BAD HABIT LAND.

The topsyest-turveyest land that I know Is the land where the careless and bad child

Now take for example the dear little boys seldom, if ever, help pick up their toys I know at least two, and perhaps you know mor Whose shoes lie on tables and hats on the floor. Their chiffonier drawers so untidy, and think Near suits of white duck I found bottles of ink With roller skates, brushes, and often a shirt-Each one always open collecting the dirt. Soap floating in basins, gum stuck to the glass,

While gone every handle of bright polished bra-Their mothers implore them to try and be near They'll say, "Yes, I will," and fly into the street But lo! Topsy-turvy land sends out a witch Whose name is "Bad Habit" and carries a switc She rides on the back of a flerce looking bat And whisks them away without even a hat.

'Tis only the untidy boys, understand, She'll carry while sleeping to Bad Habit Land. Now as for the girls, their rooms are a sight, With clothes scattered 'round where they le them last night. New bows of silk ribbon of black, brown and black

In top drawers are brushes and combs filled wit Clean belts and kid gloves near an old Teddy bear.

Are thrown in a corner beside a soiled shoe.

Their fine bureau silver is tarnished and black, While pretty white shirt waists are pinned in th

Their tooth brush and slippers are thrown on th floor, I'm realiy ashamed to betray any more.

Though careless, they sleep most serenely an 'Till, they, too, are taken to Bad Eabit Land.

And once they arrive there-now mind what Forever and ever and ever they'll stay.

Poor father and mother may beg on each knee, They're held by Bad Habits and cannot get free They're prisoners for life, little girl, and what's They're kept in a place with a strong iron door,

And there they may linger like little caged ral Beware then, each child, of the land of "Bad

-[Irene Elliott Benson. Habits."

THE UNAVAILABLE OPULENCE OF

"Sister Clutcher, ever since I wedded that gal o' yourn to Irby Tuel, I've laid off to speak my mind concernin' the way

"Juletty's my baby chile, Elder Mayhall; an' I shore fetch her up to regard prope'ty—ef that is yo' meanin. I says to all my obil'en, says I, 'When ye wed, I want ye to wed prope'ty-an' a plenty.' An' they hain't nary one on 'em gone ag'in me. Julet' she done the best ; but hit ain't every day that a mounting gal meets up with a feller with seb'm hundred dollars in his right band.

"For a perfessin' Christian, you do sho' ly think too much of riches, Sister Clutch er," said the preacher sharply. "You want to study more about layin' up treasures where thieves cain't break th'oo an

"That's true, Brother Mayhall, ef a body has money on this earth look like they' from 'em," agreed Elvira Clutcher, im pervious to the reproof in her pastor's

"Well, I tell you and Sister Tuel," said the outspoken old man, "that I never wedded a pair with a more sinking heart. You women jest sp'iled 'em plumb rotten. That thar boy needs for to be showed that the gal he's got is just a human-or more so. Juletty ort to know that Irby Tuel but a sinful man-an 'young at that. Au' they both need to be convict

"Lemme see the paper," quavered Mrs. Tuel.

"Ah-law-buh ! Brother Mayball. reckon Irby an' Julet' is bound to need all they' smartness for to keep what they got away from them thievish town folks. Some on 'em must ha' done hearn tell about Ithy an' his riches; fer they've tell about I by an' his riohes; fer they've even gone so far as to git up a bogust telegraft an' seud hit to me for to try kin they I'd 'a' got it fust time ye named it to me locate that thar money and steal hit !" Slowly and weightily she drew ont and

unfolded a yellow paper, every eye eagerly upon her; it was a rich moment. She had oon her; it was a rich moment. She had served this delectable bit of gossip for a later part of the meeting; but the preacher's remarks seemed to make its production now almost dramatically opportune.

Mayball took the yellow slip and read

"Mossy Cove, June 5. Out of money. Where is the seven hundred dollars? Answer.

Now, don't that show how folks has to watch out when they've got money?" Tuel's mother in law inquired triumphantry.
"How long sence you got this? countered the preachor abruptly. "Hit's dated more'n a week ago. You sho'ly answered?

You reckon I wedded ye fer?"

The bay looked hungrily at her. Julette el's mother in law inquired triumphantly.

