How About It Kent Co. Citizens?

HOW ABOUT IT?

Today, there is one, ever present question on the tongue of every inhabitant of Rural America:- "Why these hard times?" The contented mind no longer exists; and he, who once had but little thought of the morrow, now ponders on the prospect of penury. He, at last, has awakened to the realization that:: When politicians and financiers virtually conspire to enslave a free people and permit a privileged class to monopolize power and profit, it is time the anxious burgher and his fellow countrymen should stop to consider their statue as appraised by the Solons at our Capitol. They, at once, realize that their "place on the map" is encompassed by a coalition of avaricious schemers; the chain of which is gradually drawing the noose closer and tighter about their line of endeavor; until, as the present day reveals, they are facing an insurmountable bulwark—a tariff wall and protected industry which is robbing them of Ambition, Hope, Happiness and Independence. What is the significance? Does it require a philoscpher to unravel the skein of eventualities that is entangling the citizenship of this great republic? Does it behoove our commonwealth that was born on the field at Lexington, and with only 155 years to mark its progress among the nations of the earth, —to foster rebellion, to repress the despotism of financial political brigands who are stiffling the activity and efficiency of America's population? Should the Almighty Dollar reign supreme; and, taking advantage of past folly and indifference, assume the scepter of governmental power?

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
Where wealth accumulates, and men decay."

Should the equilibrium of the entire earth be disturbed by the ambition of a few intriguing despots, who, ignoring Justice and Equality, have rendered chaotic the virtues of civilization, and destroyed the peace of human society?

Through past centuries of man's occupation, wealth has been the curse of the earth. Through all the ages now lost in antiquity to the 20th century, man's dominance and cupidity have led him to oppress his fellow man. Turn back the pages of history two thousand years and behold the Roman Empire. "But yesterday, the word of Caesar might have stood against the world; now lies he there, and none so poor to do him reverence." By rapine and the sword, She reached the pinnacle of Her glory; and, by political tyranny, became the "Mistress of the World." Due to this wealth and patrician extravagance, She sacrificed Her fame and omnipotence to the lucretian god, and was lost in the march of human events. "Here man was in the pride of his power; now, he is not."

"Coming events cast there shadows before." The wise man of today takes counsel from the past and profits thereby:—his spirit of tolerance has ceased to be a virtue—indignation has supplanted complacency—he holds in contempt the regime that permits a thousand schemers to surreptiously rob a million of their fellows, and deny them the "fruits of their labor." Are we to submit to Oligarcy? Is the brawn of our Republic to be relegated to Serfdom? Not if we exercise the right of "Free Men," and scribe on our ballots the one word "Justice, and not forget that "governments derive their power from the consent of the governed."

"The thoughts of men are widened by the process of the Suns." With frowning mien, the mad behind the plow has stopped to consider the evolution of the past decade—he sees the productive family are denied their just recompense; and the "Spirit of '76" born in all true Americans must rise in resentment and demand revision of the discriminating laws that, today, are crushing industry and rendering our country odious to civilization. Our citizens are losing stamina and morale and it is NOW that our honorable (?) representatives should become magnanimous; and, with despatch, facilitate the noble efforts of a disheartened people. Dragonetti says "The science of the politician consists in fixing the true point of happiness and freedom. Those men would deserve the gratitude of ages, who should discover a mode of government that contained the greatest sum of individual happiness with the least national expense."

Why should our "dollar mark" "represent unequal values? We notice the "Protected Dollar" means One Hundred Cents, while the "Rural Dollar," is a nonentity—scarce worth Fifty Cents. We recall the time when 90 bushels of wheat would buy a Self Binding Harvester ($1.00 for wheat and $90.00 for harvester). That was when competition existed. Today, with wheat less than 50 cents per bushel, binders are priced at $280.00. Again, the farmer pays $8.00 for a barrel of G. M. Flour made from six bushels wheat (at 40 cents bushel, $2.40): he also gives 60 pounds wheat (1 bushel) for six loaves of bread (less than 6 pounds). Is there a just reason for such figures such discrepancy. Thousands of farmers grow wheat to support an industrious family working 12 to 16 hours a day:—corporations grow it as an investment for the accummulating cash; their immense acreage in Kansas, Montana and the Dakotas overstocks the market (as witness the present surplus). During the World War, our government limited the distribution of flour, sugar and other commodities. To relieve the present crisis, why not immediately limit our wheat acreage? Make it illegal for any man, firm or corporation (directly or indirectly) to plant any one year over 400 acres in wheat. This would allow the actual farmer (the deserving man) to continue his occupation undisturbed; whilst the "bonanzatracts" could be used otherwise. A law to do the greatest good for the greatest number.

