

OUR EXCHANGES.

CAPITALISM HOSTILE TO DEMOCRACY.

Capitalism and democracy cannot live together. One of these two must go down. A sham democracy may, indeed, continue to exist in which the multitude serve tables and the stockholders devour what is set upon them. Yet the republic in which every fresh aggregation of capital is followed by an increase of the "unemployed" till they mount up to millions, has no very palpable advantage over the "effete and monarchy-ridden" States of Europe. It is just as great a crime against the Declaration of Independence to be monopoly-ridden as it is to be monarchy-ridden. If kings are superfluous, why do certain omnipotent individuals command the approaches to New York and poll its inhabitants every time the latter buy a railway ticket? Must they be labeled with the old names, to prove that they exert the old kind of power? Political freedom which leaves nine men out of ten without house or home, and which cannot prevent machinery and artificial prices from creating a mass of vagrants and loafers even in America, has clearly mistaken the shadow for the substance. And democracy, if it means to be a real transit from bad to better, must examine anew the title deeds to its inheritance which were so magnificently drawn and must learn, ere it be too late, how much of its property has been thoughtlessly squandered and signed away to private and irresponsible corporations. For monopolist right is national wrong.—Rev. Wm. Barry, in March Forum.

THE GOVERNMENT MARKET.

Under the new Silver bill it is proposed that the government should buy all the silver that anybody has for sale, whether produced in America or elsewhere, and should pay for it about 25 percent more than anybody else would pay for it. Of course, this is done in order to encourage the miners who are producing the silver. But why make a distinction in favor of these, who constitute but a very small majority of the producers in the country? Why not have the government buy all the iron, and the lead, and the copper, and the coal that can be mined? Why not have the government aid the hard-handed and deserving farmer by buying all his potatoes and all his beef? If the potatoes and the beef should come to grief on the hands of the government, why, the government is able to stand it; and it is all the better for the farmer, who thereupon can produce more for the same benevolent purchaser. By the same token, the government should buy all the coal, all the lumber, all the hardware, all the shoes and stockings that can be purchased.

But this is only the beginning. It is very desirable that the newspaper interests should be protected and encouraged. The government ought, by all means, at once to subscribe for ten thousand copies of the National Baptist, which, no doubt, the enterprising and large-hearted publisher would be willing to put at the wholesale rate. But it would be unfair to ask the National Baptist what we would not ask for every other religious paper; and therefore it seems very desirable that the government should subscribe for all religious papers, especially the smaller and feebler ones, since those most need encouragement. The Independent and the Churchman, and the Christian Union can get along without it. But we would not ask peculiar privileges for the religious papers. The Constitution knows nothing of religions. Therefore all the papers, political, medical, business—the government ought to subscribe for each of them. It would encourage the publishers, the paper makers, the ink makers, the type makers, and would inaugurate an era of prosperity when the mind faintly endeavors to conceive. There are a good many unemployed preachers around. The government ought to employ them all at a fair rate, so that every branch of industry should prosper and that there should be no idle hands. In fact there is a future of prosperity before us all, if the government will only kindly consent to buy everything that is for sale.—National Baptist.

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REGULATING LABOR—IDLE PEOPLE.

The resources of this State, as also its attractions, are almost boundless. The great trouble is, to utilize and develop those resources and attractions. There are no great single industries or interests to stimulate effort and enterprise. Nor are there any leading practical minds arousing and directing these vast sources of wealth and enterprise. The man who leads in this—who can devise some simple plan to arouse into intelligent life and action the slumbering energies of our people, and get them all at regular steady work, and train them to habits of thrift and economy, would do more for the State than was ever done before by all her so-called great men, and is certain to leave a name enthroned in the hearts of her toiling masses. This simple process would only require a few bold, direct and well-considered statutes looking mainly to these objects and ends, viz: 1. Getting the idle to work and putting and keeping them at work. This, first, by restraining the vicious and idle, by lessening the chances and temptations to idleness, sport and vagrancy. And then in the next place, by finding them work and encouraging them to industry and economy. The first would be attained best by two old laws, now nearly obsolete: (a.) Restoring the ancient parental authority and forbidding the present indiscriminate fishing, hunting and free frolicking. It would require nerve to pass and enforce such laws; but the farmers are slowly moving in this direction and if the press and the bar would only speak out, the work would be done. 2. But as you put on those restraints

