

pressed upon the workingmen of the country while the Presidential election was pending

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The "Combine" Against Tom L. Johnson.

(Minneapolis) Farm, Stock and Home (agricultural), Dec. 15.—To allow Johnson to succeed meant the inevitable adoption of a 3-cent rate the country over, reducing the revenues of private monopoly by millions of dollars annually. Hence it was decided that Tom Johnson must not succeed; and he did not, could not. And if not he, equipped as he was, who can? The strength, motives, and omnipotence of this thing which we call "the money power" never was shown with more clearly defined and heart breaking malignity than in this instance! Private monopoly shrieked with joy when Tom Johnson fell! This is why the subject, so inadequately treated here, is now one of national importance, "the concern of all," no matter how far from the seat of war, or how little concerned with city railway or other city affairs they may be.

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Education for the Tuberculosis Fight.

Puck (New York), Dec. 9.—Educating the people to combat the spread of tuberculosis is a movement which it would be superfluous to praise. Miniature model tenements and graphic reproductions of the opposite sort will do very little positive good, however, unless the people who see them think to some purpose. While in our cities we have a system of taxation which penalizes with a heavy tax the builder of model tenements and rewards with a low tax the owner of the filthy rookery, model tenements will continue to be few and filthy rookeries will continue to be many. Education is a great force in the fight against consumption, and some day people will learn that there are more deadly wholesale ways of spreading and perpetuating tuberculosis than by expectorating in a car or ferry boat.

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Success of the "Des Moines Plan".

The (Dubuque) Telegraph-Herald (Dem.), Dec. 19.—Results attending the operation of the commission plan of government in Des Moines and Cedar Rapids have made men firm in their opposition to the change, strong supporters of the new order. Conspicuous among these is Mayor Mathis of Des Moines, concerning whom the Cedar Rapids Gazette said recently: "The Mayor of Des Moines, Mr. Mathis, has been called upon to make speeches elsewhere in advocacy of the commission plan of city government, and very properly he is responding to the requests. His arguments ought to carry some weight, for he is now a supporter of the plan, whereas prior to its adoption he was opposed. Mayor Mathis of Des Moines is not the only individual who was formerly opposed to the plan who is now in favor of it. The citizens who have changed their views are legion. Cedar Rapids has its share of them."

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Social Disorder.

Buffalo Courier (Dem.), Dec. 20.—In the Court of

General Sessions at New York, the other day, Judge Foster dismissed a man under arrest for non-support, on the ground that the defendant, earning only six dollars a week, could no more than maintain himself. . . . The next day another member of the same court, Judge Swann, had before him a very similar case, on which he made a quite opposite ruling. Whatever might be the income of a husband, he was obligated to share his means with his wife. The defendant was ordered to pay three dollars a week to the woman. . . . In the absence of detailed information the specific cases cited cannot be subjected to close analysis. . . . If men with capacity and willingness to work hard in some useful occupation cannot earn more than that pittance, the times are indeed stringent, and something is radically wrong in the social organization, although this is the twentieth century.

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Industrial Education of Negro Youth.

Detroit Informer (Negro), Dec. 26.—Our industrial school continue the good work of turning out increasing numbers of more or less skilled mechanics, but Negro universities continue doing next to nothing in the way of supplying the race with a complement of designers for these mechanics. In the realm of construction and manufactures can we afford to equip men for one kind of activity, to the utter exclusion of equipping men for another and equally indispensable kind? . . . So far as some branches, at least, of the engineering profession are concerned, it can not now be said that there is no field for the Negro engineering graduate. Not only is it true that every colored civil engineer in the country is now practicing his profession, but it is also a fact that the race's commercial and civic advancement is creating an increasing demand for colored men learned in this profession. The colored towns of Mound Bayou, Miss.; Boley, Okla.; Allensworth, Cal., and Brooklyn, Ill., will soon need, if they do not already, civil engineers as city engineers. It surely is high time that at least one colored university could be found which would include in the work of its professional schools that of imparting instruction in such branches as practical city surveying and sanitation, street grading and paving, electric and steam railroad location and construction, automatic block signal designing, and the computation and drawing of steel bridge and roof trusses and of concrete steel structures. If several of our higher institutions were to add experienced engineering graduates as professors on their faculties and then begin giving instruction leading properly to the C. E. degree and let the public know of the fact, there is no doubt that many young colored men would soon be pursuing these courses. And by the time the first classes were graduated the institutions would fully realize that in taking this advance step they had at last begun supplying a need which has been too long neglected.

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Autocratic School Administration.

The Chicago Daily Socialist (Soc.), Dec. 22.—Every father and mother in Chicago is immediately and directly interested in the attempt now being