"You' a jokin'; you' sho'ly a-passin' you jokes on me, Brother Mayball. You know I never answered that fool thing. I sens-ed mighty well an' cl'ar Irby had nothin' to do with hit.

"Hit ain't no telegraft. Hit ain't from Irby, nohow, Sis Tuel. Hit's jest a print-ed letter that them thar roguish town folks look as though it had been words. nees to fool ye. Don't you take on,' Mis.
Clutcher urged. "Irby had fo' dollars an' eighty cents, he had; mighty nigh after riches—an' you had 'em. That's what I wedded ye fer, Irby Tuel—fer yo' I reakon I was a fool, but that's

that much in a week.' But the Rev Mr. Mayball had been to town of that size-with the few coins which might have been left out of their four dollars and eighty cents by the time of their

"If the rest of von women can finish here," he cut in, "I'm going to take Sister you'd a-had the goodness to give me a Clutcher and Sister Tuel over to my house. sorter hint like this fo' months ago, I'll git them to tell me the rights of this business; and then, if I have to, I'll go plumb to Mossy Cove and hunt up them and Lord only knows what they' ay."

Before one of the shop windows strung

muring to herself, half mechanically. There was scarce a street corner in their

adzackley that-up in thar-fer more'n a month, I reckon. Irby," she continued, her voice sharply: "Irby, that's the belt I want"—it was probably the twentieth time she had addressed this observation to her young husband. She pointed to a cheap gilt girdle of linked plates.

'Know hit-ye said that afore, honey. Jest wait tell we have some breakfast, and I go to the telegraft office-mebbe I kin buy it fer ye by then."

"An' you said that afore !" pouted the bride, with a tempestuous heave of the pink-calico clad bosom, and a mutinous glance at her legal lord and master. "I named hit to you a-yesterday when we come a-past this hyer winder; and you said them very same words. I want to know, right now, don't ye aim to never buy me nothin'? What ye pesterin' 'round that old telegraft office fer all the time? I could 'a' bought my belt with the money ye fooled away thar a-yesterday. Why don't we go on to Mountain Junction what we're a gwine? Seems like you act quare.'

A quick red rose to the young fellow's freekled face. That sandy poll of his meant irascibility. "Always been-told a woman's as full o' curiosity as a aig is of meat. Eve in the Bible upsot the whole business by trying to find out what was never intended for her to know,' grumbled, going back to a very old grievance. He was looking baggard and wornand there was just twenty-five cents in his pocket. A wife of longer standing would have felt intuitively that this was a time for amiability. But the handsome, star-eyed gipsy, who had almost to run to keep up with his long stride, had a pretty little

temper of her own.
"I think hit's about time you told me who ye sent that telegraft to—an' who you expect to hyer from, an' what about me—a wedded wife!'' she stormed. Irby Tuel faced about in his tracks. He

was but a boy, eaten by his first great anxiety—and breakfastless. "Ef ye must know," he burst out, "I've done lost the seb'a bundred dollars, an' hit tuck nigh onto the last money I had to

telegraft to yo' mammy—"
"My mammy?" echoed Juletta between

scorn and amazement.

"Yes, yo' mammy," doggedly, and with a yet redder face. "She had the keepin' on it last I knowed, and she orter 'a' give it to me befo' we started. I never noticed till a-yesterday—I—I wasn't studyin' about—'' his voice trailed and faltered. He saw the figure he cut in the eyes of his bride. He gulped and half turned away with clenched bands. "Mebbe they's a a telegraft this mawnin'," he muttered.

With a sudden clutch upon his coatsleeve Juletta restrained him. Primitive woman that she was, with much of the young savage in her, she looked him over from head to foot with curiously widened dark eyes-this husband of bers who lost his money and seemed about to weep

"You've lost hit-seb'm bundred dollars !" she said.

