



### The Social Centers Will Stimulate Newspapers

Madison, Wis., Nov. 1.—“The free press is not free and the public school is not put to its largest usefulness and in some communities is in danger of the same halter which has hobbled the press,” said Livy S. Richards, editor of The Boston Commons, in an address before the national conference on social center developments.

Mr. Richards said that the sale of newspapers independence to business interests “is inevitable so long as newspaper readers let big advertisers carry three-fourth of the burden of supporting the newspapers while they themselves carry only one-fourth,” and that, such being the case, there

is no better assurance of honest public information on public questions than through the revival of our schoolhouses and other public forums of free and fearless discussion.

“The only possible remedy under existing commercial standards is for the reader to pay what it costs to make a free newspaper—and that means, at least for a time, restricted circulations and again the need of popular forums where information can be filtered and interchanged.

“I welcome the education of democracy that comes through free civic discussion in public places as a wholesome stimulant toward newspapers that can and will do larger and braver public service.

The newspaper derives its con-