

ENGLISH SOCIALISM.

New Ideas Illustrated by the Questions of Work—Old-Age Pensions.

How old fashioned is the idea that it is a duty for men to work and to remain independent? The socialist agitator now proclaims the right to live as the inalienable privilege of honest poverty, and the masses in England are well-nigh persuaded that he is right.

Neither the Labor group in Parliament nor the Trades Union Congress at Liverpool can be justly held responsible for every random remark or vagary of judgment, but it is clear that the direction of the wind when the new radicalism has swept the country with the whirl of genuine democracy.

In the same strain education is discussed as a sweeping measure of public charity. The children of the masses, according to resolutions passed at Liverpool, are to be taught at full time until they are sixteen; they are to be fed at public expense; free medical attendance is to be provided, and they are to be aided in secondary courses and technical training by liberal scholarships.

The spirit of the new Radicalism is illustrated by the discouragement of voluntary organizations doing without expense to the municipalities work which is now regarded by advanced men as the ordinary duty of the state.

entertaining as well as instructing them. One of the original clauses of Mr. Birrell's Education bill empowered the local authorities to provide "vacation schools, classes, play centres or means of recreation in school houses during their holidays."

Another landmark gone. Buildings Torn Down in South Street to Make Way for Pumping Station. The erection of a Fire Department pumping station on the plot of ground bounded by Oliver, South and Water streets will efface still another landmark of old New York.

STUDY OF AGRICULTURE IN SCHOOLS. Value Determined by Attitude of Teachers. Toward It. The value of agriculture as a study in the rural schools will be determined largely by the attitude of teachers toward it.

COTTON AND CORN IN THE SOUTH. Greater Diversification of Crops Would Be More Profitable. In those parts of Louisiana and Arkansas where cotton is grown, D. A. Brodie, in the Yearbook of the Department of Agriculture, divides the farmers into three classes.

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WEEDS AND LAWS.

One May Get Into Jail for Growing Thistles.

At one time, not so very long ago, it was illegal to wear the shamrock, and men and women have been imprisoned for breaking this law, but no one ever heard of the same penalty being imposed upon those who wore the Scotch thistle.

In Arizona the laws against sunflowers are particularly strict, and all owners of irrigating canals are required to remove from the banks of their waters all sunflowers growing thereon before they ripen and mature their seed.

TIGER AND VULTURE OF THE SEA. "The killer" whale is "the tiger of the sea," as the writer of an interesting article in the September "Windsock" has it, the ocean, surely, are the vultures of the ocean.

ANIMAL WONDERS. Unlike most animals, horses have no eyebrows, and hares are minus eyelids. Consequently, the eyes of the latter cannot be shut, and a thin membranous substance covers them when asleep.

A PRETTY GERMAN CUSTOM. In the Vaterland it is now the season for garlands and green wreaths, the latter encircling the homely yet friendly legend, "Willkommen!"

MEN, WOMEN AND MEALS. When men suppose that dinner goes on whether or not they are at home or not they labor under a misconception. Arthur Benjamins, writing about this melancholy fact, declares: "Some one once said that an ordinary woman's favorite dinner is an egg in a drawing room. All women have a passion for something on a tray. To the man the tray is a nuisance, to the woman it is a necessity, for long may it be before this token to the traveler expressive of good will dies out!"

SMALLPOX IN PHILIPPINES.

Almost Entirely Eradicated by Vaccination.

The records of the Bureau of Health at Manila show that within the last twelve months 23,600 people have been vaccinated by officials and private doctors by private physicians. When it is remembered that Manila's population is not more than 250,000, it can be understood why, in the year ended December 31, 1904, there were only twenty-seven deaths from smallpox.

TO TRAIN SKILLED WORKMEN. Need of Schools for This Special Purpose in This Country. There are in America industrial schools, technical schools and manual training high schools. The motive underlying the introduction of these types of educational activities has been to benefit the industries.

THE MOUND BUILDERS. Burial of Dead in This Manner Practised Up to Advent of Whites. Mound builders of the Mississippi Valley, in the manner of burial of their dead, were in close touch with those of the valley of the Ohio, and had something in common with them, embracing the ideals displayed in the ancestor worship of the Orient, as well as antedating the custom of setting a granite shaft as a mark of respect over the graves of our departed at the present time.

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WOOD RAT TYPIFIES MAN. He is Small, but His Acquisitiveness is Insatiable. Two many Americans have the "wood rat instinct." The wood rat, the animal, is a native of southern Oregon, but the wood rat typified in state or nation, but is well-nigh universal.

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Pages 40-60. In the little town of C— lived three sisters by the name of Paige. They were well-to-do, and they loved the small town life. In consequence of which they were a great asset to the place, and their originator for its scorners, says "The New York Press."

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