

SUICIDE AND PUBLICITY

Dr. Antonio Stella Approves Report Adopted by American Academy of Medicine Deploring the Printing of Particulars of Self-Killing, Because Others Go and Do Likewise.

THE TWENTY LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH

In this table, from a Census Bureau bulletin, previous the twenty leading causes of death, suicide being seventeenth.

Twenty Leading Causes of Number of Deaths:	all ages
Tuberculosis (all forms).....	199
Heart disease.....	65,771
Diarrhoea and enteritis.....	12,110
Pneumonia (all forms).....	49,007
Neuritis and neuralgia.....	48,420
Cancer.....	37,562
Apoplexy.....	21,028
Bronchopneumonia.....	15,288
Premature birth.....	14,328
Old age.....	13,426
Scarlet fever.....	10,722
Diphtheria.....	10,722
Diseases of arteries.....	10,714
Suicide.....	8,421
Other diseases.....	7,851
Measles.....	7,851
Cholera.....	7,851
Meningitis.....	7,851
Childbirth.....	7,851

By WILLIAM S. COUCH.

Is suicide a private, personal affair?

The American Academy of Medicine says it is in an official report of a committee unanimously adopted in a recent San Francisco convention of the country's best-known physicians and surgeons.

"Suicide is a private and personal affair," the report reads. "There is no more justification for the publication of suicide accounts than for publishing other matters. If, however, the members of the press are still skeptical of the fact that they are now accessories to the crime, we suggest that they assist in the study of the conditions that promote it. The committee emphatically requests the American press to refrain from further publication of suicide reports, because:

(1) The rapid increase in the suicide death rate in the United States is due to the suggestion promulgated by newspaper stories of other suicides. (2) Your committee finds alienists practically unanimous in the opinion that suggestive published details of suicides are a powerful factor in the causation of suicide among susceptible men. (3) Newspapers reply that it is their province to publish the news. Attempts to prevent such publications are invasions of the liberty of the press. They say the people demand the news and it must be given them. (4) Attempts at reform legislation are practically useless, unless preceded by popular education. (5) We must appeal, then, to the doubtful conscience of American newspapers, if they have one in the present decadent condition of the press of the United States.

"I am frank to say," said Judge Warren W. Foster, New York's bench expert criminologist, "that there would be no man taking sides in any controversy between medical and newspaper men. His would be the fate of grain crushed between two millstones.

"Out of my study of crime I have concluded that the press would better help social reform by playing up discoveries of new means to it than by emphasizing crime itself. Still, I have no personal experience on which to base advice as to how newspapers should be run."

Ask for Suppression of News.

"The law makes attempted suicide a felony, and an accessory to suicide a felon, too. A maximum sentence of two years and a maximum fine of \$1,000 are the same in both cases. Several prisoners have been jailed, you will find from the records, for encouraging other persons, particularly their wives, to kill themselves. To get a burial permit in a death case a physician is, of course, required by law to report on the cause of death, which includes suicide. After their charges, it is worth notice that these medical men add a frank appeal to the newspapers for help to suppress suicides."

In the homicide bureau of District Attorney Charles S. Whitman's office it was said: "Suicide cases are not so important a problem in this office as you might think. We get a few suicide reports each year, but the numbers are insignificant and almost unnoticed by us as compared to more important crimes. A discussion of whether suicides are suggested by newspaper reports of other cases would require a careful study of our books and the newspaper reports for many years. We are frank to say that we couldn't help your controversy on either side if we dug through our files and attempted prosecutions of attempted suicides, or their accessories, when 'played up' in the press, have usually reduced suicide reports. A poll of our staff would probably show that most of us believe prosecutions to

panions hoped that he never would be under fire. Should he be tried for undue caution on the field, he would be ready to testify that it was a constitutional failing; that he had been that way from boyhood, and really should have been on duty back in the hospital or any other place that did not require physical courage. Yes, his old associates at home talked it all over.