a. d. c. w. a. the past pleasures and recreations of our idle classes, both old and young, you must find them something to do and get them interested in the new life and aspirations before them. Here is the real need. Who can suggest a practical remedy?

For ourselves, we know exactly what would bring all this about. (a.) Let capital, skill and enterprise arouse themselves and all go to real work in improving and developing alike both our private and public belongings and surroundings. Let every man and woman owning a house or a lot of farm, go systematically to work to improve and adorn it. (b.) Let all of the authorities, both State, county, city, town and township, enter upon the all-important work of improving and reconstructing our public streets, roads, bridges, and all other similar necessary structures. All this would require money and labor, both public and private; but what life and progress it would infuse into our now sluggish, slothful, slumbering population. Now what a State North Carolina would be, when she thus woke up?

Can the farmer legislature see things in this light, or can the progressive men of Charlotte, Asheville, Raleigh and Wilmington be induced to move?—Wide Awake, in Chronicle.

THE COMING BILLIONAIRES.

There are now seventy American estates that average \$35,000,000 each, not including Trinity Church, and good reasons have been given for believing that three-fourths of the National wealth is in the possession of fewer than 250,000 families. The evolution of such enormous fortunes, absolutely inconceivable forty years ago as an American possibility, naturally leads us to look into the future, and ask how far this concentration of wealth may go, and whether the existing hundred millionaires foreshadow the coming billions. Is he coming? When will he come? What effect will his coming have upon society? Unless some great change takes place in our financial or social system the billionaire is certainly coming, and at a rapid pace.

The effect of such a concentration of wealth upon public and private morals may well be anticipated with concern; it might possibly include the destruction of republican government. The writer, however, forbears to speculate on the possible evils—a tide is rising which promises to sweep away the system which alone makes possible such unnatural and corrupting accumulations. The billionaire may never come. Rapidly as he now seems to be coming, the very speed at which he visibly approaches may prevent him from reaching us. For the billionaire, if he ever come, will not be the result of any inevitable natural law. He will be simply the product of indirect taxation. Maintain that system and he will surely come, and that right speedily; abolish it, and he will never come at all.

Local taxation is generally supposed to be direct, and to a limited extent it really is so. Taxes upon banks, mortgages, merchandise and houses are, however, indirect, and are paid in proportion to his expenses by the final real taxpayer. The whole taxes, National and local, are now \$800,000,000, of which at least \$650,000,000 are indirect. To these must be added the interest, commissions and profits charged by the first payers of these taxes upon the increased price of the taxed articles, and the increase of prices caused by a tariff. These items range from \$100,000,000 and have exceeded \$800,000,000. Nine-tenths of these annual levies are paid by the poorer classes, and the whole is absorbed by a very few of the very rich. To say the least, the whole cost of government, national and local, falls upon those who live by the labor of their hands. The substitution of direct for indirect taxation would of itself be worth to the middle and working classes as a whole about \$750,000,000 a year forever.

If this system continue, the coming of the billionaire on the one hand, and a million paupers on the other, is of course inevitable; but will he come? All organized parties appear to be committed to the present system of indirect taxation, and with the repeal of the sugar duty, the platform of a tariff for revenue only, is a dead issue. The fatal defect in the Democratic program of moderate tariff reform, is that no tariff can be devised which will suffice for the needs of the government without including a tax upon sugar. But the sugar tax has gone forever. The deficiency which has now come, and which will rapidly increase, cannot be supplied by any taxes or excises whatever. It must be filled up by direct taxation. And when direct taxes are once introduced on a large scale, and in a popular form, they will gradually swallow up all others. The repeal of the sugar duties, moreover, has given a tremendous impetus to the reciprocity movement, and this is certain to be ultimately fatal to all protection. It is true that its advocates at present carefully limit their proposition to the American continent; but if it be found profitable here, the duldest mind will begin to suspect that it may be equally profitable to extend it to Europe.

