

Trusts—The Cause and Cure

A DISCIPLE OF WILSHIRE.

Editor Independent: You wanted short articles on the trust question. The trust is the product of the profit and competitive system. A large concern can be operated more economically than a small one. The trust eliminates competition and enables them to raise the price of their product. Men engage in business for profit and as long as we maintain the profit system and recognize the private ownership of such things we cannot control them. Under the existing social order we set up a system and then challenge that system with penalty laws. We ignore the great natural law of cause and effect and attempt to remove cause by punishing effect. Wilshire's slogan is the correct solution: "Let the people own the trusts." T. J. SHELLEY. Greer, Idaho.

A HARD PUZZLE.

Editor Independent: I hardly know what is the best remedy for the trusts. I am a hard working man and have never given the subject much thought. I know when coal is scarce the oil trust raises the price of its product and I pay more for oil. I think the coal strikers are to blame there. We have too many shrewd men in the country. Give a sharp business man a million dollars and he is a very dangerous fellow. It is but natural he should work for his own interest and invest his money in that which he can get the most out of. If I am poor and unfortunate I must help swell his pile, and yet no man would want to invest his money where he was going to lose it or get nothing out of it. It is a hard puzzle to solve and the poor man pays the freight every time. I think strikes help out the trusts a great deal. Miners strike. Coal becomes scarce and the price advances. The oil trust advances the prices of oil because there is more demand. I pay more for wood, my neighbor more for coal. And both 2 cents more for oil. All on account of the strike.

There happens to be a very dry season. No grass, no hay. Cattle die by thousands. Very little beef in the country. Beef trust control the little there is. Prices go up. Way up, 20 cents per pound and 12 ounces to the pound. Lots of fish, though, fish goes up, too. Fish trust been losing money for years back, now sees chance to rake in a pile. And who is to blame, the beef trust, the fish trust, or the dry weather? It is a hard puzzle to answer, and the only remedy in my poor way of thinking is to make it unlawful to combine great fortunes against the public good and enforce that law with a firm and un-

yielding hand. CHAS. A. MILLER. Baldwinsville, N. Y. R. R. 4.

ORGANIZATION.

Editor Independent: I see in The Commoner that you wanted my remedy for trusts. First, organize; Ignatius Donnelly in Caesar's Column shows us a good way. Any man can enlist ten men reformers. Each of the ten men enlist ten men, and so on until we have a majority. Each club of eleven, the organizer to be chairman and to vote only on ties. Second, direct legislation. Third, all officers elected by direct vote.

Fourth, free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. The banker wants to put up one dollar in credit and make the people give him a one dollar bank note issued on that credit, then make the people put three dollars of gilt edged credit for the use of one dollar and pay 6 per cent interest. Fifth, demonetize bank notes. Sixth, another 16 to 1 proposition; the government, which is in the hands of these executive committees of ten, shall coin and issue \$1 in legal tender paper money, for every \$16 of actual value. Seventh, government to issue to every county \$10 per capita of said county, for federal building, government bank of loans and deposits, post-office, police and fire department, telegraph, telephone, hospital, government life and fire insurance. Courts of equity, with judges on salary and all cases to be settled without costs. The day depositors transfer their money to government banks. Look out, We will need an ark; O the water that will leak out of stocks!

Eighth, government to build three double-track steel railroads, from Atlantic to Pacific, north, central, and southern; and five north and south. Locate them on the map, 20 thousand miles of railroad at 20 thousand per mile, four hundred million dollars. Sugar and lumber on the free list. Greatest government sugar refinery in the world on Mobile Bay. Government to compete with trusts; government to do a certain per cent of the business of the country, commence with 10 per cent to increase the wages of labor and keep down the price of products so that a laborer can buy 80 per cent of his products.

Members of the golden rule labor trust may wear an aluminum charm. Products have advanced 40 per cent, labor 2 per cent. Labor must be advanced 38 per cent.

JOHN A. GAYLORD. Cuyahoga Falls, O.

IDEAL ANARCHY A CURE.

Editor Independent: "What causes trusts?" Greed, backed by the powers of government. Governments now, and in the past, are, and have been instituted for the sole purpose of holding the masses in subjection while the robbers despoil them. The officers of government are permitted to get a few of the crumbs that fall from the rich man's tables. Nonentities that cannot earn in other vocations, more than three or four hundred dollars a year, under present systems, get elected to office and the dear people pay them from one to fifty thousand dollars a year for governing them.

