

How British Cities Manage Public Utilities

London Is the Greatest Landlord in the World.
"The Great Housing Act"

By FREDERICK UPHAM ADAMS

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MORE than 200 cities in Great Britain own and operate waterworks. There are 100 municipally owned gas plants and more than that number of public electric lighting plants. Every large city owns or operates its street railways, the total being considerably in excess of the hundred mark. Two hundred and fifty cities own their markets, 150 cities maintain baths and wash-houses, and an equal number own burial grounds. Forty-three cities own piers, docks and quays. There is invested in all of these productive enterprises a sum of money in excess of \$750,000,000. Plans already adopted will increase this figure beyond the billion mark. These rough statistics give but an inadequate idea of the scope and extent of the movement. All of this has been accomplished in less than thirty years and most of it in the last decade.

In addition to having taken measures assuring the acquisition of all public utilities, London is the greatest landlord in the world. It has already erected tenements, lodgings and cottages which shelter 25,000 persons, who regularly pay rent into the common treasury. This is only the beginning. Plans have been adopted, funds raised and work is in progress on buildings which will provide for 75,000 more of the home seeking class of the metropolis. These investments represent an expenditure in excess of \$25,000,000.

There are only thirty-eight cities in the United States with a population larger than that which will dwell in the houses owned by the city of London and under the control of its county council. Its tenants will number more than reside in such populous and progressive cities as Albany, Lowell, Portland, Atlanta, Richmond, Nashville, Hartford, Wilmington, Des Moines and New Bedford.

"The great housing act," as it is called, was passed by parliament in 1890, a year after the formation of the London county council. No such radical piece of legislation was ever seriously considered by a lawmaking body in the United States. It had its origin in the fact that the landlord class was deaf to public opinion. There were more than a million people denied the opportunity of renting decent places of abode.

In this emergency parliament took drastic action. It clothed the London county council and similar bodies in the larger cities with powers they have not hesitated to use. The housing bill provides three methods of attack. Part 1 places upon the London county council the duty of preparing and carrying into effect (after sanction by the secretary of state and parliament) schemes for the improvement of insanitary areas which are of such a size as to be of general importance to the whole county. In any such scheme it is essential that new dwellings shall be provided on the area dealt with for at least half the persons displaced.

Part 2 enables the borough councils to take proceedings before a magistrate for the closing and demolition of single houses which are unfit for human habitation. It also enables the borough councils and the county council, either in conjunction or otherwise, to undertake schemes which are too small to be of importance to the whole county. The borough councils also have power to purchase and destroy buildings which prevent the proper ventilation of adjacent buildings.

Part 3 is even more sweeping and revolutionary in its character. It enables the county council to purchase by agreement or with the consent of the secretary of state and parliament, by compulsion, houses for "the accommodation of persons of the working class or land for the erection of such houses." In passing it may be well to note that there is no instance on record where the secretary of state and parliament have withheld their consent. The federated cities of Great Britain control parliament.

An even more extraordinary power was granted by parliament three years ago. In order that county councils should have unlimited scope in solving the housing problem it was enacted that they should have the right to "purchase or acquire land outside the areas of their jurisdiction" for the purpose of erecting dwellings for the working classes. This step was urged and adopted for the reason that speculators were acquiring and holding large tracts in the suburban districts best fitted for an extension of municipal housing schemes. The bill provided for compulsory sales, the price to be fixed by competent and disinterested appraisement in the event that the negotiating parties failed to reach an agreement.

Still the agitators for better housing were not satisfied. They complained that the original bill was defective by reason of the fact that the London county council was debarred from demolishing insanitary areas consisting of less than twenty houses. It frequently developed that one or more houses

in good condition would be surrounded by a number of objectionable ones. A year ago parliament constituted structures housing "thirty persons as an area of disturbance" instead of twenty houses. This amendment is re-enforced by power to widen old streets or to cut new ones, with the right to purchase all abutting property and rebuild thereon.

