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BACK TO THE SOIL.

The basic industry of New Hampshire, agriculture, has gone backward for the last half a century. During the same period one-third of her native population has emigrated to other states. In the last decade the native white population has had 10 per cent more deaths than births, though the population from foreign parents has increased 58 per cent in that time. Is the old New Hampshire stock to die and be replaced by a more virile one of foreign origin?

In answer to this question and in order to provide a remedy for this condition, the New Hampshire College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts has begun the publication of a school bulletin, the first number of which is devoted to showing why agriculture should be taught in the schools.

Director Sanderson, the writer of the bulletin, finds that the growth of the city high-school was originally due to the demand for public academics, replacing those of private endowment, that should prepare for college those young men who desired more education than that afforded by the common schools.

During the last few years, however, many of the best educators have questioned whether the high school should be merely a preparatory school, and numerous cities have added branches and the mechanic arts.

An analysis of high-school attendance shows that in 1906, less than nine per cent of the students in New Hampshire schools were in high schools. Of these, about one-third were preparing for college, but hardly one-fourth, or barely two per cent of the total, ever entered college. Here, then, was the result of a system of high schools whose main object and course of study are declared to be the preparation of young men for college work.

The report of the United States commissioner of education for 1905 says that half of the students in secondary schools are studying Latin, algebra, rhetoric and English literature; forty per cent history and French; and thirty-five per cent geometry; but only about twelve per cent the science of physics, chemistry and physical geography and physiology, while so few are taking zoology and botany that they are not recorded. The same report shows that the larger number of high schools are in the smaller towns, of less than 8,000 population, where there are fifty-one students per school or 17.7 per teacher, while the city high schools have twenty-six students per teacher.

From these facts, Director Sanderson proceeds to controvert the argument that the ordinary high school course is the best for all students; and shows that the training of the 50 per cent of the common school pupils who never reach even the high school; and of 98 per cent of the high school pupils who never reach college, should not be primarily a preparation for something that they do not reach.

He asks which is of more value to the boy going back to the farm, a knowledge of geometry or the principles of construction of farm buildings? Which will make him a better citizen, the ability to read enough French to pass an examination, or to read intelligently and appreciatively the current literature which tells of methods of agriculture which have made failures or successes for others, and thus point out to him the right path? He thinks that with more consolidated schools in every community, it would be possible to give a considerable agricultural education to all those in the higher grades living within driving distance.

A movement for agricultural high schools has been started, and there are now more than forty such schools in the United States. In Georgia, the people of the State have furnished \$500,000 for the equipment of these schools.

At the last session of Congress Hon. C. R. Davis of Minnesota introduced a bill which had the hearty support of President Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Hays, the Association of Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations, and many of the leading state and city superintendents of schools. This bill provides a federal appropriation of 10 cents per capita to each state for industrial education in secondary schools; one-half to go to city schools for mechanic arts and one-half to be spent for agricultural high schools.

But agriculture high schools are not sufficient, since only ten per cent of the school children never enter the high schools. Holding that "if the love of country life is not born during the first years of school, it will never be acquired in the high school," Director Sanderson goes on to urge that the foundation of all agricultural teaching in the schools must rest upon the nature study work of the primary grades. "Nature study," he says, "has been so generally adopted and approved by educational leaders throughout the country as a vital part of all elementary education that it is unnecessary to make any lengthy plea in its support, but it is urged as a fundamental necessity for successful work in elementary agriculture. The boy out of sympathy with his surroundings, with heart and eyes closed to the life around him, will care little more for elementary agriculture than for the rules of grammar."

His plan is so to weave nature-study

into the work of earlier school years that simple lessons in elementary agriculture may be introduced in the sixth to eighth grades, or with pupils from ten to fifteen years of age. He declares that the work must be real and vital and must deal with actual farming operations, in a school garden, if possible, in order to arouse and hold the interest of a growing boy.

