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Mr. Whitridge and the Public Service Commission. In our valued collection of pamphlets there is no statement of a general truth more positively conceived or more felicitously phrased than this one of the opuscles of Mr. FREDERICK WALLINGFORD WHITRIDGE:

"As I look at it the grand desideratum all over this country to-day is efficient administration."

We look at it as Mr. WHITRIDGE does. The stockholders of the Third Avenue and allied corporations now under his administrative management look at it as Mr. WHITRIDGE does. The street car riding public of New York city and Westchester look at it as Mr. WHITRIDGE does. They all agree with him that here on our local transportation lines, as elsewhere, the grand desideratum is efficient administration.

Another of the Whitridge opuscles among our treasured possessions contains that great pamphleteer's personal opinion of the services rendered to the Third Avenue Railroad and to the travelling public by the Public Service Commission of the State of New York. Mr. WHITRIDGE does not think their services are worth the corpse of that dead cat in University place sympathetically mentioned by him in another of his pamphlets:

"In the conduct of my work I have been put to great expense and have been considerably delayed and hampered by the activities of the Public Service Commission. That body has been of no service to this property or to that portion of the public served by it, and it has burdened me with correspondence, orders and litigation."

From yet another of the famous essays of the same distinguished writer on ethical progress and the relation of the public moralities to street railway operation we quote this further opinion of the Public Service Commission's inefficiency:

"If I had been charged with the job and had accomplished [in four years and a half of exertion] no more in the time which it took the United States to suppress the rebellion than the Commission has accomplished in the building of subways, I should feel that an indignant population would hold my head under the town pump."

And about four years ago the pamphleteer was writing to this same body of public servants:

"As you know, I have always shunned [sic] controversy with you unless you forced it upon me, and I have tried to work with you in the public service. You have, therefore, nothing to fear from me except the correction of inaccuracies."

In the absence of Mr. WHITRIDGE from his highly paid post of public duty the Public Service Commission, with the inestimably useful aid of Mayor MITCHELL, has just settled, in the interest of Mr. WHITRIDGE's street car companies and of the public they serve, one of the most dangerous strikes that ever menaced New York city's orderly life. Mr. WHITRIDGE, paid we believe \$60,000 a year by the Third Avenue corporation alone to attend to his administrative duties, is somewhere in the Scotch Highlands and has not raised a finger or uttered a solitary leaflet to help in this vastly important work. His heart and the rest of his anatomy persist in abiding on the other side of the Atlantic. As recently as May 22 he was reported as arriving in New York "after two months in Europe."

The following June was not two-thirds grown when he departed again for a foreign shore with the remark, as reported, that in the strike situation then impending there was "nothing to arbitrate." On August 1 he left London for the north of the British island, announcing that his plan had been to remain abroad "till October." Meanwhile, the Public Service Commission has been on his special job here, to the great advantage of his fellow citizens in this town.

We should hesitate to concern ourselves with the chronology of Mr. WHITRIDGE's goings and comings, the details of his highly paid absenteeism, while an extremely important question of fact. From the other side of the ocean Mr. WHITRIDGE is reported as coming without qualification the

existence of an agreement or contract or recorded understanding for arbitration which the clear statement of the Commission's chairman, the Hon. OSCAR S. STRAUS, seems to establish beyond the shadow of a doubt.

The matter is unfortunate for Mr. WHITRIDGE as it now stands; for it now appears that instead of his exercising the function of correcting the inaccuracies of the Commission hitherto so contemptuously regarded by him, it has become the unpleasant duty of that Commission to correct the inaccuracies of the eminent pamphleteer and censor of ethical conditions.

Accordingly, we renew our advice to Mr. WHITRIDGE to return to his post of public duty by the swiftest steamer available. The strike which so nearly concerned his beautifully expressed theories of efficient administration has, it is true, been settled in his absence and without his help; but there is manifestly something else for Mr. WHITRIDGE to settle.

New York in Hot Weather.

On Monday when thermometers registered 90 degrees and the humidity at one time was 98 degrees, "qualling the highest mark so far this season," there was only one death from heat prostration in the city. Twenty-five years ago, when the population of the five boroughs was about half what it is now, people died every day by scores from a "touch of sun" during periods of excessive heat, and the hundred mark was sometimes passed.