Irby refused to look at ber. His eyes sulked behind thick blond lashes and down-drawn brows. "Turn me a-loose !" he growled. "I ain't got but twenty-five cents in my pocket ; but I'm sho' a-gwine to git me some breakfast-au' you too," he added hastily. "I'm as hongry as a hound-dog that's run for it's life. I cain't do nothin' no ways tell I've had sempin' to

eat. I want my breakfast--''
"An' I want my belt," flung back his bride. "Looks like men allus has to be aallus a passel o' folks tryin to git it away eating-got to eat whatever comes or goes ; ute;got to eat-an' eat quick-ef everything else is plumb lost and ruin't !" She loosed his employer, who was not a bad fellow tion, and faced him fairly blazing. want my helt. The Lord knows hit's little enough. Hit cost but a quarter-a quarter !" with a stinging scorn from which the boy winced so sharply that he might almost be said to have dodged. "An" von ain't bought me ary gift sence we've

been wedded! ed of the truth that riches—eb'm seb'm Nobody could be more painfully aware hundred dollars—is but a fading gloss that takes unto hit-e'f wings an' leaves nary a thing but a heap of ashes behime at the weeks and months of his courtship what he should buy for her, how he should dress her and deck her out, in what generous style he should do things, when they came to Mossy Cove on their way to the little mountain station where they should leave the railroad and go by wagon out to look at the farm which this inheritance of his

was to buy and stock. ef I had the price. I didn't natchally aim to lose the money. I never lost hit at all, myse'f—bit was yo' mammy what would come a-meddlin' into the business, a-werryin' me an' a-talkin' on, 'lowin' hit warn't safe for me to pack sech a sum in my pocket that a-way. She tuck it an' said she'd fix fer me to tote it. An' then Preacher Mayhall was a-comin', an' they hollered that the folks was waitin', an'," with a sudden rush of feeling, "I thest seed you, Juletta, an' you was so pretty an' sweet 'at I plumb forgot about the money for one while."

"Oh—law—purty an' sweet!" gibed Juletta, with a toss of the head worthy of

had been a most captivating sweetheart—a responsive, a royal lover. And he longed very much for a little kindness from the one creature be knew in what seemed to him a big, bewildering, heartless city. But

what I tuck you fer!" "Hit is, is it?" said the young husband Mossy Cove—and further—more than once. He gasped at the thought of this mountain boy and girl stranded in a town—even a be mighty oncommin'—mighty peart, an' forrud-about tellin' hit to me now," went on with beavy bitterness. " 'Pears like hit don't werry ye a bit to say yo' whole mind to me, free, about hit. But this is the fust I've heard on it. I wish't

He was about to fling their courtship in her teeth-to taunt her with her towardlipore children. Hit's no manner of use to ness-her readiness to be won-it was in-telegraft now, for a week has done went by tolerable! And as they went along a quiet back street toward the station and the telegraph office, Irby stunned, sullen along the single straygling business street of Mossy Cove, a young couple stood looking in—state more than boy or girl, plainly fresh from the mountains, and each of maxims with which her mother's teachings in face and figure marks of maxims with which her mother's teachings above the street of wearlness and dejection.

"I'd laid off to buy me a belt time we got to the settlemint," the girl was murthat tore and lacerated and poisoned.

loudly threaten to leave him.

Irby, naturally slow of speech, and now bleeding from a score of wounds, made but few clumsy and muttering replies; yet these were aimed with a boy's frank brutality. In this sort they came to the station platform, and together entered the office where the station-agent performed the duties of telegraph operator. The man looked up and laughed as soon as he saw

"Nothing." he said, forestalling poor

Irby's question.

"I'm gwine back to the ho-tel," announced Juletta abruptly. "Ef you hain't
got the money for to buy nothin' I want, nor to go on to Garyville—I'm gwine back to the bo-tel." And she turned and flounced

out of the room. "Yer gal's mad commented the function ary amiably. "Them folks up at Hep zibah don't seem to answer you very fast about that cash. They's nothin' in this world, I reckon, that a feller can get rid

of quicker an' easier than-" But Irby Tuel did not bear the conclusion on these philosophic observations; he was out at the back of the station, examining a vast pile of cordwood. With his hands in his pockets he moved about seeming to seek something, found it, squared his the edge of an ax. When the agent put fellow's heart must have been a took courage, and came a step nearer to little touched, for he failed to laugh again her husband. "Ef I ever said—ever said at the mountain boy's query; "Aim to have this byer stuff chopped?" and only answered.

