

Making Tomorrow's World

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BRITISH SOCIAL REFORM LEGISLATION



Birmingham, Eng.—"What is the most significant movement in British life today?" The question was asked of Aaron Watson, veteran liberal journalist, at the National Liberal club, of H. A. White, editor of the London Daily Standard, an organ of the aristocratic classes, at the Conservative club; of Robert Donald, editor of the London Daily Chronicle, the chief liberal journal; of H. A. Gwynne, editor of the London Morning Post, the journal which all society reads; of journalists, politicians, tradesmen, men in the street. The reply, in one form or another, was everywhere practically the same: "The growing insistence upon social reform legislation."

Ten years ago the Briton talked about world politics almost exclusively. Today, without losing his interest in world-politics, he talks about home affairs, land and labor and life. Ten years ago he made faces at Germany and planned a bigger navy. Today he studies Germany's social program for acceptance or avoidance, and is content with a navy maintained at ordinary strength.

How Britons Talk Back.

Two avenues of approach to the real thought of the British people exist which are not found in other countries, at least not to such marked extent. The Briton has not lost the art of talking back. Building his home behind stone walls, studiously reserved with strangers, he talks freely in public meetings and he writes letters to the newspapers. Besides other and usual ways of access to public opinion, these are characteristically British. He wrote a letter to the Times in other days. Now he writes also to the Daily Mail, the Daily Telegraph, the

than aliens, criminals or lunatics, is denied an Old Age pension. All the money for the pensions is provided out of the national treasury—no pensioner and no locality have to contribute anything. Nearly one million persons now receive old age pensions—603,380 women and 362,628 men. The number of persons who, as paupers, received outdoor relief from local poor funds, has largely decreased, falling off from 168,096 to 8,563 in six years. Of every 1,000 persons in Great Britain seventy years old and upwards 640 are old age pensioners, nearly two-thirds. The annual cost to the national treasury is about \$60,000,000.

"I think the greatest act of Parliament of the last fifty years, aside from the power of the House of Lords," said John Burns, cabinet minister and labor leader, "is the act which gave Old Age Pensions. It is the boon of the benevolent state at the cost of the bounteous rich for the benefit of the aged poor. It works easily, does not demoralize, solves many Poor Law problems, keeps the old among the young—and that is good for both—and prevents the growth of institutional life, which I do not like. I am for the home as against the institution." That's the opinion of the friends of the measure.

"A system of demoralization will be established among the working classes," said Lord Wemyss. "Thrift will be done away with, families will cease to regard it as an obligation to maintain those of their number whose working days are passed, and self-reliance will be diminished." That's the extreme view of the opposition.

Insured Against Unemployment.
The National Insurance Act, in addition to insurance against the loss of health and for the prevention and care of sickness, provides insurance against unemployment. In state health insurance Great Britain followed the lead of Germany, but in unemployment insurance Great Britain leads the way. It is a far-reaching experiment in social legislation. "The essence of the problem of unemployment is that all work, or nearly all work, is more or less irregular, and will in large part always remain so,"



Group of English Laborers.

News and Leader, the Westminster Gazette, the Pall Mall Gazette, the Edinburgh Scotsman, the Manchester Journal, the Glasgow Herald, or one of a dozen other great journals, and sometimes to all of them. Nor are these letters from any one class. Everybody writes except the king, and he employs a secretary to write for him. At the public meeting the Briton "heckles" or interrupts with questions for information or impertinence. In the theaters he hisses—which Americans do not—as well as applauds. The public political meeting, as well as the letters in the newspapers, afford an interesting index to the questions uppermost in the public mind. Here, again, social reform legislation of every kind, from the far-flung ideas of the Fabians to the most conservative suggestions of Lord Lansdowne, is talked. Yet more significant is the legislation actually enacted, as the program of one party or another.

A Million Old Age Pensioners.
The Old Age Pension Act is perhaps the most far-reaching. Under the provisions of this act, which became law in 1909, every person in the United Kingdom, whose income is less than \$100 a year, is entitled to receive from the government a pension. This government pension varies in amount, depending upon the income from other sources. The smallest is 25 cents a week, the largest \$1.25. No one, other

said Mr. L. G. Chiozza Money, M. P. "Man can never hope to reduce his operations to a machine-like regularity. He can, however, by concerted effort and common rule decide that irregularity of work need not mean irregularity of maintenance. Society can assure, should assure, to every honest man the regular maintenance which it now admits is due the dishonest man."