Inasmuch as there is absolutely no limit to the borrowing power of the London county council for the purpose of executing reproductive enterprises, it is difficult to fix the possible bounds of its operations. It has not the slightest difficulty in floating enormous bond issues and is authorized to make them redeemable at the end of eighty year periods. A recent issue of \$10,000,000 of 3 per cent bonds sold for \$9,900,000. The taxpayers are not disturbed, since there is no charge against the rates. The buildings thus far erected show a handsome profit. A few of the great private landlords are disposed to fear the threatened competition and to resent the rigid supervision exercised by the housing committee, but despite their vast wealth and high standing they do not seem to have an influence much disproportionate to their numbers.

London is composed of the square mile called "the city" and twenty-eight surrounding boroughs. Each of these has a mayor and a board of councillors and aldermen, and all are empowered under the housing act to engage in such enterprises, subject to the general supervision of the London county council. Although it is only three years since the boroughs have had this right, an enormous amount of work has been accomplished. Battersea has erected dwellings for 1,500 of its population. At an expense of \$250,000 Bermondsey has erected four blocks of model dwellings for 980 persons. Camberwell has provided accommodations for 1,242 persons at an expense of about \$300,000.

The most extensive of the borough schemes is that undertaken by Shore-ditch, which is pushing work on three large estates which its council has purchased or condemned. For this work there has been appropriated more than \$1,500,000. Houses and cottages are being erected for fully 6,000 persons. The borough supplies electric light to its tenants. The rate for a two room flat is 16 cents a week and for three rooms 20 cents a week, with larger apartments in proportion. The buildings already completed house 2,000 persons, who pay from \$1.50 to \$3 a week for these flats. The borough derives a profit both from its rents and its electrical service.

The boroughs combined have expended or appropriated nearly \$4,000,000 and are or will accommodate more than 13,000 of their inhabitants. The map of greater London is honeycombed with these municipal dwellings, and from all indications the work has scarcely begun.

But the activity of the boroughs is insignificant compared with that of the all powerful and aggressive London county council. By far the largest housing scheme ever undertaken by a private or public corporation is that which is in progress in Tottenham, a suburb six miles from the heart of London. There the London county council is creating a new town which will have a population of 40,000. After prolonged negotiations the council purchased from private holders a tract of 225 acres at a price of \$2,000 an acre. Through it runs the river Moselle, and in every respect the location is a delightful one. In the center there is reserved a space for stores and public buildings, including a fine library donated by Mr. Passmore Edwards. From this center streets and boulevards will radiate in all directions. It will be a city of cottages, each with its garden and its share of the spacious courts, parks and open sections called greenways.

The estate is divided into two tracts. The one nearer the city consists of 179 acres and has a frontage of a little more than half a mile. Work is rapidly progressing on this section. There will be 4,750 isolated cottages for an estimated population of 33,000, and 2,000 more will be provided for in tenements over the stores. For this huge undertaking there has been set aside the sum of \$7,000,000. It is planned to complete this work in 1907.

A Growsome Foreshadowing.

A growsome foreshadowing, of which the subject was himself the projector, is referred to by Dickens in a letter from Boston to Lord Lytton. At a dinner party given by Dr. Webster, professor of chemistry at Harvard, while the wine was going its rounds, the host in a whimsical humor ordered the lights to be extinguished and a bowl of burning minerals to be brought in to afford the company the novel entertainment of seeing how ghostly they looked by its light. Each guest was looking horror stricken at his neighbor when Webster was seen bending over the phosphorescent bowl with a rope round his neck, simulating with ghastly realism the aspect of a hanged man. Within a year of this weird fooling the unhappy wretch had the hangman's noose in deadly earnest round his neck for murder.

JURIES IN GERMANY

THEY ARE ONLY PERMITTED TO ACT IN CRIMINAL CASES.

A Unanimous Vote Is Not Required in Finding a Verdict; Only a Majority of Two-Thirds Is Necessary. Jurors Serve Without Pay.

It may not be generally known that under the original constitution of the United States provision is made for the trial of criminal cases by jury, but not of civil cases. This in 1789 caused dissatisfaction, the people claiming that the omission was intended to abolish trial by jury in civil cases, and the seventh amendment was soon adopted, securing the rights of trial by jury in suits at common law where the value in controversy shall exceed \$20.

