

ian, and 5 per cent. Hungarian elements in its population. Twenty-five nationalities were noted in all, but the visitors did not find one colored family. The influence of Slavonic emigration on the average size of household is shown in the fact that the Hebrews of this district have 2.54 children to every family, as against 2.08 in Roman Catholic families and 1.85 in Protestant families. The proportion of Hebrew families with nine children is six times as great as among Protestants, and the percentage of Hebrew families with but one child is considerably smaller. Hence, with such conditions the growth of Protestantism in this district through birth-rate seems to have comparatively small probabilities. The district was once self-reliantly prosperous, but Dr. Laidlaw's statistics indicate that now only two per cent. of the families there own their own dwellings. Another striking fact is that the average family occupies only 3.37 rooms, and that only 2.19 of these rooms have windows to the outer air. No less than 95 per cent. of the families lack baths. Such statistics are of great value, not only to religious work, but to such social endeavors as that now being prosecuted by the Tenement House Commission recently appointed by Governor Roosevelt.



Social Service We do not know of any organization which has so quickly grown into wide and well-appreciated usefulness as the recently formed "League for Social Service," of which Dr. Josiah Strong is President and Dr. W. H. Tolman Secretary. We can hardly serve many of our readers better than by briefly summarizing the contents of its monthly publication, "Social Service," in the numbers received since its first issue last January. That issue opens with a list of the copious material it has collected for concretely illustrating social and industrial questions by means of lantern-slides, on subjects adapted for the purposes of college professors and young people's societies, public officials and labor unions, women's clubs, labor employers, institutional churches, and others. The plan includes a descriptive text or libretto of the slides for reading lectures. The wealth and variety of this collection are remarkable. The February

number contains an illustrated narrative of what is being done by various employers for industrial betterment by improving and beautifying the wage-earners' environment. It is evident from the correspondence of employers reported here that a new profession is rising, viz., "social engineering." Also that these things pay in dollars and cents, as well as in influences beyond the range of statistics. An employer elsewhere quoted writes that the three per cent. of his annual payroll spent for industrial betterment yields an actual cash profit of from five to ten per cent. In March appeared an illustrated account of the Exhibit of Social Economy at the Paris Exposition, for which our Government has appointed the President and Secretary of the League special agents. The chief feature of the April issue is a historical sketch of the "Get Together Club," the name adopted by the conferences of men and women in this city who are actively interested in practical measures for social betterment. People elsewhere who desire to engage in constructive discussions of such measures will find suggestive material in the programmes of the club here given. The May number presents various subjects. An international clearing-house for the interpretation of the scientific, educational, and sociological results of the Paris Exposition has been organized under a permanent International Association. Holding its first International Assembly at Paris, it appeals to popular sympathy in the cause of culture and human development. Following an account of this is a record of successes in bettering industrial conditions in factories, and the story of "the Lunch Club of Denver." June brings to the front the subject of "The Home and Social Betterment" in an account of what the Federation of Churches is doing to improve the wretched condition of laborers' homes in Pittsburg and Allegheny. We believe that public and general benefits will be diffused as the circulation of this admirable journal of true civilization increases. The treasurer of the Westinghouse Air-Brake Company writes: "I trust that the lessons taught by the practice of the ideas of the League may spread until this country will not only be proud of its great commercial and financial prosperity, but can be proud of the character and quality

of its labor." The office of the League is at 287 Fourth Avenue, New York, where "Social Service" is published at \$1 a year.



Summer School in Philanthropy

The emphasis now rightly laid on thorough training as essential to thoroughly good work is felt in all professions, and has added to the long list of summer schools one for the practical discipline required in the department of philanthropy. The New York Summer School in Philanthropic Work this year devotes six weeks, ending July 28, to systematic study of some of the main problems of public and private charity. This school attracts students of high grade—graduates of Harvard, Leland Stanford, Smith, Vassar—fifteen such institutions are represented—besides secretaries of Charity Organization Societies and workers in Social Settlements, in all between twenty-five or thirty, as large a number as can at present be conveniently handled. The previous sessions of the School in 1898 and 1899 were attended by forty-eight such students in all, and all these are reported as now actively employed in various lines of charitable and social work. The "laboratory method" of study is followed. Visits are made by assignment to public institutions of charity and to various centers of philanthropic work. These visits are reported upon, and reports upon the phases of philanthropic work supply material for discussions. The programme includes study of the literature of the subject as well as the sources of information; also papers by experts and addresses by men and women of recognized eminence as students of social problems. Professor Peabody, of Harvard, made the opening address on "The Expansion of Charity." Dr. Brackett, President of the Charity Commissioners of Baltimore, presided in the discussion of the first main topic, "The Treatment of Needy Families in Their Homes," which occupied the first week. Other main topics were "The Care of Dependent, Neglected, and Delinquent Children," "Medical Charities," "The Institutional Care of Adults," and "Neighborhood Improvements." The fee for the course is \$10, and students defray their own expenses, except in a few cases where two or three small scholarships are

available. Here is a new occasion for far-sighted benevolence. Six weeks, all that is now practicable, is quite too short for the ideal of such a school, but it opens the way to it. The treatment of social disease by the philanthropist needs as thorough training as the treatment of physical disease by the physician. Two years' time is not too long for the many-sided and complicated problem presented to the student of the social organism by the masses in need of wise reliefs.



