



"TOM TRIUMPHANT."

Mayor Johnson of Cleveland wins out, notwithstanding all the powers of legal red tape and entrenched monopoly.

and his children are bright. Assimilation is a short process with him, and his children become true Americans with a most noticeable aptitude for understanding and appreciating the American ideals of freedom and democracy.

While on the whole the arguments and statements are fairly convincing, one decided exception is to be noted—the old affair of "lying statistics." In the chapter on "Pauperism, Disease and Crime" the statement is made (p. 198) that "the proportion of Irish in the charitable institutions is 30 per cent., of Germans 19 per cent., . . . while the Hebrews and Italians are both 8 per cent." This information is at least worthless and very possibly misleading unless along with it is told the proportion of Irish, Germans and Italians in our population. Unfortunately this is not the only case which might be cited from the same chapter.

The general atmosphere of the book is one of tolerance, of an attempt to recognize the truth of the question in hand without regard to the demands of Labor Unions for less competition, even though supported by complaisant capital. The authors conclude (and it seems a fair conclusion from the facts set forth) that what is needed is not restriction, but better distribution of immigration—a more intelligent welcome, not an unreasoning rejection.

ANGELINE LOESCH.

A REQUIEM OF OLD SAN FRANCISCO.

The City That Was. A Requiem of Old San Francisco. By Will Irwin. Published by B. W. Huebsch, New York. Price 50 cents, net; postage 4 cents.

San Francisco, the city of the Golden Gate, reputed throughout the civilized world as the Paris of America, has passed away. No more will she offer to the votaries of pleasure the gay, light-hearted welcome of the halcyon days that flitted along to laughter and song, sparkling eyes and dancing feet of her fair daughters and loyal sons.

Desolation is in Bohemia. The long bitter struggle before the present community, of rehabilitating their lares and penates out of the charred remnants of the old town will doubtless chasten and subdue the spirit of the people and mark the new generations. To-day the Niobe of cities with her stricken children huddling at her side; no to-morrow will return the joy and lightness of spirit born of days that were fragrant with unalloyed happiness. Therefore San Francisco is in truth, "The City That Was."

Mr. Irwin has performed a grateful task in preserving a graphic pen picture of a city the like of which we shall not soon see again. A city set upon the hills, girt on every side save one by ocean waters, sun-lit, wind-swept, the dwellers thronging

to and from pleasure and work, their distinguishing traits, fashions of thinking and doing, favorite pastimes, resorts, clubs, theatres and cafes, matinee crowds, holiday fetes and evening life—in short a panorama of a great house of many mansions, and of a great cosmopolitan family in its intimate personal life, that for the most part never said “manana” to pleasure, but making work an incident and conviviality an event, in the flight of time, poured forth at night to eat, drink and be merry in the robust sophisticated way of grown children—all this Mr. Irwin’s sketch puts before the eye.

His requiem to a dead city should awaken sympathetic interest in those who wish to revive memories of the American Troy, and bring the city invisible to the knowledge of strangers,—as much, at least, as a picture can ever show the life that was.

W. H. S.

BOOKS RECEIVED

—The Bridge Blue Book. By Paul F. Mottelay. Published by Chas. Scribner’s Sons, New York. 1906.

—The Labour Movement in Australasia. By Victor S. Clark. Published by Henry Holt & Co., New York. 1906.

—Our Children. Hints from Practical Experience for Parents and Teachers. By Paul Carus. Published by The Open Court Publishing Co., Chicago. 1906.

—Socialism and Philosophy. By Antonio Labriola. Translated by Ernest Untermann. Published by Chas. H. Kerr & Co., Chicago. 1907. Price \$1.00.

—The New Art of An Ancient People. The Work of Ephraim Mose Lillen. By M. S. Levussove. Published by B. W. Heusch, New York. 1906. Price 75 cents, postpaid.

—A Syllabus of Progress and Poverty. By Louis F. Post. Published by The Public Publishing Co., Chicago. 1907. Second Edition. Price, postpaid, 5 cents; 1 doz., 40 cents; 100 copies, \$2.50.

PERIODICALS

The November Bulletin of the National Bureau of Labor (Washington) opens with an extended investigation by Dr. Walter E. Weyl and Dr. A. M. Sakalski into the “Conditions of Entrance to the Principal Trades.” The importance of such an investigation is obvious and the work appears to have been faithfully done.

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Mark Twain steps aside for a little tilt with Mr. Root, in his autobiography chapter in the North American Review of January 4. He writes: “If the States continue to fail to do their duty as required by the people—‘. . . constructions of the Constitution will be found to vest the power where it will be exercised in the national government.’ I do not know whether that has a sinister meaning or not, and so I will not enlarge upon it lest I should chance to be in the wrong. It sounds like ship-money come again, but it may not be so intended. . . . I suppose we must expect that unavoidable and irresistible circumstances will gradually take away the powers of the States and concentrate them in the central government, and that the republic will then repeat the history of all time and become a monarchy; but I believe that if we ob-

There Is Not a Moment to Lose

Circulate the Referendum Petitions in Chicago

Every one in Chicago who favors municipal ownership of the street railways, and who is not yet circulating the referendum petitions, is urged to call at once at the office of THE PUBLIC, 1447 First National Bank Building (corner Dearborn and Monroe streets), for a supply of blanks for signatures. Those who cannot call should send requests to have blanks mailed.

Blanks are supplied for EITHER or BOTH of the current petitions. We advise the signing of both.

These petitions are:

I. The petition issued by the City Council containing only the one question formulated by the City Council, namely:

For the approval of ordinances substantially in the form of the pending ordinances (reported to the City Council of the City of Chicago on January 15, A. D. 1907), authorizing the Chicago City Railway Company and the Chicago Railways Company, respectively, to construct, maintain and operate street railways in said City, and providing for the purchase thereof by the said City or its licensee.

II. The petition issued under the authority of the Referendum League, the M. O. Delegate Convention, and the Chicago Federation of Labor, containing three questions, the one formulated by the City Council (printed above) and two new questions formulated by the three organizations named above, namely:

Shall the City Council proceed by condemnation under the Mueller Law to acquire and equip a complete, modern, unified street railway system, with one fare and universal transfers for the entire city, instead of passing the pending franchise ordinances?

Shall the Legislature repeal the Sunday closing laws, which forbid, under penalty, attending or taking part in amusements or diversions, maintaining open bars, and engaging in business or work on Sunday?

If you are willing to be a useful factor in this fight, act at once.

THE PUBLIC

First National Bank Building, CHICAGO