

ART AND COMMERCIALISM

By WILLIAM ORDWAY PARTRIDGE,
The Sculptor.

WE HAVE never improved upon Bacon's definition of art as "man added to nature;" but with what kind of mar are we to deal in the addition?

I CANNOT EMPHASIZE TOO STRONGLY MY FAITH IN THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN ART, THOUGH AT THE MOMENT IT IS CONFRONTED BY THE DANGERS OF COMMERCIALISM. The artist responds to the demands of his time. He reflects inevitably the needs, the life of the people. What are the people's present demands?

Is not art with us just a question of the Dewey arch versus the "Flatiron" building? The beautiful arch in honor of the conqueror of Manila that for so short a time decorated Madison square, New York, was the best work of its kind that has been produced within a century. True, it was not wholly original. It borrowed from the Arch of Trajan, in the Roman forum; but to the classic model it added much, and in its proportions, its symmetry and its essential beauty it surpassed contemporary European work, just as the White City at Chicago surpassed what Berlin, Paris and other European capitals have done in exposition architecture.

Yet the Dewey arch is gone. Its fragile beauties were not made permanent, and in its stead, as we come down Fifth avenue, we are confronted by what seems the monstrous prow of a Roman galley, by the most hideous of modern sky-scrapers, the aptly nicknamed "Flatiron" building. It is a cruel shame that beautiful Madison square should be desecrated by one of the ugliest structures in existence, by a monster that violates every principle of architectural art, by a great, aggressive monument to commercialism.

Where shall the halt be called? Boston has passed an ordinance regulating the height of buildings; will other American cities follow suit, or will they leave themselves at the mercy of deformity and grotesqueness? Before we can have a real art the man that we add to nature must be a real man, a patriot, a whole-souled American, who knows that life to be worthy must be dominated by some other spirit from that of conquest and commercialism; it must be touched by an indwelling sense of the beautiful.

Our sociological students understand. They know that to cleanse the slums is not enough, nor to solve the tenement house problem. They are pleading always for grass and trees and fountains and statues in the squares. They are working always to bring beauty into the lives of the people.

The good God has made a beautiful world. It is for His children to enjoy that beauty, and to hold it sacred. THE ARTIST IS BUT THE INTERPRETER OF REALITY, OF THE PEOPLE'S LIFE. Shall not American life produce a worthier art by giving itself to the fulfillment of noble ideals?

Attempt to Bribe the Almighty

By REV. JOSEPHUS STEPHAN,
Pastor Mount Auburn Methodist Church, Indianapolis.



As the sin of bribery between man and man is as old as the race, and still, after thousands of centuries, is brazenly practiced, so the attempts to bribe the Almighty. Unregenerate and unsanctified human nature continues the vain effort. By a sort of superstitious belief in its virtue they attempt to do something; to perform good works; to invent or receive ceremonials and minor obligations because they are easier than true obedience and holiness of heart, and they tend to ease a perverted conscience.

They go farther and make costly gifts to God, forgetting that while charity is a blessed duty, with right motive, it is the height of spiritual and Scriptural ignorance to expect to get any nearer the approbation of the great white throne through our giving, however great and astonishing, without the inspiration of a penitent, obedient and trusting heart. This may be consistent with the darkness of a Pagan mind, or the error of the Middle Ages, when men thought, in their terror of God, to buy off his anger by bequeathing their possessions to charity or to the church.

Some have gone farther and given their bodies to suffer the most intense torture and suffering and deprivation. God-ordained pleasures and blessings of life have been surrendered; they have shut themselves up from the haunts of men and entered upon lives of self-torture, with the very identical principle involved in the suffering of the heathen, who, to appease their gods, have given their lives to the flowing stream, the molten furnace, the car of Juggernaut, or the blade of consecrated sword.

Whatever the form, however great the sacrifice, it can be nothing but an attempt to overreach God, to outwit him, unless there is a sincere desire to be perfectly obedient in giving up sin in our outward and inward life, through the virtue of the atonement. All outward observances and sacrifices, without that of the heart, are an abomination to God, and to all thoughtful men but the odious whiteness of the sepulcher.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN PROBLEM

By HON. W. L. SCRUGGS,
Ex-United States Minister to Venezuela.

WHILE the Monroe doctrine will be in no wise affected by the present Venezuelan affair, because there seems to be every prospect for a peaceable and satisfactory settlement, the issue will have to be faced sooner or later. The world is getting so populous that the settlement of these naturally rich South American countries cannot be longer delayed.