There was one summer in the early '90s when more than 200 persons died in New York in one day; it was not uncommon in that visitation of Saharan heat to see men stricken down in the parks or streets, dying where they fell. Nowadays New Yorkers are taught how to live temperately during hot weather, both as regards diet and drink. A hot spell, though mainly to science, no longer holds terrors for them. Better transportation facilities to the seaside, recreation piers and more parks must also be reckoned as aids to safer living in the summer season. Also the Saturday half holidays, almost unknown twenty-five years ago in the general industries, should not be left out of the account.

The people of New York do not work so hard as they did a quarter of a century ago, or at so high a pressure. Visitors from London wonder how we got our reputation for being strenuous and beating the clock. They call us slow. There has grown up, in fact, a tolerant feeling for the placidity and moderate ways of Philadelphia. Jokes at the expense of that old-fashioned city are not heard so often in New York now. We have learned to live rationally and we are rather proud of it.

Almost everybody plays at some game or other, or watches some sport. The golfers are legion, the motor boat and sailing enthusiasts fill every bay and harbor, most men and women swim, the devotees of baseball are as sands on the seashore, and where one man drove a horse twenty-five years ago a hundred now manipulate the wheel of an automobile.

Science has done a great deal to conserve life in New York, but outdoor amusements, particularly in the long, hot summers, have ably seconded the efforts of the scientists. So it comes about that as a resort at this time of the year New York is somewhere near the top of the list among American cities.

What the General Railroad Strike Vote Portends.

The announcement that approximately 94 per cent. of the 400,000 locomotive engineers, firemen, train conductors and other railway men throughout the country have voted to strike carries a significance that should be pointed out without delay.

These men cannot destroy the commerce of the country, no matter what their leaders tell them. There are approximately 99,000,000 persons in the United States whose very lives would be put in instant peril if rail transportation abruptly ceased.

Do the 400,000 think that the 99,000,000 will suffer their lives to be risked that the 400,000 may have their way?

The public interest is always dominant; no man can defeat it, no strike can withstand it.

Referred to Secretary Baker.

An officer of the regular army asks in a letter to the Army and Navy Journal: "Does the average citizen realize that there are regiments which have been on border duty longer than the civil war lasted?" The average citizen, who is tired of the Mexican question, has probably given no thought to the hardships and sacrifices of the regular army. He is inclined to think that the militia are being imposed upon if there is to be no intervention, and he joins in the cry that they should be sent home. The officer who asks the above question writes:

"For over three years now the regiment to which I belong has done nothing but 'sit' . . . Officers are beginning to feel it. They are getting nervous and irascible. There has been no real active service for most of them; they are in small towns, away from their belongings, books, etc., no proper place to work, living in tents that reach about 110 degrees every afternoon, and they need a change if they can get it."

Need a change, indeed! The matter is respectfully referred to the Secretary of War, who, being new in his position, probably does not know how long regiments of the regular army have been on the border watching the thermometer and

making rapid changes of their uniforms. An army officer can obtain leave of a few days, but what is sorely needed is time to visit his folks at home and live like a civilized man while there.

In the combatant armies in Europe, where every unit is precious, there are liberal arrangements for home leave. Why not a little sanity in ordering things in Texas? Army officers eating their hearts out down there must be recalling what General PHIL SHERIDAN said his choice of residence would be if he were limited to a lot in Texas and one in Hades.

Transmutations.

No one is surprised to find that while he was Secretary of State WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN encouraged the efforts of a Spokane woman to transmute silver into gold. It was but a continuation of Mr. BRYAN's own attempted experiment in 1890. Since that failed the Great Uncommoner has transmuted Democratic victories into Democratic defeats, eagles into doves, wine into grape juice, and the word of these United States into empty expostulations not seriously meant.

He fell at last before a greater transmutter than himself. Mr. WILSON attempted to transmute Mr. BRYAN into a Secretary of State. The external success of the experiment was for a while, extraordinary. But when Mr. DUMBA scraped beneath the surface Mr. BRYAN was forthwith transmuted back to the status of a plain citizen. Mr. WILSON still clings to some of his other transmutations. No doubt he believes that JOSEPHUS DANIELS is a genuine Secretary of the Navy, and we cannot imagine what keeps him from very frankly saying so. Under his tutelage Mr. VANCE McCOACK has already transmuted the election figures of 1912 into a Democratic majority next fall.

The only perceptible subject that has not been transmuted is Woodrow WILSON. But self-transmutation is difficult and self-hypnosis is easy.

The Man of a Single Bill.

