ness men, who desire information of the general condition of industry in their particular lines, is also afforded by this agency. These data obtained by the commission are not public records and are not subject to examination by competitors, but so much of such information as is considered by the commission to be beneficial to the public interest will doubtless be set forth in reports.

OCTOBER, 1914

CONDITIONS FOLLOWING DISSOLUTION DECREES

After final decress have been entered in trust cases, it is necessary for the public interest that it should be known how these decrees are being carried out, and whether they are being lived up to. What is everybody's business is nobody's business. This commission is charged with the duty of observing and studying the manner in which decrees of this kind are observed, and the attorney general is to be kept advised as to the results thereof.

VIOLATIONS OF THE SHERMAN LAW

As far back as January 7, 1896, Attorney General Harmon suggested the advisability of having a body equipped for the purpose of making investigations of violation of the anti-trust acts. The commission is given power to make these investigations whenever directed to do so by the president of the United States or either house of congress.

READJUSTMENTS TO CONFORM TO THE

The department of justice has frequently found that in the course of trust litigation the defendants are desirous of readjusting their practices so as to eliminate the objections which the government raises, and it has been frequently found that such a readjustment, provided for by a so-called "consent decree," accomplishes better results than a continuous prosecution. Attorney General Wickersham in 1911 stated in his report that:

"It would be, however, of great value to the department if the functions of the bureau (bureau of corporations) should be so enlarged that it could be called upon officially to make investigations and report its conclusions with respect to plans for the disintegration of monopolistic combinations which either voluntarily, or in pursuance of a decree adjudging them to be in violation of the anti-trust law, are proposing plans of disintegration."

The federal trade commission provides by law an administrative body of this kind, to give expert information and economic assistance in the matter of any such readjustment whenever it is deemed advisable by the attorney general, and there is therefore placed at his disposal the judgment of a body of men familiar with business conditions from an economic, financial, and industrial, rather than legal, point of view, to aid in this matter of peaceable adjustments between government and business. The judgment of such a commission, coincident with that of the attorney general, will command the confidence of the country and will doubtless be most helpful in bringing about the new "constitution of peace."

THE COMMISSION AN AID TO THE COURTS

A great burden has been placed upon the courts in connection with entering decrees in trust cases. The matter of "unscrambling the eggs" is as much an economic and business proposition as a question of law. The courts are already overburdened with legal questions, and it has been urged that upon them should not be placed the burden of the decision of economic administrative details in the dissolution of monopoly. It has been urged that a commission composed of trained experts would be of great aid to the courts in situations of this kind. . It is the design of the trade commission bill to furnish such a body, to aid the courts in the formulation of their dissolution decrees whenever the courts feel it necessary or desirable to call them in.

FOREIGN TRADE

Prior to the unusual conditions induced by the European war, and accentuated since that time, have been complaints from American concerns engaged in the export trade to the effect that buyers in foreign countries have entered into combinations to the disadvantage of the American business man, and that trade associations and combinations of manufacturers and traders in foreign countries operate prejudicially to the American manufacturer or exporter of small capital. One of the first things in this situation is to determine the facts. The commission is charged with ascertaining what the facts are and

to report to congress thereon, with such recommendations as it may deem advisable.

A MONUMENT TO THE CONSTRUCTIVE GENIUS OF THE PRESIDENT

The federal trade commission promises to stand as one of the distinctive monuments to the genius for constructive statesmanship of the President of the United States. It promises to have as great an effect upon the alleviation of business conditions and in the institution of the new "industrial freedom" and "constitution of peace" as any single policy which he has offered to the country.

HODGES OF KANSAS

Governor George H. Hodges has been re-nominated for governor of Kansas on the democratic ticket without opposition. Governor Hodges has given Kansas a magnificent administration. When he came into office he found a bankrupt state treasury. The outgoing republican administration had overdrawn their revenues by several thousand dollars, and within a few days after Governor Hodges was inaugurated and before the incoming administration had made a cent of expenses, the state treasurer was compelled to draw on the county treasurers for nearly \$500,000 more to meet accrued bills. Thus, one-fourth of the revenues of the incoming administration went to meet the expense of the outgoing administration. And yet Governor Hodges carried the state through the year without increasing the tax levy, and without having to mark state warrants "Not paid for want-of The Hodges administration has also given upwards of \$600,000 more to educational institutions of the state than has ever before been granted. This includes the state publication of text books which are now ready for distribution to the people of the state, with prices ranging from one-half to one-third the prices formerly paid, making a saving of at least one quarter of a million dollars a year on this item alone. The business judgment and executive ability of Governor Hodges is seen in all of the departments of the state government for which the governor is responsible, and the people of Kansas will have an opportunity at the November election to show their appreciation of a governor who has given them a progressive and economical administration that has saved the tax payers hundreds of thousands of dollars while at the same time increasing the efficiency of the state government in all of its executive and educational branches. Governor Hodges has recognized women who have been newly enfranchised in Kansas by giving them places on the most important boards and in the more important public institutions. Following the lead of President Wilson he is making moral questions paramount in the conduct of his administration, and a vote for Governor Hodges will be a vote to keep the state government of Kansas on the high moral and business plane that has characterized President Wilson's administration. The Commoner hopes and believes that Governor Hodges will be elected governor, and that Congressman Neeley will be elected to the United States senate. The voters of Kansas will overlook their own interests if they do not see to it that these men are elected this year.

