

SPECIAL MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

MR. ROOSEVELT RECOMMENDS CERTAIN MEASURES THAT CONGRESS SHOULD GIVE THEIR ATTENTION.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I call your attention to certain measures as to which I think there should be action by the congress before the close of the present session. There is ample time for the consideration of these measures if not all of the matters bills have been introduced into one or the other of the two houses, and it is not too much to hope that they will be taken on way or the other on these bills at the present session.

Child labor should be prohibited throughout the nation. At least a modest child-labor bill should be passed for the District of Columbia. It is unfortunate that in the past congress has not acted upon congress for its legislation there should be no law whatever to protect children by forbidding or regulating their labor.

I renew my recommendation for the immediate re-enactment of an employers' liability law, drawn to conform to the recent decision of the supreme court. Within the limits indicated by the court, the law should be made thorough and comprehensive, and the protective provisions should embrace every class of employee to which the power of congress can extend.

In addition to a liability law protecting the employees of the common carriers, the government should show its good faith in enacting a law providing compensation to its own employees for injury or death incurred in its service. It is a reproach to use as a nation that in both federal and state jurisdictions we have afforded less protection to public and private employees than any other industrial country of the world.

I also urge your attention along the line of the recommendations I have already made concerning injunctions in labor disputes. No temporary restraining order should be issued by any court without notice, and the petition for a permanent injunction upon which such temporary restraining order has been issued should be heard by the court issuing the same within a reasonable time—say, not to exceed a week or ten days from the date when the order was issued. It is worth considering whether it would not give greater popular confidence in the impartiality of the courts if it were required that the issue should be decided by another judge than the one issuing the injunction, except where the parties consented in the presence of the court, or in other cases of urgency.

I again call attention to the urgent need of amending the inter-state commerce law and especially the anti-trust law along the lines indicated in my last message. The inter-state commerce law should be amended so as to give railroads the right to make traffic agreements, subject to the approval of the commission and published in all of their details. The commission should also be given the power to make rules and to pass upon the issuance of all securities hereafter issued by railroads during an inter-state commerce business.

A law should be passed providing in effect that when a federal court determines to place a common carrier or other public utility under the control of a receiver, the attorney-general should have the right to nominate at least one of the receivers; or else in some other way the interests of stockholders should be consulted, so that the management may not be wholly redelivered to the man or men the failure of whose policy may have necessitated the creation of the receivership. Receiverships should be used, not to operate roads, but to speedily liquidate the same and return them to the proper owners.

In addition to the reasons I have already urged upon your attention, it has now become important that there should be an amendment of the anti-trust law, because of the uncertainty as to how this law affects the control of the trusts by men and farmers, if the combination has any tendency to restrict inter-state commerce. All of those combinations, if and while existing, are in violation of the promotion of innocent and proper purposes, should be recognized as legal. As I have repeatedly pointed out, this anti-trust law was a most unwise and unstatesmanlike act. It was perhaps inevitable that in feeling after the right remedy the first attempts to provide such a remedy should be such as to be absolutely imperative that some legislation should be passed that would control in the interest of the public, the business use of the enormous aggregations of corporate wealth that are so marked a feature of the modern industrial world. But the present anti-trust law, in its construction and working, has exemplified only too well the kind of legislation which, under the guise of being thoroughgoing, is drawn in a sweeping form as to become either ineffective or else mischievous world combinations are absolutely necessary; they are necessary among business men; they are necessary among laboring men; they are becoming more and more necessary among farmers. Some of these combinations are among the most powerful of all instruments for wrongdoing, others offer the only effective way of meeting actual business needs. It is mischievous and unwholesome to keep upon the statute books unmodified, a law which in its practical effect, while in practice only partially effective against vicious combinations, has nevertheless in theory been construed as a sweeping prohibition against every combination for the transaction of modern business. Some real good has resulted from this law. But the time has come when it is imperative to modify it. Such modification is urgently needed for the sake of the business men of the country, for the sake of the wage workers, and for the sake of the farmers. The congress cannot afford to leave it to the statute books in its present shape.

