

Whether Common or Not.

The New Rule.

The trusts have found a better plan
To rule the working masses,
Than trusting work of making laws
In hands of voting masses.
They've found it less expense to "see"
A judge without compunction,
And get from him a writ of court
To rule them by injunction.

Men are enjoined from walking on
The free and public highways;
And ministers have been enjoined
From preaching in the by-ways.
Still other men have been enjoined
From quitting their employment,
Although their wage had been cut down
For other men's enjoyment.

Injunctions here, injunctions there,
From north to southern borders;
The trusts have got it fixed so they
Can get restraining orders.
But though injunctions come so fast
There is no use believing
That trusts will ever be enjoined
From keeping up their thieving.

Those Dear Girls.

"Did Jack tell you he thought I had
a heavenly voice?"
"Well, he said you had an unearthly
voice."

Abbreviated.

There was a young lady in Me.
Who vainly had striven to gn.
The beautiful knack
Of grabbing the slack
Of the skirt she wore in the rn.

Safe.

"Hellow, Blinks! Have you kept your
New Year's resolutions?"
"You bet! Put 'em away carefully
where they'd be in no danger of being
used."

Discovered.

If the country is looking for an
elastic currency I'd better be given a
place in the cabinet."
"What do you know about finance?"
"I stretched a fiver over two opera
chairs, a cab and a theatre lunch for
two."

A Literary scheme.

Phillip Space—"We've got to frame
up a scheme to keep the wolf from the
door."
Turner Down—"That's right. We
haven't sold a line for a month. What
shall we do?"
Phillip Space—"We've got to get be-
fore the public."
Turner Down—"Yes; but how?"
Phillip Space—"Well, we might join
teams with some politician and turn
the trick."
Turner Down—"I don't catch your
meaning."
Phillip Space—"You are growing
dense. We'll join teams with some
politician and one of us will write him
up as a scheming, selfish trafficker in

legislation. Then he'll sue us for
damages."

The Austrian Muse.

Alfred Austin, poet laureate of Eng-
land, has been at it again. He has
written a poem entitled "Together,"
which sings of the cemented friend-
ship between Great Britain and the
United States. Two verses of his ode
are here given:

Should envious aliens plan and plot
'Gainst one and now the other,
They swift would learn how strong the
knot

Lads brother unto brother.
How quickly they would change their
tack

And show the recreant feather
Should star and stripe and union jack
But float mast high together.

Now let us give one hearty grip,
As by true men is given,
And vow fraternal fellowship
That never shall be riven;

And with our peaceful flags unfurled,
Be fair or foul the weather,
Should need arise, face all the world,
And stand or fall together.

These verses are not reprinted be-
cause of their worth, but merely to
give an opportunity for showing how
easy that sort of thing is. The senti-
ment expressed by Austin is very beau-
tiful—when you happen to be ignor-
ant of existing conditions. But after
reading of the concentration camps in
South Africa and the killing of men
in Luzon whose only crime is loving
liberty well enough to die for it, there
seems to be something akin to hollow
mockery in the lines. It is not diffi-
cult to write verses like the latest from
the pen of England's laureate, and still
less difficult when one writes of
things as they really are and not as he
would have them. Had Austin stuck
to facts he might have written some-
thing like this:

Should alien races dare to fight
Against our conquering banners,
Although they strive for home and
right

We'll teach them better manners.
We'll scatter ruin in their track
And loose the war dog's tether,
While stars and stripes and union jack
Spread tyranny together.

Now let us give one hearty grip
As tyrants e'er are doing,
And pledge land pirates' fellowship
While trade and gold pursuing.

And with our battle flags unfurled,
Be fair or foul the weather,
We'll shoot our way around the world
And share the swag together.

These verses are as smooth as Aus-
tin's, and it is left to an unprejudiced
public to decide if they do not come
closer to the real facts than the Aus-
tinian spasm of versification.

Financiering.

"Wot has Dusty and Weary got over
there?"
"Dem guys has panhandled a half a

turkey, a hunk o' bread an' half a
mince pie."

