

interstate trade commission. Since he said nothing about conferring despotic power on such a commission, his advice, as it was given, seems to be good and ought to be accepted with an amendment including tariff or other government bounties among possible sources of monopolistic power. The information thus obtained should make clear to every congressman that the trust problem can not be solved by litigation or by putting any one in jail. It would leave no excuse for failure to enact rational anti-trust legislation, as yet unendorsed by any political party, the abolition of Privilege in every form—such a solution as was advocated in a speech by Congressman Warren Worth Bailey, in the House on May 23.

S. D.



Relieving Business.

Under the caption "Hostility to Business Must Stop!" the Chicago Record-Herald gives a pertinent answer to the resolutions recently adopted by the National Association of Manufacturers, demanding "a cessation of hostilities to legitimate business." Conceding the reasonableness of the demand, and declaring the man who is hostile to legitimate business to be an enemy of every honest man and woman in the country, the Record-Herald agrees that it must stop; but it goes on to say that it must stop wherever it exists, in legislatures, in political conventions, and in high finance.

Hostility to business of the kind illustrated by the New Haven, Rock Island, Frisco and similar operations; hostility to business exemplified by predatory and greedy trusts condemned under the rule of reason; hostility to business exemplified by rebates and other discriminations condemned by law and public sentiment; hostility to business exemplified by industrial bourbons who oppose all proper regulation—all such manifestations to business must stop, or legislative and political hostility to business will never stop. Legitimate business should purge itself and banish the gamblers and tricksters, the get-rich-quick manipulators. Abuses in business by inner cliques have done more to create hostility than all the speeches of superficial and wild demagogues.



These are words of gold, and should sink deep into the consciousness of the frenzied financiers. But there is another hostile influence working against legitimate business that the editor did not mention, which is more powerful, and more subtle, than all the others combined. This is the toll of legalized Privilege. Where Morganatic transactions fleh from legitimate business thousands, the private appropriation of economic rent takes its tens of thousands. Enterprising captains of in-

dustry associate with themselves skilled workmen to produce the wealth of the world; but everywhere they find, before they can begin operations, that some one has forestalled them in the ownership of the earth, that medium on which and from which they must work. It is the toll that the owners of the earth take as owners, that constitutes the chief burden upon industry. Society can jail such enemies of legitimate business as are enumerated by the Record-Herald, but what shall it do with this giant enemy who takes all that is left, save just enough to keep business struggling on from year to year? s. c.



Colorado's Expensive Tax-Dodgers.

\$635,000 has already been spent by the State of Colorado for military expenses in the strike district. A million dollar bond issue has been authorized by the legislature to cover this expenditure and expected additional expenditures. How much of this will be paid by the operators involved? They hold, according to a pamphlet issued by the United Mine Workers of America, 58,812 acres in the strike district, worth \$7,239,380, containing improvements worth \$2,282,694. On this their annual state taxes amount to just \$12,378.67. These figures, the pamphlet states, "can be substantiated at the office of the State Auditor in Denver." Under the circumstances it is not surprising that the mines can be held idle or be only partly worked. There would have been no civil war if this absurdly low tax had been increased sufficiently to make an expensive luxury of the withholding from use of natural resources worth more than seven millions. There will surely be more trouble if the State does not change its tax system so as to permit of such increase. These large corporations financed the opposition to the Bucklin proposition of 1902 to adopt the Australasian tax system. Why they did so needs no explanation in view of the figures presented. They should not be permitted to continue blocking such reforms. s. d.



Judge Lindsey's Mission.

That Judge Lindsey's mission in visiting Washington was not pleasing to Colorado's predatory corporations need cause no surprise. So there was nothing startling in the sending of a telegram to President Wilson by the Denver Chamber of Commerce denying Lindsey's right to represent the State or its interests. Even if the Chamber of Commerce were correct in the assertion, it said nothing to discredit Lindsey's mission. One need