

BUYING A BUNCH OF STATES

I left Braman and went down to Mr. Rogers. After a careful canvass of the situation it was settled that the only way out was for Rogers to furnish the money to release the receivership, in consideration of which accommodation, Addicks should forfeit the old Boston companies to him through Bay State's failure to comply with the terms of the May contract which matured the following Monday. Rogers would administer these companies in trust, applying their earnings to the liquidation of the bonds, and after these latter had been paid off, would turn them back to the Bay State company for the benefit of its stock, or he would release the companies to us whenever we could raise the money to redeem them. Thus Rogers would make sure of the amount of his original investment, the million dollars profit the May 1st deal permitted him, while I should have secured for my friends and the public the amount of their investment in the property and a good profit for the stockholders to boot. To secure Addicks' consent to this arrangement was the difficulty, and there was but one condition that would induce him to give way—his terrible plight in case the receivership became permanent.

Having reached this point the next problem was how to get the money. Rogers refused absolutely to be a party to any payment that could be traced back to him. He canvassed the sources of hazard; first, through treachery on the part of Foster, Braman, or Addicks, he might be accused of bribing a court officer, the receiver; Addicks might blackmail him by charging him with conspiracy, or a conspiracy charge might be brought by Bay State stockholders, and he be held for tremendous damages. He refused to put himself into any such trap. I put forward a dozen ways to meet the emergency, but he would have none of them. Finally

HABIT'S CHAIN

Certain Habits Unconsciously Formed and Hard to Break

An ingenious philosopher estimates that the amount of will power necessary to break a life-long habit would, if it could be transformed, lift a weight of many tons.

It sometimes requires a higher degree of heroism to break the chains of a pernicious habit than to lead a forlorn hope in a bloody battle. A lady writes from an Indiana town:

"From my earliest childhood I was a lover of coffee. Before I was out of my teens I was a miserable dyspeptic, suffering terribly at times with my stomach.

"I was convinced that it was coffee that was causing the trouble and yet I could not deny myself a cup for breakfast. At the age of 36 I was in very poor health, indeed. My sister told me I was in danger of becoming a coffee drunkard.

"But I never could give up drinking coffee for breakfast although it kept me constantly ill, until I tried Postum. I learned to make it properly according to directions, and now we can hardly do without Postum for breakfast, and care nothing at all for coffee.

"I am no longer troubled with dyspepsia, do not have spells of suffering with my stomach that used to trouble me so when I drank coffee." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

Look in each pkg. for the famous little book, "The Road to Wellville."

he suggested a method which was certainly perfect of its kind. He began by letting me into the secret that the chances of a McKinley victory in the election the following week looked pretty bad, and that the latest canvass of the states showed that unless something radical were done, Bryan would surely win. Hanna had called into consultation half a dozen of the biggest financiers in Wall street, and it was decided to turn at least five of the doubtful states. To do this a fund of \$5,000,000 had been raised under Rogers' direction, to be turned over to Mark Hanna and McKinley's cousin, Osborne, through John Moore, the Wall street broker, who was acting as Rogers' representative in collecting the money. It would be legitimate for the national committee to pay out money to carry Delaware and he, Rogers, would arrange it that the coin to satisfy Braman and Foster should come through this channel. Thus he would be completely protected.

"Lawson," said Mr. Rogers, looking at me with intense and deadly seriousness, his voice charged with conviction, "if Bryan's elected, there will be such a panic in this country as the world has never seen, and with his money ideas and the crazy-headed radicals he will call to Washington to administer the nation's affairs, business will surely be destroyed and the working people suffer untold misery. You know we all hate to do what Uncle Mark says is necessary, but it's a case of some of us sacrificing something for the country's good. Bryan's election would set our country back a century, and I believe it's the sacred duty of every honest American to do what he can to save his land from such a calamity."

The "System's" conscience has its own quaint logic—the logic of self-interest—and this is how it reasoned: "The election of Bryan would disturb our control of American institutions, therefore American institutions would be destroyed by Bryan's election. On us, 'the System,' devolves the sacred if expensive duty of saving the nation, and, however abhorrent to our fine moral sense, patriotism compels us to spend millions in bribing and corrupting the electorate so that virtue, 'Standard Oil,' and J. P. Morgan may continue the good work of caring for the public's interests as their own."

As I listened to Rogers' exordium on the duties of a citizen in an emergency, I remembered the "Standard Oil" code—"Everything for God (our God); God (our God) in everything." It was so essentially "Standard Oil," this willingness to commit even that greatest wrong, subverting the will of the people in the exercise of their highest function—the election of a president—but only that good (their good) might come of it. It was no more than selfish greed tricked out in the noble trappings of morality, an infamous crime disguised as patriotism. Doubtless, the excellent, God-fearing, law-abiding citizens of the doubtful states who read this and learn how the "System" defeated their will at the polls, will cry: "Monstrous! Can such things be in America?" and then will resume their interrupted occupation of "letting well enough alone." However, this is aside from my story.

Having clearly set forth the political situation through which we should be saved, Mr. Rogers proceeded to map out my own program. First, I must perfect an alibi for him by going to Foster and Braman and impressing them that he was absolutely out of the affair, and must under no circumstances be brought into it; next, I must convince Addicks to the same effect, and in addition tell him that Mr. Rog-

ers had angrily refused to get into the mix-up; that I should then hold myself in readiness to meet John Moore and Hanna or Osborne as soon as an appointment could be arranged. That afternoon I got the word and went to 26 Broadway, and from there Mr. Rogers and I went over to John Moore's office, slipping in the private door from the rear street.

