A PAGE OF NEWS FROM LANDS ACROSS THE SEAS

NEWS AND GOSSIP OF LONDON TOWN

Evan Roberts, Exhorter, Is a Changed Man — Coal Miners in Parliament—The Countess of Stratford's Dance—The Tweeddale Function

Special Foreign Service

LONDON, April 8.—The followers of Evan Roberts, the Welsh revivalist, are concerned at the strange change that has come over his disposition since his week of retirement and silence. He is no longer the exurbent young man who made the buildings in which he spoke ring with laughter. His nights and days or prayer and introspection have aged him greatly and changed his brightness into something approaching asceticism, and his addresses are now marked by strange outbursts of feverish excitement. One of the most extraordinary incidents of his mission occurred this week at Blaenarnerch, in Carmarthenshire, which place he suddenly and unexpectedly decided to visit after resting for a period at his home at Loughor. At the commencement of the service he accused a youth in the gallery of mockery, and then broke down in agonizing sobbing. Three boys thereupon rose and "confessed," but the missioner declared that the mocker was not one of the three. Later another strange incident occurred. "The missioner's soul," to quote my observer, "seemed steeped in agony," because he said a man in the chapel was denying the divine inspiration of the bible. Nobody rose to confess, and after an interval of the greatest tension Mr. Roberts leaped up, saying: "God has revealed the name and the age of the man. He is aged 23. Oh, Lord, forgive." A few minutes later the evangelist smiled joyfully, for, he said, the man had changed his views and there was no need for him to confess publicly. Mr. Roberts, after speaking briefly against the sin of skepticism startled his hearers by declaring that there was a man present who had committed sacrilege. This created a painful sensation, which was brought to an end by the missioner saying that the man must make three-fold restitution and confess to his church. Later he threw out a challenge to one who, he said, doubted the revelation of God in the scriptures. If the scriptures were false, then might he (the missioner) be removed; if true, then might the doubter suffer removal. Nothing of miraculous nature happened, but the evangelist, who by this time had worked himself up into a state of great excitement, concluded a memorable service by predicting terrible times which the people would understand a month hence. The Rev. Tudor Jones, Unitarian minister at Swansea, discussing the nature of Mr. Roberts' recent utterances, in an interview said: "I cannot find that these fits of Mr. Evan Roberts have taught him any of the virtues found in the gospel. I think that the supernatural pretensions which the past few weeks have revealed will do more harm to religion than any good the revival may have done."

Coal Mining M. Ps.

Vivid word pictures of life in the coal mine were given in the house of commons this week by members who have themselves wielded picks and pushed trolleys. They were asking parliament to fix an eight hour day for the pit boys under 18 years of age. Mr. Thomas Richards, who represents the late Sir William Harcourt's old constituency, supplied an impressionistic account of a boy's day in a Welsh colliery. He depicted him leaving his cottage home in the darkness of a winter's morning; he showed him brushing away with his cap the snow from the seat of the open railway truck that was to carry him to the pit brow, and then, one of, perhaps, a thousand other boys and men, walking, bent almost double, through the dark, noisome "roads" to the place of his labor. "There the poor lad reclines on his side, hour after hour, every stroke of his pick releasing a breath of noxious gas, every passing pony raising a cloud of brittle, stinging dust." It was Mr. Richards' maiden speech. The house listened to him with wrapt, silent interest. There is no glamor of eloquence or fine phraseology to titillate the ear. Mr. Richards had a story to tell, founded on actual experience, and he told it with a blunt directness and in homespun words that took the house captive. "You are doing well," once cried an enthusiastic member, as Mr. Richards faltered in the grip of nervousness which he quaintly asked the house to excuse. It was with a feeling akin to relief that the house seized an opportunity to laugh at a story related by the miners' member.

