

Independent School of Political Economy



DEL MAR'S Hist. Precious Metal; \$3; Hist. Money \$2; Hist. Monetary crimes, 75c; Science money, \$1; Hist. Money in America, \$1.50; Hist. Money China, 50c; Hist. Money Netherlands, 50c; Cambridge Press, Box 160, M. S. New York.

WANTS BOOKS.

I see that you advertise some works on many important economic questions in your paper. I have been looking for works of this kind for my library, but have not been able to find the books I want. I would like to collect a few standard works on the subject of money. I have been able to find plenty on the side of monometallism, but these do not suit my ideas. What I want is some works in support of bimetalism. I ask you to send me a list of the books, not only of this kind, but all the books relating to economics. I have been looking for Henry George's "Science of Political Economy." If you ask a reasonable price I may buy one.

As to your Independent School of Political Economy, I heartily indorse it. This is the only means of getting a correct idea of economics. By studying the question individually the person gets a more wider knowledge of economics. The attempt to make it a study in the schools and colleges has resulted in a failure in that the student takes what others think and in most cases what their "professors" say and believe. The only way is to think for one's self.

W. J. HARKYN.

E2217 Ruby st., Spokane, Wash.

(Henry George's "Science of Political Economy" is a large book and retails at \$2.50. If The Director can secure a copy of it for less than the retail price he will be glad to furnish it to Mr. Harkyn at actual cost. Del Mar's "Science of Money" is the best work The Director knows of along the line of bimetalism, although to tell the fact, Mr. Del Mar is opposed to "free coinage" of either of the metals, for the reason that under free coinage it is absolutely impossible for congress to perform its duty of regulating the value of money. In any event Mr. Del Mar routs the monometalists horse, foot and dragoons. Science of Money can be had at \$1, postage paid.)

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County.—ss.

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News of the Week

The "Soo" line of railroad has requested all the legislators in North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin and all the upper peninsula to return their passes and hereafter pay their own fare like other citizens. It makes the Elkins law the excuse for its action, though none of the other roads have thought that law forbade free transportation to members of legislators. If The Independent rightly understands the situation, there will be no more meetings of legislatures in that region for two years and when the time arrives for them to meet again the Soo can reconsider its policy. Meantime it will collect some thousands of dollars as fares from these defunct legislators and then fix up the new ones with transportation as it always has done heretofore. The truth about the matter is that no railroad running through those states dare refuse free transportation to the republican legislators. They would pass laws that would skin the roads alive, and do it under the plea that they were reformers, working in the interest of the people. The railroads in self-defense are forced to give free transportation to lawyers, judges, members of state legislatures, state officers and half fare to the clergy. There is no way to stop it except government ownership.

There seems to be a desperate effort in Kansas to capture the demo-

cratic delegation to the next national convention by the Cleveland-Hill crowd, with prospects of success. When The Independent told the democrats that there would be such an effort, both in Nebraska and Kansas, the leaders in this state said there was no danger.

The discussions in the dailies as well as their news columns during the last week show that the trust question is becoming more and more the "paramount" question of the hour. The trusts and the socialists both declare that the day of competition is passed, never to return. What ever of civilization there is in the world has been evolved from recognizing and enforcing the law of competition and society is constructed upon that principle. If competition is destroyed, whether by trusts or socialism, a new form of civilization will result. It will be such a change as has never before occurred in the world. From barbarism to feudalism was a great change. From feudalism to competition and free government was another great transformation, but neither would compare to the universal upheaval that would follow the destruction of competition. It means an entirely new form of life and a reconstruction of society from top to bottom. Either the trusts must be destroyed or society and government as it now exists be overthrown. A few of the dailies begin to see for the first time what the destruction of competition really means.

There was an effort made by the railroad attorneys before the interstate commerce commission to support the claim that the greatly increased earnings of the roads came from the increase in business, but it utterly failed. The increased earnings have come from the increase in rates which have been made since there has been an agreement of all the roads to stand by "the community of interest plan." There is no more any competition in any direction. When the roads running to the ports of New York, Baltimore and Boston raise rates, the roads running to Galveston and New Orleans make a corresponding advance. The roads are going to take all the traffic will bear, whether they run north and south or east and west. There is no way of escape except government ownership and when the mass of the people come to understand the situation, government ownership will come "with a whoop."

The postoffice investigation has advanced so far that charges have been filed against ex-Postmaster General Smith, Comptroller of the Treasury Tracewell, Postmaster Merritt of Washington, Perry S. Heath, secretary of the republican national committee and the fourth assistant postmaster general, Bristow. They all seem to have been tarred with the same stick. The charges are filed by Seymour W. Tollock, for twenty years cashier of the Washington postoffice. These charges are to the effect that the general postoffice has been used as the dumping ground for the payment of workers for the republican party. He says that an investigation started some time ago was stopped by the order of Comptroller Tracy because fraud was being traced to too high officials. He adds: "Very few 'good things' have lasted longer, been enjoyed with greater effrontery or been protected by those so high in authority and influence." The whole republican machine is rotten from top to bottom. Turn the rascals out.

The church of England is terribly excited over the marriage of W. K. Vanderbilt by a minister of that denomination and the papers over there are filled with gossip about it. It is now stated that the reason that the New York court modified its decree and allowed Vanderbilt to marry again was because Senator Chauncy Depew made solemn oath that Vanderbilt had reformed and was no longer a libertine of the lowest cast, such as he was proven to be when his first wife got a divorce.

Strikes are becoming so numerous that a mere enumeration of them would fill every column in The Independent. In Omaha about half the working population seems to be out on strikes and in other cities it is very much the same. The trusts raise prices and the wage-workers strike for higher wages. If the increase in wages is granted then trusts raise prices again, and there you have it. What the end will be no man can tell.

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every week in India of the plague. All the British provinces are affected and fifty-one of the native states.

The daily papers have several ways of keeping the people thinking and talking about something else while the trusts and railroads rob them is to get up some kind of a war scare, sometimes in Europe and sometimes in China, or somewhere else. For a week or two there has been columns written about how Russia was going to gobble up a part of China, prevent any other government from trading there and do a lot of other things of that sort. The Independent paid no attention to it. Now it is announced that the whole story was a fabrication

and Russia has formally denied it through her diplomatic representatives in this country and elsewhere. Very much of the same sort of stuff has been published about an uprising in Macedonia and Bulgaria. Some specific information has been printed in the last few days that leads The Independent to think there may be something in this. The day of the Turk is numbered. The forces of civilization, and especially education and science is bound to down the Turk sooner or later. It may be that the beginning is near at hand.

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