

main issued and outstanding. If the taxes enumerated in this section shall remain unpaid for a period of sixty days after the same shall become due as herein provided, an action of debt may be maintained in the name of the United States against any corporation for the recovery thereof in any court of the United States having competent jurisdiction. Said tax is hereby made a first lien on all the property and estate of any corporation subject to the provisions of this act."

In support of this amendment, Mr. Shallenberger addressed the committee at some length, and took occasion to point out some of the evils in the trust system, he making the claim that this amendment would drive every trust out of existence through inability to pay the tax. The amendment was voted down by a party vote.

The general feeling is here that the Littlefield bill will not pass the senate. Within the last week, a number of senators have received the following telegram:

"We are opposed to any anti-trust legislation. Our counsel, Mr. _____ will see you. It must be stopped."

(Signed) JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER.
Not only the Standard Oil, but other monopolies have stepped into the breach to prevent any action, and from their known control over republican senators it is improbable any will be taken.

It is understood the president threatens to call an extra session in the event of failure of the Littlefield bill to pass the senate.

H. W. RISLEY.

BASCOM'S POSITION

Tells the Outlook What He Thinks About Colleges Accepting Standard Oil Loots

Dr. Bascom continues to "stir up the animals" in the matter of Rockefeller college endowments. It will be remembered that some weeks ago The Independent quoted excerpts from his speech before the Minnesota teachers' meeting. The Outlook (N. Y.) undertook to defend the practice of permitting "Christian" colleges to accept Standard Oil loot, because it is "untenable to trace the money to its source and refuse to accept it if in their (the trustees') judgment the money has been acquired by the donor by immoral methods." This inspired Dr. Bascom to tell The Outlook what he thinks of the whole matter, and he does it so neatly that Independent readers will be delighted to read it. He says:

"I find that your issue of January 10 contains a criticism of the views which I expressed in a recent western trip. The facts are not correctly given, but the question is fairly put and squarely met. It is this: Is the president of a college—usually the chief figure in such a transaction—at liberty to solicit or to receive the gifts of a millionaire whose money is known to have been wrongfully secured? Such an act seems to me to be censurable and mischievous. My critic thinks, with equal decision, the reverse. The question is one of immediate moment.

The first affirmation by which the criticism is made good is that such gifts cannot be rejected without first establishing a standard of business morality, and that there is much variety in these standards. This state of things, instead of being a reason why the head of an educational institution may be without a standard of business morality to guide his own action and influence the action of others, is the chief reason why he should carefully frame and constantly defend such a standard. It is not our calling to give guidance where no guidance is needed, but where it is needed. We frame principles for the very purpose of correction.

The second supporting consideration is that, if such a standard is set up, it is impossible to apply it in specific cases. It is impossible for boards of trustees to determine whether wealth offered for public use has been righteously earned. But the question is, whether money that is known to be unrighteously acquired is to be solicited and accepted. The way in which the wealth of the Standard Oil company has been gained is notorious. Articles, books, the reports of congressional committees for thirty years, have made it so. No intelligent man can plead ignorance. If I should say to my class, "Monopoly is in itself a great wrong and can only be established in connection with many other wrongs," and one of the students should ask, "How about the Standard Oil company?" and I should respond, "I know nothing about the Standard Oil company," I should escape the suspicion of being a fool only by the suspicion of being a rascal. The answer is the same as that given before. It

is the duty of the man who guides instruction to frame standards and to give them correct, concrete application. This is his function. It is a novel principle in morals that, as one does not know all things, he need give himself no trouble to know anything; that because one does not see distinctly the obstacle on the horizon, he may stumble over the stone under his feet.

The critic proceeds to affirm that his rule does not hold in the rare cases in which a redress is possible of the wrong done. How is one to know whether redress is possible if he is at liberty to take money in complete ignorance? If the claims of the hundreds who think themselves to have been wronged in business relations by the Standard Oil company were entertained, its gifts would be swallowed up in an instant.

But the critic urges that there is every degree in wrong-doing. Certainly; but a large share of the questions of life are questions of degree. How dishonest may my partner be and I still do business with him? How corrupt may a political party become and I still support it?

