

The Czar of Russia is a cigarette smoker. He rolls his own cigarettes from tobacco especially imported from Syria.

When bad men combine the good must associate, else they will fall one by one an unpitied sacrifice in a contemptible struggle.

Japan sent 63 ships through the Suez canal last year, or more than Spain (34) or Denmark (27), and nearly as many as Italy (82).

Jackson, Ont., has made a record for municipal economy. Of the \$2,000 voted for decorations for the reception of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York \$300 was not spent.

Instead of being a modern notion, the plan of preventing destructive storms by exploding bombs among the clouds was suggested nearly 100 years ago by Prof. Parrot, of Riga, in Russia.

The Burmese song is a harp, the body being modeled like a boat, with a long, high prow. The instrument has a scale from low A in the bass clef to F in the G clef. It is used to accompany vocal music.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Ormsby, of Chicago, Ill., have been married seven years, and during that time she has twice given birth to twins, once to triplets, and on September 29 of the present year she added quadruplets to her family. In the seven years she has had fourteen children.

The most valuable kitchen in the world belongs to the Shah of Persia. With its outfit of cooking utensils and dishes it is said to be worth about \$5,000,000. Even the cooking pots are lined with gold, and the plates and dishes used at the royal table are of solid gold, encrusted with precious stones.

Tests in the cultivation of potatoes made last year, show that, whether planted whole or cut, the large potatoes gave the biggest yields in every case; but when the financial results were looked into, it was found that the biggest profit was made by planting whole large potatoes, and the next largest profit from whole small ones.

The people of Spencer, Mass., are proud of the fact that it was the birthplace of Elias Howe, Jr. Passengers on the Boston and Albany Railroad, passing through that town, can see a huge sign, eighteen feet square, bearing these words: "Down in the valley below Elias Howe, Jr., inventor of the sewing machine, and an illustrious son of Spencer, was born in 1819."

Alaskan dogs are called malamutes, and are a cross between a dog and a wolf. About two months after birth they are trained to draw little wagons, and soon become very useful. They do not bark, but utter a melancholy howl. They have long hair, and can sleep in the open air with the thermometer sixty degrees below zero. Their usual food is fish and seal blubber. They are fed once a day, usually at night.

A Carbondale (Col.) man is on his way to Holland to find three or four hundred families who will go to Colorado, settle down in the irrigated sections, and build up the sugar-beet raising industry, his belief being that the Hollanders, who are thoroughly acquainted with the use of ditches for the purpose of keeping water off the farming lands of their own country, will be particularly useful in the use of ditches used for irrigation purposes.

Ex-Governor Leedy has engaged in the practice of law in Alaska, and in a letter to his old friend, Dr. Pilcher of Winfield, he says his prospects are good. He is building a house in the town of Valdez, and already he is one of the foremost citizens of the town. He likes Alaska better every day, and the town of Valdez he predicts will be the biggest seaport on that coast. Its harbor is open the year round, and the town is on what is called the "All-American" route to the gold country.

A wealthy business man who runs a farm for pleasure, but on business principles, refused to buy a corn-reaper that left a tall stubble. The Maine Farmer explains that on well-grown corn the reaper that leaves six inches of stalk standing wastes at least a ton to the acre of valuable fodder, one-tenth of the crop. Beside this illuminative incident we place the brief but pointed speech Mr. Schwab made when he assumed the presidency of the United States Steel company: "There must be a constant effort to look after the little things." That is "business," whether a man controls a billion-dollar corporation or a ten-acre farm.

The deepest borehole known, made by the Prussian government, is at Panschwitz, near Ratibor, in upper Silesia. The total depth is about 6,572 feet, the diameter decreases from 3.6 inches down to 2.7 inches. The upper half of the hole is tubed.

The American shipyards where steel vessels are built have orders which will keep them busy for the next twelve months and some longer. This applies to yards on the great lakes as well as those on the seaboard.