'at I'd quit ye—" she began bravely.
"Ye shore said hit—I 'low ye said hit mo'n twenty times," be returned prompt-

"Yep. Want the job?"
"I reckon so," said Irby. "What ye

"Bont a dollar a cord," said the other briefly. He turned back into the room, reappearing a moment later to toss out a smooth pine stick. "Thar's the measure o' the stove. Watch out ye don't git hit any longer'n that-hit's jest right."

The boy's healthy stomach clamored upon him for breakfast. But the mountaineer's dignity was bis. He fingered the coin in his pocket thoughtfully. He dared not spend it for a breakfast and anticipate wages which some accident might inter vene to prevent his receiving. Besides there was Juletta. The coin went deep into his pocket, and his hand came out the hat was jammed down tightly on tha hair which a body might call red; a moment later the ax flashed high above his head, in long glittering curves, and bit savagely into the wood, sending out great chips with every stroke. Never in all his twenty two years had Irby Tuel worked for hire. Always he had been the employer. As the grief and bumiliation of that

morning surged back upon him, and he re-called Juletta's looks and words and tones, the strokes fell faster, the ax flashed in swifter, wider arcs, and bit, each time it fell, more and more deeply into the wood. ... She'd never 'a' took up with him but for his riches. . . The seven hun-dred dollars—that's all she wedded him

for. . . . Ef she'd 'a' wanted a man Thus, in the dazed, stung, bewildered young brain, the refrain chimed on bour after hour. Well, he'd show her that he was a man, vet. A man could make mon ey-he could earn it-and buy back what

And so Irby Tuel chopped and split, and chopped and split, all day -- breakfastless

Toward dusk be held brief comverse with his arm, adding a decided push to the action, and faced him fairly blazing. "I his day's labor, and permission to occupy his day's labor, and permission to occupy an unused pallet in a corner of the freight room, he called at the decent little country hotel where he and Juletta had been boarding, paid what was owing, told the landlady his wife would stay there for the present, but that he had got work which would keep him away.

To say of Juletta, the girl who had dismissed bim-who had announced herselfquite quit of him forever-on seven different street corners that morning, who had hung at the window for hours that afternoon watching from behind the ragged shade for his approach, who had witnessed it, slipped doubtingly, hopefully downstairs, and caught the import of his talk with the landlady—to say of her that she now regarded him with terror would be but to put the truth mildly. When her tantrum had subsided it left ber rather shamed and disposed to be contrite. Now, she was like a kitten that has boxed its first mouse—the mouse that it meant to keep and play with forever-too hard in its euthusiasm and killed it outright. She watched with fear-dilated eyes while Irby paid the woman for her board; she crept away unseen and went forloruly back to her room-that room so lonely, so big and empty and gaping with Irby out of it -to spend the long, long evening, and the long miserable night alone.

For five days this curious state of affairs went on. Irby Tuel had found the man's cure for trouble, disappointment, heartache
—work; and he applied it as vigorously as
the individual with hair which a body might call red is apt to. He chopped the agent's whole pile of cordwood; he passed on from it to the cordwood of the sta-tion agent's friends and acquaintances. Only son of a doting mother who was wellto-do for the mountains, Irby had never been driven to severe and prolonged labor; and during the last three months of his courtship of Juletta he bad, like a petted, spoiled boy, almost entirely relinquished work of any sort, occupying his time very comfortably with his wooing, so that this exigency, which came upon him abruptly and addressed him in imperative terms, found him somewhat unfit. But he made up in dogged resolution what was lacking in muscular bardness. His bands, which blistered at first, calloused over in the palms manfully; his back, which had ached of an evening as though it would break in two, grew once nore supple and strong; his eyes lost their grieved, augry, dazed look. He was very literally working out his first

