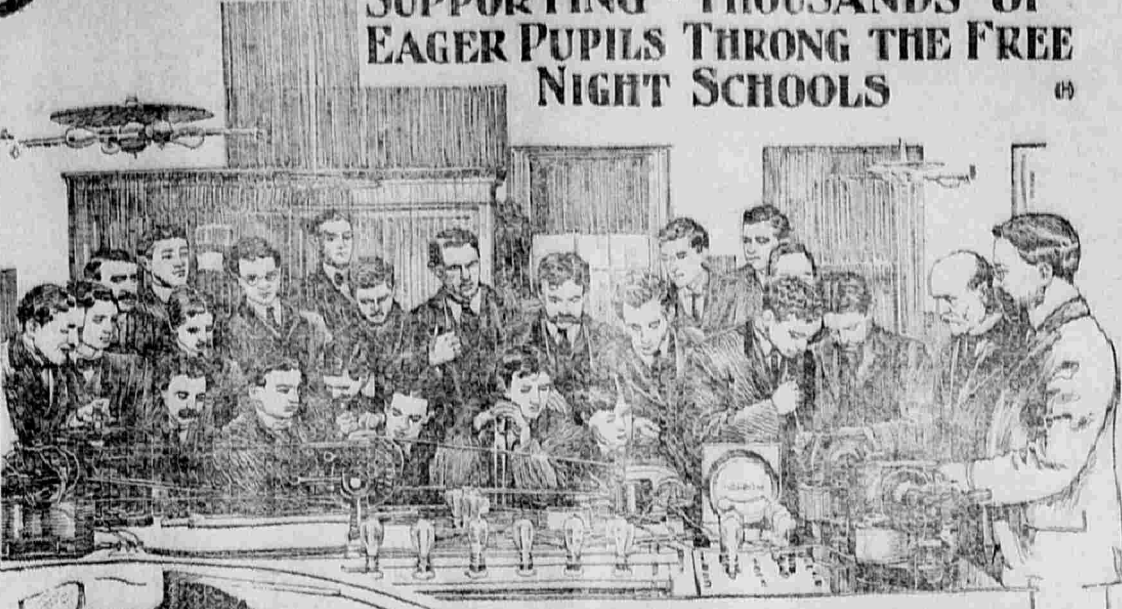
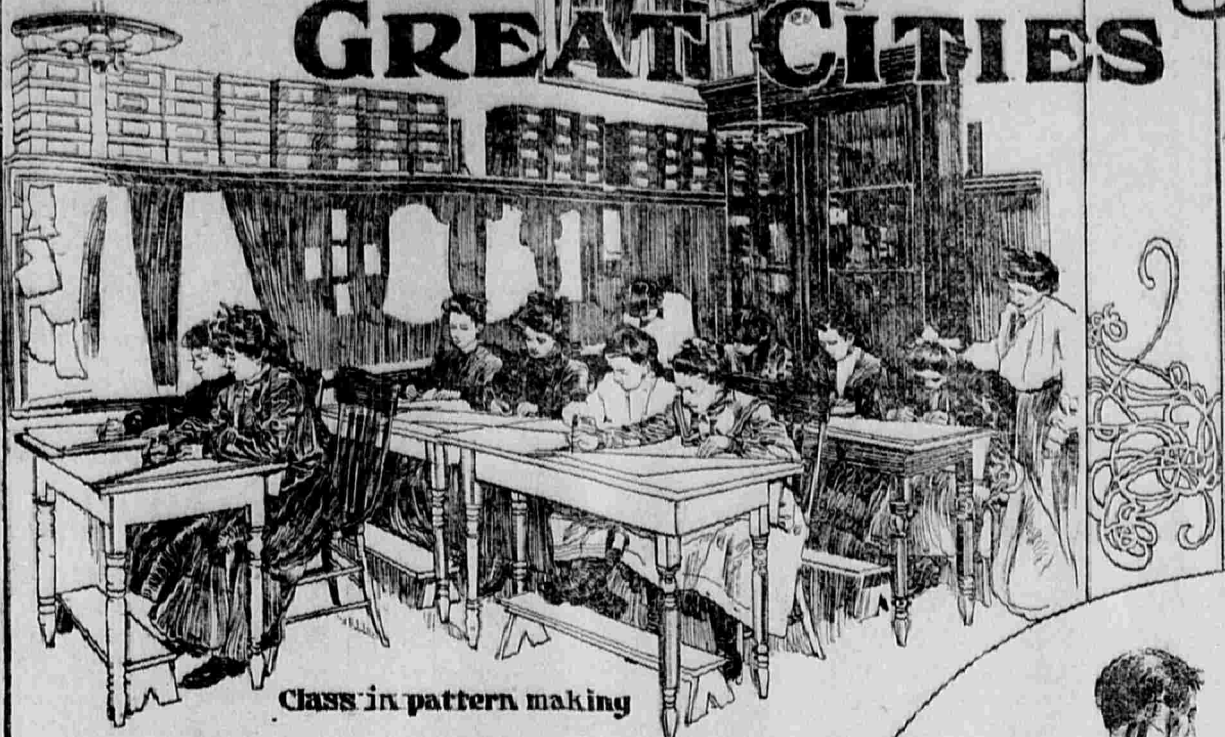
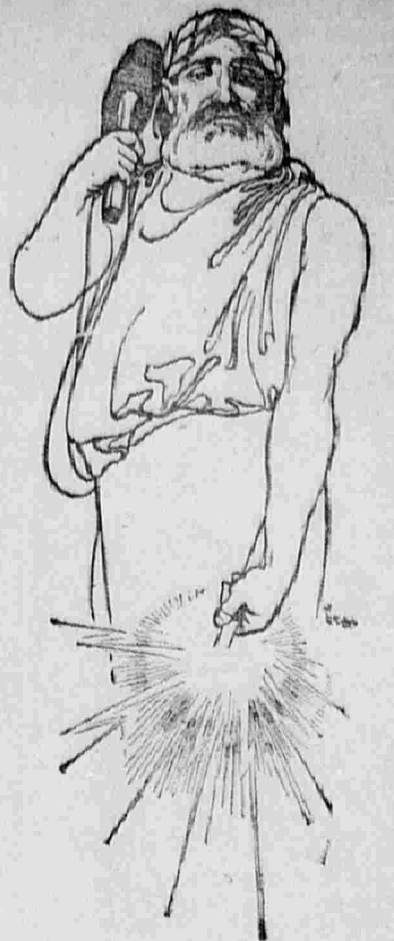


