

has not yet taken a commanding part in the progressive movement of the world. In the great cosmic scheme of things, some races reach the limelight of civilization ahead of others. But that temporary forwardness does not argue inherent superiority is as evident as any fact of history. An unfriendly environment may hinder and impede the one, while fortunate circumstances may quicken and spur the other. Relative superiority is only a transient phase of human development.

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FLESH EATING

In his famous letter to the London Times, on the land question in Russia, Tolstoy spoke of several ideas as ripe for discussion and action. He spoke of private property in land as the "nearest and most obvious evil." He held that besides facing this evil our civilization must also face the problems of capital punishment, prostitution, and militarism. And to this category of ripe problems he added the practice of flesh-eating.

The packinghouse exposure is the most effective argument ever made for a vegetarian diet. It will be hard for imaginative people to forget those dead rats and amputated fingers. They will reflect that there is already an army of government meat inspectors. If, with all these inspectors, it took a socialist novel to acquaint the public with conditions, how secure will these imaginative people feel when the government has a few more inspectors?

We used to go to the priests for salvation. Now we go to the state. We fly to the arms of the government inspector. Just as if he had not already been tried and found wanting. "Oh," said a lady, "the government is going to put a label on the meat. It will be all right now." Great is government! With a government label on the sausage, and a rabbit's foot around the neck, may luck be with us! At any rate, we may try eating as Governor Pingree used to vote, holding the nose.

Socialists have capitalized this incident. They have a right to—it was a socialist who started it. So they say, "Let us establish government packing houses. And the one recourse which seems to occur to everyone—an increase of the inspectors—is socialistic in its tendency.

There is this difference between socialistic people and socialists. The socialists want the government to stick our pigs for us. The socialistic people want the government to tell the packers how to do it.

But the church as well as the state is under indictment. Has not the church been telling us that the individual problem is everything; that if the individual soul is saved, society will save itself? Are not the packers church members? Is not their gold lifted to God every Sabbath day? Do not their pastors encourage them in the idea that their souls are already saved? Has the church lost its effectiveness, or is its philosophy wrong? But while we are waiting for the church to convert the packers, or for socialism to convert the packing business, why not turn vegetarians?

There are weary arguments for and against this course. But "don't argue—try it." This is the time

to make the experiment. Perhaps meat eating is not at all a necessity, as is thought, but only a habit.

We are not responsible for the tooth and claw struggle of the universe. That is the saddest of mysteries. But we remember the words of the prophet: "They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain." Those words were born in man's soul. Is it not his destiny to give them reality?

HERBERT S. BIGELOW,

Pastor Vine Street Congregational Church.
Cincinnati, June 10, 1906.

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MUNICIPAL FINANCE IN GERMANY

Some Extracts from and Comments on the Estimates of
the City of Freiburg, in Baden, for 1905

For The Public.

The Liberal party governs the City of Freiburg, and its mayor is a farseeing, progressive man. The city has now 79,000 inhabitants.

The debt amounts to M.35,000,000; or, as four marks about make a dollar, we can call it, \$8,750,000.

Interest on debt is.....\$ 336,000
Other city expenses are..... 768,250

Total expenses\$1,104,250
Total income of city..... 834,500

Deficit to be raised by taxes.....\$ 269,750
4/10 per cent. on houses\$81,000
4/10 per cent. on working capital..... 48,000
12/10 per cent. on income..... 87,500
About 1/10 per cent. on income from
capital 53,250 \$ 269,750

Some of the Expenses of the City of Freiburg

All salaries, high and low officials, 162 persons for year, \$75,417. In this amount are included the following:

Mayor, \$3,750 for year.
First burgomaster, \$2,500 for year.
Second burgomaster, \$1,750 for year.
City treasurer, \$1,525 for year.
(Average salary of 162 officials, \$465 a year.)

Eighteen councilmen, something like your aldermen, and 95 city congressmen, receive no salary whatever.

Theater all winter and garden concerts all summer, expense, \$26,500.

Seven schools (the cost of 1 university and 2 classic schools is paid by the state), 119 teachers' salary, \$39,500.

Pensions of city officials, expense, \$2,400.

Intelligence office for working people, expense for year, \$1,425.

For the poor people, expense for year, \$24,500.

For the children's aid society, expense for year, \$1,225.

Poor babies' nurseries, expense for year, \$625.

Collecting ashes and refuse, expense for year, \$7,000.

Some of the Income of the City of Freiburg for 1905

\$107,750 from 88 lots of houses, net.
\$9,500 from 741 acres of land, net.
\$63,000 from 8,033 acres of wood land, net.
\$84,250 from waterworks, net income.
\$110,250 from gas works, net income.
\$32,500 from electric light works, net income.
\$33,250 from electric street railroad, net income.
\$15,750 from slaughter houses, net income.
\$5,000 from the "Rieselgut" (a farm to which the canalization brings the solid sewage of the city, which goes into the land as manure. This farm is a great success).