

CONTROL OF TRUSTS.

REMEDIES SUGGESTED FOR THE EVILS OF MONOPOLY.

First Destroy the Money Trust—Public Control of Transportation and Municipal Ownership of Public Utilities Where Expedient.

Hon. Rudolph Kleberg of Texas writes about trusts in The Arena for August. After discussing the causes which create and maintain trusts he says:

Let us now consider their effect upon civilization. First of all we have the effects of the money trust, with its growing tendency to contract the volume of primary money and the consequent fall of prices of all commodities; the burden of public and private debt increasing as products fall in price; the growing difficulty of the producer to either sell at remunerative prices or to earn money to pay interest and taxes and buy necessities, let alone paying past indebtedness; a constantly rising monetary standard on the one side and a constantly falling market on the other; the enrichment of the money holding class and the impoverishment of the producing class, and likewise the enrichment of the creditor class and the impoverishment of the debtor class; the paralysis of enterprise and labor; the pauperization and industrial enslavement of the masses and the undue enrichment of the classes; in a word, industrial stagnation. Second, we encounter the effects of the transportation trusts, which are chiefly of the nature of discrimination—building up certain enterprises, municipalities, communities, states and entire sections at the expense of others; the bane of the long and short haul, which builds up enterprise at the beginning and end of the long haul and destroys it at all intermediate points, and makes the transportation business profitable only by placing the high rates on the short haul and so called local traffic. This accounts for the success of the great oil, coal and iron trusts and smaller trusts of manufacturing and commercial enterprises. Then comes the secret of pooling of rates among a few great trunk lines to the detriment of weaker lines. Last, but not least, we find absolute dependence of the producer upon the railways to haul his freight at any price, no matter whether reasonable or unreasonable.

Now we come to the manufacturing trusts, which, on account of low prices, press constantly upon the wages of the laborer, make him more and more dependent upon his employer, force him to cut the wages of his fellow laborer in spite of trades unions and labor federations, and which constantly add to the army of the unemployed. Then there are the telegraph and telephone trusts, which control the transmission of all intelligence, charge high rates and inveigh against improved and cheaper inventions and methods in the service. There is no lack of commercial trusts of all descriptions, from that which builds an armed steel cruiser down to a match box combine—trusts which monopolize the whole field of industrial enterprise and which produce and sell everything we use, eat, drink and wear at such prices as the particular enterprise will bear. It is contended by certain people that trusts have a tendency to cheapen and improve commodities. This is an egregious mistake. The tendency of monopoly was never to act upon motives of charity or benevolence, but wholly on selfish principle, and if some things are cheaper now than formerly it is because they cannot be sold for more. Neither is it true that the cost of production has been materially diminished. It is true that some waste is prevented in large establishments which necessarily takes place in smaller ones, yet the risks of capital have increased and much waste occurs in the process of concentration, in the way of buying up old and dilapidated plants and preventing the establishment of new ones. The depressing effect upon all agricultural products is especially noticeable, and must continue, as labor is deprived of steady employment and liberal wages, and as the smaller capitalist is crowded to the wall by the larger one—the trust. Not only are the effects of the trusts felt industrially, but politically as well. It can no longer be denied that they exert a powerful influence upon all municipal, state and national legislation, as well as upon the machinery and administration of the laws in the courts of the country. The popular charges that these great aggregations of capital sometimes warp the proceedings of legislative assemblies and the decisions of courts—and even popular elections—have ceased to be the baseless vapors of demagogues. It is but too true that often they must be justified. They have risen to the dignity of public danger signals, which every sincere reformer will do well to heed in time.

It is perfectly evident that the present process of concentration, if permitted to continue, must eventuate in either private or state socialism, either of which would lead to disaster. Private socialism would so restrict production as to compel the consumer to pay the highest price for commodities, with a constantly diminishing stock of means on his part, and make him absolutely dependent on the whims and caprices of the monopolist, whose industrial slave he would thus become in the full sense of the word. State socialism, in its radical sense, would possess itself of all means of production and distribution, and thus destroy all private property and the incentive to individual exertion. It would tend to degrade the worker to the same level with the drone. Its attempt at equality would extinguish all higher endeavor and, after a few generations of failure, place society at the foot of the ladder of progress, to again begin its tolling ascent by the way of the immutable laws of evolution. Thus

we have a silent but certain, if not speedy, transformation of the entire industrial system going on, which, while perfectly quiet in its operation, is nevertheless revolutionizing our industrial life, as well as our civic institutions.