From the comments on Albany legislators made by the Citizens Union we extract for contemplation these remarks regarding Assemblyman JAMES C. CAMPBELL, Democrat, representing the Thirtieth District, New York county:

"In his fifth term introduced but one bill—an unadvised civil service measure. Made unsatisfactory record of votes; often unrecorded."

The expressions of opinion may be disregarded; let us merely take note that after several years up the Hudson Mr. CAMPBELL is a model of legislative continence. He introduces a single bill. In the name of mercy, why do not more lawmakers attain to such admirable self-restraint?

The Arrangement.

Readers who perused the reports of Mr. HUGHES's speech at Arcadia Hall, Detroit, must have been struck by the deadly indictment of Mr. Wilson's course toward Mexico therein delivered. The Republican nominee was not under the necessity of announcing that he spoke "very frankly"; no one ever heard him speak any other way. There were doubtless some who feared that the attack would be couched in language refined to the point of losing force. But Mr. HUGHES tipped his spear with words that pierce:

"This Administration has written such a record that no matter what it says you don't know whether it will respect it."

There could be no more concise summary of the pass to which this country has been brought. The trouble is not simply that other nations do not know whether we mean what we say; it has got so that we don't know ourselves, when the President of the United States is the spokesman.

Proceeding to the disgraceful details the Republican candidate laid down the exceedingly elementary principle that our only concern with Mexican affairs should be the protection of American lives and property. And he applied it on the spot, for the benefit of some of those persons who delight in asking him what he "would have done." He said:

"There is no question about recognizing HUERTA."

With the morals of HUERTA, Mr. HUGHES says, we had nothing whatever properly to do. We had only to ask ourselves: "Can his Government protect Americans in Mexico?" And if the answer was in the affirmative we had no business to insult international amity and flout international law by practicing a sneaking intervention and plotting to accomplish his downfall.

No wonder the Washington despatches announce hurried plans to start the Democratic campaign. But by the time Mr. WILSON's supporters are under way, a month hence, the terrible arraignment of his career in the White House will have been completed. He will not be able to answer it, for he is forever entangled from the pledge given by CHARLES EVANS HUGHES:

"There is not a particle of militarism in my composition, but a sturdy determination, if I am put in a place of executive responsibility, representing all the American people, to see that American rights are safeguarded and that America's name in administration, in policy and in execution is honored throughout the world."

That is where the Hughes-Wilson campaign stands to-day.

When Universal Suffrage Comes, will the wives of union men, who are

deeply interested in the matter of pay, have an opportunity to vote for or against strikes?

The "heat of noon" is an ancient but false phrase. When it is hot in New York it is hottest at 3 P. M.

Judge struck by lightning.—Headline. He was in a motor car, and the Wilson organs ought to criticize him for leaving the bench.

One asset of the Republicans is comprised of the ballots of all the voting relatives and friends of our boys on the border.

Is the United States Senate more patriotic or more frightened than the House of Representatives?

The suicide was a Socialist and a dreamer.—News item.

True Socialists refrain from such an individual act as suicide. And true dreamers never kill themselves, for there is always one more dream to be dreamed.

The Bulgarians are beginning to realize that they mistranslated the handwriting on the wall.

The House met at noon and Representative HARRISON defended the President's course in Mexico.—Washington dispatch.

Every day the course which was the only thing for Humanity has to have at least two hours of defence.

The public is awaiting impatiently the coming half hour or more that Mr. HUGHES is going to devote to JOSEPHUS.

It is clear enough that CHARLES E. HUGHES will never stand in need of a Colonel House.

Whether BRYAN ever backed an experiment in the transmutation of metals may be an open question, but the chances are sixteen to one he did.

The Democratic National Committee insists upon hastening the date for nominating its Presidential electors, but the Republican Party has been renominated. Can it be possible that they fear he may change his mind about acceptance?

POLICE ROOKIES.

High Constitutional Questions for Commissioner Woods to Ponder.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The police force of the city of New York is neither in fact nor in purpose a military body. The object of its creation is the preservation of law and order under the civil law within the corporate limits of the municipality, and to achieve that end it is very liberally compensated for the not lightly taxed citizens. The force in ordinary times is not adequate for the proper policing of the city; in other words, the city of New York does not consider itself equal to the expense of maintaining such a force as could adequately protect it from the activities of the criminal classes, yet the Police Commissioner had for many months previous to the strike withdrawn several hundred men from this inadequate body for a purpose for which he had no warrant in law, that is, their training at the expense of the taxpayers of the city of New York in the art of war, in order that in the event of a most improbable military emergency they might be prepared to perform duty for which the regular army and the National Guard have been created.

