

and it contains much of wise suggestion and individual leading for those whom its truth arouses.

As we go. By Charles Dudley Warner. Published by Harper and Brothers, New York. Pp. 196. \$1.00.

A new book by Mr. Warner does not need to be commended to those who are familiar with his published works. He is always a charming writer, humorous, wise, original, thinking and expressing thought as none other does. In "As We Go" he is again rishly and delightfully himself. The shutters of his cultured mind are lifted, and we read his impressions of modern men and women, of things new and striking, his study of the world we live in. He handles his subjects lightly and seriously, humorously and profoundly, leading the reader to many unexpected turns of thought and felicities of expression. His book is like his ideal of conversation, which he says, "in order to be good, and intellectually inspiring, and spiritually restful, need not always be serious. It must be alert and intelligent, and mean more by its suggestions and allusions than is said. There is the light touch-and go play about topics more or less profound that is as agreeable as heat-lightning in a sultry evening." But our author never plays foolishly or carelessly with topics. There is always a well-concealed purpose in his half-thoughts, paradoxes, bright notions and pleasing fancies. They serve to bring out or lead to some subtle thought, some truth whose impression will be lasting.

In type, paper, illustrations and binding the book is also made very tastefully and permanently attractive.

EVENING DRESS. A Farce. By W. D. Howells. Published by Harper and Brothers, New York. 32 mo cloth, 50 cts.

Mr. Howells in this amusing little comedy uses the same principal characters, the Roberts and Campbells, which he employs in his "White Lies" and "The Albany Depot" farces. His object in "Evening Dress," as in "White Lies" is to show up the shams and bondage, the selfishness and lack of real friendship, to be found in "the upper circles" of society. This object is incidentally secured, while the story of perplexing situations and caricatured human nature is made irreverently ridiculous and laugh-provoking.

A STRING OF AMBER BEADS. By Martha E. Holden ("Amber"). Published by Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago.

A PLEA FOR THE GOSPEL. By Prof. George D. Herron, D. D. Published by Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York.

The first plank of the Social Democracy party of Denmark declares, "Labor is the source of all wealth and all culture; to the workers, therefore, should accrue all the fruits of their labor." The second plank goes on to say, "In modern society, the machinery of production—the land, the factories, the machines, the means of communication and transportation, etc.—is in the possession of the capitalists, who thereby have appropriated to themselves the fruits of thousands of years of the toil of others. The circumstance that capitalists are the sole disposers over the machinery of production, is the source of political dependence, of social inequality and of international conflicts—all of which cast the productive members of society into misery. The private ownership of capital renders impossible any social system grounded on justice; it brings on a planless system of production whereby untold wealth is wasted."

GOVERNOR LEWELLING of Kansas knows how a man feels who is out of money and in search of employment. He tramped the streets of Chicago all night in 1865, because he had no money to pay for lodging. He is proof to the world that so-called tramps, men seeking work, have the stuff of manhood in them, and we rejoice that our party has in it, as one of its greatest leaders, a man whose poverty and need of friends has put him in touch with all humanity. Kansas partisans who criticize his late election, are, in selfishness, meanness and brutality, beneath contempt. God bless Governor Lewelling for keeping the honest poor from imprisonment and degradation.

"In the congested districts of Omaha there is an alarming amount of poverty and wretchedness," says the Omaha Bee reporter. "And it is not only in the slums and on the outskirts of the city that dire suffering exists. There are wives and children and hopeless, longing men within a stone's throw of the busiest centers in whose homes the pang of hunger and the pains of cold and fear of heartless landlords are ever the reigning features. The Associated charities, Rescue hall, the churches and all other charitable institutions are taxed to the last degree, and in numerous cases the most worthy have been turned away without encouragement or assistance."

The Chicago Times says the poor in Pullman, a suburb of Chicago, are over-awed, that women and children must suffer hunger and cold in silence because Mr. Pullman and the great car company make complaints to react on the complainants. So hard has become the struggle to pay rent to the Company

that there are almost entire blocks with six and eight families in a tenement, and some of these families even keep boarders. All the way they can get fuel is to pick up loose pieces of lumber at the World's Fair grounds several miles away. Often the houses are without either food or fuel? Whole families are starving in Pullman. And at this time the Company has made a cut in the wages of those employed.

