# SHIFT IN PARTY LINES

## Views of an Observer of Political Conditions.

### RADICALISM BOUND TO GROW

**Democratic Party Will Either Become Very Radical or Cease to Exist, in the Opinion of Philip Rappaport, an Indianapolis Attorney—Gompers Made a Mistake.**

Philip Rappaport, a well-known attorney of Indianapolis, was here recently. He has been for many years the editor and publisher of the Indiana Tribune, but sold his paper some years ago. He is a zealous student of social science, and has always taken great interest in the labor movement. Asked what he thought about the recent elections and the general political situation, he said:

"The trend toward radicalism in our political life is too obvious to be overlooked by anybody, and it has become clear to me since the first nomination of Bryan that the Democratic party will in course of time be either a very radical party or be not at all. The lines between plutocracy and democracy are not yet sharply drawn, but will soon be so drawn. People, as a rule, judge superficially or in a way that suits their purpose. They think it was the great popularity of Roosevelt which brought him such an immense vote in 1904. I do not think so, although I do not deny his popularity. It was the attempt of the Democratic party leaders to turn the party from its course toward radicalism into one of conservatism. (I use the word conservatism in its etymological sense of to preserve, to conserve, not in its popular sense of moderate.) The leaders, seeing many of those inclined toward a plutocratic government leave the party, became afraid, and were unable to see that the opposite course would result in still greater loss. If every one wanted to be conservative, there is no need for a Democratic party. There is conservatism enough, and more than enough, in the Republican party. The significance of the result of the last Presidential election lay not in the large vote for Roosevelt, but in the small vote for Parker.

**Aroused Class Consciousness.**

"I have a habit of never judging things by themselves only. Every party convention, every platform, every election, is a part of national history, a part of the continuous evolution of human society. If you judge things singly you can never get any sense of out them. One must study their connections and relations. It amused me when I read that Republicans declared that the election of Hearst would be a calamity, because he stirred up a class war, just as if we had not been in the midst of a class war all the time. All Mr. Hearst could do was to make the people conscious of it, and therein, of course, was the same danger to the ruling class as there would be to the owner of a horse if it were made conscious of its power. All political progress was and is due to class struggles. We would still have Caesarism, or something worse, without them. It has never happened that a ruling class voluntarily yielded its prerogatives or its powers.

"There are still people who deny that we have classes in this republic. They do not understand the difference between political and economic class. They fail to comprehend the difference between the present and the past. In a poor society one class cannot rule the other without special privileges; in a rich society, like ours, with its immense differences of wealth, the rich class can rule the poor class by the mere power and influence of wealth. They need no political privileges, they can rule even in the name of freedom and equality.

"It amuses me to hear of the general prosperity of the people. There is no general prosperity. Our prosperity is that of the wealthy not of the poor. Our national wealth grows in immense proportions, but the poor get nothing of it. The cost of living increases as fast, or faster, than the price of labor.

**Cannot Kill Off Trusts.**

"Mr. Roosevelt's fight against the trusts is also a source of amusement to me on account of the overestimation of its value and its effect. Of course, he means it honestly and, God knows, he had hard work enough within his own party to make them do what he wanted them to do. But, after all, it amounts to no more than a little clipping of the lion's claws. The lion continues to live. The combination and concentration of commerce, industry, and transportation in always fewer hands, the elimination of competition will proceed irresistibly, and no power on earth can prevent it. The power of capital will grow, and our nation (and every other civilized nation, for that matter) will soon consist of a few masters, with the rest of the people as hired men and women—and children. The period of competition is past, and attempts to restore it are Quixotic. The world moves forward, not backward.

"Of course, concentration of industry is productive of greater wealth and, therefore, of great advantage. At present, however, this advantage inures to the benefit of only a few, and the problem is to turn it to the benefit of the masses. The greatness of a nation does not depend on the welfare of a few select, but on the welfare of the masses. A change can be affected in only two ways—either by violent revolution or by the use of the bal lot. The latter way is the American way, but that means, whether the people are conscious of it or not, that every election is more or less an expression of the intent, on one side to preserve, and on the other to change existing economic conditions.

"Now, consider, if you please, in connection with all this the strength of our two-party system; that is, the strong disinclination of the American people to have more than two political parties; consider the growth of democratical sentiment, the growth of education and better understanding of the causes and effects in the economic life of our nation, the growing disinclination of the masses to follow their leaders blindly, and the thoroughly conservative (in the same sense as before) character of the Republican party, it must inevitably follow that the Democratic party must either become a radical party or give way to a new party.