If European nations cannot acquire territory in South America, their subjects will nevertheless continue to go there. The result will be the United States will ultimately be called on to do one of two things—either they must abandon or greatly modify the Monroe doctrine, so that European nations can adequately protect their own subjects, or they must assume a sort of suzerainty over these South American republics and become responsible for their good behavior.

Neither dilemma is pleasant to contemplate. The first involves the abandonment of a long-cherished principle and the appearance in American waters of a great European navy, with naval and coaling stations among the West Indies, which would be a serious menace to our ownership and control of the Panama canal. The second proposition involves the construction of an immense navy of our own, the equipment of a large-standing army, and untold expense to compel our wards to keep peace and stop their periodical revolutions. This is what will confront us when the European nations finally come to demand that we either insure protection to life and property in the South American countries, or give them a free hand to do it.

Practical Politics

By WILLIAM H. HINRICHSEN

IV.—Taking a Poll.

THE next work to be taken up is that of taking a census of the voting district in which you live, or making a poll, as it is usually called.

If you have studied thoroughly the preceding lessons, you are well equipped for the work now before you.

A poll is not a mere list of voters, with the party label of each person opposite his name. To be of value to the student and to the organization it must contain practically a full description and history of each voter. No one must be omitted from the list, and the data must be accurate. A single error casts discredit on the poll and makes it almost valueless to the committee.

Taking a poll is regarded as the most important mechanical work of the campaign and should never be entrusted to any but the most reliable persons.

It is possible that the party organization may prefer not to trust the poll of the student, but no objection can be made to his taking it on his own account, and its accuracy can be tested by comparing it with that taken by the regular agent of the committee. If it proves to be all right, it will be used.

You should make careful preparations for taking this poll. Consult the chairman of your committee as to the data he requires and then make a note of every other item of information regarding each voter which you may think will be of any use to you or to the committee.

You should not use the ordinary book furnished by the committee for your field work, but procure a blank book, of a size to be conveniently carried in your pocket, in which to make your first notes, which may be neatly transcribed into the regular poll book.

This book should be large enough to give each voter a page instead of a line, as is customary. This page should contain at the top the name and number or location of the voter. Then should come his occupation, place of business, et cetera; then his politics, religion, nationality, former political affiliations and views on special issues in the campaign. All these, expressed by abbreviations, will take up another line. This will conform to the regular requirements of the committee, but you should not stop there.

You should fill the page assigned to each voter with all the information you can obtain concerning him, most of which can be expressed in abbreviations. The following data should be obtained: Married or single or widower; number of boys and ages; number of girls and ages; number at home; whereabouts of others; if married, to whom; politics of wife's family; relatives of wife or of the voter holding office or public contracts, full account; habits, age and financial condition; if tenant, who is landlord; if employee, who is employer; if employer, how many men. Is he against any one on his ticket? Is he a kicker? What newspaper does he read? Is he ambitious to hold office? Is he enthusiastic or indifferent? Was he a soldier? Does he draw a pension? Does he always vote? Does he ever split his ticket? Does any one control him? Whom does he influence in politics? To what secret societies does he belong? Has he hobbies? And many other things of the kind that will occur to the student in special cases should be noted.

Of course, in the case of a well known man, much of the above may be omitted, but in general it will be found convenient to have all such information regarding every one at hand.

Having prepared your book, you should personally visit every house. If you find no one at home or find no one who can give you the information you desire, note the fact and call again.

Be careful to get the name of every voter in each house and full information concerning him. Be particular to make such inquiries as will elicit the fact of his being a legal voter and make careful note of the fact. If the head of the family is at home, tell him your name and try to get well enough acquainted so that he will remember you, and you must prepare to remember him. Do the same with the members of his family and try to create a good impression upon all. You will, as a rule, find this easy to do.

If any voter living in the house is absent, call on him again or see him at his place of business. Be sure that you personally meet every voter and study his face, form and manner so that you can address him by name whenever you may meet him. Do the same, so far as it is possible, by the members of his family.

You will be asked many political questions, and your previous studies will enable you to answer them correctly and intelligently, and you should always do so.

Pick up, so far as you can, the tastes of his family, for you may be able to gratify them by sending them literature, seeds, etc., which you may be able to obtain. In short, make every effort to get well acquainted and on pleasant terms with every voter and the members of his family.

Make a special list as you go along of all aliens not naturalized, of all boys who will be voters within four years, of all men of the voting age who for any reason are not entitled to the franchise.

