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## STANDARD OIL ON THE RACK

### Department of Justice Begins Suit at St. Louis to Kill Giant Trust.

The Petition Filed Asks That the Combination Be Declared Unlawful and Restrained from Doing Business—History of the Monopoly and How It Is Alleged to Restrain Trade—Its Enormous Profits.

The War on the Standard. St. Louis.—Petition filed in United States circuit court asking for dissolution of Standard Oil trust and perpetual injunction restraining 70 constituent companies from working with or paying dividends to parent company.

New York.—Standard Oil shares dropped 15 points, making net loss of 150 points since Roosevelt's war on the trust began; total depreciation in stock since president opened crusade, \$150,000,000; this notwithstanding quarterly dividends of \$10 per share.

Findlay, O.—Prosecuting attorney directed by Attorney General Ellis to keep grand jury in session; all Standard Oil officials may be indicted; officials of Standard Oil company of Ohio indicted agreed to surrender.

St. Louis, Mo.—The suit to break up the Standard Oil trust has been filed in the United States circuit court here. The petition asks:

That the court decree that the combination and conspiracy are unlawful under the Sherman anti-trust act.

That the Standard Oil company be enjoined, restrained and prohibited from exercising any control over its allied corporations, or any of them, by the election or appointment of directors or officers, or in any other manner.

That the subsidiary corporations be enjoined from declaring or paying any dividends to the Standard Oil company of New Jersey.

That the defendants, and each and all of them, be enjoined from entering into any contract, the purpose or effect of which is to restrain commerce in petroleum and its products or to monopolize the same.

The petition contains 194 pages of printed matter, or about 100,000 words, and an additional 84 pages of exhibits, consisting of by-laws and minutes of Standard Oil meetings and organizations, and a map showing the retail prices of oil in every state and territory of the union.

What the Petition Alleges. It is alleged in the petition that John D. Rockefeller and his associates, the other individual defendants, formed a conspiracy to monopolize the commerce in petroleum and its products at an early date—about the year 1870—and that the same individuals have controlled the combination during all these years, in all its forms, and now control it. It was, therefore, deemed wise to state in the petition the complete history and growth of this conspiracy.

History of the Conspiracy. The petition is logically divided into three periods. During the first one of these periods, from 1870 to 1882, the combination assumed the form of a simple conspiracy—that is to say, the defendants, with the Standard Oil company of Ohio, acted together to suppress competition and control the oil business.

During the second period, from 1882 to 1899, the combination assumed the form of a trust agreement, whereby about 40 separate corporations engaged in the same business, turned over the management of their business to nine trustees, of which these individual defendants were the majority, so that these defendants controlled all of these corporations.

In March, 1892, the supreme court of Ohio declared this trust agreement void and ordered its dissolution.

Thereupon, on March 21, 1892, the trust certificate holders met in New York and resolved to dissolve the trust and appointed John D. Rockefeller, Henry M. Flagler, William Rockefeller, John D. Archbold, Benjamin Brewster, Henry H. Rogers, Wesley H. Tilford and O. B. Jennings as liquidating trustees—the individual defendants being a majority of these trustees.

The manner of liquidation was not to sell the property and divide the proceeds among the certificate holders, nor to return to each person individually the property placed in the trust, but all of the stocks in each of the companies were divided into portions in proportion to the number of trust certificate shares outstanding, so that Rockefeller and his associates continued to control all these corporations as before.

Birth of the Present Trust. The petition then takes up the third period of the conspiracy, beginning with the formation of the present trust.

In order to accomplish this, in January, 1899, they increased the stock

of the Standard Oil company of New Jersey from \$10,000,000 to \$110,000,000, and made it the holding corporation and placed the control through stock ownership of all the corporations previously held by the trusts into the said company, and exchanged its stock for the stock so acquired, share for share, issuing therefor \$97,250,000 par value—the exact amount of the trust certificates previously issued by the trustees.

The stock of this company was increased by a small amount, and is now \$98,338,300.

Some Standard Oil Methods. The petition then shows the methods employed by the Standard Oil company to monopolize the oil business. These include discriminating contracts with the railroad companies, manipulation of rates, local price cutting, bogus independent companies, etc.

The bill sets up among others a contract between the Standard Oil company and the Tidewater Pipe company whereby the Tidewater companies are limited to 1 1/2 per cent of certain business in Pennsylvania and New York, and the Standard Oil company to receive 8 1/2 per cent of the business, the Standard Oil company guaranteeing the Tidewater company \$500,000 per annum profits, thereby eliminating all competition between them.

