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TRUST ISSUES

Address by Hon. J. McD. Trimble Before the State Bar Association.

The address on Trust Issues by Hon. J. McD. Trimble, of Kansas City, formerly of Mexico, before the Missouri State Bar Association, will be of interest to all our readers.

I have not taken the time, nor had the opportunity to reduce to writing, nor to consider fully what I am to say on this question, and I feel very much embarrassed on account of that.

I think that the wish that is fast becoming uppermost in the minds and hearts of the American people is to enforce those laws which forbid all agreements or combinations of which the purpose is, or of which the effect will be, to increase the price of the necessities of life to the consumer, or to lessen the price of the products of the fields and the mines to the producer.

These combinations or agreements have always been unlawful. These things are attempted by many and different means, and many different devices, such as limiting the supply, and increasing the cost of transportation—except to the favored few—and refusing to buy from or sell to those persons who have the courage to assert their right to buy in the cheapest and sell in the highest market, and who have expressed an unwillingness to submit to the terms fixed by the conspirators.

Foreclosing the market was a crime at common law, and all agreements or devices made or adopted by two or more persons to increase the price of victuals, and other necessities of life, have always been held to be unlawful conspiracies, unenforceable, enjoined and indictable.

Competition is the life of trade, it is an old maxim of political economy, and the courts have uniformly adopted the maxim as sound law, and have treated all agreements to prevent competition in trade as void, as against public policy and void, as a matter of American common law.

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Dyspepsia

is an indication that the stomach and other digestive organs are weak, tired or debilitated. It causes no end of aches and pains and is most common where people bolt their meals and hurry and worry as they do in this country.

Hood's Sarsaparilla cures dyspepsia—it has "a magic touch" in this disease.

For testimonials of remarkable cures send for Book on Dyspepsia, No. 5, C. L. Hood Co., Lowell, Mass.

fix the price of commodities, and worst of all, they have come to think and claim that by use they have acquired a vested right to continue in this wrong-doing.

It is only in the last few years that the parties have begun to say anything against the crimes and encroachments of these conspirators.

But the day is now approaching when ambitious men will be seeking the job; it will not be long until it will be seen that public opinion, which is always the strongest auxiliary in any prosecution, will support and encourage these prosecutions and courts will get busy, and be diligent in seeing that all people obey the law.

But, gentlemen, other schemes have been devised to take their place. For instance, the meat packers, grown rich by this license which the people have given them, in order that they might build up the country, and in order that men be encouraged in the raising of cattle, and in order that industries and cities might be built up—under this license they have given so rich that they now buy their own cars to ship their cars out of Kansas City to go to New York, they tender it to a railroad company; the railroad company accepts it, billed at the regular scheduled tariff rate, just the same as it would bill a car load of meat that you or I were to load in one of the railroad cars.

Now, the coal companies, or the coal dealer who has a pull with the railroad company—that is to say, if he happens to be a director in a railroad company, or railroad directors or officers—are interested in that particular coal company—they will establish their mines, say half a mile off of a trunk line of railroad. Then they will go to work and make a railroad out

of their own. Under the charter that they get from the state, they will build half a mile of railroad, crossing from their mine down to the trunk line of the railroad. The railroad company has advertised that its rates for carrying coal from the neighborhood to the market is \$1.00 per ton, but they all must pay \$1.00 per ton. This particular company that has built this half-mile of railroad—that has built this—ships its coal out at \$1.00 per ton and pays it. But the railroad company says to the people who have built this half-mile of railroad and who are the owners of this mine, "You are in the railroad business also, and this business originated on your line of road; this is a through bill, and we will allow you a proportion of the through rate for originating the business, and for carrying it over your half mile of track," and out of the \$1.00 per ton, they pay back to that mining company that has the half mile of road \$0.50 as their proportionate part for originating the business and carrying it over their half mile of railroad; so that the favored mine owner gets his coal hauled to market for, say, 25 cents per ton, while all others in the neighborhood pay one dollar per ton. All of these devices and many more have been, and will be, adopted as long as the avarice of man is allowed to proceed uncontrolled by the lack of law or by the lack of its enforcement.

The Standard Oil Company, according to Miss Ida Tarbell, got its start and accumulated its great wealth by getting, originally, rebates on every barrel of oil that it shipped on any railroad, and not only that—not only rebates that its competitors did not get, but an arrangement with the railroad companies, there was paid to the Standard Oil Company a certain stipulated amount on every barrel of oil that any other shipper shipped over the roads. You can see, under an arrangement of that kind, how easy it was for the Standard Oil Company to get rich, and its competitors to get poor. The transportation companies are to blame for these things. They are created by the States for the benefit of the people, and it is the State's duty to see that they are operated for the benefit of all the people alike.

