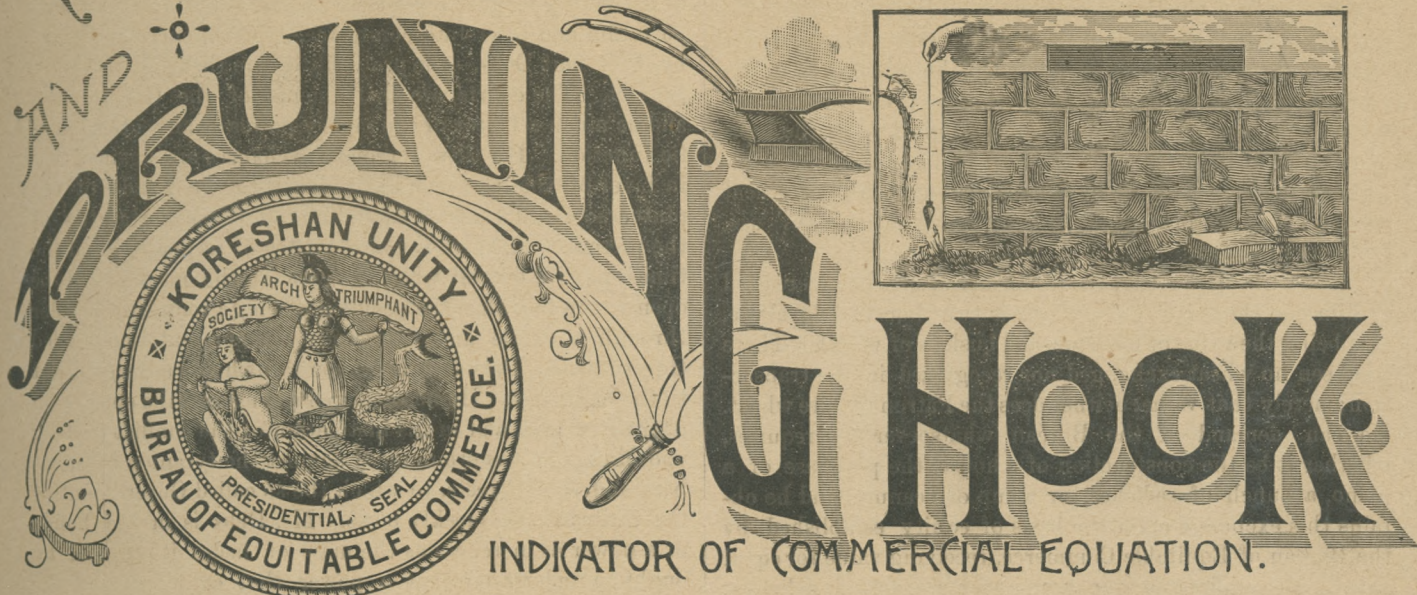


# THE PLOWSHARE



Vol. II. No. 4.

CHICAGO, ILL., JULY 28, 1894.

\$1.00 per Year.

THE PLOWSHARE AND PRUNING HOOK is issued every Saturday by the Guiding Star Publishing House, Washington Heights, Chicago, Ill. Subscription rates payable in advance, \$1.00 per year; six months, 50 cents; three months, 25 cents. Sample copy free. Discount to clubs. Send us the names of those who would be interested in the views herein expressed, and we will mail to each a sample copy, which will be an invitation to subscribe. The date on the wrapper denotes when subscription expires. If same is not renewed, your name will be dropped from the list unless otherwise notified. Remit subscription by money order, bank draft, or express order, made payable to the GUIDING STAR PUBLISHING HOUSE, Washington Heights, Chicago, Ill.

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THE UNCOMPROMISING CHAMPION OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

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KORESH, - - - FOUNDER AND EDITOR.

"Thrice is he arm'd, that hath his quarrel just;  
And he but naked, though lock'd up in steel,  
Whose conscience with injustice is corrupted."

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF VICTORIA GRATIA.

PATRONS OF COMMERCIAL EQUATION.

Platform of Righteousness.

This platform is issued from the Bureau of Equitable Commerce, and represents the Patrons.

FIRST.—Any system of exchange whereby one person, corporation, or combination accumulates wealth by the loss of wealth to the person, corporation, or combination entering into commercial relations, is evil, and should be abrogated through whatsoever power is authorized, with the consent of the governed, to appoint the means of its destruction.

SECOND.—The adjustment of the performance of use upon the basis of an averaged unit of industrial value, and the equitable distribution of wealth from such a unit, are within the functional right and capacity of our Government; and the time has come for the people to arise in their might and, through organic unity, dissipate the possibility of conflict through the tyranny of aggregated wealth in the hands of monopoly.

THIRD.—The distinction made between capital and labor

is a fallacious one. So called capital is the result of accumulation by shrewd but dishonest manipulators of laboring men, through the appropriation and saving of other people's earnings. The accumulations so amassed are the product of the toil of the wage earner, and rightfully belong to the producer. It is therefore the first duty of the people who toil and whose labor comprises the capital of the world, to so readjust the relations of toil to production as to provide through orderly and organic methods for the equitable distribution of the accumulated surplus, and for the maintenance and perpetuity of such readjustment.

