# The Public

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## **EDITORIAL**

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#### An Offensive Combination.

Philistines may be admired and Hypocrites tolerated, but the Combination is offensive.

#### Railroad Ownership.

Under public ownership, could car shortages be more exasperating than that of the Northwest or

railroad accidents be more horrible than that of the Baltimore and Ohio, under private ownership?

## The Delicate "Finishing Touch."

For the completion of the Chicago traction agreement "a few finishing touches will be required," says the Record-Herald, one of the allies of the traction ring which is demanding immediate acceptance of these agreements, "sight-unseen." The people of Chicago had better be alert when those "finishing touches" are laid on.

## Woman Suffrage in Chicago.

Although the woman suffragists of Illinois worked earnestly for the Constitutional amendment allowing a home-rule charter for Chicago, which would have been defeated but for their efforts, they are to be denied municipal suffrage under the charter, if the charter as now decided upon for recommendation in that respect shall be finally adopted by the people of Chicago. Not only are they to be denied the right of municipal suffrage, but they have been denied the right of an opportunity to express themselves before the convention, and this notwithstanding the fact that in the convention they have no representation.

### Beginning of the End.

a public utility corporation adopts the "open-shop" plan, it must be in extremis. But this is what the Cleveland traction company has done. "A closed-shop" agreement was made a week or between this company and its men. There is no industrial reason for it; other traction companies make no such concessions. There is no generous reason for it; generosity has no place in the traction "business." But the hope of turning the working people of Cleveland against Mayor Johnson's policy is evident. The Cleveland traction company must have almost reached the end of its political tether.

#### Chicago Politics.

As the municipal election in Chicago approaches, the name of Fred A. Busse, Chicago's postmaster, looms up large for the Republican nomination for mayor. This is not agreeable to the swallowtail faction, for Busse bears the "rough-and-ready"

brand. To head off his election, therefore, the swallow-tails contemplate nominating an independent Republican. This would split the Republican vote and insure the election of even an unpopular Democrat. The unpopular Democrat upon whom the swallow-tails pin their hopes is ex-Mayor Harrison. By this manœuver the Republican swallow-tails expect to restore a "business" administration, under which the public utilities corporations will come again to their own. But what if this three-cornered play should become four-cornered by the appearance of an independent Democrat?

## Business Ethics under Indictment.

The indictment of Charles S. Fairchild of New York, along with George W. Perkins, for forgery in the third degree in connection with false sales of stock, affords another instance of the unfortunate fact that it is not the evil-minded who get caught when great evils are exposed, but their easy Charles S. Fairchild is a man of the highest personal probity. His weakness is that in business he has largely allowed himself to drift with the tide of business ethics. He has not held himself accountable to himself. In this way, with no intention of wronging any man, he has allowed himself to be played with by the gambling rascals of fierce finance, and now when the game is broken into and the police are at the doors, these rascals slip through a convenient panel and leave him to explain his own good intent.

#### Chicago's New Charter.

The combination of politicians and business men whose business interests are allied with politics and dependent upon the good will of politicians, are "framing up" as fine a piece of political machinery for a Chicago charter could be desired from their point of view. Having absolute control over the charter convention in consequence of the cunning method and unfair manner of selecting the "delegates," these politico-business interests are rushing through recommendations for a charter which in some respects are calculated to make angels weep. It may be, however, that in the end it is these charter projectors themselves who will do the weeping; for their handiwork, while they may rush it through the charter convention, and their friends at Springfield may rush it through the legislature, must come before the people of Chicago for final adoption. The people of Chicago are not likely to approve the plan of virtually turning the subject over to the Real Estate Board, the Merchants' Club and the Republican central committee of Cook county, with power.

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## Chicago Teachers and Labor Organizations.

At the boors' banquet, spread in Chicago about a month ago by the Merchants' Club and presided over by a dignitary of the steel trust (pp. 867, 875), Mr. Nicholas Murray Butler of New York, imported for the occasion in order to enable the club to insult school board members whom it invited to its banquet board, peremptorily advised charter convention members to make it unlawful for public school teachers to belong to labor organizations. He told them that if he were a member of the charter convention he would introduce such a proposition and demand a roll-call upon it. Several members of the charter convention who listened to this advice, applauded it to the echo. But none of them had the courage to propose it in the convention. When they were offered an excellent opportunity to do so, their faces blanched, their bodies ducked. and their agile legs did the "side-step" for them. They could cheer lustily when they thought their associates at the boors' banquet were being "excoriated" by Mr. Butler, but they sang small when it came to taking in political action the advice which had evoked their cheers on a social occasion. No wonder the anti-labor newspapers call them cowards.

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Tom Johnson's Prophecy. "I am wondering," said a prospective litigant once in a place where the judges were notoriously responsive to the demands of a judge-making law firm, which may be distinguished as A., B. & C.— "I am wondering what lawyer to hire. I could get the strenuous Boggs," said he, "and have a good time and lose; or I could get the able Throggs, and have my case tried up to the handle and take my chances; or I could get A., B. & C. and win." Mayor Johnson of Cleveland is reported to have some such notion regarding the judge who has been making curious decisions in favor of the local firm of lawyers, who are said to combine professional services for monopoly combines, with political services for ambitious judges. After a particularly novel and exasperating injunction decision by this judge in the traction litigation now in progress in Cleveland, Mayor Johnson predicted that all the corporation lawyers of both parties will unite to promote the judge to a place on the bench of the supreme court of the



State. This prophecy will be interesting to remember as the time for judicial nominations in Ohio approaches.

## Street Improvements.

The city of Meriden, Conn., has a sensible superintendent of streets. His name is W. H. Burke. Mr. Burke proposes to pave streets at the expense of the people who are enriched by the improvement. His plan is simple and feasible. According to the Meriden Morning Record, he is a firm believer in equal rights to all and special privileges to none. "Superintendent Burke says," continues the Record, that "the building of streets is a public-serving function of the government and it is a part of the government's business to do equally for each man in proportion to the benefits that man receives from the government. Land values are higher the centers of population, where most people are, and gradually grow lowoutskirts of the city are reacher as the Taking the total land value of the city at \$6,000,000 as a basis for calculation, and taxing it 5 per cent., \$300,000 is raised, the amount suggested as necessary to bond the city for the proposed project. Superintendent Burke states, and with reason, that if the city were bonded for that amount the chief streets would be permanently paved, but the money would not hold out long enough to warrant the side streets and more remote residential portions of the city being paved. By this system all taxpayers would be obliged to help certain sections and would derive no immediate benefits in their own. But according to Superintendent Burke's scheme each street in the city would be paved with such material as its land value permitted. The appraisal of North Colony is \$996,119. If that were taxed at 5 per cent. that street could be paved with asphalt. Pratt street probably could not afford to pay for asphalt. Its land value is \$323,888. This would guarantee perhaps brick or block paving, the property warranting such. If bonding were adopted Pratt street or a portion of it might be asphalted, and taxpayers in all parts of the city would be obliged to help pay for it, though perhaps not ever having occasion to go on the thoroughfare. If bonding were adopted a street like South Fourth, for illustration, would undoubtedly be given the go-by. This street is listed with land values at but \$12,-Being a short street, the money derived here would probably pay for macadam. Take an outside street, such as Bartlett street, where there are no sidewalks, as a still further illustra-

tion. Under the bonding system nobody presumes any attention would be given this street, but under Superintendent Burke's plan refuse crushed stone from Lane's quarry could at least be used, and the residents there would have all they were entitled to for the tax levied upon them. The street is listed at \$6,914 in land values, and the people living there would have a first-class highway for little money. According to the superintendent's plan, when a majority of the property owners got together and asked for their particular street to be attended to the work would be done. If the owners wanted better pavement than the land assessment would call for it would be up to them to lay a larger assessment. As the land values depreciated on a long street, such as North Colony, two styles of paving could be employed, asphalt to Britannia and another kind to the town line. If it was decided to pay for the work in less than ten years, a larger tax would be the result. By laying a 1 per cent. tax the entire city could have its streets in apple-pie order and paid for in five years' time. If one-fourth of 1 per cent. additional were decided upon, the taxpayers would have twenty years in which to settle." We have quoted at length and used local street names, because the situation is typical. Change the names, and the Record's description for Meriden will fit any other town or city in the country. Mr. Burke's plan is indeed the true plan for street improvement. To bond or levy general taxes is to benefit the real estate owner at the expense of the real taxpayer; to lay special assessments regardless of relative values, or practically so, as is usually done, is to burden the small home owner for the benefit of the rich real estate owner. But to tax abutting owners in proportion to the value of their holdings is to give value for value.

## THE SCHOOL-LAND LEASES OF CHICAGO.

The public school system of Chicago would be the best endowed in the world (p. 874) if its magnificent estate had not been wasted in the past by the trustees. For, Congress having given to the State, of Illinois in the '30's, for educational purposes, every sixteenth section of public land, Illinois gave to the city of Chicago, for the same purposes, section No. 16 in the town of Chicago. This section is now worth an almost fabulous sum. It is in area one mile square, extending from State street on the east to Halsted on the west and from Madison on the north to Twelfth

on the south, and including the very heart of the business district of the second city of the continent. But nearly all this rich inheritance of the Chicago school children was quickly frittered away by and to business interests, for something less than \$40,000; and to-day the schools get from what was then sold, only a modest percentage in taxation upon absurdly low assessments.

A small part, however, of section 16 escaped this destructive waste of some sixty years ago. The north-east corner of the section still remains. It extend from Madison street one block south to Monroe, and from State street one block west to One of its corners-Madison and Dearborn—is distinguished as the site of the Chicago Tribune building. How this block came to escape the ravages of the real estate investors of the '30's and '40's is a mystery which need not now be probed. It is enough for present purposes to note that the real estate investors have for more than a quarter of a century had their landhungry eyes upon it, and since they could not grab the freehold have unceasingly labored to appropriate its "unearned increment" through manipulations of leaseholds.

In 1880 the block in question was ground-leased by the school trustees to different tenants upon 50-year leases with covenants for readjusting the ground rent every five years. These covenants were designed to protect both parties. If the land became less valuable, as no one expected, the rentals would be accordingly reduced; if it became more valuable, as every one expected, the rentals would be accordingly increased. Thus the school children would get the benefit of the increasing value of this land resulting from the growth of the city, if the city grew, and the tenants would be protected against loss in case the city did not grow and the land consequently declined in value.

That arrangement lasted only five years. When in 1885 the first period for rent readjustment arrived, the tenants (good "business men" all) refused to abide by their covenants, but tied up the property in the courts. A compromise with them was made in 1888, under which the term of the leases was changed from 50 years to 100, bringing it down to the year 1985, and the rent-adjusting periods were changed from five years to ten.

