ETHICAL TALKS BY CLERGY AND THE LAITY

SHALL SOCIETY SHARE IN TRUST BENEFITS?

BY F. M. TAYLOR, PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL ECONOMY, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

THE utterances of President Roosevelt regarding the trusts bring up more emphatically than ever before the question of whether or not their permanence is fully assured.

Does the trust promise to be a large and permanent element in our industrial life, or is it possible that it may prove a failure economically?

What are the probabilities on this point?

In recent newspaper comment much stress has been placed on the throwing of people out of employment, which is an incident to the organization of trusts. Frequently presented as an evil consequence of trusts, it hardly need be said that this is one of their greatest advantages. Doubtless any industrial change which throws people out of employment is immediately to them a loss. But at the bottom, throwing people out of employment by making their services unnecessary is merely insuring that the sum total of our wants shall be satisfied at smaller cost. Temporarily particular persons will suffer until they become readjusted to the new industrial machinery, but ultimately all must profit.

Another evil generally charged to the trust is the maintenance of outrageously high prices. Unable to get our supplies from any other source, we shall have to pay the trusts' prices, however oppressive. This picture, again, is doubtless far too dark to correspond with the facts. In the first place, we would probably be able in most cases to take refuge in the use of substitutes. The gas monopoly, the electric monopoly, find competitors in each other, as well as in the new inventions like acetylene gas, or old friends like kerosene.

Still further, any one trust, if it push its advantage too far, will inevitably stimulate competition of allied trusts. If it becomes too greedy, demands such a high price that, even under the more expensive conditions of small production, there is profit to be made at this price, then competition inevitably spring up. That is, the existence of the trust depends on its not exacting from the public the highest price which could be paid.

Let us turn to the other side of the case, to the advantage arising from the trust. It must be admitted by its most antagonistic enemy that, like any other improvement in industrial organization, the trust leads to a vast saving in human effort. This gives rise to one of the popular objections to the trust. Truly it throws people out of employment. But it does this, not because there is any less accomplished, but because improved methods lead to the accomplishment of the same results with smaller expenditure.

In like manner the great consolidation saves a vast amount in the utilization of materials. The great factory has so much waste of particular sorts that it pays to establish by-industries in order to utilize the waste. Again, it carries out in the completest way the principle of geographical specialization. The school furniture trust, for example, will not call upon the Boston factory to furnish a school building in Omaha, but will give the order to the particular plant that lies nearest to the point, thus insuring a saving in transportation. Of course, all this will be of no advantage to society unless persons interested in the exploiting of the trust in some way share with consumers the gain due to diminished expenditure. That they are compelled to do this in some measure we have already seen. That they ought to do it more, and perhaps will be compelled to, by some modification of existing laws, is not unlikely.

Another advantage which the friends of the trusts have promised with some show of reason is a greater freedom from industrial storms, panics and depressions. Unrestricted competition is not only wasteful, but it is dangerous to quiet, orderly progress. In a crisis there is no unity of action. It is "each man for himself," without regard for the consequences of the public at large. Gigantic combinations naturally enough move on more steadily. Competition is shut out. It is, therefore, pretty certain that the industrial cyclone would be much less likely in an industrial society that was largely administerd by trusts.

An industrial manifestation of so notable a sort as the trust is bound to bring forward the question, what should be done about it? Some people do not hesitate to say that nothing need be done about it, that the trust will take care of itself. This conclusion is natural enough for those who look on industrial consolidation as a purely temporary phenomenon growing out of temporary conditions and destined to pass away, as have so many others before it. This position is perhaps equally natural to those who believe that trusts are on the whole beneficent, and that such abuses as appear in their earlier history will gradually right themselves.

A different class of persons reach much the same conclusion, though from quite different premises. Thorough-going socialists naturally welcome the process of consolidation among warring industries as a step towards their Utopia. One after another, they say, the industries of the country will be organized into trusts and these trusts in turn will consolidate, until all industrial activity is united in one universal monopoly, whereupon the state will take possession of this single trust and the socialistic goal will have been attained.

