

### THOSE UNSPEAKABLE JUDGES

In capturing most of the press of the United States, plutocracy gained a vast amount of power, and in capturing the courts it gained the ability to use that power in the most heartless manner for oppressing the common people. There is a line of decisions which have been obtained in the last few years that are as disgraceful and tyrannical as the edicts of any of the kings who claimed to rule by divine right and that they could do no wrong. Every one of these decisions has been in favor of plutocracy. The judges have used the broad statements of universal liberty, the right to hold property, the prohibition of the confiscation of private property and in general all the broad principles of human justice and equal rights placed in the Declaration of Independence and constitution of the United States by the founders of this government for the protection of the people, as an excuse for decisions that restricted liberty and piled up unearned millions in the hands of the few. The logical and sophistical trickery the judges have employed in using the principles of equality to justify opinions that destroyed all equality before the law between the rich and poor, must always excite the contempt of honest men as long as the world endures. A few examples of this sort of judicial quackery will suffice to establish all the charges that the Independent has ever made against the judges.

A few years ago the supreme court of Illinois decided that the constitutional guarantees of life, liberty and property, rendered the laws regulating the hours of labor in factories unconstitutional. A law making eight hours a day's work on all public works was unconstitutional because "it amounts to a discrimination between different classes of citizens." A law preventing discrimination against union men, was, according to the sophistries of these judges, unconstitutional because of the guarantee that "no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law."

The right of a corporation to pay its employes in brass checks which were redeemable only in goods at a "pluck me store," instead of lawful money, was upheld by the following argument:

"To say that a free citizen can contract for or agree to receive in return for his labor one kind of property only, and that which represents the smallest part of the aggregate wealth of the country, is a clear restriction of the right to bargain and trade, a suppression of individual effort, a denial of inalienable rights."

The inference is that when Jefferson placed the list of inalienable rights in the Declaration, he included the right of a corporation to pay its employes in brass checks instead of money.

Weekly payment laws, the judges also found conflicted with "inalienable rights."

When it comes to trusts, an entirely different conception takes possession of the judicial mind. The federal judge, Swayne, in the Texas case, declared: "It is not every restriction of competition or trade that is illegal or against public policy, or that will justify police regulation, but only such as are unwarrantable or oppressive; and a state statute which prohibits combinations formed for the purpose of reasonably restricting competition violates the right of contract guaranteed by the federal constitution."

Relying upon this decision, all the trusts take care to announce that while they are formed for the purpose of restricting competition, that they are benevolent in their purposes and will only "reasonably" restrict it. The "right of contract" prohibits eight-hour laws, but gives the trusts the right to reasonably restrict competition.

A West Virginia federal judge sent two men to jail for contempt of a railroad company. The charge was that they "reviled the employes of a railroad company." The men were poor and could not appeal, so they had to serve out their time in jail. The infamy of some of the injunctions which have been issued are beyond the power of words to describe. They are all defended by quoting the broad guarantees of equality and freedom contained in the constitution and Declaration of Independence.

### RICH AND POOR

For years and years the railroads have taken the streets of Chicago and occupied them with their tracks without compensation. This was not only the confiscation of the streets which belonged to the whole city, but also a main part of the values of the houses and lots on each side which belonged to private parties, for with a railroad occupying the whole street, such prop-

erty was comparatively valueless. Every effort to get the courts to oust them has been a failure. Numerous cases have been pending in the courts from fifteen to twenty years without results. President Roosevelt has large property interests on Chambers street in that city and the Pennsylvania road has confiscated it. A case was brought to oust the road and it was ordered out of there in short order. The court said:

"It is decreed that the defendant, its agents, etc., be perpetually enjoined from further maintaining, etc., such additional track or fence, and shall within thirty days after the entry of the decree remove such additional track and fence."

That decree is a demonstration of the truth of the statements made by The Independent concerning the courts. The cases of the poor and influential lot owners are still hanging fire.

### POOR TEDDY

The trusts are just as happy  
As ever trusts can get,  
For while they've passed the trust bills,  
No trusts are busted yet.

No trouble with the railroads,  
The rebate men feel well,  
They say, whatever happens,  
Neither one will tell.

The trusts will have a round-up,  
A supper and a dance,  
For Knox is very friendly  
And Teddy's in a trance.

He thinks he's roped in Morgan  
And carried off his crown,  
But all the trusts are jolly,  
They've got poor Teddy down.

'Twas Nelson and Steve Elkins,  
The other man was Knox,  
That hypnotized poor Teddy  
And cast him on the rocks.

Their fairy tales believing,  
He had a pleasant dream,  
Some day when he's awakened  
He'll find things not what they seem.

Steve Elkins, Knox and Nelson  
In many tricks were schooled,  
And Teddy, the confiding,  
Was most completely fooled.  
Poor Teddy.

