

The Commoner.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

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Publisher.
Editorial Rooms and Business
Office 324-330 South 12th Street.

Entered at the Postoffice at Lincoln, Neb., as second-class matter

One Year - - - \$1.00
Six Months - - - .50
In Clubs of Five or more,
Per Year - - - .75

Three Months - - - 25c
Single Copy - - - 5c
Sample Copies Free.
Foreign Postage 52 Cents Extra.

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THE COMMONER, Lincoln, Neb.

Mr. Rockefeller is of the opinion that Judge Landis rather "foozled his put."

Now will the suit against the powder trust be held up on the ground of senatorial courtesies?

Miss Ida Tarbell will be pardoned if she steps forward and lays claim to a vindication.

Let us hope that the discovery of diamonds in Arkansas will not lead to another Jameson raid.

Governor Comer of Alabama is now listed among the Improved Order of Executive Backbones.

Pittsburg now claims a population of 600,000, without counting a few undesirable millionaires.

We gather from the Boston newspapers that "old home week" in the Hub was done brown—just like the beans.

The Kansas City man who drank carbolic acid, thinking it was whisky, explains that the mistake was a natural one.

It is not a revival of "state rights" to say that a corporation doing business under the laws of a state shall obey those laws.

While a legal attack upon the tobacco trust may achieve good results there is a better way to sting that octopus to death.

The indications are that Mr. Rockefeller is just now taking a little more than his usual interest in Standard Oil affairs.

It is gradually dawning upon the managers of railroads that they really must obey the laws, just like common folks.

The indications are that Mr. Rockefeller is dissembling his thoughts while addressing his Sunday school class these days.

The thread trust has raised prices from seventy-five to one hundred per cent. Now wouldn't that fray your buttonholes?

Thomas W. Lawson will feel much better when he sees the Standard Oil crowd getting that \$29,240,000 out of its "system."

Upon receiving notice that the Taft supporters had no desire to eliminate Senator Foraker from politics, the senator politely thanked them for nothing and proceeded to throw the switch.

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VOLUME 7, NUMBER 31

COMMENT ON THE FINE

New York Herald: The plea made by the Standard Oil company of Indiana that it had injured no competitors because there were none recalls the case of the prisoner on trial for killing his parents and who appealed for mercy on the ground that he was an orphan. If that fine of twenty-nine millions could be collected in cash there would be great disturbances in the money market. There are some litigious steps to be taken before Uncle Sam can gather that sum into the treasury.

New York Tribune: The fine imposed on the Standard Oil company of Indiana breaks all records for penalizations of that sort * * * If great corporations were as eager and industrious in observing the statutes in letter and in spirit as they often seem to be in skirting and straining them there would be little occasion for those corporations to complain that they are being unfairly treated by juries and little fear of their facing a monumental cash forfeiture like that now hanging over the Standard Oil company of Indiana. Caution, fair-mindedness and a determination to err on the side of safety in corporation management will be found, like honesty, to pay decidedly in the long run.

Chicago Daily News: Great accumulations of capital are no longer immune from punishment when penalties are so adjusted to their resources as to constitute punishment indeed. The fine levied by Judge Landis will have a valuable and far-reaching effect in demonstrating the supremacy of the law over powerful and defiant aggregations of lawless wealth. It is not an appeal to the "mob," but a sane application of the principles of justice.

New York World: It is not so long since eminent apologists of the Standard Oil were assuring the public that if it had ever accepted rebates in its struggling infancy the naughty practice had long been abandoned. * * * Judge Landis' action should prove a sharp rebuke to much incendiary talk that has lately been heard about the use of the federal courts as a shield for corporate oppression. Mr. Rockefeller, at least, will not today share that delusion.

Baltimore Sun: The Elkins law was enacted partly for the protection of the railroads from the demands or importunities of those who sought to obtain favors from it. It seems to have failed in this respect as well as in others. Perhaps the next step will be the prosecution of railroads which are alleged to have discriminated in favor of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana. If the supreme court should sustain the decision of Judge Landis we may confidently expect an advance in the price of oil. The oil trust will not pay fines out of its coffers when it can force the people to open their pocketbooks.