Tired Irby could usually sleep soundly, despite his misery; but Juletta's pillow was wet with her tears till long after midnight. Day by day she watched feverishly for some sign of her young husband; and every night, when it was too late for him to come, she told herself : "He's done lef" me. He won't never love me no mo'!
Oh, Lord, and I cain't blame him nary Ef I was a man an' my woman spoke to me like I did to Irby, I'd whup her sure, an' then I'd quit her !" She wept delefully. "An' that's what he's a-fixin' to do-quit me-soon as he airns money enough to send me home to maw;" and the

rest was tears. But if Juletta had faults, she had also

"I've been a-wantin' that thar belt-jest | itinerary upon which she did not stop and | parting, it came about that just at sunset, Irby lingering for a few moments at the back of the station before going for his bit of supper and then to his lonely pallet, Juletta herself suddenly appeared to him, walking bastily, yet uncertainly, halting with nervous abruptness as she reached him. He picked up a bit of bickory bark,

and stood crumbling it between his strong fingers as he looked at her. "That you, Irby?" she inquired un-

necessarily. The young bushand shook the aromatic shreds from his strong, steady bands and drew nearer, noticing that her breath was coming short, as though she had run far, that her mouth trembled, that her eyes were swollen and reddened. And the boy's heart within him- which bad been learning so fast in this last week to be a man's heart-yearned to her as he answered : "Yes, Juletty; hit's nobody but the feller ye wedded fer his riches—and turned yo' back on him when them thar riches

They glanced about them. The station master's back window was closed; the lit-tle, sequestered spot, grassy underloot, with the homely suggestion of the chip-pile and the corded wood, with the scrubby tress half a stone's throw off to one side, was as familiar seeming as the back yard of the broad shoulders, thrust his hat back, and whietled softly under his breath as he lightly ran an interrogating thumb along not mean a quiet parlor with a closed door, mountain cabin which had seen so much of his head out at the back window, young meant the kitchen doorstep—the bars down Tuel glacced up at him with a look at once so frank and so appealing that the meant just such a scene as this. Juletta been a took courage, and came a step nearer to

> ly, but without rancor.
> "Well, I recken I was mad;" she looked at him half archly, half piteously, as she thus hid behind the privilege of her sex. "When I'm mad, Irby, I'm thes' plumb devilish. Maw, she's 'lowed mo'n once at that temper of mine-hit-" She shook ber head, and again looked at him. Would

he help her out? "You was mad, honey," the boy whispered softly; "and I don't blame ye greatly." He timidly touched one of her tremb-ling hands. It seemed to move toward im. He took it eagerly.

"Ye look mighty party when you' mad," he whispered huskily.

She raised brimming eyes to his.
"But ye look a sight purtier, and sweeter, when ye ain't mad, honey!" Then the words burst from him before he was aware 'Do ve love me?"

A sob was his only answer. The kindly ack window remained closed ; no footstep woke an echo on the dusty turf ; no eye was there to see, as the two young creatures sprang together, clung together, choking, murmuring regret and love, and forgive-

ness, between kisses.

Long they stood so, finding each other out for the first time, making acquaintance he of the heart of the girl he had not known, she of the real man she had wedded. They were so greatly richer than either had been aware; it was a happy,

bappy hour.
"Let us never fall out no more," murmured Juletta at last, offering the sweet old fallacy that Eve must have proffered to Adam just as the closing gates grazed he

And Irby responded as heartily as the first man might have done : never will. I ain't never gwine to werry ye, nor to give ye no cause to fuss at me whiles I live!" He fumbled with his left hand in the breast of his coat, and presently drew out something that shone and gnarkled in the dim light countin' all along, to see when I'd git enough to pay the board and leave the price of this; and I thes' got that for today ; so I went and bought hit for ye. It's the cutest little trick-mighty few gals

hit'd go around." The tears rushed afresh to the girl's eyes as she bent over the trinket—the little gilded belt which had, only a week ago, seemed to her worth tanuting and miscall ing him for-crying: "Ye jest make me 'shamed, honey! But, Irby, I come down to tell ye that I've got a job, too." He stared in surprise, and she burried to ex plain: Hit's a nice job, making beds and cleaning up right that at the botel; I went right back that-that fust day-and axed 'em didn't they have somin' fer me to do, an' this evenin' they give me the job. Hit'll pay the board for both of us; and we can save all 'at you airn. I thes love to do it-hit ain't hard one bit. now, ef ye'll only have me back again, like

She lifted her face with its red lips, its swimming eyes, and they sealed a new and

hetter hetrothal Just as Tuel's arm released her the heard the clamor of the incoming train By a common impulse they went forward through the waiting-room to see its passen gers alight. There was but one getting off, a tall man with a carpet-hag, who turned and revealed to their astonished eyes the welcome, friendly countenance of Preache Mayhall!

