

Several States forbid any one to practise medicine or dentistry unless licensed by a State Board.

Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Illinois compel corporations to pay workmen weekly. (Massachusetts lately forbade employers to deduct fines from the sums payable by them for wages, but the Supreme Court of the State [by a majority] held the statute unconstitutional.)

Maryland institutes a "State Board of Commissioners of Practical Plumbing," and confines the practice of that industry to persons licensed by the same. New York provides Boards of Examiners to supervise plumber's work.

Kansas punishes the making any misrepresentation to or deceiving any person in the sale of fruit or shade trees, shrubs or bulbs; and New Jersey does the like as regards fruit trees or briars.

Mississippi punishes with fine and imprisonment any legislative, executive, judicial, or ministerial officer, who shall travel on any railroad without paying absolutely, and without any evasion whatever, the same fare as is required of passengers generally.

Many States offer bounties on the raising of various agricultural products or on manufactures, while California appropriates money for the introduction from Australia of parasites and predaceous insects, with a view to the extermination of a moth which injures orange trees.

Texas makes it a punishable misdemeanour to deal in "futures" or "keep any 'bucket shop' or other establishment where future contracts are bought or sold with no intention of an actual delivery of the article so bought or sold," while Massachusetts is content with making such contracts voidable.

Michigan prescribes a system of minority voting at the election of directors of joint-stock corporations; Kentucky (by her new constitution) prescribes cumulative voting in like cases.

Pennsylvania forbids the consolidation of telegraph companies.

Ohio punishes by fine and imprisonment the offering to sell "options," or exhibiting any quotations of the prices of "margins," "futures," or "options." Georgia imposes on dealers in "futures" a tax of \$500 a year.

New York forbids the hiring of barmaids, and Colorado permits no woman to enter a "wine room."

Colorado, Kansas, and North Carolina, make the seduction under promise of marriage of any chaste woman a felony.

New York punishes with fine and imprisonment any person "who shall send a letter with intent to cause annoyance to any other person."

Virginia punishes with death the destruction by dynamite or any other explosive of any dwelling, if at night, or endangering human life.

Kentucky makes it a misdemeanour to play with dice any game for money, and a felony to keep, manage, or operate any such game.

Washington punishes any one who permits a minor to play at cards in his house without the written permission of the minor's parent or guardian.

Maine requires every public school teacher to devote not less than ten minutes per week to instruction in the principles of kindness to birds and animals, and punishes any nurse who fails at once to report to a physician that the eye of an infant has become reddened or inflamed within five weeks after birth. Rhode Island in a similar statute fixes a fortnight from birth and allows six hours for the report.

Illinois and Arizona forbid marriages between first cousins.

Virginia punishes with a fine of \$100 the sale to a minor, not only of pistols, dirks, and bowie-knives, but also of cigarettes. Twenty-four other States have similar laws forbidding minors to smoke or chew tobacco in public. Arizona makes it penal to sell or give liquor to a minor without his parent's consent, or even to admit him to a saloon.

Kentucky prohibits the sale of any book or periodical, "the chief feature of which is to record the commission of crimes, or display by cuts or illustrations of crimes committed, or the pictures of criminals, desperadoes, or fugitives from justice, or of men or women influenced by stimulants"; and North Dakota punishes the sale or gift to, and even the exhibition within sight of, any minor of any book, magazine, or newspaper "principally made up of criminal news or pictures, stories of deeds of bloodshed, lust, or crime."

Some States permit judges to hear in private cases the evidence in which is of an obscene nature.

Massachusetts compels insurance companies to insure the lives of coloured persons on the same terms with those of whites.

Minnesota enacts that all labour performed by contract upon a building shall be a first lien thereon; and declares that the fact that the person performing the labour was not enjoined from so doing shall be conclusive evidence of the contract; while Iowa gives to all workers in coal mines a lien for their wages upon all property used in constructing and working the mine.

Alabama makes it a punishable offence for a banker to discount at a higher rate than 8 per cent.

Many States have stringent usury laws.

Pennsylvania forbids a mortgagee to contract for the payment by the mortgagor of any taxes over and above the interest payable.

Kentucky and some other States have been making strenuous (but imperfectly successful) efforts to extinguish lotteries. Nevada appears to have authorized one.

Five new States by their constitutions, and many others by statutes, endeavour to destroy the recently developed trade combinations of capitalists called "Trusts," treating them as conspiracies, and threatening severe penalties against those concerned in them.

Laws purporting to limit the hours of adult male labour have been passed by Congress and in many States. None, however, appear to forbid under penalty overtime work, except as respects public servants (under the Federal Government, and in Massachusetts, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Colorado) the limit being 8 or 9 hours, railway servants (Mary-

land, New Jersey, Michigan) (10 to 12 hours), and coal-miners (Wyoming) (8 hours). These laws, in fact, amount to little more than a declaration that the number of hours mentioned shall (except as aforesaid) constitute a legal day's work in the absence of an agreement for longer service.

Congress and the legislatures of at least fourteen States have by statute created or provided for the creation of Boards of Arbitration in trade disputes, but have conferred very restricted powers for that purpose.

CHAPTER XCVI

WOMAN SUFFRAGE

ALTHOUGH the question of admitting women to active political rights cannot be called one of the foremost issues of to-day in the United States, its history and present position are so illustrative of the way in which political proposals spring up, and are agitated and handled in that country, that it would deserve to be here noticed, even were it not a matter which has a present interest for at least one European country. All those who have speculated on the foundations of human society and government have long been confronted by the question how far differences of sex ought to imply and prescribe a distinction of civic rights and functions between men and women. Some of the bolder among philosophers have answered the question by simply ignoring the differences. Perceiving in women an intelligence and will, which, if never equal to that of the very strongest men, yet makes the average woman the equal for most purposes of the average man, inasmuch as she gains in quickness and delicacy of perception what she loses in force and endurance, they have found no reason why woman should not share the labours, duties, and privileges of man. This was Plato's view, pushed by him so far as to expunge marriage and domestic life altogether; and it has found expression in more than one religious movement in ancient as well as in modern times.

Christianity approached the problem from another side. Recognizing in woman an immortal soul equally precious with the soul of man, the New Testament and the usages of the primitive church opened to her a wide range of functions, virtues, and glories, in some of which she was fitted to surpass, and has in fact surpassed man; while the imagination of the Middle Ages, more intense and fervid than that of any other