Columbus (Ohio) Sun: The sentence of Federal Judge Landis of Chicago against the Standard Oil Company of Indiana, convicted of receiving rebates from railroads, imposing fines aggregating \$29,240,000, unprecedented and unparalleled as it is, must create a profound sensation throughout the civilized world. It will doubtless receive the plaudits of the extremist and the unthinking. But the ultimate judgment of the great mass of workers in the business world must necessarily be that it smacks of passion and prejudice. * * * Its very extravagance destroys the respect which a reasonable sentence would have carried with it, and is calculated to arouse and foster unrest and disquietude throughout the entire realm of business.

St. Louis Republic: The most obvious comment on the bumper fine imposed by Judge Landis on the Standard Oil Company of Indiana is that if the company deserves this maximum penalty of the law, then there are some of its officials or agents who deserve to be in the penitentiary. The highest fine necessary to restrain this or any other corporation from violating the law against rebating is not too high, even if it puts the concern out of business. The practice has bankrupted many worthy and enterprising men who, however capable and industrious, have found it impossible to do business in competition with predaceous concerns which obtain or

extort forbidden favors from the transportation companies by secret means * * * Once it is known that the anti-trust laws and anti-rebating laws are to be enforced it will be more just to stockholders to punish infractions with the criminal penalties therefor provided.

Philadelphia Ledger: If the Chicago and Alton and the Standard Oil company entered into a criminal conspiracy their officials should be put in jail; but the Standard, however rich and powerful it may be, is entitled to just as careful consideration from the courts as if it were poor and bankrupt, notwithstanding the fact that any punishment whatever inflicted upon it at this time, even to the utter confiscation of all its property, would meet with a shout of "popular" approval.

Chicago Inter Ocean: The fine of \$29,240,000, imposed by Judge Landis * * * is the heaviest money penalty ever inflicted upon an offender. If sustained by the higher courts on appeal it simply wipes out the Standard Oil Company of Indiana and passes on to the punishment of the real defendant, the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey. It is the extreme penalty of the law for the offenses proved. However, the case was plainly one in which, if the law was to be upheld and punishment for its violation made deterrent, it seemed necessary to resort to extreme penalties.

Pittsburg Gazette-Times: While in the case of the Standard Oil company at Chicago it would have been ridiculous to ask or expect Judge Landis to temper justice with mercy, it is equally ridiculous that he should have gone about his duty vindictively. The fine of \$29,240,000 is beyond all reason. A fine is intended to serve a three-fold purpose. It should be exemplary, and thus serve as a warning to the defendant and to all others engaged in similar offending. It should be of sufficient amount to operate as a punishment, as in that way only can the defendant be impressed with the seriousness of his offense. It should fit the crime.

Cleveland Leader: Purged of all doubts and possible extravagances, the fact that the Standard Oil company finds itself face to face with a fine sufficient to stagger any corporation must have a sobering and cleansing effect upon the world of big business and "high finance." The main thing is that no corporation, no commercial or industrial organization, can hope to be great and strong and masterful enough to escape just punishment for its lawbreaking and its offenses against natural justice.

Chicago Tribune: Judge Landis has done his part. In the course of time the supreme court will review his work, and ought to find it good. The public will be much surprised if it shall reverse the finding of the jury that the Standard Oil company has violated the Elkins law not once but many times. Such acts should entail exemplary punishment.

Buffalo Courier: The effects of the conviction and sentence should be beneficial. The example will hardly pass unheeded by other conscienceless combinations. Presumably the next move in behalf of the government will be against the railroad company that gave the rebates and therefore is apparently as guilty as the Standard Oil concern, although not so conspicuous an object of public denunciation and reproach.

New York Times: The imposing of a fine of \$29,240,000 upon the Standard Oil Company of Indiana by Judge Landis is a matter of profound psychologic interest. Undoubtedly it is of judicial and legal interest as well. But we think the first inquiry will be, what could have been going on in the mind of the court when it was making up to inflict this astounding penalty? It can not be assumed that Judge Landis wished to make the law ridiculous by applying it in all its unconscionable rigor. The judicial mind is not supposed to operate in that way. The theory that the ill-repute of the Standard Oil corporation as an octopus, its defiant attitude toward restraining laws, or its behavior as defendant in the court, stirred the judge to a pitch of vindictive passion that prompted the imposing of this huge fine is equally untenable.