

D T-BONE SLIM DISCUSSES

ETHICS OF FREE LUNCH

Brisbane proves by front page of newspaper "news" that we are "right at the beginning of civilization." Will somebody please turn it on?

—Our Slim knew all along that we had been going some, but he didn't think we had traveled quite so far.

(One of Arthur's "landmarks," in point: "A young girl in Maryland—it might have happened in any other state—is mobbed, stripped naked, beaten by a crowd of fifty" (infuriated citizens) "and set running through the country covered with hot tar and feathers.")

Let us change this system, under which no progress can be made—since only change is progress—and which is making beasts of us all.

The Christian Era? Huh. The whirlpool, with no outlet.—Let us organize the machinery that will put into practice some of the glorious theories advanced by profound gentlemen bent on "rubbing it in" when we are bound hard and fast.

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Ethics are not enough. We must have the machinery that will check up on them now and then. "Do unto others," etc. is merely good advice, a penalty for the privilege of living in society; and failure to perform that "office" should be noted and the recalcitrant should be docked. . . . We're not going to stand for any gate-crashing or gimme-meals.—The day of the free lunch passed with the day of "What'll you have?" We're organizing in one big I. W. W. to kind o' look after things—some of our leading citizens are getting their living in a very complicated, 'round-about way and it may be necessary any day now to use a stomach pump on them in order to find out whose grub they've been devouring.

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Flies will fool around with the human race until mankind gets sore and puts 'em out of commission with a GRAND banquet.