

tribution which one makes to the welfare of society. I can conceive of nothing which will encourage the individual more than to assure him that he will be permitted to enjoy in proportion as he adds to the enjoyment of others.

In the Holy Land I visited the valley of the Jordan and was told that the valley was as rich as the valley of the Nile. By irrigation it might be made to support a large population but the land lies untilled. Why? Because the Turkish government does not protect those who toil. The farmer does not dare to till the soil, for if he did, the Bedouin would come down from the hills at harvest time and gather in the crop. Because there is no protection for the individual there is no encouragement for the toiler.

This illustrates what has been going on to a certain extent in this country. Our people produce and consume three times as much as any similar population in the world but to an increasing degree they find themselves despoiled by those who are permitted to monopolize the opportunities of the country and the industries of the land. The Bedouins of finance swoop down upon the toiler upon the farm and in the factory and leave him less than his work entitles him to receive. I am glad that the president has called attention to what is going on and that he speaks out in favor of legislation which will discourage the accumulation of great fortunes and prevent their transmission from generation to generation, but while this would furnish a temporary remedy, the permanent remedy is to be found not in the taking of a part of the ill-gotten gains but in the withdrawal of privileges and the favoritism which have been used to pile up fortunes far in excess of the value which the possessors of these fortunes have rendered to society.

God has given us a law of rewards. He has given us the earth with its fruitful soil; He has given us the sun to shine with its warmth; He has given us the rains with their moisture, and He has said, Go work, and in proportion as you labor diligently and with intelligence, so shall your reward be. But this rule has been reversed. Those who perform the most important labor receive the least reward, and those who, instead of adding to the world's wealth, prey upon society, have been permitted to gather in the largest compensation. The school teacher prepares himself by years of patient study and we trust him with the training of our children who are dearer to us than our own lives, but the teacher's compensation is small if we measure it in money. The farmer produces the world's food, and the miner keeps the world warm, and the factory hand clothes the world, and yet, each draws but a small wage from society. The ordinary merchant buys what the purchaser has to sell and sells what the purchaser needs to buy; he performs an important work but his reward is small and more than ninety per cent of the merchants fail in the course of a lifetime. The professional man, the physician or the lawyer each does an important work but neither as a rule becomes a great capitalist. The minister, whose application of religion to daily life improves the morals of the community and makes both life and property more secure, he too enjoys but a small income in return for his valuable services, but the trust magnate and the manipulator of railroads—these are permitted to build up fabulous fortunes because they can control what the people must have. I thank the president for having focused public attention upon this important question, and I doubt not that his words will contribute toward a settlement that will be just.

It is our duty whether legislators or private citizens, whether acting in the state or in the larger sphere of the nation, to contribute as best we can toward such a solution of this question that each may claim such a reward as his work and worth entitle him to receive; and by securing to each such a reward we shall put hope into every heart and by encouraging each individual to do his utmost, enlarge the sum of the wealth produced and the sum of human happiness, and this wealth and this happiness will not only be larger but will be more fairly distributed than now. I thank you for your attention.

TRUST CONTROL OF EDUCATION

The Commoner has already reproduced an extract from the New York Tribune editorial with reference to Rockefeller's \$32,000,000 contribution to "the cause of education," but the Tribune's statement is so important that it is worthy of being printed again in connection with some later and equally interesting statements from other newspapers.

The Tribune said: "We doubt very much whether the Gallic war or the Russian campaign was conducted with one-half the thoroughness that marks the operations which Mr. Rockefeller carries on through the general education board. Many persons may feel that the strategies of the

board, some of which will presumably force weak and ill placed schools to the wall, are cruel, but no wise educator will share that feeling. The country is overrun with petty, inefficient colleges granting worthless degrees and deluding their students into thinking themselves cultured. There is frightful waste of money and effort due to lack of intelligent co-operation among institutions. Before very long even the bereaved friends of the exterminated colleges will rejoice that a great industrial captain was willing to spend a fortune in bringing order out of chaos."

The following appeared as an editorial in the Houston, Texas, Post: "The Manufacturers' Record of last week contains an astounding article on the work of the general education board to which Mr. Rockefeller recently gave \$32,000,000. It is in substance that it is the intention of the education board, representing the trust magnates from whom it draws the sinews of war, so to speak, to so manipulate the hundreds of millions which it expects ultimately to handle that colleges which are not approved by the board shall be forced to close their doors. That is to say, certain colleges will be assisted so that rival institutions without such support cannot remain in the educational field. To support this theory, the Manufacturers' Record quotes from the Evening World, the Evening Telegram and the Tribune with reference to Mr. Rockefeller's latest gift and the purposes of the general education board. The report of the Evening World says:

No gift from this great fund is intended to be given to state educational institutions. While certain colleges will be selected for donations or endowments, forming a chain across the continent, others not so favored will be left to their fate, as it were, and many of them will be, it is expected, forced to close their doors in the face of such strong support to their fortunate rivals.