In Scribner's for July General Funston tells something more about this happy red-headed boy, reared by sisters who didn't believe in fighting. Here's the reference from Funston's article:

"In this company (Company C) was a unique character, Sergt. John C. Murphy, who died only a couple of years ago as a retired officer of the regular army. Throughout the whole advance Murphy serenely smoked a large briar-wood pipe, which he only removed from his mouth when it became necessary to address some pointed remarks to the men of his company. He saw one of the men crouch crouching down behind a low shelter as if he contemplated remain-

ing there as the company passed on. Murphy walked back to the man, deliberately removed his pipe, as if he were afraid of biting the stem in two, and then, with unbowed words, fairly kicked him up onto the firing line, where the man made up for lost time by plying his rifle with great vigor."

Dew Ponds.

Among the most singular archeological remains found in Great Britain are the ancient dew ponds, the construction of which is ascribed to the Neolithic age.

The purpose of these ponds was to furnish drinking water for cattle. An exposed position, where springs were absent, was selected, and a broad, hollowed surface was formed and covered over with straw, or some other nonconducting material. Above was spread a thick layer of clay strewn with stones. During the night the cold surface of the clay caused an abundance of moisture to condense on it. He saw one of the men crouch crouching down behind a low shelter as if he contemplated remain-

THE RED BADGE OF COURAGE

A Philippine Hero Was a Poor Fighter in Boyhood, but a Warrior as a Man.

Up about Leavenworth about a thousand years ago—no, it was really more than that; say, twenty—there was the usual neighborhood crowd of boys, frolicking and romping. Among them was one with the reddest of hair, who led in all the boyish sports except one that brings the greatest distinction in Boyville—plain everyday knockdown fighting. When it came to the fighting point, Jack Murphy—was all for turning it off with a laugh, even if he himself had to be the butt of the jest. He simply wasn't the fighting kind—didn't believe in it, and acknowledged it. It seems he had been reared by elder sisters. So every young bandit who had suffered defeat or milder humiliation from one of the more ruffianly young prates, tried to retrieve himself on Jack.

When the Spanish war came on Jack enlisted, and all of his old com-



ANTONIO STELLA, M. D.

have a deterrent effect. It is for the alienist to say whether press publicity reports tempters. But if we were not so modest we might suggest that bank looting is a much less popular pastime in New York today than it was a few months ago. Well advertised punishments for suicide might have a similar distaste in those tempted."

Suicides Decreasing.

The 1910 United States bulletin on the suicide death rate put suicide at No. 17 in its list of "Twenty Leading Causes of Death." Such diseases as tuberculosis, pneumonia, heart disease and fevers head the list, with cases running from 10,000 to 81,720 deaths in 1909. The census report shows 8,402 suicides in the country in 1909, with 8,322 cases for 1908.

"This merely numerical increase in 1909 is due to the greater accuracy shown in the 1910 census taking," the report continues. "The wide disproportion between our large population in 1909 and this small three per cent. increase in suicides reported shows a steady and real decrease in self-murder in the United States."

The Chicago Tribune's annual poll of the country, published on January 1, 1910, cited 10,852 suicide cases in 1909, and 10,230 in 1908, or a decrease. "The suicide death rate has decreased in cities," admits Frederick Huffman in his annual careful Spectator report for 1909. Huffman has collected data for 15 years in America's 65 largest cities, based on the suicide percentage of every 100,000 population unit. He found the suicide rate for every 100,000 population unit in 1894 to be 16 per cent. His 1909 report, which tallies closely with the census bulletin on city suicides, shows the suicide rate has decreased to 19.7 for 1909. New York city had the all lowest rate of 18.9 in 1909, the greatest city of the country having reported 116 cases less in 1909 than in 1908.

Suicides in Election Years.

The Huffman statistics for the 15 years covered show a suicide percentage which rises and falls, the highest figure being 21 and a fraction. Several years saw it rise higher than 1909, and these were notably the years of general elections.

"That physicians and surgeons head the list of suicides" all these reports agree, the census bulletins include. That report goes on to say: "We find, contrary to superstition, the agricultural population at the foot of the suicide death rates. Lawyers, especially younger ones, stand next to physicians. Other professions and trades contribute cases as follows: Agents, bookkeepers, salesmen, servants, waiters, barbers, and agricultural laborers. The most common causes of suicide in 1909 were found to be despondency, 4,760; unknown causes, 1,467; insanity, 559; domestic infelicity, 834; ill health, 936; business losses, 81; liquor, 150; disappointment in love, 243. It is noted that the 81 suicides in 1909 for business despondency show a decrease from 600 suicides for that cause in 1908. The most common means of suicide used was poison, in 2,346 cases; then followed, asphyxiation, by gas, 939; cutting instruments, 636; drowning, 507; jumping from high places, 158; crushing, 84; unspecified means, 68."