He thinks that the method of finding the greatest common divisor, for example, or that of securing the cube root, might be omitted, and simple problems substituted in figuring balanced rations for dairy cows. He also believes that simple agricultural instruction would not add materially to the cost of the average school. The real difficulty, he shows, will be chiefly with the teacher, who "with forty pupils and nearly as many classes a day, objects that she knows nothing of agriculture, and that it is simply impossible to introduce more work."

Mr. Sanderson's answer to this real obstacle due to unprepared and already overworked teachers deserves to be quoted in full. It is this:

"A conscientious and enthusiastic teacher will soon be able to inform herself upon agricultural matters enough to give simple lessons which may teach more than the wisest of men can explain. For none of us know the art of agriculture. It is dependent upon all the sciences and no human mind can grasp all the bearings of these sciences upon farm operations. But anyone can soon master many of the essential rudiments, the application of which mean success or failure in farm work and which very many farmers have never carefully considered."

Upon such simple matters the greatness of a community finally rests. The New Hampshire people are probably right in thinking that one great necessity of the times is for the schools to foster the love of the simple life, the admiration of natural beauty, and a preference for country over city. At any rate, their argument for agricultural schools seems to be unanswerable.

MINISTER IN POLITICS.

A recent number of the Washington Post contains a local item stating that the question whether a clergyman may mix in politics to the extent of making addresses at political meetings has arisen in the National Capital, owing to the fact that a clergyman, Rev. Donald C. MacLeod, a Presbyterian, not long ago, at a political meeting, declared himself in favor of one of the Presidential candidates. The Post made inquiries among the members of Rev. MacLeod's congregation and found that they almost generally sustained their pastor. Neither Republicans nor Democrats, the Post asserts, regarded it improper for a minister to express political views and preferences. Here are some of the opinions expressed:

"Charles L. DuBois, an elder of the church, declared he believed Dr. MacLeod had made the speech as a citizen of the United States and not as a representative of the First Presbyterian church. Mr. DuBois said he approved of Dr. MacLeod's independence."

William Henry White, a lawyer, and one of the superintendents of the Sunday school of the First Presbyterian church, made the following statement: "I think a minister has a perfect right to express his political views as a citizen, publicly or privately, and to give his reasons therefor."

Dr. MacLeod has long been a warm personal friend of the candidate for whom he spoke. The gentleman has been pastor of the church about eight years.

The same question has been agitated, sometimes without both rhyme and reason, we think, in our own State. The general proposition on which all agree, that things political and ecclesiastical should be kept separate, has sometimes been twisted into a clamor for the disfranchisement, almost, of American citizens because they are engaged in ecclesiastical work. But that extreme is no more in accordance with American principles of government than is the unnatural mixture of things that belong to different spheres.

We believe, however, that all over the country, citizens are beginning to understand the duties and responsibilities of Christian citizenship. They are beginning to realize that the functions of government are not for selfish ends; that the government machinery is not placed in the hands of the strong for the oppression of the weak, but in order to defend the weak against brute force, to dispense justice, to lift men up out of darkness and ignorance and bondage, to the level of sons and daughters of God. But this end can be gained only when men and women with education, and filled with the spirit of unselfishness, take an interest in public affairs and use their influence effectively against that of the immoral element. The services of Christian men and women is an absolute necessity. If government is to be redeemed from the curse of corruption and vice, anarchy and revolution.

THE IRRIGATION CONGRESS.

A very neat folder has been issued by the General Passenger Agent of the Atchinson, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad company, describing the plans and purposes of, and attractions at the coming Irrigation Congress, to be held at Albuquerque, Sept. 29th to Oct. 10th. The folder will be mailed free from the railroad office at Topeka, Kansas, and, as the Irrigation Congress is a gathering of great interest to this section of the country, we presume many will be glad to get the varied and useful information contained in the folder.

