

ECONOMIC DISCUSSION

Were I to treat this subject exhaustively I should be compelled to occupy too much space. Yet I sometimes feel that such exhaustive consideration of the subject from my standpoint is necessary in order to a clearing of the way for the greater reforms so urgently needed by the people throughout the civilized world...

1. The chief cause of industrial distress and the killing struggle for existence among the millions today is the partial monopoly of the means of production and the complete monopoly of all the means of distribution, by the already wealthy.

2. The over-mastering power of monopoly is due, not alone to denial of silver free coinage, but to the existence of all of the wonderful and hitherto unknown improvements in machinery and transportation facilities, including the transmission of intelligence; and the control of all these by the wealthy.

3. The already wealthy own the machinery and thereby secure the chief and most largest advantage from modern improvements and inventions. This is a new factor in the industrial world. It was never so before. Improved machinery would be a great blessing to humanity if it were not so; and under a system of equal distribution, or just distribution, the world will yet enjoy great blessings from the use of all improvements in machinery and transportation.

4. Ownership of the machine results in wealth owning the labor of the artisan. 5. Whoever owns the labor of the producer owns him, for all practicable purposes.

6. The other factor in the problem is found in the control of legislative and administrative affairs by organized wealth whereby special privileges are obtained.

Illustration of such propositions: On June 17, 1899, L. M. Rockwood, an oil producer of Zella, Pa., was on the witness stand before the industrial commission engaged in the investigation of the Standard Oil company and among other things he said, substantially: In its war against independent oil refiners the Standard Oil Co. had an arrangement with the railroad companies whereby the general public paid \$1.50 per barrel freight on the oil, while the company paid only thirty-five cents. This saving to the company enabled it to make a profit of 400 per cent and so destroy competitors. In 1876, five years of railroad paid back to the company the sum of \$11,000,000 in rebates on freight charges.

He said, further, that all railroads in the country were practically in one trust and that they were in control of politics contributing millions to elect legislators and judges. He made the charge that a New York judge had been elevated to the court of appeals by the corporations through the use of a corruption fund, because of his action in a certain case between the railroad combination and the oil refiners.

Such combinations were not possible fifty years ago. Such opportunities for controlling courts did not exist in this country fifty years ago. Wealth has seized upon inventions and improvements and is using them with a mighty power to enslave labor and to pocket an unjust share of the production of labor.

7. The closing of the mints to silver was only one of the many monopolistic measures seized upon by wealth to establish its domination the more firmly. The evil of "demonetization," so called lies in its monopolistic feature, by lessening the supply of primary money it is easier for wealth to control the world's money; and this was the purpose of it.

8. To cut off free silver coinage was no greater evil than for governments as widely to confer money creating powers upon banks. A quarter of the world's money is paper, a third of it would under free coinage of silver and gold be silver. To the extent of this one-quarter, it is just as mischievous to delegate to the banks the power to create money as for the nation to shut out silver from the mints to that extent. It is simply a question of the bank control of the world's money.

9. The monopoly of the world's machinery and transportation systems by wealth is a far greater evil than the exclusion of silver from free coinage, because 1. Such monopoly destroys competition and creates trusts and combines. 2. Such monopoly oppresses labor and causes strikes and trust millions out of employment. 3. Such monopoly regulates production and fixes prices, even more than the supply of money influences prices.

10. To restore silver to free coinage would raise prices no more than about 25 per cent.

11. Were silver restored to free coinage the rise in price would increase the wealth of the millionaire; and the trust and combine would share in this increase and thereby their power would be increased.

12. So long as wealth owns and controls the inventions and improvements in machinery and transportation it will exact unjust profits from the toilers; and neither the free coinage of silver nor the increase of the money supply by other means will injure, much less destroy, trusts and combines or the power of monopoly, nor relieve in any appreciable degree the slavery of the toiler.

13. It is just as important for our government to do its own banking business, issue all paper money and establish a system of banks for the people, to be owned and operated by the government as it is to open the mints to free silver. All these are necessary and it will need them all to destroy the money monopoly.