"In Danbury, Ct., the striking hatters have massed together in town meeting and in five minutes rushed through a resolution appropriating \$50,000 to aid themselves," says a Boston paper. The capitalists of the town, their employes who have amassed great wealth from their earnings, will of course object to this orderly, legal way of getting back a part that unjust wages have lost to the workers. They will have the judges declare that taxing monopolists is unconstitutional, or words to that effect. But it is on the part of the hatters a most happy precedent to set, a method truly American, and one that beats charity soup and bomb-throwing beyond comparison.

THE English Parliament was last week forced to introduce a bill authorizing the Indian government to borrow \$50,000,000 (gold) to meet maturing obligations. The situation in India since closing the mints against silver has become most critical; the rupee, in consequence of mint closing, has declined in value, and the payment of gold obligations to England in depreciated silver would entail a loss, the Times says, "so large as would cause serious financial embarrassment." So the evil day is to be put off and made worse by borrowing gold, and forcing taxes on the people to pay interest on the bonds which purchase it. Cursed rulers!

"REDUCTIONS in wages are almost universal," says The Economist. "The characteristic of the present time is the large number of working people who are out of employment and sharp reductions in the compensation of those who are engaged. How far this process will go nobody can tell, but it is not to be expected that the percentage of reduction in wages will be as great as has been the decline in commodities." Not so. The decline, so long as labor is bought and sold as a commodity, will be equal, except where labor organizations resist the lowering of wages.

Join the People's party and help to control it. People who object to Populist nominees should attend Populist primaries and conventions and assist in sending cranks and fanatics to the rear.—Rocky Mountain News.

That's all right, Brother Patterson. If you can bring enough one-idea silver men into our party to send the million "cranks and fanatics" who voted for the Omaha platform to the rear, the cake is yours. But don't be disappointed if you fail. It's an infinite task to head off and turn around a million out and out anti-monopolists.

FRAUDS of the most extensive and flagrant kind, practised by the Democrats in the recent Virginia election are coming to light, and even the Democrat organs are appalled at the disclosed corruption. The Richmond Times has begun preaching repentance to the party. It is more than probable that the Populist ticket was by an honest count elected. The Populists are hotly pursuing their foes, and in the next election will doubtless send Gen. Rosser to Congress.

THE defenders of the competitive system have a few items of waste to consider in a line of waste which promises to increase steadily until the complete emancipation or subjugation of the workers has been secured. The recent great sixteen weeks colliery strike in England made a loss to the mine-owners, iron masters and railways of \$65,000,000; consumers paid in increased prices of coal \$8,728,980; and the miner's iron workers and other artisans lost \$89,947,620.

COUNT HERBERT BISMARCK, son of the "iron chancellor," is leader of the German farmers, the agrarian party of the Reichstag, and in a Dec. 15th speech quoted from a pamphlet of the Archbishop of Dublin, arguing that "unless the currency question was settled the peasantry would become bankrupt." The entire industrial world is being reduced to pauperism and wretched serfdom by the merciless gold monopolists. The Count is a bimetalist.

THE American Federation of Labor, with a membership of 750,000, at its annual meeting in Chicago last week adopted a platform that is in complete harmony with, while going somewhat farther than, the national platform of our party. They call for the nationalization of the railroads, telegraphs, telephones and mines, and go on to declare for the collective ownership of land and capital.

GOVERNOR WAITER has a long head on him. His extra session will be worth a great deal more than it costs if it takes action, as the Governor proposes, to compel an adjudication by the

Supreme Court in the question of the constitutionality of the acts demoralizing the money of the constitution.

WITH the use of modern machinery and an intelligent division of labor, an adult person working ten hours a day for five years can produce enough to provide himself with what is actually necessary for a life time of seventy years, it is estimated. But under the capitalist system, the system of buying labor and selling the product men seventy years old are kept at work.

THE Populists of Topeka, Kansas, have nominated Dr. McLellan for mayor. Dr. McLellan is the well known editor of The Advocate, one of the ablest Populist papers printed. He is a good man intellectual and morally, and should be elected.

WE hear that J. Sterling Morton is so proud of his speech in which he insulted the farmers that he has had 10,000 copies printed for circulation.