"Ain't dey goin' t' divvy wid us?"
"Naw! I went over an' asked 'em
wus dey doin' t' play fair an' Dusty
give me de hoot. Said he an' Weary
had organized a Grub Security Com-
pany an' was starvin' de small fellers
out."

Brain Leaks

An old shoe for comfort, and a fresh
son for worry.

It is not always the loudest grunter
that does the most lifting.

He who trusts to luck must beg of
him who works with pluck.

Moral suasion with the trusts is like
eating bean soup with a fork.

It is always easier to stand off and
criticise than it is to rush in and help

There is something wrong with the
man that is avoided by babies and
dogs.

Some husbands neglect to treat their
wives as well as they do their own
friends.

Nations are framing their policies
according to a golden rule of human
origin.

There is no charity in robbing John
of a dollar in order to give James and
George 50 cents each.

As long as Justice suffers from
ophthalmia she does not need to wear
that bandage over her eyes.

Some men who are dishonest in poli-
tics are honest in business—because
they are afraid to be dishonest in busi-
ness.

Sowing wild oats would not be near-
ly so bad if wives and children did not
often have to subsist on the crop
reaped.

—Will M. Maupin.

Timely Warnings.

Coincident with the announcement
that since May last copper stocks have
suffered a depreciation of value of
\$96,112,500, comes a cable from Berlin
describing the commercial depression
in Germany.

A year and a half ago, it is pointed
out, Germany was notable for what
we, of the western hemisphere, would
call a "big boom" in trade. Brokers
on the Berlin bourse indulged in per-
sonal violence in their efforts to buy
stocks. Extravagant expenditure of
money, made with magical rapidity,
became so common as to cease to ex-
cite remark. Industrials rose like
rockets and wages went up with them.

Today all is changed. Yachts, pal-
aces, race horses are for sale and there
are no purchasers, while the incomes
that justified the possession of these
expensive luxuries have dwindled to
the point of mere support or, in many
cases, have disappeared. Thirty-five
thousand workmen in Berlin alone are
idle and their families, as are those
of many idle workmen throughout the
empire, are in want for the necessities
of life.

Conditions in Germany and the
United States, while differing materi-
ally in many respects, are sufficiently
alike in others to make a warning
plain and to accent the need for the
heeding thereof. The enormous loss

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25 doses 25c. At druggists.

in copper stocks is, of course, ex-
plained by trade reasons that may or
may not affect other commodities.

The lesson we should learn might be
thus expressed: Natural water heated
to a certain degree disappears in
steam; water in stocks heated by un-
reasoning speculation is liable to va-
porize and disappear, leaving behind
it collapse.

Whether natural steam escapes grad-
ually or by an explosion its usefulness
has departed; whether the water in
stocks is forced out gradually by trade
conditions or, by its violent expansion,
produces a panic, it leaves wreck be-
hind it.

There is every reason to fear
that the greed to grow rich
by illegitimate means—illegitimate in
the sense of the violation of the plain
laws of supply, demand, commerce,
domestic economy—unless checked,
will result if not in panic, in serious
loss, not only to the greedy, but to an
innocent public. Let confidence in our
prosperity suffer serious diminution
and many stocks intrinsically valuable
will repeat the story of eight years ago
and find themselves far below the real
worth.

Is it not time to put the brake on?
Is it not wisdom to stop this over-
capitalization, this practice of swell-
ing the volume of a corporation's se-
curities to mammoth figures so that
the public may not know the magni-
tude of the dividends earned upon the
original investment—dividends that,
in the very nature of things, cannot
continue.

Whatever may be the recommenda-
tions in Mr. Roosevelt's message we
have the right to assume that they
will be intended for the good of the
whole people. We may rest in the
moral certainty that he will not num-
ber among the blessings of this nation
the formation of gigantic trusts capi-
talized to an aggregate doubling the
entire currency output of the country
a half a century ago.

Is there not danger that the United
States is growing drunk with success
and absolutely forgetful of a sickening
"next morning?"—Minneapolis Times.

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