On one occasion he occupied a seat in the strangers' gallery when a unionist member described the collier's life as "rather enviable." Mr. Richards asked a miner who accompanied him what he thought of that description and the attitude of the house. "It was the most profane silence I ever listened to," was the reply. Much was made by all the miners' representatives of physical deterioration caused by working under ground. Unfortunately for the strength of their case, the members who themselves thus worked in their early days are acknowledged to possess the sturdiest frames in the chamber. Indeed, Hon. T. H. Cochrane, representing the home office, quoted statistics showing that the health of the miners was above the average in other arduous occupations. The bill providing for an eight hour day in the case of pit boys was read a second time.

Countess of Stratford's Dance

Cora, countess of Stratford's dance on Wednesday night was the last one she will give at 46 Grosvenor street, for her tenancy expires in another ten days. It was a great success. The two drawing rooms were thrown into one for dancing. There were very few decorations beyond some ferns and flowering plants, but on the supper tables there was a novel arrangement of daffodils. The hostess, in a silvery net and lace dress, wore a few diamond ornaments, and Miss Colgate, her daughter, was in pale blue. Mrs. Harry Lawson, in black, brought Miss Lawson, in plain colored chiffon. Mrs. Moreton Frewen chaperoned Miss Post and Miss Frewen, who looked especially well in black. Among the prettiest girls were Miss Hwfa Williams, in a silver sequined dress; Miss Padelford in pink, and the Hon. Diana Sturt in black. The duchess of Montrose brought her daughters, and Miss Murray came with the duchess of Somerset. Lady Monson, in a sparkling dress of silver threads; Lady Hindlip in black with a lace cape; Lady Vivian, and Miss Marshall Roberts were among the young married women, while the men included the earl of Shrewsbury, Viscount Archeson, Viscount Royston, Sir Robert Filmer, Mr. Cecil Banbury, Mr. John Churchill and Mr. Craig Wadsworth. The countess of Stratford is a native of New Orleans, La.

The duke of Marlborough is becoming very popular as a presiding officer over public meetings and has acted in that capacity on no less than ten occasions during the past fortnight. The duchess rarely accompanies her husband on these occasions. In fact she is not going out very much just now. The duke made rather a new departure this week in presiding over a meeting of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, when the work of the emigration branch of the society was under consideration. Among those present were Lord Aberdeen, Lord Bnassey, the bishop of Nashnoland, Sir T. Fowell Burton, the bishop of Bangor, Mr. David Howard, the Rev. J. Bridger, and Sir B. Noel Walker. The methods of the society in their work of spiritual ministration to emigrants are three. Ocean liners are visited at the ports of departure; chaplains are provided during the voyage, and the society has chaplains at the ports of arrival and at the leading towns in the colonies and elsewhere. The society also has a ladies' emigration committee, which specially concerns itself with providing matrons for and otherwise endeavoring to further the society and comfort of women and girls. During the year 1903-4 at Liverpool and Southampton alone over 600 liners were visited before sailing and similar work was done at Londonderry, Glasgow, Greenock, Plymouth and other ports. In the same year 119 liners took S. P. C. K. chaplains for the whole voyage, and the society had 200 honorary chaplains at the principal ports and towns abroad willing to receive the welcome emigrants.

The duke of Marlborough in opening the proceedings said that in 1902 and 1903 28,000 individuals left Great Britain for South Africa, and the numbers that emigrated to Canada were 15,000 in 1902, 46,000 in 1903 and over 50,000 in 1904. On behalf of the colonial office, he said they recognized the good work that this society had done in the past, and as far as it lay in their power they were anxious to give it every aid and support. After Lord Aberdeen had addressed the meeting the bishop of Mashonaland said he would not only like to see a conference on the special care of emigrants, but a conference on the education of intending emigrants. Lord Brassey and Sir T. Fowell Buxton also spoke in support of the movement. The bishop of Stepney said that if it were worth while to send out emigrants it was necessary to send them out with as much equipment of moral force as they could command.