But the business itch to grab the future "uncarned increment" of this property from the school children of Chicago was not allayed. When the first decennial rent-adjustment year came, the year 1895, the tenants were more insistent than ever upon coercing the trustees, by threats of again "holding-up" the income by court proceedings, and even by personal attacks, into yielding up the rights of the school children. Foremost among the lessees who engaged in this crusade was the Chicago Tribune. These efforts The Tribune, the were amazingly successful. Daily News and a few other tenants of the school board who where admitted into the combine, had their leases transformed, without adequate consideration, into 90-year leases with no periodical readjustment. In other words, as a virtual gift to their tenants, the school trustees cancelled the covenants for 10-year readjustment of rentals and released the tenants of their obligations thereunder.

This was done principally through the activity of the Chicago Tribune. Its own lawyer, a Democrat, had been appointed a school trustee by a Republican mayor. This may have been merely an instance of extreme non-partianship, of course, and in the interest of good government; but there is no proof of that, and citizens of Chicago familiar with the facts are incredulous.

The work of transformation began in March, 1895, when the school trustees released the Daily News of its obligations under the 10-year clause, and transformed its lease having 90 years to run, but with provisions for readjusting the rental every ten years, into a lease for 90 years with no readjustment of rental. The consideration in the case of the Daily News was an agreement to pay 6 per cent. per year for ten years upon a capital valuation of \$2,750 per front foot, and for the remaining 80 years upon a capital valuation of \$3,000. Only three months later, the Chicago Real Estate Board appraised the then value of the same land at \$4,500 per front foot.

It was in the month of May following the Daily News transaction, that the Tribune was granted its release from the 10-year clause. In regular course the Tribune's holding of three lots, extending in the aggregate 72 feet southward on Dearborn street and 120 feet eastward on Madison, had been appraised under its lease for the decennial period from 1895 to 1905. The appraisement was \$30,000 per year. The Tribune refused to make good its obligation to pay this rental, but offered to compromise upon \$30,000 a year for the remaining 90 years of the leasehold term. That seemed to the trustees no consideration at all, and so it must seem to everybody else. To release the

Tribune from its covenant to accept a reappraisement of rent every ten years during the term of 100 years, for no other consideration than its acquiescence in the regular appraisement for the second ten years of the term, must have been a startling proposition even to over-willing trustees. But when the Tribune offered to acquiesce in the appraisement of \$30,000 for the second ten years, ending in 1905, and to give 5 per cent. additional for the remaining 80 years, the school trustees, with two or three exceptions, exclaimed: "Ah!" in tones of extreme satisfaction. This five per cent. they eagerly regarded as a good and valuable consideration for releasing the Tribune from its legal obligation! The two or three exceptional trustees looked at the matter in a different way; and one of them, Joseph W. Errant, denounced the five per cent. consideration as a transparent humbug.

But this humbug, regarded as sufficiently saving the faces of the trustees, was rushed through the board, and the documents were signed hastily, not to say surreptitiously, in order to avoid injunction proceedings.

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It is argued in behalf of the trustees who perpetrated this injustice, that no one could tell in 1895 that the property would increase so greatly in value as it has. The transaction has been described even recently as possibly "unfortunate," but nevertheless legitimate, even if the property is worth now double or treble the rent the Tribune is paying—even if one of the favored tenants did sell his lease 18 months later for a premium of \$230,000. But every sane business man must have known that the consideration for striking out those revaluation clauses in the leases of the Tribune, the Daily News, and their associates, was utterly inadequate and indefensible.

It must have been known to these very trustees, not only that Chicago land had constantly risen in value for sixty years, but that in that period the northeast corner of the very block on which the Tribune building stands, a quarter of an acre (100 by 100 feet on the south side of Madison street and the west side of State), had risen from \$20 to \$1,250,000. This fact had been made publicly known by F. R. Chandler, a distinguished real estate expert of conservative reputation. At a dinner of the Chicago Real Estate Board in November, 1893, Mr. Chandler had presented a tabular comparison of the business barometer and the population of Chicago from 1830 to 1894, together with the value of this lot annually and the

annual percentages of increase and decrease. Following is Mr. Chandler's table:

		ı — —	I I		1-	<u> </u>
Date.	Changes of Barometer.	Population of Chicago.	Annual increase per cent.	Value of quarter acre.	Annual increase per cent.	Annual decrease per cent.
1830	Clearing	50		<b>82</b> 0		
1831	Fair	100	100	22	10	
1832 1833	War Storm	200 350	100 75	30 50	40 67	• • •
1834	Rising	2,000	467	200	300 2400	
1835 1836	Booming	3,265 3,820	60 17	5,000 <b>25</b> ,000	2400 400	
1837	Panic	4,179	10	3.000	100	88
1838 1839	) [	4,000	-4 5	2,500		17 20
1840	Depression	4,200 4,470	6	2,000 · 1,500		25
1841	i -	5,000	12	1,250		17
1842 1843	;	6,000 7,589	20 25	1,000 1,1 <b>0</b> 0	10	20
1844	-Rising	8,000	6	1,200	10	<b></b>
1845 1846	Booming	12.088	50 16	5,000 15,000	200	
1847	Papic	14,169 16,859	18	12,000	200	20
1848	Showers of gold	20,023	25	13,000	.8	
1849 1850	Mirage of wild cat	23.047 28,269	15 22	15,000 17,500	15	
1851	Rising	84,000	22	<b>2</b> 0, <b>0</b> 00	14	
1852 1853	1	38,754 60,662	14 60	23,000 30,000	25	
1854	Drought	65,872	9	35,000	17	
1855	Buoyant	80,023	23	40,000	14	
1856 1857	Booming	84,113 93,000	5 11	45,000 35,000	12	22
1858	) (	91,000	-2	30,000		14
1859 1860	Depression	95,000 109,000	15	<b>29,000</b> <b>28,00</b> 0		3
1861	i	120,000	10	<b>28,0</b> 00		
1862 1863	Great war clouds	138,000	15 16	32,000	15	
1864	J	160.000 169.353	16	33,000 36,000	13	
1865	Calm	178,900	6	45,000	25	
1866 1867	1	200,418 220,000	10	57,600 65,000	28 12	
1868	Rising	252,054	15	80,000	23	
1869 1870	1	272,043 298,977	8	90,000 120,000	12 33	
1871	Very hot	325,000	9	100,000		17
1872	Booming	367,396	13	125,000	25	
1873 1874	) [	380,000 395,408	3	100,000 95,000	1::::	20 5
1875	1	400,000	ĺ	92,500		3
1876 1877	Depression	407,661 420,000	3	90,000		3
1878	<u>.</u>	436,731	4	95,000	5	
1879 1880	Gold rays	465,000	7	119,000	25	
1881	Birtha	503,298 530,000	8 5	130,000 145,000	10	
1882	Rising	560,693	6	175,000	21	
1883 1884	Stormy	590,000 629,985	6	238,000 250,000	36	
1885	1	700,000	11	<b>275,000</b>	10	· · · ·
1886 1887	Rising higher	825,880	18	325,0 <b>0</b> 0	18 34	
1888	Triside menor	850,000 875,500	3	435,000 600,000	38	l
1889	Booming	900.000	3	750,000	25	
1890 1891	Booming	1,098,570 1,200,000	22 10	900,000 1,000,000	20 11	
1892	( Columbian sunshine ) ( overcomes panic)	1,300,000	9	1,000,000		
1893 1894	)	1,400,000 1,500,000	8	1,000,000 1,250,000	1	
1001		1,000,000	1	.,200,000	1	

In order to obtain these data of values Mr. Chandler had first searched for the prices at which numerous valuable sites in the business center of the city had been sold since 1830. Though no single site had been transferred often enough to indicate its annual changes of value, the great mass of statistics which he collected as to prices in the neighborhood of every lot that came within the range of his examination, together with the prices of each such lot itself, enabled him to fairly

estimate the land value of that neighborhood. By applying this method to several of the more valuable neighborhoods of the business section, and confirming his estimate by reference to public records, private archives and market reports, he ascertained the different values at different times. He then obtained the opinions of 100 of the best posted real estate men in Chicago as to the most valuable quarter acre in the city. Preponderance of opinion settled upon the southwest corner of State and Madison street, part of the school fund property controlled by the Board of Education, the property to which the table relates. This had never been sold, but with the information he had already collected regarding the prices of neighboring property, Mr. Chandler was able to determine its value for each year from 1830 to 1894.

Not only must the information of the foregoing table have been accessible to the school board of 1895, when it was about to make its improvident deal with the Tribune. A private groundrenting transaction had but recently taken place in the same neighborhood, which should have admonished the school trustees that they were about to be disloyal to their trust. The lot on the northeast corner of Adams and Dearborn, on which the Fair Building stands, had been but recently leased. This lot, 198 feet on the east side of Dearborn and 66 on the north side of Adams, is somewhat larger than the Tribune's lot, two blocks away, which is 72 on the east side of Dearborn and 120 on the south side of Madison, the latter being the second street north of Adams and parallel to it. The lease of this Fair Building lot was for 99 years; it required a first-class building to be erected and to come to the landlord for nothing at the end of the term-conditions that were not imposed by the school board upon the Tribune—and the rent was to be \$70,-000 per year for the full term. As the rent for the Tribune lot was compromised at \$30,000 for ten years and \$31,500 for the remaining 80 years, we have an average per year of \$31,333 for the Tribune as against \$70,000 for the Fair. This, however, is not a fair comparison, for the Tribune lot is smaller than the Fair's. Then let us reduce both to a common basis and ascertain the rental per square foot. For the Fair it is \$5.35 per year; for the Tribune it is only \$3.60.

Whether the evidently improvident, even if not fraudulent, action of a majority of the school trustees in making a present to the Tribune and

its associates in the combine of 1895 of a rich income at the expense of the public school children of Chicago, can be remedied in the courts remains to be seen.

Whether the present trustees or their successors will follow the example of their predecessors of 1895 in dealing with the revaluation clauses that are still in force, also remains to be seen.

Meanwhile, however, the land-grabbing interests are trying to protect themselves through the new charter which is in process of formulation. On pretense of giving greater protection to the school interests in this respect they are giving less. They are doing it by means of a trick too old and threadbare to fool any man when the fact is once called to his attention. What they propose is to make all long leases in the future, and all alterations in existing leases, subject to approval by the City Council. This seems like protection, since the assent of two bodies instead of one is necessary to final action. But if improvident or fraudulent action were taken, the approval of a legislative body like the City Council would make it almost if not quite impossible to undo the effect of the fraud in the courts; whereas, improvident or fraudulent action by the school trustees, like such action by any other trustees, is subject to inquiry and revocation by the courts. Even if the good faith of the Council could be inquired into by the courts, this "protective" clause would make it necessary to prove a case of violation of trust obligations against two cets of trustees instead of only one. There is apparently a real estate Sambo in this charter wood pile.

## **NEWS NARRATIVE**

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1907.

Chicago Charter Convention.