It has now become uncertain how far this law may involve all labor organizations and farmers' organizations, as well as all business organizations, in conflict with the law; or, if we secure literal compliance with the law, how far it may result in the destruction of the organizations necessary for the transaction of modern business, as well as of all labor organizations and farmers' organizations, completely check the wise movement of securing business co-operation among farmers, and put back half a century the progress of the movement for the betterment of labor. A bill has been presented in the congress to remedy this situation. Some such measure as this bill is needed in the interest of all engaged in the industries which are essential to the country's well-being. I do not pretend to say the exact shape that the bill should take, and the suggestions I have to offer are tentative; and my views would apply equally to any other measure which would achieve the desired end. Bearing this in mind, I would suggest, merely tentatively, the following changes in the law:

The substantive part of the anti-trust law should remain as at present; that is, every contract in restraint of trade or commerce among the several states, with foreign nations should continue to be declared illegal; provided, however, that some proper governmental authority (such as the commissioner of corporations acting under the secretary of commerce and labor) be allowed to pass on any such contracts. Probably the best method of providing for this would be to enact that any contract, subject to the prohibition contained in the anti-trust law, which it was desired to enter might be filed with the bureau of corporations or other appropriate executive body. This would provide, publicly, within, say, sixty days of the filing—which period could be extended by order of the department whenever for any reason it did not give the department sufficient time for a thorough examination—the executive department having power might forbid the contract, which would then become subject to the provisions of the anti-trust law, if at all in restraint of trade.

If such prohibition was issued, the contract would then only be liable to attack on the ground that it constituted an unreasonable restraint of trade. Whenever the period of filing had passed without any such prohibition, the contracts or combinations could be dissolved, and the parties thereto could be heard with a reasonable provision for summary review on appeal by the courts. Labor organizations, farmers' organizations, and other organizations not organized for purposes of profit, should be allowed to register under the law by giving the location of the head office, and the location of the principal offices, and the names and addresses of their principal officers. In the interest of all these organizations—business and farmers' organizations alike—the present provision permitting the recovery of threefold damages should be abolished, and as a substitute therefor the recovery of the actual damages should be only the damages sustained by the plaintiff and the cost of the suit, including the reasonable attorney's fee.

The law should not affect pending suits; a short statute of limitations should be provided, so far as the past is concerned, not to exceed one year. Moreover, and especially in the interest of labor than of business combinations, all such suits brought for causes of action heretofore occurred should be brought only if the contract or combination complained of was unfair or unreasonable. It may be well to require that all of the suits heretofore brought by the government under the anti-trust law have been in cases where the combination or contract was in fact unfair, unreasonable, and against the public interest.

It is important that we should encourage trade agreements between employer and employee where they are just and fair. A strike is a clumsy weapon for fighting wrongs done to labor, and we should endeavor to find as possible a process of conciliation and arbitration as a substitute for strikes. Moreover, violence, disorder, and coercion, when used in connection with strikes, should be as promptly and as sternly repressed as when committed in any other connection. But strikes themselves are, and should be, recognized to be entirely legal. Combinations of workmen have a peculiar reason for their existence. The very individual employer, and still more the very wealthy corporation, stand at an enormous advantage when compared to the individual workman; and it is not necessary for laborers to form a union, in many other cases it is necessary for the exercise of the thousands of small units, the thousands of individual workmen, will be left helpless in their dealings with the one big unit, the individual or corporate employer.

Twenty-two years ago, by the act of June 29, 1886, trades unions were recognized by law, and the right of laboring people to combine for all lawful purposes was formally recognized. This right was formerly recognized, this right was formally recognized, this right including combination for mutual protection and benefit, the regulation of wages, hours and conditions of labor, and the protection of the individual rights of the workman in the prosecution of their trades; and in the act of June 1, 1895, strikes were recognized as legal in the same provision that forbade participation in the use of force or violence against persons or property, or the attempt to prevent others from working, by violence, threat, or intimidation. The business man must be protected in person and property, and so must the farmer and the wage-worker; and as regards all people the right of peaceful combination for all lawful purposes should be explicitly recognized.

The right of employers to combine and contract with one another and with their employees should be explicitly recognized; and so should the right of the employees to combine and contract with one another and with the employers, and to seek peaceably to persuade others to accept their views, and to strike for the purpose of peacefully obtaining from employers satisfactory terms for their labor. Nothing should be done to legalize either a blacklist or a boycott that would be illegal under common law; this being a type of boycott defined and condemned by the anthracite strike commission.

The question of financial legislation is now receiving such attention in both houses that we have a right to expect action before the close of the session. It is urgently necessary that there should be such action. Moreover, action should be taken to establish postal savings banks, and to provide for the collection of the necessary information, both through the committee itself and through government agents, who should be permitted to appoint individuals from outside the public service, might with advantage be members of the executive departments, and should be permitted to act with prompt and intelligent fairness. These government agents, if it is not deemed wise to appoint individuals from outside the public service, might with advantage be members of the executive departments, and should be permitted to act with prompt and intelligent fairness. These government agents, if it is not deemed wise to appoint individuals from outside the public service, might with advantage be members of the executive departments, and should be permitted to act with prompt and intelligent fairness.