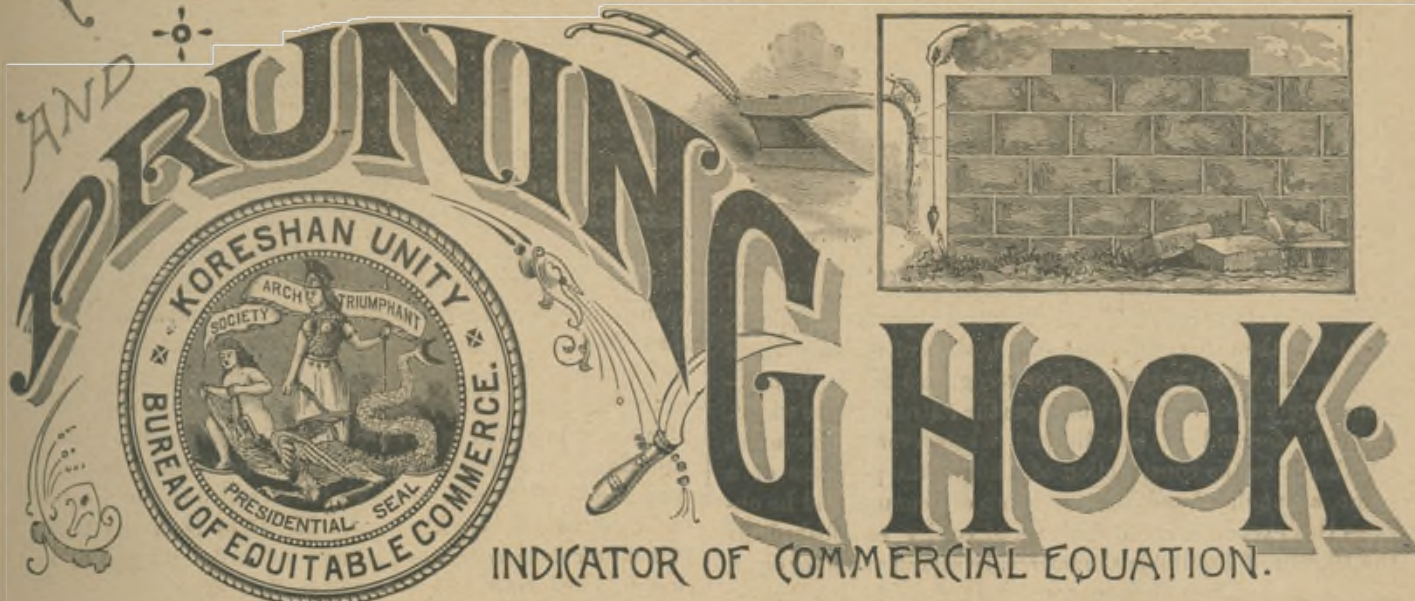
FOURTH.—All money, the basis of which is a standard of valuation effected by placing a stamp upon a rare substance like gold, through which a price is established (not founded) upon an intrinsic value determined by its commercial demand independently of its monetary force, should be utterly destroyed. The price of a silver or a paper "dollar" is determined by the price of a gold dollar. The price of the gold dollar is created by its scarcity and the possibility of its being collected and held from circulation; and the cheapness of labor is in proportion to the increase of the difficulty of procuring gold or any of its representations. We therefore advocate the abolition of fictitious money. One of the demands of the hour is universal demonetization.

FIFTH.—So called money is not a convenience of commercial exchange, but is, rather, an encumbrance to mercantile transactions. Every branch of the Bureau of Equitable Commerce should proceed so soon as organized to enroll its Patrons, who may consist of those who may be employed by the Bureau for the performance of any kind of uses, or those who may purchase from the Bureau its every kind of merchandise; for it is the purpose of the Bureau of Equitable Commerce to inaugurate a universal system of industry, and to provide for the collection and distribution of every kind of merchandise. In our system no man can make money in speculation, but every man can procure for his service its full remuneration; and through the economical regulation of the building of homes and the supply of all products of industry at the cheapest rates of production, the interests of the Patrons in the general wealth of the Bureau, through the operation of the Decimal Compounding System, will rapidly increase.

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We will suppose that the performer of uses has accredited to him one thousand units, which is two thousand days' use, this being the value of ten thousand bushels of wheat. There has been no wheat exchanged nor recognized in the transaction; merely that value: neither does the Patron require wheat. He can demand of the Bureau whatsoever he requires, whether it be the construction of a house, the purchase of a piano, a bunch of radishes, or a cup of peanuts; and he obtains this exchange upon the basis of equity established by the Bureau of Equitable Commerce, receiving value for equal value. He requires no money, nor even a check of exchange. His debits are placed by the side of his credits, and he can have a daily account of his standing with the Bureau. If he is a Patron of the supreme grade, he is a member of the Bureau, and his house and property belong to the Bureau; he being owner in common not only of the property he occupies, but owner in common of all other property owned by the high Patrons of Commercial Equation. If he desires to move from one locality to another, he reports the fact to the local Bureau, and an exchange of accounts is made to the local Bureau at the new point of residence, and his property exchanged for account with the local Bureau at the new point of residence, or for property at that point, of equal value, according to preference of use. No money is required in any of these transactions. If a man desires to travel, a letter of credit is granted.