What is the remedy? Penal repression? No! This must fall in the future as it has in the past. Not only have many states a penal statute against trusts, but there is a federal law as well, and yet the trusts increase rapidly every year. Free trade? Trusts thrive in free trade England as well as they do in America. The true reformer must resort to means of relief which go to the very core of the evil and which are remedial rather than penal or drastic in their nature. That government is forced to extend its activities in many directions, which, under the doctrine of laissez faire, were believed to be entirely within the province of private effort, can no longer be denied by all who place the welfare of the masses above the enrichment of the classes, and who would prevent the growth of the cormorant on the one hand and the proletariat on the other. It must also be borne in mind that the trusts are not the only product of the great social evolution that has been progressing since the abolition of feudalism. The social mind and the social conscience are the two powerful factors that the modern age of industrialism has evolved and placed in opposition to commercialism. They are forces that must now be reckoned with in a proper solution of the great industrial problem.

Man has come to know society as a great living organism, conscious to think and act through the social mind and conscience for the protection and welfare of its individual members, with the interests of the individual and society reciprocal and identical and harmonious. He has come to know that the struggle for existence has thus reached its secondary stage and, shorn of its former brutal character, has assumed the more human and softening aspect of the conflict of mind over matter, of justice over brute force. But the question at last becomes a practical one, and resolves itself into an inquiry of fact rather than of doctrine. The two great cosmic forces which we placed at the foundation of the manifestations of present industrial conditions will continue to alternate in application as they are set free to do so by economic forces, and there is no danger that their equilibrium will be destroyed as long as they are thus liberated.

If, under normal economic conditions, government should either by control or ownership, do that which it can perform better and cheaper for society than can the individual, then there is no reason why it should not do so. But government should never interfere where public enterprise is not a public necessity, and does not concern the general welfare. Here the old rule of "so use thine own as not to injure thy neighbor" will always remain the correct doctrine and the one best calculated to develop the individual as well as society. But the fact is that government has gone too far in its restraint of the masses and its undue favoritism of the classes. Instead of standing for the protection of the masses against the onslaught of the classes under legal enactments and private franchises and privileges. This is not only so in the case of unequal tariffs and taxes, but is especially so in that legislation of this country and Europe, within the past 25 years, which affects the monetary system of this country as well as that of Europe. What is wanted above everything else is that government should so legislate as to offer an equal opportunity to every individual to earn according to his capacity. This the trust will not permit him to do under present conditions. If, however, the economic forces were set free which produce and maintain bimetallicism, the money trust would cease to exist, inasmuch as the standard of value would cease enhancing in value as commodities fall in value, but would attain an approximately stable value, and therefore insure a rising market, and, finally, stability of prices—both conditions fatal to the existence of the trust. The industrial trust can only thrive on a falling market, and falls to pieces by the sharp attack of competition which a rising market inevitably superinduces. This again would force money into legitimate enterprise and also furnish employment to labor and break up the present commercial congestion. Of course, the good effects of the institution of bimetallicism should be at once re-enforced by the thorough regulation of all transportation—state and interstate, by rail or water—and should be brought under immediate and active public control. As long as the federal government cannot fix freight and passenger rates, classify freights, compel interstate connections and public accounting of the transportation lines, it were idle to talk about equal business opportunities or prosperity for our producing masses. Add to this municipal control, or ownership where expedient, of waterworks, lighting plants, street railways, etc., and let the general and the state governments fix the rates also of telegraph and telephone companies, as well as curb and restrict the power and operation of all corporations and encourage individual enterprise, and, last but not least, impose an effective income tax, and you would have set to work agencies which would not only remove the causes of the trusts, but the trusts themselves.

Such remedies might not prove entirely adequate to establish industrial freedom, but they would at least prove a long step in the right direction, and would naturally tend to a correct solution of the great industrial problem which, with the false idea of imperialism, threatens to engulf this nation in endless confusion, if not permanent disaster.

HONEST MONEY.

WHY A STUDY OF "THE MONEY QUESTION" IS VITALLY IMPORTANT.

The British Barons Have Conquered Us With the Purse After Falling With the Sword—Good Paper Money Better Than Any Kind of Coin.