Ample provision should be made for a permanent waterways commission, with whatever power is required to make it effective. The reasonable expectation of the people will not be met unless the congress provides at this session for the beginning and prosecution of the actual work of waterway improvement and control. The congress should recognize in full fashion the fact that the subject of the conservation of our natural resources is literally vital for the future of the nation.

Numerous bills granting water-power rights on navigable streams have been introduced. None of them give the government the right to make a reasonable charge for the valuable privileges granted. In spite of the fact that these water-power privileges are equivalent to many thousands of acres of the best coal lands for their production of power.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT, The White House, March 25, 1908.

THE HARVEST TIME

REWARDS WE REAP FOR THE EFFORTS WE MAKE.

CROPS ARE OF MANY KINDS

Some Remarks of a Homely Character for Application to Everyday Affairs—Few Have Real Cause for Complaint.

There is a harvest time for all. Some reap their rewards late in life, others in early manhood; but none need expect to sow tares and garner any valuable crop. "As ye sow, so shall ye reap." Often we do the sowing and some one else gathers the crop, and we only get the stubbles. But this is our harvest. Sometimes we plant, and find our growing fields devastated by the elements. Our harvest is barely worth the reaping. Still, is there any cause why we should complain that nature is unkind to us? Are we not to blame more often than we think? Have we not the warning that we shall reap as we sow? The planting implies that intelligence be used in selecting the soil, in choosing the place least likely to be within the storm belt, and where the lightning will not strike nor the hail fall. Then the quality of the soil and its preparation. It cannot be expected that among the rocks and stones in the barren places the seed planted will grow. Nor is it wise to not carefully select the seed, some that may not germinate. And don't forget that when your choice is made to see that the sowing is properly done, and that no obnoxious weeds have a chance to spring up with the golden grain.

Too many of us—and some one has said, an honest confession is good for the soul—neglect to plant the proper kind of crop. Instead of honor, good health, riches of mind and material wealth, we reap instead the severest criticisms of public opinion, shattered nerves and poverty. A happy mind and disposition, and a feeling of kindness toward all fellowmen is a crop worth reaping. To have the respect of the masses that we come daily in contact with, is another thing desirable and an honorable name, good health and a conscience at peace is a harvest that is greater than many men of millions can ever hope to garner.

Yes, we may make mistakes in our sowing, and be disappointed with the results of the harvest time, but still there is contentment in store for the husbandman who after exercising care finds in spite of all disappointment comes, and drought and pests destroy. Still despair not of the future, for harvest time for all will come, and diligence and perseverance will eventually bring the reward sought.

In all affairs of life the elements of chance play an eminent part. Life is not a mathematical problem that is positive. Neither is it theoretical. Still all there is tends to natural laws, unchangeable, unalterable, and even the calamities that befall, are controlled by these same laws; but the mind of the mortal fails to understand them. Life is a conflict. The little spear of wheat seeks its existence without any certainty. The tares, the thistles battle with it and threaten annihilation. The careful gardener knows the danger of weeds rendering his work a loss. He removes the rank and useless growth, that his plants may get their share of nitrogen and oxygen and may thrive. But however great his care, still chance must be struggled with. The heat of the sun, those life-giving rays, may even destroy; the hurricane may level, and the hail cut down.

Much in similitude is man's harvest to the harvest of the poor gardener. Yet, there are other seasons, and other harvests coming. No use to despair. The brave man in battle has the fewest fears. Let us strive to have our harvest time come with its plenty, and let us work that it will be a harvest of good. Success sometimes comes only after long waiting. But let us be careful in our springtime sowing, and it is hardly possible that we will not reap a just harvest.

D. M. CARR.

Tricks in the Soap Business.

Soap is one of the staples for which there is a heavy demand. There are numerous standard brands in the market, all of which are time-tested and not found lacking in good qualities. These are the kind that the people are never disappointed in. But some who are looking for bargains are willing to try anything new that comes up, if it be only recommended by some friend or widely advertised. One of the latest soap deals, which, by the way is an old game in a new dress, is to offer bargains in soap "just as good" as the old standard brands and at one-third the cost. A flattering offer is made to the housewife to lay in a supply. The statement is made that instead of using money for advertising in the papers the company intends to give the people the benefit, and the price named is about one-third that standard brands are sold for. Not alone this, but some cheap clock, a rug, a set of chinaware or some other article is offered as a premium, and sometimes an extra box is given with every two cases offered. The soap comes. It looks good, but after a few weeks more than one-third of its weight is evaporated. The soap is filled with water, and when that dries out the 12-ounce cake if placed on the scales will be found to weigh about seven or eight ounces.

