

were illegal from the beginning under state laws and constitutions—a fact that Mr. Dodd himself impressed upon the Pennsylvania constitutional convention in 1873.

"That when the oil regions, by a united uprising for fair play, had compelled the railroad presidents to promise in writing to treat all their patrons alike, Mr. Rockefeller alone balked that just purpose, undermined the general agreement, induced the railroads secretly to break their word almost as soon as given and to give him in the dark the rebates they were pledged to refuse.

"That as shown in the recorded cases of Rice, Matthews, and others, Rockefeller persecuted his competitors with Indian persistence and ingenuity, following them into every market, closing every transportation route by devices of which discriminating rates were perhaps the least exasperating, and intimidating their customers by threats of perpetual boycott.

"That in 1878 he forced a widow who had inherited from her husband and was successfully carrying on a refining business paying her a clear profit of \$25,000 a year, to sell out for \$60,000, refusing to let her retain a dollar's interest in the enterprise, and this after he had personally promised her, with tears in his eyes, that she

should not be wronged and that she could keep any amount of stock she desired.

"That on April 9, 1879, Mr. Rockefeller was indicted by the grand jury of Clarion county, Pennsylvania, on eight counts, including a charge of conspiracy to monopolize the purchase and sale of crude petroleum, and keep others out of the business, of a combination to oppress and injure the producers of petroleum, to extort unreasonable rebates and commissions from railroads, and to acquire unlawful gains by fraudulent methods of controlling the market prices of crude and refined petroleum. That Mr. Rockefeller never ventured to face a trial on these charges, but stayed out of the jurisdiction of the court for a year until a compromise could be arranged by which the prosecution was dropped.

"That, in addition to inducing or compelling the railroads to betray the secrets of their customers to him, he maintained a complete private detective system by which confidential employees of independent refiners were seduced into acting as spies upon their employers.

"That in 1880, in the suit of the Standard Oil company vs. William C. Scofield, Mr. Rockefeller made affidavit that the Standard Oil company had not acquired and did not control certain properties which it had acquired and did control, and that it had not done other things which it had done, thereby committing deliberate perjury. That he perjured himself again in 1888 when he testified before a committee of the New York state senate that he had not been in the South Improvement company, that there had never been any arrangement by which the trust or its subsidiary companies had secured lower rates than those allowed to the general public, and that the Standard Oil had never tried to make the operations of outsiders unprofitable. Incidentally, official records are quoted to show that while on February 28, 1888, Mr. Rockefeller told the New York senate committee under oath that he had not been a member of the South Improvement company, he testified before a committee of the national house of representatives just two months later that he had been such a member.

"That the attempts of the independent producers and refiners to free themselves from Standard Oil domination by the construction of pipe lines of their own were resisted not only by every sort of chicanery, purchase of legislators, and legal obstructions, but by actual physical warfare, the railroad allies of the Standard hitching locomotives to the pipes at crossings and dragging them out of their beds, and attacking the camps of the workmen with picks, bars, hot water, and coal.

"That Mr. Rockefeller has never been willing to 'live and let live,' but from the beginning has acted on the principle that every competitor must be frozen out, choked out, or clubbed out of his way. That he has never observed the rules of war, but has resorted to man-traps, explosive bullets, and poisoned wells when open fighting has not served his turn.

"It is the belief that these things, and others like them, are true which has made some people hesitate to agree with the Rev. Mr. Hartley that Mr. Rockefeller's munificent gifts are those of a Christian man whose private life and business methods alike would bear scrutiny, and that his spoils of war are the 'fruits of victory' in a legitimate contest. If they are not true, the public has done and is doing Mr. Rockefeller a grave injustice, and it is highly desirable that some advocate more competent than any that has made himself heard thus far should come forward and dispel the popular misconceptions."

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