MacDonald's End Still a Mystery.

A similar report was circulated about Gen. Hector MacDonald, who rose from the ranks of a Scotch recruit to high command, and became the hero of the Sudan. He was reported to have killed himself in a little French town, but the sealed coffin supposed to hold the hero's body was never opened. Tommy Atkins will rush you, his fists active and his breath hot with rage, if you hint MacDonald was guilty of the charges made against him.

Death Rather Than Jail.

"I fear your sentence will be too late, your honor," Wright said, smiling, when called upon to stand up for sentence. No sentence was ever pronounced on Wright either, for he dropped his loaded instrument, and, as he spoke, dead from a small amount of the swift-acting cyanide of potassium.

The Baker Pasha, General MacDonald and another case or two, cited by Dr. Stella as printable suicide stories, had the military law of suicide for foundations. Sir Valentine Baker, a forced English officer, was charged many years ago with insulting a woman of a rather poor social standing in a railway compartment. His suicide was reported, but, years afterward, in the last Russian-Turkish Balkan war, Baker Pasha bobbed up serenely as one of the Turkish empire's greatest generals in all its history.

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The AWAKING of the OLDER NATIONS

Marvelous Wave of New National Life That is Sweeping Around the Earth—Turkey's New Regime Constitutes Huge Human Problem.

By WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

Constantinople.—The man who lifts his head above his own neighborhood's affairs—and that's the fashion now—days—finds himself confronted with a whole cycle of world problems. If he knows how to put two and two together he perceives that the present ferment is what Mr. Roosevelt called in his Berlin speech a "world movement." While as individual and distinct as human nature and racial characteristics, it yet presents the same general features everywhere. Front and foremost is the new expression of the national spirit.

This may fairly be called the biggest news in the world, and I have undertaken to follow it through Europe and Asia. While the journalistic historian naturally cannot see it as clearly as the student of a generation hence, he none the less cannot fail to perceive the outstanding aspects of this ancient human drama which is being enacted before his eyes. The poet and the dramatist rather than for those of a mere chronicler of the obvious or the easily ascertainable. America's deep internal agitation and mood of self-examination may be seen in it.

A Instance From Ireland.

The first time outside of North America on this tour of investigation where I came into contact with the awakening of the old and dormant national consciousness was in West Ireland. I was in the poor fishing village of Claddagh, where survive the purest blooded Irish stock. Everybody spoke a tongue strange to my ears, but a genial coster shifted his duodecim and good naturedly explained to me, "Ev'rybody ought to have their own language you know and use that." A similar revival of the Gaelic may be found in parts of Scotland. Indeed old Scotia as a whole shows a restiveness under the Anglicization that is in progress and asserts her own national character even to the extent of calling the Scottish members of Parliament sharply to account.

Britain's Big Score.

Great Britain as a whole, and especially England, has within the past half decade been scoured into a new national self-consciousness. The nation looks strangely like a case of blue funk to an outsider. John Bull has displayed something more closely akin to hysteria than he has been accused of for a long time. The nation has hurriedly built Dreadnoughts, organized territorial forces, reorganized her army, created the Boy Scouts, and is now clamoring for an airship fleet lest Germany suddenly gobble her up over night.

With Germany the new mood is co-extensive with the reign of Emperor William and the power of Bismarck. It is frankly avowed imperialism. Even the tourist may see that Germany is the most efficient nation in Europe. Her organization running down into all departments of life, and becoming objectionable paternalism in many respects, is paralleled only by the case of her pupil, Japan. Germany has gone in for world-domination, commercial, if not political.

Who's the New Hero?

Who's the new hero? Dreams more who can say? The observer cannot help wondering what may be the inspiration and significance of the Napoleon cult which has such vogue in Germany. I have watched the emperor as he has for nearly four mortal hours on horseback reviewed 20,000 of his troops, and the occasion was ominous.