But, as I said, rebates have now somewhat gone out of vogue. Just recently in Kansas there was developed a large oil field. The Standard Oil Company, of course, got in there as soon as it could and looked around. It didn't pay out any money; it was not investing any; it was simply building up the country or developing it, but it encouraged every body who felt inclined to sink a well to do so, saying, "We will buy all the oil you can produce," and it commenced by giving the market price, and then raising it a little more, until oil in Kansas was bringing, say \$1.50 a barrel, which was a high price. The Standard Oil Company was taking all it could get, and paying this big price for every penny it got out of the people to go and develop the country by sinking wells at their own expense.

At this time, in the beginning the Standard Oil Company did not have any pipe lines to bring its oil into the market, so that it had to ship it over the railroads. It paid for shipping it over the railroads, say ten cents a barrel—didn't know that I am giving the figures correctly, but this will illustrate the idea—ten cents a barrel. They had bought all the pipe lines that they could get, and they had shipped it out at ten cents a barrel over the railroads. Pretty soon the Standard Oil Company completed its own pipe line from Kansas to a point near Independence, Missouri; where it established a refinery, so that it could bring this oil in its own pipe line, and has no further use for transportation companies or railroads. The people in the meantime had been developing their oil lands in the hope and in the expectation that they would have a permanent buyer in the Standard Oil Company. As soon as the Standard Oil Company had its own pipe lines, and its own refinery, they commenced paying less for oil. Now, I don't say that oil went down; I mean that the Standard Oil Company put it down, because nobody else had anything to do in fixing the price. It commenced going down cents per barrel a week, until it got down less than one-half of

what they had been paying before. So some of the people said, "Well, what is the use of selling the Standard Oil Company out? Let us barrel our oil and ship it to the markets ourselves over the railroads." They took their oil to the railroad company, and instead of getting it transported at ten cents per barrel, as the Standard Oil Company had done, they were told that the tariff was now thirty cents a barrel. The officers of the Standard Oil Company were so largely interested in railroad companies—owned so much stock; and controlled such a large interest in the railroads, that they were able to manipulate the tariff for transporting oil in such a way that the rate for transporting oil was raised to such an extent that nobody else could afford to ship it. Then the Kansas immediately introduced into their legislature, which was then in session, a bill making pipe lines common carriers, providing that pipe lines must take all oil that was offered to them. They were looking around to do something—seeking some way to resist and prevent what they saw was a wrong that was being imposed upon them. The Standard Oil Company, in the arrogance of its wealth, issued an order saying, "We will buy no more of Kansas oil." It, of course, thought that a threat of that kind, at the pockets of the people of Kansas would make them come in humbly and say, "Buy our oil and pay us what you please for it." That may have worked in Pennsylvania; it may have answered in New York and where they have begun to lose money more than liberty, but it wouldn't do in Kansas. Kansas was born in trouble. She has been rocked in the cradle of the cyclone, and through those and other hardships, she has taken her way to the stars, and in doing so has acquired the glorious fact of self help. While the average Kansan may not always be very particular in discharging that first duty of the citizen, "to do no wrong," yet he holds strong and close to the doctrine that it is his duty "to suffer no wrong." He is not afraid to express himself; he is not afraid to say what he thinks and he thinks what he says. So, when the Standard Oil Company made this challenge, "We will not buy your oil," the Kansas people immediately said, "We will build a refinery of our own." They passed a law authorizing the establishment of a state refinery. Pipe lines are being built by independent companies, and Kansas will take care of herself.

I am glad this experiment of the Standard Oil Company was tried in Kansas, for I believe it is the only state where it would not have succeeded. The Standard Oil Company made a mistake in supposing that Kansas would cringe to the money power. They made a mistake in thinking that the average Kansan thought more of a dollar than he did of individual freedom. The average Kansan does not "bend the prevalent breeze of the knee that thrills may be heard now and then." He does not bend the knee for any purpose, much less for a dollar. It is thought that the average Kansan says his prayers standing and with his hat on. (Laughter.) Several years ago, at a meeting of the Kansas Legislature, some one called upon a minister who was present to open the session with prayer, and to ask for Divine guidance. The minister that responded was an old time Kansan; he had been there from the beginning; he had seen all of his life, and had been a part of most of it. He arose and began back at the beginning, and narrated all the principal events, social, political, financial and religious of Kansas history, dwelling much upon important details. When he got down to the present time he stopped, and when he did so, one of the members of the Legislature said to the other, "That was a good prayer," the other said, "It was a thundering good prayer, and I guess it is about the best first statement of Kansas affairs that I ever had." (Laughter.) He arose and began back at the beginning, and narrated all the principal events, social, political, financial and religious of Kansas history, dwelling much upon important details. When he got down to the present time he stopped, and when he did so, one of the members of the Legislature said to the other, "That was a good prayer," the other said, "It was a thundering good prayer, and I guess it is about the best first statement of Kansas affairs that I ever had." (Laughter.) He arose and began back at the beginning, and narrated all the principal events, social, political, financial and religious of Kansas history, dwelling much upon important details. When he got down to the present time he stopped, and when he did so, one of the members of the Legislature said to the other, "That was a good prayer," the other said, "It was a thundering good prayer, and I guess it is about the best first statement of Kansas affairs that I ever had." (Laughter.)