The prescription, then, of those who favor letting the trust movement entirely alone is probably not likely to be accepted. At the opposite extreme are those who desire by severely prohibitive processes absolutely to destroy the trust. This remedy, however, is probably chimerical. The movement toward consolidation is a rational one. It has behind it the elemental forces of nature. It is bound to triumph over artificial restriction—in one way or another to evade any prohibitions which may be put upon it.

Thus the do-nothing policy and the do-everything policy are alike shut out. The other alternative is to recognize the legitimacy of the trust and gradually work out a system of regulation which shall insure the sharing of the benefits incident to its institution among the general public. That such regulation is inevitable hardly needs argument. Doubtless there will always be some protest from the classes interfered with, some appeal to the timeworn plea of liberty and the right of each man to do what he will with his own. But none of these have availed in the past and none of these will avail in the future.

Just what form of regulation the trust will take it is hard to predict. It is probable that, first, a fairly sharp distinction will be made between those industrial institutions which may be left to the ordinary forces of competition and those which need regulation. These latter, again, will likely fall into two classes. A few thoroughly consolidated industrial interests will probably be brought under the direct control of the public just as the postoffice is now. The remainder will then be left in the hands of private individuals, but will be subjected to sharp regulation under the administration of commissions, with such degree of publicity in accounting as shall insure the safeguarding of the rights and interests of the public.

A Glimpse at New York's Mendicant Poor

J. J. Montague Tells How He Made Himself Unpopular With East Side Youngters

NEW YORK, Sept. 13.—(Special correspondence.)—The wind is beginning to blow the soft coal smoke down the canyons whose precipitous sides have windows in them, and are called sky-scrapers. People who have lived in more favored spots are longing for home. New Yorkers insist that time was when the city was good to look at, but that was the time when anthracite coal could be bought for something less than 25 cents per coal. As it is now, every one burns the bituminous variety, and the city is as dirty as Seattle.

Just what the people who live down on the East Side are going to do this Winter with fuel at the present price is not very clear. And it is still more of a problem how the poor devils that spend their afternoons looking for work and their evenings on the benches in the squares are going to get along. There are a good many of these, several million, apparently, and it will be no easy matter for them to find warmth and shelter when the frost is on the pumpkin, or would be if the pumpkin was not kept in a glass case in the vegetable market.

At Broadway and Tenth streets there is a large bakery and restaurant, which every night gives away all the bread left over, together with a cup of coffee for every consumer of bread. Along about 10 o'clock at night a line of men begins to form on Tenth street. By 11 it has reached to Broadway, where a gap is made by a policeman, and the line reforms in front of a street lamp-post on Broadway, where it grows and grows, until at 12, when the giving out of the loaves begins, it is nearly a block long, and includes over 200 men. The fact that these poor fellows are willing to stand in line for two hours for a loaf of bread and a cup of coffee indicates that they are needy. Any one of them, taken out of the line and made to tell his story, could bring tears to the eyes of a graven image. It is not a spectacle calculated to inspire the youth of the country with an ardent desire to come to New York and make their way.

Down on the East Side, where there are so many children that you can't see the street most of the time, foolish persons are sometimes tempted to yield to their clamor to "Throw a penny." I was one of them. I thought it would be fine sport to see a crowd of little chaps scrambling for coppers, and so let three or four of them fly into the center of the street.

Before I could see them coming, imagine where they came from or believe so many children possible in one place, there were something like 1000 of them in my wake.

"Throw us some more pennies," said they.

I replied, like Simple Simon, "Indeed, I haven't any," but it wouldn't do. They followed me up one street and down another, for about two miles. Men came running out of shops to see what was going on, women screamed after me to send their children home, policemen hurried from back streets to see what I had stolen, and all the while the mob of little wretches howled and jeered, and accused me of favoritism and stinginess. I finally dodged into a restaurant—and a pretty hard-looking restaurant it was—and after a while they left off their execrations and went home.

I have not done any more sightseeing on the East Side. I am afraid that if I should go down there five years from now that crowd of youngsters would recognize me as the chap that was so miserly with his pennies. I expect it would take about $1,000,000,000 in pennies to supply the demand there long enough to permit an amateur philanthropist to make his escape.