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### The Case of Eugene V. Debs.

Now that the Government has taken hold of the matter of correcting what it regards as abnormalities in mail transportation and interstate commerce,—interferences instigated by President Debs,—the probabilities are that it purposes to convict. The courts are instruments of the Government, and as much a factor of the money power as any other public function. For these reasons the chances are against, not in favor of, the man who has fallen into the hands of the plutocracy. But notwithstanding all the uncertainties of the present trial, there is coming a day of reckoning; and the time is not far distant when the eyes of the masses will be open to the fact that the people are being ground to powder through a subtle and dangerous misrepresentation, called Government. President Debs has thrown down the gauntlet to the oligarchy. He has declared war against the oppression of the gold god, and in his instigation of the conflict of Gog and Magog he has pronounced against the tyranny of Lombard and Wall Streets, to which the so called Government of the United States meekly bows. Mr. Debs is in the hands of a power as merciless as the maw of hades itself; and he ought to understand that a power that can purchase the Senate of the United States will not leave a stone unturned to defeat the growing power of labor in its tendency to organize and confederate for the maintenance of its rights.

The right of workingmen to combine and strike if they so desire is inalienable; but they have no right to strike me, nor to infringe upon my rights. If Mr. Debs, as President of the A. R. U., has not the right to execute the determination of his order to walk out *en masse*, then no individual has the right to lay down his instruments and refuse to work. All the men in the employment of the railroad system, and the Government also, for that matter, have the right, either singly or combinedly, to cease work unless they are bound by some special contract which in so doing they violate; and though Mr. Debs should order out men enough to cripple all the interstate commerce in America, he would violate no interstate commerce law, and could not be held responsible for mobs that might arise in the excitement of the occasion. Every man, in every circumstance, found interfering with the rights of any other man should be promptly arrested and, if convicted, given the penalty provided under the law. If all the employees of all the railroads in the United States should walk out in a general strike, and in so doing should tie up every road in America, they have violated no law. If a law or an injunction is fabricated for the occasion, it is unconstitutional and subversive of every principle of liberty, and should be tested upon that basis and upon no other. If it cannot be adjusted in the present courts, let the people create courts of their own, through the popular voice.

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The time has gone by when fine-spun theories can satisfy the degraded bondmen of a so called Christian civilization. The time is ripe for the practical inauguration of a system of relief from the bondage of serfdom which degrades the industrious but plundered masses. Through the system of competition now operative, the wage earner and creator of wealth is systematically and scientifically robbed of that which he creates, and is aggravated to desperation through the merciless tyranny of those who plunder him of his dearly-created products of unremitting toil.

The Koreshan System, through its Bureau of Equitable Commerce, is inaugurating the remedy. Its principles are simple. Fictitious money must be destroyed. The wage system is an abomination and must be destroyed. The people constitute the Government, and may provide for their own comforts through the equation of the performance of use (labor, which should be so modified as to be made a recreation) and the equitable distribution of wealth. The economical creation of wealth embraces the factor of the economical employment of brain and muscle to carry forward the activities of the universal requirements of industry. The happiness of the race must be secured through a minimum amount of the performance of that kind of use called labor, and the maximum of that kind of use called recreation.

The right to govern belongs to the people, and should be so regulated as to provide for the conduct of things to the uses of man, and not to govern men against their own interests and for the exclusive benefits of those for whom the rights of the people are usurped. The economical expenditure of brain and muscle in the creation of wealth, that is, in the products of industry, is the first consideration. The second is its economical, direct, and rapid distribution. The problem becomes simple in proportion as the mind breaks loose from the shackles of environment fabricated to enslave the race.

The two great polar laws or principles of motion (action) are freedom and direction. Freedom relates to the will, and direction to the intellect. Liberty does not comprise the acme of human attainment, because it may be associated either with wise or unwise adaptation. Liberty is compatible with the best interests of society only so far as it is made the means to righteous uses. Complete freedom of action is admissible when wisdom has reached such a supreme state of virtue as to wisely direct the will. Wisdom, or direction of action, to be universal, must admit of some specifically defined, simple propositions easily resolvable to practical application. The world has been in more or less universal bondage through past ages, because bondage has secured the greatest safety to society. In other words, society has been subject to law because it has not learned obedience, and is not entitled to rise above the law and become a law unto itself. Liberty is a progressive factor in human development, and commensurately so with the correction of the descending ten-

dencies of the will, and is complete when wisdom manifests herself in the perfection of her formulas.

#### COMMERCE IS THE AXIS OF MOTION.

The less friction, the greater the motion. Motion without friction is compatible with longevity, but with it, the wear and tear of energy conduces to destruction.

The key-note of the Bureau of Equitable Commerce is Commercial Equation. The plumb-line of Commercial Equation, the perpendicular, or pillar of integrity, is value for value, the price for service and the product of service to be placed to the credit of the one performing the use. This may be illustrated as follows: The labor of ten thousand men may combine to create and perpetuate a railroad system worth one billion dollars; the wealth of the system belongs equitably to the ten thousand men. If one man has received five thousand a year for his services, and the value of his service has added to the wealth of the system five thousand more per annum, though he may have dissipated the five thousand received, he still has an investment in the system of five thousand. This is commercial equity.