Whatever the militarism in Germany portends, certainly she is winning the commercial world, especially in the Balkans, and the ever-hearty German may be disliking it. And she seems to have few friends—she is successful in spite of ill-will.

Crossing to France and Spain one finds evident symptoms of a new awakening there. The "laissez faire" policy has been abandoned, and France's experience is even now being repeated in the realm of King Alfonso. And Portugal is a republic!

The Lesser Nations Awaken.

The little nations are doing wonderful things. Constantinople, as well as actually independent, has forged powerfully to the front in the Balkans. Her army is the dread of Turkey, the concern of other powers, and the hope of Greece. Finland and Poland, robbed of their independence, and under a heavy yoke, are yet showing the power of this revivifying national spirit by their dogged adherence to their national ideals and language. Hungary clings to its own tongue, and in Budapest the carriage drivers, even at the risk of losing a fare, will often prefer to speak any language but Hungarian.

The Case, as the History of the Past 20 Years Has Shown, is Well Summed up by Sydney Brooks in a recent magazine article.

"Russia, a power whose mere imagination had for a century oppressed the imagination of Europe, has reeled, through an unbroken series of defeats, into the blackness of chaos and anarchy. Japan, 20 years ago an unconsidered factor in the plans of statesmen, has thrilled the entire world with all the qualities that make a nation victorious and keep it great; has marched irresistibly to the mastery of the far east; and has, in the clearing up of the world, daily campaign of commercial triumph over China, numerically the greatest power in the world, but immemorably inert, disjointed, and nerveless, has felt the quickening of new life, and lifts its scarred and battered head with a fierce and half a protest and half a threat.

"A wave of national self-consciousness and self-assertion has passed

from east to west, agitating Slavic, settling overlords and governments in Persia and Turkey, and gravely perplexing the rulers of India and Egypt. The United States has bounded out of her long, innocuous isolation; has fallen at a blow an ancient member of the European family of nations; has been swept by the spirit of expansion; has planted herself in the West Indies, and has striven the Pacific with stepping-stones from San Francisco to Manila; the tiny, feeble democratic people of Norway, after beating for long against the bars, have wrenched them apart, and stepped on to the European stage with a quiet but intense assertion of nationality. Another people, the Hungarians, not less virile and incomparably more gifted and attractive, with a thousand years of self-contained history behind them, have in the last two decades taken long and irrefragable strides toward the same goal of conscious nationalism. France, barely escaping a military dictatorship, has been stretched on the rack of the Dreyfus case, amid universal anguish and abhorrence. Great Britain, expanding powerfully from the Cape to Cairo, has fought and conquered the Boers and added their territories to her empire. Italy, had her Adowa, and Greece her Domokos. What is compendiously called the 'labor question,' has posed its insoluble conundrums with a growing and menacing insistence to the peoples and rulers of all countries; and incredible inventions and discoveries have revolutionized our conceptions of matter and deeply affected our daily scheme of life.

Egypt in the Lime-Light.

Thanks to the assistance of Mr. Roosevelt, the case of Egypt is fairly familiar to the public. That a tremendous crisis has come in the land of the pharaohs, after the sleep of centuries, is now doubted by no one. The national colors, and is placed by all the rights and prerogatives of old China. Moreover, she seems to be seeking the tutelage of America; and whether the youngest of the great nations shall become the teacher of the oldest is of more interest and importance than the question of the tariff. A Great Human Drama.

Roughly sketched, the foregoing is the field to which I have addressed myself in the present series of investigations which I am now making in Asia. Although I have spent several months in Europe working on the subject, I shall confine myself to the oldest nations, for, alongside of the peoples of Asia, the antiquity of Europe is modern. I shall deal less with the political aspects of the case than with the human conditions which go to make this wonderful waking a fact in the life of the everyday man and woman. It is altering the bazaars of the Orient into shops for the sale of western products, and is putting American sewing machines into the homes of the people and American agricultural implements into their fields. In all the world there is nothing quite so interesting as the life and labors and hopes of men and women. (Copyright, 1911, by Joseph B. Bowles.)

Rings for British King and Queen.