The same kind of a crowd collects along the line of the Long Island Railroad, in the outskirts of Brooklyn, when the crowd comes up from Sheepshead Bay or Gravesend race tracks. They are generally successful there, for the people on the trafh who have played the races successfully are careless with their winnings.

Sometimes they line the track for over a mile, and as the train pulls slowly past them, shout:

"Please, a penny, Mister."

The little girls hold out their aprons, and the boys catch the money that is thrown to them, or fight for it if it falls to the ground. One foolish sport on the train the other day held out a fist full of bills, and shook it over the crowd. It was an expensive bluff. A lithe little chap under his window jumped up, seized the roll and whisked it out of his hand before its astonished owner could say Jack Robinson, or anything else.

"There's about $20 gone to the devil," he said ruefully, as he saw the small boy disappear in the crowd. "Well, I'll just charge it up to profit and loss, and let it go at that."

The theatrical season has been a disappointment to the first-nighters so far. Willie Collier is little better than fair as a vaudevillian, John Drew's new play, "The Mummy and the Hummingbird," is a weak imitation of "The Tyranny of Tears," and Jeff De Angelis is woefully out of place in "The Emerald Isle." Weber & Fields opened Thursday night with Collier as the top-liner, and seats sold at about $25 per. Naturally among those present were only millionaires and deadheads. The show cost about $75,000 to produce, and it isn't worth it.

Dave Campbell, Portland's Fire Chief, is in New York, attending the session of the National Fire Chiefs' Convention, and incidentally picking up points on equipment. He thinks the buildings in New York are not so well equipped with fire-escapes and standpipes as those in Portland, but is lost in admiration of the apparatus and quarters here. He has already attended several fires, but merely as a visitor. He says the impulse to get in and do things now and then is pretty strong, but he hopes to be able to resist it successfully. J. J. M.

INFLUENCE OF COMMERCE ON PEACE

BY JOHN B. CLARK, LL. D., PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL ECONOMY, COLUMBUS UNIVERSITY

I HAVE heard with an amount of pleasure which I seldom experience a suggestion of Dr. Edward Everett Hale that we endeavor to enlist in the cause of international arbitration the influence of commercial bodies—boards of trade, chambers of commerce, bankers' associations, and the like. It was a worthy suggestion of him, who, in practical ways as well as by idealistic inspiration, has always proved himself the "guide, philosopher and friend" of every friend of peace. We shall find these bodies able to accomplish much in the political as well as the economic world. We shall also find them willing. They are the great power that is most willing to help in the effort to avert wars.

There is a common impression that war makes business productive and creates profits for many people; and it was a common saying during the Civil War—at least in the North—that we were getting rich on the war. I well remember a crusade which Henry Ward Beecher made at that time for the accomplishment, indeed, of many things, but incidentally with a view to overthrowing this fallacy. The actual fact was that war was making us poorer. Though a limited number of people were accumulating wealth, this was done at a terrible cost to the country as a whole.

There are three economic classes that control politics in the United States, as elsewhere. They are the farmers, who represent labor and capital, but not organized labor and capital; the trade unions, who represent consolidated labor; and the class which represents consolidated capital. All three working together for the same object would overbear every trace of opposition, and two of them working together would probably gain their end. What is available as a political force to be enlisted in the service of peace is one of these classes that we can thoroughly count on, and another that we can count on conditionally.

The laboring classes have declared themselves over and over again in favor of arbitration. They have done this officially through their organized bodies. Before the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian War there was a unanimous demand from the labor unions of France and Germany for a prevention of the war; and before every war that has recently occurred, in which civilized nations have been engaged, something of that kind has taken place. When the Venezuelan trouble threatened to embroil us with England there were protests by the labor unions of the United States, Canada and Great Britain against any course that could precipitate such a conflict.

The reason for this attitude on the part of laborers is exceptional. It is not because they have a markedly clearer insight into the economic effects of war than have other classes. What they are keenly alive to is the fact that the labor movement is international; that it is an all-around movement embracing many countries. It aims to emancipate the workmen of the world, and the participants do not want to be diverted from that purpose.