The convention for framing a charter for the city of Chicago (vol. viii, p. 784; vol. ix, p. 350) has completed its work, in so far as substance is concerned. This convention is a product of the amendment to the State constitution adopted at the election in 1904 (vol. vii, p. 505), which allows the legislature to legislate specifically for Chicago, such legislation to be subject, however, to approval by the people of Chicago on referendum. An effort was made in the legislature in 1905 to secure a call for



an elective convention of the city for the formulation of a charter, but the bill for that purpose was pigeon-holed. Thereafter the City Council of Chicago provided for a convention of 74 members to be selected as follows: By the Mayor of Chicago, 15 members; by the City Council of Chicago, 15; by the Governor of the State, 15; by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate, 15; by the Cook county commissioners, 2; by the various park boards, 6; by the Board of Education, 2; by the sanitary trustees, 2; and by the library board, 2. Pursuant to this arrangement Governor Deneen (Republican) appointed 12 Republicans, 1 labor unionist, and 2 Democrats; the Speaker and the President of the Senate (Republican) appointed 14 Republicans 1 Democrat; the City Council appointed Republicans and 5 Democrats; Mayor Dunne appointed Democrats of various types, 3 labor unionists, 1 independent, 1 Socialist and 1 Republican (a Negro); and the several administrative boards appointed 4 Democrats and 10 Republicans. Consequently the convention is not representative and is overwhelmingly Republican. Even the Democratic members are for the most part by no means men of radical democratic tendencies or affiliations. They are what is known in Chicago as Union League Club Democrats. The convention met in December, 1905, but held only a few formal meetings. Slow progress was made either in the convention or in the committees until December, 1906; but after December 3, 1906, the convention was kept in almost continuous session until December 28, the object being to complete the charter in time to present it to the legislature early in the session.

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Several important conclusions were arrived at in the sessions of the convention. Among them may be enumerated the following:

- 1. The management of the parks is made a city function. (Proceedings, pages 58, 59.)
- 2. Public schools and libraries are made city functions. (Pro., p. 59.)
- 3. The Mayor is to hold office for four years, and shall no longer preside at Council meetings, but shall retain the veto power. (Pro., pp. 51 to 94, and 243.)
- 4. Aldermanic districts to be 70, redistricted every ten years, and one alderman to be elected for four years from each. (Pro. pp. 221, and 243 to 264.)
- 5. No initiative or referendum, except that on public utility franchises a petition of 20 per cent. of the voters shall necessitate a referendum. (Pro., pp. 57 and 376 to 425.)
- No home rule in matters of local taxation. (Pro., pp. 54, 454 to 470, and 526 to 561.)
- 7. Modification of special assessments for street improvement. (Pro., pp. 471 to 515.)
- 8. Providing for compensation for private use of space above and below street level. (Pro., pp. 515 to 526.)
- 9. Educational department put in charge of 15 trustees, who have power by majority vote to name a superintendent and a business manager, but no power to remove them or reduce their salaries without a two-thirds vote and who can act administratively only upon their initiative, unless with a two-thirds vote (Pro., pp. 561 to 742).
- 10. No municipal suffrage for women (Pro., pp. 766 to 785).
- Local option regarding sale of liquor on Sundays (Pro., pp. 785 to 795).
  - 12. Jurisdiction of the State over the submerged water

front of Chicago to be ceded to the city. (Pro., pp. 818 to 825.)

13. Requiring confirmation by City Council of action by school trustees regarding the leasing of the school lands. (Pro., pp. 825 to 834.)



The convention adjourned on the 27th, to be reconvened by the chairman when the charter shall have been drafted by the rules committee in form for presentation to the legislature.



#### The Traction Fight in Cleveland.

The restraining order issued by Judge Phillips against the "Threefer" in Cleveland (p. 923), prohibiting this company from using the tracks of the "Concon" from the viaduct to the Public Square upon compensation fixed by the City Council, a right the Council may give to any company and did give to this one, has been sustained by Judge Phillips on the ground that the guarantee by Mayor Johnson and Mr. Scripps against loss gives Mr. Johnson a financial interest which invalidates the "Threefer" ordinance he signed as Mayor. To obviate this point in the future, Mayor Johnson has been released by Mr. Scripps from his guarantee, new guarantors having taken his place.

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After Judge Phillips' decision Mayor Johnson said in a newspaper interview:

Whenever a judge is found who sees the private interest, no matter how small, and who fails to see the public interest, no matter how large, who resolves all doubts against the public interest and in favor of the private interest, that is the kind of a judge whom the corporations get behind to place on the bench. And, without disrespect to Judge Phillips or his decision, which I do not call in question, I venture the prophecy that Judge Sanders [the "Concon's" lawyer and a leading Republican politician] and every corporation lawyer in the State, Democratic or Republican, will be at the next Republican State convention working hard for the nomination of Judge Phillips to the Supreme Court bench of the State.

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Meanwhile the "Threefer" had begun laying tracks of its own in Superior Avenue from the viaduct to the Public Square. But this work was stopped at 3 o'clock in the morning by another restraining order. The "Threefer" situation at present is this: One three-cent line seven miles long is in operation from the southern city limits west of the Cuyahoga river to Detroit street. It can go no farther toward the center of the city because an injunction covers 600 feet on Detroit street. But the "Threefer" runs busses over this break to the viaduct across the Cuyahoga, where passengers are transferred to the "Threefer" cars that cross the viaduct.

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Another step in the low fare movement was taken in the Council on the 31st. By unanimous vote a franchise was granted "The Low Fare Company," a sister company to the "Threefer," but unguaranteed by Mayor Johnson, for 3-cent fare lines to the Public Square. Following the passage of this grant Mayor Johnson in a speech to the Council predicted

an early settlement of the whole question and advised fair treatment of the "Concon" interests.

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#### The Late Session of the British Parliament.

"It is without precedent," says the London Tribune, "that any Parliament which opened with so large a program of work should have come so near accomplishing it in its entirety. The great democratic impulse which filled the House of Commons with a party inspired by the real ardor of reform and the real impulse of progress has shown itself capable not merely of enthusiasm, but of disciplined and careful work." The Tribune believes also that "the best augury for the future of Liberalism is to be found in the spirit in which the whole progressive party faced the momentary defeat which it has suffered at the hands of the Lords." The work accomplished by this session is thus summed up:

A real beginning has been made in the reduction of armaments, and, above all, an offer has been made which may enable the next Hague Conference to meet with a practicable program before it. If one of the two main measures designed to undo the graver consequences of the Tory reaction has failed by the action of the Lords, the trade disputes bill has passed into law, and passed in a form which makes the right of combination a reality and safeguards it from the risk of vexatious litigation. The immense question of the land-the problem of colonizing rural England afresh-remains for another session, yet the agricultural holdings act has made a substantial advance in securing that fixity of tenure and freedom from capricious eviction which can alone assure the independence of the farmer. The two Irish Acts for the benefit of the laborer and the town tenant have filled the more obvious gaps in Mr. Wyndham's reform, while administrative changes have restored to it something of its original vigor. The workmen's compensation act has at last brought us within sight of the ideal with which legislation on these lines started, of insurance to all workers against all accidents. The magistrates' bench has been opened to all classes of the community, and sailors have reason to thank Mr. Lloyd George for his first essay in legislation. If the plural voting bill and the education bill have been destroyed by the Lords, the Commons may at least console themselves with the reflection that only two bills of any importance—the Scottish small holdings bill and the criminal appeal bill-have been abandoned for lack of time.

Mr. Keir Hardie, speaking at Gateshead on the 16th, declared that the Labor party had decided to give the enfranchisement of women a foremost place in its program for the next session of parliament (p. 921). The party would also make strenuous efforts to obtain the enactment of an old-age pensions measure.

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#### Home Rule Demanded for India.

At the Indian National Congress in Calcutta on the 26th, 10,000 delegates, representative of nearly every section, cheered the proposal to insist upon self-government for India. Dadabhl Naoroji, formerly a member of the British Parliament, was the man who put the home rule demand before the congress. In his address he pointed out that the Boers, whom Indian soldiers helped to subjugate, had been granted self-government while India still was without it. The speaker declared that as British sub-

jects the residents of India should be granted as full liberty as any other peoples of the empire. They had fought the wars of Great Britain in distant lands and had won the right to recognition. The education of the people of India as to their rights was the first step needed, and the speaker urged the raising of a large patriotic fund to carry on that work. The tumult of applause with which Mr. Naoroji's speech was received is believed to indicate that results are to be looked for.

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### Persia's New Constitution Signed.

On the 30th the failing Shah (p. 922) and his son and heir signed the new constitution of Persia. This action is the culmination of the movement toward constitutional government inaugurated in January of last year when the Shah promised the people of Persia a representative assembly. This assembly came together for the first time September 9 (p. 731). The new constitution is a result of its labors. According to the dispatches the parliament will meet annually hereafter for the purpose of revising old laws and edicts and enacting new ones as they may be required. It will fix its own compensation, reor ganize methods of rule, and provide for important reforms in administration. This will mean a radical departure, as under the absolute despotism of the old system the government was conducted by a grand vizier, or prime minister, and other officials appointed by the Shah and responsible only to him. Under the new order all Persians of the male sex between the ages of 30 and 70 who are not in the service of the state and who have never been convicted of a crime, are entitled to vote for members of the chamber of deputies. The crown prince signed a separate document in which he promised not to dissolve the present parliament for two years.

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#### More Terrorism in Russia.

General Litvinoff, Governor of the province of Akmolinsk in Asiatic Russia, was assassinated on the 28th.

Rioting at Lodz in Russian Poland between "socialist" and "nationalist" workmen has brought on a reign of terror in that city. During the evening of the 28th and the morning of the 29th twenty-six persons were killed and scores wounded, many fatally (p. 896).

#### The Amended Separation Law in France.

It was reported last week that a bill amending the law separating church and state in France, was passed by the Chamber of Deputies on the 21st (p. 922). On the 29th the Senate passed the bill by a vote of 190 to 100. This new bill of separation, as cabled over, is as follows:

Article 1—Independently of the associations contemplated by the law of Dec. 9, 1905, public worship can be held by means of associations under the law of July 1, 1901, as well as in virtue of the public meetings law of June 30, 1881, under individual initiative.

Article 2—Even in default of the cultural associations provided for by the law of Dec. 9, 1905, the usage of edifices intended for worship as well as the furniture



contained therein, shall remain at the disposition of the faithful and of the clergy for the practice of their rellgion. The free usage of the churches may be accorded either to associations formed under the law of July 1, 1901, or to clergy designated under the declarations prescribed by article 25 of the law of Dec. 9, 1905. This usage, however, shall be made under the conditions stated in article 13 of the last mentioned law, by means of an administrative act either by the prefect, for the property placed under sequester, when such property belongs to the state or departments; or by the mayor when it belongs to the communes. The above mentioned regulations will apply to edifices intended for worship which, having belonged to ecclesiastical establishments, will have been assigned by decree to charitable institutions under article 9 of the law of Dec. 9, 1905.

