



"THE DEMOCRACY'S OPPORTUNITY."—G. Cleveland.

Commoner Comment.

THE EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE.

The Employers' Association is busily engaged combating the reasonable request of the laboring men for legislation which will give them an eight-hour day, arbitration of differences, and relief from the menace of government by injunction.

Do the members of the Employers' Association know what they are doing? Have they counted the cost? Are they willing to establish a gulf of ill-will between themselves and their employees? The natural and necessary effect of the fight now being made by the employers against the wage-earners is to convert hopefulness and ambition into sullenness and discouragement. The employees have wives and children—usually more children per family than the employers—and these men are interested in the welfare of their families and in the welfare of their country. They have been asking for an eight-hour day in order that they may have more time for physical recuperation, more time for intercourse with their families and more time to devote to their own intellectual development and the study of the problems of government. Is not their effort a laudable one? Can it be consistently opposed by men who are able to care for their families much better and to spend much more time with their families. To say that some workmen would spend their idle hours in a saloon is no answer to the argument in favor of shorter hours. With shorter hours will come movements for the improvement of the wage-earners—movements that are impossible so long as men are driven from bed to work and from work back to bed again. Some sons who inherit money from their parents not only squander it, but are injured by it—will the Employers' Association for that reason attempt to repeal the statute of inheritance?

The laboring men want arbitration of the differences between themselves and their corporate employers. Can the employers afford to oppose this? As well advocate a return to the wager of battle as a means of settling disputes between individuals as to argue that differences between great corporations and their employees can be settled by strikes, lockouts and boycotts. When the employer was an individual, had a few employees and worked with his men, there were personal acquaintance and mutual sympathy, but now the man at the head of the corporation does not know many of his employees, does not come into contact with them or know how they live. Often large salaries are provided for and generally there are dividends to be paid on watered stock. "Good times" are worked for all they are worth and sometimes the employe is expected to bear the brunt of hard times. The law must supply through a board of arbitration the element of justice which is now wanting. Employers ask, "Have we not a right to control our own property?" Certainly, so long as they attempt to control nothing else? but when in controlling their own property they also seek to control the lives and liberty of their employes, they subordinate human rights to what they call property rights, and this is as dangerous to their own descendants as to the descendants of those who worked for them. No method has yet been devised for insuring the employes' children against the possibility of being among the wage-earners of the next generation. No person or class, therefore, can afford to legislate for a year or even for a generation or to place its immediate advantage above the permanent good of society, and the employes

do this when they object to arbitration.

The laboring men are seeking relief from government by injunction. Why? Because it is employed by corporations to deprive their employes of the right of trial by jury. If a man is accused of larceny or assault he is entitled to trial by jury, why should this right be denied a laboring man when he is accused of interfering with his employer's business? It is not sufficient to say that he should not interfere, for the question of fact whether he is interfering is the very thing that the jury should determine.

Neither is it sufficient to say that the laboring man, organized or unorganized, makes mistakes and sometimes grievously wrong their employes and even each other. To err is human, and the laboring man is human, but let the law fix a limit to his activities and forbid anything that is inimical to public welfare. Then if a laboring man violates the law, let him be tried like anyone else accused of crime, for certainly a man who earns his bread by the sweat of his brow is entitled to every presumption that is given to the confirmed criminal.

The employes have started out on a crusade against labor, ostensibly against all labor, for the members of the association are no more willing to safeguard the interests of non-union labor than they are to safeguard the interests of union men, whereas as the work done by the members of labor unions has benefited all laboring men, those outside as well as those inside of the labor organizations.

Some employes, smarting under some particular grievance or supposed grievance, have joined the Employers' Association without fully considering the nature of the movement or the consequences. Those who really sympathize with the masses, but who have been misled, will soon become aware of the perils of the course upon which the association has entered, and will withdraw. They can not long remain ignorant of the uncharitable spirit of those who are at the head of the organization.

THE DUTY OF DEMOCRATS.

The decision in the merger case imposes a duty on democrats as well as upon the administration. The anti-trust law is held to be sound and effective, but it must be enforced before it can bring relief to the public. The democrats must now insist upon the enforcement of the law. Justice Holmes in his dissenting opinion says that injunctions "logically ought" to follow the decision, and the democrats in congress ought to insist that the attorney general either prosecute or explain why rich and powerful violators

Those carping critics should remember that lynching is a republican crime, and that a republican state while a lynching in a democratic state is always merely a matter of politics.