But the critic urges that there is not affected, and ought not to be affected, by the want of integrity in those who sustain it. Neither of these propositions are true. I shall mention no names, for these would introduce confusing considerations. Two professors of sociology, men of marked ability, original investigation, and sober opinions, have lost their positions some time since and have never been restored to college work. One of these was mentioned to a college president as a suitable person to fill a vacancy. The response was, "I cannot appoint him. I shall retire shortly, and I do not know from whom my successor will wish to obtain money." There is worldly wisdom for you, heaped up and running over. To suppose that the same man will accept Rockefeller's money and condemn Rockefeller is to imagine that a president in the same act will fall below the claims of honor and rise up to those of duty. The critic plays his men as if there were not a particle of human nature in them, and as though they would turn up black or turn up white, precisely as he might wish.

The question is easily settled. The proper time to express an opinion is before the gift is completed, while there is still freedom of action on both sides. Say to Mr. Rockefeller—and to the public, as the transaction is a public one—"I utterly repudiate your methods," and then see how large a gift will be received. If a president should say at an annual meeting of alumni, "The college has secured another large sum from Mr. Rockefeller, but as there is a general feeling against his methods of business, I must improve the occasion to remark that the Standard Oil company is a heartless monopoly and that its officers have done more to debauch business morality than all the thieves behind prison bars." The alumni would look in all directions for an exit from the cruel dilemma put upon them, searching for it with as much eagerness and jostling as men manifest in escaping from a burning theater. Mum is the word, the best word, and the only proper word, in such transactions.

Let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather prove them. Certainly these precepts should meet with some recognition in a divinity school and in a Christian college, so-called.

JOHN BASCOM.

Williams College, Williamstown, Mass."

Developing a Gold Mine.

Mines may be opened in several different ways determined by the physical surroundings of the mine, but whatever be the nature of the country the initial steps taken are generally the same, namely surface work; first it is required to know the extent of ore bodies on surface; the width of vein and the distance it is traceable on the surface. By making cross cuts, trenches across the vein its width is determined, and by open cuts and stripping the vein at different points the distance is determined.

After this commences development work proper—driving tunnels and sinking shafts which in plain words means making openings into the rock at those points where the vein occurs. For this purpose steel drills are used to drill holes into the hard rock. These holes are then blasted with giant powder (dynamite) resulting in forming sometimes huge openings. Drilling and blasting is continued every day until the desired development work has been done.

Owing to the precipitous mountains in the country of the EVA mine

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exploitation or development work is rendered very easy by making adit tunnels, which is a tunnel driven into the side of the mountain following the vein and serves the double purpose of draining the water which is nearly always present in mines and affording access to the gold deposit, this economic advantage obviating the heavy expense of installing pumping machinery. The gold veins on the EVA have been developed by adit tunnels driven to a depth of over 500 feet.

Now comes the question of shafts or upraises which have a twofold purpose, first as regards air. Very often air is supplied by a blower or fan creating a current of air and is connected by a line of pipe to where the miners are working. But it is usual to sink a shaft from the surface or by making an upraise from the tunnel which when completed makes an air shaft thus obviating the necessity of supplying air by artificial means. Moreover the upraise develops the vein between the surface and the tunnel, thus with the surface showings the vein is exposed on three sides.

Continuing the adit tunnel other upraises are made and the vein is then exposed on four sides, and so on. By this means the width of the veins

are measured and samples secured for assaying and testing, thus determining values. Samples of ore were taken at different points along the adit tunnels and upraises of the EVA mine each containing rich values. Thus the enormous bodies of ore blocked out from the tunnels, etc., represents gold actually in sight exceeding two million dollars in high and low grade ore.

Vincent J. Stedry, Broken Bow, Neb.: You and The Commoner are doing a great work for this country and it will soon bear good fruit. Five more each of such Independents and Commoners throughout this country would soon compel the plutes to capitulate. Do not lose courage, for when the thing does come it will come like a mighty avalanche that will take everything along with it.

Mrs. I. H. Doerster, Carbonate, S. D.: Your paper has a variety of spicy writers. We enjoy reading the letters very much. You are educating along the lines that will land you and many of your subscribers in the socialist hand wagon. You are doing good work; do not get discouraged; victory and justice for the people will come.