Direct taxation on a large scale is near at hand. The men who bought and paid for the present Congress can now choose what its form shall be, and a general income tax, objectionable as it is, seems most likely to be adopted. It has already been proposed by Senator Plumb and Mr. Mills. It is one of the demands of the Farmers' Alliance everywhere. It will be very popular in the West, because it will be collected chiefly in the East, and it will be popular among farmers in all sections, because incomes under \$1,000 will be exempted, and so scarcely any farmers will pay it. The protected manufacturers and mine owners may have a harvest for four years, but it will not be so rich as they have imagined, because consumption will fall off. After that time, the men of wealth who bought the soldier vote by the promise of enormous pensions, which they expected to saddle upon the poor, will have the great pleasure of paying

most of the pension bills themselves. The billionaire seems to be coming, yet he will not come, because the reign of the extortioner is fast drawing to a close.—Thos. G. Shearman, in Forum for January.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

WHIPPED BY A WOMAN.

NORWALK, Conn., Feb. 25.—Miss Kittie Moore, a corset-shop employe, and her fiance, Alonzo W. Smith, called at David R. Sword's butcher's shop, in Chestnut Street, South Norwalk, last night, and demanded an explanation as to the authorship of a scurrilous article concerning them, which appeared in a sensational B-ideopost paper on Sunday. Sword's answers were unsatisfactory to the visitors, for the woman drew a heavy whip and proceeded vigorously to lash him about the head and shoulders, while Smith guarded the door and prevented his escape. Swords made no resistance, but endeavored to avoid the whip by running about the place, but in vain, for the woman followed and lashed him fearfully. When she was satisfied with the punishment inflicted both left the place and were applauded by the large crowd which had gathered.

TWIN SHIPS ON THEIR CRUISE.

KEY WEST, Fla., Feb. 21, 1891.—The Atlanta arrived at this place early Thursday morning after a five days' run from the Capes of the Chesapeake. In the vicinity of Hatteras both wind and sea were highest on Saturday evening and Sunday, and it was necessary to batten down aft for a time, a thing of rare occurrence except in a gale of wind.

On Monday, the 16th, the United States steamship Boston was sighted about 4 p. m., and when within signal distance numbers were exchanged. From that time until we got in the two ships were in sight each other a good part of the time.

The Atlanta at once began taking coal to the extent of about 190 tons, and the ship hauled out into the stream to make room for the Boston.

Last evening a despatch was received indicating that the Atlanta may be detached from the white squadron, and speculation is rife as to her destination. So far there is nothing to indicate what her next service will be.

The health of everybody on board is good, and even in the engine and fire rooms, where the greatest effect of hot weather is felt, no one has suffered.

HERALD BUREAU.

COR. FIFTEENTH AND G STS., N. W., WASHINGTON, Feb. 25, 1891.

Chief Clerk Thaddeus K. Sailor, of the Ordnance Bureau, and Chief Clerk Edson C. Brace, of the Equipment Bureau of the Navy Department, have been removed. Secretary Tracy is not here to explain, but it is generally believed that a lack of harmony with their bureau chiefs brought about the dismissals. Mr. Joseph B. Emmett, who was Commander Folger's clerk, succeeds Mr. Sailor. Mr. Brace's successor has not been named.

Commander R. B. Bradford has been ordered to hold himself in readiness to command the Bennington. Lieutenant R. M. G. Brown has been detached from the Navy Department and ordered to duty with the Intercontinental Railway Commission. Lieutenant Alfred Reynolds has been ordered to ordnance duty at the navy yard, Washington, on March 1. Lieutenant J. F. Parker has been detached from special temporary duty and ordered to duty in the Bureau of Navigation.