**Democracy to Become Socialistic.**

"I venture to predict, or as prediction is too hazardous, I venture to express the belief, that the next Democratic platform, or latest, the one after the next, will contain a declaration in favor of government ownership of railroads and, perhaps other public-service utilities. I further venture the opinion that, as soon as the South will have succeeded in eliminating the colored vote, it will cease to be the stronghold of the Democratic party, and voters there will divide on the same lines as in the North. But the working people will flock in steadily growing numbers toward Democracy. The working people have been held by the Republican party through the alluring protective tariff, believing it to secure them high wages. But they are beginning to discover that a protective tariff under the reign of competition and a protective tariff under the reign of the trust are not the same thing. There will be a great shifting of the elements composing the two great parties on economic lines until the class-character of both parties will be plainly visible to the naked eye.

"Either all this will occur, or the Democratic party will slowly die. If it wants to retain its position as one of the two great contending parties it must give up its ridiculously anachronism or Jacksonian idolatry and must become a twentieth century party, as the Republican party did. Only it must represent the interests of another class.

"Of course, the Republicans will raise the cry of socialism, and will not tire picturing its horrors and denouncing its injustice. But that will only have the effect of causing serious discussion and consideration of it, and accustom the ear to the sound of the word, and the conscience of the politician, first to the name and then to the thing itself. For, consider conditions in any way you please, there is no reform thinkable without more government interference, and that will always be decried by those financially interested as paternalistic or socialistic. And, really, there is always at least a trace of socialism in it.

### GENIUS IN NEW YORK.

**His Ideals Quickly Perish in That Commercialized Atmosphere.**

From the Atlantic.

What ability or skill the great man of the provinces brought with him to the metropolis may be only the foundation for real work. There will surely be extensive revising of ideals and methods. A story is told of a poet who arrived in town with a completed epic. This found no acceptance; so after cursing the stupidity of the public and the publishers, he took to writing "Sunday stuff." Soon the matter-of-fact attitude of the workers around him, with the practical view of the market he acquired, led him to doubt the literary value of the work he had done in the sentimental atmosphere of his native place. Presently a commission to write a column of humor a week came to him, and he cut his epic into short lengths, tacked a squib on each fragment, and eventually succeded in printing it all as humor at a price many times larger than the historic one brought by "Paradise Lost."

Another newcomer brought unsalable plays, and high notions of the austerity of the artistic vocation. Three months after his arrival he was delighted to get a commission to write the handbook of a utilitarian publisher proposed to sell to visitors seeking the metropolis. This commission brought not only a fair payment for the manuscript on delivery, but involved a vital secondary consideration. The title of the work was "Where to Eat in New York," and its preparation made it necessary for the author to dine each evening for a month in a different cafe at the proprietor's expense.

# EARTHQUAKE AS A RUM CURE

## Great Sobering Up Time They Had at San Francisco.

**Army Surgeon Says Liquor Was Cut Off and Many Drunkards Forgot the Taste of It.**

"'The Earthquake as a Rum Cure'—that will be the name of a little treatise I shall write one of these days, when I get time," said an army officer, recently transferred from San Francisco. He was serving at one of the San Francisco military posts at the time of the earthquake, and when the city was turned into a camp he was one of the detail of army surgeons assigned to co-operate with the health authorities in attending the sick, writes the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Post.

"I'd hate to say for fear of being accused of exaggeration," he went on, "how many hopeless San Francisco soaks were shaken out of the rum habit by the earthquake and fire and by the long period of enforced abstinence that followed. The destruction of the city by earthquake and fire is a heroic method of curing rum fighters, and I'm not maintaining that it was meant that way. But it worked out that way in hundreds of instances that came under my own observation.

"After the earthquake the sale of rum was shut off tight. There were thousands whom the sudden deprivation of liquor hit hard.

"The poor fellows assuredly suffered horribly. The hundreds of water-front wrecks who were on the verge of delirium tremens had an especially vicious siege of it. I never saw or heard of so many human beings walking aimlessly around with the d. t.'s in my life. They moaned, howled, begged, pleaded, and implored for liquor, but there wasn't any chance for them to get any.

"For more than a week hundreds of men were little less than wild, and the soldiers had all they could do to handle them. They couldn't eat or sleep, but just tossed around and groaned. Bromides and quieting drams were served out to the worst cases, but the open air and the positive necessities of the situation began to affect them after the first three or four days.

"Just as soon as it was apparent that they were fit to work, they were put at it at the point of the bayonet. They worked, and the work was the great thing for them. The labor drove the liquor out of their systems and made them hungry—and hundreds of them hadn't been hungry for food or anything else but rum for years and years. It made them sleep. The chill air, full of ozone, helped, too, when they had been hanging around the foul back rooms of groggeries most of their time.

"The men of the better element who were caught in the midst of heavy, continuous drinking by the whisky drought were surprised and delighted, too, to find how vigorous and clear-headed and generally well they felt without their constant nips.

"Out of curiosity, when the saloons resumed business early in July, I kept an eye on a large number of these fellows of all classes, whose cases had come under my own observation, to note if they would stick. Ninety-five per cent of those I watched stuck.