The coronation rings form an important part of the ceremonial, the investiture taking place, as regards the king, after the sword has been girded on, the pall of cloth of gold assumed, and the orb been handed by and returned to the dean of Westminster, but before the scepter has been delivered. King Edward VII. used the same that King Edward IV. received, though, like the pound tray of gold which the sovereign offers as a memento, the ring has generally to be specially made.

This particular one is set with a table sapphire, surrounded by diamonds, and having on it a St. George's cross in rubies, thus embodying the national colors, and is placed by the archbishop on the fourth finger of the

from east to west, agitating Slavic, settling overlords and governments in Persia and Turkey, and gravely perplexing the rulers of India and Egypt. The United States has bounded out of her long, innocuous isolation; has fallen at a blow an ancient member of the European family of nations; has been swept by the spirit of expansion; has planted herself in the West Indies, and has striven the Pacific with stepping-stones from San Francisco to Manila; the tiny, feeble democratic people of Norway, after beating for long against the bars, have wrenched them apart, and stepped on to the European stage with a quiet but intense assertion of nationality. Another people, the Hungarians, not less virile and incomparably more gifted and attractive, with a thousand years of self-contained history behind them, have in the last two decades taken long and irrefragable strides toward the same goal of conscious nationalism. France, barely escaping a military dictatorship, has been stretched on the rack of the Dreyfus case, amid universal anguish and abhorrence. Great Britain, expanding powerfully from the Cape to Cairo, has fought and conquered the Boers and added their territories to her empire. Italy, had her Adowa, and Greece her Domokos. What is compendiously called the 'labor question,' has posed its insoluble conundrums with a growing and menacing insistence to the peoples and rulers of all countries; and incredible inventions and discoveries have revolutionized our conceptions of matter and deeply affected our daily scheme of life.

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Typical Street Scene in the New Constantinople.

a self-governing nation. Their emergence is one of the spectacular phenomena of recent history. The end of the story has not yet been written. I shall shortly be in Egypt to study the case on the spot.

It is in Asia that this new wave of nationalism assumes the most amazing proportions. Turkey, as I shall show in my next article, has executed a volte face. There are changes upon a change, and the world will have to predict consequences to Europe. For anybody to whom life has become blasé a trip to Turkey and a study of its transformation is recommended as a sufficient tonic. The civilizations of the past three thousand years have flowered and died on the soil of Turkey. The holy places of the two most potent religions of mankind are within that empire. Most of the ruins that link the present with the past may be dug up only by perambulating from Constantinople to a vast assortment of nations and colors and creeds converge their problems upon the capital, to which Constantine, the first Christian emperor, gave his name 15 centuries ago.

India and China are the two other great nations whose awakening concerns the world. Her industrial potentiality she things in the large and who perceive the inter-relation of human history. The case of India is politically of concern chiefly to India herself and Great Britain, the governing power. From the human standpoint it is one of the great dramas in real life that are more interesting than any books. After I have gone through Turkey and Persia, I am due in India.

China's Portentous Turnings.

The giant among nations, whose speculation to statesmen, philosophers and novelists, is at last unmistakably awake and girding herself for a new place in the history of the world. If her incredible bulk of more than four hundred million human beings were to be unleashed with hostile intent upon the America, Europe or Asia, the result would be an unparalleled avalanche—a real Armageddon. Her soil holds minerals enough to upset all the calculations of the financial districts of the world. Her industrial potentiality could turn the labor market upside down. As a military force she has possibility which one shrinks from contemplating.

Anything is possible in the China of tomorrow, because by government edict and by the impulse of the people at large, she has definitely turned her face toward the west and turned her back upon the past that made the

uniformity of color of your garden, not to buy your seeds in mixed packages. A mixed package usually contains every color in which the flower grows, whereas three or four packages of plain colors would give you sufficient variety and yet insure harmony of shade.

If this would give you more seed than you need, you can combine with one or more other persons, and thus have a sufficiency for each. A whole neighborhood could combine in this way, and save money without interfering with variety and difference of choice.

Pure Food and Fresh Air.

Cleanliness and pure, nourishing food are indispensable factors in the development of the child who is to be healthy and intelligent. Medical authorities place particular stress upon the care of the milk bottles. Teach the children the value of fresh air and quantities of pure water and put your instructions into practice daily. You will be surprised at the results. In child or adult ill health saps vitality—and neither can afford the untold sacrifice of youth and freshness.

