

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 halfway 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

may come into possession of a homestead by paying to oneself each year what it is worth to live there. The leaseholders elect their assessor and their treasurer; the assessor fixes the rents in accordance with the value of the land; the treasurer then collects the rents and uses them to pay all taxes levied against the leaseholder; the balance goes for roads, water supply, surveys, park making and other purposes. The tax takes the place of rent; the rental covers not only the rent, but taxes and the cost of all improvements; the community is a joint stock, mutual benefit organization; there is incentive for all, unequal burdens for none. The colony of "Free Acres" is called experimental here, but only for the sake of convenience. It is only experimental in the sense that it is an attempt to exemplify Singletax practically in surroundings that are almost wholly unfavorable. The land values developed by the colonists there must overflow beyond the seventy-acre limit, therefore the enhancement does not all go to the credit of the community, but it is easy to agree with those interested that even within circumscribed limits, the plan affords an object lesson in Singletax by showing how practical it is that all rents should be collected by the community through its elected officers and applied to the payment of taxes and public improvements. The demand for taxation reform is now heard on every side. It is almost universally admitted that taxes are not either skillfully or equitably levied. Perhaps there could be no more opportune time for the presentation of the experiment in process at Berkeley Heights, N. J., and no more opportune time for a careful study of it.



The Truth About Ludlow.

New York Globe and Commercial Advertiser, May 8.—In regard to the Ludlow massacre the Senate of Colorado, in a formal resolution, declares: "Blame for the horror rests on the imported assassins who masqueraded as sons of Colorado in the uniform of the National Guard." This declaration coincides with and emphasizes previous findings by the coroner's jury and the federal grand jury, and the practical confession of guilt by the military court that endeavored to whitewash the tragedy. It is established that murder was committed at Ludlow—that the guardians of society, whose sworn duty was to protect the sheep, turned wolves and devoured their charges. In one of the companies of alleged militia that shot down men and burned women and children were thirty mine guards—that is, mercenaries of the mining companies—and seventy were clerks, bosses, engineers, and others in the employ of the mining companies. This "national guard" company was never mustered into the state's service, never held a drill, never elected any officers, and never was paid by any one except the mining companies. Is it strange civil war broke out when government expressed itself in such form? The miners of Colorado, foreign-born though many of them are, showed themselves true Americans by resisting such a military machine. The resolution of the Colorado Senate further declares that the strike has continued through the refusal of the operators to enter any sort of arbitration conference. Thus is a quietus put on the contention of Mr. Rockefeller that the

issue was one of the "closed shop" and that he was bound in honor not to discharge employes who did not wish to join the unions. The strike is because the companies have refused to permit miners to join unions, a right guaranteed to them by the laws of Colorado. The experiment of government in violation of essential American principles has been tried in Colorado, and it has failed. The Mexican system which has been set up does not work better there than in Mexico. It is time to go back to the old American system, under which one man's right was as good as another's, and the danger of upholding order by illegal means was recognized.

RELATED THINGS

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WEALTH.

For The Public.

In raiment richly wrought of fine spun gold,
 She moved in luxury along her way;
 She smiled upon me and my quiet day
 Was filled with that wild longing known of old.
 A blinding spell was on me and its hold,
 All swiftly bore me in her train away;
 I was her lover, so I thought, for aye;
 And filled with careless valor, loud and bold.

A day there came—I touched her garment's hem:
 Her hand she put in sudden kindness out,
 And tremblingly I kissed it. Not a doubt
 Was mine. Her lips, she meekly yielded them.
 'Twas not till then I clearly understood—
 But where she touched me—oh, the smears of
 blood!

RICHARD WARNER BORST.



SIMPLETONS.

For The Public.

"Old Frank," as everyone called him, was dead; he had lived alone in his cabin in the rocks and he was alone when he died. The few neighbors came together, performed the last kindly offices, laid him to rest under a giant pine tree on his little farm. His life was over; he was gone from sight, a lonely, hard-working, worn-out old man who had suffered much with ill health, and yet was always cheerful.

Frank's fences went to pieces, cattle browsed his orchard trees and destroyed his garden, the drain-ditches filled up, the best land slipped back into marsh, the springs were trampled in, the rude buildings began to fall down, and ten or twelve years went by like a dream.

Nobody seemed to remember Old Frank. His tools, wagon and few goods had been sold at auction to pay the funeral expenses, the land went to distant relatives and was finally sold for a small sum. New people began to make a home