

anarchist looks upon the State as one of the evils that must be removed before the social difficulty can be solved. He looks forward to a time when the country will be dotted over with little village communities, each entirely self-sustaining and wholly communistic within its bounds. There will be no authority there nor jails, for the innate goodness of the people shall render these unnecessary, and the whole of the communities shall be bound together by a feeling of brotherly love. Even though all men were so convinced of the fairness of this scheme as to enter it willingly, still, the Professor declares, that there could not be evolved during the transition a sufficient stock of virtue and brotherly love to make it workable.

And again, in both the socialistic and the anarchists' scheme the real difficulty is left untouched. There is no way of forcing any one to do the disagreeable work, and to hope that every one would desire to do the very thing that was most needed requires large faith. If my right is equal with yours, and if there be no extra reward, I will hardly choose to be a scavenger while you become a printer or teacher.

Land nationalization was thought to require but short notice. To believe that one could pluck the idea of private property in land from the human mind and leave the idea of all other private property untouched was to live in a fool's paradise; and even were it possible the change would not in the least affect the difficulties incident to the relation between employer and employed.

Distributive co-operation was put on one side as saving wages, but in no way helping to determine the rate of wages. But co-operation in the sense of a number of workmen becoming a body corporate, carrying on industrial enterprise either with capital saved by themselves or borrowed capital, was declared to merit our careful and sympathetic attention. Some of the noblest lives of the century had been spent in trying to realize it; but the experience of the last half century was thought to clearly teach that co-operation would never succeed in displacing the present system of employment. It failed in one of two ways: either the corporations have not been able to secure the business talent necessary to keep open channels for placing the goods when manufactured; or they have become mere joint stock companies in which the shareholders are artizans, but these artizans soon choose to work in another mill than the one in which they own stock.

The plan whereby the employer pays average wages to his men, take average profits himself and divides whatever surplus is left after the two first charges are paid was thought to be practicable in some cases. This, however, like the other plans already considered does not help in the least to determine the rate of wages. And it is likely to work badly when advantages or disadvantages occur to the industry over which neither master nor men have any control.

The history of social evolution teaches us that the most that individual reformers can do in relation to the great outlines of social organization is to discover the direction in which, more or less unconsciously, forces are tending and endeavor to utilize them. In looking upon the industrial world of this century one sees in Trades Unionism the spontaneous and inevitable development which stamps it as the strongest evolution of the period. It has grown in the face of tremendous opposition; and on the whole the movement makes for good.

Trades Unionism in America was said to be now advanced to about the stage it had attained in England a quarter of a century ago. In most of the great industries in England bargains made by individual workmen or even by the men of a particular mine or mill are now things of the past. Wages are regulated by elaborate lists of prices applicable to the whole industry or to a great district. These price lists are usually constructed by representatives from the trades unions and from the associations of masters.

The Trades Union movement is not merely an inevit-

able effort on the part of the working classes to secure a real freedom of contract which isolated they can enjoy only in name. It is the outcome of a true instinct of the nature of the social problem. It is based on the feeling that the problem is not to enable a few especially thrifty or talented workmen to escape out of their class, but how to raise, materially and morally, the class as a whole.

Unions were originally organizations for fighting purposes, but their natural work in modern industry is to make industrial peace. With such a consolidation of the workmen and such an organization of them as is brought about by the trades unions arbitration between master and men becomes possible. The better and more reasonable of the workmen become the leaders in the union. These are more easy to satisfy as to what the industry can actually afford to pay than the rank and file are. So that when a thorough investigation of the gains of any industry is secured the difficulty of setting the rate of wages either by boards of arbitration or better of conciliation is through the Trades Union made possible.

The Professor took occasion to point out that this machinery of arbitration and conciliation had not yet been much used on this side of the Atlantic, and to urge upon our industrial world the advisability of speedily adopting it, although it was admitted that only by degrees could so vast a change be introduced. The State Board of Arbitration was declared not to be desirable.

#### LINES TO ALTHEA.

Embodiment of grace!

Accept this little tribute from the heart  
Of one, from whose mind never shall depart  
The memory of thy face.

We were thrown together

By some good angel from a sphere sublime;  
Soon, cruel fate, that blights the harvest time,  
Our happiness will sever.

In the brief hours we live

We scarce have met before we say good-bye;  
Then why, dear friend, should we ourselves deny  
The pleasures which they give.

The sweets which they contain

Let us enjoy, as only now we may;  
And when we part, each to the other say,  
"Liebe, Aufwiedersehn."

S. A. Woods.

#### EXCHANGES.

The *Notre Dame Scholastic* of December 12th contains a short but very pithy article on The Poet Laureate.

The *Presbyterian College Journal* for January contains an excellent article on "Current Unbelief," by Rev. James Barclay, M. A.

We welcome to our table the *Niagara Index* on account of its racy style. The column devoted to reviews and notices is especially good.

"Our corridor man" gets out a good column in each number of the *Athenæum*, of West Virginia University. His football game in church is remarkably clever.

The latest edition of the Swarthmore *Phoenix*, Philadelphia, in one of its editorials proclaims the probability of a joint meeting of the several American College Press Associations at the coming World's Fair, and dilates on the feasibility of the proposal. In its story column "The Story of a Crisis; or, The Value of Humility in a College Man," and in its Alumni department "The History of Class '87," are beyond reproach.