Due to the antagonism of other peoples to our tariff to the policies of our government—to the arrogant attitude of "Big Business," international trade is minimized—our commodities remain in storage—labor is idle whilst grim want stalks abroad. Thousands of urbanites are anxious, demoralized and suffering; rural districts are impoverished and the dwellers therein are discouraged; all due to political depotism. Tariff for revenue is all right—a national necessity; but, when it becomes protective and cumulative, when reason is ignored and greed becomes its paramount law; when its subtle purpose is unmasked, it is then the wisdom (?) of our legislators becomes a travesty, and men of all climes look with scorn upon the selfishness portrayed.

The Declaration of Independence declares that "all men are born with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness." When Jefferson penned these immortal words, there was no suspicion that the future life of America would present other conditions; or that the commonwealth would eventually breed a race of mercenary strategists; who, following the dictates of their God avarice, are saying "I will oppress the weak and devour the fruits of his labor; and I will say, it is Fate which hath so ordained."

With effrontery, our public officials flaunt their indifference to the appeals of their helpless constituents, usurp the rights of society, and imperil the heritage of a free people With apparent nonchalance, expenditures seem unlimited, while taxation becomes a hideous burden to the husbandman who sows with hope and reaps naught but poverty and despair. The earth holds the Root of Prosperity—place the agricultural dollar on a parity with the "protected dollar:"—at once its circulation will roll into the channels of popular confidence—depression will be a memory; and our good old Democracy will again come into its own. A far cry has gone forth for relief—it echoes and re-echoes over the land of our fathers—the shadows of discontent appear upon the horizon—we fear the future and tremble in contemplation of our destiny.

F. R. R.

Galena, Md.

Shrewd New Englanders

Throughout the Colonial period and during the first decades of national independence the economic life of New England was centered in the shipbuilding trade and in commerce. After the adoption of the embargo and other restrictive trade measures, the shrewd men turned their capital from shipping to manufacture. They realized that in this section was an almost unexploited source of wealth in an abundant water supply.

Realize Piety's Worth

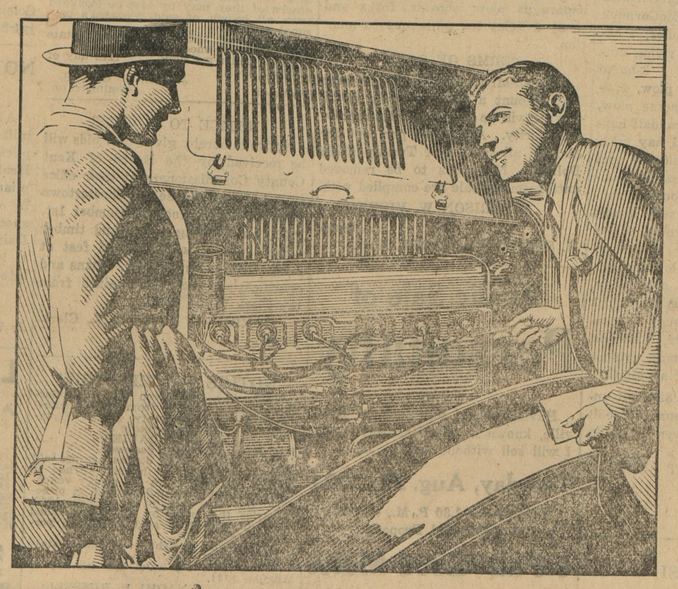
Some who have been corrupt in their morals have yet been infinitely solicitous to have their children piously brought up.—South.

EGG THIEF IS KILLED

Mr. James Bartlett, who resides on his farm on the Tred Avon River about six miles from Easton, who has lost about 40 young chickens and 17 young ducks, caught and killed the thief, which proved to be a large black snake that measured 7 feet and 2 inches in length and wieghed over ten pounds. Mr. Bartlett said his housekeeper went to one of the hen boxes to get out the eggs. She ran her hand in the box and feeling something cold and smooth, she became frightened and screamed. He had a pitchfork in his hand and ran to where she was to see what was the matter. She told him, and he drove the pitchfork in the nest through the body of the snake and pulled it out, when the snake began to show fight. He called to his hired man and told him to hit the snake across the back with a stick as it had wound itself around the pitchfork and was working its way up the handle toward him. After killing the snake he cut it up in pieces about twelve inches long and found inside of it nine eggs not smashed and two small chickens.

Wondrous is the strength of cheerfulness.—Carlyle.

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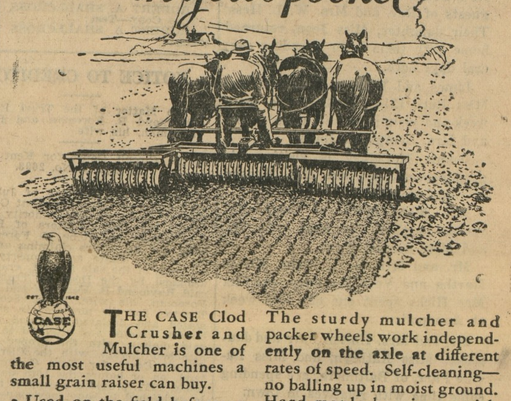
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