The Tweeddale Function

There was beautiful music at the concert given this week by Julia marchioness of Tweeddale, at her home on the Chelsea embankment. Maj. Evans Gordon and Lady Tweeddale entertained the lord chancellor and Lady Halsbury to dinner, when the party present to meet them were Hon. Edward and Lady Elizabeth Dawson, Hon. Evelyn and Lady Alice Ashley, Sir Francis and Lady Gertrude Astley-Corbett, Lady Newton, Mrs. Walrond, Capt. Hon. A. and Mrs. Somerset and Col. and Mrs. Stewart McKenzie, Hon. Philip Stanhope and Countess Tolstoy, Sir Edward Ward, the countess of Cromartie and the marquis and marchioness of Ailsa were among those who attended the concert.

Entertainer Is Converted

A strange incident occurred at the St. George hall ballad concert Wednesday evening. According to the programme, an entertainer named Quentin Ashlyn was prevented from performing owing to "indisposition." Mr. Ashlyn, however, stood up, and explained his "indisposition." Facing his audience, Mr. Ashlyn said: "Ladies and gentlemen, I am unable to give my usual entertainment; the fact is I have recently been converted to God at the Albert hall mission, and I feel that my life must be spent not in amusing people who are, many of them, on the road to hell, but in the service of the Savior who died for me." The proprietors of St. George hall have invited Mr. Ashlyn to conduct a gospel service there in the near future and he has consented to do so.

Please Omit Flowers

Dr. Diggle, the new bishop of Carlisle, speaking at Ulverston this week criticised the elaborate floral tributes which were paid to the dead in England. He had seen wreaths, he said, which cost hundreds of pounds, sent by people who were not near relatives. This the bishop considered unnecessary, and simply a "passion for custom." With regard to funeral expenses the bishop said that some poor people were so determined to show their devotion to the dead that they spent their last penny on funeral expenses. There was no need of leaden shells or massive coffins because God purposed that the body should return to the earth. He asked those assembled to try to take a Christian view of life and not to think of the dead, but of the eternal life beyond.

Make Scholars Two Handed

In the opinion of Sir William Richmond, who addressed a meeting at the Royal Statistical society this week on "Ambidexterity in Art," the use of both hands should be taught in the schools. Sir Edward Landseer, said Sir William had been known to draw simultaneously the profile of a stag with one hand and the profile of a horse with the other. His was a case of abnormal talent, but the art could be acquired. The Spartan soldiers were taught to wield the sword with both hands, and he had seen many Japanese who could draw with equal facility with either hand. He had great hopes that the time was near when ambidexterity would be seriously cultivated.

BERLIN BUTCHERS HAVE POST OF HONOR

Special Foreign Service

BERLIN, April 8.—The guild of Berlin butchers have been granted the privilege of escorting the Duchess Cecilia of Mecklenburg-Schwerin—the future crown princess—to the imperial castle on her arrival at the capital three days before her wedding, which has been fixed for June 6. As long as the Hohenzollerns reign in Prussia, this privilege is the right of the guild, and on this ground the kaiser respected their claim to form the escort. The butchers will ride on horseback arrayed in dress suits, sik hats, white ties, white gloves and patent leather shoes.

WHY HE IS BLACK

Surgeon Major Woodruff Exploits the Negro

Special Foreign Service

LONDON, April 8.—Surgeon Major Charles Woodruff of the United States army has solved the interesting puzzle, "Why is the negro black?"

The answer, roughly summarized, is that his blackness is his defense against the dangers of the sun. The entire question is treated by Maj. Woodruff in an exhaustive treatise published by Messrs. Rebman, limited, under the title of "The Effects of Tropical Light on White Men."

Sun rays are divided into two classes—long and short. The latter are dangerous to all persons who are not defended from them; the former make for heat. To avoid both these dangers the pure negro has evolved a black skin and nocturnal habits. The defensive skin is an armor of pigment just under the outer skin. It varies in intensity and color from the coal black negro of the tropics to the white man of northern latitudes. The pigment is always there—just sufficient in strength to resist the danger in different climes. This accounts for the varying colors of different races—black, red, yellow, copper, and white. It is only absent in Albinos—a sign of degeneration, explains Maj. Woodruff.