(CONTINUED.)

#### CHILD LABOR.

How is the question of child labor, so widely agitated at present, to be settled under the Koreshan System? Should children be required to labor for any one's benefit? The prevalent opinion seems to be that they should not. This is a question requiring careful consideration. We assume it to be a self-evident proposition that every child is entitled to a thorough physical, mental, and moral education; that to provide for such an education is one of the duties of government; and furthermore, that if possible for the child to be self-maintaining while obtaining such an education, the principle of economy, which is one of the prime factors of good government, is thereby carried out, and the relation of the child to the state secured. But the question may arise, is it right to ask the child to maintain itself; and should not that duty which now devolves upon the parents be, under a communistic system, assumed by the state? The true communism is founded upon the principle of love to the neighbor, and the end of all activity is the performance of use to the neighbor. When selfishness ceases to be the impelling motive of human activity, the performance of use will be limited only by the ability to perform, subject to certain restraints and adjustments for the purpose of insuring the welfare of the individual and of society.

Very young children are not able to perform uses; but the ability to do so begins very early, and most young children are eager to perform useful services. In any event, with the ability to perform comes the obligation to perform. That children are able to perform valuable services in the various industries is amply attested by the thousands and thousands of little slaves to be found toiling in factories, stores, sweat shops, and workshops, in brickyards, as peddlers, on farms, in mines. Under the present system, the employment of children is one of the factors—and a not inconsiderable one—in the great labor problem. So called capital has found the labor of children more profitable in many lines than that of adults, for, while performing the work equally well, less wages have been asked, and so children have been extensively employed. There can therefore be no doubt of the ability of the child to perform uses. Since with the ability comes the duty to perform, if the opportunity for such performance is denied, a great wrong is done the child; for only through the performance of one's duties to society can healthy development obtain.

We cannot rightfully have a dual system of industry and education. The industrial system must be the educational system; and conversely. The two must be made one.



### Purposes, Aims, and Methods of Commercial Equation.

There are certain underlying, general, and inevitable principles which must forever comprise the foundation stones of integralism, and without which the bond of organic unity cannot be perpetuated. There are but two actuating energies of activity, by which human industries are guaranteed. These are distinctively competitive and participative. The only and sure tendency of the system of competition is the differentiation of caste, disqualifying the race for social unity, and precluding the possible equation of the enjoyments that the lavish provisions of nature purpose in its providences. The competitive system must finally eventuate in the catastrophic conflict of a wage serfdom (goaded to desperation by the iron and relentless heel of plutocratic despotism) against the oppressive oligarchy of accumulated plunderings of the wage laborer.

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The key-note of the Bureau of Equitable Commerce is Commercial Equation. The plumb-line of Commercial Equation, the perpendicular, or pillar of integrity, is value for value, the price for service and the product of service to be placed to the credit of the one performing the use. This may be illustrated as follows: The labor of ten thousand men may combine to create and perpetuate a railroad system worth one billion dollars; the wealth of the system belongs equitably to the ten thousand men. If one man has received five thousand a year for his services, and the value of his service has added to the wealth of the system five thousand more per annum, though he may have dissipated the five thousand received, he still has an investment in the system of five thousand. This is commercial equity.

(CONTINUED.)

#### CHILD LABOR.

How is the question of child labor, so widely agitated at present, to be settled under the Koreshan System? Should children be required to labor for any one's benefit? The prevalent opinion seems to be that they should not. This is a question requiring careful consideration. We assume it to be a self-evident proposition that every child is entitled to a thorough physical, mental, and moral education; that to provide for such an education is one of the duties of government; and furthermore, that if possible for the child to be self-maintaining while obtaining such an education, the principle of economy, which is one of the prime factors of good government, is thereby carried out, and the relation of the child to the state secured. But the question may arise, is it right to ask the child to maintain itself; and should not that duty which now devolves upon the parents be, under a communistic system, assumed by the state? The true communism is founded upon the principle of love to the neighbor, and the end of all activity is the performance of use to the neighbor. When selfishness ceases to be the impelling motive of human activity, the performance of use will be limited only by the ability to perform, subject to certain restraints and adjustments for the purpose of insuring the welfare of the individual and of society.

Very young children are not able to perform uses; but the ability to do so begins very early, and most young children are eager to perform useful services. In any event, with the ability to perform comes the obligation to perform. That children are able to perform valuable services in the various industries is amply attested by the thousands and thousands of little slaves to be found toiling in factories, stores, sweat shops, and workshops, in brickyards, as peddlers, on farms, in mines. Under the present system, the employment of children is one of the factors—and a not inconsiderable one—in the great labor problem. So called capital has found the labor of children more profitable in many lines than that of adults, for, while performing the work equally well, less wages have been asked, and so children have been extensively employed. There can therefore be no doubt of the ability of the child to perform uses. Since with the ability comes the duty to perform, if the opportunity for such performance is denied, a great wrong is done the child; for only through the performance of one's duties to society can healthy development obtain.