It is no justification to plead that in such an emergency a police force with such a training might prove a valuable adjunct to the military forces of the nation. The fact remains that the purpose of the police does not embrace such a contention, but the maintenance of the peace among the denizens of the municipality. It would be an extraordinary situation if in time of war the police of New York or any other city should be taxed to maintain a highly paid police brigade for the performance of such a national military duty as the defence of the city against a military foe should it be necessary to enroll them in the military service of the country their functions as servants of the municipality would cease, and they would have to go to the State or Federal Government for their pay; the War Department, not the Police Commissioner, would be responsible for their maintenance.

New York, August 7. CITIZEN.

Money as a Gorm Carrier.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Mr. Arthur Brisbane is right about the dirty currency that is the cause of our circulation. The United States Treasury gladly redeems torn, worn and "used up" bills; but the great amount of detail involved in the return of the currency makes it a question as to whether the bank will aid in Mr. Brisbane's plan. A dirty bill is said to contain germs that are as deadly as a pistol and his father was promptly arrested, charged with violating the Sullivan law in keeping the weapon in the house. Had the boy not been so unquenchably greedy he would have been arrested. Have we not risen high enough in the scale of civilization to demand the repeal of that stupid and inhuman law making currency a deadly weapon? Will the evil influence of a belief in the supernatural always prevail? EVANS HUGHES. New York, August 8.

A California Social Item.

From the Celestines Prospect. On last Wednesday evening Pomp Pedrol took Mrs. F. B. Trower, the Misses Trower and Miss Selma Pryor to Angels, where they attended the movie.

An Editorial Record in the North.

From the Adirondack Northern News. The editor takes tea five times a day, weighs 150 pounds, never has an insect, and sleeps on an average five hours and thirty minutes a day.

FACTS FOR THE RAINBOW CHASERS.

An Unappreciated Analysis of the Vote Cast Four Years Ago.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: It may be "natural for man to indulge in the illusions of hope," but the political conduct of Vance McCormick are not those of hope, but of despair. He realizes that as chairman of the Democratic National Committee he is leading a hopeless struggle.

An analysis of the vote in the Presidential election of 1912 and of the various State elections since that time amply demonstrates that the great majority of the Progressives of 1912 had returned to the Republican party before the present year. The frantic appeals of the Democrats to the Progressive remnant cannot avert the effect of the reunion of Republicans, Progressives and Independent Democrats in the Republican party of 1916.

It is evident that the Democratic minority party, that inflicted the incapacity Wilson on a humiliated nation, has had its day. A reunited Republican party, recruited by thousands of independent Democrats who have been disgusted with the faddering imbecility of the Wilson-Daniels government, will sweep the country on November 7. A study of the vote in the Presidential election of 1912 and of local political changes since that time gives the following:

FOR WILSON. Political Party. Elect. Votes. California 4,018 13; Colorado 14,469 6; Connecticut 13,758 4; Delaware 1,252 2; Idaho 24,416 4; Illinois 226,943 23; Indiana 125,259 12; Iowa 22,259 12; Kansas 51,297 10; Maine 23,927 4; Maryland 258 8; Massachusetts 124,756 12; Michigan 214,877 15; Minnesota 72,764 12; Montana 18,927 4; Nevada 546 2; New Hampshire 19,591 4; New Jersey 85,965 14; New Mexico 15,599 3; New York 189,874 19; North Dakota 19,171 3; Ohio 28,241 5; Oregon 25,209 5; Pennsylvania 124,807 12; Rhode Island 14,489 3; South Dakota 9,849 2; Utah 39,893 7; Vermont 29,616 5; Washington 97,383 12; West Virginia 21,469 4; Wisconsin 24,129 13; Wyoming 9,842 2.

FOR WILSON. Total 861. Elect. Votes. Alabama 12; Arizona 3; Arkansas 9; Georgia 14; Louisiana 10; Mississippi 10; Missouri 12; Oklahoma 12; South Carolina 9; Texas 29; Virginia 12.

FOR WILSON. Total 114. Elect. Votes. Arizona 3; Kentucky 12; Missouri 18; Oklahoma 12; Tennessee 12.

Delaware in 1914 elected a Republican Representative to Congress. The State now has a Republican State Government and a Republican majority in both houses of the State Legislature.

Since 1912 there has been a marked Republican gain in the State of Maryland. At the last election a Republican Governor was elected.