ROGERS ON TRUSTS.

SEES THEIR EVILS BUT NAMES NO REMEDY.

He Probably Knows That Government Ownership is the Principal Remedy, But Being a Yale Professor, He Dares Not Say So.

Henry Wade Rogers, lately president of Northwestern university, made a departure from recent practice in Yale by delivering an inaugural address on assuming his chair in the law school in that institution.

A dispatch from New Haven states that Prof. Rogers surprised his audience, consisting of leading members of the Connecticut bar, including most of the conspicuous corporation lawyers and members of the supreme court, by insisting upon the necessity of curbing the power of corporations, especially the corporations commonly known as trusts.

The professor admitted that these aggregations may result in a saving of the wastes of competition and that so far as they do they are beneficial. But he pointed out what he regarded as countervailing evils of great magnitude, among which he mentioned stock watering, high prices to consumers, low prices to producers of materials, low wages to employes "and, above all, powerful if not corrupting influence which may be exerted over political organizations and over every department of government, the executive, the legislative and the judicial."

Prof. Rogers admits that thus far statutes have had little effect to destroy or control existing industrial combinations or to prevent the formation of new ones. He states that twenty-seven states and territories have passed such statutes, and that they have had very little practical effect.

It does not appear from the report given of his address that Prof. Rogers was explicit in prescribing a remedy for the evils he described. It is merely stated in the most general terms that he set forth "the need of restraining corporations by every constitutional limitation and the need of preventing corrupt influence by corporations on legislation and on industrial life."

In the absence of anything more explicit than this admitted fact that congress and so many states and territories have legislated in vain does not hold out much hope that they will legislate successfully hereafter in the direction indicated. It cannot be pretended that in Georgia, Texas, Missouri, Kansas and other states legislation has been dictated by corporations or their attorneys. The anti-trust people have had things their own way and exercised all their ingenuity in framing anti-trust legislation. Their admitted failure suggests a suspicion that they have been working on wrong lines. It is the national legislature that must take the initiative government ownership step.

Perhaps upon mature consideration Prof. Rogers may conclude, if he has not already done so, that attempts by statutory prohibitions and penalties and hindrances to prevent the massing of capital in great combinations are neither practicable nor necessary. He may conclude that the only thing in the way of discouragement or prohibition which is really needed is a cessation of encouragement.

Our tariff laws hold out the strongest possible inducement to the organization of great monopoly combines. They naturally suggest the combine to the beneficiaries of the various protective schedules as soon as they begin to compete against one another, and cut prices from the limit assigned by the duties which shut out foreign competition.

Remove the duties which enable home producers to maintain prices from 20 to 100 per cent or more above the level which would result from open, world-wide competition, and you remove the motive to the formation of most combines by taking away nearly all of the profit to be derived from their formation. Next to complete government ownership of the principal monopolies a reduction of the tariff is the best remedy.

By repealing tariff and other laws under which trusts are able to accumulate millions we can impose much restraint upon those organizations that is much needed for the protection of society.

PANIC IS THREATENED.

Secretary Gage has recently unbosomed himself to a gathering of bankers, as follows:

"Permit me to summarize into several brief propositions an expression of my own financial convictions:

"I believe it to be the most desirable that the demand liabilities of the government known as legal tender notes should be put in the way of retirement and cancellation.

"I believe that our system of bank note circulation can be and ought to be so modified as to make it more responsive to commercial and industrial requirements, without any increase of risk to the bill holder.

"I believe that beyond acting as a guardian and trustee for the people in relation to national banks the government guaranty to bank note issues should cease.

"I believe that public moneys in excess of reasonable working balance for daily use should be deposited in national banks. That a simple and safe system of distribution of funds can be devised I have no doubt.

"I believe that in periods of national peace and prosperity the public revenue should be somewhat in excess of

public expenditure and that the surplus revenue should be applied to the reduction of the public debt."

