

the present crop of trusts be rooted out, provided, of course, that new ones are not formed?

The senator's commendation of the labor organization is gratifying, but why link the organizations with the trusts? They are not the same in principle; they are not the same in method, and the putting of them in the same class is not in the interest of the laboring man, but in the interest of the monopolist.

A labor organization is an association of human beings, each one with a conscience to restrain him. When the labor organization acts, it must consult this conscience. The trust is a combination of dollars, and these dollars have no moral sense. The labor organization acts for persons who need food and clothing and shelter, and these needs compel the laboring men to accept reasonable terms; the dollars which form the basis of a trust do not eat, and they are easily housed. If a laborer is out of work for a year, his capital is exhausted; if a dollar lies idle a year, its owner is simply out the interest and has his capital remaining.

But there is another difference between the labor organization and the trusts. The trust magnates have built up fabulous fortunes in a short time; the members of the labor organizations have not yet secured more than a fair share of the proceeds of their own toil, and the president can find no "swollen fortunes" among either the officials or the members of a labor organization.

Another merit of the labor organization is that the laborers outside of the organization get the benefit of the increased wages and the better conditions secured by the labor organizations, but the trust bankrupts its competitors, while it tyrannizes over its employes and extorts from those to whom it sells. And, lastly, the labor organization improves the quality, the character and the citizenship of the laboring man, while the natural tendency of the trust is to introduce deterioration in the quality of the product while it enhances the price.

The laboring man is fortunate in having so able and influential a republican as Senator Beveridge championing the eight-hour day, and yet the laboring man is not unmindful of the fact that the opposition to the eight-hour day, as well as the opposition to the other things desired by the laboring man, comes from the very men who have been conspicuous in their support of the republican party during the campaigns and conspicuous in their control of the government after election, while even in republican congresses labor reforms have been more heartily supported by democrats than by republicans.

Senator Beveridge says much that we are glad to commend; he shows more appreciation of the laborer's position than many of his party leaders, and we trust that in time he may be able to draw the line more accurately than he now does between the blessings of Providence and the policies of his party, and recognize that his party's performances must be tested by the opinions of the laboring men themselves and not by the claims of the party's apologists. At present he magnifies what his party has done, minimizes the part that the laborer has had in his own elevation, and ignores the improvement that has come from natural causes.

#### GOVERNOR HASKELL'S PROMPT ACTION

A dispatch to the Oklahoma Oklahoman under date of Guthrie, Okla., November 16, tells this interesting story:

Learning that the Standard Oil company had all preparations made to construct a gas pipe line across the state line in Washington county in the interregnum occurring between the signing of the proclamation and the inauguration of state government, Governor Haskell privately qualified two hours before the public ceremony in order that his first official act might be to direct the county officials of Washington county to prevent the violation of the constitution if it were necessary to put every Standard Oil officer in the county jail.

Late last night Governor Haskell was advised that the oil company had the material on the ground and a large party of workmen camped near the state line north of Bartlesville, and that their intention was undoubtedly to try to take advantage of a lapse in government to push a pipe line across into Kansas.

He immediately communicated with the county officers elect of Washington county by telephone urging the county judge, the county attorney and the sheriff to cross to the Oklahoma side, qualify early in the day, secure an injunction preventing the construction of the pipe line,

and summon a sufficient number of special deputies to enforce the injunction immediately. In the event that an attempt was made to violate the injunction, the sheriff was directed by the governor to arrest and confine in jail every man who tried to sink a spade in soil imminent to the Oklahoma state line.

At 6 o'clock tonight Governor Haskell received the following telegram from John Shea of Bartlesville, who was appointed as special deputy county attorney to apply for the injunction:

"Injunction issued this morning. Sheriff and large posse proceeded to scene of proposed line and found work completed to within two hundred feet of the state line. Injunction served immediately. Indian police ordered to co-operate with state officials and to turn all prisoners over to county authorities. Line patrolled all day. No more work done and no arrests made."

Previous to statehood, a gas pipe line could not be constructed across the state line because of inability to secure right of way over the Indian allotments. Under the state constitution the construction of such gas pipe lines across the state line is expressly forbidden. Could the Standard have succeeded in its ruse of this morning it would have given them an absolute monopoly in the exporting of gas from the state and would have allowed the piping to Kansas City, St. Louis or other outside cities the product of the strongest gas region of the state.

"I told the Standard Oil company and kindred monopolies before election that if they did not lick me at the polls I would lick them every day that I was governor until they decided to abide by the law," said Governor Haskell. "Today I have taken the first step in carrying out the promise I made to the Standard Oil company, as I took occasion several days before my inauguration to prevent the St. Louis Book company trust from unloading on the new counties of the state their accumulation of out-of-date and worthless books and blanks at an enormous price."

