

tion—to arouse and establish a new civic conscience in the American legislature. He is quite devoid of the vulgar, self-assertive, and self-advertising manner of Roosevelt. He wins his purpose not by clenching his teeth and shaking his fist like a saloon bully, but by giving his opinion and sending out his orders as would a thoroughly competent engineer, architect, or surgeon. Towards Mexico, as towards China, he has played, or tried his best to play, a fair game. His declaration against the clause in the Panama Act granting free tolls to American coasting steamers, and his success in getting a bill through the Senate to repeal the clause, deserves the applause of every Internationalist. We have never shared the view of the commercial press of this country and Europe, that the provision giving coast-trade vessels of the United States a preference over ocean-bound ships of other countries was either clearly a violation of the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty or a wholly unreasonable concession (while tariff preferences exist at all) to the trade interests of the United States that financed and engineered the Panama scheme. But the fact that President Wilson, alike in the interests of the canal and in order to remove any feeling of resentment in foreign countries, has abrogated the preferential dues redounds greatly to his honor. It is a most notable step toward International amity and peace—a fine signal call of concord to the whole world.



Charity Does Not Cover Injustice.

Collier's Weekly, May 16.—The coal and iron companies which operate in the war district of Colorado are controlled by men supposed to be among the wealthiest and most enlightened in this country. We have heard for years of their gifts to science, to education, and to religion. They have built sanitary houses for workmen, furnished free entertainment and medical advice, and all that. Why then this hell of slaughter and destruction? Because they have left out the one essential thing: Human Justice. You do not supervise a remote mining camp by officially issuing "strict instructions" for company storekeepers and camp marshals and superintendents who despise men. You will not pacify Trinidad, Colo., by writing elegant essays in New York City on "matters of principle." John Ruskin, in the fortieth paragraph of his lecture on "Work," speaks of

that motto of the poor half-way Mahometan: "One hour in the execution of justice is worth seventy years of prayer."

The Rockefeller and other great mining interests must learn this by heart and put it into action before peace can come to Colorado.



Embarrassing the Preachers of Mammon.

Cleveland Press, May 14.—The young artist who asked John D.'s New York pastor whether, as a preacher of the word of God, he thought that Jesus would uphold the oil king's attitude toward the Colorado strikers, of course asked a leading question. But it was a proper and pertinent question, and the minister, by turning his back and walking

away, did not dispose of it. The ministry must face the problems of today with ethical counsel based on the teachings of Christianity, or suffer a collapse of credit. They cannot find refuge behind silence or generalities. The Good Book is very plain in its assertion that a man cannot serve God and Mammon. "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve."



The Universal Cause of Hard Times.

Grain Growers' Guide (Winnipeg), May 13.—One of the great causes of trade depression in Canada is over-speculation. Up to a year ago a large proportion of the people of this country were crazy for real estate speculation. Instead of savings of the people being employed to build homes, cultivate the soil and establish industries, they were used to speculate in real estate and to prevent the land being put to use. Meanwhile the money required for building, agriculture and other industries was being borrowed chiefly from Great Britain. During the past year those with money to invest in Great Britain and foreign countries have been less willing to lend it to Canadian borrowers, and Canada has discovered that without borrowed money she cannot, under present conditions continue to prosper. Speculation for the time being is practically at a standstill, thousands of speculators have been ruined or crippled and several, driven to despair by their difficulties, have committed suicide. A great number of professional real estate men, however, have either secured useful employment or are seeking it. If they can be induced to refrain from starting another boom conditions will soon become normal again and prosperity will once more smile upon us. The regrettable thought is that as soon as good times do return there will be another period of speculation and inflated land values, and another period of hard times will follow. Cannot our statesmen and economists find some means of preventing speculators from repeatedly destroying the country's prosperity? The speculator is a parasite, and should be taxed out of business.



Where Land Has Been Freed.

Christian Science Monitor (Boston), April 13.—There will be the usual objection to the experiment by Bolton Hall, near Berkeley Heights in New Jersey, that it is undertaking to reverse the order under which land has been occupied and "improved," and that it must in its operation, therefore, mean disturbance of what people have come to accept as ordained conditions. Mr. Hall found seventy acres of land in captivity and determined to set it free with the purpose of putting into practice the theory of Singletax. It was necessary that the land should be set free, because freedom is its primal condition, and it also was necessary that those occupying it should make good use of it, for land was not intended to be idle. Equally necessary was it that those who improved the land should profit by the improvement. The entire scope of Singletax could not be realized within seventy acres, but its principle could be illustrated in patches representing mere fractions of that area. In this experimental settlement instead of having to buy or rent a place, one