

people 'lose heart' it means that the heart muscle is at last sharing with the other muscles in the general malnutrition. As the result of this the heart probably fails, and dilates, and is perhaps never again able to keep up the same blood pressure, to produce the same muscular nutrition, and the former strength of muscle and nerve, or of will power." If this is true, we have an explanation in physical science, for that incapacity of the hard-worked and underpaid which we have heretofore accounted for as mental results of discouragement or of heredity, according to our sympathies or our antipathies.

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Criticisms of Christian Science.

Whatever one may think of the merits of Christian Science and the criticisms of it, no fair-minded reader can patiently consider the flippant criticisms which make up the stock in trade of most critics of this cult. It is refreshing, therefore, to find such a criticism as that of the Outlook for June 23d, which takes the sensible view that the strength of the movement is not in any delusion there may be about it, but in the truth there is in it. It argues, therefore, that the remedy for the delusions of Christian Science is not indiscriminate condemnation of its error and its truth, but discovery of its truth. Rightly, as it seems to us, this Outlook article relates the tremendous growth of the Christian Science movement to the revolt, observable in other though less conspicuous ways, against the materialism which has held churches and universities alike in its grasp.

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ENEMIES OF EQUAL SUFFRAGE.

We may often form a good guess as to the merits of an ethical question by observing the forces that array themselves for and against it when it becomes a practical question in politics. This was conspicuously shown in the recent campaign over the equal suffrage amendment in Oregon. I was present during the last weeks of the campaign and can speak with personal knowledge of the facts.

The amendment was endorsed by the State Grange, the State Federation of Women's Clubs and the State Federation of Labor. It had the support of a majority of the churches, and a remarkably large proportion of the editors. Out of the 238 papers published in Oregon, only seven opposed it.

On the other hand, nearly all the trusts and

giant corporations of Oregon signed an appeal against it, a fact on which The Public has already commented. The Southern Pacific Railroad, which is said almost to own Oregon, threw its weight against equal suffrage, just as the Boston & Maine Railroad did when an equal suffrage amendment was pending in New Hampshire a few years ago. Clearly, the trusts and the railroad magnates fear that women as voters might not prove submissive to corporation control. The street railway companies were opposed, it was said, on the ground that "women were erratic, and would be likely to favor three-cent fares."

The Brewers' and Wholesale Liquor Dealers' Association of Oregon sent out a circular to the retail liquor sellers, saying: "It will take 50,000 votes to defeat woman suffrage. There are 2,000 retailers in Oregon. That means that every retailer must himself bring in 25 votes on election day. Every retailer can get 25 votes. Besides his employes, he has his grocer, his butcher, his landlord, his laundryman, and every person he does business with. If every man in the business will do this, we will win."

The liquor interests also made a deal with the machine of the dominant political party in Oregon, the machine agreeing to work against the amendment in return for a large contribution from the liquor men to the party's campaign fund.

The vicious interests, of course, were a unit against equal rights for women. A vulgar card, bearing a picture of a woman's undergarment and a coarse remark against equal suffrage, was mailed to the voters throughout the State, and distributed at the polls. The young man who was employed as the manager of the anti-suffrage campaign had been getting his living as the adviser and agent of the women who run disreputable houses in Portland, Oregon's largest city. Just after the close of the campaign he came to the mayor of Portland to ask some favor for one of these houses in which he was especially interested. The mayor answered, "Tell the women who keep the house to come to me and make the request for themselves. I have more respect for them than I have for you!" The mayor himself told this incident to Rev. Anna H. Shaw.

A small group of millionaires' wives in Portland also formed themselves into an Anti-Suffrage Association and scattered literature; but their influence was comparatively slight. The Portland Oregonian, the leading daily of the State, and one of the few papers that did not favor the amendment, said of them editorially: "There are arguments, and sound ones, against woman suffrage;

but women who live in luxury and spend their time over rich gowns, bridge whist, pink teas and beauty shows cannot represent them. Every protest from women of this class against woman suffrage makes votes for it."