The bill alleges a contract made with the Pennsylvania railroad company in 1884, which was in existence until 1906, by which the Standard Oil company was able to maintain the public charges for transporting crude oil from western Pennsylvania at 40 and 45 cents a barrel to Philadelphia and New York respectively. The Standard Oil company, through its own pipe lines, transported the oil for eight cents a barrel.

It is alleged that the defendants, through the Standard Oil company and the other corporations, are engaged in producing, purchasing and transporting petroleum in the various producing districts in the United States, principally situated in New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Indian Territory, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Texas, Colorado and California; that they own and control nearly all of the pipe lines in said states, and other pipe lines extending from Kansas to the seaboard; also pipe lines in Texas and in California; that they own a large number of tank cars and steamships engaged in transporting oil; and that the said defendants have, through the instrumentality of the Standard Oil company of New Jersey (a holding corporation), eliminated competition between all of the separate corporations and monopolized the commerce in oil in the United States.

Control the Pipe Lines. It is alleged that the Standard Oil company has had control of the carrying business by pipe lines in and from all the oil producing regions of the United States except Texas, Louisiana and California; that they charged excessive and unreasonable rates, and rates which were discriminatory in favor of the Standard Oil company; that they have refused to furnish equal facilities for receiving and delivering oil of independent shippers and refiners; that they have refused to transport oil belonging to others than the defendants and their associated companies, and since the month of August, 1906, have refused to transport oil of others except in such large quantities as to completely prevent independent producers and refiners of oil from using their service, and that they have forced 16 independent refiners now doing business in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and producing their crude oil through the Standard Oil company's pipe lines, to sell all of their export oil to the Standard Oil company, thereby eliminating their competition. This contract was procured through threats of the Standard Oil company to reduce the amount of crude oil which it would sell to the independent refiners.

Enjoy Preferential Rates. It is alleged that one of the principal instrumentalities through which the defendants have been enabled to monopolize the commerce in petroleum and its products throughout the United States has been a system of preferential rates, and rates discrimi-

natory against the competitors of the Standard Oil company, both in open and published tariffs and by and through secret and unpublished rates, both interstate and intrastate, and by rebates, concessions, and preferences granted to the Standard Oil company and its subsidiary corporations.

The bill goes into the details of many of these rates, and shows a systematic discrimination, substantially all over the United States, so that rates from Standard shipping points are much lower, for the same distance proportionately and per ton per mile, than from shipping points of independent competing concerns. These differences in most instances amount to more than a reasonable profit upon the oil.

Some Sample Discriminations. The regular published rate from Whiting, Ind., to Evanville, Ind., through Illinois, for instance, was 11 cents per hundred pounds. Most of the oil shipped by the Standard company was shipped at 8 1/2 cents and 6 cents per hundred pounds. The Standard had a rate from Whiting, Ind., to Grand Junction, Tenn., of 13 cents per hundred pounds, and large quantities of oil were distributed from Grand Junction all over this southern territory on secret rates which never were published, as required by law, or filed with the interstate commerce commission.

The petition alleges that for about ten years prior to 1905 secret and unpublished rates were made from Whiting, Ind., to East St. Louis, of 6 1/2 and 6 3/4 cents on the various railroads, which oil was destined to St. Louis and to a large territory south and southwest of those points, while the regular published rate was 18 cents per hundred pounds.

How They Control Railroads. It is alleged that the individual defendants and other individuals associated with them and interested with them in the Standard Oil trust have acquired large interests in the stocks of the principal railroads of the United States and have caused themselves to be elected or have caused other persons acting in their interest to be elected as members of the boards of directors of such railroads. By reason of such ownership and representation on the boards of directors of such railroads the individual defendants have influenced the railroads to establish and maintain the discriminatory rates.

Among the railroads in which the defendants are interested and upon the boards of directors of which they have representation (together with the names of directors) are the following:

William Rockefeller—Central New England; Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul; Delaware, Lackawanna & Western; Lake Shore and Michigan Southern; Michigan Central; New York Central; New York, Chicago and St. Louis; New York, New Haven and Hartford; New York, Ontario and Western; New York and Ottawa; Pittsburg and Lake Erie; Rutland.

Henry H. Rogers—Santa Fe, Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul; Union Pacific.

Charles M. Pratt—Boston and Maine, Evansville and Terre Haute; Long Island.

Henry M. Flagler—Florida East Coast.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr.—Delaware, Lackawanna and Western; Missouri Pacific.

William G. Rockefeller—Union Pacific.