14. First in importance stands the demand for a purely democratic government wherein the people shall in fact rule. Hence the coming fight ought to be made for direct legislation. We must not go forth to battle unarmed. This weapon, direct legislation, would be a Krupp cannon, a Krupp-Jorgensen rifle,

a Gatling gun and a Maxim repeater all in one. With it we could batter down all opposition and set up the standard of true reform with certainty of victory.

15. But, lastly, when the enemy shall be defeated we must build our walls of defense upon a revolutionized industrial system, wherein the man, not the dollar, shall stand first in importance; wherein the weak cannot be crushed to death under the heel of the strong in the fierce struggle for existence; wherein the whole nation shall stand for a just distribution to all toilers of the wealth created by them; wherein the man, shall be lifted above the machine, not made its slave, wherein every line of business naturally monopolistic shall be operated by the whole people for the good of all.

W. L. HAND. Kearney, Neb.

The Independent does not endorse all that its correspondents say, by any means. Its pages are an open forum for the discussion of economics and politics. It lets every man have his say. By means of honest argument we will at last arrive at the truth. The editor of the Independent denies the truth of No. 11, and the latter part of No. 12 in the above article. In what does the wealth of the of the vastly rich consist? Is it not almost wholly made of written contract to deliver "money" at some future time? From what source do they draw their enormous incomes? Is it not wholly from interest upon these promises to pay—bonds, mortgages, etc.—that that income is derived.

Who pays this interest? The producer in every case. Let the crops fail for two years and no interest will be paid by any one and no income will be gathered in by the wealthy. How do the producers pay this interest? By selling the product and buying money with them. Now if it requires only half as much products to buy the money to pay this interest, will not the remainder stay in the hands of the producer? That will not "increase the wealth of the millionaires," but reduce it one-half. That will increase the wealth of the producers and reduce the wealth of the millionaires. If prices are doubled it will only require one-half as much of the products of labor to pay the interest as it does now. The way to double prices is to double the volume of money in circulation by the free coinage of silver or issue paper money.

If the free coinage of silver would "increase the wealth of the millionaires," why do they all object to it? Are the millionaires so stupid that they do not know what is for their own interests? Or are they philanthropists who fight the free coinage of silver for the benefit of the poor and at their own loss?

It will be well for Mr. Hand to read the "Appeal to the Clergy," by the economist Del Mar.

WHAT FOOL POPS SAID.

Enclosed find P. O. order for \$1.00 to pay for subscription from May 10, '99. My eyes are sore looking for prosperity which I am now able to barely sigh through the clouds of war, loaning bonds and starving of the people.

Which gave our farmers an advance of breadstuff and other circumstances, a of which increased the circulation of money just as the damned fool pope always claimed, but the reaction will come when we have to pay the war bonds, principle and interest, and has already set in since starving nations are raising their own bread that has brought wheat down to the old Cleveland price, under the Mark Hanna administration. God save the country or it will go down like unto old Rome and from, the same cause—the enslaving of the people through the corruption of the money changers—you are able to give hot shot.

B. N. CLAYVELL, Fremont, Neb.

WHAT TO DO WITH WOOL.

This is a question that confronts the wool grower and the farmer who sheeps, with great regularity year after year. It is a question of more than ordinary importance too, being one that applies more directly to this crop than any product of the farm. The grain goes to the elevator; the live stock to the local buyer, etc., but what to do with the wool is indeed a puzzling question. Most persons who have wool to sell know that there are in all large cities persons or firms who will take and are anxious to secure wool under any conditions; firms who agree voluntarily to pay all sorts of prices and who agree to sort, grade, store and sell wool for almost no commission.

Many persons, however, know from sad experience, that most of these so-called wool commission firms carry their place of business around under their hats; they have no established place of business, no facilities for handling, and practically no business standing or rating. We are justified in these statements by complaints which we have received in the past.

We may say for the benefit of our readers who have wool to market, however, that there are firms in this country who are responsible that are engaged in the wool commission business. Men who have devoted the whole of their business lives to this one line. Men who are entirely above reproach in a business sense and who by their honesty of purpose and fair dealing with patrons have built up an enormous trade. Men who by their long experience and intimate acquaintance and business relations with woolen manufacturers can do for you things which you could not possibly hope to do for yourselves.