The Conference Committee's report on the Navy Appropriation bill was agreed to in the Senate.

The House Committee on Invalid Pensions has favorably reported a bill granting a pension of \$2,500 per annum to the widow of the late Admiral Porter.

The cruisers Chicago, Dolphin and Yorktown have reached Pensacola at noon and anchored outside the bar.

The Atlanta and Boston sighted Pensacola harbor on Tuesday, but lay off waiting the arrival of the remainder of the White Squadron.

NO LEGISLATION IN CONNECTICUT.

HARTFORD, Feb. 25, 1891.—In the legislature to-day the chief topic of interest was whether general legislation should be taken up and the long struggle over the State officers be abandoned for awhile. The Senate refused even to take up the appropriation bills, and in a spicy debate the Democrats reiterated, in more emphatic terms than ever before, their determination to let legislation wait until the Democratic officials are seated.

Governor Bulkeley again sent his executive secretary, Mr. Brainard, to the Senate to-day with additional nominations. Acting under instructions from the doorkeeper announced:—"Mr. Brainard, with a communication from Mr. Bulkeley."

An angry flush swept over the young man's face, but he stepped forward to the clerk's desk, laid a document upon it and said:—"I do not appear here as Mr. Brainard, but as Executive Secretary of the Governor."

When he had left the room the document was thrown into the waste basket by order of the Senate. It contained the re-nomination of W. O. Seymour, of Ridgefield, for Railroad Commissioner; Charles A. Elliott, of Clinton, for State Prison Director, and Edwin Hoyt, of New Canaan, for member of the Board of Control of the Agricultural Experiment Station.

The Connecticut Senate is standing shoulder to shoulder with Gov. Hill. In the House, steps were taken toward general business by appointing members of about thirty joint committees. The Senate has no intention of taking concurrent action, and if it concludes to appoint committees at all they will be special Senate committees.

Both parties will hold general caucuses to-morrow to consider whether general business or final adjournment shall be the line of action. The deadlock has reached a stage where a speedy decision of some kind appears inevitable.

SOCIOLOGICAL.

THE FARMER, THE INVESTOR AND THE RAILWAY.

Those familiar with the history of the last sixty years, will not question the great benefits resulting from the construction of railways, nor grudge the men who have carried forward these undertakings a rich reward. By the aid of the railway the wilderness has been made productive, countless farms brought within reach of the great markets; mines opened, mills, factories and forges built; villages, towns and cities brought into existence, and populous States carried to a higher development than would have been possible without such aids.

While the builders of the railway have been exploiting a continent, and piling up the greatest fortunes ever known, the farmer has taken an unproductive wilderness, and literally hewn his way through the great forests which clothed seaboard and central region to the open prairie, there developing the most productive of States. He continued his toilsome march up the arid slopes, scaled the mountains and planted orchard, vineyard and farm by the shores of the Western Ocean.

His labors have enabled the nation to flood the markets with a plethora of bread, meat and fibre, to meet the enormous expenditure of a devastating war, to repair the losses and havoc of those bloody days, and then to turn the balance of trade in our favor.

Willingly has the farmer performed the labor, expecting to share in the prosperity of the country, yet not always content with his share of the rewards, and coming to believe that the carriers of his products were exacting as toll more than a just proportion thereof. He has seen the carrier yearly adding to his property, building new lines from the tolls collected on the old, increasing his wealth and power, and leaving to the grower of farm products, a constantly lessening proportion of the proceeds arising from their sale. As population has increased, railway property has grown in relative value, and this increase has been very largely made from revenues derived from tolls levied to pay interest and dividends on the water in the bonds and shares, hence made at the expense of railways users, a large part of whom are farmers.