H. Clay Pierce—Kansas City Southern, St. Louis and San Francisco.

C. W. Harkness—Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul.

F. T. Gates—Missouri Pacific, Wisconsin Central.

The petition then recites the Standard trust's monopoly of the sale of lubricating oils to railroads, its unfair methods of competition in the cutting of local prices, the formation of bogus independent companies, the payment of rebates on oil prices, and the division of territory.

Tells of Stupendous Profits. It is alleged that by reason of its monopoly the Standard Oil company has made enormous and unreasonable profits on the actual value of its property; that the trustees' valuation of all the property and stocks placed in their hands in 1892 was \$55,710,698.24. The additional property purchased or acquired by the issue of trust certificates was \$13,310,100, so that the total value of all property controlled by the Standard Oil company of New Jersey, except such as may have been purchased from earnings, is \$69,020,798.24, according to their own valuation.

Upon this capital the Standard has from 1882 to 1896, inclusive, paid \$52,940,084.50 of dividends, and has created a large surplus—the exact surplus the petitioner is unable to state, because the Standard has not published any statements since 1896. But from 1882 to 1896 its surplus, according to its own statements, was \$79,536,025.14, and it is alleged that this property at the present time exceeds the value of \$200,000,000. Its annual dividends during the last nine years have run from 33 to 48 per cent per annum, in addition to this large surplus.

### COMPONENT PARTS OF HUGE OIL TRUST.

List of Corporations and Partnerships Controlled by Standard Oil Company of New Jersey and Which Will Be Compelled to Resume Business as Independent Concerns if United States Wins Its Case.

Name.	Where organized.	Capitalization.
Acoma Oil company.....	New York.....	\$ 300,000
American Lubricating Oil company.....	New York.....	100,000
Argo-American Oil company (Limited).....	England.....	£1,000,000
Argand Refining company.....	Ohio.....	Not known
Atlantic Refining company.....	Pennsylvania.....	5,000,000
Baltimore United Oil company.....	Maryland.....	500,000
Borneo Bormyer company.....	New Jersey.....	200,000
Buckeye Pipe Line company.....	Ohio.....	10,000,000
Buffalo Natural Gas Fuel company.....	New York.....	350,000
Bush & Denlow Manufacturing company.....	New York.....	200,000
Camden Consolidated Oil company.....	West Virginia.....	200,000
Cheabrough Manufacturing company, cons'ld.....	New York.....	500,000
Colonial Oil company.....	New Jersey.....	250,000
Commercial Natural Gas company.....	Pennsylvania.....	100,000
Connecting Gas company.....	Pennsylvania.....	500,000
Continental Oil company (Limited).....	Iowa.....	300,000
Crescent Pipe Line company.....	Pennsylvania.....	1,000,000
Cumberland Pipe Line company.....	Kentucky.....	1,000,000
Eastern Ohio Oil and Gas company.....	Ohio.....	5,000
Eclipse Lubricating Oil company.....	Pennsylvania.....	Not known
Eureka Pipe Line company.....	West Virginia.....	5,000,000
Florence Oil and Refining company.....	Colorado.....	500,000
Franklin Pipe Line company.....	Pennsylvania.....	50,000
Galena Signal Oil company.....	Pennsylvania.....	10,000,000
Indiana Pipe Line company.....	Indiana.....	1,000,000
Lawrence Natural Gas company.....	Pennsylvania.....	1,000,000
Mahoning Gas Fuel company.....	Ohio.....	300,000
Manhattan Oil company.....	Ohio.....	500,000
Mountain State Gas company.....	West Virginia.....	500,000
National Fuel Gas company.....	New Jersey.....	2,500,000
National Trust company.....	Pennsylvania.....	25,455,200
New York Transit company.....	New York.....	5,000,000
Northern Pipe Line company.....	Pennsylvania.....	1,000,000
Northwestern Ohio Natural Gas company.....	Ohio.....	2,775,250
Ohio Oil company.....	Ohio.....	2,000,000
Ohio City Fuel Supply company.....	Pennsylvania.....	2,000,000
Owego Manufacturing company.....	New York.....	1,000,000
Pennsylvania Gas company.....	Pennsylvania.....	2,000,000
Pennsylvania Oil company.....	Pennsylvania.....	80,000
People's Natural Gas company.....	Pennsylvania.....	1,000,000
Pittsburg Natural Gas company.....	Pennsylvania.....	350,000
Platt and Washburn Refining company.....	New Jersey.....	14,000
Prairie Oil and Gas company.....	Kansas.....	2,500,000
Republic Oil company.....	New York.....	35,000
Salamanca Gas company.....	New York.....	3,000,000
Security Gas company.....	Ohio.....	500,000
Solar Refining company.....	Ohio.....	5,000,000
Southern Pipe Line company.....	Pennsylvania.....	2,500,000
Southwest Pennsylvania Pipe Lines company.....	Pennsylvania.....	3,500,000
Standard Oil company of California.....	California.....	6,000,000
Standard Oil company of Indiana.....	Indiana.....	1,000,000
Standard Oil company of Iowa.....	Iowa.....	100,000
Standard Oil company of Kansas.....	Kansas.....	1,000,000
Standard Oil company of Kentucky.....	Kentucky.....	1,000,000
Standard Oil company of Minnesota.....	Minnesota.....	100,000
Standard Oil company of Nebraska.....	Nebraska.....	1,000,000
Standard Oil company of New York.....	New York.....	15,000,000
Standard Oil company of Ohio.....	Ohio.....	3,500,000
Swan & Finch company.....	New York.....	100,000
Taylorstown Natural Gas company.....	Pennsylvania.....	10,000
Tide Water Pipe company (Limited).....	Pennsylvania.....	\$25,000
Tide Water Oil company.....	New Jersey.....	5,000,000
Union Tank Line company.....	New Jersey.....	3,500,000
United Natural Gas company.....	Pennsylvania.....	1,000,000
United Oil company.....	Colorado.....	3,500,000
Vacuum Oil company.....	Pennsylvania.....	2,500,000
Washington Oil company.....	Pennsylvania.....	100,000
Waters-Pierce Oil company.....	Missouri.....	400,000