"Well, hyer you air !" he cried, with outstretched hand. "I 'lowed I might have to s'arch for you two-an' hyer you air. How ye both comin' on? Your mother got a telegraft," the reverend gen tleman explained cautionaly, as they walk-ed down the platform toward the street. "She lowed you mentioned a loss. But from yo' looks I reckon you've done found the—"

"No. sir, no, Mr. Mayball, I bain' found the seb'm hundred dollars that telegrafted to Juletty's maw about; but I've found somethiu' that's worth a heap mo' to me," with a fond look at his bride "Hah!" Preacher Mayhall stopped and faced them in the way.

"I'm a-airnin' money an' suppo'tin' my wife-' "Yes, an' I've got a job, too," out in

Juletta jealously. "And ye've had yo' fust falling out along of losing the money, and done made it up again," the preacher said, looking kindly from one radiant young face to the other. He laid an affectionate hand on the boy's shoulder. "Son, you've done found a real woman, and a good wife; Juletty, you've diskyivered a sho-enough man, and a kind husband. When I wedded you spoilt chillen they' was nothin' but a fool saphead of a boy, and a biggitty, ill-tempered, onehristian gal-and might be yit-might be yit-a startin' off to brew up trouble for yo'seives; like enough a scandal and a disgrace, ending' up in one of them divo'ces what's a-gittin' to be so fash'nable; hadn't 'a' been for the-er-the losing of that thar mon-

They were at the hotel door now, and Mayhall was going on to the bouse of his Mossy Cove kin. "Ye hain's axed me yet did I bring a answer to yo' telegraft," he suggested. "I don't believe you all air a the qualities of those faults; she was scarce suggested. "I don't believe you-all air a one to let the thing loved and desired slip studyin' about hit; but Sist' Clutcher said one to let the thing loved and desired slip studyin' about hit; but Sist' Clutcher said in a dime museum, sitting in a barrel with from her without a gallant struggle. And to thest rip the lower left-han' cornder—the top of my head sticking out—posing as so, on the sixth day after their curious byer? Sist Clutcher said 'at she sewed the largest estrich egg in captivity."

whole seb'm hundred dollars in thar-an' then disremembered to tell you all !"
Like a flash Irby's hand went to the in

dicated portion of his clothing. "Lord he said; "Lo-o-urd !" The two young people looked in each other's eyes, and burst into happy langueter.—By Grace MacGowan Cooke, in col-

Something About Western Canada

Editor Watchman :

Because my letter this week is in reference to a far-off country that your readers know and care little about. I shall not feel disappointed if you drop it into your waste basket.

I offer some observations and facts gained by a sort of "flying" trip through a part a political party, strong enough to accord the great wheat growing region of Canada plish their aims by the ballot.

I will begin at Winnipeg, a city of 125,. I will begin at Winnipeg, a city of 125, where Socialism is a growing movement, 000, and called the Chicago of Canada. It allhough there are characteristic difference is the capital of the Province of Manitoba, all. This is shown by a study of their powhich comprises about thirty millions of acres of land.

The city is comparatively new, and is a strictly modern, up-to-date place. They do not say "States" up there, but Provinces. You can see, but do not feel the grip of the British Lion's paw.

Manitoha is the oldest and most thickly settled of that great wheat producing region. Farms there vary in price from say \$10, to \$50, per acre.

The soil in nearly the whole of that vast country is the same as in the Dakotas, and cannot be beaten for wheat raising. Next after wheat comes oats, barley and flax. The rainfall is about 21 inches. Water in wells can be had anywhere, and at moderate depth, while creeks and larger streams are not scarce, and there are many lakes varying in size.

Taxes are very low. The Sabbath is noticeably better observed than in our western States. The laws are reasonable and well enforced, without favoritism. Common and higher schools are just about like in the "States."

The Homestead laws are pretty much like ours, except that there is nothing to pay except the office fees which are about

Next in size and importance after Winnipeg came Brandon, Portage la Prairie, Morden, Carberry, etc.