During our war of the rebellion there were three kinds of war money which stood the shock of arms to the end. None of them were coin. Coin left the field within the first six months. The revolutionary government of the south issued the best paper possible for such a government. It was precisely as good as the issuing power—no better, no worse. It was a brave money—far better than cowardly coin. It staid with the armies, and fought with them to the bitter end, and went down with them on the field of battle. That paper money of the south was rudely executed and easily counterfeited. This, of course, made it practically impossible to limit the volume in circulation; and an unlimited money is worthless money. Money is valuable in proportion to limitation. If it is possible, the counterfeiters will inflate the money to the point of worthlessness, as in the case of our continental currency and the French assignats.

In the north there were two sorts of paper money. The first \$60,000,000 was receivable in the revenues of the government the same as coin and legal tender for private debts. That money was preferred to coin during the war and as long as it circulated. Another class of paper money issued during the war, known as greenbacks, was not receivable for duties on imports nor for interest on the public debt. It was like any other useful machine with a number of important bolts left out. It went below par as compared with coin or as compared with paper without these legal disabilities. It sometimes went below 50 cents on the dollar, because of its legal disabilities and from no other cause. Yet, such as it was, all the Shylocks and the armies of the south were beaten by it at one and the same time. All agree that the greenback saved the life of the nation. With gold only, the armies would have been paralyzed, and anarchy would have prevailed. It would have been a contest of swords, after the manner of savages, with little union or adhesion on either side. Money is the instrument of association. Without money there is no cohesion, and disintegration must ensue. A perfect money will remain at its post in times of danger. Intrinsic money will not do this.

Thus far I have discussed the power of the purse when supporting the sword. But these two war powers may and do act separately. Among savages the sword power acts without the purse. In other cases the purse is seen to act alone, with tremendous effect, far exceeding in results the conquests of the sword. Let me illustrate: Suppose Great Britain should send an ironclad to the coast of New Jersey and capture a bit of sandy beach on which to erect fortifications and over which to float the British flag. How our American blood would boil. That bit of worthless sand would be reclaimed if it cost the life of every able bodied man in America. But on the other hand, British landlords have sent that other war power, the purse, into the very heart of this nation and have captured many thousands of acres of the best lands on the continent without boiling our American blood to any alarming extent. Why would Great Britain capture this country with the sword? The answer is plain. That she might levy tribute on our people. Why do British landlords capture our lands? The answer is equally plain. That they may levy tribute on our people.

Let us examine a few facts as they exist today, black and portentous, in this land of boasted freedom. One William Scully, a British landlord, has sent his purse to America, and has actually captured some 90,000 acres of the richest land in the state of Illinois, and it is said that the Americans citizens living on those acres are compelled to pay \$200,000 per annum to that British landlord for the privilege of cultivating the American soil on which they and their children were born. That is a greater tribute than King George expected to exact by the sword in the days of 1776. That same landlord, William Scully of London, has captured several thousand acres in Marshall county, Kan., and other thousands of acres in other parts of that state. All this done by that war power known as "the purse." It is done that Mr. Scully may levy tribute on our grandchildren, and that his grandchildren may levy tribute on our grandchildren, and so on down to the latest generation. What more could Mr. Scully do with the sword, if he had all the armies of Europe at his back? In some parts of Colorado the people of that state are paying tribute to European landlords for every blade of grass cropped by their cows and other animals which are necessary for the support of their families.

The public highways of a nation are said to be the property of the people. Their ownership is deemed so important that wars are often waged for their possession. The United States originally paid millions of dollars for the possession of that highway known as the Mississippi river. At a later date the country spent hundreds of millions of treasure, and poured out blood like water in order to retain that great public highway of travel and commerce.

I mention these facts to show the high estimate that is usually attached to the great public highways of the country. Yet, strange as it may seem, we have in this country 180,000 miles of the most valuable and indispensable

highways known to man, which are bought and sold as commodities of commerce. The railroads of this country are bonded and stocked to an aggregate of about \$12,000,000,000. The owners of that capitalization are called the owners of the roads. They have entire control of the roads and of the travel upon them of this great country. The longest purse takes the pile (or controlling interest in it) and becomes master of the situation, "levying tribute at will on all our vast industries." There is ample evidence to prove that at this moment a controlling amount of the capitalization of our American railroads is held in the city of London, and that the freights and fares paid by Americans are fixed by a British directory. Such a statement is humiliating, but it is, nevertheless, true.