In Nevada the Democrats have steadily lost ground. The last State election found a Republican Governor and of a Republican Representative in Congress indicates how the people of Nevada regard the Great White Feather at Washington.

While a Democratic plurality in all the doubtful States would still leave Wilson in a hopeless minority of 191 electors, the Republicans believe that they would win in all these States. Arizona and Oklahoma should properly be put in the Hughes column, for Wilson's ineptitude in the Mexican troubles have aroused a bitter feeling against the present Administration. In 1912 Wilson had more votes than the combined Taft and Roosevelt votes; in Oklahoma 13,992 votes were cast for Taft and Roosevelt than for Wilson. The un-American wabbling of Wilson has greatly injured the chances of Democratic success in Tennessee and Wisconsin, the generally over the combined Republican-Progressive vote in 1912 renders this State doubtful.

Call For Congress for Some Good Old Music.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Can Brother Frank Harding tell us if Ned Harrigan's song, "Get Up, Jack; John, Sit Down," was ever published?

WASHINGTON, D. C., AUGUST 8.

The Call of the Surf.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Having been routed out of bed early Sunday morning, to kill time I decided to go to Conoy Island. When arrived there the Municipal Band was playing a march and I witnessed a remarkable scene. The weather being extremely sultry it seemed as if half of New York had made up its mind to bathe. On they came like an invading army, or rather like one in flight, helter-skelter, pell-mell, men, women and children. As soon as they reached their destination a policeman on horseback was waiting to warn the swimmers not to come so far as the eye could reach. Quickly the big building absorbed them, and in a few minutes the beach was a mass of half an hour the sands were white with figures in all sorts of bathing costumes. The August sun blazed down, the combing white breakers called invitingly, and lo! the great Sunday water carnival was on.

BROOKLYN, AUGUST 8.

A Whistling Chautauque.

From the Kansas City Times. A novel plan was employed at Steadville in selling tickets for the local chautauque. The chautauque was held in the church bells in town were rung, a mill whistle tooted and the town band began to play. When folks hurried to the chautauque they were reminded that the chautauque committee still had some tickets on hand. Five time ten tickets were sold the mill whistle whistled an extra toll and before the ticket sales were closed the success of the enterprise.

CONDITIONS IN TEXAS.

A Sample of the Irritation That Unpreparedness Has Produced.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Six weeks ago our company was mobilized at Camp Whitman and two weeks ago it arrived at El Paso, Tex.

Since that time the men have received no pay. Many of them used what money they had of the way to provide food, as they were not sufficiently fed.

Word came to-day, not from one but from many, that the food was poor, no butter, no eggs, no meat, only five per cent. of the boys were ill, without medical supplies and without money to purchase one thing for their comfort. The mails are so congested that it takes many days for a letter to reach home; meanwhile we do not know how seriously ill they may be. If we telegraph them money that also takes several days to reach them. Is it not time that something was done? When millions of dollars are absolutely wasted for the luxurious living and travelling of officials, could not a few dollars be given to these boys for good wholesome food?

Were they fighting for our country we would make no complaints, but under the present conditions we demand that they have their rights.

LO! THE POOR GARDENER.

Is His the Most Inadequately Paid Profession in the World?

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Is it possible for the working man to get justice from the courts? If he has a dispute with his employer, what sort of pay does the man get who has no money to acquire. There are thousands of gardeners in America, but they are scattered all over the country. It is impossible; so they have to depend on the generosity of the employer, and gardening is the worst paid profession in the world to-day.

For a case in point you don't have to leave New York city. The New York Botanical Society is composed of rich Americans who are members of the city and get a grant of money each year for its upkeep. And they pay their gardeners, the men who grow the plants and make the gardens of the professors possible, a minimum of \$45 a month with a possible maximum of \$60, which it takes years to attain.

Just think of it! Skilled labor paid at the same rate as the porters who sweep up the chewing gum papers from the subway platforms!

Gen. Huerta's Knowledge of American History.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I was much interested in reading in THE SUNDAY SUN of August 6 the following extract from former Ambassador Wilson's correspondence:

General Huerta is preeminently a soldier, a man of iron mould, of absolute courage, who has done what he was able to get it, and is not, I believe, overly particular as to methods. He is a firm believer in the policy of General Porfirio Diaz and believes in the cultivation of the closest and most friendly relations with the United States. I believe him to be a sincere patriot, and so far as my observation goes the most effective man in the country as soon as peace is restored in the country and financial stability is re-established.