How is it with the commercial classes, upon whom at once the burdens of war precipitate themselves? Except in the case of a favored few, the effects of war show themselves in the shape of shrunken profits or closed avenues for enterprise. The direct costs of the war are so colossal that they cannot for a moment be disregarded, but they are the least of the wastes that war entails. The trouble that war occasions in the commercial world is expressed in the phrase, "The disruption of an economic organism." If I were to go into details on the significance of this phrase, readers would think that the subject is dry enough. Some things, however, are obvious. If two men were living in an isolated way, each producing every commodity that he used, they might declare war on each other without entailing costs, except the direct ones that the fighting would occasion. If, however, the two men constituted a microscopic community, and if they had developed such a division of labor that one produced the food for both, while the other produced the clothing, then a violent feud would mean not only direct costs but a paralysis of production. If the connection has become still more intimate, so that the men were not only each other's customers, but each other's partners, a break between them would be more disastrous still.

I want to say just a word about the marked distinction between the relations which highly civilized countries, the great powers of the world, occupy to each other, and the relation which this circle of nations occupies to the inferior and less civilized portion of the world. I am as far as possible from feeling the slightest discouragement—I rather think I feel a sense of strong encouragement, as far as the ultimate success of our movement is concerned—by reason of the fact that a number of minor wars have been going on, and that since the creation of The Hague tribunal the world has not lapsed instantly into a state of peace. These minor wars—what are they? They are the unhappy attendant incidents of the economic annexation of uncivilized portions of the world to the civilized portion; they are causing that great circle of nations within which war is soon to be prevented by economic causes to grow larger and larger. A zone that was outside of the influence of high civilization is included within it; the process involves a war, unfortunately. Do you think that, in the end, it makes war? On the contrary, it continually extends the area within which forces that we did not originate, but forces that we gladly and confidently appeal to, are in process of establishing perpetual peace.

I recall well the feeling that we used to have when the phrase that is so attractive—"The parliament of man, the federation of the world"—was used in literature and in conferences for the promotion of arbitration. It had a political sound. To use the words of one speaker, we thought of those who were working for it as—

Rowing hard against the stream,

and we took courage from the fact that in the operation they—

Saw distant gates of Eden gleam.

But it is more than the gates of Eden, since it is nothing distant and is not of the nature of a paradise that we can reach only by passing through and beyond the tangible present world. It is as substantial as anything earthly, and is more like the rock of a mountain than like the mist that floats over it. What it is exactly is rock in the process of making and well advanced in the process. It is coming into existence through the action of cosmic force. Economic laws are resistlessly working to bring the world into a federation. To us it is even given to do something to make them work more efficiently.

INTERNATIONAL CATALOGUE OF SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE

First Volumes of a Stupendous Work Completed at Its World-Wide Scope.

AN event of much interest to both the scientific and literary world has just occurred in the appearance of the two first volumes of the long-hoped-for and much-discussed "International Catalogue of Scientific Literature." In these days, when so much thought and labor are being expended upon scientific work, it is natural that the literature on any one of the many sciences should be not only great in extent, but very much scattered, appearing, as it does, in all quarters of the globe. A specialist in any one of the branches of science feels the need of some aid in keeping in touch with other workers on similar lines through the published records of their works, but in most cases this is found to be a matter of much difficulty, owing to the lack of complete index or bibliography of current scientific literature.

Movement Began in 1855.

