

Great Britain is pursuing her traditional policy of arousing conflict between her competitors in order to profit thereby.

The federal grand jury at Chicago returned indictments July 1 on account of the beef trust against the following named persons: J. Ogden Armour, president of Armour & Co. Charles Armour, of Armour & Co. Arthur Meeker, general manager for Armour & Co. T. J. Conners, director, Armour & Co. P. A. Valentine, treasurer Armour & Co. Samuel McRoberts, assistant treasurer of Armour & Co. Louis F. Swift, president of Swift & Co. Charles Swift, of Swift & Co. Lawrence A. Carton, treasurer of Swift & Co. Arthur F. Evans, attorney for Swift & Co. R. C. McManus, attorney for Swift & Co. A. H. Veeder, general counsel for Swift & Co. Edward Cudahy, of Cudahy & Co. D. E. Hatwell, secretary of Swift & Co. Edwin F. Swift, vice president of Swift & Company; Edward Morris Secretary of Nelson Morris & Co. Besides these individual indictments, bills were voted against five corporations, Armour & Co., Swift & Co., Nelson Morris & Co., the Cudahy Packing Co., and the Fairbanks Canning Co.

Francis B. Loomis, formerly assistant secretary of state, sailed recently for Southampton. While Mr. Bowen, against whose integrity no question has been raised, has been dismissed from the diplomatic service, Mr. Loomis goes abroad as a "special ambassador." Mr. Loomis' first duty is to receive Paul Jones' remains. After that duty is discharged Mr. Loomis will have other important work to do. He says that he has been commissioned by the president "to perform a secret service for the state department while abroad," and the Associated Press explains that Mr. Loomis "has been commissioned by the president to make investigation of the business methods of the various diplomatic posts of the United States in Europe, with a view of bringing about such reforms as may be suggested by the inquiry."

J. F. Wallace, chief engineer of the Panama canal, announced that he desired to retire from his position in order to accept more lucrative employment. Secretary Taft made public a statement, which statement has the endorsement of Mr. Roosevelt in which he bitterly denounces Mr. Wallace for his ingratitude. The secretary demanded Mr. Wallace's immediate resignation, and it was forthcoming. Secretary Taft's complaint is that Wallace sought the position and having obtained it accepted another position "for more lucre," and was influenced "solely by personal advantage." While Mr. Wallace was willing to hold his position awhile longer, his resignation was demanded. Secretary Taft said: "Public interests require that you tender your resignation at this moment and turn over the records of your office to the chairman of the commission."

A New York building collapsed June 26, killing four workmen and injuring a score or more people.

Three persons lost their lives in a tornado that swept down on Plankinton, S. D.

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In The First Nebraska District

A special election to choose a member of congress will be held in the First Nebraska district July 18. Every voter in that district is urged to go to the polls, and in order to get out a full vote it will be necessary for every democrat to talk to his neighbor and get him to go to the polls. The republican nominee is E. M. Pollard of Cass county. The democratic nominee is Francis W. Brown now mayor of Lincoln.

The convention which nominated Mayor Brown adopted the following platform:

"We, the democrats of the First congressional district of Nebraska, in convention assembled, send greetings to the Nebraskans whose duty it will be to elect a representative in congress, July 18, 1905.

"We reaffirm our faith in democratic principles as enunciated by Thomas Jefferson and defended by William J. Bryan.

"We condemn the free pass system. We demand not only that public officials be prohibited under heavy penalties from accepting such favors, but that the entire free pass system be abolished. The free pass to the public official places him under obligation to the corporation extending the favor. The free pass to individuals generally not only entangles the burdens upon the general public in maintaining the corporation, but tends to bring the private citizen accepting the favor under the political control of the corporation granting it.

"We demand the enforcement of all anti-trust laws, and particularly the criminal clause of the Sherman anti-trust law. Private monopolies are indefensible and intolerable."

"We congratulate President Roosevelt in that he has recommended the adoption of the democratic plan of doing away with railroad discrimination and rebates and giving to the interstate commerce commission the power to fix rates. The right of appeal should not, of course, be denied, but when the commission has fixed the rate it should go in force immediately and remain in force until rejected by a court of competent jurisdiction.

"We congratulate President Roosevelt upon his rejection of the tariff baron's plea that protection should be employed as a guise for extorting unfair prices from the American consumer. We commend him for his order that supplies for the Panama canal will be purchased in other markets if such a course be necessary to avoid imposition on the part of the special interests so long protected by the republican party. We pledge the people of the First congressional district of Nebraska that the nominee of this convention will not accept favors—in the form of free transportation or otherwise—at the hands of corporations or at the hands of any individual whose interests may be affected by his vote; that in every effort made to obtain the greatest good for the greatest number his vote will be cast upon the side of public interests; that he will faithfully discharge his duties in the effort to obtain immediate and effective relief in every particular where the people suffer; and that he will cordially co-operate in every effort—with whomsoever it may originate and by whomsoever it may be urged—that is designed to give to the American people relief from corporate imposition."