The Unemployment Act pools risks by insurance. It builds up a fund by contributions from the employer, the employee and society as a whole, in order that when irregularity of work touches a particular man and deprives him of wage, there may be paid to take the place of wage. The act provides for compulsory insurance against unemployment for about 2,500,000 workmen, skilled or unskilled, organized or unorganized, in building, construction of works, ship-building, engineering, construction of vehicles, iron-founding and saw-milling. The workman contributes five cents a week for each period of employment of a week or less, the employer also five cents a week, and the state one-third the total contributions of employers and employees. For workmen less than eighteen years old the contributions are two cents a week from both workman and employer. The benefit provided consists of weekly payments to the insured workman whilst unemployed af-

ter the first week of unemployment. Workmen more than eighteen years old get \$1.75 a week and under eighteen years old, 90 cents a week, up to a maximum of 15 weeks unemployed in any twelvemonth. The cost to the state of unemployment insurance is about \$2,000,000 annually.

Government Employment Agencies.
The Labor Exchange Act is, in every way, a supplement to the Unemployment Act. It provides government labor exchanges to find jobs for workmen and workmen for jobs. In the three years since this scheme became operative 1,500,000 vacancies have been filled and nearly 270,000 jobs of a casual nature found for workmen. A large amount has been advanced by the state for traveling expenses for workmen for whom jobs have been found. The workman who would claim unemployment benefit must first show that he has applied to the Labor Exchange for employment and been unable to obtain it.

Minimum Wage "White List."
The Workmen's Compensation Act is not new, but an extension to other workers, and to include compensation in the case of certain industrial diseases. The Trades Boards Act attacked the industrial and social evil of sweating. It established trade boards, composed of employers and workers in equal proportions, together with members appointed by the Board of Trade. These boards fix minimum rates for wages for time work in certain trades and may also fix general minimum rates for piece work. The trades to which the act has already been made to apply are: Ready-made and custom tailoring; cardboard box-making; machine-made lace and net-finishing and chain-making. A "White List" of employers who agree to the minimum wage is made public and no government contracts are awarded to firms not on this list.

Early Closing for Shops.
The Early Closing Act, which both closes some tourists who find shops closed at unexpected and apparently unseasonable times, gives weekly half-holidays all over Great Britain to shopkeepers and their assistants. All shops—American, stores—must be closed one week day not later than one o'clock in the afternoon, except where food or newspapers are sold—which, with letters, constitute the trinity for which man will not willingly wait. Even excepted shops may be closed if two-thirds of those in the district in the trade wish them closed. All classes of shop assistants must be given one half-holiday a week and the general work hours are regulated by law. Other acts prevent the employment of women in industrial occupations during the night, make regulations regarding the protection of health in factories and attack the problem of child labor. The Housing and Town Planning Acts amplify in their provisions earlier acts under which the state acquires land for housing purposes and deals with unsanitary areas and dwellings.

"Rank Socialism"
These are some of the more striking measures which Great Britain's legislature is using "as tools in the construction of tomorrow's British empire."
"It is rank Socialism," said one, "but what are you going to do about it? A reaction will come and come soon, but until that does come these laws and more of the same kind will be enacted, weakening private initiative, diminishing self-respect and discouraging self-reliance and thrift. If the state is to be a crutch, we will all grow infirm in time and lean upon it. Contentment, not discontent, should be preached. We are sowing the wind to reap the whirlwind."
"Prosperity should pay a thank offering," said another Britisher. "So much for the new taxes. As for the so-called socialistic legislation, it is not socialism but democracy, the giving to every man a chance, and so far as honest, living wage and fair laws for capital alike with labor, and opportunity for education, leisure and employment can make it so, an equal chance. Is not that the chief business of a democratic state? As for contentment—did you read the White Paper—an official report of the distribution of wealth?"
"The toad beneath the harrow knows exactly where each tooth-point goes; The butterfly beside the road preaches contentment to that toad."
"The eyes of the fool are in the ends of the earth," said Solomon. In Great Britain it is a time of introspection, painful but profitable.