Continuing westward we next came to In France the movement has been theo-the Province of Saskatohewan, of which retic, intellectual and revolutionary. In the fine city of Regina is capital. This Province comprises about one hundred and

It has less timber-hence a larger perentage of prairie and a little less rainfall. In all of this vast region, fuel-wood and coal, sells at about the same high figures as in the Dakotas.

In Saskatchewan there is a great deal of government land yet, but it is a considerable distance from railroads. There are many "colonies" from the "States" in this Province, especially along the "Soo" branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway, both east and west from the town or city of Moose Jaw

The snow fall is not half as great here as you eastern people probably imagine, and when you get to Regina, you get the warm winds in the winter from the Pacific, called Chinook winds, which melt the snow very

The larger part of the grain raised in Manitoba and Saskatchewan goes by railroads now to Port Arthur on the north shore of lake Superior and thence by water eastward. You understand that when navigation closes, the grain accumulates in

the elevators till spring. I used to think that I had seen elevators and wheat, but when I saw those at Port Arthur and also at Duluth I changed my mind

Continuing still farther westward, we ome to the great prairie Province of Alberta, of which Edmonton is the capital,

12.000 inhabitants. This Province extends about four bundred miles from east to west, and about even hundred miles from north to south. It is settling up rapidly and a pretty large

proportion are from the "States." Of course wheat is the principal crop, but it is also a coming cattle raising conn-

These ship westward to Vancouver on the Pacific, and thence to the Orient. Next in importance to the capital city,

ome Calgary, Medicine Hat and others. Just across the river from Edmonton is Strathcona, where I saw something that very much impressed me. The Royal military had a gathering something like our annual manouvres.

Among them was a company of Scottish

Highlanders. When I saw them my mind went back to my young days when I read about the Relief of Lucknow, where it says "Dinna ye hear the slogan, the Campbell's are comin'. "

Another thing that impressed me there was the Royal mounted band. They first played "God Save the King," "Scots Wha Hae mi Wallace Bled," then "The Last Rose of Summer," and others.

I shall never forget that day, with the British flag everywhere in sight, and the happy, loyal subjects enjoying their freedom the same as we do, but I much prefer my native land.

Respectfully. DANIEL MCBRIDE. St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 8, '09.

-Bill Nye in his earlier days once approached the manager of a lecture bureau with an application for employment and was asked if he had ever done anything in that line.

"Oh, yes," said Bill. "What have you done?"
"Well," replied Bill, "my last job was

The Political Platforms of Socia

The Socialist Philosophy at first, seems to the average person a beautiful but hopeless dream, suitable for college professors, clergymen and women, but when it is understood that there is a strong compact the country is at last aroused. This has already happened in Europe and is taking place today in the United States. It is true that some of the leading men

of the time are Socialists but what is equally true is that there is a large internation al army of working men, numbering some 10,000,000 strong, who are being drilled in the teaching of Socialism, who are learning to rule themselves under the most democratic forms of government, and who are demanding certain definite things, which they hope to obtain by building up

In the five countries, France, Germany, Russia, England and the United Stat litical platforms. There are seven demands which are found in all.

1. (In European countries.) The standing army abolished and replaced by a national malitia. Questions of war and peace decided by the people.

2 Religion a private matter. (In European countries.) Abolition of the State church.

3. Free administration of justice. Free education.
 Political equality between men and

6. Income and property progressive tax-

7. Nationalization and communication. Nationalization of land, industry In all Socialist platforms there are demands, which are called palliatives. These are what are considered reforms, which even under the present capitalist system are of benefit to the working class. There

are four of these palliatives which are demanded in every country.

1. Eight hour work day.

Protection from injury.
 Abolition of child labor

4. Pensions for old age and invalids. The aim of all Socialists is to abolish labor which is non-social, to give every able bodied man and woman opportunity to work, and to systematize the whole of industry, so that every one who works shall

have the full return of his labor. There are, as in every great movement, two forms of tactics, compromise and no-compromise, called by the Socialists, opportunities and impossibilities. As the movement grows, these two camps draw nearer together and forget their differences in the desire for unity.

Germany it has been scientifio-a compromise between revolutionary and evolution-Province comprises about one hundred and fifty-nine millions of acres, or about five times as large as Manitoba.

ary. In England it has been essentially evolutionary, the opportunities are in the majority there. In the United States the struggle between rich and poor, between land and canital has intensified the class struggle and divided the nation into two

bostile camps.