To sum up: equal suffrage had against it a coalition of the saloons, the brothels, the trusts, the railroads, the machine politicians and the frivolous society women. Is there any instance in history where all these elements have been found arrayed together on the right side of any public question? Let the most ultra-conservative answer.

An equal suffrage amendment has been submitted in Oregon three times. Twenty-two years ago it was defeated almost three to one; six years ago it was defeated by only a few thousand votes; this year, in spite of the strong combination against it and the great sums of money spent by the opposition, it got a larger vote than ever before.

The negative vote also increased; but in the twenty-two years since the question was first submitted, the anti-suffrage vote has less than doubled, while the suffrage vote has more than trebled.

Under the initiative and referendum law of Oregon, any question can be submitted to popular vote as often as its friends wish; and the women of Oregon are already taking measures to have the equal suffrage amendment brought before the voters again at the next election.

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PRUSSIA.

Schieder, Prussia.—The Socialist party in Prussia has started a formidable movement in favor of the introduction of universal, equal, direct and secret suffrage for the Prussian Diet and the communities. There seems, however, to be no chance for this demand to become law. It is not because the Socialist party is weak, but because it is strong, that it has no hope for success. At the last election for the Imperial Diet, the Socialists got 3,000,000 votes, and carried 81 districts out of 397. A dozen years ago the German Emperor was reported as having said he would not stay in a city which had elected a Socialist, i. e. a Republican. If he should continue to follow this principle he would not find many cities to stay in. There is hardly a single big city left in the Empire that does not send a Socialist to the Reichstag (Imperial Diet), and this in spite of the condition that the elected candidate must not only have a simple plurality, he must have the majority over all his opponents combined. If the growth of the Socialist party continues then the time is not far

distant when the majority of votes in the Empire will be cast for a Republican party.

It is their republicanism that makes the Socialists so disagreeable to the ruling classes of our country. I do not think that anybody is greatly concerned about the nationalization of the means of production. Most of our Socialist voters do not even know the word, not to say what the word means. The Socialist party here is nothing else than a radical labor party. Our old parties were too exclusive to care for the common people. The Socialists have been the only party that has pleaded the cause of the people, and because of this they have won the confidence of the people.

Our liberal parties are now beginning to recognize the mistake they made in looking with contempt on the beginnings of the labor movement. They are now trying to reform their platforms with reference to social progress. But the confidence of the people once lost will not so easily come back. Moreover there is still much discord among the Liberals. Efforts are made to unite the different groups of advanced Liberals, which will probably be successful; but whether they will revive the Liberal party is not so sure.

It must be remarked that nearly all the Socialist victories in Germany have been won at the expense of the Liberals. The Catholic and Conservative parties have on the whole retained their membership. They have their strongholds almost exclusively in the rural districts, whilst the Liberals and Socialists hold the reins of power in the cities.

Of all the legislative bodies in Germany the most democratic is the Reichstag. It is elected by universal, equal, direct and secret suffrage, much in the same way as the Congress of the United States. The difference is, as I mentioned before, that the elected candidate must have not only the most votes, but more votes than all his opponents combined. If this is not obtained in the first election, a second contest is held between the two candidates who have obtained the most votes in the first contest. Without this provision the number of Socialist members of the Imperial Diet would rise to nearly double the present number. There is still another way in which the Socialist party is grossly and more unjustly injured. The division of the election districts was made 30 years ago and has never been revised. Meanwhile the industrial centers where the Socialists have their strongholds have enormously increased in population, without a corresponding increase in the number of delegates. Thus Berlin elects only 6 delegates, while it ought to have 18; Hamburg 3 instead of 7. This is even in flat contradiction to the constitution of the Empire; however, it is very much to the advantage of the ruling parties.

In the last decade the Southern German States have reformed their election laws, so as to make them more democratic, and practically the same as those for the Imperial Diet. But in the Northern States, especially where the Socialist party is increasing, the opposite tendency is predominant. Saxony reformed its election laws a dozen years ago in such a way that to-day not a single Socialist is sitting in the legislature, though in the last Imperial election the Socialist party got 150,000 votes more than all its opponents combined. Hamburg,