

would drive her out of business. The trust then opened a cigar store in a building adjoining that occupied by the Saqui establishment. The plucky little woman explained to her customers that the trust was making war upon her. A New York newspaper tells the story in this way: "The customers spread the news quickly. Within two weeks the trust store was opened, with standard goods ticketed at ruinous prices, but the customers, ignoring the bait of the trust, made purchases at Mrs. Saqui's store. Within a month Mrs. Saqui's business had doubled. Not only did her old customers stand by her in her days of trial, but they brought new custom. Men who had been buying tobacco and cigars downtown stopped and bought their day's supply in the morning. The trust undertook to refuse to sell its goods to Mrs. Saqui, who then stopped buying the trust made goods. Men who had been smoking certain brands of cigars, tobacco and cigarettes for years stopped them when they found why Mrs. Saqui had quit handling the trust goods and began smoking the kind she sold."

THAT "the senate is not the road to the White House" was an opinion recently expressed by the Washington Star. A writer in the New York World takes issue to the Star's statement and says: "If we were to take the presidents of the last fifty years we should have to say that the senate seemed to be quite as good a road as any other." For instance: "Franklin Pierce had been a senator, and he defeated General Scott, who had only a military reputation. Buchanan had been a senator, as well as secretary of state and minister to Great Britain. Fremont, his opponent, had also sat in the senate. Lincoln was a defeated candidate for the senate. One of his democratic opponents, Douglas, was a senator, and the other, Breckinridge, was vice president. McClellan, who was a soldier, was defeated, but Grant who was a soldier was elected, Seymour had been governor of New York and Greeley was an editor. Hayes was governor of Ohio and Tilden was governor of New York. Garfield was a senator and Hancock was a soldier. Cleveland was governor of New York and Blaine had been a senator. Harrison also had been in the senate. McKinley was a governor of Ohio after a long service in congress. Roosevelt was vice president and had been governor of New York, while Parker was a judge. It would be extremely difficult to classify these data in such a way as to blaze a trail to the White House, but the senate appears to be a good enough road if the right man takes it. There used to be a notion that no 'accidental' president could become president in his own right, but it does not seem to have been a very great handicap to Mr. Roosevelt."

WALTER C. HAMM, United States consul at Hull, England, made an interesting report under date of October 31, 1904. In that report Consul Hamm said: "The construction of a municipal telephone system in Hull has brought about a speedy reduction in rates. At a recent meeting of the corporation telephone committee it was announced that the charge for unlimited service over an exclusive line would be 5 pounds (\$24.23) per annum to private houses and 6 pounds 6 shillings (\$30.65) to business premises. This reduction has been followed by a large increase in the number of subscribers. The National Telephone company has been compelled to reduce its rates for unlimited service to private houses from 10 pounds (\$48.66) to half that amount. To what extent this reduction will affect the company in other towns and cities is a matter of interest. It is stated that in the agreements which the National Telephone company has with practically all the large towns and cities in England, and by which the corporations of those towns granted the company underground way leaves, it was made a condition that in case it reduced its unlimited service rate in any place below \$48.65, a similar reduction must be made, if demanded, in all other towns. If this is the case, then other cities can now demand the same telephone rate that is made in Hull. Thus the competition in this city may prove beneficial to every city in England."

THE REPORT of the comptroller of accounts of the Hull corporation throws some light on the position of other corporation enterprises, and the success attending their municipalization. Referring to this report, Mr. Hamm said: "On account of the crematory \$530.44 was expended for maintenance and \$306.58 was received in the year ended April 1, so that there was an excess

of expenditure of \$223.86 in this case. On the public baths during the same time there was an excess of expenditure of \$1,110.53. In the gas department the profit in the year was \$15,380 from which there is to be deducted interest on the debit balance, and a sum for the sinking fund, leaving a net credit balance on the revenue account of \$2,637. The working profit of the waterworks was \$149,893; deducting \$12,652, city fund annuity; \$57,449, interest on loans, and \$8,622 for the sinking fund leaves the net profits \$71,162. The revenue account of the electric lighting shows a working profit of \$88,696, from which there are to be deductions for interest on loans, sinking fund, and meter installments, leaving the net profit \$7,976. The working profit on account of the street cars for the year was \$185,238, from which \$48,329 is to be deducted for interest on loans and \$45,700 for the sinking fund, and \$37,400 to be transferred to the reserve fund, making the credit balance for this year \$57,500. In each instance, then, with the exception of the crematory and the baths, the municipalization of public utilities in Hull has resulted in profit to the city treasury. The profit, it is true, is small, but it must be remembered that the charges for these public services are extremely low. A ride on the street cars in any direction to the end of the line costs only 2 cents; an exclusive telephone service in a private house costs less than \$25 a year, and in a business office about \$30 a year. Gas is sold at 48 cents per thousand feet, and electricity at nine cents per unit. The object is not so much to make a profit for the city out of these utilities as to furnish the public with the best service at the lowest possible price. Viewed in this light, municipalization in Hull can be pronounced a success."