Women's Clubs in Paris Not the least interesting feature of the Paris Exposition to those interested in social endeavor is the establishment at No. 70 Avenue de Breteuil (close to the Exposition) of a bureau which will serve as a home for women and girls employed at the Exposition. The Bureau is open from ten o'clock in the morning until ten at night. It provides reading, conversation, and writing rooms, and members will also be able to take a light meal there. During the evening musical and other forms of entertainment will take place; members can also find lodgment in the same building. Women and girls are received without any distinction of religious belief. The consequent demand for lodgings is so great that nearly all have been retained for the whole time of the Exposition. Co-operation is needed. The present work involves the expenditure of three thousand dollars, nearly all of which has been subscribed; but the demand for the enlargement of the endeavor is so insistent that additional contributions will be gladly received. More widespread still is the work undertaken nearly thirty years ago by Miss Leigh, now the wife of the Most Rev. Travers Lewis, Archbishop of Ontario. Finding that many English girls were drifting to Paris every year to find employment in shops and elsewhere where English-speaking persons were needed, Mrs. Lewis founded a home for those who were friendless. From the earliest days of the home, American girls similarly situated have been welcome. So great was the success of the institution that it was not long before one building was not large enough. Another house was purchased, and to-day there are three houses, a hospital, and a church under the management

of the association founded by Mrs. Lewis. The homes have been found to be of aid to those unfortunate women who have become victims of spurious offers of marriage made to them by Frenchmen. These marriages, celebrated in England or the United States, are, under certain conditions not binding in France. On desertion, under the French law, wives rarely have redress, as an English or an American marriage depends for its validity upon a number of by-laws governed by the Code Napoléon, and these circumstances are rarely known by foreigners. Mrs. Lewis appeals for subscriptions to pay the debt on the Washington House, 18 Rue de Milan, the only one of the "Paris Homes" not fully paid for; contributions may be sent to her bankers, Messrs. Munroe & Co., 32 Nassau Street, New York City. The Washington House provides reading, reception, class, and studio rooms, a restaurant, a free registry for governesses, clerks, and others seeking employment, and apartments for the members of the "Home."



The Presidential Campaign Opened

The Presidential campaign has been opened by two characteristic speeches from the two principal candidates, Mr. Bryan and Mr. McKinley. On July 10 a ratification meeting of the Democratic nominations was held in Lincoln, Nebraska, and Mr. Bryan made a brief speech, which illustrates the spirit in which the Democratic campaign will probably be conducted. He said:

If every Filipino were to die the world would go on, but this Nation, the greatest republic of the world's history, puts out its light. If this Republic turns its back to the doctrine which we loved a century and a quarter ago, then to what nation of the world can the people look for hope and inspiration? So you ought to be proud that you are an American citizen and are able to say: "If the Republic goes down I am not to blame for its downfall!"

This notion that the defeat of Mr. Bryan would be the downfall of the Republic was still more explicitly put by Mr. Towne, the Populist candidate for Vice-President, who said:

If the citizens of this country at the forthcoming election shall ratify and confirm the

presumptuous stretches of authority that have characterized the conduct of this Administration, then we shall not be in danger of establishing an empire; the empire will have been already established.

Mr. McKinley also warns his hearers against disasters which he believes the defeat of his party will involve; but his faith in American institutions is not so feeble that he thinks a Democratic victory will imperil them; it will imperil National prosperity and National honor, but not National existence. He thus describes the present condition of the country, which he attributes to four years of Republican administration:

We have lower interest and higher wages; more money and fewer mortgages. The world's markets have been opened to American products, which go now where they have never gone before. We have passed from a bond-issuing to a bond-paying nation; from a nation of borrowers to a nation of lenders; from a deficiency in revenue to a surplus; from fear to confidence; from enforced idleness to profitable employment. The public faith has been upheld; public order has been maintained. We have prosperity at home and prestige abroad.

The proposed repeal of the gold act and the establishment in its place of free silver at a ratio of 16 to 1, the proposed repeal of the Dingley Act, with no definite tariff policy proposed to take its place, and the proposed abandonment of the Philippines, he believes, would bring "a financial catastrophe," with "dire consequences to credit and confidence, to business and industry," and would prevent the establishment of a just and generous government in the Philippines "in which the inhabitants shall have the largest participation of which they are capable."

We think that to the sober second thought of most Americans, if they allow themselves to give such thought to the political issues presented to them, the dangers pointed out by Mr. McKinley will seem to be real and imminent; those threatened by Mr. Bryan and Mr. Towne will be, if not wholly imaginary, exceedingly remote. Whatever be the cause of the country's present prosperity, that it is prosperous, and that all classes share in some measure in its prosperity, will not be questioned. That so radical a change in the currency as would be involved in the immediate adoption of the free coinage