Indexes to some of the sciences are from time to time published, but, excepting in a few cases, are neither complete nor up to date. It is intended that the "International Catalogue of Scientific Literature" shall fill in this gap by publishing each year a complete index to all the literature of all the sciences for the year. This is a big undertaking, and its fulfillment has been attended with much difficulty, as will be seen by a short outline of its history. In 1855 Professor Joseph Henry, first secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, with whom the idea of an international scientific catalogue originated, brought the matter to the attention of the British Association for the Advancement of Science at the Glasgow meeting of that year. International co-operation could not then be arranged, but Professor Henry's idea was not lost, for in 1867 the Royal Society of London began to issue its now classic catalogue of scientific papers. Although this was a step in advance, it by no means carried out all of Professor Henry's plan as this catalogue was restricted to the serial publications of scientific societies and was indexed only by author names. Beyond the occasional publication of volumes of this catalogue little more was done in the matter until 1894, when the Royal Society issued a circular addressed to the learned societies of the world calling attention to the need of international co-operation in indexing scientific literature. In response to this circular the societies advised that an international conference be held in London to further consider the subject. Acting on this advce the Royal Society, through the British Foreign Office, requested the Governments of the world to send representatives to a conference to be held in London in 1896, to decide on the value and possibility of establishing international co-operation leading to the production of an international catalogue of scientific literature. Delegates from most of the principal countries of the world attended this conference, two having been sent by the United States.

System of Classification.

The delegates decided that the several countries should co-operate in the production of a current index of all scientific literature and that this index should not only be arranged according to authors' names but should be also a minutely subdivided subject index.

The subject index proposed was to be so arranged that any one whose interest centered in a special subject could by reference to the yearly volumes at once find a record of all the writings on a subject for an entire year.

This plan necessitated a very elaborate system of classification in each of the sciences, and it was not until a third conference had been held in London in 1900 that the various details of the plan of publication could be fully decided upon. The preparation of schedules classifying the sciences entailed great labor and occasioned much difference of opinion, but after a series of compromises, a set of schedules embracing all sciences was agreed upon and the work was begun. The catalogue is to be published in 17 annual volumes, beginning with the literature of 1901 and is to include classified references to all published original contributions to the following named sciences to each of which one volume a year will be devoted. Mathematics, Mechanics, Physics, Chemistry, Astronomy, Meteorology (including terrestrial magnetism), Mineralogy (including Petrology and Crystallography), Geology, Geography (Mathematical and Physical), Paleontology, General Biology Botany, Zoology, Human Anatomy, Physical Anthropology, Physiology (including Experimental Psychology, Pharmacology and Experimental Pathology), and Bacteriology.

Division and Redivision.

The schedule adopted in classifying each of these sciences divides and redivides the general subject to such an extent that, as finally published, a reference on any subject will find its place in one or more of the volumes associated with other references on the same subject. A student will thus be enabled to find in a moment the titles of all of the year's literature on a special subject, together with exact references to the books, pamphlets or periodicals containing the writings referred to.

Any one who has tried to find any particular needle in the haystack of scientific literature will appreciate fully the aid this catalogue will be, not only to the scientific specialist, but to the general reading public, there being few individuals who do not wish at times to look up subjects in some one of the many far-reaching branches of science. An example may better explain the practical value of the system of classification and the method of making use of it.

Much interest is now centered in the study of malaria and its causes.

In the volume on bacteriology, the alphabetical index of subjects will, after malarial diseases, give the number 4040, which is one of the many arbitrary numbers used in representing the subdivisions of the catalogue. This number 4040 will be found in the proper numerical position in the corner of a page where the page number usually appears and on that page or on those immediately following will be found references to all the articles on malaria for a particular year. In many cases a single article or book will deal with several branches of science, as, for example, a paper on malaria, may be of interest to the entomologist studying mosquitoes. In this case the volume on zoology would also contain references to the paper both under the author's name and under the order and family to which the mosquito belongs, as is the custom in all zoological classification.

The Great Cost.

The cost of producing the catalogue is necessarily great, as all of the current publications of the world, in which scientific writings appear, have to be reviewed by experts, to whom is intrusted the work of selecting the matter coming within the scope of the catalogue, preparing the proper references and assigning them to their proper places in the catalogue by adding arbitrary numbers as called for by the classification schedules.

This work is done by what is known as regional bureaus, which have been established in the several countries taking part in the work.

When the references are completed by the regional bureaus they are forwarded to the central bureau in London, to be there assembled and published yearly in book form and delivered to the various subscribers through the regional bureaus. It is estimated that each complete yearly catalogue will contain about 300,000 references. The United States Government has not yet officially taken part in the work by supplying funds for the support of a regional bureau. However, the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, seeing that if the United States was not represented in the work the whole undertaking would fail, and feeling that as the original idea was conceived years ago by the then head of the Institution, every effort should be made by the Institution to aid in the work, decided to draw on the slender funds available to provisionally carry on the work in this country.