All are fairly prosperous except such as are engaged in the basic industry of civilization; the one cloud on the industrial horizon is the unsatisfactory condition of a large part of an agricultural population, numbering some 25,000,000, and the railway is chargeable with so much of this as results from the exaction of unjust tolls.

On the basis of Poor's calculation, it appears that from traffic earnings alone, the holders of shares and bonds have received six per cent. per annum for every dollar invested, and have, within fifteen years, been enabled by the watery fiction to extort from railway users the enormous sum of \$1,592,280,47 (to which should be added about half as much more from miscellaneous earnings) with which has been built 53,705 miles of railway, for the use of which it is proposed to forever tax those who have furnished the money for its construction.

Is it possible that no remedy can be found for such evils? In the National Bank, the State has created another form of public trust, but one whose relations to the people are less intimate, and with the services of which the public could dispense without serious results. Can there be any sufficient reason why the railway corporation, with infinitely greater power and privileges, performing a function a thousand times more important, and directly affecting a hundred persons for one affected by bank administration, should not be subjected to control quite as stringent and quite as far-reaching?

Shares and bonds being the basis of tolls, should a railway company be permitted to issue share or bond until its par value in actual money has been covered into the corporate treasury?

Should the basis of tolls be laid until it has been shown that a proposed line is necessary to public conveniences, and will make fair returns on its cost?

Should a railway company be permitted to collect tolls until it has shown the exact cost of the instrument of transportation?

Should it not be a penal offense for a railway official to pay an unearned dividend?

Should not railway accounts, stock and bond ledgers, and assets be subjected to like inspection as those of national banks?

Would not rate wars cease, were railways once having reduced rates, debarred from ever again advancing them without governmental permission?

Should not railway companies be taxed on the capitalization as shown in issues of bonds and shares?

Should not railways be appraised at present cash value, and earnings, from all sources be limited to what would afford a given or maximum return on such appraisal?

Or should the nation assume the ownership and operate the railways through a non-partisan commission, as the Province of Victoria, Australia, has shown to be both practical and economical?

There is no longer any question as to the power of the nation to control these great arteries of trade, nor is there, outside a limited circle, any question as to the necessity of such control, and it remains only for the lawgivers to formulate such statutes, as will protect user and investor, both of whom are at the mercy of a small body of men, who can and do make and mar fortunes of individuals, cities and States without let or hindrance.—C. Wood Davis, in Boston Arena, for February.

THE DECLINE OF MARRIAGE.

This heading is not an idle paradox, nor a sensation stimulant employed to arrest the jaded attention of the average magazine reader. The fact is alleged in sad, sober earnest by a student of contemporary sociological

phenomena, and is hrew th demonstrated and accounted for with the same deliberate and sober gravity. I do not mean that the doom-word determining the fate of the institution—*actum consummatum est*—has already gone forth, nor even that we are yet within measurable distance of such a supreme cataclysm. I mean merely that marriage is losing its popularity, is beginning to die out. Starting with our own country, the Registrar-General has recently pointed out that for the first time in the history of our popular returns, the marriage rate has not increased in proportion to the rise of prices. Almost simultaneously we are informed that in Germany, France and America the marriage rate has taken a retrograde direction, while in the last two centuries the increase of divorces is proceeding, not gradually, but by "leaps and bounds."

Now, it must be evident that for phenomena so widely spread, the causes must be equally general. What then, I ask, are those causes?

The first and chief of them is, in my opinion, the more general advance of culture. Here, again, I must bespeak the reader's seriousness. I can assure him that I am neither jesting nor indulging in irony or satire. I am, with complete simplicity and bona fide about to propound a sociological cause to account for a sociological effect. Those who are conversant with the countries just named are aware, that in nothing else have their populations changed so enormously during the last quarter of a century, as in intellectual and artistic culture. It is not, however, with the fact that we are so much concerned, as with its social consequences—the decadence of marriage.