"John," said Mr. Rogers, "I am going to turn this matter over to you and Lawson, and I am to have nothing further to do with it. What you two agree to will be satisfactory to me, and remember, both of you, every dollar that is paid is paid by the national committee, but after it's all settled, and if there is no slip-up, I will look to Lawson for whatever is expended. Is it understood?"

We agreed that it was, and Rogers left us.—Thomas W. Lawson in Everybody's Magazine for January.

A Compliment To Bryan

The administration managers in Washington have paid a tribute to the ability and statesmanship of William J. Bryan. They have come out in advocacy of the anti-trust remedy which Mr. Bryan was the first to suggest five years ago, and so closely do they follow the Bryan lines that the parallel is almost complete.

Commissioner James A. Garfield of the bureau of labor, an appointee and friend of President Roosevelt, and especially in charge of corporation publicity features, in his annual report to congress, delivered on December 21, after discussing trusts, advocates as a remedy federal control through the issuance of licenses, requiring every corporation doing interstate business to secure a license from federal authority, the license only to be granted on condition that the corporation is not a monopoly and that it shall observe certain requirements which the commissioner enumerates. Mr. Bryan's remedy was a federal license to prevent monopoly and squeeze the water out of stocks.

For purposes of comparison, the two plans are outlined as follows: Mr. Garfield suggests the granting of a license on these terms: (1) The imposition of all necessary requirements as to corporate organization and management as a condition precedent to granting the license; (2) publicity of the corporation's affairs; (3) prohibition of all interstate corporations from engaging in commerce without such license; (4) the right to refuse or withdraw such license or franchise in case of violation of the law.

Mr. Bryan first presented his remedy in detail at the anti-trust conference held in Chicago in 1899. Addressing this conference on September 16, he said: "A remedy that I would suggest is that congress should pass a law providing that no corporation organized in any state could do business outside the state in which it is organized until it receives from some power created by congress a license authorizing it to do business outside of its own state. That license can be granted upon conditions which will, in the first place, prevent watering of stock; in the second place, prevent monopoly in any branch of business, and third, provide publicity as to all of the transactions and business of the corporations."

The two plans are thus seen to be identical in all material provisions.

When the Bryan plan was first suggested the republicans—or the less discreet and more partisan ones—hooted at it as a mere makeshift, created for an exigency, to be used by Mr. Bryan in running for the presidency. Yet in the suggestion of the same events and the suggestion of the same weapons by a partially sobered administration prove the plan to be a comprehensive and efficient one, and that Mr. Bryan was a far-seeing, constructive statesman. Mr. Bryan is apt to be pleased at this attempt to "steal

THE VALUE OF CHARCOAL

Few People Know How Useful it is in Preserving Health and Beauty

Nearly everybody knows that charcoal is the safest and most efficient disinfectant and purifier in nature, but few realize its value when taken into the human system for the same cleansing purpose.

Charcoal is a remedy that the more you take of it the better; it is not a drug at all, but simply absorbs the gases and impurities always present in the stomach and intestines and carries them out of the system.

Charcoal sweetens the breath after smoking, drinking, or after eating onions and other odorous vegetables.

Charcoal effectually clears and improves the complexion, it whitens the teeth and further acts as a natural and eminently safe cathartic.

It absorbs the injurious gases which collect in the stomach and bowels; it disinfects the mouth and throat from the poison of catarrh.

All druggists sell charcoal in one form or another, but probably the best charcoal and the most for the money is in Stuart's Charcoal Lozenges; they are composed of the finest powdered Willow charcoal, and other harmless antiseptics in tablet form or rather in the form of large, pleasant tasting lozenges, the charcoal being mixed with honey.

The daily use of these lozenges will soon tell in a much improved condition of the general health, better complexion, sweeter breath, and purer blood, and the beauty of it is, that no possible harm can result from their continued use, but on the contrary, great benefit.

A Buffalo physician in speaking of the benefits of charcoal, says: "I advise Stuart's Charcoal Lozenges to all patients suffering from gas in stomach and bowels, and to clear the complexion and purify the breath, mouth and throat; I also believe the liver is greatly benefited by the daily use of them; they cost but twenty-five cents a box at drug stores and although in some sense a patent preparation, yet I believe I get more and better charcoal in Stuart's Charcoal Lozenges than in any of the ordinary charcoal tablets."

his thunder," for he has declared that he will welcome good in government, no matter through what party it will come.—Denver News.

Changed His Mind

Willie is about 6 years of age. Give him a hammer and plenty of nails and he will amuse himself by the day. Yes, and he makes things, too—boats, houses, all sorts of things, showing pretty plainly that the natural bent of his mind is toward mechanics. Indeed, his father long ago said that if the little fellow continued to delight in such play he should have a thorough education in mechanical engineering; and the boy himself has for some time declared his intention to be a mechanical engineer, when he grows up.

The other Sunday morning, however, Willie was lying in bed apparently engrossed in deep thought. His mother, fondly imagining that her prodigy might be working out some engineering problem that would in time revolutionize mechanics asked him what he was thinking about. After a long period of serious reflection, during which the impressed mamma stood in proud expectation, the child gravely informed her that he had changed his mind; that he believed he would not be a mechanical engineer, after all.

"Why not?" she asked. "Well, you see," said he, "they don't have much rest, they have to work every day. I guess I'd rather be a minister. They only work on Sunday and have all the rest of the week for play."—Brooklyn Eagle.