Night Trade Schools of the GREAT CITIES

TEACHING AMERICA'S FOREIGN
POPULATION TO BECOME SELF
SUPPORTING - THOUSANDS OF
EAGER PUPILS THROUGH THE FREE
NIGHT SCHOOLS



ONE of the most progressive and hopeful signs of the times is to be found in the great number of free elementary and technical schools which are being established in all of the big cities and in many of the larger towns of this country. This great evening school army is recruited almost entirely from those who are at hard labor during the day.

So it is that attendance at these evening schools means to most of their pupils steady labor for at least ten hours a day, eight at the business of sustaining life and two at the more aesthetic and almost as necessary labor of bettering their intellects. Every species of occupation is represented among the pupils, and they are of all ages. Large numbers of them earn their daily bread in factories and stores. But the welcome is extended to all classes. It is recognized that all who apply are actuated by the most genuine and praiseworthy motives and no one is refused. There are office clerks, bookkeepers and stenographers; some are draftsmen, embryo architects, designers and illustrators; there are even writers and students of professional schools in search of some particular training. There is no restriction as to age, race or occupation except the legal one which makes all boys and girls under fourteen years of age pupils in the day public schools.

In spite of this latter restriction, however, there are frequently very young children to be seen at the night schools in the great cities. These belong to some of the mothers who could not attend the school unless they were permitted to bring their babies and small children. Some of the model evening schools for adults have nurseries in which small children are cared for during the sessions. This does not include all the pupils of the free night schools of a great city. More is to be found in the classes in which those well along in life are getting their first inkling of the mysteries of reading and writing. It is eloquent of the honest desire and commendable perseverance that actuates the souls of some of these elderly holders that they come to these schools and take their chances with the others. No self made genius reading by the light of the flickering torch or the street lamp ever accomplished his purpose under greater difficulties. No

ambitious youth climbing upward ever toiled more faithfully than do these belated students whose thirst for knowledge has never been quenched and is now kindled anew by the only opportunity that has come their way.