AN INSTRUCTIVE comparison between street railway conditions in Leipzig as they appear in Consul Warner's published report is made by The Churchman with the conditions in New York, Chicago and Boston. The Churchman says: "In Leipzig the franchise is for forty years, then the lines and rolling stock revert to the city, except such as have been built within the preceding five years. Other property of the companies, powerhouses, grounds and so forth, can be bought at the assessed valuation. On terms somewhat more favorable to the company the city may acquire the plant at the end of twenty years, or of any subsequent five-year period. The companies forfeit their rights if they discontinue running along any of their lines without municipal sanction. That would be sad news for the interurban in New York. They lose them, too, if they fail to comply with any ordinance within a reasonable time, or if the royal ministry should think it expedient. Stockholders are protected in such an eventuality. The city must pay them the value of the plant as determined by experts. Meantime, for the right to use the streets, the company pay first 2, 3, 4 and after fifteen years, 5 per cent of the gross receipts. They also pave them when tracks are laid, and repair them where traffic causes wear and tear, and all this they do for a fare a little less than half our customary five cents. Six tickets cost a little less than 12 cents and commutation and school tickets are cheaper. Transfers are a matter of course. Postmen, telegraph and messenger boys are carried free. Nobody is allowed to stand inside the cars and not many outside. The companies have paid dividends every year since their organization, ranging as high as 8 per cent."

DR. JAMES W. LEE, pastor of St. John's church at St. Louis recently paid a visit to Luther Burbank, the famous California horticulturist. Dr. Lee quotes Mr. Burbank as saying that the great object and aim of his life is to introduce into the method of rearing children some of the scientific ideas that he applies every day to the improvement of plants. Mr. Burbank says that plants, weeds and trees were responsive to a few influences in their environment, but that children were infinitely more responsive, and the failure to recognize the spiritual elements in the enviroing conditions of children had been the fatal lack in dealing with them. Dr. Lee asked Mr. Burbank if he was familiar with the works of Thomas J. Barnardo, of London, who has educated some 60,000 waif children in the ninety-three homes which he has founded in various parts of England, with the result that only 2 per cent of them have turned out bad. Mr. Burbank replied that he had studied Barnardo's methods of rearing children and that the latter was doing in the realm of human life what he (Burbank) was doing in the realm of plant life.

"Barnardo," he continued, "has demonstrated that infinitely more can be done with children than with weeds and plants. Whenever human beings recognize these realities in the realms of human life and begin to apply scientific principles to the training of children, then humanity will enter upon a new stage of existence." Mr. Burbank said that in his opinion every person should be physically, morally and spiritually perfect, and could be if the same attention were paid to his or her training that he was giving to weeds. He declared that, just as he had wrought seeming miracles with plants by bringing them into contact with those elements of their environment to which they rapidly responded, those who have the care of children should seek to do for them and to train them by bringing their natures into relation with all the elements of their environment to which they are potentially responsive.

IN A RECENT ISSUE the London Daily News says: "In the agricultural returns just issued by the board of agriculture and fisheries reference is made to the wheat growing areas of the world. Reports have been received by the department from some thirty separate national units containing 219,000,000 acres under wheat. Two-thirds of this vast area may be grouped under three flags—the Russian empire with its Asiatic possessions, the British empire with its Indian territories and colonial possessions, and the broad areas of the United States of America. These three areas produced roughly in the latest year for which figures are available:

States.	Area under wheat. Acres.	Estimated production. Quarters.	Yield per acre. Bushels.
Russian Empire...	57,000,000	77,000,000	10.8
United States of America.....	44,000,000	67,000,000	12.1
British Empire.....	40,000,000	69,000,000	13.8

ANOTHER extract from the same report follows: "The American quota is put relatively somewhat low, owing to the unfavorable character of the latest harvest, and the British empire's yield, owing to the large Indian crop of 1904, is probably unduly high. But, whatever allowance might have to be made were average areas and average crops to be measured, there is no state which comes near contesting the position of the three above enumerated as large wheat producers. The low average yield per acre of territories so vast and varied is an incident to be expected, for the means above given include in each group results realized under very different conditions. Nowhere for an area of equal size is so high a yield obtained as in Great Britain herself, with a return of 31 bushels per acre over the last ten years. But in an imperial average we have to count with the meagre yield of our Australian colonies, and some parts of India, where the wheat production may fall to seven bushels to the acre, while similar low estimates for Russian Siberia, and for the southern states of the American union, leave their mark on the average in each case. With narrower areas higher average yields are obtainable, and the next largest group of wheat-growing states may be said to be formed as under, crediting to France—as in the case of Russia and of the British empire—her non-European wheatfields in Algeria."

HERE IS A TABLE for the small areas devoted to wheat:

States	Areas under wheat. Acres.	Estimated production. Quarters.	Yield per acre. Bushels.
France, with Algeria	19,000,000	39,000,000	16
Italy .....	12,700,000	18,000,000	11
Austria-Hungary .....	11,800,000	28,000,000	19
Argentina .....	10,700,000	16,000,000	12
Spain .....	9,000,000	17,000,000	15
Germany .....	4,700,000	17,000,000	30
Roumania .....	4,300,000	6,500,000	12

The board of agriculture says that "practically these seven countries among them grow 72,000,000 acres, which is just half as large a surface as the 141,000,000 acres of the three great states quoted above, but they supply about two-thirds of the crop furnished by Russia, the United States, and our own empire jointly. The collective wheat area of other minor European states is under 4,000,000 acres, of which Bulgaria and Servia probably account for three-fourths, while to include in this analysis the officially recorded wheat acreage of Uruguay in the west, and of Japan in the east, would not quite add another two million acres to the record given above."