Such a firm are the Silberman Brothers of Chicago who by persistent effort, honesty of purpose and business integrity have built up the largest wool commission house in the west. They have ample facilities for storage and ample capital to hold and carry your wool until a favorable opportunity offers for selling it. Their commissions for such service are as low as are consistent with the facilities they afford and good business. Write them for their wool circular which will keep you fully informed as to prices, condition of the market, etc. Please mention this paper in writing.

DISCUSSING POLITICS

The following report of a political discussion between a pop and a republican farmer has been sent for publication. These kind of conversations are very prevalent nowadays:

Pop: What do you think about this war?

Rep: I think it was all uncalled for in the first place. We were forced into the war with Spain when we did not want any war at all.

P: Didn't the republicans have a plank in your platform declaring that Cuba ought to be free, and on this issue was elected to office. Was that why you were forced into war with the Filipinos.

Rep: I think the republicans have a plank in your platform declaring that Cuba ought to be free, and on this issue was elected to office. Was that why you were forced into war with the Filipinos.

RENEWED HIS LEASE

Enclosed please find money order to renew my lease on the best pop paper in Nebraska or any other state. I have been a greenbacker from the start of that movement and am still for government issue of all money and do not think that less than free coinage should be last sight of in the coming campaign. The trust and expansion should be condensed and long as we have a battle in the coming campaign we have whole pages of them any one of which should sink the old rotten greenback movement. I think the latter should be better and I think the Independent is able to present them all in their true colors. So give them well you know what.

W. M. CONNER, Clark, Neb.

R. Yes, we were forced into the war with the Filipinos. Dewey went down to Manila Bay and sunk the Spanish fleet without any orders and as Dewey is a democrat you see who is responsible for this war.

P. Didn't McKinley order Dewey to go and hunt the Spanish fleet and sink it, and now you say he did it without orders. Didn't the president tell Dewey to stick to his post until he sent him reinforcements?

R. Oh, you are inconsistent on this point and would like to throw all the blame of this war on the administration when you know we were forced into war with the negroes. We didn't want to fight but we had to or be branded as cowards.

P. So you were forced into war with the Filipinos. I don't see who forced the administration into war with them. There is no act of congress that we know of that declared war against the negroes in the Philippines.

R. Oh, you don't talk with consistency. You would like to put all the blame of this war upon the republican party now when the war was forced on us, and as a party can't help it and we wouldn't if we could.

P. That is just what we expected you would do, try to throw the blame of the war on the democrats. They didn't tell Dewey to hold his position. You administration fellows have an elephant on your hands and you don't know how to get rid of it and hold your job.

R. You pops are always finding fault with what the republicans do. You blow about the big trusts like if we could help it, when you know we are opposed to the trusts and expect to have a plank in our platform against them.

P. You say you are opposed to trust if that is so why don't you stop them. You have president, congress and court; and then you say you are opposed to trusts. Why don't you do something instead of talking so much about it?

W. M. LAKEIN.

NEEDED TO CONVICT DREYFUS

ETTERHASY SAYS THE FORGERY TOOK THE PLACE OF MISSING EVIDENCE.

PARIS, July 19.—The Matin publishes a statement from Count Ferdinand Esterhazy, in which he says that he wrote the bordereau by order of Colonel Sandherr, and that it was sent to the house of Colonel Schwartzkoppen, then military attaché at the German embassy in Paris, whence it was returned to the war office. Colonel Schwartzkoppen, being at the time in Berlin, never saw the bordereau, which was forged in order to supply material proof of the guilt of Dreyfus.

The statement contains the assertion that secret agents in Berlin, whose testimony it was impossible to use, had demonstrated that leakages had occurred in the war office, and the fact that treason existed was undeniable and everything indicated Dreyfus as the traitor.

All the war ministers, the statement further says, know the facts and thought the forgery of the bordereau necessary. The evidence implicating Dreyfus were the words of Colonel Schwartzkoppen's mouth, General Mercier, General DeBoisdeffre and General Gosno which said the bordereau was forged and that Dreyfus was illegally but justly convicted.

DEAD IN AN OHIO COLLISION.

Three Men Killed on the Norfolk Western—The Cause Not Known.

