

# IN THE WORLD OF PROGRESS

William J. Bryan and his family, who arrived at Yokohama Saturday, will spend two weeks in Japan. They will make a visit of five days to Tokio and Marquis Ito, president of the privy council, and Count Okuma, leader of the progressive party, will invite Mr. Bryan to a dinner. The Jaan-American society invited Mr. Bryan to address its members at the Young Men's hall October 17. Count Okuma presided at the function.

Senator Elkins, in a very frank statement, vaults into the arena alongside of Senator Foraker, and proves that the anti-administration fight of the rate legislation question is on, notwithstanding the statements of Senator Foraker that there was no trouble between him and the president on this subject. Senator Elkins reveals, unwittingly, perhaps, the secret of the forthcoming senate committee bill. He says it will omit the president's vital suggestion that the ratemaking power be given to the interstate commerce commission.

The "law and order" parties breathe freely again in Germany now that the second ballot at Essen has resulted in the victory of the Ultramontane candidate, Herr Giesberts, over his socialist antagonist, Herr Gewehr. It is, however, not a "famous victory," as out of a total of 80,105 recorded votes the socialist received 38,058, only 4,000 short of the victor's number. The total increase in the socialist vote was 9,500, a state of affairs which almost justifies the Vorwarts in its triumphant remark that Essen, the center of benevolent despotism and patriarchal methods of treating workers, will surely elect a socialist at the next election.

Secretary Shaw has a remarkable financial scheme that he is anxious to see put into operation. He let the outside world in on it in a speech before the bankers at Cleveland, Ohio, last week. The scheme, in a nutshell, is that the limited special privileges now granted the national banks be made unlimited; that where now they can issue bank notes only to the extent of their bond holdings, they be allowed to issue more notes, on nothing, you might say, the notes to be pledged by the government, same as at present, the difference being that in case of failure on the bank's part, the people (through the government) lose all. To pay for this extra privilege, Mr. Shaw would compel the banks to pay 5 per cent on the notes issued in excess of their bond-holdings, on which, of course, they pay one-half of one per cent.

The relations between European working people settled in this country and their relatives and friends abroad are so close that an unusual demand for labor is almost immediately satisfied through immigration of additional European laborers. The number of alien arrivals at the port of New York during the second quarter broke all records, reaching 294,381, as against 202,099 for the corresponding quarter last year and 274,507 two years ago. The largest contingent of immigrants came from South Italy, 95,025, or 32 per cent of the total. Polish immigration has increased largely and has assumed second place with 33,438 arrivals. The Germans, with 20,904 arrivals, maintain the third rank, while the Hebrews (17,285) have dropped to fourth place from second place a year ago. New York state received one-third of the immigrants, as against 42 per cent a year ago.

In the New York state labor department's bulletin for the second quarter of 1905 Labor Commissioner Sherman calls attention to a marked improvement in trade, which began in the middle of 1904 and has continued almost uninterruptedly. There are relatively fewer idle wage earners in New York than there were even in 1902, the most prosperous year of the decade. The average number of unemployed members of labor unions was only 151 per 1,000 in the first half of 1905, as compared with 202 last year and 168 in 1902. At the beginning of July this year the proportion of idle men was 91 in 1,000, as against 145 in 1902. The statistics of unemployment in New York, states Commissioner Sherman, are in notable contrast with those of Great Britain, where the number of workers in distress has grown so large as to become the subject of parliamentary discussion. In England and Europe generally the worst year of the industrial depression of the nineties was 1893, and

thereafter business steadily improved until the culmination of the period of prosperity in 1899. On the continent the subsequent stagnation was most marked in 1902 or 1903, but in England it continued in intensified form throughout 1904, and brought about the enactment of the new unemployed workman act at the recent session of parliament. In New York the recent period of prosperity did not set in until 1897 (four years later than in England) and did not reach its culmination until 1903. During the latter part of 1904 there was a reaction, but it was only a temporary check, says the commissioner, and the last twelve months have been so favorably to employment that instead of providing new measures for the relief of the distress among unemployed workmen, the state finds its established institutions only partially used.

The decision reached at a cabinet meeting to make the packers throughout the country pay for inspection tags means more than appears on the surface. For several years small packers throughout the country have been up in arms because the secretary of agriculture could not give them the same inspection service as is accorded large packers. This, it was urged, worked a hardship on the small packers and practically denied them the right to enter the export trade. Secretary Wilson urged upon the president the importance of doing something for the small packers and after outlining his plan to make all packers desiring inspection service pay for the tags used, the government having attached them free on carcasses inspected heretofore, it was thought an exceedingly clever move to give all packers inspection. Secretary Wilson stated on leaving the White House that he estimated the government would receive at least \$50,000 a year from the sale of tags which would be used to broaden the inspection service. The secretary was optimistic on the question, believing that it will solve what has been a most perplexing question in the bureau of animal industry.

