material basis of the splendid civilizations of Greece and Rome. The many were sacrificed in the interests of the few. Only thus were those early civilizations possible, for the means of production were so primitive and laborious that leisure and the comforts of life could not as yet be provided for the masses of mankind.

Within the past century man's increasing control over the forces of nature—his ability to make them work for him—has enormously increased the production of wealth in civilized countries. The average money income of the English family of five persons is now $1,000 per annum as against $375 in 1820, and owing to the greater cheapness of commodities, this $1,000 will purchase nearly as much as $2,000 would have purchased in 1820. In a word, the average English family is from four to five times as well off as it was a century ago. Its income has from four to five times the former purchasing power. (See Marshall's Principles of Economics, 5th edition, page 751, note). This fact is of tremendous significance. It means that we have reason to hope that in the course of time an ever-increasing portion of our people will be released from the drudgery of mechanical manual labour and will be able to devote a large part of their time to public affairs, literature, art, science and religion. The utilization of the elements in the service of man is giving us the necessary economic basis for a real democracy in which all the citizens will be men of education and culture.

The Problem of Poverty.

We are still far from attaining this ideal state of affairs. Even in such a wealthy country as England a large portion of the population does not possess a sufficient income for a decent existence. Booth's exhaustive and scientific enquiry into the "Labour and Life of the People" showed that 32%—practically a third—of the whole population of London lived in a state of poverty "incompatible not only with the elementary conditions of civilization and citizenship, but with physical health or industrial effi-