In many countries juries decide by a majority. In France since 1831 a majority of two-thirds is required. This is true also in Germany, where the operation of the institution is so complicated and withal so interesting that it is especially valuable to note some of the methods adopted in the land of the Kaiser to secure justice and protect the rights of the accused.

According to German law, trial by jury is limited to criminal procedure and to cases within the competence of a single court composed of three judges and twelve jurors. The juror receives no pay for his services, because the office of juror is an honorary one.

Many classes of persons are excluded from jury service. Among these may be mentioned not only such persons as have suffered a criminal judgment or such as are on trial on criminal charges, but such also as are restricted in the use of their property by judicial decree.

The law enumerates also certain classes of persons who ought not to be summoned for jury service and who are meant to be excluded, but whose presence on a jury does not of itself necessarily invalidate a verdict. In this group are persons under thirty years of age, persons who within three years have received support from public charities for themselves or their families and persons who are employed as servants.

A great many people are a special privilege exempt from jury service in Germany. These include officials, persons employed in a public capacity in the service of religion, persons in active military service and teachers in the public schools, but attorneys are not numbered among these so privileged. Physicians, however, and apothecaries who have no assistants, persons above sixty-four years of age and persons who show that they are unable to bear the expense of this unpaid jury service are among the privileged.

The basis of the list from which the jury is selected is a list of persons who are eligible to service as lay members of local courts. None of these lay members serves more than five days in a year, and this provides a large list for jury selection.

The presiding official in each commune must each year prepare a list, which is exhibited for public inspection for one week, at the end of which time the unopposed names are sent to a judge in the district to which the commune belongs.

Eventually from each "year list" are selected thirty jurors who constitute what is known as the "verdict list." In any given case these thirty jurors are brought before the president of the court, who tells them the name of the accused and the nature of the offense charged. The names of the thirty jurors are written on tickets which are placed in an urn, from which the final twelve jurors are drawn by lot. There may be as many challenges as the names in the urn exceed twelve.

One or more persons may be drawn by lot to act in the place of regular jurors in the event of the disability of any of the latter. They sit in the case, take part in the trial, ask questions if necessary, but assist in rendering a verdict only in case any of the regular jurors be suddenly incapacitated.

The jury determines the degree as well as the fact of guilt and is in no wise bound by the instruction of the presiding judge as to whether a given act falls within the definition of a crime under the law.

The jurors elect their own foreman, but only after they have retired to the jury room to agree upon a verdict. A unanimous vote is not required in finding a verdict. Only a majority or two-thirds is necessary—that is, if the vote is seven for conviction and five for acquittal the defendant is acquitted; if it is eight to four he is convicted.—Boston Globe.

"Fog" of "Fog."

If any Londoner crawling up to business by train or tram through the fog turned his idle mind to wondering why it was called "fog" he would probably decide that it could not have been called anything else. "Fog" is its obvious name. Yet there is much speculation among philologists on this point. Dr. Murray's dictionary suggests an interesting pedigree. As far back as the fourteenth century "fog" meant after-grass, the rank grass that sprang up after hay harvest or grew in the winter, while in the north it meant moss. Then "foggy" came to mean boggy. Next it was used to mean bloated or puffy of the flesh of men or animals, and finally, as applied to air or air, it meant thick, and our modern fog was derived back from this "foggy." Skeat, however, goes straight to the Danish "fog" as in "snow fog," a snowstorm, from "fyge" to drift. The worst of London fogs is that they do not drift fast enough.—London Chronicle.

The better a man is the less ready he is to suspect dishonesty in others.—Cleveland.

Trouble at Fivay

A special correspondent writes from Fivay that trouble occurred there a few days ago between a negro workman and J. S. Wester, a machinist for the Aripeka saw mills, which resulted in the killing of the negro and the wounding of young Wester.

It seems that the negro stole a pair of shoes from Wester, and when the theft was discovered the young man demanded the return of the property or payment for same. Hot words ensued, the negro ran off, secured a revolver, came back and fired three shots at Wester, one of them taking effect in the left arm above the elbow. Wester returned the fire, one of the bullets striking the negro in the heart, killing him instantly.

Young Wester was tried before a coroner's jury, and that body returned a verdict of justifiable homicide.