The long promised re-organization of the consular service will be brought about by legislative action during the coming session of congress if the influence of the president and Secretary Root is of avail. It has been determined, in behalf of the tremendous trade and other interests of the United States abroad, to push through the two houses a bill which will permit the creation of a permanent corps composed of alert, intelligent Americans, who will be paid sufficiently to enable them to live comfortably with the prospect of promotion. Secretary Root is responsible for the re-organization of the army, which he accomplished when he was at the head of the war department. He found a vicious system existing, and he corrected it, in order that the country might be provided with efficient means of military defense. He has come into the state department and has confirmed the view, generally held, that the consular service is inefficient, unwieldy and incapable adequately of protecting the foreign interests of the United States and expanding the trade of this country. He received the resignations of consular officers who were appointed through political pull to posts with which they were not satisfied. These men summarily threw up commissions rather than remain at points at which they were named.

The reorganization of the Panama canal commission has been followed by a general reduction in the working force and a cut in salaries all along the line. Colonel Edwards, in charge of the commission headquarters at Washington, in explaining this action, calls attention to the fact that retrenchment was necessary, as under the administration of Admiral Walker the force included several officials whose services were not at all necessary. An instance of the methods of the Walker commission is found in the fact that now one man is doing the work formerly done by three, all of whom drew high salaries. Admiral A. S. Kenny, United States navy, retired, held the position of treasurer of the commission under Admiral Walker at a salary of \$7,500. The deputy treasurer was N. C. Farrcott, who drew \$3,000. An assistant deputy received a salary of \$1,800. All three were displaced by Colonel Edwards and now James C. Jester does the work. His salary is \$3,000 a year, so that here is a saving of \$9,300 in this one instance. It was found that in other cases the Walker commission had been lavish in fixing salaries of minor officials and since the change many of these appointees have voluntarily resigned, the others

have either been sent to the Isthmus at reduced salaries or removed. How extensive the reductions have been is indicated by the fact that employees formerly receiving \$3,000 now receive \$1,800; those receiving \$2,000 now receive \$1,600, and those receiving \$1,600 now receive \$1,200. A number of the women clerks were reduced from \$900 to \$740.

Considerable concern has been caused the administration as a result of the action of the Hamburg-American Steamship company in purchasing Water Island, a small key which commands the Danish West Indies, for use as a coaling station. Advice to the state department which have been furnished by Consul Payne, who is stationed at St. Thomas, intimate that the purchase was effected through collusion between the German and Danish governments. The anxiety of the authorities arises not only from this fact, but from the further fact that the Hamburg-American company is subventioned by the German government. Its steamers are available in time of war for use as auxiliary cruisers, and its coaling stations may be utilized by the German government in order to carry on hostile operations.

It is a matter of record that in 1895 in a certain rural community in the south six acres of land sold for \$13.98, or \$2.33 an acre. Last year these same six acres sold for \$1,660, or \$276.66 an acre. Near this, another tract which in 1892 sold for 70 cents an acre sold in 1904 for \$150 an acre. All of this land, in 1892 and 1895 was out in the country. It is out of the country now, and it is used for farming purposes only. No speculators have run its price up; no "boomers" have laid off a city there and advertised "corner lots." There is no city there, and the people have no intention of building one. Neither is there even a cotton mill or other manufacturing concern there or anywhere in that vicinity. People have lived there for nearly 200 years and tilled the soil, and that is what they are doing now. The difference is that for the first time they are learning how to farm, how to bring land formerly considered waste such crops as sell at a big profit. And along with this, and in consequence of this, they are learning how to live comfortably in the country, how to build themselves homes, how with others near them to build up a community life and enjoy those intellectual and social pleasures which they were wont to consider possible only in the town. Some "new blood" has been introduced into this community, people who came down from the northwest to engage in truck growing, or any other kind of growing the land was capable of; but the natives, too, have been stimulated, and, thus assisted, have gone to work to better themselves and build up their community.—Zach McGhee, in Southern Workman.

Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor who modeled the figures of the Angel of the Annunciation and the Angel of the Resurrection at the entrance to the Belmont chapel of the Episcopal cathedral of St. John the Divine, in New York City, has destroyed the two figures which have aroused such a stormy discussion in the church and in art circles over the statement that the statues were feminine, when there was no foundation for the belief that there were "women angels." The matter resulted in instructions being given the sculptor to fashion them along more masculine outlines, and that he has begun to do this by destroying those already in the crypt of the church. "I have smashed them," said Borglum "to put a final damper on this pedantic controversy. They were modeled after the poetic, religious and artistic notions of angels, as I believe. They were my ideal and were evolved to fill a certain purpose. I smashed them so that they could not come to an end other than that I had labored for and intended. How I am to go about replacing them I have no idea. There is nothing in art upon which I can base my work. Even the Bible fails to be of any assistance. In fashioning the figures which I have destroyed I followed the long-approved artistic notion of the spiritual with much of the feminine eliminated, but with certain delicate touches and features which to my mind we cannot separate from our mental picture of an angel. It is a source of much wonder to me how 40 or 50 clergymen can stand in the presence of religious statues and see in them nothing but the sensual, missing entirely the spiritual."