Do not attempt to visit too many houses in a day and go over your book

frequently so as to fix your information firmly in your mind.

Pay special attention to first voters and endeavor to interest them in the work you are doing. Secure their co-operation if possible.

Make no statements that are not absolutely true and make no promises you cannot fulfill.

While doing this work you may be able to do people small favors, and you should be on the lookout for such opportunities. Your territory may contain people of all conditions. For instance, a family may be looking for a servant, and you learn the fact. Another family may contain a young woman looking for a situation of this kind. It will prove easy to bring them together, and you will confer a favor on each.

A man may have a horse to sell. Another may wish to buy such an animal. You may learn of the desires of each and thus promote a trade, and so on.

Be careful while in this work to avoid all controversies, political or otherwise. Keep your objects in view and steer clear of neighborhood quarrels and factional feuds. Learn to suppress expressions that will give offense and, above all, practice patience and forbearance.

In some places you will meet with rebuffs and discourtesy, and no doubt some people will absolutely refuse to answer your questions. In such cases you will have to get your information from the neighbors, but this will not be necessary very often.

Correcting the Poll.

Having completed your poll, the next step is to revise, correct and transcribe it for use, and in doing this it will be well to put in practice some of the things you have learned so as to produce political results.

You have while making your poll become acquainted with several—perhaps a number of—young men of your own political faith who are interested in politics or in whom you may have succeeded in exciting an interest. Call them together, being sure to include all first voters. State frankly your objects and ask their co-operation. Show them the benefits that will accrue to the people, the party and to themselves, and if you have so far learned your lessons well and make a good presentation of facts you will find most of them ready to join you. You can, if you wish, form a regular organization or club. The advisability of this depends upon circumstances.

We will suppose that a dozen are willing to co-operate with you. The first thing to be done is to divide your precinct or district into as many parts as you have helpers, each division to include, if possible, the residence of a helper and to be known as his subdistrict.

He should be directed to make at once a poll, such as you have made, of his subdistrict. Each should be carefully instructed as to his work.

Suppose that the district contains 400 voters. This will give an average of about thirty-four to each subdistrict. The polls of these subdistricts will soon be completed, and they should be carefully compared with the poll you have made. Where they agree it may be taken for granted that they are correct. Where they fail to agree variations should be accounted for.

The poll should then be carefully copied in a book properly ruled for the purpose. No scrap of information should be omitted. A copy should also be made for the committee in the book furnished for the purpose.

It is as well to say at this point that the boundary lines of voting districts or precincts are sometimes changed, and this may occur between the time of completing the poll and election day. In such case you may have to revise your work.

Time of Taking the Poll.

A political party usually makes its poll at a certain fixed period, governed by the election laws of the state.

For instance, if the laws require a man to be a resident of the county ninety days before becoming a voter the poll is taken ninety days before the election, and if a thirty days' residence in the voting district or precinct is required the poll is corrected thirty days before the election.

When a student of politics takes a poll, as shown above, the date is of less importance, provided it be early enough. I would advise making it at least eight months before the election or even a year. It should, of course, be revised and corrected at the usual time of taking the poll.

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When the Tenderfoot Was "It."

"Several years ago I was down in the Indian Territory on a trip," said the dancing man, "and some of my friends got up a dance for me. I asked my most particular friend what I should wear. He informed me full dress. I went that way and was the only one at the dance with even a white shirt on and was the target for all the eyes in the hall. Naturally I felt very uncomfortable. The girls, however, were taken with me at once, and any one of them was mine for the asking. In fact, for a while I forgot there were any other men present. The cowboys stood around like a lot of 'has-beens.' I was 'it' for once in my life.

"Eight months later I made a return visit to this little town, eighty miles from a railroad, and happened to strike the place on the eve of a dance by a club that had been formed that season. I received an invitation from my friend and, remembering my previous experience, attended the dance in my traveling clothes. No dress suit again for Willie. To my surprise, when I emerged from the dressing room I found all the men in full dress, and a more evenly balanced lot of dressy fellows I never saw, all being dressed exactly alike. I was the only 'has-been' in the hall. I learned that the club had engaged a tailor to come in there and fix them all up correctly."—New York Commercial Advertiser.

