

bonds of racial prejudice and become recognized on the same social plane with each other. One of those things necessary to this great advancement is the intermarriage of the races, so the theorist said.

The "theorist" did not say anything of the kind, and the story was manufactured in accordance with the paper's policy of assailing Zueblin ever since—and not until—he had said that *three-cent car fares would pay*. Notwithstanding its manifest falsity the next day's number of the organ contained this editorial slander:

Those who imagined that Prof. Charles Zueblin of the Chicago University had reached the limit of nonsensical teaching in his previous lectures here in Kansas City were mistaken. It remained for this lecturer to declare substantially, on his latest appearance in the auditorium of Central High School, that the answer to the "race problem" lies in the intermarriage of the whites and the blacks—assuming, perhaps, that through a gradual process the whites would tone down and the blacks would tone up until all were one shade.

It is of no consequence to the agencies of the Special Interest—that about 800 of the best citizens of Kansas City—men and women—heard Prof. Zueblin's lecture and recognized the false report for what it was. There were many thousands of Kansas City residents and others outside of the city who did not hear the lecture, and members of the Board of Education—controlling the use of the schools—had not heard it. Some of these might be reached, *and, anyhow, public knowledge is no deterrent to the malice and spitefulness of the special interests against a straightforward, earnest advocate of fair play and the square deal.*

The other pharisaical plea that the lecturer used words which were not fit to be spoken before a "refined" audience was likewise designed to arouse suspicions among the uninformed.

Now, purveyors of such statements care nothing whatever about politics or ethics. The corporate masters that control them—whether they are politicians, hired lawyers and lobbyists, or newspapers—make no such distinctions. Tom Johnson the democrat is hated and abused as vigorously by the labeled Democrats of the corporation organs as he is by the Republicans of that persuasion. Zueblin, the lecturer and apostle of the Square Deal, is guilty in their eyes as Johnson is guilty, as any man is guilty who gets on the toes of the grafters.

Prof. Zueblin's lectures in Kansas City have reached a few hundred persons directly and have been intrinsically fine and educational. But this strong teacher, who believes in fair play, even though the deserving object of fair play be a Negro educator, like Booker Washington, or a Negro master painter, like H. O. Tanner, *and who believes in a square deal to the people from the corporations*, has done a finer service indirectly than his addresses have performed. He has again made the people of Kansas City see *how profitable graft*

is to the grafters when, in order to maintain it, they fly malignantly at the throat of any man who dares to lift his voice against it.

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THE INDIAN QUESTION AS SEEN BY TWO AMERICANS.

For The Public.

Increasing popular interest in East Indian affairs recalls the words of two prominent men, lately deceased, both of whom had traveled extensively in India, and who brought to bear upon the problems of that country the breadth and sincerity of vision that inspired and characterized all their life work.

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In a letter received by the undersigned, Bishop Henry C. Potter of New York wrote under date of January last:

"Remonstrance against the injustice of existing laws and resistance to their operation need not beget hatred of British rule or even an impatience of British authority. It is a tragic situation—that of India today—but the moment one has said this, one is bound to remember there are Britons who feel this as keenly as you or I do. It would be easy, by sweeping criticism, fierce accusation and the like, to provoke where we might persuade—even Americans will have to learn a brotherly note which not all of them which I met in my travels in India were invariably wont to sound. India has truly suffered much from the commercial spirit of Great Britain, and from a disposition on the part of British traders to utilize East Indian conditions for the exclusive enrichment of Great Britain's manufacturers and traders. It seems to me the wise line for native East Indians to take is to insist upon their right to buy and sell of and to such dealers and in such a way as shall best serve their own domestic interests, and protest against any British legislation which invades the freedom of Oriental purchasers of whatever goods, wherever made, as an essential violation of the laws of the 'eternal equity.'"

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Speaking before a small conference held in the rooms of the Bar Association Club House of New York, during the early part of last Winter, Dr. Charles Cuthbert Hall, President of Union Theological Seminary, said:

"If only men and women of means would look into this great matter—the well being of 300,000,000 of people, for India's population is one-fifth of the whole human race—and of their abundance give something toward the establishment of trade schools in India, up-to-date schools equipped with American teachers, they would be serving humanity and coming generations on a scale it has been given to few to serve. Agitation in America, the

informing of public opinion as to the exact facts, will do more than anything else to bring England to her senses. For there is no denying the fact that England is administering India for England's benefit and not India's. It is hard for me to say this, because, until I went to India, my sympathies were all on the English side. My early education was much in England and I have many dear personal friends there. But what I am saying now is the truth, and the truth must be told.