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SUFFERED FOR YEARS WITH A COMPLICATION OF FEMALE DISEASES.

Robust Women Who Owe Their Restored Health and Usefulness to Pe-ru-na.

Read the Letters of Grateful Women Cured by Dr. S. B. Hartman's Free Advice.

Thousands of Testimonials Received Every Year.

An Ideal Medicine.

MISS LOUISE MATHER, 1114 North 8th St., Burlington, Vt., Vice-President Bureau of Exchange, writes: "Your medicine is an ideal woman's medicine and by far the best I have known to restore lost health and strength."

"I suffered for several years. My back ached, I had bearing down pains, and frequent headaches. I would often wake from sleep in such pain that I could not suffer for hours before my eyes would close again. I dreaded the long nights as well as the weary days."

"I consulted two physicians, hoping to get relief, finding that their medicines did not seem to cure me, a friend advised me to try Peru-na. I am certainly glad that I followed her advice, for Peru-na is the only medicine for me. Every ache and pain disappeared in four months and I am in perfect health now."

"My earnest advice to suffering women is to try Peru-na, for I feel sure they will not be disappointed in it."—Louise Mather.

Enjoying Splendid Health. Mrs. L. E. Tyler, Santa Monica, Cal., Secretary Santa Monica Medical Society, writes: "I was troubled for over three years with systemic catarrh, complicated by female leukorrhea, nervousness, hysteria and sleeplessness, which nothing could relieve until I began to use Peru-na."

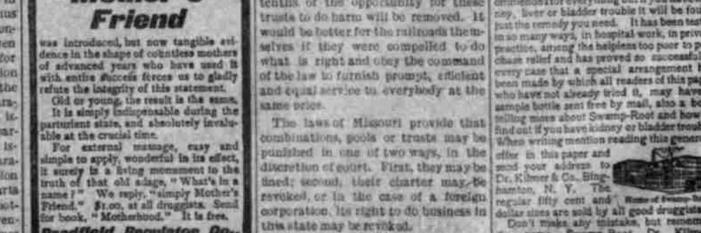
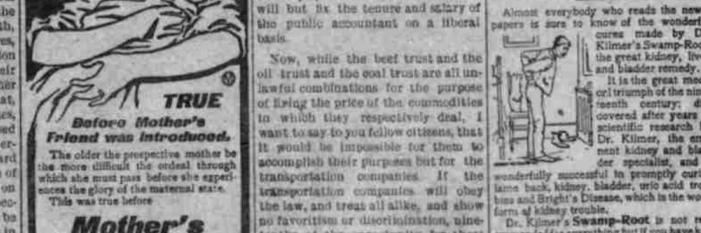
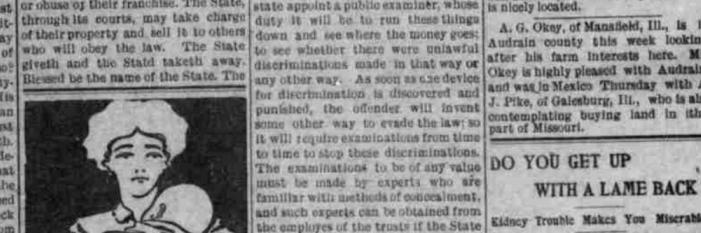
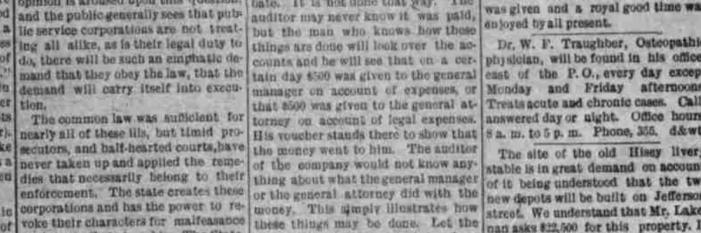
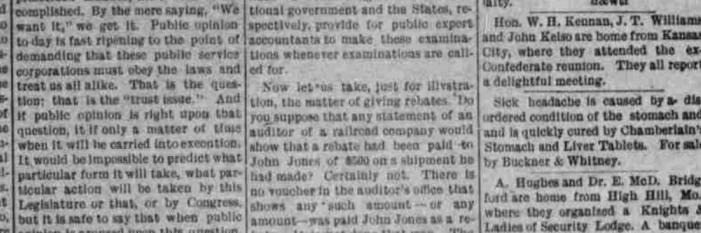
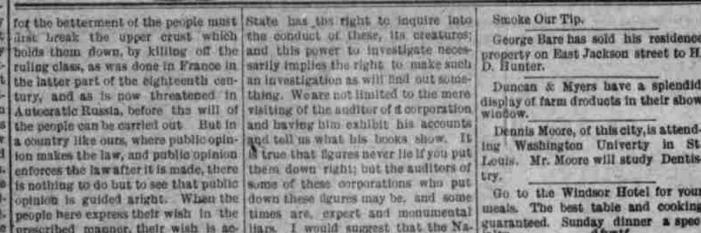
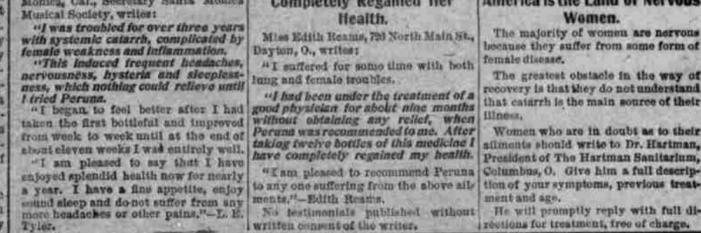
"I began to feel better after I had taken the first bottle and improved from week to week until at the end of about eleven weeks I was entirely well and pleased to say that I have enjoyed splendid health now for nearly a year. I have a fine appetite, enjoy sound sleep and do not suffer from any more headaches or other pains."—L. E. Tyler.