PRESSING PROBLEMS IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

By JACOB GOULD SCHURMAN,
President of Cornell University



THE Philippine question is just now a very pressing question. The natives in those islands are in dire distress. Their cattle have been largely destroyed by rinderpest, and the islands have been visited by famine and pestilence. Added to all these things, THE ISLANDS HAVE LOST \$1,000,000 IN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS BECAUSE OF THE DECLINE IN SILVER AND THE FLUCTUATION IN THE RATE OF EXCHANGE.

There never would have been this financial distress had the islands been put upon a gold basis, as the financial expert of the war department, Mr. Conant, recommended and as the present Philippine commission favored.

THAT THE ISLANDS WERE NOT PUT ON A GOLD BASIS IS DUE ENTIRELY TO THE NEGLIGENCE AND INACTIVITY OF THE CONGRESS. THE FINANCIAL DISTRESS IN THOSE ISLANDS IS DUE ENTIRELY TO THE PALPABLE POLTROONERY AND COWARDICE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN CONGRESS.

The failure of congress to establish the gold standard has cost the Philippine government over \$1,000,000 in the meanwhile in consequence of declines in the value of silver. And this loss must be borne by the Filipino taxpayers, who have also, of course, suffered in the aggregate much heavier personal losses from the same cause. Congress set up against the Filipinos a 75 per cent Dingley tariff. And now Vice Governor Wright declares that the Filipinos see in our government attitude and conduct evidence of commercial exploitation alone.

We have undertaken to establish a system of public schools there, and that is well. We have sent to the islands capable and well paid teachers, but our government has insisted upon one language in the schools.

TO INSIST UPON ONE LANGUAGE IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS IS A CRIME AGAINST NATURE AND IN DEFIANCE OF HISTORY.

Take an American town of 6,000 or 8,000 people, give all the educational work in it into the charge of one Spaniard, have everything in the secondary schools except in the elementary and lowest grades given in the Spanish language, and how much would the children learn, and how could they and the community as a whole relish this wonderful method of education? Well, SUBSTITUTE AN ACTIVE AMERICAN TEACHER FOR THAT HYPOTHETICAL SPANIARD. AND THIS IS WHAT WE ARE DOING IN THE PHILIPPINES.

WOMAN CAN GET HER VOTER IF SHE CAN'T GET HER VOTE

By JOSEPHINE DODGE DASKAM, Author

THE women who are most valiantly anxious to get their rights seem to forget that the party of the first party—by that I mean our brother—is today right where he was in the beginning. He has the same number of advantages he always had. The woman of today has all these and about 753 more, and yet her shoulders are no broader and her back is no stronger than it ever was. The girl of the future will be obliged to choose between her present privileges and her rights. IF THIS EVOLUTION CONTINUES, I SHOULD ADVISE A YOUNG GIRL WHO ASKED ME WHAT TO CHOOSE TO HANG ON TO HER PRIVILEGES AND LET HER RIGHTS GO.

IF YOU CANNOT IN THIS GENERATION GET YOUR VOTE, YOU ALWAYS CAN GET YOUR VOTER.

Women have always influenced men, and I don't see but what that's just as good.

I think there is a great deal of unnecessary twaddle these days about the increasing strenuousness of the young girl. I don't think she has changed so much. I don't think these little fads of the modern girl and modern woman, such as physical culture or vegetarianism or Greek grammar, to which she must devote at least a morning a week, have changed the woman underneath. She has no more mind. She may use her mind a little differently, but it's the same old mind.

There are two things which women must always have had since the creation to be successful, and those two things are the same in the faroff islands of the Pacific and in the high school in Massachusetts.

A WOMAN TO BE SUCCESSFUL MUST BE GOOD AND SHE MUST BE CHARMING.

You may think of her charm as her parliamentary ability, her oratorical power or her excellent canning of peaches, but it must be there. And if she is not good the world can't progress. There may be something interesting in the bad woman, but she can't perpetuate nations, and, after all, that was the main purpose of our creation, I think. If a woman is good and nothing else, she will be as dull as anything the world ever made, but if she can be good and charming her heritage and posterity can ask absolutely nothing better.

Publicity and the Watering of Stock

By MARTIN A. KNAPP, Chairman Interstate Commerce Commission

I VENTURE TO DOUBT THE SOUNDNESS OF THE ARGUMENT THAT PUBLICITY WILL PREVENT STOCK WATERING.

Leaving out the speculator and taking into account only those seeking honest investment, ten times more money has been sunk in farm mortgages, suburban lots, patent rights, buying and selling grain, cotton and other commodities where no corporate shares were dealt in or even existed than was ever lost on account of the fictitious or excessive issue of corporate securities.