"A most peculiar complication in the matter is that personally the officials of England in India are the finest sort of men in many ways. Probably a more honorable and clean service, freer from the corrupt use of money, could not be found than the civil administration of India. It is a service of gentlemen of high character and breeding, and many of them are truly friends of India in theory; but as active officials their whole nature seems to change—the official conscience, official sentiments, are exactly the reverse. I have seen Indian gentlemen, personal and deeply esteemed friends of mine, treated with positive discourtesy. Those same Englishmen would cut off their right hands before they would treat an Englishman so, but they will go out of their way to insult an Indian.

"Not long ago Mr. Morley made a speech in which he said he 'hoped he would not be blamed for the Indian famine; he did not suppose even Indians will demand of the Secretary of State that he play the part of Elijah on Mount Carmel,' intimating that the only difficulty is the failure of the rains. But this is not true, and it seems incredible that any intelligent, adequately informed man could so misunderstand the situation.

"There are factors in this terrible question which I would not care to discuss even in this room. The obvious fact stares us in the face that there is at no time, in no year, any shortage of food-stuffs in India. The trouble is that the taxes imposed by the English Government, being fifty per cent of produce, the Indian starves that England's annual revenue may not be diminished by a dollar.

"Eighty-five per cent of the whole population has been thrown back upon the soil because England's discriminating duties have ruined practically every branch of native manufacture; and these tillers of the soil, when they have sold themselves for the last time to the money-lender, when they have over and over again mortgaged their crops and their bit of land, are 'sold out' by the tax-collector to wander about until they drop of starvation.

"Once when I was in Rugah, just after a terrible famine, I saw several small children viciously hitting another, a little girl, and trying to take something away from her. It proved to be a lump of mud, mixed with a little wheat chaff, she had found in a shed. She was carrying it away

to eat and the others, brutal from hunger, were trying to get it from her. Later, I was visiting in Rubaton at the home of a well-known missionary. In the field adjoining the house, they told me, there had been a fire burning night and day for three months, the fuel of which was dead bodies—the harvest of famine and its inevitable companion, plague.

"We send shiploads of grain to India, but there is plenty of grain in India. The trouble is that the people have been ground down until they are too poor to buy it. Famine is chronic there now, though the same shipments of food-stuffs are made annually to England, the same drainage of millions of dollars goes on every year. . . . The present initiative of the Indian people themselves is the thing we should seek to nourish. In this present generation, there has sprang up the Swadeshi movement, like the Irish Sinn Fein, like our colonial boycott; young men are sacrificing everything to get industrial education and revive the ruined industries of their country. 'And this is where we Americans can help, without in the least encroaching on the rights of our sister nation. . .'"

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Americans of probity and fearless sincerity, who have gone to India, who know the facts at first-hand, are practically unanimous in their verdict. The great trouble is that the majority of our ninety millions are without information on the subject, and hence can have no judgment or opinion in the matter. As Dr. Hall truly says, the crying need is the creation of a thoroughly informed, intelligent public opinion in America.

MYRON H. PHELPS.

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THE CRY FROM INDIA.

Extracts From a Private Native Letter From India.

Coming to the famine problem, the ryots are in a very sad plight. Those holding *ryotwari* land from the Government find it very difficult to sustain themselves even when the rainfall is normal and the outlook of crops fair. . . . The poor agricultural class has to starve, year in and year out, whether the rains come down or not. The canal tax, the land tax, colonization dues, water tax and numerous others, leave the tiller of the soil nothing to live upon. Prompt payment of the dues is compulsory—otherwise the *Government* would starve! If a man fails to pay in time, woe be to him! Down comes the department official and confiscates his property—cattle, clothes and all—selling them at rock-bottom prices, that the amount due may be immediately realized. This done the family, which generally numbers eight to ten, is left to face the crisis as best they can—the children squalling for food, and certain death staring them all in the face. It is no un-