This Country Leads in Subscribers.

The Smithsonian Institution was thus living up to its motto "For the Increase and Diffusion of Knowledge Among Men," and to its custom as established by precedent of fostering needy and worthy scientific enterprises.

The cost of the catalogue to subscribers is $35 per year, and it is gratifying to know that at present the United States heads the list in the number of subscriptions.

A majority of the large libraries and institutions of learning throughout the country have subscribed to all or part of the catalogue, as have also several private individuals.

The two volumes that have just been delivered to the American subscribers are part 1, of Chemistry, and part 1, of Botany, of 1901.

Owing to the delay, unavoidable, in the beginning of a great enterprise, it was found necessary to publish these first volumes in parts, as all of the references to the literature of 1901 could not be collected in time to publish them together in one volume without unduly delaying the whole work. It is expected that as soon as the system is fairly under way the volumes will appear at regular intervals, and as each volume appears, it will not only cover a whole year's literature, but will bring the subject dealt with practically up to the date of going to press. LEONARD C. GUNNELL.

Smithsonian Institution.

WHAT SEX WOULD YOU BE?

BY MAX O'RELL (PAUL BLOUET)

IF YOU could be born again, which sex would you elect to belong to? Now this is a question which my readers will find difficulty in answering, and even in speaking about with authority, as each of them has only had the experiences of one sex.

Before answering it we must indeed talk it over with some very intimate and trustworthy friends of the other sex, and compare their sentiments and sensations with our own. We must recall to our minds all the observations which we have made on the lives of men and women whom we have known. Let us not follow the example of the woman who would be a man "because men are free," and the man who would be a woman "because women are admired," for the reason that all men are not free and women are far from all being admired.

I have interviewed on the subject many men and many women, and I have found an enormous majority of women who would elect to be men, and only a very small minority of men who would elect to be women. Conclusion: Most people would elect to be men.

I am a man, and if I were to be born again and asked to make a choice I would elect to be a man, but the reason may be that I possess many failings of which I am aware, and also a few qualities which the most imperfect of us must necessarily possess who are not absolute objects of perdition.

For let us say at once that sex suits character.

I love freedom and hate conventionalities; I am a man of action and must always be up and doing. I do not believe that I am in any way tyrannical, yet I like to lead and have my own way. If the position of first fiddle is engaged, I decline to form part of the orchestra. Most of these characteristics are failings, perhaps even faults, but I possess them, and I cannot help possessing them, and they naturally induce me to prefer being a man.

I have made my confession; let my readers make theirs, instead of taking me to task. I hate to feel protected, to be petted, but I would love to protect and pet a beloved one, whom I would think weaker than myself. I am a born fighter, and I don't care for smooth paths, unless I can make them smooth myself for my own use and also for the use of those who walk through life by my side.

But, leaving aside personal characteristics, which would lead me to elect to be a man, there are many reasons which would cause me to make that choice quite independent of my character. Nature has given woman beauty of face and figure, but there she stopped, and to make her pay for that gift she has handicapped her in every possible way.

And when I consider that there are in this world more ugly women than beautiful ones, and that an ugly woman is an abomination of desolation, an anomaly, a freak, I altogether fail to see why 90 women out of a hundred should return thanks for being women. I have no hesitation in saying that the woman who is not beautiful has no raison d'etre, and that only few beautiful women are happy to be alive after they are 40.

Women have terrible grievances, many of which society and legislation (that is to say, in the second case, men), ought to redress. But the greatest grievances of women are, to my mind, against nature, most especially in their tender relations with men. These grievances cannot and will never be redressed.

In love woman has an unfair position; she gets old when a man of the same age remains young; in every race she is handicapped out of any chance of winning or even getting a dead heat. For these reasons especially I should elect to be a man.