We cannot rightfully have a dual system of industry and education. The industrial system must be the educational system; and conversely. The two must be made one.



Under the present system of education, if the need for manual training in the primary departments is recognized at all, it is usually met by training the child in the construction of oftentimes well-formed, sometimes beautiful, but utterly useless articles of clay or pasteboard. If a child of eight years can be taught to construct from pasteboard, colored paper, and mucilage, a sightly cube, he can be taught to make a pasteboard box from the same materials. This is but one example of the deftness of young children. There are many branches of industry in which children may, at a very early age, attain a great degree of skill.

Under the Koreshan Social System, an industrial and educational system will be established whereby every child over seven years of age will be trained in the performance of uses, at the same time receiving the requisite mental instruction. The two will be alternated in such a way as to be productive of the best good to the child. Through the performance of use in the physical domain, the child will receive the very best physical education; for ability in any direction is secured only by the practical application of that ability. It is possible for the performance of use to be made so pleasurable to the child as to be a constant recreation. A child of seven or eight years of age can easily be taught to manage a simple machine, and its management will prove a delight to him. As soon as his acquired skill would permit, he would be advanced to the management of one more complex. A perfect system of grading will obtain.

This manual training is to be complemented by an adequate mental training, so that, while practically maintaining himself, the child will be receiving an education in all the essentials of culture and refinement. The child's moral education will be secured by the life he lives under the Koreshan System, the mainspring of which is unselfishness. Love to God and the neighbor is to be substituted for love of self and every act of the child's life will be in accordance with God's law.

By making the performance of use a recreation, the surplus energy of the child, instead of being wasted as now, will be conserved and directed for the benefit of society, reflecting benefit upon the child. All beautiful as well as all useful things are to be taught children under the Koreshan System. Indeed, all useful services will prove to be beautiful services under the proper conditions. This industrial-educational system is not to be confined to the training of children. Its benefits will be extended to all ages. Then we will no longer find either nerve-shattered mental workers, or machine-like physical workers. A balance will be established between mental exertion and physical exertion, and the day of rest will begin in earth.—*Ella M. Castle.*

#### Time to Think.

Employment? No lack of it—not a bit. What, with three millions idle? Yes, that is just the trouble. They are idle when they ought to be employed in thought. There is plenty of thinking to be done, but they refuse to think. Want other work? No need just now for any other work. There's plenty of food, clothing, and shelter, but these thoughtless men and women have gone on year after year following the politicians, dancing like grasshoppers, and now they find that their "great" people, for whom they threw up their hats, have all the things they have created, and they have nothing. Nothing but starvation will make them think, and they are going to get plenty of that. Oh yes, they'll think, and find it the best paying employment that ever came to them. It is an angel in disguise—these "hard times." Employment will not help people who are so childlike and credulous that, no matter how much they produce, they permit a few to tell them the bulk of it belongs to the few who do nothing. Let starvation do its work. Some people, it is said, will learn at no other school than that of experience.—*Farmers' Tribune.*

#### Substitute Public Economy for Public Plunder

It has been the habit of opposing political parties to repeatedly iterate, and emphasize the iterations, that each was a pack of pirates and plunderers. The leaders of either party have accused the other side of being enemies of the Government and of the people. Vituperation, invective, and abuse have been heaped upon the candidates during political campaigns, and from the time a man is installed in office, the party out of power has instituted a detective service to discover intentional misrule, malfeasance or misappropriation, and blunders, that there might be an accumulated array of testimony of misconduct with which to enter into a succeeding campaign. Taking it for granted that only the one thousandth part of what is said by the press, favoring one side of politics, is true of the other side; and supposing that the people have no other grievance than a partial belief in what the press and public speakers iterate of men in official position, it is time that the people begin to think of a revolution in the methods of administration.

According to Republican speakers and papers, the Democratic Party, through its officials, is squandering the public fund. According to the Democratic public speakers and the Democratic press, the Republican Party, through its officials, is squandering the public fund and robbing the people of their right. That both sides have told a great amount of truth concerning each other, there can be no doubt; and if the facts are according to statement, or if the statements even approximate the truth, then it is time for the people to take their interests out of politics and run them a little while themselves.

Public economy should be substituted for public extravagance, and this revolution in public administration cannot be instituted too soon.

#### To Prevent A Revolution.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 23.—Representative Phillips of Pennsylvania, author of the bill providing for the appointment of a commission to recommend legislation on labor, says:—

It is apparent that this nation has been as false to its declared principle of equality as it was to its declared principle of freedom. No great event in all history has been more clearly pointed out in advance than that of a coming social or industrial revolution.

Our laws have in no sense kept pace with new discoveries. The world has made more progress in the last one hundred years than it did in the preceding six thousand. While the founders of this Republic declared new principles, yet the laws they adopted were largely taken from a monarchy and belonged to a darker age and had not even the right of organization. We thus put our "new wine in old bottles," and they are bursting with new fermentation.