An extreme illustration of the danger of rays is provided by radium. It is stated that a single pound of radium in a room would kill everyone present by the blasting force of its rays. The negro's nocturnal habits are rendered necessary by the conversion of dangerous sun rays into harmless but uncomfortable heat rays. This is how Maj. Woodruff states the facts of the case in this respect:

"The negro is really a nocturnal animal, like the other black animals of the tropics. Left to himself he behaves like the cat—inclined to sleep all day, hiding away somewhere, and becomes lively, energetic and active at night. In the southern states the plantation negroes can be heard all night long, prowling about, shouting, singing, courting and chicken stealing. Their dances, campmeetings and household habits are based on this nocturnal instinct to hide from the light even if they are better protected than we."

The negro's natural armor is only efficacious against natural heat. When exposed to artificial heat in a dark atmosphere the black skin ceases to throw off heat, and the negro suffers. In a stoke hole, for instance, he is usually the first man to collapse, even when white men are unaffected.

TEMPERANCE MOVE CALLS OUT BIG MEN

Special Foreign Service

LONDON, April 8.—A man casually entering the Egyptian hall of the Mansion house Thursday afternoon this week might have fancied himself at a big company meeting. Well known faces from the stock exchange, Lloyds, and Old Broadstreet, were in every row; insurance officers, gold mines and banks were represented in every corner; the president of the London chamber of commerce was on the platform with the lord mayor and city doctors and lawyers near him.

Yet the meeting was a temperance meeting, or rather a conference of business men summoned to discuss the question of "Alcohol in Relation to Commercial Inefficiency."

M. J. W. Benn, M. P., struck a new and clever note by asking his auditors how many genial, capable, promising men, each of them could write on a list who had come to grief through drink. He himself as a total abstainer for fifty-four years had some right to speak, but he did not mean to deliver a teetotal speech of the usual kind. He only pleaded for a reduction of drinking on the ground of commercial inefficiency. "More drinking, less thinking," was his motto.

Sir Victor Horsley, the speaker of the day, was very sedate and cautious in the presence of this apparently unfamiliar audience; but he soon found that there was a large and strong party of the more familiar teetotal enthusiasts to support and cheer his statements. He would not refer to "the degraded custom" by which a man takes a drink when he does business, but would address his remarks to the people who took a small quantity of alcohol with their meals under the impression that it was wholesome. Men found they could talk more if they drank wine at dinner, but what about talking better? And the excitement was always followed by depression. Little murmurs of dissent and surprise showed that several members of the audience, at any rate, were unfamiliar with Sir Victor's favorite theory.

Crown Prince and His Small Brother — The Bride to Be — Crown Prince in Uniform

Duchess Cecelie and the Kaiser's Eldest Son, Whose Marriage Is to Take Place in June After the Young Girl Is Given a Formal Entry Into Berlin

LADY EVELYN BARING

Daughter of the Earl of Shaftsbury and Wife of the English Banker, Who Is on Her Wedding Tour in America

KAISER FOR FRANCE

German Emperor Shows Good Feeling for Friend

Special Foreign Service

PARIS, April 8.—The news that the German emperor dined with the French ambassador at Berlin recently is to be regarded as evidence that relations between France and Germany have once more become normal, which they had not been for a long time past. It is, in fact, several years since the kaiser favored the French ambassador with his company at dinner, though he dines from time to time at the other embassies. There has long been a general soreness on the part of Germany towards France, which it is impossible to explain otherwise than as a consequence first of the Franco-Russian alliance, then of the rapprochement of France with Italy, and, last but not least, of the Anglo-French entente. So long as France found herself in the splendid isolation in which Prince Bismarck had succeeded in placing her, there was not much friction between Paris and Berlin. But as soon as France sought friends and was lucky enough to find them, Germany began to sulk with her, and has sulked ever since, with occasional outbursts of downright ill humor, surprising on the part of a power which professes to be one of the mainstays of the world's peace.