Article 3—With the promulgation of the present law the state, the departments, and the communes will recover the free use of the episcopal mansions, presbyteries, seminaries, and so forth, which are their property, and the use of which has not been claimed by an association formed under the law of Dec. 9, 1905. At the same time lodging indemnities, falling upon communes where there is no presbytery, will cease.

Article 4—The property of ecclesiastical establishments not claimed by associations constituted under the law of Dec. 9, 1905, will be assigned, upon the promulgation of this act, to charitable institutions as provided by article 9 of said law, without prejudice to assignments which may be made under articles 7 and 8 concerning property not dedicated to public worship.

Article 5—At the expiration of one month after the enactment of the present law allowances made under the law of Dec. 9, 1905, to the clergy who have failed to carry out the requirements of that law will be suppressed. The failure of members of the clergy to fulfill the requirements of the law will in each case be determined by a joint decision of the minister of justice and the minister of finance.

Article 6—All the provisions of the law of Dec. 9, 1905, will remain in full force in so far as they are not in contradiction with the present act.

## **NEWS NOTES**

- —Denatured alcohol became free of taxation on the 1st (p. 252).
- —Donelson Caffery, United States Senator from Louisiana from 1893 to 1901, died in New Orleans on the 30th, aged 71 years.
- —The Federal pure-food law went into effect all over the United States on the 1st (p. 321). No methods for enforcing it have so far been provided for
- —Reports continue to come from Cuba relative to petitions signed by wealthy Cubans asking for a permanent American protectorate over the island (p. 801).
- —In a rear-end collision on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, at Terra Cotta, a suburb of Washington, in the evening of the 30th, sixty persons were killed and about 100 injured.
- —It is reported from Madrid that a group of army officers celebrating the exchange of years in a cafe, insisted that the orchestra should play the "Marseillaise," and shouted, "Long live the republic."
- —About 30 persons were burned to death and 40 persons badly injured as a result of a head-on collision on the Rock Island railroad system in Kansas,

- 50 miles west of Topeka, in the early morning of the 2d.
- —Professor Frederick Starr, of the University of Chicago, has returned from the Congo country, bringing with him an extensive collection of pygmy skeletons, pottery, implements and weapons.
- —In Berlin the latest large apartment houses of the better class are being built with compartments on the roof, open above, one for each apartment in the building, to be used for air and sunbaths.
- —Angela Georgina Burdett-Coutts, created Baroness Burdett-Coutts by Queen Victoria, died at her home, in London, on the 30th, aged 92 years. She was the wealthiest woman in England, and was noted for her philanthropies.
- —The town of Arica, the northernmost seaport of Chile, was reported on the 26th, as having been half destroyed by earthquake. Other towns in the vicinity suffered, and shocks were reported from Valparaiso on the 27th (p. 923).
- —The new Attorney General of New York decided on the 1st to grant a re-hearing on the application of Wm. Randolph Hearst to try the title of George B. McClellan to the office of Mayor of New York City (p. 898). The hearing will take place before the Attorney General on the 7th.
- —On the 31st Mayor Charles E. Jackson, of Rockford, Ill., ordered his chief of police to release all the city prisoners on New Year's day, and start the new year with an empty jail. It is reported that Mayor Jackson has recently read Ernest Crosby's biographical sketch, "Golden Rule Jones, Mayor of Toledo."
- —Four million persons are said to be starving in China, owing to excessive rains and failure of crops in Anhui, Honan and Kiang-Su provinces in eastern China. About 50,000 refugees have reached the vicinity of Nanking in a pitiable condition, and the authorities are reported as unable to cope with the situation.
- —The "death watch" upon condemned prisoners is to be entirely abandoned in the Cook county (Chicago) jail, under the administration of Sheriff Strassheim. His study of criminology, and also the arguments of John L. Whitman, the county jailor, have convinced Mr. Strassheim that the "death watch" upon a man who is to be executed is an unnecessary official cruelty.
- —A peace between the Hereroes and the Germans, in German Southwest Africa, is reported as having been signed in Damaraland. The war has lasted nearly three years, and has been very unpopular in Germany, as shown by the recent refusal of the Reichstag to vote as large supplies for its continuance as the Emperor demanded, thereby bringing on its own dissolution (p. 896).
- —William B. Estell, chief of the immigration office at Seattle, died in that city on the 17th of Bright's disease. Mr. Estell was widely known in connection with free trade work for the New York Reform Club and as a disciple of Henry George. As a boy he worked in the anthracite coal mines of Pennsylvania, where he became active in the early organization of the Knights of Labor. He was a forceful public speaker, devoted to the principles he

espoused, and a man who commanded the confidence of his associates.

—Judge McCall of the Federal court at Memphis decided on the 1st that the "fellow servants' act" of Congress is unconstitutional, because the liability of a common carrier to employes for injuries is not within the scope of inter-State commerce. A similar decision was made on the 31st by Walter Evans in the Federal court at Louisville. The law was enacted at the instance of Senator La Follette.

—The anti-pass provision of the Federal inter-State commerce law became operative on the 1st. Under this provision common carriers are forbidden to give inter-State free tickets or passes for passengers, except to their employes and families, the agents of the carriers and their surgeons, physicians, and attorneys, to persons engaged in religious and charitable work, and to certain other specified classes.

—George W. Perkins (associate of J. Pierpont Morgan) and Charles S. Fairchild (President Cleveland's Secretary of the Treasury) were indicted at New York on the 28th for forgery in the third degree, in connection with alleged false statements in writing made by them in behalf of the New York Life Insurance Company. The grand jury accompanied the indictments with a presentment declaring that the accused had not profited by the act.

—The "simplified spelling" code, with its list of 300 words (pp. 505, 539, 530), was unanimously adopted by the delegates from the universities of the middle West to the annual convention of the central division of the Modern Language Association of America, in session at the Chicago University on the 28th; was endorsed by the eastern division of the Association in session at Yale University on the same day; and was endorsed by the Wisconsin Teachers' Association, in session at Milwaukee on the 29th.

—The tenth anniversary of the execution of Dr. José Rizal, in Manila, by the Spaniards, on the charge of fomenting rebellion, was celebrated with enthusiasm in Manila on the 10th by a parade and addresses, delivered on the spot of execution. The native speakers expressed confidence in the future independence of the Filipinos, who were urged to prepare themselves for the full benefits of self-government. Memorial services were also conducted at the Chicago University by Filipino students from different parts of the United States.

## PRESS OPINIONS

"PUNCH" AND THE EDUCATION BILL.

Liverpool (Eng.) Daily Post and Mercury, Dec. 19.—In a clever cartoon on the education crisis "Punch" represents Mr. Birrell as Alice in Wonderland nursing a pig—the amended bill—while the Cheshire Cat, with Mr. Balfour's features, grins down on her from a tree.

The Cat: "By the by, what became of the baby?"

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Alice: "It turned into a pig."

The Cat: "I thought it would."

#### WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

St. Louis Mirror, December 20.—Women will get suffrage. It doesn't matter that all women do not want it.

Justice demands that those who do want it shall have it. There is no sane argument against woman suffrage.

. . It is time to emancipate woman, to enlarge the field for the activity of her individuality, to give her a voice in the making of the laws under which she lives. If some women do not care for this, let them refrain from taking advantage of such enlargement, but those who do care to be something other than "outlaws" should be recognized as having a stake in government that deserves the right of being represented in the creation and operation of government.



#### WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN CHICAGO.

The Chicago Daily Socialist, Dec. 28.—The Charter convention decided that women must not vote in Chicago. In their infinite wisdom the Union League Club and the other defendants of the good name and fame of this city declared that woman must not be injured by contact with political life. They were willing that women should be forced into the sweat-shop, the mill, the department store and the factory, and through these into the brothel. They raised no objection to her entry into all the hell of industrial life. But the idea of her going once a year into a polling place and depositing a piece of paper in a box filled their tender souls with horror.



#### ADULT SUFFRAGE.

The (Woolwich, Eng.) Pioneer (lab.), November 30 .-The group of women who have suffered imprisonment because they protested vigorously against the hypocritical manner in which Governments and Parliaments burke the question of women's rights of citizenship. have now come out of prison with increased powers of convincing the nation that if women are to have justice, women must have a voice in the making of the laws We could wish, however, that the suffragists would push their plea to its logical conclusion, and make their demands clearer and more comprehensive. "Adult Suffrage" should be their cry. Nothing else is just, nothing else recognizes that all women, equally with all men, are responsible units of the nation, to serve the nation, and to bear the duties of citizenship. On this broad basis alone can the national life of the twentieth century, free, democratic, co-operative, be rightly organized. For Adult Suffrage the Labor party stands. This must be the goal, whatever intermediate steps are taken first. But those who are aiming at the same goal must work together all the way.

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#### THE PEOPLE'S SERVANT.

The Anoka (Minn.) Free Press, December 20.—If a well regulated household of the larger order engages a butler to preside over the details of its domestic economy the butler does not thereby become greater than the one who bestows upon him his function; he is still a subordinate. In the same way with popular government. If the American people place a number of persons in charge of different features of their political economy—called their government—the government thus manned does not become an exalted body over and above the people. The men filling the various positions are mere subordinates of the people whose affairs they are chosen to manage for pay. The people themselves are the real government. If this idea could be thoroughly understood and appreciated, there would be less trouble about having the will of the people carried out.

#### THE DEATH PENALTY.

The (Portland) Oregon Journal (Dem.), December 27.— Two recent executions at the Oregon penitentiary have revived discussions as to the justifiability or expediency

of the death penalty. There are five States in which capital punishment has been abolished. In these, the ratio of murder is no higher than in other States-a fact that furnishes argument that the death penalty does not discourage murder. It serves, indeed, to strengthen the opinion some hold that in a mind raised to that pitch  $\cdot \sigma$ frenzy wherein it is ready to take human life, the question of what the penalty is to be is largely lost sight of. . . . The certainty of punishment is undoubtedly of more importance in preventing crime than the nature of the penalty. Whether the penalty for murder is death or life imprisonment, is one of the lesser factors in deterrent effect. More than all other influences as a deterrent agent is the regularity, promptness and precision with which laws are enforced. The community where laws are impartially and rigidly enforced, the criminal avoids as insecure and inhospitable. The spectacle of penalty following swiftly on the crime and with little or none of the law's traditional delay, necessarily weakens the heart that were otherwise steeled for a capital crime. In the swiftness of avenging justice there is terror enough to unnerve the strongest of men whenever his thoughts wander toward murder.

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#### EXPORTS AS A FACTOR IN PROSPERITY.