This is not a class government; it is not a government of laborers, farmers, manufacturers, transporters, or business men, but it is a government of the people. No one class established this Government in eight years of war; no one class saved it in four years of rebellion, and no one class can ever govern it unless it be by despotic rule.—*Chicago Mail.*

The bayonet is the last appeal of a despot. The frequency with which the military arm is called on nowadays to keep the people still, is of dark and deadly significance. The shadow of the man on horseback is already in sight and the steady tramp of approaching military despotism is distinctly audible.—*Nonconformist.*

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### The Lessons of the Strike.

Again this nation deceives itself, and strives to soothe its weary body politic to slumber with this refrain: "The strike is over; peace again reigns." Proud and arrogant, our plutocratic Government announces, with great swelling words, that it has demonstrated its perfect ability to quell all future disturbances of its peace by the unruly masses. The unruly masses are supposed to be settling back from the points of the national bayonets—not from the force of national arguments—into all available places of servitude with thankfulness and humility!

What are the facts? First: There is no peace; there never will be until equity is established. Second: It will be established only by the force of an involution which will cause a revolution in every domain of thought and action.

The question before us is: What has this last and greatest strike on record taught the masses? Certainly it has taught multitudes that strikes are a waste of energy as a direct means to the attainment, by the industrial classes, of freedom to enjoy an equitable share of the products of their industry. Strikes and riots, bringing, in the wrong place, explosions of a great uncontrolled power, have their use in startling the stupefied into awakened, sober thought, as to the causes of the explosions, and as to the possible means of preventing their recurrence. They hammer stubborn facts into thinking brains, and open the eyes of their understanding. They create the eloquent voice of the hungry stomach, the cry of desperation; and outraged humanity reads the death sentence of the powers that be because of their unrighteousness. They also arouse the spirit of mob lawlessness, in the ignorant and degraded, which is at once necessarily confronted and quelled by the power of organic unity as displayed by all orderly governments, whether good or bad. This last display, as seen in our recent strike, of governmental military force confronting reckless mobs, should teach labor its most needed lesson,—that without universal and complete organic unity its case is hopeless. The laboring classes should become a solid body heading up in personal intellectual power grand enough in its moral quality to be incorruptible in its truth to its trust. All labor organizations should be under one commander in chief. As a body, they should be baptized by one spirit, the love of equity, their concept of which should find expression in axiomatic statements which the least of its members could know, love, and subscribe to. The discipline should be military in its character, though peaceful in its purpose;—military in its character, that heaven's first law, order, may prevail in its united actions. The physical universe and the body of man will furnish models of construction and demonstrate to the mind the divinity of orderly procedure. Violence should be deprecated, being resorted to only in self-defense.

The fact should be remembered, however, that all existing governments maintain their existence by the force of arms; the cost of opposition to the power of capital as now upheld by our Government should be well considered. Before violent opposition is undertaken, it should also be remembered that our Government is supposed to be a government of the people, by the people, for the people, and that to have the might of numbers on the side that can demonstrate the righteousness of its demands is a thing to be earnestly striven for by all the powers of tongue and pen. Labor leaders must learn to sink self-interest wholly out of existence, to give themselves absolutely to the cause of the abolition of wage slavery. Let them be assured that history will accord the honors due greatness to him alone who is most evidently the true servant of all. All organizations having consolidated, they should allow the most loyal hearts among them, governed by mighty brains, to plan their work and work their plan. Be convinced of the rationality of this method by observing how the human body maintains its health and balances powers by yielding

obedience to an intelligent brain, balanced by a warm, loving heart.

The highest use of freedom is shown in the yielding of one's self to justified authority. Labor leaders should have had their powers of discrimination quickened and developed by the recent struggle, to a degree that will enable them to discern what is lawful and what lawless in revolutionary action. By lawful we do not mean what is legal according to the traditions of men, for no great recuperative revolution has ever been legal as measured by national law standards, which are largely fallacious emanations of minds slowly developing into the true ultimate wisdom of ages of fruitful experience. We mean that they should reach that point where they can see the beauty and utility of that inherent universal law—given to us by Deity in ten foundation stones or categories—for the upbuilding of humanity to perfection. God is perfected humanity, primarily and ultimately. In the words of Koresh, He is the aggregation and concentration of all personal power and form. The truly great leader of the masses will destroy the money power to save the capitalist; will unite all the forces of labor to destroy the tyrannies of labor unions and free the laboring man from the curse of drudgery. He will destroy all opposing tyrannies, that the equitable distribution of all the products of industry may be established by a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, to the end that the cry of a hungering, ignorant child be never more heard in the land.

Masses and classes should demonetize gold, silver, and all fictitious mediums of exchange. Recognize labor as the only capital, using certificates of legitimate industry as the only money. Nationalize all means of communication, making the highways of the land the mediums of exchange. Establish greater and lesser centers of governmental distribution of products of the nation's industries all over the land. Let them be presided over by Repositories of public trust. Let labor certificates, issued by them to all working citizens, make the citizens creditors to whom the general public is debtor, to the amount of such an ample supply of all the products of industry as will enable each to so environ himself that his well-being shall know no lack of that which can minister to it. This concept may sound Utopian, but it will be demonstrated to be eminently practicable by a God-anointed leader of the people. Such a one will establish equitable distribution when people are weary enough of strikes, riots, wars, and revolutions to turn their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruninghooks.—*Bertha S. Boomer.*

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## THE VIEWS OF A FARMER.