The temporary collapse of Russia's military and naval resources and her threatening financial difficulties have undoubtedly modified the balance of power in Europe, and it can only be considered as a good omen for the future if Germany should have acquired the conviction that after all her interests will be best served by cultivating amicable relations and cooperating as often as opportunity arises with France and her friends. For a long time to come Russia will be, if not a negligible quantity, at all events an infinitely less powerful factor than she has been in international politics, and Germany will have to shape her policy accordingly. If there really is to be an improvement in relations between France and Germany, there is every reason for the peace abiding states of Europe to rejoice.

POPE TAKES AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN WORLD

Special Foreign Service

ROME, April 8.—The present pope takes very active interest in politics, all reports to the contrary notwithstanding. Some time ago a remarkable circular issued by Cardinal Merry del Val on behalf of the pope to the Italian bishops for the purpose of suppressing the Christian democratic movement in Italy. This circular dissolved the greater part of the organization called the Opera del Congressi Cattolici, and required among other things, that the Catholic laity should, in political affairs, submit themselves to the absolute control of the bishop, who, subject to the judgment of the holy see, was to be "the sole and competent judge in all matters." Large numbers of the Christian democrats who refused to obey these instructions, seceded from the Opera del Congressi, and formed independent organizations free from clerical control. In spite of episcopal condemnations, these seceders have held their own, and they are now about to hold a congress at Bologna. Their courage and independence have led the pope himself to address an autograph letter to Cardinal Svampa, archbishop of Bologna, in which he explicitly condemns the Christian democratic organization, gives his personal authority to the terms of Cardinal Merry del Val's circular, and protests against statements that that circular did not express his own mind; and requests with emphasis that there can be no public action by Catholics otherwise than in immediate dependence on the bishop. This letter was published in the Osservatore Romano and in the Giornale d'Italia. The pope denounces as "rebels against the authority of the church" the independent Christian democrats "who show what they are by the fact that they defy all discipline in their desire for a misunderstood liberty and aspire to dangerous novelties which the church cannot approve." His holiness laments that "so many poor young men" have been led astray by those "who do not scruple to conduct them along a path that leads to ruin."

SOCIALISM TRIED IN AUSTRALIA

How It Works Out—Does It Pay—Experiments on a Broad Scale Do Not Give Conclusive or Satisfactory Results

SYDNEY, Australia, April 8.—Does socialism pay? Here, in this land you call antipodean, the Australians are trying to find an answer to that question by performing a variety of national experiments that are involving an expenditure of millions of money, a stupendous loss of human energy and enterprise, the laying idle of a huge fertile territory, and the destruction of some of their finest and most indigenous industries and enterprises, which now stand waiting in despair to be relieved of the incubus that has been laid upon them by a veritable network of legislative restrictions worthy, and only worthy, of the middle ages.

If these social, commercial and industrial experiments had never been tried and had never failed in the world's history, the Australian people might perhaps be justified in calling upon the civilized world not only to contribute toward the expense of trying them today, but also in asking the people of those countries that thus paid their shares to study with interest the results, in order that they, too, might profit by the lessons and be able to avoid the deplorable consequences that the work of the laboratory had revealed.

But it is all old, even ancient, matter—a veritable rehash, involving theories and nostrums that have been tried and exploded as far back as the time of Aristotle, and again revived, and again exploded in later days in the North American states by the colonies of disciples of Fourier, St. Simon, Lassalle and Karl Marx, who migrated from Europe to put into practice their Utopian theories; so that no one who can and will read for himself need contribute anything but pathetic laughter to so vain a series of experiments as those of the Australian people.

Australia is therefore carrying on all this experimental work in the very teeth of history and of the teachings of the present generation, in some cases even within or near her own territory.