Lord Rosebery's Story.
Lord Rosebery told a story the other day of an Aberdeen professor whose youth was properly full of zeal for learning, but who was too poor to gratify it. Through one long fierce winter in Scotland—where winters are winters—he shivered without an overcoat and starved without breakfasts, because he had spent the money which might have bought them upon the purchase of a Hebrew Bible. In Lord Rosebery's story, of course, the Aberdeen professor, for being faithful to one book, was made ruler over a whole library. The social reform legislation, result of Great Britain's introspection and tumultuous discussion, seeks to secure to all provision against lack of breakfasts or of coats and, indeed, in the broad-voiced Education bill, to make possible for those who wish it, even the study and, perhaps, also the ownership of a Hebrew Bible. (Copyright, 1913, by Joseph B. Bowles.)

Sweet Bait.
Mrs. A.—I told Willie on his way home from school to get me a bar of soap.
Mrs. B.—Oh, he'll forget it; my boy never remembers.
Mrs. A.—No danger; I said he might buy five cents' worth of candy at the same time.

FOR THE OUTDOOR WORKER

Baked Cabbage With Meat, as it is Served in Russia, May Be Found Palatable.

Baked cabbage with meat is a Russian housewife's stand-by. Perhaps it will supply the want of a new meat dish for dinner. The recipe does not, however, suggest itself as one good for delicate digestions, but hearty eaters, living outdoor lives, should find it satisfactory. It is prepared thus: Shred one medium-sized head of cabbage very fine and stand it in cold water for two hours, then drain thoroughly. Place a layer of this shredded cabbage in a deep baking-dish; on it place a layer of cooked meat chopped fine; this may be either veal, beef or ham, and ham is especially good. The meat should be well cooked and chopped fine. Season each layer with butter, salt and pepper. At least a cupful of meat should be used in each layer. A tablespoonful of grated cheese sprinkled over the meat adds greatly to the flavor of the dish. On this place another layer of cabbage alternating with the meat, until the dish is filled, having a layer of the meat with its seasoning and the cheese on top. Pour over this a cupful and a half of boiling water and cook covered in a moderate oven for an hour and a half. At least half an hour before the dish is to be served remove the cover and add a cupful of sweet cream; replace the cover for fifteen minutes and then cook fifteen minutes uncovered, increasing the heat. The top should be delicately browned. If this is to be served hot it should be placed on the table in the dish in which it is cooked. If to be served cold leave it in the baking dish and put in a cool place until ready to serve, then turn out on a platter.

FOR FAMOUS CREOLE SOUP

Simple Rules to Be Observed in Making Preparation Which Has Made Name for Itself.

Here are some rules that the old Creole cooks give for soup making—and if you have ever been in Louisiana you know that their soup is worth emulating:
To get the most goodness out of a soup bone, it should be fractured every inch of its length. The soup should never stop cooking from the time it is put on the stove until it is done, although it should at no time boil furiously.
Once the soup is started cooking, no water should be added, as this spoils the flavor.
The soup bone should be put into cold water, and no salt should be added till the soup is done, as the salt stops the flow of the juices.
The soup should cook from five to seven hours at least.
All spices used in the soup should be put in whole—that is, whole black and white peppers, cloves, bay leaves, cloves of garlic, etc.
One quart of water should be allowed for every pound of meat and bone, to begin with. This is a rule of the Creoles, but they make rich soup. If weaker soup is to be made, or if vegetables as well as meat are used in the stock, the amount of water can be increased.

Caramel Bavarian Cream.

Put two tablespoonfuls of granulated sugar in a saucepan and brown it over a hot fire. Add a pint of cream to it, and grate and add the rind of a big lemon. Heat the cream until it has dissolved the caramel. Beat the yolks of six eggs and six tablespoonfuls of granulated sugar together and when it is creamy add it to the hot cream. Cook it over hot water until it is smooth and thick. Add four tablespoonfuls of granulated gelatine which has been dissolved and let the mixture cool. When it is cool and is just beginning to set whip in a pint of stiffly whipped cream. Pour the mixture into a mold, chill and serve.

Orange Bavarians.