Starting from this cultural transformation of humanity, which attends the higher stages of civilization, we are confronted necessarily by a new conception of marriage. It is no longer the alliance for commonplace objects of two persons of opposite sexes, with few or no mental needs or susceptibilities in common. Culturally and aesthetically, it is the union of two beings, whose intellects, feelings, tastes and sympathies have been assiduously trained to a high point of development, and, ipso facto, sensitiveness. But here comes the difficulty. This institution becomes hampered by the increasing elaborateness of its preliminary conditions just as in nature vitality becomes endangered by the increased complexity and delicacy of the organism.

The foregoing observations lead at once to the first proposition I wish to lay down, viz., *Culture not only creates, it emphasizes and sensitizes individuality.*

In illustration of this, suppose a man of highly elaborated and refined culture contemplating marriage. How does the enterprise present itself to him? He finds that his culture has made him sensitive and fastidious—perhaps unduly so. Assume, e. g., that he possesses and has trained to an extreme nicety some artistic sensitiveness; that he has cultivated, e. g., to the verge of a morbid, hyper-aestheticism, a passion for sweet sounds and harmony. This at once excludes from his matrimonial purview that large majority of women, who have coarse, rancorous or masculine voices, or betray by a harsh pitch or dissonant uninflected cadences, not only the total want of a musical ear, but, its too often congenital accompaniment—a hard, unsympathetic nature. I need hardly add, that the same cultured sensitivities would operate in the case of the other sex.

Passing from the aesthetic prejudice of cultured senses to the mental prepossession of cultivated intellects, the process repeats itself. The educated intellect has a natural repulsion for minds either uneducatable, or whose education has been grossly malformed or perverted. Here, as in other social antagonisms, the opposition lies not so much between trained and untrained intellects, as between those that are trained and those that are untrainable.

Judging from present appearances, and relying on those statistics which appear to show that it is among the higher classes that marriage is most on the decline, it seems probable that ill-assorted marriages, and, per consequence, marriage, will become rarer as the world advances still further in its cultural progress. Men and women are beginning to perceive that culture tends to the formation of a strong individuality, both intellectually and aesthetically, and thus induces a condition which does not predispose to marriage. Culture concentrates and assimilates the various interests of life, intellectual and disciplinary, in such a way as to make its possessor independent of any other individuality. It tends to generate an all-round, self-reliant, serenely moulded character, to form aptitudes of thought and feeling, self-contained, locked in, and fortified by, a carefully-trained and instructed reason. It is evident that a man of this type does not need the perpetual companionship which to uncultured men is an absolute necessity. To a self-contained character of this kind of marriage, however advisable for other reasons, is not an absolute necessity. It may take the form of a convenience or luxury, but the essential characteristic of the self-contained man is that he is independent of luxuries.

Nevertheless, marriage and culture are events and processes which have their natural places in human existence, and allowing that culture has a certain deterrent influence on marriage, the question remains, whether this tendency is legitimate and wholesome, or chargeable to the undue connection of legitimate culture with wealth, luxury and ostentation. There have been in human history three especial countries and epochs, in which general culture, intellectual and aesthetic, attained a very remarkable, perhaps an unexampled, degree of excellences, viz., Athens, in the time of Pericles; Rome, in the Augustan age; Italy, during the Renaissance. Each of these epochs was distinguished by a marked diminution of marriage among the cultured classes, thus indicating that marriage and culture are inversely related; but in all these cases culture was associated

with luxury, pride, and ostentation; while one of the most essential notes of genuine culture is simplicity and unaffectedness.—Engenius, in London Westminster Review, for January.

FOREIGN NEWS.

SIR CHARLES DILKE.

LONDON, Feb. 25, 1891.—The liberal electors of the Forest of Dean division of Gloucestershire have asked Sir Charles Dilke to be their candidate for Parliament at the coming general election. Sir Charles Dilke has replied that he assents to their proposition provided he has fair assurance from a majority of the liberal electors that his candidacy will receive their support. Finally Sir Charles Dilke has supplied the Forest of Dean liberal organization with a statement, for private circulation among its members, vindicating himself against the charges made against him in connection with the divorce case in which he was involved several years ago.