#### WILL THEY ANSWER?

The New York Herald received by telegraph this query:

"To the Editor of the Herald: With nine hundred million gold dollars and five hundred million silver dollars in the United States treasury, is it a good financial proposition for the government to deposit two hundred and forty million dollars with the national banks without interest and then ask for a loan on one hundred and fifty million dollars and pay two and three per cent interest?—John H. Dennis, Atlanta, Ga., November 19, 1907."

Will some republican paper undertake to answer this question?

#### IS IT?

In addressing the jury in his opening speech in the case of the government against Banker Walsh of Chicago, Attorney Dobyne, the government prosecutor, used this language: "It is the policy of the government to nurse a bank found to be in trouble, even to conceal crime until its affairs can be straightened out."

Referring to this statement the Atlantic (Ia.) Democrat says: "This statement should be cut out and framed and read daily until the full meaning of it is comprehended. It accounts for many failures of banks which had but a short time previously received the O. K. of the government."

#### ABSORBED

The Tennessee Coal and Iron company has been absorbed by the steel trust as a result of several conferences brought about by J. Pierpont Morgan. This was one of the plans for "bringing order out of chaos in the financial situation." It would seem that the financiers believe in making hay even when the sun is covered with clouds.

#### WATCH THESE "PATRIOTS"

The Wall Street Journal paid a high tribute to J. Pierpont Morgan when it said: "Mr. Morgan's prestige and authority are now so great that any stand which he may take in behalf of financial reform can be put through, whereas at some later period it might be impossible even for him to do much in that direction."

The Journal is mistaken if it imagines that

the American people have been so deceived that they are willing to "O. K." any suggestion which J. Pierpont Morgan shall make.

Only a few days ago we were told that Mr. Morgan engineered the deal whereby the Tennessee Coal company became the property of the steel trust and that this was "a patriotic effort" on Mr. Morgan's part. Already men are beginning to learn that it was simply a skilfully engineered plan to fasten all the more securely the monopoly held by the steel trust.

The fact is that it will be well for the American people to carefully scrutinize any scheme of finance which Mr. Morgan and his associates undertake to put through.

#### REVISION

Colonel John F. Finerty, editor of the Chicago Citizen, intimates that it will now be necessary for Mr. Roosevelt to revise the Star Spangled Banner for Key wrote in his immortal song these words:

"Then conquer we must,  
Since our cause it is just,  
And this be our motto—  
'In God is Our Trust.'  
And the Star Spangled Banner  
Forever shall wave  
O'er the Land of the Free  
And the Home of the Brave!"

Well, that will be easy, for Mr. Roosevelt now believes in revision of nearly everything but the protective tariff concerning which he once wrote that political economists generally agree that a protective tariff is "vicious in theory and harmful in practice."

#### WHY NOT PULITZER?

A reader of the New York World writes to that publication to say: "The Rev. Silliman Blagden, of Boston, who asks that J. Pierpont Morgan be nominated for president, should also insist on the nomination of George W. Perkins for vice president. Why let anything get away from the firm?"

This World reader is very short-sighted indeed. Can he not see that Mr. Morgan's logical running mate is Mr. Joseph Pulitzer? With Mr. Pulitzer as the candidate for vice president the New York World may be depended upon to support at least a portion of the ticket.

If Mr. Morgan can surmount the objections to his nomination the fact that Mr. Pulitzer was born abroad need not stand in the way of Mr. Pulitzer, Morgan and Pulitzer! If not, why not?

#### VINDICATED!

It seems that the per capita circulation in 1893 was \$23.23, while now it is \$33.23. We hope none of the hoarders is alarmed over that 23.—New York Tribune.

Probably not, but this reminds us that in 1896 when the per capita circulation was about \$10 less than it now is the New York Tribune insisted that we had money enough for the country's business transactions. Now when the per capita circulation is larger than it ever was the Tribune and other republican newspapers are forced to admit that we have not nearly enough money for business transactions; yet the Tribune contends that the republican party's position in 1896 has been vindicated!

#### PANICS

Read this from the Springfield (Mass) Republican: "Some lessons of value, therefore, are to be learned, and among them are these: The belief has been deeply cultivated that a money system strongly resting on gold makes panics impossible. It is a false notion. The belief has had wide acceptance that a high protective tariff protects from panics which come only under low tariffs. That is quite as false as the other. The belief prevails to a greater or less extent that a particular political party possesses the exclusive power of governing the country in freedom from financial disaster and industrial relapses. That is even more false than either of the other beliefs. Panics or financial crises are made possible only by the existence of the credit system, and the credit system exists under the gold standard as under any other money standard, and it is in operation whether tariffs are high or low, or whether the republican party is in power or not."