There is no law so bad as mob law, but while we approve of energetic and, if necessary, severe measures to stamp it out, we should ascertain and remove, if possible, the cause or causes which have produced the spirit of anarchy and destructiveness which now prevails.

I am a farmer, seventy-eight years of age. I have seen several money panics, or "hard times," and have observed that it is then that lawlessness and crime are most apt to make trouble; that it is among the unemployed and poorly paid that the trouble begins; that the present troubles are the most widespread and alarming since the days of the French Revolution, and that, though strong military or police force may hold the evils in check, we can have no permanent peace till the causes that made the trouble are removed. As these causes have been in existence many years, are increasing in strength, being upheld by laws supported by a rich minority, intelligent, united, and jealous of their vested rights, the prospect of a speedy settlement is not bright; and unless the laws of recompense cease to operate we may tremble for what the future has in store for us.

In early days, the "wild cat" banks were authorized by law to collect threefold interest on their true (metallic) money; this soon enabled them to own nearly all the money. The panics of old were caused by their refusing loans and continuing collections, or, as a fisherman would say, "dragging their nets." This soon caused money in circulation to be very scarce, deranged business, and caused much bankruptcy. The paper dollars loaned by the banks were not sufficient to pay them back the principal; the lost or worn-out bills, as well as the interest, had to be made up from hard money or from property sold by the sheriff. Broad acres, a fertile soil, improved farm and other machinery, enabled an industrious people to endure this fleecing process for years.

A small proportion of the inhabitants of the great cities owns the real estate. The others are their tenants or serfs. While money is plenty, wages good, and business prosperous, the landlord raises the rents and the price of real estate. When reaction sets in, the nets are dragged, times are dull rents often remain the same, and living on charity or the soup-house is the lot of many an honest, industrious man. Reducing wages would hurt little if debts, taxes, rents, and other things would fall in proportion. Employers of labor are often blamed for reducing wages when circumstances which they cannot control compel them to do so.

Reduction of money in circulation tends to force down the price of all commodities, including labor. Demonetization of silver did that to some extent. It reduced wheat and most other farm produce one half, but the salaries of President and Congressmen who did it remained the same. A bold and successful strike that was, and no prospect of its instigators being punished for it!

If farm laborers should strike as city laborers do, and in seed-time or harvest would neither work the farms nor let others work them, great scarcity of food, high prices, and widespread famine would prevail. Strikes and lock outs make manufactured goods scarce and dear, the employees poor and less able to pay for provisions. Thus is the farmer punished by low prices for his produce, and by high prices for what he buys. City strikers need more patience and less passion. The convention, caucus, and ballot-box are the places to strike at. Reason and arguments are the best weapons, and our well paid Congressmen and Presidents would do well to heed the teachings of history, reason, and Holy Writ. There is a higher power than themselves that governs this world; while they are punishing others for supposed crimes, they might take time to reflect on their own doings, and see if they are not the remote cause of many of the troubles and crimes they now impute to others. Ignorance is a large factor in our present difficulties, and both farmers and city

employers are much to blame for it. In farmers' institutes, in granges, and in other societies of the producing classes, politics were forbidden, many seeming to take pride in their ignorance of political economy. They were united in their meetings, but at the ballot-box, where union was most needed, they were divided. Demagogues and professional politicians had all their own way.

We think the time has come when law-makers and rich corporations should be held subject to the laws, as well as others, and be punished if guilty. Now, when the United States Court has conspiracies under consideration, we hope it will make a thorough job of it, and that neither money nor lawyers' wit will enable corporation magnates to escape if found guilty of conspiring against the welfare of others.—*Henry Brown, in Chicago Record.*

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Industry constitutes but a single factor in the complexity of that organic inclination which must ultimately fulfil the purpose of a great constructive force. Industry must cease to be onerous; this condition is attainable only upon the predication of an economic adjustment of the relations of industry to recreation. When the principle of industry is so related to the principles of commensurate proportion in the polity of human economics as to insure a perpetual recreation, while at the same time the activities of supply and demand are operative, it ceases to embody in its formula any element of drudgery, and cannot therefore longer be designated by the *nomen*, labor. The very fact that an organization appellates itself a labor union, a labor organization, or a workingmen's association, assigns such union to the classification of abnormality and disorder, and its methods will necessarily be anything but economical.

The dissipation of mental and physical energies in the effort to right the wrongs of the competitive conflict—in which there must inevitably obtain an inordinate waste of the energies of life—is an evil in itself. Destruction of the products of industry, profligacy in the expenditure of energy, or dissipation of energy through idleness, are the results of incorrect efforts to adjust disordered states; and any leadership that enforces or encourages prodigality in the employment of means to any given end belongs to a realm of chaos, and the end attained is anarchy. The principles of industry should be so ordered and applied as to insure the greatest amount of production with the least possible expenditure of energy. The greatest producer should be the greatest consumer, because at that point is the greater expenditure of vitality.

