

fully explained by a student from the South where they have worn out their soil. Around the corner sat the student editor of the University's agricultural magazine, ready to tell of the process of "making-up" his paper, and to show how successful the members of the class in agricultural journalism had been in profitably placing their articles.

"Up-stairs for the Heavy Work!" said the sign on the stairway which lead away from the Agric exhibits. And one of the first things to greet you was a big sign in one of the engineering sections: "Let George Do It"—"George" being a modern little gasoline engine put to the most fascinating household and farm uses. Close by, an enthusiastic physicist—with a "patter" worth money on the stage—was freezing dandelions and crumbling ice in liquid air, while a high school parent and his children looked on and asked questions. The University Extension section over in the big corner showed an immense map of the whole State of Wisconsin, surmounted by the sign "Our Campus," and lighted and unlighted with tiny vari-colored electric bulbs to show "one week's extension work."

The attendance was as interesting as the Exposition. The students came in shoals, and critically inspected the whole affair. They asked questions of the explainers, talked over each other's work, mingling genuine, outspoken admiration with hearty laughs at all the fun going. The law student had to stand criticism because his school did not exhibit; and the "Hill" exhibits—from the regular academic school—were magnanimously praised by the usually scornful "engineers."

Why did that afternoon's experience feel so exceptionally important? wondered a chance out-of-town visitor. Universities are not unfamiliar; good times not uncommon; trips, even short ones, always offer new bits of knowledge. The reasons lay deeper and slowly rose to consciousness.

In the first place, the spirit of comradeship was a very real presence. The atmosphere was one of joyful, human, social life and work together, men and women, "grad" and "freshie," student and townsman—for admission was open to everybody on the same terms—twenty-five cents. (Their expenses, by the way, were \$900, which meant that during the two days first planned for—Friday and Saturday, from 2 until 11 p. m.—they must have 3,600 paid admissions. By Saturday evening they had more than paid expenses, and the enterprise had proved so popular that its time was extended into the next week.) The democracy of this great State University had somehow succeeded not only in making itself strongly felt, but in setting forth clearly the real democracy of learning.

Secondly, there came boldly to consciousness in this exposition the great fact that the student who really gets anything out of his college course, learns more of it from his fellow students than from his professors and books. Here were the students all busily engaged in enthusiastically teaching one another. And the fun they had doing it, as well as the magic short-cuts in their methods, could revolutionize Pedagogy if she were not dizzy now.

This First University Exposition will surely not be the last at Madison; and other universities, if they

have any of Wisconsin's spirit, would do well to imitate her exposition.

ANGELINE LOESCH GRAVES.

INCIDENTAL SUGGESTIONS

SUPERIOR POWER OF THE COURTS.

Duluth, Minn.

Don't be too hard on the courts. It is our fault, too.

The average man has come to think that a new law doesn't count until it has been re-enacted by the courts. Officials don't pretend to enforce a new law till it has been reviewed. A test case has come to be a matter of course whenever any new proposition is embodied in legislation. A statute is presumed to be invalid till the courts have sanctioned it.

The law-making power has been taken from the legislatures and given to the courts by this process. It can be restored by effectually believing that the law-making body is the law-making power, and that courts may be invoked only to interpret, enforce or reconcile the statutes and not to ratify or reject the acts of the legislature.

When we cease to believe that the courts are the final power in making laws, the courts will cease to exercise it.

J. S. P.

NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of *The Public* for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Tuesday, May 14, 1912.

Labor Strikes.

In the Chicago newspaper strike the orders of James J. Freely (International president) to the Chicago stereotypers' union to withdraw from the newspaper strike were disobeyed. He consequently ordered the charter revoked and proceeded to organize a new local union. The old union has appealed to the convention to be held in San Francisco on the 10th of June. Meanwhile the local typographical union had been called in special meeting to pass upon the question of their joining in the strike. No action was taken at the first meeting, but on the 12th, at an adjourned session of the same special meeting, they adopted the following resolution by a vote of 1,099 to 655:

Resolved, that Typographical Union No. 16 again reiterates its declaration, as often made in trying situations, that it maintains inviolate contracts entered into and underwritten by the International Typographical Union, and that, as regards the issues in the controversy between Pressmen's Union No. 7 and Stereotypers' Union No. 4 and the Chicago pub-

lishers, it refers the matter to its officers, with instructions to be guided in their actions by the International Typographical Union.