Speaking generally, the Australian commonwealth, containing 4,000,000 of people—the same population as that of the United States at the time of its federation—is on the edge of a steep national declivity, which leads to the stagnant waters of a decaying socialism, and no one who offers a word of warning, be he ever so wise, can now make his voice heard above the din of self-sufficient exaltation with which each new proposal to regulate society is being received.

Political Experts Ignored

There are such things as national or political physicians—men who do not, as in the parallel case of an ordinary practitioner in medicine, take part in the daily struggles of local political life, but who stand off and take a sort of birdseye view of a country and its progress, making themselves acquainted with its constitution, its legislation, and its statistics, just as the great physician does with the general condition and mode of life of those who travel afar and pay a high fee to consult him.

Such men feel the pulse of a country or nation as if by instinct, and foretell its drift, and if the masses of the people in democratically governed countries could only be induced to listen and pay heed to the political diagnoses of such men the gradual decay of a nation, as in the case of Spain, might well have been arrested, or a revolutionary crisis in a country's history, as in the case of France, might have been averted.

We might name among examples from American history such men as Washington, Webster and Franklin, and from British history such men as Mill, Buckle and Herbert Spencer. All of these were above the suspicion of personal or political bias and could be trusted to diagnose a nation's condition in the sole interest of the political patient.

Now, Herbert Spencer has performed this high and valuable service for Australia; but his words, though frequently published, have never gained an attentive hearing, certainly not as much attention as would be paid to the utterance of a confidently fluent agitator who could phrase and give voice to impossible promises of what his hearers desired.

Four years ago Herbert Spencer wrote concerning Australia: "The wave of socialism is so high and so strong that nothing but bitter experience to be suffered hereafter will lead to sounder views and practices." The caution has fallen on deaf ears, and the socialistic movement goes on apace.

The Labor Party of Australia

The labor party of Australia is the taproot of the socialistic and communistic tree that has taken such firm root and grown into such far reaching proportions in the industrial and commercial life of the commonwealth.

Until three and a half years ago Australia consisted of six states, each absolutely independent of the others, with separate parliaments, debts, railway systems, land policies and national ideals. The great distances between the capitals in which the parliaments sat prevented the growth of any very strong federal feeling, for there was no "common trouble," such as the possibility of war, to bring them into close federal communication. In Australia the customs union was the chief attraction, for the different colonies had felt for years the loss and inconveniences of conflicting tariffs.

In each of the parliaments of the six states there has been a labor party for about ten years. The labor movement originated over what is locally known as the great shipping strike of 1890. Before that year separate representation was never spoken or thought of, but after that event, which centered in New South Wales, the leaders agitated for more direct representation of the "worker"—i. e., physical workers.

The result was that at the next general election of the colony named twenty-four or twenty-five representatives were returned to the popular house of parliament, out of a total of 125. This was the germ, for from this example and the supposed success which resulted the people of the other five colonies, or at least of four of them, sent a labor party into their respective parliaments. Today there is a labor party in every state, as well as in both the house of representatives and the senate of the federal or commonwealth parliament.

They were till recently a "third" party in all the legislatures of the states and the commonwealth, and their method was to sit compact on the "cross" benches, voting as a sort of military square, solid, and as the result of caucus—much in the way adopted by Parnell in the political management of the home rule party.

The labor party professed to exchange "support for concessions." They stood to the two regular parties of "ministerialists" and "oppositionists" as would a third person poised on the center of a see saw toward the occupants of the respective ends; and they quickly discovered that they need lean only slightly to one side or the other, as their policy dictated, to control the business of the house and obtain all they wanted from governments anxious to hold onto office. They, in fact, almost wholly dictated the ministerial programme. They realized, and used to the full, the fact that a transfer of a vote or number of votes from one side to the other means a doubling of voting power.

As a consequence of this method, the last ten years have witnessed the addition to the statute books of the Australian states of a multiplicity of measures of an unmistakably socialist character, leading on to communistic ideals.