No Tariff Protection Needed.

Up-to-date pulp paper mills in the United States need no protection as against Canada. If their raw material costs more, their greater efficiency and experience tend to overcome the disadvantage. But under reciprocity or greater freedom of trade in the raw material supply, differences in cost of material between the two countries should largely disappear, and thus all the better for the body of natural wealth. How long since has this become a legitimate purpose in the doctrine of protection?

Value of Wisdom.

It was remarked by Seneca that a wise man is provided for circumstances of every kind; the good he controls he had he vanquishes; in prosperity he brags no presumption, and in adversity he feels no despondency. The wisdom he possesses enables him to bear up with heroism under all reverses.

One of His Habits.

The man who is his own worst enemy always tries to blame it on somebody else.

THEY ASK TOO MUCH

"INSURGENT" REPUBLICANS ASPEAR PRESUMPTUOUS.

Democratic Votes Should Put Through the Wool Schedules, Regardless of Sentiment of the Party in the Minority.

Of course, the Smoot wool bill will receive no consideration from the Democrats of the senate. It provides for higher duties on wools than are provided for in the La Follette bill, and, of course, higher than those in the Democratic bill. Though there are reductions, they are not considerable, and the old specific, compensatory taxes are retained. The bill is chiefly interesting as indicating that even Senator Smoot seems to have learned that the present wool tariff, which he helped to put through only two years ago, will no longer do.

The La Follette bill is, of course, better than the Smoot bill, but it does not go as far as the Democratic bill. As this latter is open to criticism on the score of its conservative character, it is hard to see why the Democrats should make any further concessions. Their bill was prepared with the idea that it might be tough with the help of the votes of those republicans who really desired tariff reduction. It is, therefore, a compromise measure offered by men who proved by their adoption of it that they sincerely wished for some action on the tariff. The Democrats, however, ought they to be expected to go in sacrificing party principles for the sake of Republican votes?

It seems to us that the country has a right to demand some concessions from the insurgents. The Democratic bill is not radical, and was not intended to be radical. It was passed by the house, the body in which this sort of legislation ought to originate. It is now backed by practically the entire Democratic caucus in the senate. Yet a few Republicans are insisting on their right to impose their will on the Democrats, and to ask a heavily Democratic house of representatives to repudiate their own bill and substitute theirs. A bill prepared by a few Republican senators. And the bill is more protective than the Democratic measure which is itself thought by many Democrats to be too protective.

We fully appreciate the importance of getting something done, but it should be remembered that any revision of the wool schedule now being pleaded in bar of further revision in the near future. Those attempting it will be assailed with the old cry against tinkering with the tariff. Therefore, the Democrats should go as far as they can at this session. A good deal has been yielded already. We suggest that it might be well to put the responsibility for defeating the very moderate measure of reform that is proposed directly up to the insurgents. They have fought reciprocity determinedly, largely on the ground that it was not fair to the farmer. Will they not now, after the reciprocity agreement is adopted, to defeat the two bills that are designed to meet their own objections? This is doubtful. The Democrats have made a very bad and honest bid for unreserved support. The bid should be accepted, and with gratitude. The house bill is the best of the three, and it ought to pass and become a law.—Indianapolis News.

La Follette's Weakness.

Senator La Follette admits that the Democrats in the house may point with pride to the record they have made. The insurgent senators had like opportunity to record by joining with the progressive Democrats to pass the entire legislative program of the house. La Follette claims to favor a revision downward of the tariff on the manufactured goods of the world. There is a good deal of this kind of revision in the reciprocity bill, and in the wool tariff and farmers' free list bills. It is an obsession of La Follette that these reforms must be accomplished by one or not at all. He is the Wisconsin senator should have his way it would be not at all.

Sugar Trust is Now a Model.

In days of old it was usual to convert the heathen by the use of force and cruelty. That the sugar trust could have been brought to salvation by any other means is more than doubtful. It was not led to the altar of repentance by gentle persuasion, but dragged there by unfeeling and brutal hands. If it had been left to itself to work out its moral regeneration it might still be swindling the government out of millions, bribing customs officials and falsifying its records. It is now a highly self-respecting corporation that speaks unambiguously of the pecuniary benefits it confers upon thousands of widows and orphans.

