

ber of Henry Ward Beecher's church and of Thomas G. Shearman's bible class, she became a Christian Scientist some sixteen years ago. In her single tax affiliations she was president of the Brooklyn Woman's Single Tax Club, and among her personal friends she numbered Thomas G. Shearman and Henry George. She was a wholesome type of the woman who is the better woman for being a good and useful citizen.

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HEROIC TREATMENT FOR A DYING PARTY.

It has long been the misfortune of the Democratic party to be the nominal guardian and repository of principles of which its own leaders were afraid. It has had to fight protectionism while abhorring free trade, and to oppose monopoly with no love or care for industrial liberty. "Equal rights to all; special privileges to none," which is what Democracy must mean if it is to honestly mean anything, has a radical not to say revolutionary sound in the ears of the safe and sane Democrat which fills him less with ardor than with distrust and fear. Thus the Democratic party has been cribbed, cabined and confined to a course of mere criticism and faultfinding, unable to offer effective opposition either to the openly plutocratic tendencies of Republicanism or the well-meant but clumsy tinkering and patchwork contemplated by the various reform parties.

Now the "poor old Democratic party," pronounced moribund by its own accredited organs, has received what was for weeks proclaimed in leaded editorials to be a threatened death blow. Hearst has succeeded in capturing the Democratic nomination for governor of New York, and it may accordingly be presumed that the "historic" party is indeed *in articulo mortis*. At such a juncture it is often permissible for unofficial and perhaps unorthodox friends of the patient to diagnose the case and prescribe such heroic measures as may alone be expected to effect a favorable change in a condition so desperate.

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It should be apparent to the ordinary understanding that a political party dying of uselessness and purposelessness must be revived, if at all, by a vigorous use of genuine principles. Moreover, these principles must not be figuratively inclosed in gelatine capsules or smothered in raspberry jam, but they must be openly and definitely declared and applied to all phases of the political

and social condition with logical directness and unflinching courage.

Such a course may not at this time restore the Democratic party, reduced as it is to the last extremity by long indulgence in negatives and inferentials, platitudes and unrelated abstractions. But the only choice lies now between the fundamental truth and extreme unktion.

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"It is not Democratic doctrine," says a recent Democratic platform, "that the masses should seize the government to obtain better wages for themselves, shorter hours of labor, more leisure, cheaper food, better houses, lower rents and cheaper transportation." Perhaps not; but in the eyes of the masses such a proceeding looks democratic when contrasted with the practically unresisted use of the government by "the classes" to obtain more privileges and greater fortunes for themselves.

"It is no part of the function of government to increase the individual's income," this platform continues; "but for those who have acquiesced with scarcely a protest in governmental measures for increasing the large incomes of appropriation, the less said the better about the generally ineffective attempts to increase through legislation the meager returns to useful labor. Convulsions and hysterics at this time of day over the feeble imitation class politics of organized labor have a preposterously belated appearance calculated only to contribute to the gaiety of nations.

It would have been vastly more conducive to the health and vigor of the Democratic party to have been a generation or so earlier in the field with its bold opposition to paternalism and its stern insistence on the proper limitations of governmental functions. But better late than never; while there is life there is hope.

The restoration of the Democratic party lies not in decrying and discouraging the ambition of the unprivileged to use their numerical advantage in politics and government as they have long seen the privileged use their pecuniary advantage. It lies, on the other hand, in showing how the improved material conditions with which the people are tempted in the vain promises of paternalism may be easily, abundantly and permanently secured through the freedom of opportunity which is the industrial goal of genuine Democracy. Of necessity, governmental favors and assistance are for the few only; liberty alone is for all.

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What are the principles of democracy, so revered in vague abstractions, so shunned and slurred over

in their concrete application to actual affairs? "The only proper functions of government are the maintenance of order and the administration of justice."

What is justice? "Equal rights to all; special privileges to none."

What are the equal rights of all? "The right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

These are the sole, the simple, the all-embracing, the eternal principles of democracy.

But the right to life is not a mere right to be protected from deadly violence. It is a right to the necessary means of life, a right to the use of any unused portion of the earth's surface, and as to the portions in use a right to an equal share in their social value. And liberty is not merely permission to exchange one employer for another, with a limited choice as to which landlord shall receive one's earnings. Liberty means free trade, no tariffs, no license fees, no taxes on any useful products of labor. It involves free public highways of every kind and description, in city and country—not free wagons or free cars, but access on equal terms to the roads whereon both move.

The two functions of a democratic government are to maintain order and to administer justice, these being the only activities necessary to the object of its existence which is to secure the natural and inalienable rights of men. Let this be done, that there may be no need of eight-hour laws, employers' liability laws, child-labor laws, trust regulation, limitation of fortunes, old-age pensions or any other of the numberless complicated and unwieldy contrivances wherewith it is sought to nullify a great injustice by means of a multitude of lesser ones.

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If the Democratic party still fears these great issues more than death, then the immediate future belongs to the paternalistic program, followed in due time by the industrial cataclysm, after which perhaps the revolution of socialism will have its day. But if in these seething times of stress and struggle and latent revolt the party of Jefferson could dare boldly to proclaim and champion the doctrine of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, in the full, plain, honest meaning of that all-comprehending democratic creed, then though that party be dead yet shall it live.

E. P. ROUNSEVELL.

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Since the affairs of men rest still uncertain,
Let's reason with the worst that may befall.

—Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar."

NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Wednesday, October 17.

An Educational Question.

Throughout the country in educational circles questions of public school government have long been a subject of eager discussion, and nowhere has the controversy been keener than in Chicago where the present Board of Education, a majority of whom have been appointed by Mayor Dunne, are regarded as being in sympathy with the teachers' view of the subject. The opposite view is characterized as "the one man power" idea. Some phases of the subject were brought to an issue on the 12th through the presentation to the school management committee of the Board, by a sub-committee, of a report which is described by the local press as revolutionary. The following comparison of the present system with the one proposed shows the extent and relative value of the two systems:

Present System.

1. Teachers are admitted to the service on the basis of normal school study or grade school experience, and upon examination conducted under the supervision of the superintendent.

2. At the end of three years' probationary service an "account of stock" of the teacher is taken, and if she is considered worthy of continuance in the service she receives a full certificate.

3. Salaries advance automatically year by year from the first year to and including the seventh.

4. No salary advance is allowed after the seventh year unless the teacher passes a special examination or produces a certificate of excellence in certain studies pursued in a degree-giving academic institution or in the normal extension classes.

5. Teachers not passing

Proposed System.

1. Teachers are admitted to the service on the basis of normal school study or grade school experience, upon report of a standing commission of educational experts, one appointed by the superintendent, one by the school management committee and one from the faculty of the normal school by the principal.

2. At the end of three years' probationary service an "account of stock" of the teacher is taken, and if she is considered worthy of continuance in the service she receives a full certificate.

3. Salaries advance automatically year by year from the first year to and including the seventh.

4. No salary advance is allowed after the seventh year unless the teacher is reported as progressive from observation of her work by two out of three of the following persons: The proper district superintendent, the superintendent of another district and the principal of the normal school or a member of the faculty deputed by the principal.

5. Teachers reported as