The Irrigation Congress this year will be the occasion of a regular exposition, and as there will be reduced railroad fares, there is no reason why it should not draw a number of visitors from every state in the West. The War, Navy, Post Office, Treasury, and Agricultural departments will make exhibits. The exhibit of the Department of Agriculture will be devoted to products grown in the West by irrigation. The Department of the Interior will show by views the progress of the work of reclamation and of results accomplished by the Bureau of Forestry.

The territories of New Mexico and Arizona will make exhibits of natural resources and domestic manufactures. These will include timber and lumber, minerals and metals, precious stones,

field and orchard products by irrigation, and livestock.

Many states are expected to make exhibits. The Board of Control has been assured of an exhibit by counties from Wyoming, Washington and Colorado, and, thanks to the efforts of Mr. Kiesel of Ogden, and a number of enterprising citizens, Utah will be well represented. They have assurance also that the Republic of Mexico will make an exhibit, and even far-off Porto Rico has been heard from.

Albuquerque, the capital of New Mexico, where the irrigation congress and the industrial exhibition are to be held, is a city claiming a population of 20,000. It is the most important city on the Santa Fe between El Paso and Denver. It has three daily papers and several weeklies. The enterprise of its citizens can be judged from the fact that they are willing to spend \$100,000 to make the irrigation congress a grand success.

INNOCENTS SLAIN.

Booker T. Washington claims that twenty-five negroes have been murdered by mobs in this country within two months, and that against only four of them were there any grave charges. This tells a terrible story of anarchy.

William Donegan who fell victim to the fury of the Springfield mob, was an old man, being 84 years of age, and is described as a peaceable, law-abiding citizen, innocent of all offense. And yet he was seized by the drunken mob and put to death in front of his own little home.

The papers say that Donegan was a shoemaker who had made and presumably repaired many pairs of shoes for Abraham Lincoln, who many a time had stopped at Donegan's little shop to chat with him. He was known as Lincoln's shoemaker. In the streets of the city that was Lincoln's home he was barbarously murdered simply because he was the first negro on whom the mob could lay its hands. It would seem that such occurrences should cause the people to reflect upon the dangers ahead, unless righteousness is established in the land and mob rule put down. And we believe the indifference of officials to public morality and the mob spirit manifested in a portion of the press are very largely responsible for the outbreaks of lawlessness that too often disgrace our country.

Melon thieves never take a green melon.

A great navy is a great thing for the shipbuilders.

An empty honor never yet made a full stomach.

Motto of the timid woman: Look before you sleep.

An unabridged dictionary to the unwise is insufficient.

The woolmen did not try to pull the wool over anybody's eyes.

Every fish hatchery knows that a sucker is born every minute.

When married people disagree they always do things by halves.

The average apartment house is the best example of a house divided against itself.

Tariff putting no tariff tinkering is what Julius Caesar Burrows is engaged in these days.

"Love sees me lurking near," sings a Boston poet. "Mo" had better not let the old man see him lurking near.

That Italian workman who could not see the President could not see why he could not see the President.

"Double emotional insanity" is the latest fad. Those who set it up must be just running over with emotion.

Vice Presidential Candidate Sherman's idea of political parties seems to be that all roads lead to the same goal.

Per cartoon, the Washington Herald calls "the unwritten law" "the American Black Hand." There is but too much truth in it.

The trusts that formerly made campaign contributions can understand the feelings of the Yellowstone Park tourists who were held up.

A money shark who exacts sixty per

MRS. ROUNDY REPLIES.

Mrs. Elizabeth J. D. Roundy has asked for space for the following reply to an attack by the Salt Lake Tribune:

"Editor Deseret News:—A friend has called my attention to the editorial columns of the Tribune of Aug. 19th, 22nd and 23rd. By reading the articles, I find that the writer of the Tribune is as usual very much mistaken in the questions he asks."

