

Cooperation

Personal liberty and equality before the law has been the foundation, and competition the driving force, which created our modern civilization, by un-fettering the ambition, energy and skill of all the human beings.

The development of the steam engine and of electric power and all the inventions following it, give the tools for the industrial progress. But when machinery had developed to the stage where the productive capacity of our industries exceeded the possible demand for the products, under existing ^{social} suicidal condition, then competition becomes a destructive force driving the price of commodities down below the cost of production and so creating an unstable condition which could end only with the destruction of the vanquished as well as the victor in the competition, and industrial cooperation had to take its place. In the European war we see the final fight between the waning competitive system, and the coming co-operative era, and this issue has been decided, and co-operation won, whatever may be the military outcome of the war, for the individualistic nation, even England included, had to adopt the cooperative organization of their national organism, to survive.

Against the terrible efficiency of the cooperative industrial organization of the Europe after the war, our country will have no chance, but, hopelessly outclassed, will sink to second ^{rank} ~~rank~~ ^{an} industrial nation, unless we also accept industrial cooperation as the guiding light. This means recognition of the corporation as industries' most efficient tool. It means that we must cease to legislate against industrial cooperation, stop ^{the} ~~to~~ attempt ^{at} ~~x~~ the resurrection of a dead era, that of competition, by man made laws, which violate the economic laws of nature, ^{and} ~~we~~ must assist and encourage cooperation and consolidation of corporations into organizations controlling all industries, while at the same-time providing such safeguards which, without in the least interfering with the industrial productive efficiency of cooperation, protect the public against any possible abuse of corporate power, and furthermore, we must bring about the cooperation of the worker with the industries, by eliminating the three great fears, which now hang over the majority of human beings: the fear of unemployment, the fear of sickness, and the fear of old age, by providing an effective unemployment, sickness and old age insurance, that is, we must forever out-law the attitude of Cain's

question "Am I my brother's keeper?"; and realize that every-
one of us in modern society is indeed responsible for
the well being of every member of our nation. Then
the social condition of the masses of our people will be
superior to that in any other nation, then the masses will
have an interest in the maintenance of our nation, and
without preparedness perhaps and other vain attempts
of creating a sham patriotism, we will again find all
the citizens of our nation as patriotic as they were in
the days of old. Patriotism means the realization that
your own nation is superior to any other, and this can
exist only when based on economic facts.

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