

open. True conservatism gives every man a chance. It seeks not to stop tongue or pen.

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"SHOULD HAVE." A sensible statement as to the profit which would accrue to Nebraska if all its surplus raw products were reduced in bulk and enhanced in value by being manufactured into commodities here, at home, recently appeared among the editorials of the Grand Island Independent.

THE CONSERVATIVE quotes therefrom:

"This state should have twenty such starch and cereal mills as are found in Nebraska City; it should have more sugar factories; it should have more creameries, more canning factories, more pickling works, more straw paper manufactories, using up our own raw products."

"Should have." But how can it secure foreign or other capital to incorporate for the purposes enumerated, and carry on business subject to the capricious and inimical legislation advocated by populists now controlling Nebraska? After witnessing a partisan attorney-general endeavoring to drive out of business, in Nebraska, the Standard Oil Company which has reduced the price and improved the quality of oil to all the citizens of Nebraska, while at the same time he coöperates with the Silver Smelter trust which was organized with the proclaimed intention of raising the price of silver, who will bring money and organize industrial plants in Nebraska?

The leading free silver advocates of populism and economic fallacies in general, all over Nebraska, and the remainder of the United States, denounce combined capital as a menace to the people. Each of a dozen good citizens may, by industry, self-denial and good management acquire a surplus capital of ten thousand dollars and receive the commendations of Bryanarchy as citizens worthy of emulation by the youth of their locality. But each of the twelve men discover that with ten thousand dollars he can build no industrial plant big enough to make a living. Then the twelve incorporate—say the "Grand Island Canning and Pickling Works"—and joining together all their funds, make a paid-up stock company of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars. Immediately the dogs of demagoguery are let loose upon them. They are a bloated corporation. They are "a trust." They are a combine in the interests of plutocracy! They are the diabolism of greed and ought to be taxed or legislated into bankruptcy. Every envious and malignant loafer in the neighborhood joins with the orators and newspapers of discontent in denouncing this new and dreadful incarnation of "the money

power"—this newly spawned reptile of the octopus variety!

Who wishes to bring money into Nebraska for the logical and laudable purposes of which the Independent so ably writes? Who, that is in, would not gladly get out if the persecution and unequal taxation of capital are to dominate the state?

EXPANSION VS. INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

It seems that "President McKinley thinks it advisable to go slow in matters calling for large expenditures, and it has been by his advice that the Nicaraguan appropriation has been reduced to \$10,000,000 for the first year, and that the shipping bill may be laid over until the next session. It is possible that work will be done upon a river and harbor bill at the present session in order to have it ready for passage early next December, after the presidential election."

This is a serious question. Leaving log-rolling politics entirely out of the consideration, and assuming that the bills in question represent actual national necessities, such as the deepening of the channels of some of our sea-port cities so as to allow the safe passage of the great giants of commerce, the modern steamships, is it not evident, as it should have been all along, that Mr. McKinley cares more for the success of his unconstitutional aggressive war policy than for the internal development of the nation, on which all true prosperity depends.

McKinley No Patriot.

A government organ recently said: "Readiness to fight for the honor and integrity and safety of your country is the only safeguard of liberty and law, is all that stands between the most civilized government in the world and universal rapine and anarchy. The man who snarls at this noble human trait of patriotism that induces the bravest and best in all lands to sacrifice comfort and risk life and limb in the public cause whenever his government is put to the hazard of war, is either a monstrous hypocrite or a snivelling degenerate."

It is surely evident that Mr. McKinley's patriotism is "either that of a monstrous hypocrite or a snivelling degenerate," for it is to be seen that he displays no "readiness to fight for the integrity of the country" which is unequivocally dependent on its internal development, as the prosperity of the people is dependent on our internal and foreign commerce.

Does any one doubt that had the hundreds of millions of dollars this uncalled for and unconstitutional war has cost, and is going to cost this country, been devoted to the deepening of absolutely necessary sea-channels, or the building of a ship canal between some point on the great lakes and the sea-

board, that it would not have been and ever be money better invested than the insane squandering of our resources in this needless war of bombastic aggression?

Scarcely a person or newspaper editor denounces this extravagance but what a howl would be raised at the appropriation of the same amount of money for the purposes mentioned, or any other system of internal improvements? The government seems to have gone daft on foreign improvements. It has neither eye nor intelligence for internal necessities. It can see a Nicaragua canal project with both eyes, but has not brains enough to see that a ship canal between the lakes and the seaboard is of far greater necessity. It can see money squandered by the millions to destroy lives and property in the Philippines, but has no eye for saving life and property at home. Money spent, even if extravagantly, for internal improvements gives labor to Americans, and must benefit the people in general. Money spent in aggressive foreign war is at the cost of American lives and national prosperity. The latter is the McKinley policy. If condemning that policy is "snarling at the noble trait of human patriotism," if standing on the impregnable law of war for national defense only, if standing on the Constitution, hallowed in the blood of the fathers, is being a "monstrous hypocrite or a snivelling degenerate," then I am willing to be classed as both, and to be looked upon as a vile and a malicious traitor, as opposed to the laws of nature, the reign of peace on earth, and an enemy of the human race.

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A TRUST FOR MANKIND.

Whatever highway may be constructed across the barrier dividing the two greatest maritime areas of the world must be for the world's benefit, a trust for mankind, to be removed from the chance of domination by any single Power, nor become a point of invitation for hostilities or a prize for war-like ambition. An engagement combining the construction, ownership and operation of such work by this government, with an offensive and defensive alliance for its protection with the foreign state whose responsibility and rights we would share, is, in my judgment, inconsistent with such dedication to universal and neutral use, and would, moreover, entail measures for its realization beyond the scope of our national polity or present means. The neutralization of any interoceanic transit can only be accomplished by making the uses of the route open to all nations and subject to the ambitions and warlike necessities of none.—Cleveland's Message to Congress, December 8, 1885.