for the betterment of the people must first break the upper crust which holds them down, by killing off the ruling class, as was done in France in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and as is now threatened in Autocratic Russia, before the will of the people can be carried out. But in a country like ours, where public opinion makes the law, and public opinion enforces the law after it is made, there is nothing to do but to see that public opinion is guided aright. When the people here express their wish in the prescribed manner, their wish is not only carried out, but the State, respectively, provide for public expert accountants to make these examinations whenever examinations are called for.

Now let us take, just for illustration, the matter of giving rebates. Do you suppose that any statement of an auditor of a railroad company would show that a rebate had been paid to John Jones of \$500 on a shipment he had made? Certainly not. There is no number in the auditor's office that shows any such amount—or any amount—was paid John Jones as a rebate. It is not done that way. The auditor may never know it was paid, but the man who knows how these things are done will know over a certain day \$500 was given to the general manager on account of expenses, or that \$500 was given to the general manager on account of legal expenses. His voucher stands there to show that the money went to him. The auditor of the company would not know anything about what the general manager or the general attorney did with the money. This simply illustrates how these things may be done. Let the state appoint a public examiner, whose duty it will be to run these things down and see where the money goes; let us see whether there were unlawful discriminations made in that way or any other way. As soon as a device for discrimination is discovered and punished, the offender will invent some other way to evade the law; so he will require examinations from time to time to stop these discriminations. The examinations to be of any value must be made by experts who are familiar with methods of concealment, and such experts can be obtained from the employes of the trusts if the State will. But the tenure and salary of the public accountant on a liberal basis.

Now, while the beef trust and the oil trust and the coal trust are all in-lawful combinations for the purpose of fixing the price of the commodities in which they respectively deal, I want to say to you fellow citizens, that it would be impossible for them to accomplish their purposes but for the transportation companies. If the transportation companies will obey the law, and treat all alike, and show no favoritism or discrimination, unintended or otherwise, for these trusts to do harm will be removed. It would be better for the railroads themselves if they were compelled to do what is right and obey the command of the law to furnish prompt, efficient and equal service to everybody at the same price.

The laws of Missouri provide that combinations, pools or trusts may be punished in one of two ways, in the discretion of court. First, they may be dissolved, second, their charter may be revoked, or in the case of a foreign corporation, its right to do business in this state may be revoked. Now, let me ask you, fellow citizens, do you think that the Standard Oil Company, and the address, Birmingham, N. Y., in every bottle.



Continued on page 4.

Ayer's Hair Vigor. To be sure, you are growing old. But why let everybody see it, in your gray hair? Keep your hair dark and rich and postpone age. If you will only use Ayer's Hair Vigor, your gray hair will soon have its deep, rich color of youth. Sold for 60 years.

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