"A large number of other medical men kept an eye on the situation after the reopening of the saloons, just as I did, and their observations coincided with mine. The great majority of the chronic rum fighters of the ante-earthquake period clung to the water wagon when the rum ban was lifted, and are on board of it yet, working amid ruins, most of them, and giving themselves the chance in life that they deserve, I honestly believe.

"Taking it altogether, I believe this was the greatest sobering-up incident in history. Any other way of accomplishing the same result would have been impossible."

**Expanding.**

From the Philadelphia Ledger.

"You are charged with the theft of a horse. Anything to say?"

"Your honor," responded the man at bar, "I claim justification under the unwritten law."

"Unwritten law!"

"I made it a law of conduct to steal anything in sight, and did this while still too young to write."

Necessarily the court took the case under advisement.

# SOCIALISM A REMEDY

## Washington Man's Plan for Dealing with Trusts.

### GOVERNMENT TO TAKE CHARGE

**Henry Laurens Call Declares Swollen Fortunes Are Due to Monopolies Brought About by Corporations and Must Be Controlled by Law—Capitalized Debt a Burden.**

Ninety-five per cent of the national wealth is in the hands of the capitalists, according to an estimate made by Henry Laurens Call, of Washington, assistant secretary of the national child labor committee, before the social and economic science sections of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which met at Columbia University in its fifty-seventh meeting. Mr. Call was speaking on "The concentration of wealth in America." He said that, basing an estimate on his present income, John D. Rockefeller's fortune probably aggregated one-fortieth of the national capital, and that to-day 1 per cent of the population owned about 99 per cent of the entire wealth of the nation.

In his paper Mr. Call continued as follows:

"As a result of this wealth concentration industrial society is practically divided into two classes of the enormously rich and the miserably poor. Our 18,000,000 wage-earners receive an average of only $400 a year; nine-tenths of our business men are notoriously failures; our clergy receive an annual average salary of about $500. The average for the educators of the land is even lower, and the income of other professional men in proportion, while of our 6,000,000 farmers one-third are tenants and the homes of one-third of the remaining two-thirds are mortgaged, and a debt burden is almost universal.

**A Nation of Debtors.**

"We are, in fact, a nation of debtors, our public and private mortgage, bond, and general indebtedness alone reaching a probable total of $30,000,000,000, or $375 per capita; in other words, an amount equal to 13 1-2 times our per capita money circulation and 22 times our savings-bank deposits. But the stocks of our industrial, financial, and public service corporations are expected to draw dividends, and constitute as truly an indebtedness upon the part of the public to the owners of wealth as do mortgages and bonds themselves, and these, under their present enormous overcapitalization, would swell our indebtedness to a probable total far in excess of the $110,000,000,000 estimated as the total aggregate wealth of the nation, the whole being a first lien upon the toil and property of the nation, with the power given to these corporations to levy what tax they please thereupon.

"These conditions are not normal nor the result of natural law or causation, but are instead the result of a monopoly of land and mineral resources, of money, of transportation, and other public utilities, as also of industry. This monopoly has, moreover, been brought about by means of the corporation—industrial, financial, and public service. It is thus the work of human law alone, the product of vicious institutions.

**Law Needed for Correction.**

"But if the conditions outlined are the result of unjust and vicious institutions, then to law must we look for their correction. The corporation should yet be be made co-operative; social, instead of, as now, the instrument of private greed. In the first place, the ownership of public utilities, such as railways, street railways, and the like, should be in the public, as also the control and distribution of money. The corporation principle and function should likewise be extended to mines, as also to land in cities and elsewhere required for joint use and occupancy, with, perhaps, a reasonable restriction upon nonoccupant ownership of land. And, finally, the trust, like public utilities, should be made co-operative in the workers; a public, not a private, possession.

"Moreover, in this taking charge of these properties by condemnation proceedings some restitution should be made to the public of these enormous and inquitous accumulations of which it has been despoiled. In the complex situation manifestly the most just as well as the most feasible solution would be to fix some maximum limit as the amount which any man can be said to have acquired honestly or which he could have acquired under just conditions—all above such limit reverting to the public from the holdings in the corporations. This would at one and the same time take the 'water' out of the stock of these corporations, restore to industrial society the wealth of which it has been defrauded and effectually prevent its further spoliation at the hands of concentrated wealth. It would conform our institutions to the present social co-operative nature of industrial society and inaugurate in the most practicable manner the one solution of our present social and industrial problem—practical, sicentific socialism."

### A BRACELET OF NUGGETS.

**Woman from Klondike Wears Evidence of Her Good Fortune.**

From the New York Tribune.