Having proved that the Sherman anti-trust law is constitutional, and that it has been violated, what is the matter with making a few of the violators feel the weight of that law?

Secretary Shaw has a new currency idea, but the man who imagines that it is framed in the interests of the people should consult a brain specialist.

"The merger illegal—what next?" queries the Minneapolis Journal. An injunction, probably, modeled after the famous one against the beef trust.

Governor Vardaman's compliments to Governor Herrick, and is Governor Herrick's lynching deprecation still on straight?

The Port Arthur fall is running a neck-and-neck race with the republican tariff reform scheme.

Borrowing is a disease that is contagious; rather than infectious.

of the law are given immunity while poor and obscure violators are promptly punished. Not only should the law be enforced against those who violated it in the merger case, but it should be enforced against those who are violating it in the almost innumerable trusts. Are not the steel trust, the coal trust, the oil trust, the beef trust, the tobacco trust, the sugar trust, the cracker trust, the whisky trust, the harvester trust, etc.—are not all of these violating the Sherman anti-trust law? Why are they permitted to live and prey upon the country? If the administration answers that the decision does not reach a single corporation, but only a condemnation of corporations, the democrats should insist upon new legislation covering all private monopolies, whether they operate as a single corporation or as a group of corporations. The Kansas City platform presents a remedy and the merger decision vindicates the principle involved in that remedy.

Congress has power over interstate commerce and that power alone can deal effectively with the trusts. As long as a corporation confines itself to the state from which it derives its charter, the people of that state can be trusted to deal with it, but when it crosses the state line and invades interstate commerce it comes under the supervision of congress. Congress has made it a criminal offense for two or more persons to conspire to restrain trade. This ought to cover conspiracy by persons in one corporation as well as conspiracy by persons in control of separate corporations. If it does not do so, it is easy to prepare a bill that will. The Kansas City platform proposes a measure making it unlawful for a state corporation to engage in interstate commerce without first securing a federal license or permit, and it proposes that the license or permit shall be granted only after proof that the stock of the corporation is not watered and that the corporation is not trying to monopolize any branch of business or the production or sale of any article of merchandise. Here is a simple remedy; a remedy easily applied. It does not interfere with the legitimate corporation, but, on the contrary, aids every legitimate corporation by destroying the greedy and conscienceless monopolies.

If the democrats expect to win the confidence of the people they must propose an effective remedy. It is not sufficient to rail at republicans or to ask them for a remedy. The people are looking for relief and they demand positive, aggressive action. The trust question can be made an important issue in the coming campaign if the democrats will do their duty. Let them call the attention of the country to the question by refusing to consider anything else until satisfactory action is taken. If the republicans are required to bring in a rule for every measure and are each time reminded that the trusts still live, they will be forced to decisive action or to admit apology. Cato, after visiting Carthage, resolved never to make a speech without declaring it as his opinion that Carthage should be destroyed. The democrats in the senate and house might paraphrase Cato's famous saying and each day demand a vote on a resolution declaring that private monopolies must be destroyed. The Kansas City platform points the way—will the democrats live up to that platform or run from it?

The president secured the decision and Mr. Hill still has his merger, and both will probably be satisfied to let it go at that.

The American people seem to have discovered the color of brass under the thin wash of the Patti gold brick.

A lot of eastern college professors have figured that 30 cents a day is enough to spend for food. But the college professors will continue to spend a little more than that.

The men who claim to be democrats, but who have not voted a democratic national ticket in eight years, are wonderfully worked up lest there be a bolt.

The "leaders" propose, but the voters dispose.

No dodging; no straddling; no evasion.

The artistic people who are protesting against the bill board nuisance might secure a more speedy hearing by including the board bill nuisance.

Bishop William Benjamin Derrick is not the first man who has attempted to hoist himself into fame by advocating the sending of negroes to Africa.

Will Smoot be kept in because he is a monopolist, or thrown out because he is guilty of race suicide?

Lots of people in this world only want the things they can't get.

BEEF TRUST FACTS

REPUBLICAN CONGRESSMAN EXPOSES EXTORTION.

American People Are Robbed of an Immense Sum Annually—Remedy is in the Hands of the Republican Administration.