Even the alphabet comes hard at fifty. Almost every one of these elderly beginners must commence de novo. One must indeed become as a child. It entails an entire surrender of personal dignity, and it is certain evidence of absolute sincerity. All their lives these men and women have wanted to learn to read and write and have longed for the opportunity which has always eluded them. It is high time that the sentiment of a community in which it is a mark of manhood to be able to read and write should overcome the obstacles that years have interposed.

For the elementary schools there are no entrance examinations. There is also the greatest liberty in the choice of subjects. It is realized that every applicant for registration is in pursuit of knowledge for some definite purpose, and every effort is made to help him to get what he wants in as short a time as possible. The compulsory educational law provides for children under the age of fourteen, but there is no limit in the other direction—even a centenarian is welcome to try his luck.

These elementary night schools contain great numbers of pupils who are just beyond the supervision of the law and have gone to work. They are boys and girls who failed to complete the elementary education during their childhood. They have not lost their desire to go on to further attainment, and they flock to the night schools to prepare for something higher. Many of these children are of foreign birth, coming to America when they were well along toward their teens and thus having everything to learn. In fact, the proportion of students of foreign birth in the evening schools is tremendously large. The adult immigrant sees in these free institutions an opportunity to gain some immediate knowledge of English. This is so well understood among foreign newcomers that it has become the custom for them to register for the night schools almost as soon as they land on American shores.

Taking the free night school registration in the city of New York last year, for example, it appears that

there were 35,076 non-English speaking persons out of a total of 107,000. On account of this large enrollment the teaching of English has already become the most important feature of night school work. It has even been recommended to the board of education that a normal course for the training of teachers to teach English to foreigners be introduced into the evening high schools.

Of quite a different class intellectually are the pupils of the evening high schools. Most of them are younger than the pupils of the elementary schools, and the struggle in which they are engaged is inspired by a loftier ambition. Perhaps it is not less pathetic than the other. In the night high schools are the boys and girls who are toiling onward at the behest of some impetuous ambition, sometimes against fearful odds. Some are trying for college or the professional school. Others are satisfied with some specialty that will advance them in their business careers. The arts also find their devotees here, those who labor all day at commercial pursuits, often dis-

hearted, and who are willing to work hard evenings to gain the knowledge that alone will free them from their present unbecoming occupations. Most of these students at the night high schools are those who have finished the grammar school course at the day schools, but have had to go to work immediately afterward. In fact, it is required of those who enter the night high school that they shall have completed the day grammar school course or be able to pass an equivalent examination.

But it must not be concluded that the instruction given so freely in the night schools now maintained in all large American cities is purely academic. Manual training enters largely into the scheme of education. The opportunity is given to secure a technical knowledge that will in time enable the pupil to better his condition. Many of the instructors in the technical courses are men and women who are engaged at their several trades during the day-time, willing to impart their knowledge to classes of ambitious boys and girls during the evening.

These technical night schools are springing up everywhere, and they are doing a great work. That their usefulness is recognized is apparent from the numbers who are seeking admission to them. These would be pupils, too, are for the most part apprentices who have worked hard all day and who are now willing to continue at labor that is quite as exhausting. The young mechanic recognizes that he will make more rapid progress in his chosen avocation if he can obtain the instruction of these schools.

One of the most successful free night schools of this kind is in Brooklyn. It has an enrollment of 750 men and women, and the waiting list is a long one. Each student must have had some previous knowledge of the course which he or she elects, and he is not permitted to undertake any other subject. The equipment of this model school is so perfect that students have every possible advantage for advanced work. Much money has been expended in fitting the machine and joinery shops with every appliance necessary, and the rooms devoted to cooking, dressmaking and millinery are quite as well provided for. Although the students assemble in classes the aim is to develop individual work, and no one is either advanced or retarded by the work of his neighbor.