THE ARENA for December is a number of 187 pages and appears in a new, beautiful dress. Among the editorial articles we notice "The Bank of Venice," by Hon. John Davis, M. C.; "Can the United States Restore the Bimetallic Standard of Money?" by Dr. George C. Douglas; "Rent," by Thomas L. Brown; "Freedom's Revolt" (poem), by James F. Clark; and "A Southern View of the Financial Situation," by George C. Kelly. There are also other articles in variety and a large number of valuable book reviews.

THE December Review of Reviews as usual outlines and comments on the leading events, showing the progress of the world. This opening paper by the editor is always of great interest. Another feature which forms an amusing and interesting study is the collection of the cartoons of the month. One of the three noteworthy papers in the December number is Character Sketches, and one of the six notable sketches is Tom Mann, the London labor leader. The best articles in the worlds reviews are carefully condensed, epitomized, in this unique magazine, and the current events of the world worth preserving are carefully collected and prepared by its editors. \$2.50 a year. New York

THE COSMOPOLITAN for this month is a greater marvel than ever. It is a World's Fair number, surpassing in beautiful illustration, in the number and variety of its engravings, every other magazine which has appeared. It is a number to buy and preserve for this particular feature. The writers include with others, F. Hopkinson Smith, John J. Ingalls, H. H. Boyesen, Mark Twain, Walter Besant, Guy DeMaupassant, Camille Flammarion and W. D. Howells. Mr. Howells' "Letters of an Altrurian Traveler" continue to be intensely interesting, and this month the letter is called out by the World's Fair achievement. The motto of this magazine is: "From every man according to his ability; to every man according to his needs."

Interest and Money. The interest on one dollar for one hundred years at one per cent, compounded annually, amounts to two dollars and seventy-five cents; at three per cent it will be nineteen and a quarter dollars; at six per cent it will be three hundred and forty dollars; at twelve per cent it will be eighty-four thousand dollars, and at twenty-four per cent it will be over two billion five hundred million dollars. This is reported from a table published by a Mr. Dean in the Arena of June. He gives the case of one H. L. Case of Bristol Centre, New York, who bought a farm in 1872 of five acres for fifteen thousand dollars, paying two thousand five hundred dollars the first year and all in interest. From that time on he has been paying all he could. He is a most excellent farmer and very successful. He has paid ten thousand on the principal and over fifteen thousand interest, yet now owes five thousand dollars, and owing to depreciation of land prices the farm will not sell for the five thousand. He cites this to show the effect of contraction of currency, high interest, low prices for products. We hope our readers who are interested in the great question of the People vs. Shylock will read the June number of the Arena. By the way, it is a good sign when the supreme culture of our land, represented in this foremost of Boston publications, agrees with the long expressed wish of our broad minded west.

We of the west know by practical experience what we want. The more instrumentalities we have of the kind we need to do our work with, and the cheaper they are the better for us who use them, perhaps not for the few who have them to lend. Still, as a rule, what is best for the most is, in the end, best for all. Now, money signs are neither more nor less than instruments for the exchange of services. (We might say the exchange of commodities, but as labor produces all, we just use the ultimate term, "services.") Money is not wealth any more than are vehicles, cars, wheelbarrows. The great binding fallacy consists in regarding money more valuable than other things. We do so because we have permitted law to make it scarce and high priced. We dare not thus permit legislation to tamper with the price of bread. Yet money is really more necessary than bread and meat, for it is the only means by which to procure bread and meat. In old times all our greatest needs were procurable by barter, but now we have got it down so that a common man must have more money to pay taxes, railway fares, postage than formerly he needed for everything. Really, today, money is the one thing needed; more so than ever, yet we suffer it to be monopolized by a few. Our government must provide abundance of currency and thus put the cost of money down to a mere nominal interest. Let it be done. That anything so essential to comfort and living is permitted to be doled out on the customary terms is wrong. High interest lies at the base of the great evil and this could not be so but for the unnatural scarcity; We do not want inflation, which results from the use of substitutes based on gold or other money representatives. We want

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abundance of absolute money; that is, legal tender. Inflation comes from the use of non-legal tender money signs. There can be no inflation from the use of legal tender money unless the credit of the power that issues it becomes impaired. Suppose gold were superabundant and used as the sole legal tender it would become cheap—that is its credit would grow less. So with any other article used for money signs.—St. Joseph Herald.

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