I have spoken in the first tense in regard to this method, because in one or two of the states and in the commonwealth legislature the labor party leaders have not been able to resist the temptation to accept office, for ever so short a time, and, as a result, they have been shifted from their dominating "cross" benches position into ministerial seats, or into direct opposition, in alliance with the more radical of the nonlabor members.

The result of all this has been that true liberal principles have been treated with contempt, and the "liberal" label, because of its political attractiveness, has been indiscriminately tacked onto socialist proposals the nature of which gives the lie to the bottom principle of a true liberal policy—freedom.

It would be impossible in the space of a single article to even generalize regarding all the measures and sociological effects which have resulted from this growth, which has attached itself, like a political aphis, to the several Australian bodies politic, but I hope to be able to show and illustrate, by practical examples, the paralyzing effect of these results on our industrial life and the extent to which they are sapping the foundations of our national wealth, enterprise, self-help and self-respect, though we secretly boast as a community of our descent from the freest and most independent of the world's races.

Effect on Public Life

The effect of this three party method and of the constant demand for "class" legislation, designed to "drive" capital and regulate commerce and industry, has been—among other results—to sensibly lower the standard of political character. Instead of our parliaments and their leaders being animated by high ideals of public life and a firm resolve to stand by just and sound principles, even though they may be for the time unpopular, the political arena has become a sort of Dutch auction mart, in which that man makes the quickest progress toward leadership who shuts his eyes to such principles and stoops to "go one better" than the previous bidder in bargaining for the support of those who can turn the scale or tilt the seesaw of the legislative machine.

The labor movement and the labor influence have been powerfully felt in every state, and now that the states have been federated under the commonwealth, the same movement and the same influence have operated and have left a distinct mark upon the statute book of the larger body politic, and by so doing radiated their paralyzing effect upon all the active interests which combine to make the wheels of commerce and industry turn for the general good of the community.

If I was asked which of the acts which the labor party has been the means of passing through one or other of the legislatures has been the most injurious, I should find it hard to give a satisfactory answer, for it is impossible to trace all the ill effects of any particular piece of legislation, or to trace many of the ultimate effects at all, in any one generation. As Herbert Spencer has shown in his essay on "Over Legislation" and in many other parts of his writings, particularly in his "Study of Sociology," so much of the injury of that kind is unseen, and even when seen not directly traceable to its source, in consequence of the complexity and subtlety of human affairs as carried on in modern times.

One General Result

There is, however, one general result that is unmistakably revealing itself in every part of Australia, and especially in the two larger states of Australia—New South Wales and Victoria—and that is the gradually increasing want of confidence on the part of those who supply the sinews of war for commerce and industry of all kinds—the capitalists.

There was a time when New South Wales government securities stood as high in the estimate of English and Australian stock exchanges as those of Canada, with the national condition of which Australia possessed so much in common, but today, though Canadians maintain their value, because of the steady and politically sober management of that country's affairs, the securities of Australia, comparatively speaking, are at zero, and it is now recognized throughout the commonwealth that the power of borrowing money from the mother country, save at very much increased rates of interest, is, for the time at least, at an end.

When the federation of the Australian colonies was near its realization, in 1899 and 1900, it was confidently calculated by those whose opinion was valued that under federation it would probably be possible to effect a conversion of Australian public debts and so save to the several states in the aggregate from £300,000 to £500,000 a year in interest, but the calculation was based on the assumption that the management of the affairs of the commonwealth, including the conception and making of its laws, would be of such a steady and level headed character that commonwealth bonds would be as acceptable to the financial world outside as that of the dominion of Canada.

A measure is passing through the federal parliament to apply this principle to the whole of Australia in cases in which the questions raised extend from one state to another. The senate has gone the length of including farm and dairy laborers and family servants in its provisions. That, if passed, would be the last straw; but it will be thrown out of the bill on its return to the house of representatives.

Already the possibility has aroused the farmers, and I have before me a whole newspaper column of telegraphed notices of farmers' meetings, in which the proposal is unconditionally condemned.