One of the classes that has always had a good attendance and has also

demonstrated its usefulness is the one in which plumbing is taught. All of the pupils are apprentices, and the instructor is a practical plumber. In this class it is possible to accomplish as much in a few months as would ordinarily require several years. Everything pertaining to the trade is taught thoroughly—"everything, that is," declares the instructor, "but the making out of bills. That comes naturally."

One shop in this model trade school does not stipulate that its students shall be apprentices. This is the class in which carpentry is taught. Some of the pupils are clerks, one is a driver for a department store, another is a packer for a big cracker bakery; all want to be carpenters and good ones. They begin with the simplest forms of carpentry, and as they progress they learn all the details of house building, window and door casing, panel work and all the other mysteries.

In this school there is also a three year course in steam and electrical engineering. The first year is given to the study of shop arithmetic and physics, the second to applied physics, with laboratory work, and the third to practical work in the steam and electrical engineering shops. Domestic science is taught thoroughly. The dressmaking classes are among the most popular of all. Pupils are taught how to make gown complete, from drafting the pattern, cutting and fitting, down to the finishing of the garment.

All of the experiments made in this direction have proved to be so successful that the utility of free night instruction is no longer a matter of discussion. That the spread of the system will do more to effect social reform than all the mere theories ever expounded is equally certain.

ELLIS ROBERTSON.

PARKS AS BIG AS PROVINCES.
Australia's new national park, which is just now in course of formation around Mount Kosciusko, New South Wales, will be a big thing of its kind—much bigger than any they have in Britain.

One hundred square miles of land have been set aside for it. This means that it will be considerably more than a hundred times larger than Hyde Park and Kensington gardens combined.

But even Kosciusko park, immense as it is, is a mere garden plot when compared with the Yellowstone National park, which covers an area of 5,348 square miles of United States territory and embraces within its boundaries

specimens of almost every kind of natural scenery—waterfalls, rapids, lakes, mountains, boiling springs, mud volcanoes, geyser, canyons, caves, basaltic terraces and giant boulders worn by erosion into every manner and kind of queer and fantastic shape that the imagination can conceive of.

The Yellowstone is at present by far and away the largest park in the world. But its supremacy in this respect is not likely to last long, for both the German government and Britain have under consideration and far advanced schemes for establishing reservations on a similar scale in Central Africa.

Of these the German one is to be the biggest, embracing as it does, according to present arrangements, 20,000 square miles of territory. In other words, it will be the size of Ireland.

Within the confines of this enormous park, which, by the by, will embrace the greater part of Lake Eyass, a comparatively small but picturesque sheet of water lying 100 miles southeast of Lake Victoria Nyanza, will be preserved specimens of all the fast disappearing fauna of Africa that is not carnivorous—zebras, giraffes, elephants, monkeys, antelopes and so forth.

FIRST CARDINAL TO PLAY GOLF.

Cardinal Merry del Val, the pope's secretary of state, has played a prominent role in the recent crisis of the church in France. The cardinal is said to be an indefatigable worker, a frugal liver, a man of strong likes and dislikes, with a hot temper that is often in evidence, but always under control. Tall and slim of figure, graceful of motion, he shows the highest type of the Andalusian in every feature. As a youth he was very fond of pranks. When the cardinal goes on his rounds he drives in a vehicle, somber and heavy, drawn by two black stallions with flowing manes. He is the first cardinal to indulge in golf, a game which he plays twice weekly over a private course in the grounds of the Villa Doria Pamphili. His leisure time is spent at the papal summer palace of Castel Gandolfo, which the Italian government has connected with the Vatican by telephone for the greater convenience of the cardinal. He is an advocate of all modern labor saving improvements and has introduced telephones, elevators, electric lights and typewriters into the Vatican.

John S. Duss, Harmonist and Bandmaster; Closing Scene In a Deeply Interesting Drama

RECENT proceedings brought by the state of Pennsylvania to obtain possession of all the property of the Harmony society now remaining serve to revive interest in that almost forgotten community, which was at its apogee in the middle of the last century. Among all the strange manifestations of social and religious exclusiveness that have from time to time taken root in this country the story of the Harmony communists, called Economists from the name of their settlement, is most pathetic.