Wearing a bracelet composed of large gold nuggets, said to be from her own mines, one-half the feminine population of White Horse, in the Klondike, landed in Boston on Thursday for a brief sample of beans and culture. She is Miss Eva McDaniels, who is about twenty-four years old, and the cook of the leading hotel in White Horse. Three years ago Miss McDaniels took it into her head to seek her fortune in Alaska. Braving snow, ice, cold, and the terrors of a tin-can diet she settled in that frozen land, securing claims which last year, she said, netted her $78,000.

White Horse comes as near being the place where gold may be picked up in the streets as any spot this side of Jerusalem the Golden. Carpenters get $7.50 a day there and cooks $150 a month. In general, the wages paid in White Horse are enough to turn the heads of New York artisans and tradesmen with jealousy. One of the most desirable posts in the whole outfit is that of waitress. It isn't always that White Horse can secure a real feminine waitress. When it does it is willing to pay $15 a day for the privilege and the honor. Whenever the feminine population rises to three White Horse gives a ball—out of sheer excitement at its own hilarious, undeserved good fortune—and the miners draw lots at dancing with the girls and wearing the communal boiled shirt.

Miss McDaniels expects to start for her far-off home on February 1. This means that she will make the hard part of her return trip, including a journey of 100 miles over the ice, during the most rigorous portion of the Northern winter.

**Rome's Misfortune.**

From the Houston Post.

The Washington Herald declares that Marc Antony was one of the greatest of grafters, but the discovery is made too late to do Rome any good.

### GOLFING WITH WORKMEN.

**John D. Rockefeller Levels Social Barriers on the Links.**

From the New York World.

Playing golf with his Italian laborers at Pocantico Hills is the latest phase of John D. Rockefeller's determination to prove himself a man of the people. The Standard Oil king made no flourish when he leveled all social barriers on his golf course. Neighbors only know that one day when they walked across his links they found Mr. Rockefeller driving and lofting with his old vim, while a swarthy son of Sicily stood, club in hand, awaiting his turn to whack a ball. The master of the estate was arrayed in golf clothes, but his antagonist appeared in all the democracy of his overalls.

From that day it was a frequent occurrence to see Mr. Rockefeller engaged in a twosome, a threesome, or even a foursome with his laborers. He has given up playing the lonesome. The neighbors, much puzzled by the situation, conducted a discreet investigation. They learned that it all came about through Mr. Rockefeller's wish to give his caddy boys a chance to attend school. He told them one morning that they could go to the village with their books and never mind the links. But he had no idea of giving up his golf.

Instead of the boys he called one of the laborers to act as caddy, and from that point it was an easy step to asking him to take part in the game. The Italian enjoyed the sport so much and quickly gained such skill that Mr. Rockefeller invited some of his fellows to play, and they did so with a will.

# PROFIT IN THE MUSHROOM

## New Orleans Man Has Developed a Productive Industry.

**Restaurants Take His Entire Product at 75 Cents a Pound—How the Fungus Is Grown.**

From the New Orleans Picayune.

Mushrooms are now being grown in this city in quantities, and the leading hotels and French restaurants are being supplied from the local farm, the product of which is said to equal if not surpass in richness and flavor anything of this species in the whole country.

Aug. C. Freitag is the father of this industry in New Orleans. He takes a personal pride in the work. He started out largely as a matter of curiosity. Then he grew a few mushrooms in boxes and jars for his own table, and acquired such skill that some of the famous French caterers of the city urged him to grow the plant for the market. Last year he had a mushroom farm of 175 square feet. That sounds small for a farm, but farm it was. This year Mr. Freitag has extended the scope of his industry, and already has 900 square feet of mushrooms under cultivation. Next season, if all goes well, he hopes to have three or four times that amount.

A fair yield is one pound to a square foot. The quoted price paid for these delicacies by hotels and restaurants in New Orleans is 75 cents per pound. If sold at private sale and in choice lots the prouuct brings $1 and sometimes $1.50 per pound. In Chicago the quoted price in the market is $1 per pound.

There is something in the local climate that suits the mushroom for its proper maturity. Cellars are the places to grow them. The plant requires a damp, dark place, with a stationary temperature around 50 to 60 degrees. The place must be kept damp and not allowed to dry.

"I started last year as a pure experiment," said A. C. Freitag, founder of the industry. "The experiment was a success, so far as the growing and marketing were concerned. The product met ready sale here. People became interested, especially the French restaurants, and they wanted more than I could possibly produce with my limited facilities. This season I determined to widen out, and I have about 900 square feet under cultivation, but I am not thoroughly equipped as yet for the industry. The basement I am using is exposed on three sides, which permits of too rapid changes in the temperature, and it does not retain moisture as it should.

