

Trusts—The Cause and Cure

RESTORE THE GOVERNMENT.

Editor Independent: There can be no question of doubt about trust remedies, no risk, no failure, but sure as the immutable laws of Jehovah. Restore the government to what it was, to what it was intended to be by the fathers, government "of the people, by the people, and for the people," and the trust question will be solved. Trusts can no more exist under that kind of government than crime can flourish in heaven.

In a government like ours, trusts are either the creatures of law or the usurpation of governmental factions.

The old witch, mother of all other trusts, first made her appearance as a monarchical import from Great Britain, under the fostering care of one Alexander Hamilton at the very inception of our republic, and was then driven to cover by Thomas Jefferson.

Taking advantage of the national debt, consequent upon the war of 1812 it again showed its hydra head under the Nick Biddle gang. Then as now, it threatened the people with dire calamity, if its imperious schemes were interfered with, but the sturdy honesty and patriotism of Andrew Jackson knew no fear and again it was throttled. When the nation was in a struggle between life and death in the great civil war, its hideous form again bobbed up. The great Lincoln being assassinated at its bidding, thus placing the wooden nutmeg class of politicians in control of the government, it had nothing to fear or make afraid, until William Jennings Bryan came upon the scene, but ran and was glorified under the magic hands of such men as John Sherman, Grover Cleveland and Marcus Hanna.

We should go back, and profit by the history of the diabolical deeds and schemes of this old monster; using the debt of the war of 1812, it fastened its tentacles into the nation's vitals, threatening dire disaster if pried loose. But the iron will of Jackson pried just the same, and it was thought that its hideous old carcass had gone to the bone yard to stay; but not so, it simply sought a new covering and came forth again, this time in state bank (better known as wild-cat) clothes, demonetizing all foreign coins, the principal metallic coins in circulation, giving it control of the business of the country; it flourished for a time like a green bay tree, but its greediness to rake in all in sight at one fell swoop in 1857 was its undoing. Again it had to cast off its old garb, and seek a new covering. This time going to England for its design, warp and woop, as much English as the crown of King Edward the 7th, as much monarchical as the ukase of any potentate in christendom.

For nearly forty years, this trust, the brooder of all other trusts, has reigned supreme in the White house in its halls of congress, and in the national courts. Has forced all business to worship at its shrine. Has driven nearly all classes to adopt its subtle methods. Its venomous fostering microbes infect both business and society. The mightiest nation of earth is prostrate, is helplessly subjected to its ukase, by which ukase the republic which Washington founded, Jackson and Lincoln saved, has been driven into a combine with the enemies of free institutions, enemies of human liberty, for help and with them, wolf-like going in packs more detestable than that of the old brigands and pirates in search of prey. The idol of the fathers, the pride and boast of the nations, the most sublime and greatest document in history, the Declaration of Independence has been abrogated; and the nation, rudderless, has been steered into the maelstrom of monarchical breakwaters by this trust parent of all trusts, the money trust.

Is there a remedy? Yes. Will it be applied before the republic is destroyed? Not probable. Not while prejudice fanatic partisan blindness is the strongest incentive of the people. The old adage is, Where a thing was lost, is the place to find it. Where the trust foundations were laid is the place to look for trust remedies. Deprive trusts of governmental powers, and we will be on the home stretch to trust emancipation. The constitution declares that congress "shall have power to coin money and regulate the value thereof." It does not say that congress shall have power to delegate this prerogative to corporations, but it even prohibits the states from exercising such dangerous power, and all ordinary persons are sent to prison for even coining money out of the identical material of which government coins are composed.

The constitution provides for the

taking of private property for public use. Stop the taking of private property by the private privileged few, for private use, and the heir apparent of the money trust, will be shorn of its vital powers to own legislatures and courts, and extort the people. Stop the taxing of the people's money in their pockets, to be given to the banks to loan back to the people on usury, to again and again be taxed out of their pockets for this same imperious purpose, and the mother of trusts will very soon be a dead duck.

To discuss trust remedies, and ignore methods of applying remedies is time wasted, so long as corporation debauchery and bribery is permitted to have full sway and their villainous tools go unchallenged in plying their damnable vocations. So long as the pulpit upholds this protege of hades, so long as people worship at the corporation shrine, and the corporation dollar is their god, all efforts to destroy trusts will be futile.

To my way of seeing the sensible thing to do, will be to do as one of old. "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord" (the salvation of the country). Stand by our guns. Possess our souls in peace awaiting the mighty upheaval of that forced prosperity volcano upon which the country is slumbering. If the molten lava, and vivid glare of the eruption of that infernal financial hell does not awaken the people when it bursts forth and scatters devastation, such as this people never have seen before 1904—it will come later. If not before 1904, keep your hands off, boys; let Marcus and his piratical gang go to perdition in their own craft.

JONATHAN HIGGINS.

Cambridge, Neb.

DIRECT LEGISLATION.

Editor Independent: Abolish the United States senate or house of lords and submit every important question to a direct vote of the people and they will soon regulate the trusts. The Independent is on the right track. Pull the throttle wide open and let her go.

Here is one for Uncle Mark who carries the republican party in his vest pocket:

I have a little hobby horse,
His name it is "Protection,"
He is an old campaigner
And has won at many an election;
But democrat and populist
Are up against the ring
And hobby must be fitted up
And jogged around next spring.

I hope to see this old hobby horse distanced and hooted off the track in 1904 and if the imperial republican monarchy is to be overthrown, democrats, populists, socialists, and all who believe in a government of, by, and for the people "must unite" and nominate some patriot of the Williams or Bryan type no matter what his name is; but his principles must be as sound and firm as the rock of Plymouth or Gibraltar. I have voted the straight democratic ticket for 19 years, but am ready to meet all honest populists half way in making a common sense platform upon which the liberty-loving people of all parties may unite in order to preserve and sustain the Declaration of Independence.

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Senator Dietrich's famous campaign speech—"Come up, boys (hic) and have something on me"—has been eclipsed by his latest bon mot—that in the senate everything has remained "in statu Quay." Even The Outlook considered it witty enough for reproduction. Great is Nebraska—and Dietrich is her prophet!