At the beginning of the present week the large daily papers of Chicago had resumed their usual appearance typographically, but they are still unpurchasable upon the streets and also at the elevated railroad newsstands. The streets have been almost completely denuded of newsstands; and where they are found in operation, only the Daily World or the Daily Socialist can be purchased at them, except that out-of-town papers can be got at some. The police still prevent the crying of newspapers on the streets, as they have done almost from the beginning of the strike. [See current volume, pages 433, 439.]



News despatches of the 11th reported that the pressmen on Hearst's "Examiner" (San Francisco) and on Hearst's "Georgian" (Atlanta) had struck in sympathy with the Chicago pressmen whose strike (or lockout) originated in the Hearst papers at Chicago. The Atlanta "Journal" and the Atlanta "Constitution" were asked by Mr. Hearst's Atlanta manager to print the "Georgian," but their pressmen refused to handle the "Georgian's" plates. These sympathetic strikes are in response to directions from the President of the International Pressmen's Union, George L. Berry, who is reported to have ordered like strikes on the Hearst papers at New York and Los Angeles as well as those at San Francisco and Atlanta.



The freight handlers' strike at Chicago, which broke out a few hours after the newspaper strike, had somewhat extended on the 8th and on the 13th it appeared to be still effective and to have been thus far wholly without violent phases. On that day, however, the strikers offered arbitration, they to resume work meanwhile; but the allied railroads refused, stating that "the situation in Chicago is now practically normal, and the places of the men who left the service voluntarily on short notice have been permanently filled," the "inconvenience to the public" having been "only of short duration." This statement is denied by the strikers. [See current volume, page 441.]



While the Chicago labor strikes were centering attention upon this particular locality and these phases of the labor war, a conflict occurred at Minersville, Pa., in the coal miners' strike. As reported by the dispatches of the 8th, it was "a pitched battle between the State police and a mob of 3,000 men." Four men were then known to have been shot, and it was supposed that three at least were fatally wounded. The immediate

cause of the fight was reported to be an attempt by strikers to prevent the superintendent of the Pine Hill Coal Company from taking two "scabs" in his automobile to the mine. One of the wounded men, Michael Mullange, died on the 9th. Intense bitterness among the foreign-speaking miners of Minersville was reported in consequence, and rioting occurred in different places in the same general region. State troopers at Dickson, near Scranton, fired at a jeering crowd of men on the 9th and seriously (probably fatally) injured a boy of fourteen who was standing in the front yard of his home, near which the crowd had assembled. A New York Sun dispatch of the 11th from Wilkesbarre stated that "the temper of the foreign miners is blazing and there are daily clashes with police all over the district." On the 12th, the 13th regiment of the Pennsylvania National Guard was ordered to be in readiness for strike duty in anticipation of the miners' convention at Wilkesbarre on the 14th. [See current volume, page 369.]



National Convention of the Socialist Party.

At Indianapolis on the 12th, the national convention of the Socialist Party of the United States began its sessions in anticipation of the Presidential election. [See vol. xi. p. 178; vol. xiii, pp. 467, 489; current vol., p. 325.]



The report of the national secretary, John M. Work, showed the membership of the party, calculated on the basis of average dues received, to have increased from 15,975 in 1903 to 84,716 in 1911, and to 125,823 for the first three months of 1912.



Nearly 300 delegates were in attendance. The convention was called to order by John M. Work, national secretary, promptly at the hour set, 10 o'clock a. m. of the 12th. Morris Hillquit of New York, was elected chairman of the convention over W. P. Collins of Colorado, and James M. Reilly was elected secretary, with John Russell of New York and Bessie Goldstein of Pennsylvania, as assistant secretaries. On taking the chair, Mr. Hillquit said that "the Socialist party has grown into a political party of the first magnitude," which the delegates and several thousand spectators adopted by their applause as the key-note sentiment of the occasion. He explained that—

the question of selecting the nominees of the different parties for the office of President of the United States, whether it be Roosevelt or Taft, whether it be Clark or Wilson, are very subordinate questions, which will not in the least affect the welfare, the actual life, of the American people; but whether the Socialist party will again double its vote, whether