Ah, what a pity we cannot decide our fate in every phase of life. In which case I would elect to be a beautiful woman from 20 to 30, a brilliant officer from 30 to 40, a celebrated painter from 40 to 50, a famous poet or novelist from 50 to 60; Prime Minister of England or President of the United States from 60 to 70, and a cardinal for the rest of my life.

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MR. MORGAN'S OPPORTUNITY

BY REV. THOMAS B. GREGORY

ALL the world has heard of J. Pierpont Morgan, the banker king, the master of steamship lines and railroads, the organizer of the billion-dollar trust.

And all the world feels a sort of pride in the man who is able to do what Mr. Morgan has done. Ability of any sort, especially if it happens to be supreme ability, like that which made Napoleon on the one hand and Jesus Christ on the other, is adored of men.

The man who can do something great, whether it be along the line of industrial combination or in the way of ethical and spiritual uplift, whether a Morgan or a Jesus of Nazareth, is sure to command the world's attention and the world's admiration.

Mr. Morgan has accomplished great things; not the greatest, but great, very great, and if he should die tomorrow he would go down into history as an extraordinary man, a man of initiation, of genius as great, in his way, as Napoleon, as Phidias, as Darwin.

But while this is the truth, it is not the whole truth. Mr. Morgan has often been tried and has never been found wanting, but now he must be tried again, and if he fails in this last, final test, he will go down into history with his country's malediction upon his head.

To end the coal strike would be a grander work than any that has ever yet been achieved by Mr. Morgan, and if the organizer of the billion-dollar trust will now step in and end the agony down in Pennsylvania and West Virginia he will convince his coutrymen that his heart is as noble as his head is able, and posterity will look back to him as having been a man who was philanthropic as well as politic, a lover of his kind as well as a lover of the great game of fortune-building.

It is the opportunity of a lifetime, and it is to be hoped that Mr. Morgan will make the most of it.

The distinguished gentleman is reported to have declared that he would do nothing about the strike; that neither by word or deed would he take any steps toward ending the long and terrible battle between the masters of the coal fields and their employes; but even though the report be true, it is never too late to reconsider a resolution.

The sober second thought is always in order, and millions of Americans are hoping that Mr. Morgan will think again before finally and irrevocably deciding that he will not use his influence to make peace in the coal regions.

Mr. Morgan is no longer a young man. It is years since he reached the summit of the hill of life. He is going down the hill now, and in a little while, as the years of man's life go, he will be face to face with the one event that happens to all. In a word, the great financier and multimillionaire will find himself on his deathbed. And will it not be good for him to be able to reflect at that time that in this year of grace 1902 he did what he could to promote the cause of peace on earth; that to the best of his knowledge and ability he used his great power and influence at this time to end the ugliest and most cruel warfare ever seen in the economic annals of his country?

Mr. Morgan is a devout churchman. A member of the Episcopal Church, he is, we believe, a regular attendant upon its noble services and a generous contributor to the maintenance of the same; and would it not be well for the distinguished gentleman to remember that the great and good man in whose name his church stands was noted for his practical philanthrophy and for the deathless love he felt for the whole human race?

Why a Black Man Is Black.

It is not an accident that the skin of the African is black, but a provision of nature to fit him for his surroundings, for a black skin can withstand the sun's rays better than a white one. It might be thought, perhaps that as black absorbs the rays and white reflects them it would have been better for nature to give him a white skin; that he would have been more comfortable so, but he would not.

The reason is this: A white skin scorches and blisters under a hot sun, but a black skin does not, for it absorbs the rays and carries the heat beneath. So far as bodily comfort is concerned, there is all the difference in the world between a scorched skin and one that is not scorched, and, therefore, the black man is better fitted to withstand the equatorial heat.

If you will bear this in mind until next Summer you may make a simple test of the matter. Put a white glove on one hand and a black glove on the other and expose them both to the sun. You will find that the hand with the black glove on feels hotter than the one with the white glove on, but it will not scorch and burn like the latter.

In fact, you may test the matter in Winter, too. Lay a piece of black cloth on the snow and a piece of the same size and texture, but white, by the side of it. Make your experiment on a day when the sun is hot enough to make a thaw, and you will find, after awhile, that the snow under the black cloth has melted more than that under the white cloth, which shows that the heat is absorbed by the black cloth and carried beneath it.

