

PERIODICALS

The New Socialism.

In the September International Socialist Review (Chicago), Robert Rives LaMonte, the author of "Socialism, Positive and Negative," and of "Science and Socialism," contrasts the "Old Socialism" (parliamentarian) with the "New Socialism" (syndical) in an article which, while apparently entirely fair and certainly both readable and informative, is a sturdy defense of the "new Socialism"—that is, of the "Industrial Workers of the World." Another article of more than ordinary interest and value in this issue of the Review is T. A. Hickey's on "The Land Renters' Union" in Texas.



Negro Dwellings in Chicago.

A report on housing conditions among the Negroes of Chicago is made in the Journal of Sociology (University of Chicago Press) for September by Alzada P. Comstock, who made house-to-house canvass of certain chosen districts. "The results of this study," he concludes, "indicate that the colored tenant pays disproportionately high rent for his apartment, which he is liable to find in poorer repair than his immigrant neighbor. But it does not follow that this fact is entirely due to the simple raising of rents in certain districts. The Negro, with a weekly wage no larger, and usually smaller, than that of his immigrant neighbor, endeavors to maintain a standard of living more similar to that of the native-born white citizen than does the immigrant. He does not consent to so large a degree of crowding for the purpose of increasing the ratio of income to rent, and he demands a place of residence which shall be easily and quickly reached from his place of employment."

A. L. G.



The Capital City of Australia.

A pilgrimage to the site of the future capital of the Australian Commonwealth is described by Edwin E. Slosson in The Independent of September 12. New South Wales ceded to the Commonwealth 900 square miles for the Federal district, and a Government Act provided that any part of this territory then owned by an individual could always be bought at its 1908 market value—so forestalling any land boom. Moreover, all Government land will be leased, none sold, providing, it is estimated, an annual rental revenue of many thousand dollars, a sum increasing with the city's growth. The competitive prize plan for the building of the city, by Walter Burley Griffin of Chicago,* is copied and discussed by Mr. Slosson, as are also the two taking second and third prize. Mr. Griffin's design, writes Mr. Slosson, "bears a certain superficial resemblance to the map of Washington. It is, however, radically different, attaining the same end, a combination of vistas and convenience, by an ingenious system of octagons and hexagons instead of the diagonal network superimposed upon the conventional gridiron,

*See Publics of May 31, page 507; and July 23, page 716.

as in Washington. This makes possible square blocks and straight streets for the most part, yet avoids monotony and conforms closely to the contours of the site. The parliamentary buildings are grouped on a triangle with its apex on the hilltop and its base on the Molonglo river, in which they will be reflected as in a crescent mirror edged by public gardens. One of the strongest points of the American design is that the city can be begun on a small scale at small expense, and later expanded as desired far beyond the twelve square miles allotted to it and yet maintain its symmetry at all stages of its growth."

A. L. G.



The baby takes to her bed at night
A one-eyed rabbit that once was white;
A watch that came from a cracker, I think.
And a lidless inkpot that never held ink.
And the secret is locked in her tiny breast
Of why she loves these and leaves the rest.

And I give a loving glance as I go
To three brass pots on a shelf in a row;
To my grandfather's grandfather's loving cup
And a bandy-legged chair I once picked up.
And I can't, for the life of me, make you see
Why just these things are a part of me!

—J. H. Macnair in London Spectator.



"How much are these puppies, little boy?"
"All a quarter 'cept that one, and he's thirty-five cents—he swallowed a dime yesterday!"—Puck.



The Senator's Wife (in Washington): "You are sure they are nice people, Augusta?"

The Senator's Daughter: "Yes, Mamma. Their father is owned by the same Trust that owns papa."—Puck.



A little girl who had been out walking with her aunt heard the latter complain that her feet were tired.

"My feet get tired, too, when I go out walking," said the small maiden, "but I always think what a nice ride my stomach has been having."—Chicago Record-Herald.

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