and railroad man]; ex-Governor Frank O. Lowden of Illinois [of Pullman Company fame]; and Gen. Nathan W. MacDonsey [military landowner and general counsel for the National Association of Real Estate Boards].

* * *

"The Institute at present has a yearly budget of about \$100,000. It is entirely dependent on voluntary contributions. Aid has been received from the Carnegie Corporation, the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial, and various organizations and individuals. Northwestern University furnishes offices and equipment, and the Institute is active in developing the educational work in the university's department of economics. The lecturing and teaching done by members of the Institute's staff is all intended to promote research."

Fine! There is, however, a good deal of information in this connection which the author of the article has unfortunately failed to bring out. We suggest, therefore, that those who are interested in learning the facts about the Ely Institute write to the Education Protective Association of America, 1344 Alameda Street, Chicago, and ask for a copy of "Poisoning our Public Schools." This circular will show at a glance just who is back of the Institute and what its real purpose is. Enclose 10 cents to cover printing and postage.

A CALL TO ARMS!

To All Friends of Human Liberty:

The public utility corporations, like the National Association of Real Estate Boards and other "vested interests," have now hurled their poisonous shafts into the heart of our educational system. After having spent untold sums during the past few years in subsidizing colleges and universities, bribing professors, bullying teachers and "doctoring" textbooks to educate the school children of America in the way they want them to be educated, these huge corporations boastfully announce that they are going to continue their work of "education" in the future just as they have been doing it in the past!

This is a flat challenge to democracy which must be met—and it has been met, at least, in one state. That state is Wisconsin. In this state Senator Robert M. LaFollette, leader of the Progressive forces, has hurled his defiance at the power monopoly (see LaFollette's Magazine for September, 1928) in these ringing words:

"The Progressive platform challenges the power monopoly in its attempt to poison all the avenues for the making of public opinion in America. It denounces the subsidizing of teachers, college professors, newspaper writers, pastors and the press, and the use of our schools as propaganda agencies by this ruthless organization. . . . The Progressives serve notice now on the power monopoly that we are enlisted in this fight on behalf of the people until it shall be won!"

Senator LaFollette's courageous stand is all the more remarkable because it is in his own state where some of the deepest corruption of our educational institutions is to be found. Wisconsin University, because of its wide reputation for liberalism, has long been a favorite hatching ground for the reactionary interests. It was here, that the privately-financed and monopoly-controlled Ely Institute was born, it was here that it grew up and reached its full vigor, and it is here where the Institute still maintains many of its strongest connections.

That Senator LaFollette and his faithful followers are going to meet bitter opposition in their effort to stop the prostitution of the schools is a foregone conclusion. For in Wisconsin, as elsewhere, the public utilities, the land speculators, the railroads and the like interests, constitute the "invisible government" of the state. Their representatives are enthroned in all places of power—in the editorial sanctum, in the radio station, on the lecture platform, in the pulpit, on the judge's bench—and any attempt, therefore, to rid the schools of these baneful influences is going to be bitterly and cunningly resisted. Senator LaFollette well says of the power monopoly—which is only one of the great monopolies back of the Ely Institute—that it constitutes "one of the most ruthless, one of the most unscrupulous, one of the most unconscionable organizations of capital ever known in the history of this Republic."

We feel, therefore, that we should aid the LaFollette forces in the Badger State in any way we can. Particularly should we send our literature regarding the Ely Institute and its connections in Wisconsin University (we already have some but more should be prepared) to every farm and labor leader, public official, lawyer, minister, newspaper editor and school teacher in the state. This is a big job—a costly job—and we need your help. If you can't send us a large sum, don't be ashamed to send us a small one. Every dollar counts. This is a war to save our schools—to save them from the corrupting influences of privilege and monopoly. We dare not lose the fight! Help us all you can!

EDUCATION PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, Inc.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Ernest Batten Fay Lewis
James C. Fuller George C. Oleoit
E. O. Jorgensen Dr. Walter Verity

(Tear off here)

Date.....

Otto Cullman, Treasurer,
Education Protective Association of America,
1344 Alameda Street,
Chicago, Ill.

I enclose herewith \$..... to help you in your fight to save the schools.
More power to you!

Name.....
Address.....