I have now shown the nature and power of money, both for good and evil. The question next arises, How can we enjoy the good without suffering the evil? I reply, We must nationalize the money. We must, as much as possible, keep it in the hands of the people and under their control. We must not permit its issue by individuals nor by corporations. The issuing of money by the government is a prerogative of sovereignty. The money must be maintained in ample, even and unfluctuating volume. To do this it must be free from a single commodity basis. It must rest on the broad basis of government revenues and on all commodities. Its even distribution in society must be favored in every practical way. This may be done by the arrangement of taxation, so that the burdens will fall heaviest on those best able to pay, not on the poor nor on the products and creations of industry, but on the large incomes, the large legacies and the large landed estates of the rich.

All this can be done and through the finances, and it is much. But we must go further. We must free the lands of the country from capture by the purse of the monopolists. The homes of our people and the heritages of our children must not be exposed to the depredations and spoils of the money power of the world. Land must not be treated as a common article of traffic in the world's commerce. We must move in the direction of that happy day when the poorest man will have and hold his small home free from the invasions of the sheriff and the tax collector and when "occupation and use" will be recognized as necessary ingredients in title to land. We must move in the direction of that just and safe era of public repose when neither the lands of the country nor the public highways nor any other necessity of society will be exposed to the conquests of either the sword or the purse. Both are fatally dangerous, the latter especially so, because of its secrecy, power and merciless cruelty. It is like the beast in the Apocalypse—it has the horns of a lamb, but the speech of a venom and savagery of the serpent. This, then, is "the money question." It is the blood of the bane, the life or the death, of civilization.

There is a power in money also which no human agency can resist, merely through changes in its quantity. There is no engagement, national or individual, which is unaffected by it. The enterprises of commerce, the profits of trade, the concerns of life, the wages of labor, the transactions of the highest and lowest amounts, the payment of debts and taxes, are all affected by the quantity of money in circulation. There resides in money the most enormous power known to man. It is the tide in human affairs upon which all things must rise or fall. It is as irresistible as the wings and wheels of commerce on the high seas and the broad continents, more powerful than the thunder blasts of armadas that throb upon the ocean or the tread of continental armies, and this mighty force is self acting in all the large and small transactions of men.

This is the concurrent testimony of the ablest writers. Such a subject deserves attention. Nevertheless, to prevent its study, the "communism of capital" is arrayed in solid phalanx. The Shylocks well know, if the people come to understand its import and simplicity, their trade will suffer damage. The owners of gold will be shorn of their powers over nations and men. The great temple of Diana will be shaken by the ground swell of rising humanity asserting its rights, and her votaries will cry out in behalf of their vocation. They will mystify the subject with every art and device of satan and blacken the names of the people's teachers with all the lies and epithets so familiar to them. Yet, in spite of their rage and terror, "the money question" remains a leading factor in the problem of civilization, and it must be taken into account by all peoples and nations engaged in solving that important problem.—John Davis.

Herb George Wants to Know. The vacant lot owner, like the dog in the manger, refuses to build or improve. He even refuses to sustain sidewalks or cut down the weeds on his vacant property. Query: Why should such people be permitted to obstruct society in this way? Wouldn't it be better to tax them out of existence or confiscate their unused land? We invite an intelligent reply.—George's Weekly.

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A BRIDGE FELL WITH CATTLE.

Forty Steers Are Killed by the Collapse of a Structure at Elgin, Kan. ELGIN, Kan., Aug. 16.—The bridge over the Big Caney river gave way while it was being crossed by a herd of Texas steers at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The cattle fell about fifty feet. Forty head were killed and crippled. One horse was killed and two men hurt. The cattle belonged to John Blocker of Texas.

AN OMAHA FUR ROBBERY.

Thousands of Dollars' Worth of Women's Garments Stolen. OMAHA, Neb., Aug. 16.—Between \$8,000 and \$12,000 worth of fur goods have been stolen from the vaults of Gustave Shukert, a fur dealer. The furs were the property of women who had left them there for summer storage, and for this reason it is difficult to estimate accurately the value of the garments.