For it is now at its final chapter. For more than three-quarters of a century it has been unfolding step by step, and now it has reached its end—the only end that has been possible under the circumstances. When the courts have fixed the ownership of the communal estate now remaining the book will be closed forever, and the Harmony society will be a thing of the past.

Practically it is that now. At the present moment there are only two survivors of the curious sect. These remaining Harmonists are John S. Duss, the well known bandmaster, and his wife. Upon them are centered all the traditions of the extinct society, and its estate has descended to them.

There is no question of descent. The state of Pennsylvania admits it. It is a matter of history and record that John S. Duss and his wife are the last representatives of the old community. The state contends that Duss and his wife have forfeited their right to the estate by following a way of living which is not in accord with the principles of the community.

The state maintains that the terms "Harmony society" and "John S. Duss and wife" are incompatible and cannot be made to agree. For the Harmonists were celibates, and there was no marriage or giving in marriage at Economy. Every member of the community was bound by oath to remain celibate for the remainder of his or her life. Celibacy was one of the most vital features of the sect. The violation of this rule would have entailed speedy expulsion. Now that there is no one left to enforce the rule the state assumes the responsibility.

John S. Duss, the man who sees no

reason why he should not be undisturbed in his possession of the rich estate of the Harmonists, is a man of parts. He is a born fighter also, and he has had much experience in the business of holding what he regards as his own. He became head of the community about twenty years ago and at once began to exhibit a remarkable executive ability. Through neglect and poor business management the society had met with reverses. Many of its industries had fallen into decay, and its splendid agricultural plant had been suffered to deteriorate.

Duss—youthful, capable and energetic—worked a remarkable change. Once more the society became prosperous, and its property was restored to its original value. The membership of the community was dying out rapidly, and there was no remedy for that, but there was no depreciation of the estate. There had been no additions to the communal family from the outside, and there could be none in any other way. The time came when Duss was the brains and almost the absolute ruler of the entire concern.

Although evidently he was doing so much for the community the old Harmonists did not approve of his methods. It seemed to them that their leader was holding too much intercourse with that world from which they had withdrawn. He was musically inclined and organized a brass band and orchestra at Economy, which was a source of great discomfort for his brethren. They put their venerable heads together and resolved to oust him.

They appealed to the courts, but failed to secure relief. Their young leader was too well entrenched to be dislodged by their feeble efforts. The United States supreme court decided everything in his favor, and he secured an apparently firm hold on all the property. He bought and sold on his own initiative and became practically the "whole thing."

The career of John S. Duss abounds in incident. It is quite as interesting as is that of the curious society of which he became the head. He was the only child who ever became a part of this strange celibate family. His father and mother, German immigrants,



JOHN S. DUSS, HEIR OF AN EXTINCT COMMUNITY.

came to Economy when he was two years of age and entered the community as a servant. Although it was regarded as an innovation and some of the older brethren shook their heads, the parents were permitted to take the vows, and the child was adopted into the society.

The presence of a child in that austere and celibate family bred a sentiment of discontent that threatened to prove disastrous. The women became his voracious slaves, and the men were scarcely less abject in their servitude. The time came when Father Jacobus, then head of the Harmonists, realized that the boy must not be permitted to remain in the community. Although he was overfond of the child, he sent him to a boarding school to be educated.

When he left the school young Duss did not return to Economy. He went to Nebraska, became a farmer, married and prospered moderately. Twenty years after he left Economy to go to school he returned in company with a wife and several children. Father Jacobus, who was still at the head of the greatly reduced community, received him with open arms. The old man had never lost his affection for the boy, who was still the adopted child of the society.

Henric was old and feeble and the affairs of the society were in bad shape. Duss saw his opportunity, and Henric encouraged him in his desire to assume charge of the society's business. There was the obstacle of the marriage, but Duss and his wife agreed to become brother and sister and took the vows to that effect. When Henric died the few surviving members elected Duss to succeed him.

