



When—

The people will get a fair share of their toil  
 When protection's no longer a graft.  
 The farmers will profit from tilling the soil  
 When protection's no longer a graft.  
 The trusts will walk straight and have to tote fair,  
 The Standard Oil stock have less moisture per share,  
 And lawmakers will have a good chance to act fair  
 When protection's no longer a graft.

The men who produce will have a good chance  
 When protection's no longer a graft.  
 There'll be fewer schemes of the higher finance  
 When protection's no longer a graft.  
 There will be fewer steals under guise of the law,  
 Coal barons and such will be forced up to law,  
 And closed be the steel trust's omnivorous maw,  
 When protection's no longer a graft.

Good laws then our congress can quickly enact,  
 When protection's no longer a graft.  
 Committees by selfish men can not be packed  
 When protection's no longer a graft.  
 Every man will be given a fair start in the race,  
 Nobody be shoved into third or fourth place,  
 And merit, not boodle, will settle each case,  
 When protection's no longer a graft.

Those Who Object

There was a quiet but deeply interested crowd of gentlemen gathered in an up-town office, the purpose being to protest against the "man with the muckrake. It was quite a large gathering, too, the matter being of great moment. Among those present were the following:

The United States senator who represented a special interest at the expense of the people.  
 The insurance magnate who used policyholders' money to defeat them in their effort to secure justice.  
 The judge who was caught in the act of using his official position to protect lawbreakers.  
 The railroad magnate who was guilty of bribes.  
 The trust magnate who purchased special legislation.  
 The campaign manager who fried plenty of "fat" and then returned the favor by legislating at the expense of the people.  
 The contractor who sold shoddy goods to the government.  
 The government official who connived with the contractor.  
 The congressman who sold special privileges in return for corporation help.  
 There were others too numerous to mention.  
 By unanimous vote the meeting declared that all newspapers that exposed their corruption were "yellow journals," that all magazine writers who laid bare their schemes were "seekers after cheap notoriety," and that the people who were aroused to wrath by the exposures were "narcissists," "fools" and "excitable creatures."  
 The meeting also decided that its members were "guardians of the pub-

lic honor" and "saviours of the republic."

As stated in the beginning it was a quiet meeting. The only reporters present were those representing the newspapers owned by the gentlemen protesting against the "muckrakers."

Rank Discrimination

The following very interesting bit of information came over the wires from San Francisco last week.

"San Francisco is not now without street car transportation. Cars are running down Filmore street today and appear to have plenty of power. The service is free to all, with the exception of boys."

This is a case of rank discrimination against which The Commoner protests. Why discriminate against the boys? We warrant that there were none braver than they in the midst of all the calamities that fell upon San Francisco. And we warrant that the boys performed their full share of work during those trying times. Further than that, we warrant that the boys by their cheerfulness did much to lighten the gloom of those dark days. It strikes us that it is a mighty mean man or corporation that would discriminate against the youngsters under present conditions. It is not fair to the boys and it is not becoming to the street railway company. Besides, if the boys of San Francisco are like the boys of other cities, they will ride anyhow. It has come to a pretty pass when boys are not allowed to ride when all the other people are carried free, and we could not blame the boys if they undertook to show their contempt for such an order. The time has come when the American small boy should be given a fair show for his white alley. He has a hard enough time as it is, without being discriminated against in this manner.

The Other Side

Being convinced that a body of conscienceless looters was about to seize their property through the manipulation of purchased laws, the people rushed to the governor and asked for troops to protect their interests.

"I am helpless," said the executive.

"But why?" queried the people who footed the militia bills.

"There is no precedent for it," replied the executive, who had occupied the judicial bench for several years.

And when the people appealed to a judge for an injunction he was so astonished at the foolish request that it was some time before he could assemble the lunatico inquirendo.

Wrong Diagnosis

"That foolish physician told me that I would have to take up automobiling if I cured my insomnia."

"What is foolish about that advice?"

"Great Scott, man! I contracted insomnia trying to figure out how to pay for the repairs on my machine."

Cause and Effect

"I see that one scientist attributes the earthquake to the weight of the polar ice caps."

"That sounds as if the scientist making the explanation had been indulging in frapped night caps."

The Difference

The gentlemen who controlled one of the chief necessities of life met and decided that in view of their ab-

solute control of the supply they would advance prices 100 per cent.

The daily newspapers either forgot to mention it, or spoke of it as a successful business move.

The mechanics who, through their union, controlled the supply of labor in that particular trade, met and submitted a demand for an increase of 25 per cent in their wages.

Immediately these was a roar from the employers, and a demand made upon the governor to send troops to the seat of the disturbance.

The more you think about it the stranger it seems.

A Dozen Dont's

- Don't sit around waiting for the world to pay you the living it owes you.
- Don't waste on the family dog the caresses that your children are pinning for.
- Don't forget that you were once young.
- Don't anger a man by always talking about your smart children when he wants to talk a little bit about his own.
- Don't bother a busy man unless you have business worth while.
- Don't leave your cheerful smiles at the office when your day's work is done.
- Don't say a word if you can not speak good of your neighbor.
- Don't bore your friends by falling into the foolish habit of always giving advice.
- Don't try to drown sorrow. It is the greatest floater known.
- Don't forget that your cynicism may appear to your friends to be a cloak for ignorance.
- Don't judge a man by results, but by efforts.
- Don't give advice that you do not follow.

Located

"I see by the report of the secretary of the treasury that 1,367,958,764 pennies have been lost. Wonder what became of them?" remarked Rev. Mr. Fourthly, looking up from his evening paper.

"I can not account for all of them," sighed Mrs. Fourthly, "but I think thirty or forty of them found their way into the collection basket last Sunday."

Success Assured

"How is your new book coming on?"

"Bully! The Boston public library has thrown it out and the general manager of the allied beef trust denounces it as a tissue of falsehoods. The presses are running day and night."

Discouraging

"There is only one thing that keeps me from making a lot of money?"

"What is it?"

"The president refuses to appoint me director of the mint."

Uncle Bill

"I have noticed," remarked Uncle Bill, carefully stowing the chew into his left cheek, "that when a feller has got a whole lot o' personal history he'd like to conceal, he is allus mighty anxious t' keep th' gossipers from talkin' about him. The feller that shies hardest at th' muck rake has generally got the shallerest top dressin' o' good soil."

Brain Leaks

Every man is a hero to his dog.  
 The self-made man usually worships his creator.  
 Ears that listen to gossip are as guilty as the tongue that tells it.  
 A man can always see the foolishness of it after the deed is done.  
 The more children a man has the

less he knows about how to raise them.

The man who undertakes to fight the devil with fire should dress in a suit of asbestos.

Every man believes that if good sense were hereditary his children would be unusually capable.

The man who tackles his work as if it were pleasure, is soon able to take his pleasure without working.

The only man who has nothing to regret is the man who never tried to accomplish something worth while.

When a man is caught turning a dirty trick he is very apt to make loud complaints about "yellow journalism."

Some people work harder trying to find an excuse for their wrong doings than they would have to work if they did right.

The man who keeps his eyes on the ground may never stumble, but he misses many things worth stubbing his toe for.

A lot of men who believe they are going to win heaven because their wives are religious are going to be sadly deceived.

The day you are forty you are apt to wonder if you appear as old to your children as your father did to you when he was forty.

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