The speech of Hon. Elton W. Martin, a Republican congressman from South Dakota, in the House on March 4, is one of the strongest arraignments of the beef trust ever made. He discussed the great decline in the prices of live beef, since 1901 and 1902, and the great increase in the margin between these prices and the prices of fresh beef since 1901. Here are some of his figures: Mean price of good to extra fresh beef (western sides) in Boston, and the difference between these prices, by half years, for the years 1901, 1902 and 1903:

Average for Half Years	Mean price per 100 pounds		Difference in price per 100 pounds of steers and fresh beef
	Good to extra fresh in Chicago	Fresh beef in Boston	
First half, 1901	\$5.03	\$7.71	\$2.68
Second half, 1901	6.01	8.15	2.14
First half, 1902	6.41	9.00	2.59
Second half, 1902	7.41	9.79	2.38
First half, 1903	8.36	10.72	2.36
Second half, 1903	8.52	11.56	3.04

Some of Congressman Martin's comments upon these and other figures quoted in his speech are as follows:

"They show that on the first day of August, 1903, the price of 'good to extra' beef steers was \$5.17 per hundred, the price of 'good to extra' dressed beef \$8.37 a hundred, a difference of \$3.20. Now, if you look back in these tables to a date when these concerns were selling the same quality of beef at the same price, you will find that on the first day of February, 1902—eighteen months previous—they were selling this same grade of dressed beef to the wholesale trade at \$5.37, the same as on the first day of August, 1903. At that time they were paying \$6.50 for the same grade of steers. They were getting them for \$1.17 in August, 1902, making an increased profit of \$1.32 per hundred, or \$13.25 per steer over the profits in February, 1902.

"292,001 beef steers were sold in the Chicago market in the month of August last, and if this same ration continued during the month it means a difference in profit for that month upon those steers of \$3,882,263, or \$149,317 per day increased profit for the month of August, 1903, over February, 1902, when they were selling at precisely the same price. Now, you see the magnitude of this business in Chicago alone. You see at a glance that this beef combine could afford to pay a daily fine of \$5,000 each day, or \$35,000 for seven consecutive days, and have left a net profit of each day's business over \$100,000 increased profit by reason of manipulating the prices of that market, if they were manipulating it.

"Comparing the average price of steers and fresh beef for the first months of 1901 with the last six months of 1903, it will be seen from the table that there was an average increased profit for the latter period over the former of 64 cents per hundred, or \$6.45 per steer on 'good to extra' grade. There were sold in Chicago the last six months of 1903 1,840,584 steers. Upon this basis the increased profits on these steers over the prices prevailing the first six months of 1901 would be about \$12,000,000, or \$2,000,000 per month and \$70,000 per day.

"The beef trust prosecution was begun in May, 1902. Conditions had become intolerable at that time. And yet a comparison of the average prices for the first six months of 1902 with the last six months of 1903, will show that the latter period was ever worse from the standpoint of the beef producer. The average margin of profit to the packing companies was 31 cents per hundred greater for the six months, making \$5,889,848 or 1,840,584 steers. This would represent \$981,111 per month, or \$37,512 per day, greater profits on the business in Chicago alone than prevailed under the extreme conditions that brought on the official prosecution in 1902.

"Eight million two hundred and eighteen thousand seven hundred and sixty-two cattle were marketed in Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis and St. Joseph in 1903. Considering our general prosperity and comparing with other years, my estimate is that they sold for \$1 per hundred or \$10 per steer less than they would have brought had there been free, open and actual competition. This would make the loss to stock growers and feeders on the year's business in those markets alone \$82,187,520. Men familiar with the subject place the loss much higher, as will be seen by reference to articles and letters which will be published with my remarks.

"The stock growers of the country are entitled to know that the cards will not be stacked against them. They ask nothing more. They will take care of themselves in an open field."

All this coming from a Republican is very interesting. Of course Congressman Martin does not suggest the possibility of at least partial relief from the exactions from this beef trust by the removal of the tariff duty on beef. His party is pledged to "stand pat" on the present

tariff law, no matter to what extent it enables numerous trusts to fatten off the people. While the removal of the duty of two cents per pound on dressed beef should be the first step in order to curb the power of this gigantic trust, yet it is not certain that this act would kill the trust. Discriminating and illegal freight rates and other favors are probably largely responsible for the growth and power of this trust. The Interstate Commerce Commission should have full power to regulate freight rates. This would be given by the bill recently introduced in Congress by Mr. John Sharp Williams, the Democratic leader.

