

sented to offer prayers "for a nobleman named Leo"! An editorial estimate of Tolstoy and an account of the attitude of the Russian Government toward his work appear elsewhere in this issue of *The Outlook*.

THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR LITERATURE

For many years the two men in Munich in whom visitors from all parts of the world were most interested were Lenbach, the painter, whose portraits of the German leaders of the Franco-Prussian War period are not only striking works of art but historical documents of inestimable importance, and Paul Heyse, the poet, dramatist, and novelist. This year the Nobel Prize for Literature has been conferred on Heyse, who is now in his eighty-first year, a venerable and striking figure, familiar in the streets of Munich for half a century. Until the rise of the group of writers represented by Sudermann and Hauptmann, Paul Heyse was the foremost man of letters in Germany. He is not a man of original genius; he belongs rather with the large group of poets and novelists of sensitive temperament, responsive imagination, and artistic feeling. He is not an impressionist like Loti, but his work depends more on grace and charm than on virility and fresh invention. During his student days at Berlin and Bonn he devoted himself chiefly to the study of Romance languages; and, although a German living in one of the most intensely Teutonic of cities, he is a man of cosmopolitan interests, temper, and habit of thought. He has been a prolific writer, and a long list of volumes in verse and prose stand to his credit. He is at his best in his short stories, of which "L'Arabiate" and "Vetter Gabriel" are perhaps the most representative. The first is an idyl of Italian peasant life, full of color and atmosphere. His two long novels, "Children of the World" and "In Paradise," were greeted with storms of applause and of criticism. "In Paradise" is a study of bohemian artistic life—a field in which Heyse is entirely at home. On the title of both novels might be written as a motto, "Follow impulse;" for both stories are pleas not only against conventions, but against morality. They both exalt impulse as having the authority

of law. Heyse is a man of lyrical rather than of dramatic genius, and a novelist of intention rather than of original genius.

THE INTERCOLLEGIATE CIVIC LEAGUE

The work of the Intercollegiate Civic League deserves chronicle. The League consists of an association of undergraduate political clubs in forty colleges and universities, with the common purpose of interesting their members and instructing them practically in the political life of our day. The League began life as a committee of college men to get other college men to register and vote. It was then known as the College Men's Political Association. But it soon recognized that there was a larger field of usefulness in the endeavor to get educated men interested in politics, irrespective of their political opinions. Efforts have been made to make the work of each club in the League as practical as possible, supplementing whatever instruction is afforded by the curriculum in the various colleges. Investigation has demonstrated that not only is there room for college men in political life, but that there is an active demand by politicians for them. Under the guidance of Mr. Arthur Woods, the first graduate secretary of the League, later Deputy Commissioner of Police of New York City, the clubs grew greatly in number, and under Mr. Woods's successor, Mr. John Boyle, Jr., substantial progress was also made. Mr. Boyle has now been succeeded by Mr. E. M. Sait, who has shown much energy in getting the men "out." A particular department of active work has been the volunteer watching in New York City, and the reports of the keen young men are particularly worth reading. As President Taft remarked to the League at its recent meeting in Washington, there is a certain advantage in the college man "rubbing up" against a political tough. He added:

It was yesterday that I noticed a reference made to a paper read by my son Robert in New York. I observe that some took exception or intimated that he had come down to New York with too high an idea of himself and of his position in society. It does not do to do that. You have to get in and stand on a level with the rest of them. I

think, though, the critic did Robert an injustice. I haven't discovered any exclusiveness on his part. You want to avoid that, if you can, and not ask any privilege on account of where you came from. You are not likely to have it extended to you, and you might as well reconcile yourselves to its absence. I lived for a time in one of the worst wards in Cincinnati, and I know that each one of you, if he has the courage to go in and rub up against toughs and other people, and if he exerts such influence as he is able, will accomplish much.



COLLEGE CIVIC CLUBS

As has been noted above, the Intercollegiate Civic League consists of an association of undergraduate civic clubs. The object of these clubs is not merely to be watchmen at the polls on election day, or to enjoy the luxury and enlightenment of addresses by leading political authorities, but really to serve in sympathetic manner the particular community in which the college is located. At the recent Convention of the Civic Clubs in New York there was a general feeling that undergraduates should not attempt to "reform" the communities in the neighborhood of their respective colleges so much as to join hands with progressive officials and citizens in those centers and work with them for better civic conditions. For instance, the Good Government Club of Williams College has in this way rendered much valuable service. Last year it had some seventy men serving on its ten committees, all under the leadership of chairmen instructed not to "reform" offenders but to inform both themselves and the offenders about existing evils and to work sympathetically in applying the remedies desired. Following a system of inspection recommended by the Department of Agriculture, a Milk Committee, for example, investigated some ten dairies in the vicinity of Williamstown. A member of the college faculty made the standard test for bacteria, and the dairies were given a rating according to the exactness with which their milk supply met the requirements of the test. Approached in this fashion, the Williamstown farmers welcomed the opportunity of comparing the milk produced on their farms with that produced by competitors, and were among those who paid the nominal price charged by the Club to non-members for the an-

nual report of the work of the committees. Such an attitude and such work on the part of the student quickens his interest in civic problems, prepares him to solve them, and stimulates him to attempt their solution.



THE RIGHT IDEA FOR CITIES

The "New Municipal Idea" was the dominant note of the Buffalo meeting of the National Municipal League. It was defined by the Secretary, Clinton Rogers Woodruff, to be the placing of the emphasis on the welfare of the city, rather than on the interest of a party or a candidate. It requires that city affairs be given a due consideration on their merits, without regard to irrelevant questions, such as State or National politics. It insists upon directness of nomination, election, and responsibility after election; demands simplicity of electoral and governmental machinery, the short ballot and responsiveness to the public will, and therefore encourages easy and intelligent voting, checks partisan and factional domination, giving voters control, if they wish to exercise it. Through publicity it insures effective control; demands that efficiency and merit shall be the sole basis of all appointments in a democracy, and demands concentration of authority and responsibility. The Hon. William Dudley Foulke, who succeeds former Attorney-General Bonaparte as President of the League, further elaborated this view in his inaugural address on "The Conservation of Our Municipal Resources." He pointed out that every city, every township, every county, in America is the possessor of property of great value. The streets, the roads, the parks, and many of the public buildings, if they were in the hands of private individuals, could be made to produce an enormous income; "while no one will say that they ought to be made productive to the same extent or in the same way in the hands of a municipal government, yet they ought to be made far more productive than they ever have been, and their economical management in the future, in spite of all of the waste in the past, can still result in a substantial reduction of all municipal budgets." In Germany no fewer than 1,500 towns and villages own so much