Mr. Gage wants the greenbacks retired, because when that is done, there will be room for more national bank notes. He wants the government to withdraw the requirement that the banker shall secure his notes unquestionably by a deposit of bonds. When that is done, the wild cat era will again be close at hand, says the Central Farmer.

The second and third paragraphs of his "beliefs" above show that he is a past master in "diplomacy" (which is the art of using words to conceal ideas) for the gist of those items of his creed, is that the banks should be allowed to conduct their business with only a perfunctory supervision or guardianship, but without compelling security to bill holders. There is now no actual security to depositors, and if we remove the requirements of security to note holders, chaos will soon appear. Now add to those brilliant ideas the other one that follows, of depositing all excess treasury funds in the pet "national banks." It will be seen that the scheme involves all the uncertainty and weakness that caused Jackson to overthrow the U. S. bank and withdraw government deposits from banks that were not sound. As a national wrecker Mr. Gage is entitled to front rank.

GOVERNMENT RAILROADS.

New Zealand builds her own railroads. The number of miles now in operation is about 22,000. The pay on the railroads average about 30 per cent higher than the wages on our American roads. The railway hands have an eight-hour work-day. You can ride thirty miles for ten cents, and first-class service is rendered the people. The annual net profit of the New Zealand railroads is an average of \$2,250,000. There are 6,000 men employed, and the government consents to extend the system. The men elect their own foreman. Workmen engaged on public works secure a 25 per cent reduction in rates for themselves and families when away from home.

An employe can never procure employment through preference, nor can he be discharged. Every one is under civil service regulations rigidly enforced. No rebates to any persons with a "pull;" no free passes. For twenty years the government has owned and operated railroads. The profits go to the public treasury and building extensions and improving the present system.

The roads have been built and equipped for \$39,000 a mile, though it is a mountainous country, and wages and materials are both very high. Work on the railways is carried on by co-operative groups of workmen, who take a section together and divide the contract payments (which are liberal) equally among the members of the group. The daily wage for eight hours' work is \$1.75 to \$2.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP.

The following is proof that "all" the people are getting interested in methods wherein "all" the people receive benefits. This method of extending the function of government to include the benefits to "all" the people is rapidly growing. Our public schools are the best illustration of the practical working of public ownership, says the Central Farmer of Omaha. The subject of furnishing free books in our free schools has been receiving attention. We are glad to note the results, which are very encouraging in favor of public ownership.

Ten states of the union have compulsory free text book laws, while seventeen out of twenty-eight large cities in the United States provide free text books. In Philadelphia this idea has prevailed since 1818. New York has had it for fifty or sixty years. Nine out of fourteen cities of less than 100,000 population have adopted it. From all places where the system has been tried come reports of increased attendance and a great saving in the total expenditure for text books.

This steady and widely extended growth indicates that the free text book system has intrinsic merit in it, and that it is endorsed by leading educators. It is in harmony with the underlying principles of the free school system. It further indicates the growing popularity of the co-operative plan of conducting the affairs of government in matters where the people have a common interest.

IN FAR NEW ZEALAND.

Frank G. Carpenter has this to say of New Zealand:

"One of the chief customers for machinery in New Zealand is the government. It owns the railroads, and it will eventually control all the street car plants and electric light plants. It builds bridges and it is thinking of operating coal mines.

"The railroads have cost the government of New Zealand \$80,000,000, but they are paying good dividends to the government, and are giving much better service than any of our railroads—giving free transportation in many cases to encourage settlement of the government lands. The government is a large employer of labor, so that no person is without good wages—at least from \$8 to \$12 per week. This has emptied the jails, and a tramp is as rare as a millionaire.

"These conditions have practically been brought about by the votes of organized labor—in fact, labor unions dominate everything in New Zealand. Forty-eight hours constitute a week in almost every kind of labor, and a violation of this is severely punished. A weekly half-holiday is as generally observed here as Sunday is in the United States."