The absurdity of the Sherman anti-trust law as a regulator of trusts is made clear by Mr. Martin's statement. If the courts should decide that each of the packing concerns in this trust was guilty of illegal action on each and every day of the year and if it should assess the maximum fine (\$5,000) for each and every offense, the beef trust could pay a day, or \$30,000,000 a year. But as yet only one suit has been brought and no fine has been paid. Moreover, the trust is now, even while the suit is pending and while the trust is enjoined, making greater profits than ever before.

And yet the Republican administration at Washington would have the people believe that it is opposed to all bad trusts.

BYRON W. HOLT.

NO END TO PROTECTION.

An Infant Industry Demands Its Share—How Uncle Sam is Gouged.

The end of protection is never in sight. When it is thought that all interests are fully protected by the tariff, it is discovered that somebody else is clamoring for government aid that the tariff cannot cover. Thus the ship trust is demanding a ship subsidy and a monopoly of all the transportation of goods and passengers from the Philippines and the Republic majority of Congress seems quite likely to accede to the demand. The latest infant industry to ask for a bonus is the Pacific Coast ship builders who, through Representative Cushman of the State of Washington, proposed an amendment to the naval appropriation bill providing that two vessels should be built on the Pacific coast at an advance, if necessary, of 4 per cent over the lowest bids of Eastern ship builders. But even a Republican congress balked at this sectional legislation for the debate on the amendment exposed, the monopoly prices charged the government by the Eastern ship building combine, it being claimed that if the government advertised for a \$3,000,000 ship the Eastern builders enter an agreement that none will bid less than \$4,000,000 and the one that gets the contract divides with the rest. With this 38 per cent profit in sight, the Pacific coast builders would have plenty of margin of profit without the extra 4 per cent.

The Democratic leader, Mr. Williams, quickly punctured the inflated protection bladder, that would add to the monopoly begot by the tariff, the further sectional protection of one part of the United States against the other. He asked the protector of the infant industries of the Pacific coast if he was "advocating some sort of protection of some part of the United States against some other part of the United States," and when Mr. Cushman bluntly said that he was, then said Mr. Williams, "that is carrying protection further than I ever heard it carried."

The next thing we shall have these ardent Republican protectionists asking for a general law for protecting one state against another, and if logically carried out they should obtain such protection.

The corn grower of the east would be asking for protection from the corn growers of the Mississippi Valley. The spring wheat grower of the Northwest will want a government subsidy of four cents a bushel to protect him from his Kansas rival who can grow winter wheat. The Eastern states will be demanding protection from the sheep and cattle men of the Western plains. The country store is asking for protection from the great department stores of the big cities, so that even the people of one state, not content with monopoly for their interests within its borders are already clamoring for protection from their nearer neighbors.

This is protection run mad and yet all these people have as much right to be protected from their competitors as the ship builder of the Pacific Coast from his Eastern countrymen in the same business. This mania for monopoly, or government aid, which the protective theorist preaches as the only sure agent of prosperity, is breaking down by its self imposed burden of protecting everyone from everyone else for that is logically where protection leads to under the absurd proposition of the Congressman from Washington.

To Clean India Rubber. Hot-water bags, air cushions and so on are liable with use to lose their pristine fairness; it may therefore prove useful to know how this may be restored. Omnipotent soap and water again is called into requisition. A piece of clean household flannel should be wet with lukewarm water and rubbed upon a bar of common yellow soap. When a lather is obtained, apply the flannel to the rubber and pass it briskly over the surface. This will speedily make the article clean, and it may then be set to dry in a cool place, but not by the fire or in the sun.

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chicken inside of toast border. Then let the stock boil up and stir in a pint of cream or milk. Add salt and pepper, and when stock is well heated stir in a thickening made with a few spoons of flour stirred in a little milk. Pour this delicious cream gravy over it all, and see if your platter doesn't leave the table empty. Serve boiled potatoes and mashed turnips with this.

How They Wear Veils. The French woman arranges hers just to include the tip of her nose, and allows it to fall in loose and graceful folds at the back. It is a style that is recalled from the beginning of last century. Brown and black Chantilly arranged in this way are very graceful. The Americans drape the veil over the back of the hat in another style no other nation seems able to copy. The English woman strains hers over her face, overlapping the chin. The Russian abjures them altogether.

Soft Taffetas. Soft taffetas are again coming into vogue for evening as well as day wear. Rose color is a favorite shade just now in Paris, absolutely unadorned with lace. Yak silk fringe and chenille form a popular trimming for pastel cloth frocks. Pale blue and white-brown shades are really pretty, but can only be worn by women with some pretension to chic, otherwise the effect is somber and even dowdy.