Machinery (technical), December.-It has become a custom with a great number of people to make an estimate of a country's prosperity from the amount of that country's exports. The fallacy of making an estimate of the prosperity of a country on such a ground is most easily apprehended if we compare the per capita exports of some European countries with the per capita exports of our own. There is no doubt whatever but that the general prosperity of the United States far exceeds the general prosperity of any European country, still the per capita exports of Germany and France have, at least up to the end of the last fiscal year, been both larger than the per capita exports of the United States. The per capita exports of the United Kingdoms are nearly twice as large, the per capita exports of Switzerland two and a half times, of Belgium three times, and of the Netherlands seven times as large as that of the United States. This seems to indicate that the country's prosperity does not entirely depend upon the amount of foreign exports, although this may be an important factor. It depends upon the internal conditions in the country, and American manufacturers do well in recognizing, that while the foreign trade may be an important item, the greatest possibilities for the building up of the industrial activities of this country are within the country itself. Whatever can be done to further our foreign trade is greatly important, but still more important is the establishment within our own borders of such conditions as will most greatly tend to increase the progress of our manufacturing.

## THE PLAINT OF THE TAXPAYER.

The (Phila.) Saturday Evening Post (ind.) December 1. -Somebody has discovered, in a flourishing inland city, that the school board, which disburses a great deal of public money, has no member who owns much property and pays taxes to a considerable amount. Opponents of the administration, therefore, are making what capital they can out of the ancient and naive theory that taxpayers have a proprietary interest in the government. One observes, however, that they are not succeeding as well as they might reasonably have expected to do a dozen years ago, when the statement that taxpayers were opposed to a certain measure was regarded as a crushing argument, and "wasting taxpayers' money" was a damning charge against any administration. Of course, no administration does or ever did waste taxpayers' money-for the simple reason that, the moment the taxes are paid, the money ceases to be taxpayers' money and becomes the government's money. What the government does with it is no more the business of the taxpayer than of any other citizen. Small taxpayers have the modesty to acknowledge this self-evident truth. But if a man pays a considerable amount in taxes it is often nearly impossible to wean him from the gross and palpable fallacy that he is entitled to especial consideration on the part of the government. Any one who thinks that taxes are a voluntary contribution should attend a session of the board of assessors for his locality. In many cities, saloons pay more taxes than any other interest. but are not given proportionate representation on school boards and park commissions. We wish speakers and writers on political subjects would drop the bad habit of talking about large taxpayers as though they were entitled to higher regard than other citizens.

# RELATED THINGS CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

## A LAST GOOD NIGHT.

Good night! Good night to all!

A last good night! for here our paths divide, For you the dear green earth, the morrow's call, For me the restless, strange, out-going tide,

Its waters sound not in your ears?
On mine they clearly fall.

Good night! Across the sea

That faint, far lighthouse light is not, for you.

I am the voyager. It is set for me,

To guide my barque the unknown harbor thro'. Beyond it are the blissful fields
Where winds blow sweet and free.

Good night! Regrets are vain.

Dear comrades of the road, I leave you here. We've braved the dark, and known the battle's strain,

And as we've lived I go, untouched by fear.

I loose your hands this side the sea To clasp one day again.

Good night, once more, dear Earth!

My soul is high with thought of ventures new.

I've loved your gifts, the music and the mirth, The working hour, the harvest, sun, and dew—

Yet know there's wider life beyond Than this from yours I drew.

-Frances Tyrrell-Gill, in the London Speaker.

## THE THIEVES' CONVENTION.

#### For The Public.

A number of thieves were conversing.

"I was not punished," said one; "I merely stole franchises, and they became vested rights before the people realized it."

"I was not punished," said another; "I was a public official and stole from the public. They only made me pay it back."

"They did not punish me," said a third; "I stole more than the people could count."

"I was not punished," said the banker; "I only stole from depositors. They have no rights which are bound to be respected."

"I was not punished," said the politician; "I stood in with the machine which could not afford to lose one of its trusted members."

"I was not punished," said the man of social prominence; "there were too many involved with me."

"I was punished," said the wageworker; "I had no money, no friends and no job. I stole a loaf of bread to keep my family from starvation."

ELLIS O. JONES.



## THE WORLD TO-DAY NEEDS MEN.

From the Obermayer Bulletin, Cincinnati, for September and October. 1906.

The world to-day needs Men-

Men who will not lose their individuality in a crowd—men of character and will.

Men of courage, men who are larger than their business, who put character above wealth and whose word is their bond.

Men who have the courage to do their duty in silence—who are not afraid to stand for the truth when it is unpopular, and who can say "no" with emphasis, although all the rest of the world says "yes."

Men who are true to their friends—through good report and evil report—through adversity as well as prosperity.

Men who would "rather be right than be president."

## THE SORBONNE'S FIRST WOMAN PROFESSOR.

The academic year of the University of France may be said to have opened with the lecture by Madame Curie on electricity,\* writes Theodore B. Noss in the Journal of Education. The occasion was unique in the history of the Sorbonne. Never before has a woman had an appointment as professor there.

The rector of the university and other prominent officials were present. The minister of public instruction, M. Briand, who appointed Madame Curie to this professorship, made vacant by the accidental death of her husband, had promised to come, but his presence was required at the opening of parliament at the same hour.

Madame Curie's course of lectures is one of the so-called "open" courses, to which access is free. Long before the lecture began the outer gates were closed against those seeking admission. Several hundred of those who filled the corridors were unable to get into the hall of physics. I was one of the last who succeeded.

Standing behind the highest tier of seats in the hall, I looked down on three or four hundred people. of both sexes and of all ages above twenty. Back of the long table at the opposite end of the room stood the modest, self-possessed woman who has made the civilized world her debtor by her discoveries.

It was not such a spectacle as the soldiers of France being led into battle by an uneducated peasant girl clad in the armor of a man. Here were the scholars of France sitting at the feet of a cultured woman, still young, a widow and a mother, who has a message in science to deliver, and who delivers it with rare but unconscious skill.

While her husband lived, Madame Curie worked

\*November 5, 1906. See The Public of November 10, page 753.

lovingly by his side; since his death she continues heroically, even if sorrowfully, the work to which both of them devoted their lives. Her appointment to his vacant chair was not so much an expression of sympathy as a recognition of ability.

Madame Curie's quiet, straightforward, and conversational manner of speaking put her audience at perfect ease. Her voice is not strong, but sufficient. She speaks rather rapidly, moving from one piece of apparatus to another. The attention of her audience was soon turned from her to her subject. As some one remarked, "it was no longer a woman that stood before us, but a brain." She held the attention of all for more than an hour. Three or four expert assistants aided in the handling of the apparatus.

From time to time, as the lights were turned off and some interesting illustration was given, the audience would show their appreciation by hearty applause. An assistant brought her a small box, which she opened as if she were about to take from it some precious jewel. The lights were turned off, and the tiny grain of radium in the speaker's hand shone like a faint star in a black sky.

Professor Bergeret, the colleague of Madame Curie, remarked to a friend after the lecture: "This is a great victory for women that we celebrate here to-day. For, if women are admitted to give higher instruction to students of both sexes, where will be the boasted superiority of the male? In truth, I tell you, the time is approaching when women will become human beings."—The Woman's Journal.

## A TRADES UNION STORY.

Will M. Maupin in The Commoner.

Peter Doerner was the proprietor of a machine shop in—well, no matter where. It is not necessary to give the name of the city. Suffice it to say that this is a true story, even to the names of the participants, so the name of the city may be omitted. Doerner employed twelve or fifteen men, and one day an organizer for the machinists' union appeared in their midst and persuaded them to organize a union. The charter was secured, and then an agreement and a scale of wages were drawn up and presented to Doerner.

"Well, boys," said Doerner, "I have nothing against unions, but I think you ought to give me a little time. Suppose you let me think it over for a week."

The men agreed to this, and Doerner spent the week in making some investigations. At the end of the week he called his employes before him and said:

"Well, boys, do you still want me to recognise your union?"

They declared that they did.

"And you want me to support union principles?"
They insisted that the boss was correct.

"And if I stand by union principles you will do
the same?"

The men said they would.

"Well, boys," said Doerner, "I have been investigating, and I find that you are asking me to what you don't do yourselves. You ask me to employ only union labor, but you call 'scab.' Ain't I got as much right as you have?"

Digitized by

The spokesman for the men indignantly denied the charge.

"You only employ union labor when you want work done?" queried Doerner.

"Sure! We wouldn't employ 'scabs' at any price," declared the men.

"Well, boys," said the old man, "if every one of you has got on union-made clothing I will sign the agreement. Now show up."

Less than half the men could show the label in their coats.

"Well, if all of you have on union-made shoes I'll sign the agreement."

Investigation showed that only two or three had on union-made shoes, and, from a list in his pocket, Doerner proved that about half of the men had on shoes that were penitentiary made.

"Well, that's too bad, boys," said Doerner. "But I'll give you one more chance. If every man who uses tobacco has got union-made tobacco in his pockets I'll sign the agreement."

Not a man had that kind of tobacco.

"Boys, it ain't fair to ask me to do something you won't do yourselves. Now, I'll postpone signing that agreement for a while. I'm in favor of unions, but the employes ought to be willing to keep step with the employer. When you men can come here, every one with union-made clothing, union-made hats, union-made shoes and union-made everything else that is made anywhere by men of your class, I'll sign the agreement, and I won't sign it until then. If you want to strike, all right. But if you do I'll publish to the world the truth about this conference, and I guess the rank and file of the unions will stand by me."

The men did not strike. They pondered on the lesson and discussed it among themselves. A month later they again appeared before Doerner and stood the test. The boss signed immediately, but declared that if they broke their implied contract with their fellow-unionists he would feel at liberty to break his contract with the machinists' union. The shop is still unionized, and the men are consistent trade unionists yet.

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## UNCLE SAM'S LETTERS TO JOHN BULL.

Printed from the Original MS.

Dear John: I notice your women, a few of 'em, are pushin' for female suffrage. Might as well grant it. You'll have to come down soon or late. There's not a mite of use standin' up agin a reform the Lord's shoulder's behind. I did it about slavery and mighty nigh got throwed. I'm not eager yet about female suffrage, but I'm amovin' a little, and I ain't much afraid of it. I notice the Quakers gave equal rights to their women two hundred years ago. It worked all right. Yes, sir, they can't do any work in their meetin's unless the women agree to it, the Quakers can't. If you have any doubts about women voting, talk it up with a Quaker and see how much it scares him. It won't worry him none. Try it!

The thing that works me strongest is the executin' of women under my old laws that nobody has manhood enough to change. Capital punishment of women is the poorest business, a leetle the poorest, a government ever went into. It looks so to me.

Every time a woman is to be executed I take to the timber. Because why? I know I'm a murderer; all my boys that agree to it are murderers,—and all that don't agree, and all the women that don't raise a row about it and keep it up until the accursed thing is stopped. For don't you see, John, they have no say in the law, never did have. Taxation and execution without representation; the same old proposition you and I argued from Bunker Hill to Eutaw Springs. You mind that time, John, don't you, and you know who was right? Pardon me, I'm not rubbin' it in, but I'm right so infrequent of late that I'm a little proud of the times I scored.