THE THING TO DO.

NEW ZEALAND THE EXPERIMENT STATION FOR DEMOCRACY.

Heaven Upon Earth for People Bound by Human Ties to do Into Other as They Would Be Done by—"The Greatest Good for the Greatest Number."

In New Zealand no children under 18 are allowed in factories unless they can show an education certificate, and none under 16 are allowed to be employed in factories.

In New Zealand the government has postal savings banks, insuring safe deposits, and carries parcels for one-quarter what it costs here.

No matter how far the farmer is from market, the same charge for carrying produce to market, thus insuring a stable price all over the island.

Then think of a land where there are no tramps, no unemployed men and no paupers, and hence, it is unnecessary to say, monopolists.

The government here makes it a crime to be found without visible means of support. In New Zealand the unemployed is found work by some of the 200 agencies, and is not only given work at \$2 per day by the government on road or roadways, but is given land, which he may have thirty-six years to pay for. Every year he pays 5 per cent of the assessed value, and of this 3 1/2 per cent or 4 per cent is interest, the remainder going into a sinking fund that pays for the land in thirty-six years.

Government is crazy enough to loan money to farmers at 4 per cent up to 60 per cent of the assessed value, which interest goes to pay expenses of government, lessening taxes so much. Here we insist on borrowing of private capitalists at high interest and pay heavy taxes to state besides.

In spite of all their new-fangled and socialistic reforms, New Zealand fairly hums with prosperity, exporting per capita almost four times as much as this country.

But how sad it is that in New Zealand old people are pensioned instead of sent to the poor house! To be sure they can afford to do this by turning the income from railroads, telegraphs, telephones and interest money from private capitalists to the government treasury, but how dreadful it would be here in America to deprive the Morgans, Rockefellers, Carnegies et al. of their surplus billions in order that the 70,000,000 poor paupers might actually be sure of having a living.

How inconsiderate this would be to Morgan et al. thus to attempt to bring into practice the theory of "the greatest good for the greatest number."

That such reforms will eventually prevail cannot be doubted, but think of the misery now, here, all around us, and do for heaven's sake help to hasten the day, dear madame, for I am sure your heart is with the people.—E. W. Robbins.

TRADE BALANCE THEORIES.

Ex-Senator Pettigrew has lately expressed the opinion that an excess of exports over imports of merchandise is an evidence of impoverishment, not of prosperity, and he cites the case of India in support of this view. India exports, usually, a greater value of merchandise than it imports and it is notoriously a poor country.

There is nothing new in the opinion and much that is true. The rule which it suggests for determining whether or not a country is prosperous must be applied intelligently. The dominant principle is that no nation will long carry on a losing foreign trade, because there is no motive to its continuance, but a powerful motive to its discontinuance.

In accordance with this dominant principle it is pretty safe to conclude that an increasing foreign trade is profitable no matter on which side the "balance" may be found, and that the existence of the balance is susceptible of an explanation consistent with the assumption that the trade is profitable. It is therefore foolish to borrow trouble about "the balance of trade."

As a general statement it is true that not only the cost of an exported cargo but most of the profit realized on its sale abroad is invested in foreign merchandise to be brought into this country. We bring home the profit in the form not of money but of merchandise.

In such case we should expect to find an excess of aggregate imports equal to the profits on the aggregate exports. This is equivalent to saying that the excess in value of merchandise imports is the measure of the profits on exports or of the prosperity due to foreign trade.

In practice, however, we cannot often accept this as the true measure. In countries like ours, where there are high duties, either ad valorem or mixed, there is an object in undervaluing imports. This may be carried so far as to change what would be an excess of imports on a full valuation into an excess of exports.

Again, a country may be borrowing money abroad for the construction of railroads, the development of mines or other industrial purposes. The capital thus borrowed is imported, usually, in the form of rails and machinery, to be employed in prosecuting the new enterprises. Thus imports may be increased largely above the normal and there may be a large excess of imports, which should signify prosperity, and will if the new enterprises are profitable.

