

Death of Edward D. Burleigh.

One of the earliest Philadelphia disciples of Henry George, Dr. Edward D. Burleigh, died on the 2d. He and his wife, Florence A. Burleigh, who survives him, were active and prominent a score of years ago or more in that group in Philadelphia, which in those old days of the Anti-Poverty crusade, included both Arthur H. Stephenson (vol. v, p. 437) and Frank Stephens. The devoted and sincere personality of both the Burleighs will be recalled far and wide by their fellow pioneers of that old movement which is now passing into its second and vastly more influential stage. They were among those of its pioneers whose faith never gave out.

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Making Socialist Voters.

Impressed with the election of the Socialist candidate for Congress from one of the Milwaukee districts, Victor Berger, the newspapers have ignored the fact that Mr. Berger's election only happened to be a few hundred votes on the winning side among many more Socialist candidacies that fell only a few hundred short. Mr. Gaylord, for instance, the Socialist candidate for Congress in the Milwaukee district adjoining Berger's, was defeated by less than 500. In Minneapolis the Socialist candidate for mayor came within a thousand or so of election. And in Columbus, Ohio, where the corporations crushed a street car strike (p. 925) under exasperating circumstances, the Socialist candidate for Congress polled 11,000 votes, although the most that had been conceded him was 5,000. Whether the "gangs" in Big Business and politics are making Socialists or not, they are making Socialist votes with dexterity and in wholesale quantities.

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Occidental Barbarism in the Orient.

A committee of which Hutchins Hapgood is chairman and Leonard Abbott, Emma Goldman, Dr. Reitman and Rose Strunsky are among the members, makes an appeal for American influence against a wholesale execution of progressives in Japan. This appeal says that "Dr. Denjiro Kotoku, his wife, and twenty-four other socialists and anarchists" have been arbitrarily convicted and sentenced to death for "plotting against the Imperial family." The Japanese government refuses to disclose particulars, and the crime is believed to consist only "in spreading radical ideas and in translating the works of Karl Marx, Leo Tolstoy, Peter Kropotkin and Michael Bakunin.

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It is a significant fact that the same bloody and

futile efforts at suppressing novelty in opinion, which have characterized the development of democracy in the past, are still pursued. They are futile because nothing can stop the truth, and error fizzles out of itself when unopposed. Then why kill persons who think for themselves, merely because their thinking disagrees with prevailing thought? It only adds to the horrors of a civilization which nothing can perpetuate in so far as it is false. That Japan should borrow Occidental brutality to cope with new Oriental thinking, instead of meeting thought with thought, is a blot upon her. If the Japanese Ambassador could impress his government with the view that in the United States, despite all its barbaric characteristics, there really is at bottom a human feeling that Japan and all the rest of the world ought to be hospitable to discussion, he would not be wrong as to the fact, and he would help on the development, both in his country and ours, of the best there is in Western civilization.

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WHITE SLAVES AND SLAVERS.

With the sanity and courage that characterize all her work, Mrs. Raymond Robins reminded an audience before which she recently spoke with reference to the petty arguments in behalf of labor "sweaters" in the Chicago strike (p. 1137) that there is one great fact that cannot be pushed aside. This fact, "which," she said, "stands out starkly in all this cloud of technicalities, is that the girls and women employed in the garment working business are being literally worked to death at wages grossly insufficient to keep body and soul together." Proceeding with the thought, she argued:

Society must not expect girls to remain pure who month in and month out are systematically overworked and underpaid. The toxin of fatigue will ultimately undermine the strongest constitution, and the girl physically worn out at the end of her work day lacks the physical strength to resist temptation and seeks in morals the line of least resistance. This is the law of nature and none but the strongest characters can resist it.

It were well if society would recognize that menacing fact.

There are in very truth no greater enemies of society than those employers who stand out for the right to drive hard bargains with working girls—except, of course, the persons who encourage them to do it. Here are the real pirates of the "white slave" traffic; and the more respectable they appear to be, the worse they are. Bishop Williams of Michigan analyzed them when he described them as men with "a dual conscience," being