"Fresh cultivated mushrooms, gathered daily during the season, say December 1 to May 1, as the beds produce, is a luxury the public of New Orleans does not fully appreciate. We have been in the habit of eating canned mushrooms, or those wild specimens gathered by irresponsible persons, in many instances, and found for sale on market stalls. For the sake of safety these specimens should be rejected unless the buyer is able to judge between the edible and the unwholesome. In order to be perfectly safe, one should rely only on mushrooms grown at home and grown under careful supervision. Then you know they are all right and that they are wholesome. The mushrooms we are growing here in New Orleans are the choicest edible species, i. e., Agaricus campestris."

Mr. Freitag prepares the mushroom spawn, from which the mushrooms are grown. This is largely a laboratory process, in which the greatest care is required. It is a tissue culture.

### YAWCOB STRAUSS TWENTY YEARS AFTER.

Maybe dot you don'd rememper
  Eighdeen—dwendy years ago,
How I dold abeudt mine Yawcob—
  Dot young rashkell, don'd you know,
Who got schickenbox und measles;
  Filled mine bipe mit Limburg scheeze;
Cut mine cane up indo dhrum-schticks,
  Und blay all sooch dricks as dhese.

Vell! dhose times dhey vas been ofer,
  Und dot sen of mine, py shings!
Now vas taller as hees fader,
  Und vas oup to all sooch dhings
Like shimmastic dricks und pasepall;
  Und der oder day he say
Dot he boxes mit "adthledics,"
  Somevheres ofer on Back Bay.

Times vas decferent, now, I dold you,
  As vhen he vas been a lad;
Dhen Katrine she make hees drowsers
  Vrom der oldt vones off hees dad;
Dhey vas cut so full und baggy
  Dot id dook more as a fool
To find oudt eef he vas going,
  Or vas coming home vrom school.

Now, dhere vas no making ofer
  Off mine clothes to make a suit
For dot poy—der times vas schanged;
  "Der leg vas on the oder boot!"
For vhen hees drowsers dhey gets dhin,
  Und sort off "schlazy" roundt der knee
Dot Mrs. Strauss she dake der scceissors
  Und she cuts dhem down for me.

Shust der oder day dot Yawcop
  Gife me von elecdric schock,
Vhen he says he vants fife hundord
  To invesht in railroadt schtock.
Dhen I dell him id vas beddher
  Dot he leaf der schtocks alone,
Or some feller dot vas schmardter
  Dake der meat und leaf der bone.

Und vhen I vas got oxcited,
  Und say he get "schwiped" und fooled,
Dhen he say he haf a "pointer"
  Vrom soom friendts off Sage und Gould;
Und dot he vas on "rock bottom;"
  Had der "inside track" on "Atch"—
Dot vas too mooch for hees fader,
  Und I coom oup to der scratch.

Dhen in bolitics he dabbles,
  Und all qvesdions, great und schmall,
Make no decferent to dot Yawcob—
  For dot poy he knows id all.
Und he say dot dhose oldt fogies
  Must be laid oup on der shelf,
Und der governors und mayors
  Should pe young men—like himself.

Vell! I vish I vas dransberted
  To dhose days off long ago,
Vhen dot schafer beat der milk-ban,
  Und schkydoodled droo der schnow.
I could schtand the mumbs und measles,
  Und der ruchshuns in der house;
Budt mine presendt dribulations
  Vas too mooch for Meester Strauss.
—Charles Follen Adams, in Boston Herald.

# ABOLISH EXECUTIONS

## Warden Harris Is Opposed to Capital Punishment.

### FAVORS LIFE IMPRISONMENT

**Suggests That Convicts Be Employed in Building Good Roads from One City to Another—There Should Be Legislation by States and General Government—Relief to Taxpayers.**

The warden of the most famous prison in the United States would be greatly gratified if a State or Federal law was passed abolishing capital punishment.

Capt. James H. Harris, who advises this action, has for nearly ten years been warden of the District of Columbia jail.

The District of Columbia jail, where Capt. Harris exercises, with recognized ability, the authority of chief executive and executioner, is a veritable bastile on the banks of the Potomac. It is a grim old structure wherein have been recorded some of the saddest pages of American history. It was within this prison that Charles J. Guiteau was confined after the murder of President Garfield, and in one of the narrow area ways of the institution still stands the gallows from which Guiteau expiated his crime.

From this same gallows, Capt. Harris, since he has been warden, has hanged fourteen men, and every time he sprung the trap that sent a soul into eternity, he has felt that society, by taking a human life, has committed a crime almost as great as that committed by the murderer.

**Executions Degrade Society.**

Capt. Harris has made a careful study of the effect of capital punishment, and he declares that executions not only degrade society, but invariably foster crime. He regards capital punishment as a revolting relic of barbarism and a discouraging reminder that Christianity has not yet triumphed over the savage instincts of men.