After a time the country may no longer need to borrow. Ceasing to borrow, it must pay interest or dividends on the capital previously borrowed and may pay off the principal more or less rapidly. These payments,

in turn, are made in merchandise rather than cash, and so for a time exports may exceed imports. This, too, signifies prosperity.

When a country like Great Britain has thousands of millions of capital profitably invested in all parts of the world the owners of the capital take the profits in merchandise or in drafts representing merchandise, which come to the same thing, because the country has no use for the cash, which is a mere instrument of trade rather than a store of wealth. In such a case there comes to be a chronic, very large and increasing excess of imports. This is a marked indication of great national wealth.

From these instances and illustrations it is plain that, while we are not to accept at all the protectionist assumption that an excess of exports is an indication of a profitable foreign trade, neither are we to accept the Pettigrew rule and apply it indiscriminately as a sure test in all cases. It is based on an economic truth, indeed, but under modern conditions of international credit we need to apply it intelligently where it is worth while to apply it at all.—Chicago Chronicle.

SENATOR LODGE'S WAR WHOP AGAIN.

Chicago Chronicle: Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts returned recently from a summer trip to Europe and he made a speech at Boston last Saturday on the national situation. It was of the same jingo order as that which he made last June at the opening of the Buffalo fair.

What Senator Lodge might say on the subject of foreign affairs would be of little interest only for the fact that he is a close intimate friend of President Roosevelt, whose views he is supposed to represent; that he is a member of the foreign affairs senate committee and that about the time of his Buffalo speech Mr. Roosevelt, then vice-president, made a speech of a similar purport.

But what Mr. Roosevelt might have said when he was vice-president merely and what Mr. Lodge might have said then had but little weight compared to what Mr. Lodge says now on subjects of the gravest moment. It is now said that Mr. Lodge will become secretary of state and have charge of the foreign relations of the government. He will not be appointed to that office unless his opinions and those of President Roosevelt are the same.

Mr. Lodge sounds the war whop on what he supposes to be the Monroe doctrine, which is not the Monroe doctrine at all as interpreted by its author and by our great statesmen. He announces that even the acquisition of a naval station by a foreign power within the western hemisphere "would be the instant menace of the peace we are anxious to maintain." This is supreme jingo nonsense.

The United States are procuring naval stations in all parts of the world. The peace of the world is not threatened by these acquisitions. We want naval stations for the use of our commerce—not as a base of military operations against other countries. That is the only purpose for which naval stations are desired by any of the great nations.

Mr. Lodge advocates the enlargement of our navy to terrible dimensions. He wants "a navy so strong that no nation would dare attack us." His idea of peace is that it can be maintained only by threatening other nations with war.

This balderdash—for it is nothing else—would be of no account if Mr. Lodge did not claim to speak for the president and if he were not to be secretary of state. As it is, his truculent oratory has a bad effect on the national tranquility and may be injurious to business interests.

Wants Partisan Postmasters Only.

Indianapolis News: Congressman Watson was guilty of a strange delirium at Rushville when he said that every postmaster should be a working force for the Republican party. This utterance may be good politics in Mr. Watson's own district, but it is not in line with advanced thought. The spoils system is going and under the present administration it is going fast. The time when the business—primarily or secondarily—of all government employes was to look after the interests of the party that secured them places has gone by.

Reform as to Franchises.

New York Evening Post: The franchise policy of the immediate future, not merely as regards traction, but all other public service corporations, must be simple and conservative. Short-term grants, with subsequent power to revoke, adequate compensation to the municipality—probably in the form partly of lower fares and partly of limitation of profits, with prescribed bookkeeping—these are the fundamentals of franchise reform. With the great principles established and an ultimate power of control reserved, minute interference with business details will be neither wise nor necessary.