Fighting the Boycott.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Aug. 16.—The business men's anti-boycott committee, which was appointed as a result of the meeting held the other day, met yesterday and decided to hire detectives and lawyers to prosecute merchants and others who violate the civil rights law in compliance with the demands of the boycotters.

Value of Records to Cow Keepers.

There can be no effective economy in dairy management, even in the management of the few milk cows of the farmer who keeps them only for his own dairy supplies, if the cost of keeping and the value of the product of each cow are not noted. Very often only the total cost and product of the herd are noted, and as a result of this neglect of detail individual cows that do not pay the expense of their keeping are retained in the herd, taking just so much every day from the net income of the owner. It would not be much trouble to investigate the cows individually and cut out of the herd all that are unprofitable and a burden upon the business.—Ex.

Removing the Calf.

Many dairymen take the calf from the cow immediately after birth, avoiding the trouble there will be in separating them if it is not done until the calf has sucked several days. Those who postpone the separation two or three days do so because the cow is more quiet and contented, an important matter during her feverish condition. It is easy to teach the calf to drink in either case. Whole milk should be given for eight or ten days, and after that some skim milk should be substituted, diminishing the proportion of whole milk each day until it finally ceases to form any part of the ration. The skim milk must always be perfectly sweet and lukewarm, and only so much given at each feeding as the calf will entirely clean up. It will do quite as well on this diet as if allowed to suck.—Ex.

From Formers' Review.

Any one glancing over poultry literature, whether in books or in papers, is apt to think that "lice" is a staple product with poultry-raisers, or else it is the old stand-by when items are scarce; but the ones who have made a success with poultry know the bane of poultry is lice, that lice is the rock on which so many ventures in poultry come to grief. The two kinds that cause the most trouble are the large gray body or head lice, and the little red mites; the former live on the hen or chick all the time, the mites sleep in the houses and on the roosts in the day time, and at night swarm over the victims; the former kill the most little chicks, but I think the latter are worse on grown chicks.

One must get rid of the large ones by applying remedies directly on the chicks, and in the dust bath. Fresh insect powder, cedar tea, grease, are all sure death to them; but grease must be used sparingly on young chicks. A drop of coal oil to the spoonful of grease is good to use. Coal oil, cedar oil or tea, or fresh insect powder may be sprinkled in the drying place, with good results; or in dry times flour of sulphur is beneficial. There are many good powders to use, all have proved effective with us, if you can get fresh. For the mites, cleanliness is the prime necessity. Clean out all droppings, kerosene (coal oil) the roosts so that every crevice is reached with the oil. Whitewash the walls with good lime wash, and to each three gallons add a half-pint of carbolic acid or a pint of coal oil. This is more effective if made thin and put on with a spray pump, but with care one can put it on with a broom or brush. Do not be particular about dropping lime on the floor; the more the better for the hens, the worse for the lice.

If your house can be closed tight (which it should be), place a kettle or pot of live coals in the house, throw on sulphur or brimstone, run out and close the house tight. Let burn until 4 or 5 o'clock, watching it enough to see that it is doing good work; then open up all doors and windows, remove the kettle, and if any mites or lice remain after this siege (if well done) they are tough customers. Repeat this renovating every two weeks until cold weather.

Pasteurized milk or cream is that which has been heated to a temperature (about 155 degrees F.) which does not kill all the bacteria, but only those which are in a vegetating condition and ready to begin their activity at once.

Dampness is sure death to young turkeys even up to two months of age.

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Cryptic Masons at Pike's Peak.

On the occasion of the above meeting, Aug. 7 to 12, the Denver & Rio Grande railroad will make a rate of one fare for the round trip from Denver, Colorado Springs, and Pueblo to all points in Colorado and to Salt Lake City. This will be an excellent opportunity for an outing in the Rockies. For particulars call on agents or write S. K. Hooper, G. P. & T. A., Denver, Colo.

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If you are looking for a new home, you cannot do better than to investigate the advantages to settlers in the new state of Utah. No climate in the world is more even tempered and no country offers greater natural resources. There is much land to be had cheap. Take advantage of the half rate in effect on the first and third Tuesday of each month to go to Utah to look over the field for yourself. See that your tickets read via the Rio Grande Western Ry., which will carry you through the center and most favored part of the state. For copy of "Pointer to Prosperity" write to Geo. W. Heints, Salt Lake City. t1

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