



The British War Department's Airship circling St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

Photograph by Topical Press.

A Successful Airship

THE Aldershot people are delighted with the success gained by their new airship which has succeeded in sailing around St. Paul's cathedral and returning to earth without an accident. This airship is known as the Nullus Secundus. Starting at Aldershot, it sailed fifty miles in three hours and forty minutes and landed on the grounds of the Crystal Palace. It is simply a motor-car suspended in the air by a gas-bag filled with hydrogen, coal-gas being too heavy. The success of this ship is due to the fact that motors of light weight are now built with sufficient power to provide moving and directing force. The gas-bag will carry a greater weight than the aeroplane and hence this form of airship is for the present much more successful than those of the aeroplane type. It is quite evident, however, that the day of motoring in the air has really arrived. The rest is experiment and improvement.

The Bogey of Socialism

EVERY little while there is a cry that Socialism is on the increase and that it must be fought. Just now it is Great Britain which is frightened. All sorts of wild talk is being indulged in, and it would appear that John Bull is really stirred up by the situation. In fact, he has become so mentally muddled in the past few months that he does not know which is the worst evil, "Protection" or "Socialism."

Lord Rosebery was recently asked by a letter-writing, question-asking Liberal as to his duty in the matter of his suffrage when there were two candidates, one a Socialist and the other a Protectionist. The Lord of the Lone Furrow replied that he wished "all questions were as easy to answer," and stated that he would not vote for either. He would abstain in his most dignified manner. From this incident, it will be seen that Socialism has got on John Bull's nerves, and the Socialist is now classed with the Protectionist. Our good old aunty, "The Spectator," nods her curly front fringe and adds "It is better to abstain than to support either of two policies which, if carried out, must end in ruin." What a horrible thing socialism must be, when it would

be likely to bring as much evil in its train as protection! Think of it, ye happy Canadians who live in a land where everybody is a protectionist!

Yet, in England, it is no joke. An ex-Lord Mayor of Liverpool, who was visiting Canada recently, tried to impress upon his friends here that the next great move in British politics would be a combination of Liberals and Unionists against the Socialists. He was greatly grieved and shocked when these friends blithely declared that they were socialists—even the M.P.P. who was present. In fact he was so overwhelmed that he could not go on with the discussion.

The idea of old, staid, John Bull getting stampeded by a fear of socialism is ridiculous. Some of the journalists have been stampeded, and the public has certainly become somewhat excited. However, in the municipal elections which occurred last week the socialist candidates were defeated in nearly every municipality where they appeared, and Grandfather John will probably sleep better o' nights.

It is interesting to note what socialists are advocating in Great Britain—old age pensions, the feeding of school-children by the State, the endowment of employment, the taxation of site values, and the general equalisation of opportunity. These ideas are not really so horrible, and much that the socialist advocates in Great Britain is already embodied in the legislation of either Australia, New Zealand or Canada. There is no doubt that democratic ideas are permeating the British population with increased rapidity and that there is considerable danger threatening a landed and titled aristocracy. These dangers, however, are more sentimental than real. The breaking up of the large landed estates does not necessarily mean the extinction of the British race, or even of British efficiency.

There are extreme socialists who are dangerous. Those who are followers of Karl Marx and his doctrine, as laid down in his book "Capital," are not friends of progress. They are fanatics, men possessed of a religious frenzy. They are as incapable of reasoning as a single-taxer or a Christian Scientist. They believe what they believe and that is the end of it. They declare, with Marx, that the value of everything is the amount of labour put upon it. Therefore, the value of what is produced should all go to the labourer and none should go in rent, interest