"In the issue of the 19th he says: 'The lady writing to the News' knows no more about it than the Tribune does, and apparently, in some respects, not as much.' It seems to me the paper protests too much. It does not allow any person to know anything about the Church, but the Tribune, it knows everything, especially concerning the use of the tithing, of which, notwithstanding all its boasted knowledge, the Tribune does not know anything that is true. It has been trying to do what it can with the tithing, but again, I say, as the constituents of that paper do not pay any, it is none of their business. They may want to know what is done with church funds out of curiosity, if that is the case, why do they not inquire into the donations of other churches, and associations, lodges, etc? Why not inquire into the doings of missionaries of other churches, how much they donate for the support of priests, and convents; also who pays Peter's pence, and what is done with it? There are Melodists, Presbyterians, Lutherans and Baptists. It is as much the business of the Tribune to meddle with their financial affairs as with the financial affairs of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It is surely none of its business at all."

"Then again, there are many organizations to which people pay dues, such as the Masonic, Odd Fellows, Red Men and the Forest Rangers, who do not the Tribune make inquiry about their funds and what the money is used for? The result of its investigations would perhaps be enlightening and might

cent interest may not be amenable to the law but he is amenable to public opinion and should be severely condemned. That rate of interest would have shocked Shylock.

Eugene V. Debs, Socialist candidate for President, will inaugurate his campaign by firing a locomotive for seventy-five miles, attired in overalls and jumper. Why not make it an even hundred miles? It would sound so much better.

The Republican candidate for Vice President, in his speech at Utica, said: "Whether we be Republicans or Democrats we are first, last and always Americans, proud of our country." That may apply to other parts of the United States but in Salt Lake neither Democrats nor Republicans are regarded as "Americans," by the party in power. "Americans" here are actually ashamed of their country, and their country is ashamed of some of them.

If the deductions of an English scientist are to be relied on, the fumes that escape from automobiles are to be considered a blessing in disguise. He claims that those fumes from innumerable automobiles have made London a healthier city than it was when it was free from this fashionable stench. The fumes in question are said to act as germicides, and make a city a better place in which to live. The death rate in London has, accordingly, decreased materially since the introduction of automobiles, and this, in spite of the number of men, women, children and dogs who have been "motored." The scientist argues with at least some plausible show of logic that this increased city health can come from nothing except the automobiles.

WASHING THE BODY POLITIC.

Fresno Republican.

Strange, is it not, that it is so hard for us to learn that cleanness of things in the figurative sense, like cleanness in the physical sense, is only a comparative state, and is rarely, if ever, actually attained? The man who would keep because he could not wash his face so clean that it would stay clean, would be considered a fool, but every day we see men, who, in politics, are so corrupt, when some ten years ago he joined in a good government movement of some sort, forgetting that he has not been to a caucus or a primary since then, and the only political influence he has exerted since then has been that of criticizing in a helpless way. The fact is, that a clean mind, like a clean body, is only to be had with constant care, and that the body politic must be washed and fumigated periodically, or it will gather the germs of disease and the effluvia of decay.

SANKEY.

St. Louis Times.

Every man or woman who was a boy or a girl 25 or 30 years ago, and who, as a boy or girl, had the good habit of attending revival meetings, will lapse into pleasant retrospection upon reading of the death of Ira D. Sankey. The great, bearded, delightful Moody was an evangelist of rare gifts. His preaching and exhortations are remembered by thousands upon thousands who heard him in the '70s and '80s, but it is Sankey who stands clearer in the memory. His big voice, the strong frame, his peculiar individuality in "leading," stand forth on memory's gleams. In his later years, Moody and Sankey did a great work. Moody's sermons had their immediate effect and were productive of much good, but Sankey's songs were equally convincing, and they lived long after the singer and leader had departed.

A COURT OF NATIONS.

Boston Herald.

The efficacy of the new Central American Court of Justice is to be given a prompt test. The complaint of Honduras, that interference by Guatemala and San Salvador has encouraged rebellion against the Honduran government, has been answered by a strong cautionary decree issued to the offending governments. It now remains to be seen whether this decree will be respected or enforced. If successful in maintaining neutrality it will not only prove its value in promoting the peace of troubled Central America, but will afford an object lesson to be studied and followed in the wider theater of international relations.

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