He would be pleased if his own State of Indiana would start a movement that might become national in scope, having for its purpose the relegation of all forms of capital punishment. In an interview yesterday he said:

**No Tendency to Lessen Crime.**

"My experience teaches me that capital punishment has no tendency whatever to lessen crime. To my mind, it has exactly the opposite effect. Only a few days ago, Mrs. Bradley shot and killed ex-Senator Arthur Brown, of Utah, in this city. Since that time three other murders have been committed in this community. The fear of the gallows has no restraining influence over the man who is bent on doing murder.

"I fail to see how any one who has seriously investigated the subject can fail to reach the conclusion that when we resort to capital punishment, which means to take a life by physical force, we necessarily demoralize the finer sensibilities of men, and when we have done that, we have certainly laid the foundation for an undesirable moral status in the community.

"Everything connected with capital punishment is revolting. Its effect is to pollute and debase society. We are taught to believe that the law of 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth' has become obsolete. I believe that the law of the new dispensation should be accepted by our governmental authorities, and that the proper safeguards should be framed into the statutes by our legislatures so that it would not be found necessary or expedient to undertake to cure one crime by the commission of another.

**Other Means of Punishment.**

"To my mind there is a narrow margin between the taking of a life without law and taking it by an edict of law. I think that other means of punishment could easily be resorted to, so that the moral effect would be greater and more lasting. Is there anything in the Christian idea of love for our fellow-man? If so, cannot we restrain our fellow-man without killing him? Shall we not consider that which is beneficial to him?

"I have now ten murderers in jail. Looking them all over and studying as best I can the causes of the crimes—admitting always that strong drink enters largely into the causes of murder—I am forced to the conclusion that a general immoral status exists in the community, and I haven't the slightest doubt that capital punishment has much to do with bringing about that immoral tendency that seems to pervade the atmosphere in which we live."

"What form of punishment would you substitute for death in a case of willful murder?" Capt. Harris was asked.

**May Be Taught to Become Better.**

"There is no doubt," said he, "that an individual may so conduct himself that he will have forfeited his right to dwell in open society. In that case the individual should be placed where society will not come in contact with him as an individual or with his influence in any respect. At the same time the criminal may be taught to become a better man, and since society may have been largely responsible for his failure in life, could society do less than to strive to make him what he should be?

"I would recommend as a substitute for the death penalty life imprisonment at hard labor, and I have a very decided opinion as to what that labor should be. I believe that all prison labor should be directed to building good roads, great thoroughfares from one large city to another, all over the country. Our army engineers in time of peace should be employed in performing the engineering work of laying off these great thoroughfares. Temporary movable prisons should be established, and the prisoners should be put to work building the roads.

**Give Prisoners Work.**

"I think that there should be legislation by the State and the general government on the subject; that the government should make appropriations with which to buy such implements and furnish such materials as would be necessary, the States to supply such prisoners as they may have to work on these highways under proper restrictions of law.

"Nothing could be further from right than to hold men in prison without giving them labor to perform, and any sort of manufacturing where the products of prison labor are to be placed upon the market is certain to be detrimental to what is termed honest labor, because prison-made products can be put on the market much cheaper than those made by honest men who want to provide for their families in a reasonable way.

"Certainly no laboring man would object to prisoners building good roads, because all would be benefited alike in the possession of good roads in the country.

**Would Relieve Taxpayers.**

"In the absence of co-operation between the government and the States, one State could begin the work of constructing roads with prison labor and accomplish a great deal along these lines. Ultimately the plan I have suggested would relieve the taxpayers very much, because the people are now taxed a very considerable amount for road purposes, and every mile of good roads built by prison labor would relieve the taxpayer that much."

Capt. Harris says that he has noticed that whenever an execution is to take place at the jail there seems to be a morbid desire to witness it. On one occasion there were over 500 applications for this prpivilege. The warden, however, has steadfastly refused to permit any other witnesses than the twelve persons which the law directs shall be present.

"I am convinced," said he, "that if full liberty were permitted, this morbid tendency would grow until thousands would wish to be present."

### SHOPPING FOR THE FARM.

**Different Now from When Whole Family Piled into Wagon.**

From the Emporia Gazette.

The other morning a farmer's wife drove a spring wagon to town full of poultry, butter, and eggs; she came to do Thanksgiving shopping. She drove her rig into the livery stable, took her produce to the commission house, sold it, got the money, went over to a restaurant, bought a hot dinner of soup, roast beef, mashed potatoes, peas, a little lettuce, and some apple pie, bought her provender, loaded up the wagon and was home in time to help with the supper.

Thirty years ago when there was any marketing to do the whole family came to town.

It was a big day. Father hitched up the wagon, he and the hired man sat in front, mother and the big girls sat in the chairs, and the boys and girls were stowed away in the hay and blankets behind. When they got to town father and mother and the big girls and the hired man went around to the stores and the children played around the wagon, in deadly terror of the bad town boys.