Squeeze a sufficient number of oranges to produce a half pint of juice, including the juice of half a lemon. Add to this six ounces of sugar and stir until the sugar is dissolved. Soak for a few minutes one-quarter ounce of gelatin in a little cold water. Then dissolve in a little hot water. Add this to the fruit juice and stir until the mixture begins to set; then fold in a half pint of whipped cream. Have ready a mold lined with sections of oranges, and fill this carefully. Put in a cool place.

Brazilians.

Blanch and chop fine six Brazil nuts, add with a tablespoon of strawberry jam, a teaspoon of chopped celery, a dash of paprika, salt, and enough sweet cream to make a spreading paste of a package of cream cheese. Add enough cream so that the paste is thin enough not to break the bread while laying up the sandwiches. Cut rye bread very thin and cut the sandwiches into small rounds. These are very dainty for afternoon tea.

To Clean Hair Brushes.

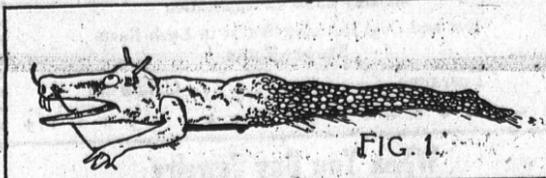
Put a tablespoonful of ammonia in to a basin of tepid water in which a small amount of soap has been dissolved. Dip the brushes up and down until they are clean. Wipe carefully and put in the sun, bristles down, to dry.

Hard Soap.

Soap that is allowed to dry and harden lasts twice as long as if used when fresh. Therefore, it is cheaper to buy in quantities and keep it in a dry place.

New Ideas for Handy Boys

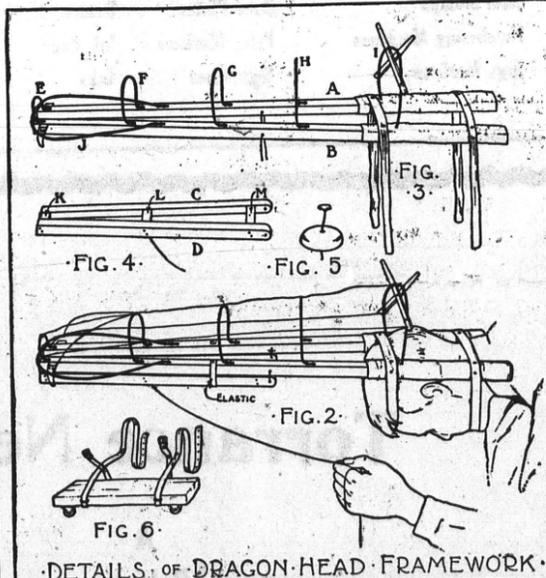
By **A. NEELY HALL**
Author of "Handicraft for Handy Boys," "The Boy Craftsman," etc.



A BOY'S DRAGON COSTUME.

It is a simple matter to make a dragon costume, and a boy can easily play the part of a dragon once he has such a costume. There are lots of things that can be done with the dragon. He will create a great deal of amusement at your show or circus, where he can be introduced as "the only trained dragon in captivity, etc.;" he can be used in your next street parade; and when you go to a party he will be a very entertaining guest to take along. He will be especially interesting at a Halloween party, and if you can manage to slip the costume on, unseen, and crawl in among the guests just when they are in the midst of telling creepy ghost stories, the chances are that you will create the biggest excitement of the evening. Try this if you are invited to a Halloween party, and then write to me in care of this paper and tell me all about the fun.

You will see by the illustrations of the dragon, that your body forms the dragon's body, and that the only framework necessary is that for the head (Fig. 2). In making the head framework, cut sticks A and B (Fig. 3) about 26 inches long, lay them down so two of the ends are 1 inch apart and the other two ends are 7 inches apart, and fasten the wire loops E, F, G, H, I and J upon them. Make the loops out of about No. 8 wire, E



about 2 inches high, F 3 inches, G 3 1/2 inches, H 4 1/2 inches, I 5 inches, and J about 6 1/2 inches by 9 inches. Bend the ends of the loops to form feet, and fasten these feet to the sticks by means of double-pointed tacks. Space the loops as shown in the illustrations. Cut two teeth out of wood and nail them to sticks A and B (Fig. 3), and cut wooden horns and wire them to loop I (Fig. 3). Wrap sticks A and B with cloth at the wide end of the framework, and tack to them two pieces of tape, each about a yard long. The framework is bound to your forehead and chin by means of the tapes (Fig. 2). Stretch light stove-pipe wire across the heavy wire loops, as shown in Fig. 2, to make a foundation for the head covering.