SOUTH DAEOTA DEMOCRATIC

In South Dakota, a state ruled by the republicans since 1898, and in reality a state never ruled by a democratic party since admission to the Union, because former Governor Andrew E. Lee was elected both times by a fusion of parties, a great change has taken place.

This state has 117,000 votes; 7000 of these votes are divided between the prohibition and the socialist parties, leaving 110,000 votes divided between the old republican party, the Roosevelt followers, or bull moose party, and the democratic party. Two years ago President Wilson polled in round numbers 49,000 votes in South Dakota, and Roosevelt carried the state. President Wilson, of course, ran ahead of his ticket, the normal democratic vote in 1912 being about 45,000. President Taft did not get on the ticket in South Dakota in 1912. This year all three parties are represented on the ticket.

The democrats are united in loyal support of all their candidates. Every democratic nomines is an enthusiastic administration democrat, and there is no question but that were President Wilson running this fall he would carry South Dakota by a large majority over all parties, because of the wonderful record he and his party have made.

Hon. E. S. Johnson, democratic candidate for United States senator, is probably the most popular man in South Dakota.

Judge James W. McCarter, the democratic nominee for governor, is one of South Dakota's very strong men, and is rapidly becoming very well known because of the whirlwind campaign that he and his party are making. There is a general feeling that his election is assured; indeed, voters of South Dakota, from all reports, seem to have made up their minds to uphold the hands of President Wilson by electing democratic state and congressional caudidates.

NEBRASKA

The Nebraska campaign is progressing satisfactroily. The democratic state candidates, men all of whom are well known to the voters on account of their participation in public affairs, are making a careful and effective canvas of the state. The splendid business administration of Governor Morehead during the past two years is the keynote of the state campaign, and the response from the taxpayers is hearty and encouraging. The indications are that voters of Nebraska will show their appreciation of the efficient and economical administration of the democratic officials by giving the democratic ticket a rousing majority on election day. The campaign being made by the congressional candidates in the six congressional districts of Nebraska is meeting a response as though it was a presidential year. The policies of President Wilson are so popular in Nebraska among the people of all parties that a large number of republicans and progressives will vote the democratic ticket as an expression of their approval of the national policies of the present administration and the desire on the part of the people in Nebraska to give to President Wilson six congressmen upon whom he may rely during the next two years. While the present administration and the democratic congress have crystallized into law more platform measures, laws of more far reaching importance than any other administration in the history of the country, there is still much to be done to complete the democratic program promised in the Baltimore platform. It is of vital importance, not only to the people of Nebraska, but to people throughout the United States, that both branches of congress should be in harmony with President Wilson during the next two years, The Commoner hopes and believes that the people of Nebraska may be depended upon to show their approval of the President's policies through the only practical means, namely, by voting the democratic ticket on November 3.

Congress has been in almost continuous session for eighteen months, but the volume of well-considered and necessary legislation that it has turned out is sufficient compensation for those members who take their duties seriously and who labor earnestly for the public welfare.

The democratic members of congress, both in the senate and the house, have had an important part in achieving those legislative results which make up the record of the Wilson administration. Mr. Wilson himself does not come directly before the voters for commendation this fall, but those who do approve of what the president has stood for and who approve the legislative acts which go to make up the record of splendid achievement of the administration have the opportunity of showing that approval by returning to congress those democrats who stood so loyally and faithfully by him, and by that steadfastness and loyalty made possible those achievements.

If obedience to the will of God be of necessary to happiness, and knowledge of his will be necessary to obedience, I know not how he that withholds this knowledge, or delays it, can be said to love his neighbor as himself. He that voluntaorily continues ignorance, is guilty of all the crimes which ignorance produces; as to him that would extinguish the tapers of

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him that would extinguish the tapers of a light-house, might justly be imputed the calamities of shipwrecks. Christianity is the highest perfection of humanity; and as no man is good but as he wishes the good of others, no man can be good in the highest degree who wishes not to others the greatest measure of

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the greatest good.—Samuel Johnson.