Circular Frounces. Flat circular frounces are very much used in trimming for the broadcloth skirt. Ornamentation now comes toward the middle of the skirt, the lower edge often being left untrimmed.

Blouse Waist. Cape effects of all sorts mark the season and are becoming to the generality of figures. This stylish waist shows a deep collar of a novel sort and one that is quite simply made. As illustrated the material for the blouse is white Persian lawn and the trimming embroidered flouncing and insertion. The flouncing makes the collar which is seamed at the shoulders where it droops well over the sleeves. All waisting materials are, however, appropriate and the cape collar can be made to match the waist with the edge embroidered or trimmed in any manner that may be preferred.

The waist is made with fronts and backs and is fitted by means of shoulder and underarm seams. The fronts are tucked at the shoulders to yoke depth and both fronts and back are arranged in full length tucks that give a double box plait effect at the center. The cape collar is shaped by means of the shoulder seams and its edges are attached beneath the outer tucks of these groups. The sleeves are full below the elbows, straight above and are finished with smaller

4671 Blouse Waist, 32 to 40 bust.

4672 Confirmation or Graduation Dress, 12 to 16 years.



Confirmation or Graduation Dress.

Dresses for the rite of confirmation and for the closing functions of the school year require to be simple at the same time that they are smart and are preferably made of some transparent material. This one includes the drop yoke and broad shoulders of the season with the shirtings that are so exceedingly fashionable and is made of white organdy with ruffles of the same and Valenciennes lace. When liked the neck can be left low and the sleeves in elbow length so making the frock available for a variety of occasions. The ruchings on waist and sleeves are specially worthy of note and give the suggestion of a belero



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which is both becoming and in the height of style.

The costume consists of the waist and the skirt. The waist is made over a fitted foundation on which its various parts are arranged, the yoke, that is cut in one piece, and the sleeves and waist that are shirred on continuous lines. The sleeves are large and full at and above the elbow but form long fitted cuffs below which extend well over the hands. The skirt is made of three pieces, the front gore and the circular side portions, which are shirred to give a yoke effect, and is arranged over a shallow yoke foundation to which the shirtings are attached.

The quantity of material required for medium size is 8 3/4 yards 21 inches wide, 6 1/2 yards 27 inches wide or 4 3/4 yards 44 inches wide with 1 yard of all-over lace, 3/4 yard of silk for belt and 6 3/4 yards of ruching.

The pattern 4672 is cut in sizes for girls of 12, 14 and 16 years of age.

Treatment of Velvet.

We have to relearn and redress our impressions respecting the treatment of velvet, for nowadays we find fashionable gowns made in it are showing a succession of cordings below the waist, and trimmed halfway up with vandyked volants of tucked and gathered chiffon, whilst the sleeves are gathered into the shoulder pieces and end in a bell form above the elbow—the new bell shape, which is slightly drawn in to gatherings above the ruffle.

Where real lace is employed this is often put on plain and not full. The chiffon which trims it need not necessarily exactly match, but may be shaded, as it often is. Plastron yokes of quite a distinct character are introduced, and generally beautifully embroidered, as often as not white or cream color. Velvet is employed with cloth as trimming, emphasizing the coloring, and often overlapped by heavy lace applique.

Duck Covered Hats.

The woman who prefers a tint to the all-white costume might select pale blue linen. The blouse can be laid in tucks and embroidered, in the front, with wash silk in Persian or cross-stitch design. With a sailor hat and parasol, also of blue linen, and a pair of neatly fitting white canvas shoes, she can't fail to satisfy the most extravagant critic.

The cotton-covered sailor hat is to figure largely in next summer's millinery. Linen, batiste and broderie anglaise will all be used as coverings for it. This new trimming—broderie anglaise—is also found to some extent on linen suits and shirtwaists. On the thin gowns, such as mulls, dimities and so on, the soft laces are used in profusion.

To Clean India Rubber.

Hot-water bags, air cushions and so on are liable with use to lose their pristine fairness; it may therefore prove useful to know how this may be restored. Omnipotent soap and water again is called into requisition. A piece of clean household flannel should be wet with lukewarm water and rubbed upon a bar of common yellow soap. When a lather is obtained, apply the flannel to the rubber and pass it briskly over the surface. This will speedily make the article clean, and it may then be set to dry in a cool place, but not by the fire or in the sun.

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