The Tribune says:

No gifts from this great fund are intended to be given to state educational institutions. While certain colleges will be selected for contributions or endowments, forming a chain of educational institutions across the continent, others not so favored will be left to their fate by the Rockefeller fund, and many of them, it is expected, will be forced to close their doors in the face of such strong support to their fortunate rivals. It will become a question of the survival of the fittest, it is said, from which it is believed a better and higher standard of education will result, and on the maps in the William street office of the Rockefeller fund the little colored pins will probably seal the fate of many a college and work out the destiny of others to prosperous ends.

The Evening Telegram says:

The plan of the donor is not to help all colleges, but to assist those whose location gives them the best advantage for advancement. Mr. Rockefeller is more for the quality of colleges than for quantity. The assistance given to some of the colleges, it is believed, will force some of the smaller ones to the wall.

"The similarity of these statements is striking and they no doubt emanated from the same source and that source the offices of the general education board in William street, the very heart of the trust district. The Manufacturers' Record asserts that an attempt has been made to bind colleges to an agreement that if they receive funds from the general education board representatives of that board should have the right to inspect the books, accounts and securities of the colleges, which is virtually an agreement to mortgage the souls of the college to the trust."

"If it be true that the trusts are thus engaged in an effort to control the education of the youth of the country by building up such colleges as it can control and destroying others, it is time for the people to look into this kind of philanthropy and ascertain how it jibes with the public welfare.

"It also points the duty of the states to foster and strengthen the public school systems of the country, the industrial and technical schools and state universities to the end that the people may control the education of the children and not let it pass into the hands of the interests. The Post has never been impressed with Mr. Rockefeller's philanthropy and it gravely doubts if the country will ultimately find it an unmixed blessing."

REMEDY FOR WRECKS

Vice-President Kruttschnitt of the Southern Pacific suggests that the "publicity" remedy be applied to railroad disasters and that the names of parties responsible for such accidents be made as public as possible.

This strikes the New York Tribune as being

very funny and for once in its life the Tribune stoops to jest, saying: "Within a few years half our population would be famous, while the other half would have become hypochondriacs as a result of being reminded in every newspaper and every railway station of life's brevity." One could scarcely travel five miles by rail without encountering a granite shaft inscribed after this fashion: "At this spot, on June 11, 1915, Hank Smith forgot to flag the southbound freight, thereby derailing the train and killing one brakeman and seven tramps. In commemoration of this oversight a reminiscient public has erected this monument."

Very good indeed! But what difference is there between Mr. Kruttschnitt's suggestion as interpreted by the Tribune and the "publicity" remedy with respect to the trust system as suggested repeatedly by the New York Tribune and other high republican authorities?

The valleys and the prairies of America might be dotted with sign boards or granite shafts, as you please, inscribed after this fashion: "John D. Stonebugger conspired in restraint of trade, violating, for the advancement of his business concern, nearly every law made by God or man. Pass the word along the line."

N. B.—Later Mr. Stonebugger gave \$32,000,000—and then some—to 'the cause of education.' Pass this along the line also."

"Publicity" alone, and operated as some republican editors would have it operated, would be just about as effective in providing a remedy for the trust system as it would in creating a safeguard against railroad wrecks.



THEN GIVE US PUBLICITY

Newspaper editors seeking to justify the publication of the unsavory details of the sensational Thaw trial say that "publicity" is the best possible remedy for the evils out of which such sensations grow and to that end "all the details relating to this affair should be uncovered."

It is noticeable, however, that whenever it develops in the course of testimony that some bloated millionaire, outside of the parties immediately concerned in the trial, figures in the disgraceful practices, the name is whispered in the ears of the attorneys.

What about "publicity" at this juncture? If the publication of the details of this dirty story is to be justified on the ground of "publicity" then by all means give us publicity but let not the penalty of exposure be confined to the slayer of the New York architect or his unhappy wife.

Let it extend all along the line; let the names of those who participated in the orgies concerning which the public has been treated to so much detail be spoken aloud in order that "publicity" may be vindicated; and in order, also, that the moral lepers may be branded before all men.



"NO MONSTER SO DANGEROUS"

Hannis Taylor, former minister to Spain, in an address delivered to Johns Hopkins university described the modern enormous fortunes and the "philanthropies" resulting from them, saying: "I know of no monster so dangerous to the life of a republic, as one who can in a moment throw bewildering millions in one direction or the other, especially when those millions grow out of abnormal conditions that should not exist. The omnipotent dispenser may throw his millions in a good direction today, but it is sure to be in a bad one tomorrow. But most and worst of all he is an imagebreaker, he is an iconoclast who shatters the ideals upon which the nation's life was founded. There was a time when our young men thought it worth while to strive to be like Marshall, Webster, Emerson and Washington Irving. But how long will those illusions last under the teachings of the new gospel which proclaims that nothing is really worth while except the brute force wielded by masses of money. If this thing goes on we can soon close all departments of our universities, except those that apply the principles of physical science to the production of material wealth or its equivalent."



TARIFF REVISION SENTIMENT GAINING

Massachusetts republicans sent to President Roosevelt a petition urging him to call an extra session of congress for the purpose of revising the tariff. Tariff revision is so strong in Massachusetts that, according to the Washington correspondent for the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, Senator Lodge has been prevailed upon to favor the reform.

The republican legislature in Wisconsin has adopted a resolution urging the president to call a special session for the purpose of revising the tariff. We are told, however, that the president has held a consultation with Speaker Cannon