How am I getting along? Well, I hardly know. Politically, I think somethin' is a-brewin', but I can't say what.

Oh, parties they grow old, And pulls and hauls decay, And the little boys under the g. o. p. Had better get out of the way.

## Allan the King.

Allan the King sat sullen on his throne.
Wide lands he owned, and all men bowed the knee.
And many a fat, gem-laden argosy.
Plied him from tribute zone.
The King sat moody in his state alone.
The lands he owned from verdant shore to shore;
But now, alas! the King had seen and wanted more—
The happy smile a glad child east its father,
Beside a hovel door.

UNCLE SAM.

#### + + +

## OUR PRIMARY SCHOOL SYSTEM.

An Editorial in the Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat of November 16, 1906.

The query of the small boy is always, "What makes the wheels go round?" The child is an animated question mark. It wants to know. On the other hand the child is a creature with a marvelous memory. Children do have marvelous memories. Every parent knows that a child can remember even the most trivial things. The only person who does not know that children have memories is the wise educator of to-day. According to our present practical educational system the childish memory needs braces; it must be strengthened by constant exercise. As a result of the lack of faith in the childish memory the primary work of our schools has become to a large degree memory work.

This memory work departure seems to be founded on the idea gathered from experience in the school room, we are told, that it is so "hard to teach children anything." Teachers apparently find that children do not have marvelous memories. In fact, to a teacher the childish memory is a sham and a delugion

However, it is a fact that children are marvelously retentive. But the child does not remember the things it does not notice, neither does it remember the things that fall to interest it. Attention with the child, as with the adult, is the thing that brings memory to a focus. Attention and interest are the rays that do the printing on the plate. To a great degree, to be sure, the childish mind lacks discipline. It cannot by mere mental effort force attention and interest. It is hard for it even to

## The Public

simulate interest. Nevertheless, the road to the childish memory lies through interest.

The task in the schoolroom is, therefore, not one of strengthening memory, but of creating interest—and of maintaining it. Moreover, the ends of discipline do not lie in repressing natural impulses, but in cultivating them.

The present system upon which the work of the primary school is based studiously ignores the childish query, "What makes the wheels go round?" Instead it says to the child, in effect: "Some day you will know what makes the wheels go round. Today it is sufficient for you to know that seven wheels go round one way and six the other." "Children, how many wheels go round one way?"

"Seven, not six."

"Children, how many the other way?"

"Six, children, not seven."

"Now, again, how many one way?"

"How many the other?"

"Wrong, we'll have the same lesson to-morrow."

And the pedagogue actually thinks he can compel the child to remember how many wheels go round each way, when the youngster is thinking of nothing else except why they go round at all.

One of the first things that is crammed down the little toddler is mathematics done up in memory tables. "Six and seven are how many?" asks the teacher, and after days of patient effort the child answers automatically, "Thirteen." And the poor little thing is taught all of the "combinations" in that way. The child is taught to add before it knows what addition means. Absurd as it may seem the child is instructed in mathematics according to the system that would first compel a pupil to memorize Virgil, and then after the original text could be repeated would go back and teach the meaning of Latin words. In following out the memory system months are spent in teaching the beginner of six or seven things that the child of eight or nine would master in a week. The aim of the present day pedagogical expert seems to be to convert live children into phonographs that repeat and repeat, but never know anything. The present day teacher, it would seem, is attempting to secure an attention by means of discipline that would be given spontaneously under wiser methods.

The child, while it hangs on to curious odds and ends of information, has a way of arranging facts, of making comparisons and of drawing conclusions all its own. For instance, the country boy who cannot remember what the figure "four" looks like, never forgets when told that it looks just like the sticks that hold up the box of Brother Bill's rabbit trap. In the modern system the child just must remember what the figure four looks like and do it without the aid of any comparisons whatever.

Every parent would do well to take a day off and visit the schools of this or any other city. Few parents would recognize their own little Willie if they saw him in his classes. The poor little fellow is repeating without rhyme or reason some disjointed, disconnected sounds that mean nothing and all the time he is wondering, "What makes the wheels go round?" And yet the teacher wonders why Willie does not make greater progress in his class work.

## THE GUEST.

With books and beetles till the dawn is twilight From care he finds release;

And on his face there falls from heaven's wide skylight. The raptured glow of peace.

I can but guess the mysteries he masters, Too deep for idle speech,

The wisdom of the daisies and the asters, The willow and the beech.

Sometimes I see him where the shadows lengthen Among the clustered trees,

Gazing upon the nests where young birds strengthen, Or watching flower-caught bees.

Sometimes the beauty of a blossom blowing I show him for his praise,

And to the warmth that in his cheek is glowing Its cool soft leaves he lays.

"But still," he says, "the beauty of the lily is not so fair and fine

As is the thought that works within it stilly, A birth of love divine."

And sometimes when a bird sings past, a flashing Of red or brown or blue,

In sweeping curves that make it seem a dashing Of grace within our view.

He says, all rapt: "That airy flight wide-winging Is not so strangely sweet

As is the subtle harmony of singing Wherever song may beat.

"In peopled lands and desert isles of ocean One law and purpose sway,

One bond for man and plant and circling motion Of planets on their way;

"The law of growth, of change, that seeks the newer And casts the old aside,

That leaves the true for hope and sometimes truer, The dawn for noon's high tide."

And sometimes when the day is dying slowly The mellow voice of flute

From out his chamber breathes so soft and lowly That all my soul is mute.

And sometimes when a withered leaf before us Falls flutteringly down,

A sudden silence of dimmed eyes comes o'er us And hides the misty town.

"There is," he says, "but one thing finer, fairer. More beautiful than death:

The life that from it grows to being rarer, Informed with sweeter breath.

"For life that is and was but shapes the morrow; The birth of each new day

Is gladdened through its sadness by the sorrow Of old things passed away."

And sometimes when the wind is in the beeches, And clouds have crossed the sky,

He lifts his eyes beyond the spirit's reaches, As rooks go clamoring by;

And in the tender smile that chides my seeing.
At last I surely know

That he has caught the inmost soul of being, He feels and loves it so.

-Lewis Worthington Smith, in The Critic.

. . .

I propose that no man shall drag me down by making me hate him.—Booker T. Washington.

## MAN'S LANGUAGE TO ANIMALS.

From the Literary Digest of August 2, 1902.

It is a curious fact that in every language there are certain words that are used only to animals. More than this, special words are often appropriated to particular species. E. A. Matthews, who contributes an article on the subject to Popular Science News (July), notes that the dog is almost the only animal for which we have no special call or word of command—perhaps because of his almost human intelligence. Some of the words that we use to animals, Mr. Matthews tells us, are the names by which our ancestors called the animals themselves. He adds:

"Some are Sanscrit, or early Indian words, some are Greek, some Latin, some Teutonic, some Old English words, long since obsolete. Max Muller, in 'Chips from a German Workshop,' says: 'The commands we give to the horse and our call to the cow are the same used by the prehistoric men of our race. In all probability, the Arab calls to his camel in the same words now as in the days of Abraham or Noah.'

"In talking to the horse we find the word ho, or whoa, used alike all over the world. It is supposed to be the interjection 'ohe' of the Greeks and Latins, a simple call to attract attention, another form of which was from Sanscrit 'yu,' meaning to hold back. 'Ho' is Old English for hold, and is still used in that sense in many countries, and is considered to be also the Aryan word stop. The words that guide the reins are different in many languages, because the teamsters do not always guide alike. The Englishman and American say gee and haw, but as in Great Britain the horse must keep to the left, their meanings are reversed. The German says 'hott' and 'hist,' the Frenchman 'hue,' and 'dia,' the Spaniard 'cho' and 'ven aca,' the Italian 'gio' and 'veney,' all meaning about the same, but of different origin. But when the farmer's boy says 'cope,' he uses an old Sanscrit word which means come.

"The whistle to the horse is the same in every race and also calls the cows. The child who pets her calf and calls it 'bos,' or 'bossy,' uses the Latin name of its race, almost the same in Greek, but when she says 'co-bos' she uses the Sanscrit verb 'gu,' meaning to low as a cow. The milker says 'soh' to the cow, which comes from the Sanscrit 'sagh' or 'sah,' meaning to remain, or keep still.

"The shepherd calls 'ca-day! ca-day!' as he enters the field, and the sheep come, bleating and stumbling, to answer him. This call comes from the Old English 'cade,' a lamb, meaning also tame or gentle. It is curious that this call, like many others, is meant for the very young of the flock.

"The primitive name of the hog, in early English at least, is chuck, hence wood-chuck, or wood-hog. This is used in some countries as a hog call, but is not universal. The old-fashioned Western and Southern cry 'Pig-ooy! Pig-ooy! has no ancient tradition, but is again a call for the young. Pig is a word found in the Teutonic languages, meaning the young of all animals, so when the mother repeats the nursery rhyme, 'This little pig goes to market,' she means, although she does not know it, 'this little calf,' or "his little colt,' just as much as the small

member of the pork family. The queer exclamation 'st'boy,' is used all over the world to drive away the hogs.

"The fowl call, 'chick!' 'chick!' is as old as the chicken itself, being the Sanscrit 'kuk,' the name of the domestic fowl, clearly imitated from the older verb, 'kak,' to crow, or cry, from whence the word cackle. When the little country girl cries 'shoo' to scare away the chickens, she uses the same word as did Penelope, that model of Greek housewives, and she inherited it from her Sanscrit forefathers, who said 'su,' meaning to hurl, or drive.

"We must not omit the old-world and world-wide names given by children to the cat or dog, when they say 'the meow-meow,' and 'bow-wow.' These names were given by the oldest races and continue unchanged to-day. The word puss is said to be an imitation of the spitting of the cat, from the Hebrew 'phis.' Kit is but a variation of the word cat, and the word of command, 'scat,' is a combination of the hist and cat. Some authorities, however, say it is from the Sanscrit skat, meaning, to scatter.

"This is a subject that grows upon one, and it is to be hoped that some Max Muller of the animals will one day tell us more about it. We know that in the pastoral days, when man and his flock lived together, and the camel and ass were counted as children, they understood each other, and had a mutual affection, almost unknown to-day. Yet these dumb creatures share our mortal lot; 'the whole creation travaileth together.' The language that unites us should be full of interest to every human being."

## THE POLITICAL PRINCIPLE OF PUBLIC OWNERSHIP.

Louis F. Post in a Symposium on Municipal Ownership and Operation, Which Appeared in Moody's Magazine for October.

In every political unit, whether national, State or municipal, there are two kinds of social activity. One kind is in its essential character personal; the other is in its essential character governmental. It is upon this essential difference that the question of public or private ownership turns, in so far as political and business principle, in contradistinction to political and business empiricism, is permitted to decide. Curiously enough, this essential difference in social function is ignored by two diametrically opposite types of mind. Socialists ignore it when they demand public management of social utilities that are personal; conservatives ignore it when they demand private management of social utilities that are governmental. Yet the difference between these utilities is demonstrable by abundant actual instances, and the 'differentiating test may be easily applied.