Father did the selling; father took the money; father bought the groceries and bossed mother and the girls when they bought dry goods. Mother sat around the grocery and dry goods store until noon, and then the whole family assembled around the wagon and opened the lunch basket.

The soda biscuit containing a slab of cold bacon and the mince pie and the chunks of corned beef were passed around. Finally after the dog and the town dogs had fought it out and the boys and the town boys had got to "clodding" one another and father and the hired man had finished talking politics over at the "sample room," the horses were hitched up and about 4 o'clock the outfit pulled out for the farm.

Times have changed. To-day the farmer is less dependent upon himself. He buys more and sells more. It takes more money and less truck to do him. He is more dependent upon his neighbors. But he has an easier time. Civilization has done a lot for him—but it should, for he makes civilization.

# WE OWN BILLION IN DIAMONDS

## Enormous Investment by Americans in the Precious Stone.

**Only the Larger Sizes Cut and Polished in This Country—Growth of Importations.**

More than $43,000,000 was paid for diamonds and other precious stones imported at New York during last year, as shown by figures complied by the customs authorities. This exceeds 1905 by $6,000,000. In 1900 the valuation was about one-quarter of what it was last year, says the New York Sun.

Since 1868, when the first gem was exported from the Cape of Good Hope, the United States has paid, according to figures just compiled, about $325,000,000 for diamonds, and this is one-half of the amount of cash which South Africa has obtained for its entire product of precious stones sold to all parts of the world. The figures represent what the importers pay, and, according to authorities in the trade, the public pays twice as much.

Taking into account that the value of diamonds has been going up steadily, being now about 200 per cent higher than eight years ago, some dealers say that the gems brought into this country from South Africa in these thirty-eight years must now be worth more than $1,000,000,000. Nearly all the gems are in existence, as the percentage of loss is so small as to be unimportant.

That the diamond-cutting industry in New York is growing is shown by the gains in the importation of rough stones, the valuation this year being about $11,000,000, the greatest since cutters and polishers from Antwerp and Amsterdam were brought to New York to establish the business. Although the rough stones have been made into brilliants in New York for more than a quarter of a century, there was none of the present large factories ten years ago. Of the imports of rough stones, about 98 per cent are diamonds. What proportion in weight of diamonds brought into the United States is cut and polished here is not made known in the statistics, as the government gives only values. An officer of the Diamond Manufacturers' Association said recently that New York cuts as much of the best grades of rough stones as all the rest of the world, and the finished gems turned out in this city in the larger sizes are of a higher average quality than those manufactured in any other city.

While Amsterdam and Antwerp have about 12,000 people employed in the diamond factories, they cut a smaller quantity of fine, large diamonds, the importers say, than is cut by the New York factories, employing less than 500 men.

More than 80 per cent of the diamonds cut in New York are a carat or more in weight, and rarely is a stone weighing less than three-quarters of a carat in the rough cut here.

In the European cities much smaller sizes are made, as many as sixty stones being cut from a carat in the rough. As the entire stone is scarcely as large as a small pea, and each sixtieth part receives fifty-six perfect facets, the strain on the eyes of the workers sometimes brings on blindness. That is the reason why the workmen in New York will not cut and polish stones of the small sizes called melee.

While American workmen will not give their attention to the tiny gems, cutters and polishers in the European cities are trained to turn out the smallest sizes for the American market, and these men command the highest wages paid in the foreign factories.

Diamonds in brown shades and with various imperfections are cut and sold in Europe. American importers say that the public in the United States has been educated to take only the clearest and most perfect crystals, while a large quantity of stones that could not be sold here because of imperfections are salable in Russia and Turkey. The dealers say that the United States pays as much money for its diamonds as all the other countries together, but insists on getting the choice part of the product.

**Histrionic.**

From the Philadelphia Ledger.

There was on the stage a realistic scene in which a surgical operation was apparently performed.

"Hold on!" cried a voice from the audience. "Aren't you going to give us some of that chloroform?"

Of course the management was displeased, but there is a point at which realism palls.

# SAYS IT DOESN'T MOVE

## Irishman Thinks Earth Has Solid Foundation.

### EXPLOITS SOME FREAK IDEAS

**Having Plenty of Money He Started a Magazine to Advocate Scientific Notions Opposed to Commonly Accepted Facts—Making Money by Poking Fun at Astronomy.**

Correspondence of The Washington Herald.

London, Dec. 29.—Ireland has furnished a most interesting recruit to the list of those who reject the commonly accepted scientific theories about the motion of the earth and other momentous matter. Matthew K. Ryan is his name. Mr. Ryan believes that the earth rests on solid foundations, and that instead of revolving around the sun, the sun revolves around it. Two years ago Ryan was a comparatively unknown Tipperary farmer. To-day he is a rich London editor, and a much talked of man with a magazine of his own, in which he assails popular scientific theories that are accepted as gospel truths by the man in the street.