Cut the jaw-sticks C and D (Fig. 4) 14 inches long, and fasten blocks K, L and M between them in the positions shown. The blocks must be cut to the proper lengths to make the jaws fit the upper part of the head framework (Fig. 2). Hinge the wide end of the jaw to sticks A and B. First round the ends of C and D (Fig. 4); then bore a gimlet-hole through each and a corresponding hole in A and B (Figs. 3 and 4); run wires through the holes, and twist them together to form the wire hinges shown in Fig. 2.

For the covering of the framework, cut some newspapers into strips three inches wide, soak them in flour paste, and lay them across the wires. Place layer upon layer of these strips upon the framework, and gradually model the paper into the shape of the head. When this work has been done, give the paper a thorough coat of paste, to make the projecting edges lay down. The paper will be very stiff and solid when dry.

Get a couple of old alarm clock gongs, or electric bell gongs, and two round buttons, or the dragon's eyes. Run a heavy thread through the buttons, then through the holes in the gong (Fig. 5), and sew to the dragon's head. Run a bent wire through the paper just above the nostrils for fangs (Fig. 1). Paint the head a bright green.

Procure a piece of green cloth large enough to cover your body and sew pieces of tin foil to one-half of

it. Then after strapping on the head, ask your mother or sister to wrap the cloth tightly about your body, and mark the proper places for hooks or tapes. Then ask her to sew these on to the cloth for you. These will make it easy to fasten the covering over your body, but of course you will require the help of some one to do the hooking or tying of tapes.

To simplify the matter of crawling, you should have a small platform mounted upon wheels to lie down upon. Then you can propel yourself by means of your outstretched arms. The platform need not be larger than 12 by 16 inches and casters may be fastened to its under side for wheels (Fig. 6). Fasten two straps to it so you can strap it to your body.

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Winning in London.

Mrs. John Astor, the first wife of the late Col. John Astor, has assumed a position of importance in London society. She has of late been entertaining her friends at little luncheons in her home at Grosvenor square. None of these parties numbered more than eight persons, and were given in the cool, delightfully decorated dining room which Mrs. Astor designed herself.

At the recent Versailles fete in which the court of Louis XIV. was depicted, Mrs. Astor challenged comparison in the magnificence of her costume and the loveliness of her face.

She appeared as Diana, and one writer in commenting on the gorgeous affair said: "One could not imagine a lovelier picture than that made by Mrs. John Astor. Her tall, supple figure moving with charming grace in the filmy, clinging robes and crowned by that truly regal face with its pure, patrician features, was one of the moving spectacles of the grand fete."

Electric Lights in Westminster Abbey.

The monastic gloom which has pervaded the abbey of Westminster for so many years has been dissipated. The abbey has now a new lighting scheme which makes it the best illuminated of our abbeys and cathedrals. Electric light has been installed in every nook and corner and it banishes forever the atmosphere of ecclesiastical gloom that is usually associated with churches.

The new scheme of illumination has taken three years to perfect, and the abbey has now 250 electric lamps, hanging in groups of four and six from the distant roof, and the electric current is supplied from a cable in the street.

Prior to the present installation all the lamps stood upright at the corners of the pews. The electric lights are so arranged that the minute print of the average prayer book can be read during evening services in the remotest retreats of the building.

Described.

It was a scorching June night. The heat had paralyzed the activities of everything save the mosquitoes. They pursued their calling in cloudy swarms and with the heat made things almost unbearable.

"My, but the mosquitoes are bad," ventured one individual who sat on a porch. "Swarm night," answered the other.

Which seemed to dispose of all necessity for further comment.

He Knew Her.

"My wife is very particular," said the customer to the house decorator. "She says she wants the walls to match her complexion."

"Oh, she wants 'em painted then and not papered," replied the wise man.