

had a wide and profound influence in educating prison officers and the general public, while the international penitentiary congress, which also owes much to the energetic initiative of Dr. Wines, has rendered the highest form of service. The character of officials is rising. The merit system is supplanting the shameful and costly spoils system. In the fields of anthropology, psychology, jurisprudence and international law the best minds have made contributions to penology from their own particular studies.

The leaders of prison reform rejoice in the recent acts of congress providing for the establishment of federal prisons for federal prisoners instead of the inferior accommodations of local prisons and city bridewells; and the Fort Leavenworth penitentiary, under Warden McClaughry, promises to become a model for the nation. The reform schools, industrial schools and municipal parental schools separate juvenile offenders from hardened felons and habitual misdemeanants. Manual training and sloyd methods of education have passed beyond the stage of experiment and become permanent factors in reformation. Cities have substituted fines and probation for corrupting incarceration, so that occasional offenders may keep up the saving relations of family and industry and still be under rigid control.

Michigan led the way in establishing a most enlightened and complete system of child care, the admiration of philanthropists in all the world. This system includes supervision and control of all public and private institutions for dependent and neglected children, that all may be protected by law. No child is to be placed in an institution except on judicial approval and finding that it is delinquent or dependent. All institutions are required to place dependent children in approved family homes within a reasonable time. During minority, indentured children and youths are supervised and protected. No subsidies are given from public funds to private institutions, but they are encouraged and simply required to give evidence of efficiency. Ill-treated children are protected by stringent provisions of law, and parental custody comes to an end when authority is abused. Dependent and delinquent children are carefully separated.

Private societies for aiding neglected children have made great advance in methods and results. Hugh barracks are no longer approved as permanent homes of children, and the natural environment of fostering parental affection is sought for the homeless. Kindergartens and day nurseries are agencies of philanthropy for touching the very beginning of educational life. Reformatories are mere repair shops as compared with these forming schools. The most hopeful effort is in the nursery,

while attempts to straighten crooked trees are discouraging.

Philanthropy has taken a wider and nobler view of its mission. It has become preventive and educational. Miss Carpenter said: "A hospital cannot cleanse a poison-infected district, nor diminish the constant supply of patients from an undrained and malarious locality." It is well to remove the weak and tempted from a bad environment, better still to improve the environment.—Charles R. Henderson, Professor Sociology, Chicago University, in Chicago Record.

A PARALLEL CASE.

Repentant democrats, who, after gayly planning a fusion of democracy, populism and silver republicanism, are now trying to get their party separated from the mixture and straightened out, can perhaps find some comfort in a story from Binghamton, New York, of a case in private life having a misery parallel to their own. It is another warning of the folly of mixing things for the purpose of practical joking, and since misery loves company it may please the democrats to hear of it.

The story goes that a young wife in Binghamton, who had just given birth to her first baby, thought the occasion a good one to play a merry joke on her husband, and accordingly she borrowed two other new babies, placed them with her own, and on her husband's return home presented him with the triplets. The report continues:

"The joke was a lovely one, but, as jokes sometimes will, turned inside out into an alarming tragedy when the mother discovered that the three babies, who had been dressed alike for the hilarious occasion, had got their several identities inextricably entangled. Nobody could tell which from t'other, and the denouement threw three women and a nurse of the usual comic opera intelligence into rapid hysterics."

There is one broad difference between the case of the Binghamton woman and that of Bryan. In the woman's case there is a certain element of pathos which will prevent unlimited hilarity, but in the Bryanite case there is nothing beyond the ridiculous pure and simple. With what eagerness did the astute democrats of 1896 hasten and hurry the work of fusion. They tricked out silver republicanism and populism in garments so much like those of democracy itself that none could tell one from another, and they were delighted when their fusion brought about in the public mind a hopeless confusion. For them there can be no sympathy. They "mixed those babies up," and now if they cannot tell one from another the public don't care. It is a political farce of big proportions, and the laugh is on the right side.—San Francisco Call.

M'KINLEY AND THE PENNSYLVANIA MACHINE.

Mr. Quay, following the example of Gov. Stone, journeyed to Washington and besought the president to give the office of director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to that faithful servant of the machine, Ex-Representative Brumm of Schuylkill county. Within an hour after Mr. Quay's departure from the White House the president appointed Captain William M. Meredith of Illinois to the place.

Does this snub mean that Mr. McKinley has determined to cut himself loose altogether from the Pennsylvania machine henceforward? In the past the president has subjected himself to nation-wide criticism, as severe as it has been just, for his course in turning over the federal patronage of this state to the men who are the worst enemies of the republican party—the republican Crokers, who care no more for republicanism than Croker cares for democracy. This course served to ally the Administration with bossism in its foulest forms, and so caused it to seem antagonistic to the efforts of the real republicans of Pennsylvania to purify the party—Philadelphia North American (Rep.)

SOUTHERN REPRESENTATION.

If anything is said or advanced in the coming congress relative to cutting down the representation in southern states it will be by irresponsible members of that body and their speeches will be only declamatory. At the present time it is popular for politicians to dilate upon the injustice of basing a representation on the population rather than on the vote in those states, but soon as they observe that nothing of this kind springs from the fountain source of the republican party, they will subside. The south is not as it once was. In many of the cities manufactories have increased population to a wonderful extent and this population has become as radical in union labor sentiment as it was always democratic. Let the representation in those states be cut down and union labor is going to cut a bigger figure than men having invested their money in those factories would care to see. By controlling the cities, union labor would control the congressional delegations for it would be the country districts that would suffer from a cut in the representation in those states. As long as it does no harm, politicians can roar all they please about the injustice of disfranchising the negro vote, but the commercial interest, or at least those controlling them, will hardly stand to see their properties confiscated simply for the sake of a false sentiment. There will be no cutting down of the representation in the southern states at least in the immediate future.—Alliance Pioneer Grip.