### TARIFF AND RAILROADS

The importation of coal has for the last three years averaged just about 100,000 tons a year. The first month after free trade in coal was instituted, the importation was 308,988 tons, being more than three times as much in one month as in a whole year before the tariff was removed. A good deal of this coal was anthracite. No doubt it had an effect on the price. At any rate the price began to recede as soon as the foreign coal began to land.

But this was only swapping one pirate for another. The railroad managers got together and concluded that they would have all the reduction in price caused by free trade in coal, at least as far as the interior was concerned. The roads raised the rate on coal as follows:

Pittsburg to Chicago (all rail)—Old rate, \$1.75; new rate, \$1.90.  
Ohio to Chicago—Old rate, \$1.50; new rate, \$1.65.

West Virginia to Chicago—Old rate, \$1.90; new rate, \$2.05.

Pittsburg to Lake (rail and lake)—Old rate, 73 cents; new rate, 83 cents.  
Ohio to Lake—Old rate, 75 cents; new rate, 85 cents.

West Virginia to Lake—Old rate, 81 3-4 cents; new rate, 91 3-4 cents.

The commercial rates from mines in all districts to lake cities was increased from 90 cents to \$1.

As far as the people are concerned it makes little difference to them whether they pay their tribute to the tariff pirates or railroad pirates. Under republican rule, the pirates are going to take "all the traffic will bear" anyhow.

### BIMETALLISM

The gold standard advocates in the United States senate have at last given up their foolish idea and are willing to take measures to establish a world-wide bimetalism. President Roosevelt started the movement by a special message to congress. The gold standard leaders in the senate, while they knew that such a measure was a necessity that could not long be avoided, of course felt a little hesitancy, after the years they had spent in denouncing in the most bitter terms every man who had advocated bimetalism, in bringing forward such a measure, so they allowed Senator Patterson to do it. He proposed it in the form of an amendment to one of the Philippine bills. When that bill was called up by Senator Lodge, Senator

# IAMS HORSES

Are sensations to his buyers, his low prices are "warm propositions" to his competitors. Iams will show you MORE stallions of big size, quality and finish than ALL IMPORTERS IN NEBRASKA, and horses you will wish to buy or pay your fare to see him—you the judge. If you will pay cash or give bankable note, you will sure buy a stallion of IAMS. In October, 1902, he imported 63 black and bay stallions, they cannot be duplicated in any importing barns in the United States for the number, for big size, quality, finish, royal breeding and bargain prices. They are all

## TOP NOTCHERS.

Visitors and buyers through his barns and say: Hello, Bill! I'm from Illinois; I'm Ikey from Missouri; Iams has the good ones; he shows us horses better than he advertises. See that 1,900-lb 2-year-old, "a hummer." I bought him at \$1,200. Couldn't duplicate him in Illinois, Ohio, or Iowa at \$2,000. See that 2,150-lb 3-year-old, a "ripper". Say, Ikey! see those six black 2,300-lb 4-year-olds he is showing to those Ohio men. They are the BEST I EVER SAW. Say, boys! look at this 2,100-lb pair of beauties; they are worth going from Maine to California to see (better than the pictures). Say, Ikey, you couldn't go wrong here. They are all "crackerjacks". If you open your mouth and your pocketbooks, you will do business. Iams sells them. He has on hand imported and home bred.

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Patterson offered his amendment providing for an international conference to devise some plan by which the gold and silver coinage of gold and silver-using countries would be maintained at a stable exchangeable ratio. Senators Lodge, Aldrich, and Allison expressed their assent to the principle involved in the amendment and it was adopted without a dissenting vote.

When we look back at the six years of destitution and suffering caused by the attempt to establish a gold standard, think of the bankruptcies, the wrecked homes, the lost fortunes, that that effort brought about, and the complete breakdown of the republican leaders in the United States senate, words fail to express the infamy of it. It was impossible for those leaders to have believed in the sophistries and fallacies which were the burden of their speeches and of the spell-binders who were sent out by the aid of corporation contributions to deceive the people.

The Independent has been warned not to make such remarks as these for fear that it would provoke resistance from influential quarters. It has no fears on that score. The establishment of a ratio, fixed by law, between the two metals is an absolute necessity. It is either that or a permanent curtailment of trade with the silver-using countries. The losses from such curtailment would be so persistent and permanent that the fixing of a ratio will be forced by those engaged in commerce. The ratio will probably be 32 to 1, instead of the old ratio of 16 to 1. Nevertheless it is bimetalism all the same.

The little joker in the Fowler bill is the requirement that the asset notes shall be redeemed in gold and then in connection with the Aldrich bill dividing the country up so that New York can always force the western banks to furnish the gold. We already have nine kinds of money and these currency tinkers propose to add two kinds more. Remember always that the national bank notes are redeemable in "lawful money" and this new kind of money is to be redeemable in gold.

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