

Trusts—The Cause and Cure

ISSUING OF PAPER MONEY A CURE FOR THE TRUSTS.

The reason we have trusts is because the money of the country is in the hands of only a few people. If it were evenly distributed the competition would not allow prices to go up or commodities to be cornered. The recent money panic will prove that there is not now enough money in circulation to run the business of this country. If there is not sufficient money now to do all the business for cash, will it be possible to meet the increasing accumulating debt of the future? If one dollar will not pay three dollars now, will it pay sixty in a year from now, or six thousand in ten years from now? Here is the true explanation of money panics.

At the rate of two dollars of security for one of credit, which is considered ample, we would have a volume of paper money of \$40,000,000,000, a sum equal to one-half the total wealth of the country, or about thirty-five times as much as we have now, more than sufficient to transact all business for cash. The thing to do is to make this money accessible to all who have security without discrimination, because discrimination limits the volume artificially and creates monopoly. By the plan here proposed paper money can be redeemed in any product of labor that has a market value and none can escape redemption. The low rate of interest (about 1 per cent to cover cost of printing, clerk hire, etc.) will induce all who have security to borrow and go into business. This will result in the employment of all labor at an advance in wages, because of the enormous increase in the available capital that will be forced into productive enterprise. It is therefore, the solution of the labor question, because more capital seeking labor means higher wages and less hours of toil; competition which now keeps wages down, because it is between wage-earners, will then reduce profits for capital because it will be between capitalists. It will create a demand for all products manufactured and therefore benefit manufacturers, merchants and business men generally, inaugurating a prosperity never before known.

The plan for the inauguration of this system, is to have a local association in every city or town and a general clearing house. The latter is to have general supervision and to exclude any association that does not strictly observe the rules which it imposes; it is to print and furnish all the certificates of credit or paper money to the local associations. Its paper money will, of course, circulate on its merits, but each borrower will have to bind himself in legal form to accept it from any one at its face value in payment of debt and in exchange for commodities without discriminating in prices; thus its circulation is assured without the despotic legal tender feature.

Some one will say, "We tried that before the war." No, free banking has never existed. The invention of paper money which made possible an enormous extension of credit, has always been used in the interest of bankers; but they have no more right to this advantage than any one else,

THE VALUE OF CHARCOAL

Few People Know How Useful It is in Preserving Health and Beauty

Nearly everybody knows that charcoal is the safest and most efficient disinfectant and purifier in nature, but few realize its value when taken into the human system for the same cleansing purpose.

Charcoal is a remedy that the more you take of it the better; it is not a drug at all, but simply absorbs the gases and impurities always present in the stomach and intestines and carries them out of the system.

Charcoal sweetens the breath after smoking, drinking or after eating onions and other odorous vegetables.

Charcoal effectually clears and improves the complexion, it whitens the teeth and further acts as a natural and eminently safe cathartic.

It absorbs the injurious gases which collect in the stomach and bowels; it disinfects the mouth and throat from the poison of catarrh.

All druggists sell charcoal in one form or another, but probably the best charcoal and the most for the money is in Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges; they are composed of the finest powdered Willow charcoal and other harmless antiseptics, in tablet form or rather in the form of large, pleasant tasting lozenges, the charcoal being mixed with honey.

The daily use of these lozenges will soon tell in a much improved condition of the general health, better complexion, sweeter breath and purer blood, and the beauty of it is, that no possible harm can result from their continued use, but on the contrary, great benefit.

A Buffalo physician in speaking of the benefits of charcoal, says: "I advise Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges to all patients suffering from gas in stomach and bowels, and to clear the complexion and purify the breath, mouth and throat; I also believe the liver is greatly benefited by the daily use of them; they cost but twenty-five cents a box at drug stores, and although in some sense a patent preparation, yet I believe I get more and better charcoal in Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges than in any of the ordinary charcoal tablets.

and it is here proposed that it shall be used in the interest of the whole people. Paper money is a form of credit and no one has an exclusive right to it. The right of credit is derived from the possession of security which one is willing to pledge, and no one has a right to step in and demand a bonus for the exercise of that right.

The features of this scheme possess enormous advantages and there is no reason why the people generally should not enjoy them as well as the bankers. I am sorry that my space is limited, so that I cannot give a clearer and more comprehensive statement of the system.

WALT CRONACHER, L. V. No. 8 Oliver st., Boston, Mass. (The Independent will "raise the limit" if Mr. Cronacher desires to be heard further on the subject.—Ed. Ind.)

REFERENDUM AND INITIATIVE.

Editor Independent: Find enclosed \$1.30 for my renewal and three educational subscriptions. It is my belief that I am the only subscriber you have in McDonough. I enjoy reading The Independent and do not know of any other whose editorials hit harder.