The Harmonist cult had its origin in Germany, having been founded by George Rapp, a native of Wurttemberg, who in 1803 emigrated with a company of adherents to America and established the first colony, at Zionsville, Pa. Rapp was a firm believer in the idea that he had been delegated to restore Christianity to its original purity, and he succeeded in inspiring about a hundred followers with the same belief. For a few years the cult flourished, and at one time there were about 800 disciples.

After awhile, however, there were no more additions, the celibate feature not proving attractive to investigators of the principles of the society. Most of those who had joined the Harmonists were middle aged or beyond at the time of their entrance, so that by the time the sect removed to Economy it had been reduced to about a hundred persons. When Henric, Rapp's successor died, the community dwelt about 2,500 acres of the finest farming land in Pennsylvania.

There is little doubt that if Duss had not reappeared at Economy when he did there would have been but a miserable fragment of the original Harmonist estate at the time of the society's dissolution. It is due to his energy and business ability that there is still an estate worth fighting for.

JAMES E. STILES.

LORD KITCHENER'S SARCASTIC.

Lord Kitchener's pitiless contempt for anything which savors of effeminacy is well illustrated in the following story. Shortly after his return from Egypt he was accosted in a friend's house by a young lord, whose zeal (or impudence) in soliciting celebrities' autographs is the cause of constant vexation. The honor was by no means a new one on this Lord Kitchener. "He gushed, producing a very shiny lace handkerchief and laying it on the table. 'Then I'll have the autograph worked in silk and keep it forever in memory of the hero of Khartoum.' Kitchener picked up the soiled handkerchief and quipped it. 'Your sister's I presume?' He questioned, fixing the gilded youth with a scornful eye. 'No, sir; my own. A very pretty pattern, isn't it?' 'Very' was Kitchener's dry response as he passed the handkerchief back unsigned. 'What is your taste in harpings, by the way?'

WHERE WOMEN RULE.

In certain villages in Finland there exists a religious sect whose disciples are forced not only to marry, but also to take a vow to submit to the wife in all things. The women choose one of their number as leader, whose duty it is to see that the men behave themselves and to punish them if they transgress.

CHOICE BITS.
England's potato crop averages over six tons an acre. Russia grows barely two tons to the acre and Italy a little over one and three-fourths tons.
A missionary in the Hudson Bay territory travels in a box which is strapped to the back of a hardy native.
Thomas à Kempis of these times have no teeth—his historic birds had. The hes-

perous regalia, which stood five feet high, had teeth like those of a small alligator, the lower jaw being specially well furnished.
It is not generally known that the insignia of the Golden Fleece conferred upon the first Duke of Wellington was that actually worn by Columbus, and as a special mark of Spain's gratitude,

this insignia was made hereditary, so that the present duke is the proud possessor of the star worn by the discoverer of America.
Brandy and water are supplied at the expense of the government to every member of the Belgian parliament who makes a long speech.
Champagne takes up much time and care in the making. Altogether a bottle of champagne goes through 200 different operations, covering a period of two and a half years. And in addition it is sometimes kept two or three years longer in the vaults maturing.
Only one man in a thousand in the Russian army possesses a handkerchief.
There are 44,000 testotest soldiers in the British army.
The polka is generally supposed to have been invented in Bohemia in 1830,

but the "lavolta," danced in London as early as 1574, seems to have been almost identical with the modern polka.
Austria-Hungary has no fewer than fifteen distinct races within her borders. In Austria itself are over 10,000 Germans, and it is their hostility to Hungary that makes the situation so dangerous.
Celebes, an island in the Malay archipelago, has the distinction of being the

home of the smallest living representative of the wild cattle. An idea of the extremely diminutive proportions of the animal, as the animal in question, which has some of the characteristics of the buffalo, is called, may be gained when it is stated that its height at the shoulder is only three feet four inches.
During the reign of Edward V., which lasted only about three months, there were no new peers created. At the

death of Queen Elizabeth there were only about sixty peers in all.
In an ancient Egyptian almanac in the British museum, which is quite 2,000 years old, the fortunate days are marked in black ink, the unfortunate in red.
It is not unknown nowadays to lengthen great lake vessels. In doing so they are cut in two, pulled apart and the new part built in the middle.