This practically confirms what my late neighbor, General Huerta, told me at Forest Hills in the spring of 1915, and which you were good enough to publish in my letter to you printed July 3, 1915. The General often told me that he knew our United States history, particularly prior to the civil war, better than the present Administration at Washington knew Mexican history.

WILLIAM JAY LEONARD. NEW YORK, AUGUST 8.

The Study of the Constitution.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: In your paper of last week Dr. T. M. Balliet tried to discourage the high school study of the United States Constitution by a very long and pretentious argument.

I should like to supplement his remarks with a few ideas. If our Senators and Assemblymen at Albany and some of our Supreme Court Judges had been long at the study of the Constitution in their school days, before resorting to the study of law, we should not have so much unconstitutional stuffing in our statute books. Then that Sullivan law and that compulsory vaccination law would not disgrace our State.

The main trouble with our lawmakers and interpreters is that they are not satisfied with what they know is the true meaning of the Constitution.

How is it they do not think of making a revision and having it submitted to the people for their approval?

W. D. MACDONALD. YONKERS, AUGUST 8.

A Date for Demobilization.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I wish to inform "A Guardsman's Mother" that our boys will have to protect the border as long as Mr. Wilson is President, till the 4th of March, 1917.

A. WASSER. NEW YORK, AUGUST 8.

Hughes Amazes Jinks.

Jinks doesn't like the hit that Hughes upon the stump is making. "I didn't know," he sadly says, like one who's just awaking, "that he was really human and had the kind of a heart that would let him talk that sort of blood of people when he's talkin' to a bunch."

"I'd thought of him abstractly as a sort of unknown power. That when he met his fellow man was like an icy shower. But, when he got to the point when he hands 'em out the stuff."

That must make Woodrow feel at times he's gettin' quite enough.

"Hughes may be full of brains," but it hasn't clogged his thinking. If he should turn his guns on me I'm sure I take to drink."

He puts it over every time, but not below the belt; When Woodrow read that Detroit speech I wonder how he felt.

"I thought the man's judicial police would give our side the runnin'."

IS THERE SUCH A THING AS A BORN CRIMINAL?

The Mental Defective, the Moral Imbecile and the Child of Unfortunate Ancestry.

The evil combination of defects, vicious impulses and hereditary taint, which produce the innate criminal are seldom associated together; the born criminal, if there really is such a type, has them all. The question whether such a type exists has not been satisfactorily defined. When we attempt to define what we mean by a born criminal a hundred qualifications and distinctions present themselves to the mind. First, what is crime? As a legal matter, crime is classified by civilized nations in many ways, and even civilized nations have had different notions of what constitutes crime at different periods of their history. Our own statutes make new crimes every year, almost every month. In what sense then is it proper to say that a man is born to crime?

Experts generally divide children born with criminal instincts or with a defect of intellect or will that does not enable them to resist evil into several classes. The mental defective has of late been the subject of the most careful study, thus, if a child is ill, which have prompted these evil propensities. In such cases education and training may change a child of evil parentage into a well behaved and well ordered nature.

The histories of certain families of degenerates testify that children may be born of criminal parents and become in turn irreclaimable criminals. A sort of irresistible criminality is entailed upon generation after generation. One of these families has been known to have as many as 800 descendants who were thieves, drunkards, prostitutes and murderers. The same people have been fully described by the most unexceptionable authority in America, England, Germany and Switzerland. In this case we may speak of a born criminal. Those who communicate crime to their offspring by the agency of food or example and teaching may be said to produce children born to crime—potential criminals, as it were—but it is not safe to draw hard and fast rules from such unusual families.

DUST, TRUST, EPIDEMICS. AMENITIES AT THE BORDER.

A Jersey Doctor Points to Socialism as the Way Out.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The epidemic of infantile paralysis is due to the clouds of dust which are allowed to permeate every dwelling; again due to incompetence on the part of officials who pose as experts on the subject of hygiene. Naturally soldiering is not a big industry in a great medical trust. This epidemic is only the beginning of a series; rather it is the continuation of a series of which the annual epidemics of grip are further examples.

Ever since the epoch making work of Lister made modern antiseptic surgery possible the medical profession has been crowded by a lot of conscienceless fakery who find easy money in operations upon hysterical women, and these men overshadow the rank and file of worthy physicians, to whom the world always has and always will owe a debt of gratitude.

The only relief possible will come by the assumption