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EDITORIAL

## SUGGESTIONS.

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**A** UNIQUE international exposition is announced to be held next Fall in the Imperial Palace of Tauride, at St. Petersburg. It is to be known as the Child's World, and is under the patronage of the Tsarina and sundry ministers,—so runs the announcement made by the Russian Consul General Lodygensky. The Consul General asked the American Institute of Social Service to assist in the organization of an American Committee. The American Committee has notified this office by circular letter, dated the 23d of last month, of the facts in the case, and given the further information that at the proposed exhibition “there will be assembled everything concerning the moral, physical and intellectual education of childhood and youth,” that “nourishment, dress, instruction, physical and moral education” also “all the surroundings of the early years of life” of a child will be presented in pictures and other vivid ways. We construe the circular letter of the American Institute of Social Service as an invitation to make suggestions. We accept the invitation, and now proceed to suggest.

Let there be gotten up and sent from America to the Imperial Palace of Tauride Child World exhibition pictures representing the following child sights:

First, of children driven by the poverty of their parents to sell papers on the streets of our cities in all weather from 4 a.m.—A companion picture of the fat stock-holder of those papers, lolling in idle affluence will add to the perspective.

Second, of children in the mining districts driven by the poverty of their parents to leave school and enter the factories.—A companion picture of the mine barons and the factory barons dissipating at late hours of the night will impart proper shading to the exhibit;

Third, of children almost too young to stand whipped into the factories of South Carolina as “tenders.”—A companion picture of the capitalist legislators, some of

them ministers, decrying as “Socialistic” and “un-Godly” proposed legislation to check the practice, will not fail to throw a bright light on the sight;

Fourth, of the census pages recording the hundreds of thousands of native white illiterate children;

Fifth, of the rags that these children are clad in, while their parents weave and make cloth for the Tsarina’s admirers.—N.B. We would strongly urge not to send the rags themselves: that, ’tis true, would be most realistic: but the rags might not be allowed in lest they spread contagion;

Sixth, of the narrow, inhospitable “homes” in which these children are born, and which they are driven out of upon streets for breathing air, while their parents build palaces for the associates of the Tsarina’s American heiress intimate friend, Princess Cantacuzene;

Seventh, of the adulterated food (an accompanying chemical analysis will be aidful) that these children are “fed” on.

Etc., etc., etc.

The above suggestions will suggest many others. They will not fail to point out all that the children of America have to be thankful for under capitalist rule.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official Web site of the Socialist Labor Party of America.  
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