

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Held a Convention and Amend the Constitution.

STUDY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

The Young Collegian of Today is Encouraged to Suggest Reforms in Human Activities From National Government to Disposal of Refuse.

PROVIDENCE, April 11, 1908.—

An amended national constitution suited to these days is what a convention of Brown University undergraduates in a class in America government recently produced, after settling in conclude a number of mooted questions. Their deliberations were quite unprejudiced by experts advice, but fortunately their youthful conclusions do not have to be accepted as final. The decision, however, which they reached indicate pretty plainly just what things in the ancient constitution a group of characteristic young men of educated intelligence just entering upon citizenship and intensely interested in political problems would want to change.

Here are a few of the alterations which young men of Brown would like to make in the constitution, laying down the principle that in order to get something more definite than "those unwritten principles of the common law" "we, the people of the United States," must formulate a constitution embodying definite and specific provisions.

The United States Senate gets abused now and then on the ground that it is a rich man's club, representing special privileges rather than the interests of all the people. The reasons for such an impression, if any exist, the students at the university would remove by popular election of senators. They have decreed that the Senate of the United States shall

be composed of two senators from each state chosen by direct vote of the people in each state for six years. To the Senate they would give a broad blanket veto, power upon legislation for taxation purposes, all bills for raising revenue originating in the House of Representatives to be either approved or disapproved, as a whole, by the senators.

Whatever Senator Aldrich of Rhode Island and other statesmen may think about railroad rate regulation Brown seniors and juniors believe in it and they get their belief into the constitution. Incidentally they use the preposition "among" in speaking of the commerce of the several states and thus continue the possibility of such an interpretation as ex-President Stuyvesant Fish of the Illinois Central has lately suggested whereby since "among" is less restrictive than "between" commerce wholly within one state, should, it is maintained, also come under governmental restriction. One of the powers of Congress in the college boy's compact is "To prescribe the conditions under which transportation both of persons and things shall be conducted with foreign nations and among the several states and with Indian tribes."

Presidential election years are likely to be years of disturbance of business. The student convention prescribes therefore that they shall come less frequently. Accordingly the President shall henceforth hold his office during a term of six years. It is also provided that President and Vice President shall be elected by direct popular vote instead of by the present farce of an electoral college. The total votes in each municipality in each state are to be sent to the legislature and by them, after due formalities, reported to the seat of government of the United States directed to the president of the Senate. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be declared president.

Amendments to the constitution have always been hard to secure. Brown University students would make them a little easier to get through by an arrangement for periodically considering revisions.

The evil of child labor is one against which all sorts of good people and philanthropic associations in-

veigh hopelessly, in the present conditions of federal independence. The sympathy of the collegiate reformers goes out to the infantile victims of exploitation, for they allege, "It being for the future welfare and prosperity of the nation, Congress shall have power to regulate the labor of children. Age limits shall be established in the several states according to the discretion of Congress, but no limit in any state shall be less than thirteen years."

These and a number of other amendments proposed for the federal constitution represents one of the characteristic enterprises which college students engaged in the study of social science are urged to undertake, not as a matter of special research but simply as a means of becoming familiar with the broad political principles not long ago prepared a complete constitution for the state of Rhode Island. On still another occasion a new chart for the city of Providence was drawn up in due form.

The effort is in every feasible way to make the boys take a wholesome interest in politics and thus to prepare them for the duties of citizenship. Students from the classes of Professors Wilson and Dealey have made observations at the recent caucuses. Presidential elections next fall will give an admirable chance for study of both the Rhode Island and the national political game. Where possible employment at the polls is secured for some of the boys on election day and at other times.

Not only the strictly political questions are made the subject of reports by members of the classes, but investigations are conducted into various aspects of civic life. A collection of manufacturing communities such as constitute the state of Rhode Island offers all sorts of sociological problems of the type familiar to most American cities. Providence, for example, and other cities of the town of the neighborhood are more or less defective in points of municipal design and civic improvements. Classes in hand, to get the data for making detailed statements as to what they think might be done to improve the appearance of the town. This assignment is undertaken with enthusiasm. One owner of a good camera

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returns with a series of neatly mounted views showing bare unattractive spots in the city and suburbs which, as he thinks, for small expenditure of money and with great attendant benefit to the adjoining real estate, could be made into attractive parks. Still another young fellow collects pictures looking along congested streets whose vistas of the State Capitol should have been left open. These boys, later on, will be found taking part in the big movement for improvement of American cities.

Under the competent guidance other sides of modern city life are observed. Sometimes corporation boarding houses are investigated, or the conditions in which the floating population that sleeps in lodging houses passes its days and nights. All the civic institutions which offer material for the study for such social problems as charity, crime intemperance, marriage and divorce are not only discussed in class room, but are studied on the spot.

Oftentimes the boys from attendance at meetings of laboring men and agitators come back with revolutionary ideas. These, however, they will likely outgrow as they get deeper into their studies. The idea is to make them think about social matters. As soon as a student begins to think hard he sees that while there are some very pretty socialistic theories abroad, the world moves only very slowly in their direction, and not along the mechanical lines laid down by agitators and academic philosophers.

Along with the first hand study of special phases of political and civic life goes insistence on the big principles of political science and sociology. It is part of the Brown plan not to be afraid of general ideas, provided only that the boys, while becoming familiar with the theories, are kept in contact with the actual facts of life.

Chamberlain's Has the Preference.

Mr. Fred C. Hanrahan, a prominent druggist of Portsmouth, Va., says: "For the past six years I have sold and recommended Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. It is a great remedy and one of the best patent medicines on the market. I handle some others for the same purposes that pay me a larger profit, but this remedy is so sure to effect a cure, and my customer so certain to appreciate my recommending it to him, that I give it the preference." For sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

PAULINE NEFF MARRIED.

NEW YORK, April 11.—James P. Munson, the multi-millionaire medicine manufacturer of Altoona, Pa., and Mrs. Pauline Neff, a former actress of the "Social Whirl" were married in Jersey City last Thursday night and are now at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Pauline Neff is the daughter of Judge Daniel G. Neff of Altoona. His is one of the leading families of that part of Pennsylvania. Munson is 60 and his bride is 24. He has given millions to charity and is credited to be among Pennsylvania's richest men. His two sons are married.

ROBBERS OVERLOOKED \$2,500.

CHICAGO, April 11.—Two masked robbers compelled Louis Rotherberg to raise his hands over his head in his saloon last night and then stole from a safe \$1,000 which belonged to a brewing company. They immediately ran from the saloon overlooking the pay checks amounting to \$2,500.



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