Secular commerce is the pivot of secular activity. Equitable commerce is the assurance of perpetuity in organic tenure. Commercial equation propounds the laws and applies the principles of that organic adjustment which must maintain the integrity of organic life. The terms are broad and all-comprehensive, and we have adopted the title, Patrons of Commercial Equation, as more broad and comprehensive, more generally adapted to the genius of a great movement than any term heretofore employed. We believe that names and the things they designate should correspond.

While we advocate the establishment of the Lord's Kingdom in the earth as the only solution of the great problems agitating the world, on the line of every consideration, violence is to be deprecated and every illegal procedure opposed and condemned. Constitutional provisions are adequate to all the demands of public and private interests; for if the methods outlined in such provision do not meet the ends of justice, the organic law itself provides for whatsoever change is required for common and personal weal.



## THE VIEWS OF A FARMER.

There is no law so bad as mob law, but while we approve of energetic and, if necessary, severe measures to stamp it out, we should ascertain and remove, if possible, the cause or causes which have produced the spirit of anarchy and destructiveness which now prevails.

I am a farmer, seventy-eight years of age. I have seen several money panics, or "hard times," and have observed that it is then that lawlessness and crime are most apt to make trouble; that it is among the unemployed and poorly paid that the trouble begins; that the present troubles are the most widespread and alarming since the days of the French Revolution, and that, though strong military or police force may hold the evils in check, we can have no permanent peace till the causes that made the trouble are removed. As these causes have been in existence many years, are increasing in strength, being upheld by laws supported by a rich minority, intelligent, united, and jealous of their vested rights, the prospect of a speedy settlement is not bright; and unless the laws of recompense cease to operate we may tremble for what the future has in store for us.

In early days, the "wild cat" banks were authorized by law to collect threefold interest on their true (metallic) money; this soon enabled them to own nearly all the money. The panics of old were caused by their refusing loans and continuing collections, or, as a fisherman would say, "dragging their nets." This soon caused money in circulation to be very scarce, deranged business, and caused much bankruptcy. The paper dollars loaned by the banks were not sufficient to pay them back the principal; the lost or worn-out bills, as well as the interest, had to be made up from hard money or from property sold by the sheriff. Broad acres, a fertile soil, improved farm and other machinery, enabled an industrious people to endure this fleecing process for years.

A small proportion of the inhabitants of the great cities owns the real estate. The others are their tenants or serfs. While money is plenty, wages good, and business prosperous, the landlord raises the rents and the price of real estate. When reaction sets in, the nets are dragged, times are dull, rents often remain the same, and living on charity or the soup-house is the lot of many an honest, industrious man. Reducing wages would hurt little if debts, taxes, rents, and other things would fall in proportion. Employers of labor are often blamed for reducing wages when circumstances which they cannot control compel them to do so.

Reduction of money in circulation tends to force down the price of all commodities, including labor. Demonetization of silver did that to some extent. It reduced wheat and most other farm produce one half, but the salaries of President and Congressmen who did it remained the same. A bold and successful strike that was, and no prospect of its instigators being punished for it!

If farm laborers should strike as city laborers do, and in seed-time or harvest would neither work the farms nor let others work them, great scarcity of food, high prices, and widespread famine would prevail. Strikes and lock outs make manufactured goods scarce and dear, the employees poor and less able to pay for provisions. Thus is the farmer punished by low prices for his produce, and by high prices for what he buys. City strikers need more patience and less passion. The convention, caucus, and ballot-box are the places to strike at. Reason and arguments are the best weapons, and our well paid Congressmen and Presidents would do well to heed the teachings of history, reason, and Holy Writ. There is a higher power than themselves that governs this world; while they are punishing others for supposed crimes, they might take time to reflect on their own doings, and see if they are not the remote cause of many of the troubles and crimes they now impute to others. Ignorance is a large factor in our present difficulties, and both farmers and city

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Government Ownership.

That government ownership of railroads is the only way out is being made plainer every day. The gigantic consolidations of many lines under one management, which has been a marked feature of the last decade, shows a tendency which can only end in one general head for all. Huntington, in an interview some time ago, said that the railroads would be better off with only one president. The general public agrees with this, but disagrees as to the name of the president. If you call him Vanderbilt, Gould, Huntington, or Roberts, no! If you say Uncle Sam, yes. It is impossible to note the occurrences of the pending strike, without seeing how certainly we are gravitating toward governmental ownership. The courts which have roads in charge notify all strikers that interference with their lines is in effect an obstruction of the Government, which the courts represent. There you have the form of governmental ownership without the substance. Again: strikers are notified that they must not interfere with the mails, as these are run under governmental contract. But in protecting its mail cars the Government insists on protecting the whole train, including Pullman cars. This prevents the strikers from hitting Pullman, without shooting through Uncle Sam. They can't get at the right man. Pullman takes advantage of the situation, just as a man when attacked sometimes hides behind his wife's petticoats. The remedy is to turn the whole business over to the Government. Then there will be no strikes nor any necessity for them. All railroads will be managed under one head. All employees will be regularly paid according to a fixed and just scale. There will be no top-heavy salaries, no swelling general officials, no deadhead lists, no favoritism, and no receivers. Operated on the principle of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, the revenues will always be equal to the expenses, and railroad strikes will be a thing of the past.—*Nonconformist*.

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