THE NORWEGIAN CRISIS.

CHRISTIANIA, Feb. 25, 1891.—The political situation here is extremely grave. Of the 114 members of the Storting who took part in Monday's division, in which the conservative Ministry was defeated, the majority practically demand that Norway shall have control of her own foreign affairs. The moderate liberals and radicals are sinking their differences and present a united front.

If the King follows the constitutional usage by choosing a new Ministry from the majority it will tend to the rapid repeal of the Scandinavian union. If he appoints a Ministry to combat the majority it will be certain to provoke a conflict which will threaten public peace and order.

EMPERESS FREDERICK.

PARIS, Feb. 25, 1891.—Empress Frederick to-day visited the Louvre and afterward dined at the German Embassy. The Papal Nuncio was present.

The organization known as the League of Patriots has violently denounced the visit of Empress Frederick, of Germany, to the Palace of Versailles on Monday last. The League has decided to hold daily meetings of protest until the imperial visitor leaves the city.

It is known here that in Berlin it was expected that President Carnot would call upon Empress Frederick, but after a special cabinet meeting had been held and the question had been fully discussed it was decided that as Empress Frederick was travelling incognito the French Government could compromise the matter by sending the chief of President Carnot's military household, General Brugere, and M. Ribot, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, to call upon the Empress dowager. This was accordingly done, General Brugere and M. Ribot calling at the German embassy and inscribing their name in the visitors' book.

This question of etiquette was undoubtedly the cause of much anxiety and worry to the members of the French Cabinet, and was made the subject of a long and earnest discussion before it was finally concluded that the government could not dare to risk the verdict of public opinion in case President Carnot called upon the imperial visitor to Paris.

LONDON, Feb. 25, 1891.—The period has not been fixed for the completion of the labors of the commission of inquiry which will investigate the labor question and labor disputes which grow out of it. It is hoped however, that the commission's work will be concluded in 1891. The two main questions which will be considered are the best method of averting strikes and the regulation of the hours of labor.

The conservatives warmly approve of the appointment of the commission, while the Liberals consider the great scope of the commission's work to be a drawback to its usefulness, as tending to delay legislation; but the liberals do not intend to obstruct the progress of this new plan to find a cure for labor troubles.

The liberals intend to introduce a similar motion. Mr. John Morley, who has made a special study of the labor question, considered that immediate legislation was necessary. The conservatives, according to report, heard of the liberals' intentions and forestalled them. However, the conservatives are prepared to give Mr. Morley a prominent place in the coming work. The labor members of Parliament are strongly in favor of the idea, but openly express the belief that it is the intention of the government to shelve the question until after the coming general election and to be able at the same time to declare to the electors their desire to alleviate the condition of the laboring classes.

The Irish members of Parliament intend to move that the commission should take special cognizance of the interests of Ireland.

The appointment of the commission will have the effect of removing several motions now before Parliament which refer to the labor controversy, including Earl Spencer's resolution in favor of appointing a Minister of Industry.

The Labor Commission will probably consist of Lord Derby, Lord Randolph Churchill, Lord Dunraven, Cardinal Manning, Mr. Chamberlain, Sir J. E. Gosart, Mr. Morley, Mr. Mundella, Mr. Baumann, Mr. Aird, Mr. Fenwick and Mr. Burt. Members of the House of Commons who support the Miners' Eight Hours bill insist upon proceeding with that measure without waiting for the decision of the commission.

The North German Gazette says that the German Government, anticipating a general strike in the coal trade, has ordered large supplies of coal from England.

All parties wishing to buy mixed car-loads of Alliance Guano and 13 per cent. Acid Phosphate, can be supplied from Richmond, Va., at car-load rates. If you say six tons of North Carolina Guano and five tons of Acid Phosphate, it can be shipped in same cars at car-load rates for freight.

W. H. WORTH, S. B. A.