When he first set his novel ideas on paper they appeared so startling that editors refused to publish them. So when Mr. Ryan unexpectedly inherited a fortune he abandoned farming and started publishing his own paper, in which, of course, he has full scope to do and say what he pleases. His periodical, Civil Engineering, while a bare six months old, is already a financial success and one of the most frequently quoted papers in England.

His first article was on the question, "Does the Earth Revolve?" Following up his contention that it does not, but rests on a solid foundation, he remarked that the first discoverer of the north or south poles may be also the discoverer of new hemispheres. Each month he springs a new question as remarkable and sensational as the first.

**Thinks Earth Doesn't Revolve.**

This month Ryan publishes an article in which he undertakes to refute one of the proofs put forward by scientists that the earth revolves. He says:

"M. Foucault's pendulum suspended from a high building made circles in sand placed on a table, and this was supposed to be caused by the revolutions of the earth. But if the earth did revolve, did not the table and the building revolve with it?

"Our position with regard to signs of the zodiac is said to be constantly changing, but is it not much more probable that the solar system moves, while we are stationary? Some well-known astronomers do hold that the sun has a relative motion to the earth.

"If the earth does revolve there must be some force to produce that motion. It cannot be the force of gravity, for that would be a vertical and not a centrifugal motion. The force of gravity outside the earth would also be greater than the force of gravity inside the earth, and we are told that gravity holds us on the earth. Astronomers also appear to forget that if the earth is revolving at the rate of 540 yards a second that the tangential force would be much greater than the force of gravity, and we would be thrown into space at once. The atmosphere is also said to be revolving with the earth, but does not the wind blow in all directions? If there is anything more certain than another, it is that if this earth revolves, the proofs that have been put forward by astronomers are not conclusive."

Another article of Ryan's which recently caused a sensation was on the millennium. Mr. Ryan declares it is a fallacy for clergymen to preach that the world will be destroyed by fire. He claims that the New Testament statement refers to the destruction of Jerusalem and Jewish polity.

The final destruction of the earth will come, he thinks, from a Titanic earthquake or a series of seismic vibrations. The Pacific Ocean, he says, is sinking—there has lately been a subsidence over an area of 6,000 square miles—and water is percolating through to the volcanoes in the bowels of the earth. The earth's crust is thinning rapidly. To show the intensity of the pressure, it is estimated that the contraction of the earth by one millimeter—one twenty-fifth of an inch—would cause 500 earthquakes.

**Proposes Railway Round the World.**

Another of Mr. Ryan's ideas is for a continuous railroad around the earth. He proposes a convocation of the world's powers and an international railway board. The two important straits to be tunneled are, of course, the Straits of Dover and Bering Strait. Since the publication of Mr. Ryan's article there has been much activity among the supporters of the Dover-Calais and the Bering Strait tunnel projects. Mr. Ryan suggests also that the Straits of Gibraltar be tunneled so that one could go from London to Capetown without changing Pullman cars. If the other tunnels are built, one will be able to journey in a through car from New York to London.

Many of Mr. Ryan's original ideas refer purely to local and British affairs, yet he makes one suggestion which any number of cities can use, if they will. He proposes that London lay a big pipe to the seacoast and pump pure sea water into the city with which to flush and cleanse the streets. He shows that the cost would be slight in comparison to the benefits accruing, as expressed by medical men, chemists, and sanitary engineers.

Mr. Ryan is a thorough Irishman. He was born in a historic manor house in Tipperary, the home of his family for 400 years. His father owned and farmed 8,000 acres of freehold land, situated in five counties. There were nine in the family. There is a lawyer, an engineer, two army officers, a naval officer, and three sisters who are married. Matthew Ryan is the Benjamin of the flock. His father wanted to make a farmer out of him, but when his schooling began he developed a fondness for science and particularly astronomy. His first tutor was the parish priest, a learned man and a great thinker. With his help Matthew Ryan wrote several articles on scientific questions, over which he and his father quarreled. His father threatened to disinherit him. Before the will could be changed, however, Mr. Ryan senior died, and Matthew Ryan found himself sole owner of the homestead and sharer of the big property with his brothers and sisters.

MAYNARD EVANS.

**Wages and Living in New Jersey.**

From the Philadelphia Ledger.

The annual report on wages and the cost of living in New Jersey, just submitted to Gov. Stokes by the chief of the State bureau of labor, shows that the increase in the cost of living is outrunning the increase in wages and the growth of industries. The difference is slight. Wages have increased 3.8 per cent and the increase in the cost of living is estimated at 4 per cent. It is declared that the cost of living in our neighboring State has been rising steadily during the last seven years, the addition averages 4.6 per cent a year. The estimates are based upon the retail prices of articles constituting the ordinary table supplies of families of average means. The average yearly earnings in 1906 were $483.49. In 1900 they were $434.02.