

Manufactured Business Depression

The efforts of those who have been receiving an undue advantage at the hands of the government to "manufacture" a business depression has been exposed by President Wilson. Monopoly, through its various channels of communication, is endeavoring to have congress adjourn without passing the anti-trust bills that will protect the public from the many forms of oppression that they have suffered from for years past. The plan of the "interests" is to have big business houses write letters to their customers and request them to write the president, their congressmen, and senators, and demand that all trust legislation be abandoned for the present and that congress adjourn and go home, etc., on the pretext that the effort of the president to protect the people from monopoly is hurting business. Chambers of commerce, commercial clubs, and other business organizations are being requested by various interested groups to pass resolutions requesting that the railroads be given permission to raise their freight rates five per cent and that no anti-trust legislation be passed at the present session of congress. The president is to be commended for his prompt

action in giving publicity to the "manufactured" business depression scheme, and for his insistence that the anti-trust bills shall be passed before congress adjourns. Now is the time for every citizen who believes in "equal rights to all and special privileges to none" to take an interest in what is going on at Washington. President Wilson is fighting for legislation to protect the people against monopoly. The reactionary senators and representatives in congress, supported by "big business," are endeavoring to block action by the senate and to force adjournment. If you believe in the democratic platform adopted at Baltimore; if you believe the people are entitled to an "even break" with monopoly before the law; if you believe in the anti-trust bills now before the senate; if you believe in the honesty of purpose of Woodrow Wilson; if you believe that it will be better for business and all concerned to settle the trust question NOW rather than keep the matter in doubt until next fall or winter, wire or write your senators and congressmen at once and give them your opinion as to whether they should stand by the president or stand with those who are opposing the president. Now is the time to secure the reform legislation the democrats have been promising for twenty years. Your senators and congressmen are entitled to hear from you on these important matters. DON'T DELAY, BUT WIRE OR WRITE THEM AT ONCE.

which will be given to the education of the girls in that part of the world. The education of women is comparatively new in the Orient, where the men, though far behind the rest of the world, are much in advance of women.

The people of the United States are wonderfully blessed—blessings have come down to them from the struggles and sacrifices of generations. Much of this good has come to us from other countries and without necessity for action on our own part. We have received it as an inheritance and enjoy it because we are born into it. The obligation cannot be repaid to those to whom we are indebted; it must be repaid to those about us and to those who come after us. We would be selfish, indeed, if we confined our benevolence and philanthropy to those of our own country. We must give to those beyond our shores if we would measure up to our responsibility, and among the many instrumentalities which may be employed none promise better results than the money which Americans send to colleges in foreign lands. The institutions established are not only intellectual centers but moral centers as well, for every college established in foreign lands has a spiritual impulse behind it—nothing but a spiritual impulse can arouse the enthusiasm or call forth the sacrifices required. It is to be hoped that the example set by Mrs. Shepard, Mrs. Sage, Mrs. Woods and Mrs. Stokes in endowing the Constantinople school will be followed by other men and women with means at their disposal. It is money lent unto the Lord with the best security and at a high rate of interest, estimated in real satisfaction.

W. J. BRYAN.

THE COMMENCEMENT SEASON

The commencement season is again upon us. From the high schools, academies, colleges and universities a stream of graduates pours forth. Each one represents an infinite amount of care, toll and sacrifice; for years the eyes of these students have been turned toward commencement day. It has been the end and aim of the plans they have thus far made. Now they have received their diplomas; they have reached the end of their educational program. What of their plans now? Parents and teachers have assisted them in the plans upon which they have followed through the schools, but now they must plan for themselves. The responsibilities of life bear down upon them and they must depend largely upon their own initiative for such success as they may achieve.

Do they begin life's work with confidence, or are they troubled by doubt? Can they see the future clearly, or do they seek a prophet to tell them of what is to be? The path to fortune, to honor and to success is an easy one, if they will but follow it, and all the good influences of society hedge them about and will, if permitted, aid them. It is strange that any one should fail when the stumbling-blocks and pitfalls are so well known and so plainly marked! Those who desire, will, of course, avoid bad habits. No physical strength can withstand the sapping and mining of bad habits. We can assume that every intelligent student understands the necessity for that self-restraint that conserves and preserves the physical powers for wise and legitimate use.

Are the students equally aware of the dangers of mental dissipation? Do they realize that one has only so much time, and that if it is wasted or given to the reading of bad or worthless books, or if employed in profitless imaginings—do they realize that it is time lost not to be regained? And have they, with all their getting, come into that full understanding which teaches the paramount importance of moral purpose? Have they possessed themselves of that wisdom

whose beginning is the fear of God? They have studied many books—it takes a library to equip the mind, but one book only is needed to prepare the heart—namely, the Bible. Have they allowed themselves to look upon religion as commonplace or old-fashioned? Or do they know from the depth of their hearts that morality is but the outward expression of that inward relation which is established between man and God—established clearly in the mind of the intelligent man, and vaguely, at least, in the mind of the least intelligent?

Does the student regard himself as a debtor to society, bound in duty to make repayment? Or does he consider society legitimate prey and himself a fortunate freebooter? There is only one economic principle that can be safely employed in measuring an individual's deserts, viz., that he shall be able to draw from society a reward commensurate with his contribution to society. If he draws less he is a victim of injustice; if he draws more he is reaping where he has not sown. Has he learned that the measure of greatness, and the measure of happiness as well, is service? Has he gone far enough into life's philosophy to know that real satisfaction comes from contributing to society rather than in sponging upon it?

No life can be barren or unfruitful if one goes forth strong in body, trained in mind and filled with a determination to add as largely as circumstances will permit to the welfare of society.

W. J. BRYAN.

BREAD UPON THE WATERS

On another page will be found a press dispatch describing the dedication of the five new buildings recently constructed at the Constantinople college on the shores of Bosphorus. A number of American women have contributed the sum necessary for the erection of these buildings, the total cost of which was \$750,000. The donations are as "Bread Cast Upon the Waters," and the benefits will come later in the impetus

Whenever some man starts in to express an adverse opinion on the accomplishments of the democratic administration at Washington, put these questions to him: What has Mr. Wilson done that either Mr. Roosevelt or Mr. Taft, had either of them been chosen at the 1912 election, would have done better? What has Mr. Wilson done that either political party in opposition to him would undo if they were placed in power? What has he not done that either of these would be likely to do if either was given the power? Don't accept generalities and sweeping condemnation for an answer; pin him down to specific statements. You will find how little of fact and how much of guff there is about this criticism heard.

The good prices quoted on the markets for the things that the farmer produces threaten to wreck the hopes of a good many aspiring republicans who have been expecting to ride into office by showing the farmer how hard he has been hit by the removal or reduction of the tariff on farm products. It will require some high and lofty juggling to get the statistics to fit the republican congressional candidates' case.

The bank clearings in the city of Lincoln for the week ending May 29 were 25 per cent greater than for the corresponding period of the year preceding. In Oklahoma City they were 50 per cent greater. This shows how business is in those sections where the shadow of Wall street does not reach.

If the railroads were not spending so much money advertising for the purpose of convincing the public that times were hard, would they need the five per cent raise in freight rates to continue to pay dividends on their watered stock?

The thread trust has been ordered dissolved by the supreme court. Which suggests the remark that it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for the thread trust to get past the supreme court.

The "favored few" are bringing pressure on your senators to adjourn congress without passing the anti-trust bills. Wire your senator to stand by President Wilson, who is insisting that the anti-trust bills be passed before the present session of congress adjourns.