Speaking of trusts, their cause and cure, I have but little to say as to the cause, except if any man will explain why we have in some parts of our country highway robbery and stealing to a greater or less extent, he will have stated the cause of trusts. Their cure as well as the cure of many another evil in our midst, will be brought about quicker by the referendum and initiative.

If The Independent and other papers can ever educate the people to a point where they will quit worshipping the supreme court; if they can be made to see that any question of interest to the whole people can far better be decided by them than by any set of men, however large we may write the words "supreme court" before their names, there is some hope.

A. B. PAUL. McDonough, N. Y.

LAND VALUE TAX.

Editor Independent: We see by recent issues of your paper that you ask for ideas for the cure of trusts by your subscribers. We see by the varied theories advanced that there are as many remedies advanced as there are social ills to cure.

In this day and age of the prepolence of wealth and rapacity of the politician many are in somewhat of a muddle as to what would be a real solution of the many social ills. But a close study of political economy will reveal that the foremost theories concerning the regulation and distribution of wealth deals not so much with the production as to its distribution. Political economy does not consist in robbing the many and bestowing the illicit gains of the few—that is larceny and owes its origin in the idea of kings' "divine right."

An economy that does not comprehend the constitutional right of each citizen and realize that the individual right of every citizen cannot be abridged, falls far short of being an equitable economy.

LAND VALUE TAX AS A CURE FOR TRUSTS.

Under this head we wish to impress the reader with the idea of its power to tax the property of every land owner in exactly the same ratio. Now suppose for an illustration, we put a tax of two mills on the value of all lands. In advocating this tax, we advocate it as only one kind of tax. We have school, bridge and road taxes; franchise, inheritance and a variety of other methods of raising the revenues for expenses of governments. The great beauty of this "land value tax" is that it is so easy to apply. We take as an example land valued at \$15 per acre; a tax of 2 mills would yield 3 cents per acre. Land valued at \$100 per acre would pay 20 cents per acre. But when we come to site values in cities, which range from \$100 to \$30-250 per acre, then we can readily see that such tax will not fall very heavy on the small home owner, but that class which controls valuable privileges, based on land, will not escape, but will have to pay a land value tax as a compensation to the community for the enjoyment of such privileges. In this community farm lands are valued at \$43 per acre, or a levy of 2 mills on the dollar valuation is 86 cents. A village in the same community has lots valued at \$25 per lot, or \$200 per acre, the same "land value tax" would give 40 cents per acre. This same community has a seven-foot vein of coal; allowing 10 cents per ton as net profit, the value of this coal right is \$700 per acre; 2 mills on the

\$150.00

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In the event of two or more answers being received under corresponding conditions, an equal division of the prizes will be made.

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A Special Extra Prize of \$5.00 is offered

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Money received after that date and hour will be applied on subscriptions, but the count accompanying it will not be registered.

CONDITIONS: Your name, address and count must be written plainly. No count will be recorded unless it is accompanied by payment of 50 cents to be applied on subscription. Subscriptions paid prior to this contest or sent in separate envelope from the count will not entitle you to a registered count. All orders and counts must be brought to the business office or sent through the postoffice directed to the Count Department. Remit by postoffice order, express order or check. You may send us a count as often as you wish, provided 50c to be applied on subscription accompanies each count.

Use This Coupon Each 50 cents paid on subscription to The Lincoln Daily Star entitles you to one estimate.

19 3.

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[Table with 2 columns and 3 rows for counting stars]

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dollar would be \$1.40 land value tax. A few days ago a man in Pennsylvania sold a nine-foot vein of anthracite coal for \$1,000 per acre—land value tax, \$2.

Tax statistics gathered in Pennsylvania show that the coal operators pay taxes on their coal-bearing lands, on the agricultural value of such land. These lands have only about \$3 per acre agricultural value, but coal rights have an average value of \$3,000 per acre the state over. Mr. Schwab says the Connelville coke fields are worth to the steel trust \$60,000 per acre. Such a valuation at two mills on the collar would yield \$120 per acre. If we understand the fundamental principles of monopoly, and that can be readily seen, is to control the source of supply, that is, own the land which produces the raw material. With that understanding in view, the steel trust, which controls 80 per cent of the iron producing land, would naturally enjoy a monopoly of the steel industry, but the trust is only able to use 60 per cent of its holdings; 40 per cent of the holdings of the trust are held not to use, but to keep others from using. The capital of the steel trust is \$1,450,000,000; allowing \$550,000,000 for

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the cost of sites and equipments, there would be \$900,000,000 in ore producing land. A "land value tax" of 2 mills on the dollar would yield \$1,800,000 as a tax on such holdings.

We believe that our readers can grasp the idea that a "land value tax" is easily applied; that it only deals with visible property. A "land value tax" deals with location and site values. The location of a farm, that is far from market, lessens its value; "site values" deal altogether with city property; as an example of this, Montgomery, Ward & Co. of Chicago paid

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