IMPOVERISHING THE COMMUNITY

Constant Drain of Money Certain to Have Depressing Effects.

It is surprising how little the people of towns consider the way that communities are impoverished by the money which is sent away to other cities for goods that might as well be bought at home. In one of the live western towns, a county seat, and having a population of more than 1,500, a banker who is in position to know said that in a single day he knew of more than \$600 in money orders having been sent from the town to retail order houses. Just think of this! There are about 20 business places in the town, and this amount going away daily keeps the place from advancing. It is hardly that the merchants cannot meet catalogue competition, but the farmers and others who send away for supplies never give the storekeepers in their home town an opportunity to give prices on the articles wanted. They get their money order at the express or post-office or their draft at the bank and send off without a word to any merchant as to the goods they need. Such people are not good citizens in every sense of the word. They lack love of home and good will toward their town. The total store bill of the average farmer does not amount to more than \$400. Say that he could even save 10 per cent. on the goods he orders—and he does not save a cent, in fact—it would only be \$40 a year. But the money sent away from many communities aggregates millions of dollars to the wealth of the big houses and injure their own town to just that extent.

A western banker met by the writer, in conversation as to the extent of the business done by catalogue houses, said that the exchange paid his bank for drafts was nearly enough to pay all the ordinary expense of the institution. Just think of this! Are the people losing their senses? Are there conditions in any town that justify that the ones who are making their living from the country, who have a share of the taxes to pay, who should have pride in seeing their home town and the country around advance, shall send their dollars to far-off cities for supplies? It is a sorry condition. There is nothing to justify it only the ignorance of the ones who think that they may save a few dollars in the course of a year by sending away for their goods. One of the misleading things in the advertising of the big catalogue houses is the claim that goods are sold just as low as the merchant buys them. This is not so. The merchant must have a legitimate profit in his business. It is just that he should. The farmer would consider a man unreasonable who would ask him to sell the products of his farm for just the cost to produce them. The good farmer makes on all his crops, after good wages are allowed for himself, a percentage for interest on his investment, a greater amount by many per cent. than does the grocer, the dry goods or the clothing man or the implement man. Still, how many begrudgingly patronize home stores, and only when they wish accommodation, and their ready cash goes to the out-of-town concerns that handle prison-made goods and "seconds" and shoddy stuff. It is too bad; the people need more pride in home, more ideas of equity, and need much more education in economic matters.

To Read Your Ad In These Columns

Your Stationery

Is your silent representative. If you sell fine goods that are up-to-date in style and of superior quality it ought to be reflected in your printing. We produce the kind that you need and will not feel ashamed to have represent you. That is the only kind it pays to send out. Send your orders to this office.

The Buyers' Guide

The firms whose names are represented in our advertising columns are worthy of the confidence of every person in the community who has money to spend. The fact that they advertise stamps them as enterprising, progressive men of business, a credit to our town, and deserving of support. Our advertising columns comprise a Buyers' Guide to fair dealing, good goods, honest prices.

C. G. SCHMIDT'S

HEADQUARTERS FOR FRESH BREAD, PIES, FANCY CAKES, ICE CREAM, CONFECTIONERY

Daily Delivery. All orders given prompt and skillful attention.

FOR HOME IMPROVEMENT. Necessity of Harmonious Co-Operation on Part of All Citizens.

Towns in agricultural districts apparently are awakening to the importance of organizing clubs and associations for the purpose of public improvements and the protection of home industries. The field for work is broad. It is the business of the town that makes the place of importance. Any institution that will give employment to labor, that will bring more people and more capital to any town is a thing to be desired. Many towns in which commercial clubs have been lately organized, have a wide field in the simple matter of keeping the people of the town and surrounding country from sending money to other cities for supplies of various kinds that can as well be purchased at home. Every dollar sent to a mail-order house or department store in another city impoverishes the town just so much. It is the business men of the small towns who pay the taxes, support the churches and schools, not the far-off mail-order house, and they are deservingly of all the trade of their home place. Don't try to bring new business establishments to your town until local evils are remedied.