An Estimate of Gas Addicks.

Milwaukee Free Press: This man, Addicks, is an adventurer in politics who, without one characteristic that recommends him for a seat in the senate, has spent, it is said, \$1,000,000 in his endeavors to force his way into that body. He was able to deadlock the state legislature last winter and so prevent the election of any senator where two should have been elected. The consequence is the state of Delaware is today without any representative in the upper house of congress.

An act of charity usually discounts an act of heroism.

The Shah is a "snapshooter." Amateur photography is a fad with the Shah of Persia, and he has become quite skillful in the use of the camera. He has a positive mania for being taken in every conceivable attitude and dress, and has even been photographed in bed.

Electricity for Steam Roads. The Swedish government has under consideration the substitution of electricity for steam on all the Swedish railroads, the abundance of water power in the country not only making the project feasible, but holding out promise of a great saving.

For a flying enemy makes a silver bridge.

THE BEST RESULTS IN STARCHING can be obtained only by using Defiance Starch, besides getting 4 oz. more for same money—no cooking required.

Some men's minds are cumbered with useless memories.

ARE YOUR CLOTHES FADED? Use Red Cross Ball Blue and make them white again. Large 2 oz. package, 5 cents.

It avails little the unfortunate to be brave.

Mrs. Winslow's soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. Bees bottle.

Cupid makes the love match and cupid is responsible for the other brands.

THOSE WHO HAVE TRIED IT will use no other. Defiance Cold Water Starch has no equal in Quantity or Quality—is 100% for 10 cents. Other brands contain only 12 oz.

The profundity of some people shows in their ignorance.

Do not believe Piso's Cure for Consumption has an equal for coughs and colds.—JOHN F. BOYD, Trinity Springs, Ind., Feb. 5, 1904.

Chronic kickers give the world many an upward boost.

WHY IT IS THE BEST is because made by an entirely different process. Defiance Starch is unlike any other, better and one-third more for 10 cents.

A Woman's prematurely gray hair is often the result of marrying a man to reform him.

Stops the Cough and Works Off the Cold. Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. Price 25c.

Wise is the weather prophet who predicts both ways.

16 to 10 or a Change of Ratio. To purchasers of starch. Heretofore they have been paying 10 cents for 12 ounces of even much inferior goods to that turned out in Nebraska and known as Defiance starch. Now, however, the up-to-date housewife who has an eye to money saving, insists that her grocer shall give her Defiance. It costs less and goes farther than any other starch made. At your grocer's. Made by Magnetic Starch Co., Omaha, Neb.

When a friend asketh, there is no tomorrow.

He who sows brambles must not go barefoot.

WE HAVE HEARD OF IT BEFORE. There is no necessity for us to suffer pain and endure useless agony. There is a remedy for all aches and pains—Rheumatism, Gout, Lumbago, Neuralgia, Sciatica, Pleurisy, Soreness, Stiffness, Headache, Backache, Pains in the Limbs and Pains in the Feet, that remedy is St. Jacobs Oil. It never fails. It acts like magic. Instantaneous relief from pain always follows. It has cured thousands of cases which had been given up as incurable. One trial will convince any sufferer that St. Jacobs Oil Conquers Pain. Price, 25c and 50c. SOLD BY ALL DEALERS IN MEDICINE.

DON'T GET WET! THE ORIGINAL TOWER'S FISH BRAND SLICKER IS SURE PROTECTION IN WET WEATHER. ON SALE EVERYWHERE. CATALOGUES FREE. SHOWING FULL LINE OF GARMENTS AND HATS. A. J. TOWER CO., BOSTON, MASS.

DRY Sawyer's Pommel Slickers. Sawyer's Remedy for Head Pains. Sawyer's Remedy for Stomach Pains. Sawyer's Remedy for Coughs and Colds. Sawyer's Remedy for All Aches and Pains.

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