#### The Two Kinds of Social Utilities.

A social utility of the personal sort, is one which is of such a nature that anybody may undertake it unless government prohibits it; whereas a social utility of the governmental sort, is of such a nature that nobody can undertake it unless government permits it.

Any competent person, for instance, may engage at his own will in storekeeping, manufacturing,

transportation on open highways, fishing in open waters, and so on. He does not need governmental permission. And this is in the nature of things. Unless government first arbitrarily restricts his undertaking such a form of social service, his own will and competency determine the matter. It is, therefore, a social utility of the personal sort.

But nobody can engage in levying and collecting taxes, unless he is empowered by the government to do so. This is obviously true, also, of administering justice. Reflection will show it to be equally true of opening and maintaining highways, whether the highways be dirt roads, railroads, or city streets. It is likewise true of piping oil across mountains to the sea, or water or gas through the streets of a city, and of operating street cars. No person can engage in any such business without permission from government. The fact that franchises or licenses are under all circumstances indispensable, proves it. This permission is needed not because government has arbitrarily conditioned the business so as to require a franchise or license, as might be and often is the case with storekeeping, manufacturing, etc.; it is needed because in the very nature of the business itself, as with taxation or judicial administration, the function cannot be performed unless it is authorized by government. These businesses, therefore, are social utilities of the governmental sort.

Such businesses, if they are done at all, must be done by the appropriate government through its own officials, or be farmed out by the government for performance by private persons or corporations. Consequently, whenever specific problems of public owenrship arise, the test question is not whether government should take over a private business; it is whether government should continue to farm out a public business.

#### Evolution of Government Ownership.

Once it was customary to farm out the public business of collecting taxes. Tax farmers naturally resisted the abrogation of this custom; but tax collecting as a private business has so completely past away that few persons now would advocate a return to private management of this public function. The administration of justice, also, has been in greater or less degree farmed out in the past; but who would advocate it now? Our problems with reference to public or private administration of social utilities no longer relate to fiscal or judicial functions. But the same problems in principle confront us in relation to such social utilities as the distribution of oil, water, gas and electricity, and the operation of street car and railroad systems.

These social services are practically inseparable from the highways—whether rail highways, pipe highways or wire highways—by means whereof they are rendered. It is therefore impossible, from the nature of the case, for any willing and competent person or persons to perform them in the modern manner without permission from government. The services belong, consequently, in the category not of private but of public utilities; and the question of public or private ownership regarding them raises the issue of farming out public functions for private operation. To farm them out is to do with these public functions what was once done with judicial

and fiscal functions. To abolish the prevailing practice regarding any of them, so far from being a step in the direction of establishing government ownership of private business, is a step in the direction of abolishing private ownership of government business.

#### The Government Should Conduct Its Own Affairs.

This step is often denounced as "socialistic." a term which has of recent years been substituted for "communistic," by objectors who prefer what they regard as offensive epithets to sober argument in discussions of this character. In so far, however, as the term "socialistic" may be used descriptively instead of epithetically, the difference between such social utilities as are essentially personal and such as are essentially governmental, is doubtless overlooked. In view of this difference, public ownership of such social utilities as are afforded by street-car, railway, water, oil-pipe, gas and electric systems, is not socialistic. If we governmentalize social utilities regardless of whether they are public or private in their essential character, we do tend toward socialism; but on the other hand, if we turn over to private ownership and operation such utilities as are govenmental as well as those that are personal, we tend toward anarchism. For the fundamental difference between the goal of socialism and the goal of anarchism is this: that socialism would governmentalize all social utilities, whereas anarchism would governmentalize none.

It is only when we adopt the policy of having government leave private functions to private management and resume public management of public functions, that we tend toward that ideal of American democracy which demands a people's government for the administration of governmental affairs, and leaves every individual in freedom but without governmental privileges regarding his personal affairs.

## CLEVELAND'S FARM COLONY.

Cleveland's new farm colony of 1,500 acres, on which are being grouped in separate villages the city workhouse prisoners, the infirmary wards and the tubercular patients, represents an innovation in municipal affairs that is bound to attract the attention of every city in the United States.

The population of this city farm, already numbering into the hundreds, will ultimately reach 2,000. The present area will likely be increased to 5,000 acres when all the city's penal, sanitary and philanthropic institutions shall have been moved from the busy streets far into the country. The new plan represents a philanthropy, and is in the interest of economy. The site of this new city farm is some ten miles from the central part of Cleveland, near the little rural town of Warrensville. It formerly comprised twenty distinct farms, and includes a high plateau which separates the Chagrin and Cuyahoga valleys, and which is 600 feet above Lake Erie. in fact the highest point in Cuyahoga county. The air here afforded is said to be good for tubercular patients, and the land produces the crops which are most needed in the maintenance of city institutions. while, in addition to farming occupation for the prisoners, there are stone quarries of goodly dimensions. A mile of electric railway has been built by the city from the center of the farm to an interurban road leading into town. The farm is also provided with its own coach, which has the privilege of running over the various electric lines of the city. This coach is equipped with cots for tubercular patients unable to ride in the seats, and has its apartment for freight in addition to its passenger quarters.

Nearly a milé to the west of the field terminal of the colony railway, seventy prisoners are living in cottages, where iron bars are unknown. One young man there was hauling turnips last week. The turnip crop had been planted, cultivated and dug by prisoners from the Cleveland workhouse. Across the road other prisoners were burying large quantities of potatoes and cabbages for the winter.

The corn in another field was still in the shock and there were many acres of it. On a distant hill were thirty cows belonging to the city of Cleveland. "Stay until 4:30 and you will see the prisoners milking," remarked one of the younger of the city's wards. Already the colony is furnishing not only supplies for its own existence, but is shipping milk and vegetables to those divisions of the city's institutions which have not yet been moved to Warrensville.

Right in the heart of the woods a "trusties" lodge is being erected at a cost of \$10,000. The prisoners, under capable supervision, are building it. Later it is planned to sell the big brick workhouse structure down town. It would bring enough to put up a great modern plant upon the farm. This plant will be within an inclosure, and, with the prisoners as the workmen, will provide the power for lighting and operating all the institutions of the colony. All prisoners that can be trusted will be given work on the farm. All others will work within the inclosure.

About 5:30 in the evening the present corps of prisoners at the farm come in from their various activities and get their suppers at a farm house which has been converted into a dining hall. After supper they sit around and talk, and at 8:30 retire. Their beds are arranged in rows as in a hospital ward. When all are in bed the superintendent calls the roll and then the inmates sleep till early morning. On Saturday afternoon they quit work at 2 o'clock and take a bath. . . .

Grouped about the main buildings [of the tuberculosis village] are one-story frame houses fitted up with beds, and so arranged that the patients can sleep in the fresh air at will. One hundred patients from the city are already taking this fresh air treatment in this beautiful spot. Within a year or two arrangements will be complete to take care of 100 or 200 more.

Three-quarters of a mile south of the tuberculosis village at Warrensville is the infirmary department of the colony. This at present is a large farm house with a new two-story frame building attached. Here, too, are some of the barns for the storing of hay and for the sheltering of some of the horses. Eventually the city farm is expected to raise all the hay that will be necessary for the horses in the fire and police departments throughout the entire city. Wheat is to be grown and a gristmill established which will furnish the flour for all the baking for the different villages in the colony.

The permanent infirmary building is to be the finest and best arranged in the world. Ground was broken for it in November, and it is to be completed the coming year. It is to be built around a quadrangle with sleeping rooms on the outside; the portion nearest the quadrangle is to be given over to a wide corridor running all around the building. A wide veranda is planned for the front of the building, where aged persons may bask in the sunlight. From the second story of the building it will be possible to see both the city of Cleveland and Lake Erie. The quadrangle is to be paved with flagging, and there will be a fountain at the center and plenty of plants and flowers.

Not all the inmates of the infirmary, however, will live in the main building. Some will live in cottages; in fact, many cottages will be built. Each cottage is to have a separate plot of ground for a garden. Those who occupy these cottages will be grouped partly according to age and partly with reference to other qualifications. There will be, for example, a cottage for very old ladies. Another cottage will be given to a group of men of a like degree of intelligence and similar tastes, in order that their companionship may be congenial to each other; and other groups will be made up in a like manner. With the buildings grouped about the kitchen, meals will be served with greater ease and dispatch than otherwise would be possible.

All of these great works of the Cleveland farm colony are in charge of Rev. Harris R. Cooley, member of the service board. He and Mayor Johnson have given the farm colony idea a great deal of thought and both are very enthusiastic over it. They often visit the new farm colony together and talk over the plans. For years Mr. Cooley has made a study of penal and philanthropic institutions both in this country and in Europe, and advocates many radical changes in methods of handling prisoners especially.

In addition to all that has been done at the city farm, and the plans already outlined, there are other projects of no small importance. One of these is a fresh air camp for children, and another is a detention hospital. The first move among the children will probably be to care for those of tubercular tendencies who show the slightest signs of alling. There is also talk of the county erecting a children's home or orphanage in the vicinity of the present city farm, the institution to take the form of a group of cottages, and the heat, light and power to come from the power house on the farm.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The life of Teddy doth remind us That we, too, can make a fuss, And, departing, leave behind us Teeth marks on the octopus.

-Afloat.

Some time when his work is well in hand President Roosevelt is going to stay awake all night and think of an idea that never occurred to Mr. Bryan.—Chicago Daily News.

+ + +

When Mr. Rockefeller secures possession of all the good property in the Kongo Free State will hr expect American troops to drop over and keep order for him?-Chicago News.

The great cause of international free trade, the far greater cause of international sympathy, has been postponed into the centuries to come by a recrudescence of the warlike energies and the fierce race for primacy amongst the nations. The interests of trade are even become the bar to peace, the stimulus to war.-Frederic Harrison.

One can backslide by reverting to a lower good when a greater good is promised or vouchsafed. One can backslide by seeking a very high form of truth when it is the good of that truth that should be followed. One can backslide by living a very clean and blameless and useful life when it is possible for him to infuse a spiritual and heavenly motive and ideal into that external good life.—New-Church Messenger.

Master: "What is the date of the battle of Waterloo?"

Pupil: "I don't know, sir."

Master: "It is a simple matter if you haven't a good memory to employ some mechanical method to aid you. In this case, for instance, take the twelve apostles, add the half to their number, which makes eighteen. Multiply them by 100; that makes 1800. Now, take the twelve apostles again and add a quarter to their number, which makes fifteen. Add it all up together, which makes 1815, the date you want. Quite simple, you see, and you can always remember dates by using that system."-Nos Loisirs.

Measure me out from the fathomless tun that somewhere or other you keep

In your vasty cellars, oh wealthy one, twenty gallons of sleep.

Twenty gallons of balmy sleep, dreamless and deep and mild.

Of the excellent brand you used to keep when I was a little child.