The Abbey's Funeral-Roll.

St. James's Gazette.

Some notable names have been added to the roll-call of the Abbey under Dean Bradley. Charles Darwin, Archbishop French—himself once dean of Westminster—Robert Browning, Alfred Tennyson, and William Ewart Gladstone are among the names that have been added to the burial-roll of the Abbey under Dean Bradley's supervision, and nobody will quarrel with them. It will surprise many people, perhaps, to know that only 10 persons have been buried in the Abbey in the last 20 years, and that only two of these were women—Lady Louisa Percy, and Mrs. Gladstone. These, with two poets, two architects, an archbishop, a scientist, a Queen's printer, and a statesman, complete the roll of the great dead who have been buried in Westminster Abbey since Dr. Bradley became dean.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

LETTERS asking for general information will be answered in these columns. Letters should be written on one side of the paper, and must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer—not for publication, however. All letters without the name of the writer go to the waste-basket.

"Standard" Dictionaries.

Kindly inform me through the columns of your paper if Webster's Dictionary was ever the "standard" dictionary of the United States; if so, upon what or whose authority was it adopted as such? Also please state the present standard, when and by what authority adopted. A. C. J.

For many years Webster's was the best dictionary in the United States—that is to say, it was so regarded by the scholars of the country and by the masses. In a broad sense it was and still is a standard. No educational, political or legal authority exists in this country for fixing standards in literature. Only opinion governs. If you depend on the Century or the Standard for your words, you have an authority that cannot be nullified.

We have no present standard dictionary, and no power to create one. Suppose Congress should appoint a commission to compile a dictionary. Could the public schools be compelled to adopt it? At the National capital there is a commission on geographical names. It decided on "Skagway" as the official spelling of the name of the Alaska town, and this was adopted by the postoffice and other departments of the Government. But the Government cannot declare the orthography and meaning of every word in the English language. We can have good, better and best dictionaries, according to the views of individuals, not by statute or official edict.

Soldiers' License.

Will you please give me information regarding "soldiers' license" for peddling. I have heard that an honorably discharged soldier could secure a license from the Government which is good in any state and which could be used without fear of collision with local ordinances. C. E.

There is no such law that we know of. The regulation of peddling is essentially a local or state matter, and some of the local regulations have favored honorably discharged soldiers, particularly those who may have suffered injury in the military service. This was quite common in the East in the years immediately succeeding the close of the Civil War.

Oregon Forest Reserve.

I am informed that a portion of the Oregon forest reserve is soon to be restored to the public domain. If so, would you kindly give me whatever information you can on it. H. C.

It is not publicly known that any part of any Oregon forest reserve is to be restored to the public domain.

220-Yard Record.

Please state the world's record for the 220-yard dash. A. B.

Professional, H. Hutchens, 21 4-5 seconds; amateur, B. J. Wefers, 21 1-5 seconds.

Mexican War Pension.

My father was a teamster in the Mexican War, was employed by the United States Government, and he got a land warrant in 1862. Is he entitled to a pension or not?

Only regularly enlisted men are entitled to pensions.

Two Theories.

(1) What is the theory as to how Crater Lake was supplied with water?

(2) Why is it that in cold weather the moon is high in the heavens, and in hot weather is low in the South? I. R.

(1) Crater Lake is supplied with water by melting snows and from springs, much as other lakes are supplied.

(2) This question assumes as a fact what is not true; therefore there is no reason for it.

Salem's Population.

Will you please state in your columns the population of Salem, Or., at the last census? C. C. W.

According to the census of 1900, Salem's population was 4258. However, these figures include only those who lived in the corporate limits. The actual population of Salem proper is about twice as large as the Federal census male it.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox, Probably.

Who was the author of "Laugh and the world laughs with you"? A. C.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox seems to have the best claim to it to date, though there are other claimants.

No.

Was Dr. Parkman killed by Professor Webster, of Harvard College, the author of "The Oregon Trail"? F. M.