PORTSMOUTH, Ohio, July 19.—A head-on collision between passenger train No. 3 and a through freight occurred on the Norfolk and Western railway today at Haverhill. The dead are George Sloan, Coal Grove, freight engineer; George Egbert, Portsmouth, passenger fireman; — Perlinger, Kenova, flagman.

The wreck occurred in a heavy fog on a short curve west of Haverhill. Both trains were running at high speed. The two engines, twenty freight cars and the baggage and express cars were wrecked. The cause of the accident has not been determined.

AN ARCH IN COOL RHODES.

CAPTOWN, July 19.—Cool Rhodes, formerly premier of Cape Colony, arrived here to-day. He was welcomed by a reception committee of influential citizens, and cheered as he passed through the streets. Many of the buildings of Capetown were decorated with bunting, and in front of the town hall a big arch had been erected bearing the words: "Welcome, Great Pioneer, Capetown-Cairo."

Allowed Mine Workers Free Speech.

FORT SCOTT, Kas., July 19.—The federal court today refused to dissolve the Mine Workers' union. At the request of the coal companies it issued an injunction against the union's executive board to restrain it from interference with the strikers, but granted the miners the right of speech and arguments to induce men to join them.

ONLY THE ENGINEER WAS KILLED.

BALTIMORE, July 19.—A mixed train on the Curtis bay branch of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad was derailed today at Stonehouse Cove, near this city. Engineer Remay was killed and Fireman Shado slightly injured. None of the passengers were injured.

A NEBRASKA TRUST.

NEW YORK, July 19.—A molasses combination with a capital of \$10,000,000 is forming in this city. The promoters of the combine are mostly Southern Southerners.

MERRITT MAY BE SENT BACK

A Possibility of the Superseding of General Otis.

PRESIDENT CONSIDERING IT.

The President's Recent Conference With the Former Commander at Manila Recalled—No Violation of Military Precedent Is Involved.

WASHINGTON, July 19.—The President is said to be considering the advisability of sending Major General Merritt to the Philippines to succeed General Otis in command there. The strong light thrown upon the conduct of the campaign by the statement of the correspondents, it is thought, establishes that General Otis has not comprehended the real situation in the Philippines and that the President should send another officer to conduct the campaign when the rainy season terminates. When General Otis was sent to the Philippines it was subordinate to General Merritt, one of the three major generals of the regular army, and a most accomplished soldier and skillful general. Public exigencies required Merritt to leave Manila to attend the sessions of the Paris peace conference, and thus General Otis was put in command.

In addition to Merritt are Major General Miles and Major General Brooke. These three officers outrank Otis and there would be no violation of military precedent or usage if one of the senior officers should be sent to relieve General Otis.

It will be recalled that General Merritt was invited here a few days ago and that he had a conference with the President. There are intimations that one of the objects of this conference was to consider the proposition to send Merritt back to the Philippines to command the reinforced army.

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KRUEGER FOR CONCESSION.

The African War Cloud, It Is Thought, Is Blowing Over.

LONDON, July 19.—The general trend of news from South Africa points to a peaceful settlement of existing difficulties there.

PRETORIA, July 19.—The volksraad resumed a discussion of the franchise bill at its session to-day. The trend of the debate favored seven years' retrospective and prospective franchise. Replying to a question, President Krueger reviewed the Bloemfontein conference and said that the proposals of Sir Alfred Miller of Cape Colony and the British high commission of South Africa were too wide, but that alterations from nine to seven years was only a slight difference and for reasons of honesty he recommended the alteration, which would meet the English objections. The country, he added, would not be endangered thereby, but would gain the applause of the world.

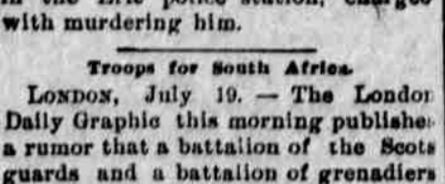
His Wife Suspected.

PHILADELPHIA, July 12.—Clarence A. Shattuck, one of the proprietors of a billiard room at Four Mile Creek, near here, was shot and killed early yesterday morning and his body placed on the tracks of the Erie motor line. His wife, Ella Shattuck, is locked up in the Erie police station, charged with murdering him.