Following is the text of Mayor Brown's speech before the congressional committee at Nebraska City, June 21.

"As you gentlemen know, I did not seek this nomination. Having received it, I shall do my best to win. I have been greatly encouraged by

assurances of support that have come to me. I have received many letters commending our clear declaration of principles. One republican newspaper in Lincoln has frankly admitted that we have the better platform. To that platform I am committed as strongly as any man who values his word can be committed. After all, the people must take some chances in the selection of a public official. Ante-election pledges are frequently broken, and frequently made to be broken. If any one who knows me doubts my determination to fulfill my obligations to the letter than I prefer he cast his vote for my opponent. I can afford to be defeated in this contest. I could not afford to violate my word, which I hope I may say without offense has always passed as good among those who know me.

"The platform adopted by the convention which nominated me states the issues briefly and forcefully. As a business man I have been in a position to appreciate the enormity of the evils arraigned in that platform. I know the great wrongs that are built upon the pass system. Men who spend thousands of dollars in the shipment of freight are required to pay their fare, while men who never spend a penny ride free on account of their political influence. The free pass system is an injustice to those who are required to pay their fare. Destroy that system and the railroads can well afford to submit to lower freight and passenger rates. It is an injustice to the shipper to require fare of him while the politician pays not a cent for his transportation.

"But the injustice to individuals who pay not only for themselves but also for the deadhead, is small compared with the greater evil of the free pass as the basis for the corporations' political power. It is not enough that the public official be prohibited from accepting a pass. The corporations should be prohibited from giving a pass to any individuals save bona fide employees. Where one public official is influenced by a free pass, hundreds of private citizens with political influence are persuaded with a paste-board courtesy, either to directly aid the corporation in winning political power or to give such aid indirectly by relaxing the efforts they should make in behalf of popular government.

"The corporation is entitled to protection by the law and deserves consideration at the hands of the public official equally and exactly as other interests are. Because the common carrier depends upon the law for its privileges, as it does for its life, the rules to which it must conform must be laid down by those who act in the public interest and with due regard for the rights of the corporation rather than by those who owe their election to corporation agencies, and who are, therefore, the representatives of special interests rather than the servants of the people. The abolition of the free pass system will do much to establish reform.

"It is significant that my opponent is silent on the question raised by Secretary Taft's order to buy Panama canal supplies in other markets if such a course be necessary to avoid extortionate prices by the American manufacturers. This is a very important question; for the member of congress chosen July 18 will be called upon to take his stand for or against this order. It was recently announced that the advocates of a high tariff would defy President Roosevelt in this matter, and that congress would prevent him from carrying out his plans to avoid the extortions of the trusts. If elected I will vote and labor for the support of the president in this mat-

ter. I will vote and labor for the destruction of what our Iowa friends call 'the shelter the trust finds in the tariff.'

"I will vote and labor to the end that the tariff wall around this country shall not be so high as to permit men to extort unfair prices from the government; I shall insist also that the rule which Mr. Roosevelt has, in the Taft order, laid down for the benefit of the government, shall be followed for the benefit of the individual consumer. I shall favor a law which will give the president authority to remove the tariff from any article which, after proper inquiry, shall be found to be the subject of trust agreement or the product of a combination coming under the definition of 'conspiracy in restraint of trade.'

"As a business man and an extensive shipper I know the importance of a law prohibiting rebates and giving to the interstate commerce commission the power to fix rates. During my business career in Nebraska I have paid in freight more than one-half million dollars and have not received one dollar in rebates. I shall vote and labor for a bill to abolish rebates and to give to the interstate commerce commission the power to fix rates. That bill should provide that when the rate is fixed it shall go into effect immediately, and so remain unless it is destroyed by the supreme court. I shall strive for action on this subject at the coming regular session or at the special session should a special session be called. At all events, I shall protest against delay and shall do my part to obtain relief for the public at an early day.

"I realize that in this contest my opponent will have the strong support of every corporation against whose special privileges the platform upon which I was nominated strikes. I know it will be no easy task to overcome these powerful influences, but I have determined to appeal to the people of this district conscious of the rectitude of my intentions and confident of the necessity for relief.

"While my whole life has been devoted to business affairs and I am not accustomed to making speeches, I intend to see as many people as possible between now and election day. I hope to make it known to every voter in the district exactly where I stand on the great questions with whose importance I am deeply impressed. If they think my opponent can serve them better than I can, I shall accept the verdict without a murmur. If they choose me as their representative, I promise them that I will never knowingly do anything to cause them to regret the vote they cast in my behalf."

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