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As the failure to properly educate the young reveals most sharply the injustice in the social system, and the children, unlike, ourselves, are not to blame for their ignorance, the principle of growing "charity" naturally unfolds to their benefit. The circle of compensation nears completion when the Rockefeller and Stanfords build great universities, when the Carnegies found libraries, or when, as now, great floods of ill-gotten wealth are breaking the dams of selfish greed and rushing in seeming impatience to rectify the wrongs done the children. This is compensation. The circle will be completed when this is changed still more, wealth ceasing to go into the pockets of those that do not earn it to be doled out again in seeming charity, but instead remains the land values with society, the labor values with the producer, and enables every parent to educate his own children.—W. G. Sawin in San Francisco Star.

HOMES FOR POOR.

The yearning for a home is one of the strongest impulses of the human heart.

The ties that bind men to the soil by the sovereignty and sacredness of ownership are the springs of patriotism which make men lay down their lives for their country.

For hundreds of years European governments have reserved their magnificent estates and homes for the noble, the rich, the titled and the aristocratic.

The great mass of humanity in Europe has been land hungry, famishing for homes, pining for a lot and an acre to live and die upon without interruption from the landlord.

This home hungering has driven the flower of European manhood to the free shores of America. It has populated whole states in this government with the sturdiest race of artisans that was ever transplanted onto any continent. It has brought the brawny Swede and Irish boy from their landlord ridden native lands to this foreign clime, in hopes of satisfying that insatiable thirst for an independent home and a sovereign right of ownership to be coveted by the naughty landlords at home.

Alarmed at the rapid depopulation of Ireland because of the impossibility of the growing generations to secure land from the landlords, England was at last forced to pass the Wyndham bill, providing for the purchase of small homes by the Irish people, on easy terms, from their hard masters, the English landlords.

England saw that she must tie the Irish people to the soil by some stronger bond than the cruel lease of the cringing tenant.

She saw that her denial of homes to the poor was robbing her empire of its choicest manhood. So to check the outflow of her strong limbed, sturdy sons, she promised them homes. She forced the landlords to yield their magnificent estates, the government to pay the price to the landlords and the former tenants of those haughty landlords to become sovereign home-owners, paying the government as their matchless soil and matchless skill produced, the wealth.

Sweden, alarmed at the same outflow of the flower and strength of her young manhood and womanhood, has imitated the Irish Wyndham bill.

Beginning in 1905, the Swedish boy can buy a plot of ground on easy terms, on long payments, and become a landlord. The government will buy up the magnificent estates and parcel them out to her needy sons.

She, also, seeks to tie her children to the soil by ownership. It is the only safe citizenship. Anything

weaker than the ownership of homes is not a safe bond with which to bind a people together.

If the Mormons would keep still about polygamy the country would not so strongly suspect that it is a sacred principle with them yet. Their activity yesterday in trying to prevent the introduction of an anti-Mormon plank in the national democratic platform and a similar activity in the republican convention on June 21, leads thinking people to conclude that polygamy is yet being closely guarded and practiced as one of the secret tenets of the Mormon faith, despite the protestations to the contrary. However, it cannot long exist in the rising tide of American ideas and ideals. The older generation of Mormons, who have lived through the ordeals and persecutions attending the foundation and early history of Mormonism may yet cling to the "revelation" from the angels. But among the younger, virile, aggressive Mormon element, which is touching shoulders with the Gentile world outside of Zion, this doctrine cannot and does not strongly appeal. Most of the activity over polygamy comes from among the prophets, seers, revelators and sages, whose sole business is to guard the oracles of the church. Among the younger class which grows sugar beets, alfalfa and livestock, polygamy is a relic for memory, but not for use.