Testing Butter. Here is a certain butter test: Melt a little on some hot hominy in your breakfast plate and taste it. The fraud will establish itself instantly. Print butter fetches a bigger price than ordinary tub butter. There is an extra charge for manipulation and wrapping the pound pieces in paraffin paper. But in my travels I have met print butter that was made up of "cooking thirds." Make sure of your butter dealer, then go ahead.—New York Press.

All is Vanity! "At first," said the apartment house philosopher, "life in a flat seems an interesting study of humanity, but soon you lose your urbanity, part with your Christianity, fall into profanity, and pass by swift stages from mental sanity into violent insanity."

Misguided Man. A Pennsylvania man asserts that his wife hasn't spoken to him in seven years. Yet the misguided man is suing for a divorce.—N. O. Times-Democrat.

New Egypt Arising. A progressive Arab of Cairo is sinking wells and installing irrigation pumps at the foot of the pyramid of Cheops, and the Sphinx, after waiting thousands of years on sand wastes, soon will be looking out on green fields. This is one of the many demonstrations of the change from the old to the new Egypt.

Short Skirts for Street Wear. Frau Schubert, a prominent dress reform advocate of Hanover, says that trains fit for the drawing-room are not suitable for the street, and that women with long dresses that do of doors sweep up all sorts of germs, are a "serious danger to themselves and to other people."

Varieties of Stinging Ader. In the United States Pharmacopoeia it is stated that there are 1,200 species of cocktail and that each species has many varieties.—Clover.

Different Than. Husband—It's strange that I can never find anything about the house that belongs to me without your assistance. Wife—How did you manage before we were married, dear? Husband—Oh, things stayed where I put them then.—Chicago Daily News.

A man may not have much faith in doctors, up to the time when the first baby arrives in his house. After that he regards them with awe.

A Dangerous Case. One of the surgeons of a hospital asked an Irish help which he considered the most dangerous of the many cases then in the hospital. "That, sir," said Patrick, as he pointed to a case of surgical instruments.

Native. Little Sophia has just been informed that she has a little sister. "Oh, how lovely! Please, please let me be the one to tell mamma."—Translated for Transatlantic Tales from El Diario de la Marina.

As interpreted. Mayme—George declared he would gladly go through fire and water for me. Eddy—That means he will look after the furnace and keep your wash-tubs filled after marriage.—Chicago Daily News.

Perhaps Put to Better Use. A church in London still draws an income which was bequeathed it for the purpose of buying wood wherewith to burn heretics.

The World's Demands. A man who cannot afford to return hospitalities will find that he need not expect to avail himself of those of his acquaintances to the end of his career, unless he is an extremely engaging person.—Frances Hoogson Burnett.

Check on Scorchers. Cyclists in Roumania, to facilitate identification, are compelled by law to have their names on the lamp-glasses of their machines, so as to be legible at night.

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