The young man is well known in this city and county.

Strikes Hidden Rocks.

When you ship of health strikes the hidden rocks of consumption pneumonia, etc., you are lost, if you don't get help from Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. J. W. McKinnon, of Talladega Springs, Ala., writes: "I had been ill with pneumonia, under the care of two doctors, but was getting no better when I began to take Dr. King's New Discovery. The first dose gave relief, and one bottle cured me. Sure cure for sore throat, bronchitis, coughs and colds. Guaranteed at Tydings & Co. Drug Store price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free."

All kinds of toilet articles, and at reasonable prices. Most extensive line in town. Tydings & Co. x

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222 South Orange Street, Ocala, Fla.

Estimates furnished on all kinds of building and repair work.

Satisfaction Guaranteed.

No Case of Pneumonia on Record

There is no case on record of a cold resulting in Pneumonia, or other serious lung trouble, after

FOLEY'S HONEY and TAR

had been taken.

It stops the cough and heals the lungs and prevents serious results from a cold.

Do not take chances on a cold wearing away or experiment with some unknown preparation that costs you the same as Foley's Honey and Tar.

Remember the name and get the genuine.

A Severe Cold for Three Months.

The following letter from A. J. Nusbaum, of Batesville, Ind., tells its own story: "I suffered for three months with a severe cold. A druggist prepared me some medicine, and a physician prescribed for me, yet I did not improve. I then tried Foley's Honey and Tar, and eight doses cured me."

Three sizes—25c, 50c, \$1.00. The 50 cent size contains two and one-half times as much as the small size and the \$1.00 bottle almost six times as much.

SOLD AND RECOMMENDED BY

MIGHT AND WILL VS GRIP

Let us illustrate vividly the difference in meaning of the words **might** and **will**—the child **might** live; the child **will** live. **Might** implies doubt; **will** means certainty. **Might** live means **might** die; **will** live means **will** not die.

These two words aptly illustrate the difference between Johnson's Tonic and the horde of commercial remedies on the market, and that vast horde of inert professional remedies which only bear the sanction of the High Priests of medicine.

USE JOHNSON'S TONIC
in a bad case of Grip and you will live!
Use inert, or commercial products, and you **might** live.

Johnson's Tonic quickly drives out every trace and taint of Grip. It is not simply good, it is supremely good—not good as anything, but better than everything—a genuine life-saver. Those who believe in it are safe—doubters are in danger and jeopardize their lives. Summed up, Johnson's Chill and Fever Tonic is the best Grip medicine on earth. This is the sober, serious, earnest truth.

JOHNSON'S CHILL & FEVER TONIC CO.
At all druggists. Savannah, Ga. Take no substitutes.

GRIP GERMS MAGNIFIED 1000 TIMES

OUR SHOES WILL LAST FOREVER!

But we do claim that we give the best Children's School Shoes in the city at very low prices. This is

No Idle Statement The W. J. Chambers Shoe Co

Strauss' Royal Reserve.

OCALA MINING LABORATORY.
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Consulting and Analytical Chemist. Member of the Society of Chemical Industry, London, Eng. Member of the American Chemical Society.
P. O. Box 703.

Messrs. Strauss & Co, Wholesale Whisky Merchants, Ocala, Fla.
Gentlemen.— In accordance with your instructions, I visited your warehouse on the 19th, instant, and personally selected from your stock a sample of

"Strauss' Royal Reserve" whisky, the analysis of which shows it to contain:

Alcohol (by weight), per cent.....	36.66
Alcohol (by volume), per cent.....	43.61
Degree proof, per cent.....	87.10
Residue on evaporation, per cent.....	0.660
Ash, per cent.....	0.011
Reducing sugar, per cent.....	0.225
Volatile acids, per cent.....	0.027
Amyl alcohol (fusel oil), per cent.....	0.073

The above results show the whisky to be a carefully blended brand of high grade and that it has been distilled from a clean, pure grain mash. The amount of fusel oil and of volatile acids is very low.

Respectfully,
F. T. SCHREIBER, Chemist.

FOUR FULL QUARTS \$3.50 EXPRESS PREPAID.

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Cuisine First Class.	Rates Reasonable.
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