The Oregonian says, in speaking of the speech of John Sharp Williams at the opening of the democratic national convention, that "these long speeches are usually sent ahead by mail in time to be put in type in advance, but this one was not so sent, but came, entire, by telegraph, as it was delivered." It may be true that the long speeches in the trust-manipulated conventions of the party of the Oregonian are written by clerks and stenographers and sent to all the party bosses to be censored and criticized weeks ahead, in order to eliminate any compromising statement that might be embarrassing in a "cut and dried program," but such a practice does not prevail in the free and spontaneous programs of the national democracy. The surroundings of the speaker and the revelations of the moment inspire democratic speeches. Williams submitted none of his thoughts to party managers in advance. They were willing to risk and rely upon his ready intellect to meet the demands of the hour and had no fear that any outburst of enthusiasm or censure would be embarrassing to the democratic campaign. Ready-written speeches hint of facts and history to be studiously avoided by the speaker.

The most wonderful feature of the West is the irrigated districts in which deserts have been converted into matchless settlements supporting an incredible number of people. On Butter creek, in the Hudson Bay district, at Freewater, Milton, Wild Horse, Tutulla and in numberless other communities in Umatilla county irrigation has increased land values from 800 to 2000 per cent and even more than this. The possibilities of an irrigated district are so varied and inexhaustible. Irrigation is the beginning of an endless chain of resources which can never become weakened nor depreciated as long as soil and water can be united in a continuous fruition. No gold mine, however rich, offers the same security to the investor as irrigated land. It is an interminable vein and lies uncovered before God and man.

Is there a more revolting or desperate thought for the farmer and stockman than that a useless, non-producing, parasitical trust stands between the man who produces and the man who consumes the necessities of life and levies tribute upon both parties in the transfer of these products from the man who has them to sell to the man who needs them? What does the trust produce? Of what use is it, except to absorb profits that should remain with the producer? By what right does Rockefeller reap millions by furnishing people with oil for light and fuel, which nature has placed in the earth for the use of man? By what right are God's gifts to man cornered?

ALLIGATOR FARMS.

The French are to have an alligator farm. Several French capitalists recently visited this country to purchase a few head of stock with which to start it. The point selected for the venture is somewhere in the south of France. The French prize the alligator's skin so highly that the leather dealers believe it will pay to raise the animals directly on home soil—or, more properly, in home waters. If they succeed it will be the first farm of its kind in the world.

Alligator skin is daily growing rarer and more high-priced, while the demand for it continues to increase. The French require large quantities of it for shoes, bags, portfolios and toilet articles. President Loubet, not long ago, received as a gift an entire hunting suit made of the finest skins obtainable.

QUARRELIN'.

Us is out, her an' me.
Moonin' round the square,
Tryin' how to make believe
As us doesn't care.

Us is out, her an' me.
Just like blank fools.
Bustin'—achin' for a word—
Obstinat as mules.

Us is out, her an' me.
Out—and all fr what—
Things as ain't the worth o' that
When you're love-forgot.

Us ain't made to snap an' snarl—
Us that's one an' two!
Us ain't made to jar an' fret—
Us, that's me an' you.

Us ain't made to go apart
Kiss me lovin'—true—
Us that's touchin' mouth to mouth—
Us, that's me an' you.
—Mary Gilmore in Denver Post.

DEATH BY LIGHTNING.

More than 700 persons were killed by lightning in the United States in 1903. A writer in the Boston Transcript says: "East of the 100th meridian thunder storms occur all over the country, but west of it, except in the Rocky mountains, the frequency of storms diminishes until on the Pacific coast there are practically none. The greatest number of storms occurs in Florida, in the Middle Mississippi valley and the Middle Missouri valley. The greatest number of deaths in any single state (1896-1900) was 186—in Pennsylvania. Ohio came next with 135, Indiana and Illinois and New York having 124 each. As to the city and country, the more dense the population the smaller the rate to the 1,000,000 of population. Besides this the metal rods, telegraph wires, etc., of the cities serve as conductors. Lightning rods, as usually put, are of no use. A tin roof with gutter spouts leading to the ground is much more effective. Barns with green hay seem to invite lightning.

"Bill the Bunk" says that if men have a fire to sell their labor to whom they please he is ready to employ a few men in the work of cracking safes.

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