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BOOK REVIEWS—OBITUARY

dwelling of the required standard and rental. Otherwise those intended to be benefited would be deprived even of the apologies for houses they now possess. Increase of wages by itself will not meet the difficulty. . . . The landlord will merely raise rents to correspond." The functions which should be performed by the municipality, the state, and the nation with respect to regulation, and the use of credit, along paths similar to those already established by other nations are outlined in considerable detail. It would be unfair to discuss these definite suggestions without including the entire program as presented. The program is workable; the most radical of its proposals—if they may be called radical today—falls well within the area of governmental action which our habits and thoughts have come (quite recently) to associate with what is right and proper. This program does not upset our institutions; it maps out certain areas over which the functions of government are to be made to expand. This merit constitutes at the same time its fault and its weakness. The program makes no attack upon our institutions and our customs which are so largely responsible for bringing about the present situation. These institutions are to continue, under this handicap of legislation, to run their course without abatement. The program does not set about eliminating the causes.

I understand fully that we must have restrictive legislation of a type more drastic than we are accustomed to enact; I likewise know that we must also have restrictive legislation of the type and kind suggested: but I am fully convinced that the mere enactment of the full program into law will not, under present conditions, achieve the results desired. This program fails to come to grip with the land question. So long as we fail to arrest the development of the increment in land values for private use, so long will we have congested cities and slums. For it is the prospective speculative profit in land which will in reality limit the power of restrictive as well as constructive legislation: legislative measures will continue to be framed in conformity to this prospective gain. Direct and not indirect control of the increment in land arising out of occupancy is an essential preliminary step toward the development of better housing conditions.

And back of the land question, of course, is the still larger aspect—*unskilled wage earners!* The very phrase gives us away. All of our legislative action in this as in other phases of our attempt to organize a better society will be of little avail so long as all production is actuated by that spirit which fosters the development of an ever-increasing army of unskilled wage earners.

FREDERICK L. ACKERMAN.

Obituary

George Thomas Tilden

Elected to the Institute in 1874; to Fellowship in 1889
Died at Milton, Mass., July 10, 1919

Mr. Tilden was born in Concord, N. H., on March 19, 1845. His father was William Phillips Tilden, for many years a prominent Unitarian clergyman in Boston. His mother was Mary Jacobs (Foster) Tilden, a native of Scituate. George Thomas Tilden was educated at the Phillips Exeter Academy, and, after graduation, worked in the office of Ware and Van Brunt in Boston. He attended lectures at the Lowell Institute in Boston, the forerunner of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and went to Paris in 1869, where he studied in the atelier of Emile Vaudremer.

On returning to this country, he began the practice of his profession in Boston, and in 1880 became associated with Arthur Rotch, under the firm name of Rotch and Tilden. For the following fifteen years this was one of the most active architectural firms in New England and also in New York City, Washington, Charleston, South Carolina, and other places. Since Mr. Rotch's death in 1895 Mr. Tilden practised alone. About three years ago he gave up his Boston office and had virtually retired from active participation in professional work, although he kept an office at his home in Milton. He was trustee of the Rotch Travelling Scholarship. For a long time he was a member of the Royal Arcanum and one of the charter members of the branch of that society in Dorchester and Boston, but he had retired from active membership some years ago. He was a life member of the Boston Young Men's Christian Union and also a life member of the American Unitarian Association. He had lived forty-three years in Milton, Mass., and was active in town affairs there, as well as an interested member of the First Parish Church.

On October 5, 1871, Mr. Tilden married Miss Alice Olmsted Butler, of Cincinnati, Ohio, daughter of Major John B. Butler, of the Ordnance Corps, U. S. Army, and Catherine Selina (Gazzam) Butler, of Pittsburgh.

Among the more important work executed by Mr. Tilden there may be mentioned the Milton (Mass.) Town Hall; Sargent Normal School building and gymnasium, Cambridge, Mass.; the Art Museum, Wellesley College; Plymouth (Mass.) High School; Jesup Hall, Williams College; Parish House, First Parish Church, Milton, Mass.; Public Library, Billerica, Mass.; Blue Hill Observatory, Milton, Mass.; American Legion of Honor Building, Boston, Mass.; "Ventfort Hall" and "Belvoir Terrace" at Lenox, Mass., and many private residences in the eastern section of the United States.