It is too expensive. "What is the remedy?" Get rid of all the parasites that ride on the backs of labor. Get the idea of freedom started in your think shop. Jefferson and other good men said, and say, "The least governed are the best governed." What do you socialists say? What right has any man to govern any other man? What right has any set of men to govern any other set of men? It sometimes seems to me that political parties are highwaymen, that through the highways to divert the minds of the people from real issues. The question today is one of freedom or slavery. "He who would be free, must strike the first blow." The first thing for the people to learn, is to know their rights, and in learning them, they will learn how, and why, they are being robbed.

The smoldering slumbers of revolution cannot be kept in bounds when the people once fully understand these questions, and then the drones will be shaken from off the backs of industry, and the sunshine of peace will cast its rays in gloomy abodes, and the Goddess Love will reign supreme. The drones who fatten off the toil of robbed labor, will never let the shackles be taken from the limbs they bind until compelled to do so.

I and, air and water are natural elements, not made or put here by any man, and no man, or set of men, has any right to hold more of either of these elements than is necessary for his or their actual needs, against, or away from, any other man who needs

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Drill 2 bushels, or if broadcast, 3 bushels to the acre. Cut when middling green as it threshes easier and the straw makes better hay. Our seed was raised in Nebraska. Sow some—you will not be sorry. Per bu... 75c

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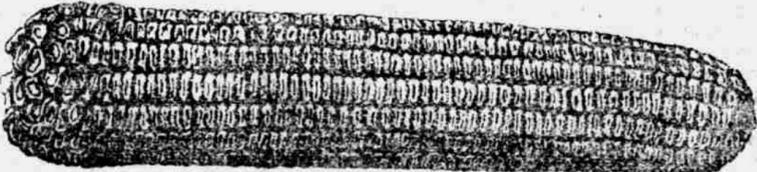
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and can use what they do not need and cannot use, except for the purpose of enslaving others. Every title deed to land is one of force, written in blood, and are frauds that free men will not permit. Occupancy and use is the only title to land, and when men learn their rights, will be the only title that will be recognized. Let us direct our every effort to educating the people, for in this alone can come the revolution that will set men free and bring in the millennium when we will have "Peace on earth and good will among men." S. A. WRIGHT. Springfield, Mo.

HARDY'S COLUMN

We have not heard the slightest reason why our legislature turned down the government sand-hill renting resolution. If that nine millions of acres, good for nothing only pasture, could be rented in blocks of four or five thousand acres at one cent an acre, and the herder take a homestead, in the center build himself a house and other buildings, then fence his pasture, he can make a living.

If the land is plowed the soil will drift like snow. Renting would stop the cattle and sheep men fighting.

The railroads from Chicago to Buffalo have taken off their sixty-mile-an-hour night trains. Every passenger had to pay extra three dollars for a sleeping berth and extra two dollars fare. Passengers on the Nickel Plate road can ride five or six dollars cheaper than on those fast trains and two or three dollars cheaper than on any of their regular trains. The safety of a moderate train more than pays for the two or three hours extra time. We never had a more pleasant ride between Chicago and Buffalo than on the Nickel Plate.

We are to have two months' city campaign this year. If the excitement increases as it usually does we will have a hot time.

We hardly think that another experiment farm in the western part of the state will pay. The expense of running the present state farm, with the experiments, cost fifteen to eighteen thousand dollars a year. Buying

Grip

Brought On Sciatic Rheumatism.

Nervous Prostration Followed.

Dr. Miles' Nervine Gave Back Health.

"I was laid up during the winter of 94-95 with sciatic rheumatism and nervous prostration brought on by a severe attack of La-Grippe. The rheumatic pains were so severe at times that it was impossible for me to turn in bed. I was unable to sleep. I had two of our best physicians in attendance, took all the advertised remedies for troubles of this kind but got no help whatever until I took Dr. Miles' Restorative Nervine. Six bottles restored me to health; I am better than for years; in fact am entirely relieved. I can say with a clear conscience that it was Dr. Miles' Restorative Nervine that restored me to health. When the pains of sciatica and rheumatism were most severe I secured almost immediate relief by the use of Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills. I have recommended Dr. Miles' Remedies to many people."—Fred Myers, Redfield, S. D.

"I was taken with pain in my heart and under the left shoulder; with such heavy oppressed feeling in my chest that I could hardly breathe. I had palpitation so bad and my heart would throb so that it would shake my whole bed. I also had a weak, all-gone feeling in the region of my heart. My doctor treated me for liver and stomach trouble but I failed to receive any benefit until a friend recommended Dr. Miles' Heart Cure and Restorative Nervine. I used both and one box of the Anti-Pain Pills. I believe I am completely and permanently cured."—Mrs. J. W. Golding, Noblesville, Ind.

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