TROOPS FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

LONDON, July 19.—The London Daily Graphic this morning publishes a rumor that a battalion of the Scots guards and a battalion of grenadiers have been ordered to the Cape.

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THE HARROW, GRASS DRILL and Broadcast Sower. The method of seeding, as the twisted plow did the harrow. Discs of iron, and in some cases, steel rollers. THRESHING TO WIND. 1500, 2000, 2500, 3000, 3500, 4000, 4500, 5000, 5500, 6000, 6500, 7000, 7500, 8000, 8500, 9000, 9500, 10000. Only place factory in the U. S. selling direct to the farmer.

BEE KEEPER'S SUPPLIES.

We want every bee keeper to send for our 1899 Catalogue. TRESTER SUPPLIES, 113 S. 11th St., Lincoln, Neb.

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HEADQUARTERS FOR GOOD LUMBER AT LOW PRICES.

F. W. BROWN LUMBER CO. 7th & O St., LINCOLN, NEB.

THE KESTLEY ORGAN

PIANOS & ORGANS.

A chance to save some money by dropping me a postal card, asking for Catalogue and Prices. Good standard new Organ \$45 and up.

ARTHUR BETZ, 212 So. 11th St. Lincoln, Nebraska.

SUMMER CATARRH

Catarrh of the bowels, because it is most prevalent in the summer months, is called summer catarrh.

It surprises many that bowel trouble is catarrhal. Dr. Hartman's books make this plain. Write to the Pe-ru-na Medicine Co., Columbus, O., for them. They tell all about catarrh and how Pe-ru-na cures it wherever located.

"I had chronic diarrhoea for fifteen years," writes Mr. T. E. Miller, Grand Prairie, Tex. "I tried many medicines and doctors in vain. At last Pe-ru-na was recommended, and it relieved and cured me at once."

Mr. John Harting, 633 Main St., Cincinnati, O., writes: "My wife and myself took your Pe-ru-na for chronic diarrhoea and it cured us. No doctor or medicine was tried before helped us."

Mr. Edward Wornack, Ledbetter, Tex., writes: "Pe-ru-na for bowel troubles is unequalled by anything in my experience. I owe my life to Pe-ru-na, and shall always recommend it to those suffering as I was."

Mr. John Edgerton, 1020 Third Ave., Altoona, Pa., says: "I suffered from dysentery for three years I took Pe-ru-na and am now well."

Certificate of Publication.

OFFICE OF Auditor of Public Accounts. State of Nebraska.

Lincoln, February 1, 1899. IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED, That the Manhattan Fire Insurance Co. of New York, in the State of New York,

has complied with the Insurance Law of this State and is authorized to transact the business of Fire and Tornado Insurance in this State for the current year.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Auditor of Public Accounts the day and year above written.

J. F. CORNELL, Auditor P. A.

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OFFICE OF Auditor of Public Accounts. State of Nebraska.

Lincoln, February 1, 1899. IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED, That the Hartford Life Insurance Co., of Hartford, in the State of Connecticut,

has complied with the Insurance Law of this State and is authorized to transact the business of Life Insurance in this State for the current year.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Auditor of Public Accounts the day and year above written.

J. F. CORNELL, Auditor P. A.

Certificate of Publication.

OFFICE OF Auditor of Public Accounts. State of Nebraska.

Lincoln, Nebraska, June 29, 1899. IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THAT THE Eastern Insurance Company, of New York, in the State of New York,

has complied with the Insurance Law of this State and is authorized to transact the business of Fire and Tornado Insurance in this State for the current year.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Auditor of Public Accounts the day and year above written.

J. F. CORNELL, Auditor P. A.

Certificate of Publication.

OFFICE OF Auditor of Public Accounts. State of Nebraska.

Lincoln, Nebraska, June 29, 1899. IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THAT THE Northern Insurance Co., of New York, in the State of New York,

has complied with the Insurance Law of this State and is authorized to transact the business of Fire and Tornado Insurance in this State for the current year.

Witness my hand and the seal of said County Court this 28th day of July, 1899.