

the desire to rise out of it; and a standard of living below the actual needs of the body commonly gives mental and social inferiority, frequently attended by moral debasement. The effort to supply model tenements and stimulate the home-making spirit which rests on family life, does not come under Mr. Gunton's adverse criticism; he rather commends it; but he sees only disaster to the nation in encouraging cheap lodging houses and restaurants that are not promotive of family life, and that develop a lower standard of living than should exist in a country full of industrial opportunities.

In his antagonism to ultra-cheapness in living, the New York economist will have many sympathizers in this part of the country, who feel much as did a well known Salt Lake when approached by an equally well known local philanthropist with the remark, "Brother John, I have learned how to live on six cents a day. These figures——." At this point the conversation was abruptly ended by the other: "Brother George, I don't want to know."

PEDDLERS AND MERCHANTS.

There is before the City Council a petition from some of the city merchants, asking that peddlers be charged a license of \$100 a year. The class of people against whom this request is directed principally are those who serve vegetables, fruits and dairy products to people at their homes, from the huckster's wagons to be seen daily on the streets. A large amount of business is done this way, especially by Bountiful, Davis county, and Mill Creek and East Mill Creek, Salt Lake county, farmers and gardeners, who thus find a market for the product of their gardens, orchards and dairies. The green grocer merchants complain that these people are reaping a rich reward through the system in vogue, while the merchants are being practically driven out of business by being undersold.

This argument on the part of the merchants is not quite so fortunate as some that might be made on the subject. The customers, and there are very many of them, of the hucksters and peddlers can say at once that if the objection of the merchants is that they are undersold, then the customer gets the advantage of the cheaper price, hence the huckster system is a public benefit. Again, these merchants ask a \$100 license for peddlers, once more revealing an unfortunate inconsistency, since a merchant's license is from \$25 up, and to pay the same license as a merchant with the same valuation of capital stock would require only one-fourth of what the petition asks should be required. The bold injustice of the terms of the request must militate strongly against it, as at present made.

Yet the merchants have a grievance which should be removed. They are required to contribute to the city revenue by license on their business; and it is a very easy thing to see that they are unjustly dealt with in being required to meet that obligation while another merchant who chooses to do business in a wagon moving from

house to house escapes it altogether, as do hucksters, or pays a very small license, as is the case with peddlers. If a merchant doing business at a fixed place has to take out a license, then the peripatetic vendor who does an equal amount of business on the streets should be treated likewise; and the latter class certainly give as much occasion for expense in municipal regulation as do the licensed merchants. If one class is relieved from paying into the city coffers for the privilege of doing business, the other should be also.

Another good cause of complaint for the retail fruit merchants who do business in stores is the corner fruit-vendor—we mean particularly the man who hawks his wares from the tail end of a wagon. To be plain, this business is nothing less than an outrage on the regular merchant. The corner dealer takes out a peddler's license at one-third or less than which the merchant has to pay, and gets a stand on the street at very little cost, where he does a merchant's business. Just why the city should give this class of dealers rent room free is not quite clear. Certainly the noise and clamor of their importunities for trade are vastly more in need of police regulation than the way the regular merchant does business. Except in special cases where physical disability or other misfortune makes the exercise of charitable power necessary, every corner fruit-vendor ought to be retired from the streets or pay rent as does the merchant for the ground he occupies.

Notwithstanding objections which may be urged to the particular request of the petition referred to, the subject is one that needs action by the City Council. There should be such a revision of the ordinance or of its enforcement as will place all merchants on the same basis, proportionate to their trade. The regular dealer should be protected in his rights, and the others should not be oppressed out of business; but none should escape a requirement made of the others. With this matter regulated, the consumer would not complain, since there would be no monopoly created to raise prices on him, and the city would be better off. At present the regular merchant is getting decidedly the worst of it, and the evil should be remedied to give him a fair show.

CHILDREN'S CELEBRATION.

The most beautifully attractive public demonstrations held in Utah have been those in which the children have taken a prominent part. In recent years these have not been as frequent as formerly, owing to circumstances which have brought other matters to the front; but the memory of the time when, in all the cities and towns of Utah, the Sabbath and day schools came out on public occasions has about it a refreshing sweetness. In the earlier days, when leading men in the community visited the settlements, it was the delight of the younger generation to come out in holiday attire to greet them, and make of their progress a triumphal procession in which each rejoiced, and more than all the boys and girls, most of whom now are men and

women. In later years three of the most notable occasions of the coming out of the schools were at the visits of Presidents Grant, Hayes and Harrison, each of whom was thus greeted in Utah and expressed their pleasure thereat; while the occasion of those visits of the nation's chief magistrate are sweet recollections with those who greeted them in the array of school children.

It is not only in Utah that the assemblage of this juvenile army has proved of special attractiveness; every state and city has its experience in this direction. The coming week the city of Brooklyn anticipates one of the grandest displays of the kind ever seen in the country. Seventy-five thousand Sunday school children are to join in the great parade, with its banners and flags and bands of music. The whole body does not assemble in one place, though all combine in the parade, and there is no prettier sight than the children on the march. Before the procession there is a brief program of songs and speeches, and afterwards a distribution of cakes, sandwiches, cream and lemonade. And when it is all through, if it has not been too prolonged, everybody goes home happy.

In this State, this year furnishes an occasion when the schoolchildren might appropriately be the leading feature of a holiday observance. We are to have a midsummer carnival which will include the Fourth of July, and the arrangements of such an event are of a kind to preclude a special children's celebration. But the 24th of July, the first Pioneer Day anniversary under Statehood, is a time when, by a common movement throughout the State a real children's celebration could be had. There could be parades in every city and town, with a jubilee program in the largest meeting place—in the Tabernacle in this city, for instance—and the whole could be covered in about three hours in the forenoon and not be irksome to the children. There are here plenty of experienced people to take hold of the affair, should it be decided upon. We introduce the subject now merely in the way of a suggestion for the consideration of those whose special calling is in training the younger portion of the community.

TESLA'S NEW LIGHT.

The telegraph has already announced that Nikola Tesla has been able to produce light without heat by a method which renders the invention of practical and commercial value. In the electrical world this new stage of progress is regarded as equally important to that which prepared the way for incandescent lighting.

To a New York World reporter the inventor says he believes he has produced a light that will prove more economical than the arc or incandescent systems. He can already deliver ten per cent of the initial energy in pure, white light, which is said to be three times the efficiency of an ordinary incandescent lamp.

The light produced by Mr. Tesla's tubes is said to possess all the visible qualities of sunlight and to have, be-