Don't Use a Scarecrow

To Drive Away the Mail Order Wolf

You can drive him out quickly if you use the mail order houses' own weapon—advertising. Mail order concerns are spending thousands of dollars every week in order to get trade from the home merchants. Do you think for a minute they would keep it up if they didn't get the business? Don't take it for granted that every one within a radius of 25 miles knows what you have to sell, and what your prices are. Nine times out of ten your prices are lower, but the customer is influenced by the up-to-date advertising of the mail order house. Every article you advertise should be described and priced. You must tell your story in an interesting way, and when you want to reach the buyers of this community use the columns of this paper.

Personality in Business.

Personality in business is an important thing. There are the John Wanamaker stores, Marshall Field, the Tiffanys—and you can go down the line from the time of A. T. Stewart and Taylor and you will find that there is a great deal in a name in the mercantile line. In every town the successful stores can be picked out at a glance. In some towns there seems to be an inclination to avoid the use of signs, and there are stores with nothing to indicate the stocks of goods carried or the names of the owners. Generally the interiors of these stores are in harmony with the outside—an indication of lax business methods and a kind of catch-as-catch-can affair, as far as gathering in trade is concerned. Such methods have never been known to pay well. In fact, it is the hustler who wins out, and the merchant who hides his proverbial light under the bushel will sooner or later get out of business with the balance on the wrong side of the ledger.

You Read the Other Fellow's Ad

You are reading this one. That should convince you that advertising in these columns is a profitable proposition; that it will bring business to your store. The fact that the other fellow advertises is probably the reason he is getting more business than is falling to you. Would it not be well to give the other fellow a chance

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The Place to Buy Cheap —IS AT— J. F. PARSONS'



5-DROPS CURES RHEUMATISM LUMBAGO, SCIATICA NEURALGIA and KIDNEY TROUBLE

"5-DROPS" taken internally, rids the blood of the poisonous matter and acids which are the great causes of these diseases. Applied externally it affords almost instant relief from pain, while a permanent cure is being effected by purifying the blood, dissolving the poisonous substance and removing it from the system.

DR. S. D. BLAND Of Brewton, Ga., writes:

"I had been a sufferer for a number of years with Lumbago and Rheumatism in my arms and legs, and tried all the remedies that I could gather from medical works, and also consulted with a number of the best physicians, but nothing that gave the relief obtained from '5-DROPS.' I shall prescribe it in my practice for Rheumatism and kindred diseases."

FREE

If you are suffering with Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Kidney Trouble or any kindred disease, write to us for a trial bottle of "5-DROPS," and test it yourself.

"5-DROPS" can be used any length of time without acquiring a drug habit, as it is entirely free of opium, cocaine, alcohol, laudanum, and other similar ingredients.

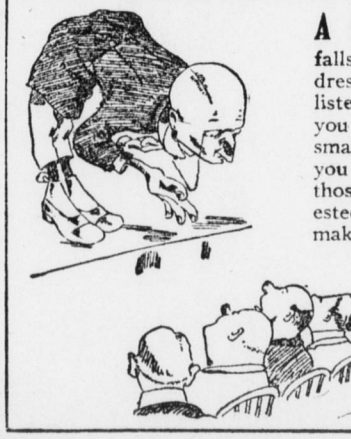
Large Size Bottle, "5-DROPS" (80¢ Dose) \$1.00. For Sale by Druggists. SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE COMPANY, Dept. 80, 160 Lake Street, Chicago.

Wapakoneta, O.—William Bernard Drees, 32 years of age, of Minster, was taken to the Toledo State hospital hopelessly insane. His insanity was brought on by an April fool joke a year ago, when some friends gave him a ghost scare in his father's factory, where he was employed as a night watchman.

Kenton, O.—Joseph Kearns, a prominent farmer of near Ridgeway, lies at his home dying, as the result of being kicked in the head by a horse.

Bullet Wound In Head.
Youngstown, O.—Chauncey DeWitt, cashier of the Wells-Fargo & Co. office in this city, was found dead in bed Tuesday in his room, with a bullet wound in his head. DeWitt came to this city four years ago from New York where his mother resides. He was a nephew of Thomas H. De Witt.

Shock Kills Woman.
Bucyrus, O.—Mrs. J. B. Givens, a former Bucyrus girl, died at South Milwaukee, Wis., as the direct result of a nervous shock four months ago.



A MOST TOUCHING APPEAL

falls short of its desired effect if addressed to a small crowd of interested listeners. Mr. Business Man, are you wasting your ammunition on the small crowd that would trade with you anyway, or do you want to reach those who are not particularly interested in your business? If you do, make your appeal for trade to the largest and most intelligent audience in your community, the readers of this paper. They have countless wants. Your ads will be read by them, and they will become your customers. Try it and see.