-Agnes Storrie.

## **BOOKS**

### HAPPINESS.

The Economy of Happiness. By James Mackaye, Published by Little, Brown & Co., Boston.

This title might suggest an esoteric excursion into emotional optimism. The volume presents, however, a deliberate and painstaking investigation into the philosophy and economics of happiness, which Mr. Mackaye maintains should be the sole object of life.

The doctrine that happiness should be the controlling asset of life, seems incomplete without a Declaration of Happiness which we might imagine to be a paraphrase of the words of Thomas Jefferson, thus:-We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created free and equal in their political, social and industrial rights and opportunities; that happiness is the inalienable right

## Publishers' Column

## The Public

is a weekly review which prints in concise and plain terms, with lucid explanations and without editorial bias, all the news of the world of historical value. It is also an editorial paper. Though it abstains from mingling editorial opinions with its news accounts, it has opinions of a pronounced character, based upon the principles of radical democracy, which, in the columns reserved for editorial comment, it expresses fully and freely, without favor or prejudice, without fear of consequences, and without hope of discreditable reward. Yet it makes no pretensions to infallibility, either in opinions or in statements of fact; it simply aspires to a deserved reputation for intelligence and honesty in both. Besides its editorial and news features, the paper contains a department of original and selected matter, in which appear articles and extracts upon various subjects, verse as well as prose, chosen alike for their literary merit and their wholesome human interest.

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of every human being; that it is the indefeasible right of every man to the utmost ability of his fellow in giving effect to that right; and to this end governments and institutions are established by the people, of the people and for the people to secure and maintain such rights and opportunities inviolable to every man; and for the security, maintenance and preservation of these blessings to ourselves and our posterity forever, we hereby pledge our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor. This Bill of Rights, though not asserted in terms by Mr. Mackaye, seems to accord with the spirit of his theory.

While all sane men admit happiness is the business of existence, the vast majority doubtless have found themselves "next by a long interval" in the race, and so dreamily assent to the apparently nugatory proposition. Still others unresistingly bear the ills they have, awaiting the recompense of that "undiscovered country;" and for a diversity of other reasons, almost no one of the two billion inhabitants of the earth enjoys the living expectancy of happiness, or consciously makes it the standard of his life and institutions. Yet universal happiness—that "consummation devoutly to be wished"—may be realized, our author contends by the general acceptance of his social remedy, which we are naturally eager to learn.

Before disclosing this remedy, he diagnoses the evils of the present as growing out of utility apart from morals—the underlying assumption of our institutional life. He denounces John Stuart Mill, who founded this doctrine, as one who "determined the trend of the political thought of the century." Finding that "the prevailing school of philosophy has but one god—production, and that Mill is its prophet;" he declares that "he who seeks the overthrow of our present political paganism therefore must deal with the arch-offender himself."

But happiness should be the keystone of the new social structure, and Mr. Mackaye accordingly substitutes happiness for utility in his political system, and postulates that the problem of happiness can be solved by "common sense." By this term he refers "to a kind of sense susceptible of tests which are independent of the convictions of any man or assemblage of men," and "its rigorous application removes any problem from the realm of opinion, though not from that of probability." He offers his readers an analysis of common sense which shall disclose the specified tests.

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"The Economy of Happiness" will doubtless prove interesting to readers who, like its author, would cut rather than untie the Gordian knot of modern society evils, and who enjoy the discussion of revolutionary in preference to reform measures.

W. H. S.

## THE AMERICAN AND HIS LAW.

Moral Overstrain. By Geo. W. Alger. Published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston and New York. 1906.

This book contains eight essays, every one of them seeming more important than the first, which lends its title to the others. The responsibility resting upon each member of society not to put a greater strain on his neighbor's moral fibre than it will stand, is the first theme. The question involved of how much harm it would do every individual to judge his neighbor and estimate his moral strength, is not taken up. Neither, for example, in the remarks on the wickedness of wearing expensive jewelry on the streets, is it noted that it is almost as great a strain on a starving man's ethics to know that those jewels are possessed, as to see them worn.

As for the other seven essays, they are each one worth several readings and much thought. For the most part they have a common theme, the reform of the law. And moreover they are written by a thorough lawyer gifted with that most rare ability—the power to express the technicalities of his profession in popular phrase. They deal with problems vital to every citizen—problems, many of them, prominently before us these very days.

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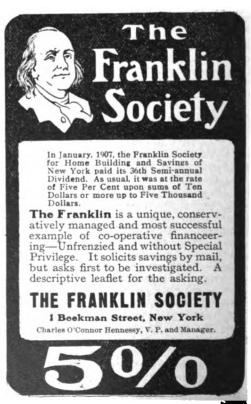
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What is, perhaps, the gem of the collection, is not about the law at all, but on "Generosity and Corruption." "The substitution of generosity for justice" is a phrase and an idea to ponder. "One of the effects of the generosity of the unjust, which deserves more consideration than it gets, is this: it closes the mouths of critics whose voices might otherwise be heard in effectual protest against public wrongs or defects which cry for change in economic conditions." The effect of "the generosity of the unjust" is traced in politics where the "legislative burglar with a big heart" is confessedly the hardest to overcome; and in college, where "we can not afford to have the traditions of our colleges become largely the traditions of suspiciously rich men who made money and built buildings."

Other essays are "The Literature of Exposure" and "Some Equivocal Rights of Labor." Taken for all in all, this is a book worth urging people to open. If opened it will certainly be read. The style is delightful, the citation of cases most interesting and apt, the argument stirring.

ANGELINE LOESCH.

#### \* \* \*

## "IN THE FIRE OF THE HEART."

In the Fire of the Heart. By Ralph Waldo Trine. Published by McClure, Phillips & Co., New York. 1906. Price \$1.00 net.

Ralph Waldo Trine is the author of "In Tune With the Infinite," a book which is very popular with those inclined to mental science and with the religious world. The danger, both of mental and Christian science, is that their devotees are apt to say, "We have found the way to Heaven ourselves, and the rest of the world can go to Hell; if they don't want to, the better way is equally open to them."

But all persons live upon the physical plane, and most persons live entirely upon the physical plane, and do not even know that there is any other; therefore, in order that the mental and the spiritual should be right, it is necessary, at least for them, that the physical should first be right.

It is of importance, therefore, that Mr. Trine and

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others like him are turning their attention to the economic condition, perceiving that peace can neither be perfect nor permanent until it is universal.

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He notes, also, the increase in the cost of living, which amounts to about 55 per cent. since 1906, according to Bradstreet's report, and the pitiably small increase in wages in the same time.

It is, therefore, a most useful book, though it is to be regretted that Mr. Trine has accepted so many quotations without citing the sources from which they originally came, and also that the preface, good in itself, is marred by exceedingly careless English.

The book proposes, for an immediate remedy, proportional representation and direct legislation as a means of getting what the people want.

BOLTON HALL.

#### A JACK LONDON PLAY.

The Scorn of Women. By Jack London. The Macmillan Company, New York and London, 1906. Price \$1.25.

The author of "The Call of the Wild" gives us further proof of his versatile genius in this not over fine or heroic play in three acts. It deals with the social life of a Klondike mining camp, the untrammelled freedom of which is breezily brought out in the action of the various original characters first introduced to us in the Alaska Company's store at Dawson. An Eldorado king, "simple, elemental and almost childish," but worth two millions, is caught in the snares of a wily Hungarian woman with whom he is planning to run away at midnight. The wife of Captain Effingwell plots to detain him at a mask ball in order to save him for the sweetheart who is coming from the States to marry him, and who is expected to arrive the next day. Freda, a Greek dancing girl, with the same end in view, carries him off to her cabin and dispatches her magnificent dogs and a trusted Indian to bring the icebound Flossie as swiftly as possible to her door; and just as the bewildered man begins to make violent love to her the innocent and trusting Flossie arrives, to be clasped with the same ready affection in the "simple elemental" man's arms.

The minor characters figuring in these Klondike

scenes are interesting types of mining life, and we part regretfully from Sitka Charley, while we wonder if Dave Harney has yet found "sweetnin' for his coffee."

A. L. M.

## FELLOWSHIP SONGS.

Fellowship Songs. Compiled and published by Ralph Albertson, Jamaica Plain, Mass. Price, paper, 25 cents. \$20 per 100.

Ralph Albertson's "Fellowship Songs" is an admirable collection of the best liberal hymns and poems, set to the best music. We are not a musical people, the more's the pity, and it does not come natural to us to express our highest aspirations in sonorous song. Rag-time threatens our voices, as the professional funny man threatens the burden of our utterance. Mr. Howells' society for the reclamation of the American larynx is a noble enterprise, and a book like this of Albertson's is an effort in the same Mere industrial, and international harmony will hardly be worth while if they are to be spoiled by the stridency of our inharmonious vocal articu-Every progressive group of thinkers-liberal church, woman's club or what not-would do well to lay in a supply of "Fellowship Songs" and practice its melodies. At the end of the book is a collection of excellent responsive readings, which gives an opportunity to cultivate the speaking as well as the singing voice.

ERNEST CROSBY.

## **PERIODICALS**

"Two History-Making Conventions" is the title of a couple of brief articles in The World To-Day for January. The first, on "The Lakes-to-the-Gulf Deep Waterways Association" is a concise statement of the who and why of the meeting held in St. Louis last October—a convention having for its campaign cry, "An annual river and harbor bill for \$50,000,000," and part of this for making a deep channel to the Gulf. The second article similarly describes "The Trans-Mississippi Commercial Congress," where Bryan, Root and Shaw spoke, and which endorsed the "Lakes-to-the-Gulf" proposition.

A.

The second of Miss Tarbell's papers on "The Tariff in Our Times" appears in the January American Magazine. The period dealt with is that of Johnson's administration. Two facts are boldly and convincingly insisted upon. First, that the increased tariff legislation of that period was not for needed revenue, for the war revenue was already much greater than times of peace demanded. Second, that this tariff legislation was not a general readjustment and reduction of taxation, as was proper and at first proposed; but it consisted of a series of special acts for tariff on certain commodities, each of these acts the direct and plain result of well-organized lobbying on the part of the special interests to be benefited, notably wool and copper. Arrayed against this kind of tariff legislation were some of the best Re-

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publican newspapers of the West, and some prominent and loyal Republican members of Congress.

A.

Tommy paused a moment in the work of demolition.

"This is angel cake, all right," he said.

"How do you know?" asked Johnny.

"I've found a feather in it."-Chicago Tribune.

"Why are you so indignant toward that American art collector?"

"Because," said the European picture owner, "he takes an unfair advantage. He presumes on his great wealth to offer me so much for a picture that I can't afford to refuse it."—Washington Star.

+ +

"Say, paw," queried little Tommy Toddles, "who are the city authorities?"

"The city authorities, my son," replied Toddles, Sr., "are officials who claim to have no authority when the dear public wants something done."—Chicago News.

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