Democracy Policy.

The Democratic party does not intend to abandon the custom houses, but favors a policy of levying customs duties for revenue purposes only, at rates that do not deprive the farmer of honest competition in the home market. This position will be accomplished by the reduction of tariff taxes provided for in the laws now on the statute books, in part where fair competition will bring about reasonable prices and destroy monopolistic tendencies.—Hon. Oscar W. Underwood of Alabama.

Why No "Scientific Tariff"?

We may as well make up our minds that no taxes will ever be reduced, such as the tariff on lumber, trade, and toward the destruction of those restraints on competition which have been fundamental in the growth of trusts during the past two decades. Public opinion is headed that way; the recent trust decisions have done much; the present activities of the attorney general's office at Washington will do more; a lower tariff will help; most of all will be done by the simple workings of economic laws.

Protectionists, Answer!

The tariff on pulp paper is for the protection of only one man, the monopolized limited timber supplies of this country. It is not for the protection of labor; it is not for the protection of manufacture. It is to hold the country under tribute to a few timber owners—to tie it to a man who has a body of natural wealth. How long since has this become a legitimate purpose in the doctrine of protection?

Subject to Appeal.

The decision of a New York judge that a man is boss of his own household is probably good law, and it will stand until overruled by the real boss of the household—the wife, the cook or the baby, as the case may be.

TRUSTS HERE AND IN BRITAIN

Real Truth Regarding Conditions Seems a Hard Matter to Get Before the Voters.

In the senate the other day enemies of reciprocity did not scruple to reveal the fiction that trusts succeed as despoil the people of this country exist also in free trade England. The persistent propagators of this fable in face of the fact that such gigantic combinations as the steel trust, the sugar trust and the lumber trust cannot exist where free trade combats them are referred to a famous work of Mrs. Opie on the different ways of perverting the truth. It was said of Napoleon that he never failed to do this whenever it served his purpose and that he lied at St. Helena almost to his last breath. The propagandists of the tale of spoliatory trusts under British free trade are Napoleonic in this respect if in nothing else. The cable has just reported how English courts and juries deal with promoters of wormy joint stock companies. Most of the alleged trusts in England are companies and firms of limited liability owing their success only to the superior quality and cheapness of their goods. These are the sole conditions on which they can thrive. Instead of being subject to parliamentary investigations and government prosecutions they are welcomed by British consumers. Here, on the other hand, the great industrial trusts now undergoing investigations in congress and prosecutions in the federal courts, owe their existence to the favoritism of unjust tariff laws. That is the difference.

In this country the trusts thrive in gathering the spoils from the people because the tariff prohibits or obstructs free competition with them. In England, when a combination undertakes to monopolize trade in any article and force its price above its normal level, competition flows in from every direction to redress the balance in favor of consumers, and that is the way in which the American type. Yet the gigantic lie of "Trusts in Free Trade England" will still keep marching around in seven-league boots.

Prosecution of "Trusts."

We may differ as to the question of free trade with foreign nations, but there can be no doubt of the desirability of a good deal freer trade among ourselves than we now enjoy. Great has been the antagonism between the people and their source of supply. Too many men and organizations take toll of life's necessities before they reach the consumer. Consumers, not being organized in their capacity as consumers, it is most difficult for them to protect themselves against extortion or to maintain their rights. Therefore, the government is under peculiar obligation to enforce any laws enacted for their protection. This is the animating purpose of the suit against the lumber trust. The government has been at work for a year gathering evidence, so we suppose it feels reasonably sure that it has the facts. The trust, if not the administration might "run amuck" in its light on trusts, and so disturb business, can now feel no alarm, for have they not been assured that no combinations would be shattered unless they "unreasonably" restrained trade? These people can have no objection to the prosecution of trusts that are in reality trusts under the recent interpretation of the anti-trust law.

Democratic Doctrine.

Mr. President, I was taught to believe that genuine Democracy looks to the millions and to their relief rather than to the hundreds who need no relief. It is not a matter of social