The Socialist party of the United States met in Chicago on May 10th, and drew up the national platform for 1908. It is in part as follows :

THE SOCIALIST PLATFORM.

The Socialist party, in national convention assembled, in entering upon the campaign of 1908, again presents itself to the people as the party of the working class, and as such it appeals for the support of all workers of the United States and of all citizens who sympathize with the great and just cause of labor.

The various reform movements and parties which have sprung up within recent years are but the clumby expression of widespread popular discontent with the present system of exploitation and graft. They are not based on an intelligent understanding of the historical development of civilization and of the economic and political needs of our time. They are bound to perish as the numerous middle class reform movements of the past have perished.

As measures calculated to strengthen the power of the working class in its figures for the realization of this ultimate aim, and to increase its power of resistance against capitalist oppression, we advocate and pledge ourselves and our elected officers to the following program: The various reform movements and parties

ficers to the following program:

PROGRAM.

We demand immediate governmental relief for unemployed workers by building roads and canals, by restoration of the forests, by reclamation of arid lands, and by extending all other useful public works. All laborers on such work shall be employed directly by the government under an eight-hour work day and at the prevailing rate of union wages. The government shall also lend money to states and municipalities without interest for the purpose of carrying on work, and it shall contribute funds to labor organizations for the purp ose of assisting their unemployed members, and shall take such other measures within its power as will lessen the widespread misery of the workers caused by the misrule of the capitalist system.

the workers caused by the misrule of the capitalist system.

We demand:

1. The collective ownership of railroads, telegraphs, telephones, steam-hips, and all other
means of transportation and communication, and
all lands.

2. The collective ownership of all industries
which are organized on a national scale and in
which competition has virtually ceased to exist.

3. The extension of the public domain to include mines, quarries, oil wells, forests and water
power.

clude mines, quarries, oil wells, forests and water power.

4. The scientific reforestation of timber lands and the reclamation of swamp lands. The land so reclaimed shall be permanently retained as a part of the public domain.

5 The absolute freedom of press, speech and assemblage, as guaranteed by the constitution.

6. That religion be treated as a private matter—a question of individual conscience.

7. The improvement of the industrial conditions of the workers:

(a) By shortening the workday in keeping with the increased productiveness of machinery.

(b) By securing to every worker a rest period of not less than a day and a half in each week.

(c) By securing a more effective inspection of (c) By securing a more effective inspection of cors shops and factories.

(d) By forbidding the employment of children ridge size.

(d) By forbidding the employment of children under sixteen years of age.
(e) By lorbidding the interstate transportation of the products of child labor, of convict labor and of all uninspected factories.
(f) By abolishing official charity and substituting in its place compulsory insurance against unemployment, tilness, accidents, invalidism, old age and death.

8. The extension of inheritance taxes, graduated in proportion to the amount of the bequests

8. The extension of toheritance taxes, graduated in proportion to the amount of the bequests and to the nearness of kin.

9. A graduated income tax.

10. Unrestricted and equal suffrage for men and women, the initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall.

11. The abolition of the senate.

12. The abolition of the veto power by the

resident.

13. That the constitution be made amendable

13. That the constitution be made amendable by majority vote.

14. Government by majority. In all elections where no candidate receives a majority the result should be determined by a second ballot.

15. The enactment of further measures for general education and for the conservation of health. The elevation of the present bureau of education into a department, and the creation of a department of public health.

16. The separation of the present bureau of labor from the department of commerce and labor and its elevation to the rank of a department.

17. That all judges be elected by the people for short terms, and that the power to issue injunctions should be curbed by immediate legislation.

ition.

18. The free administration of justice.

19. That the right of suffrage in any state be extended to all citizens of legal age of the United states upon qualification of a ninety days' residence in that state next preceding the day of election, and that registration be closed not earlier than five days next preceding the day of election.

tion.

Such measures of relief as we may be able to force from capitalism are but a preparation of the workers to seize the power of government in order that they may thereby lay hold of the whole system of industry, and thus come into their rightful inheritance.

ELIZABETH M. BLANCHARD.