

THE PRESIDENT'S ANTI-TRUST PROGRAMME.

Extract from sermon delivered by Rev. H. S. Bigelow, Sunday evening, December 8, at the Vine St. Congregational Church, Cincinnati.

The weakness of the president's views on the trust problem ought to be apparent to those who criticize Mr. Bryan's anti-trust measures, for President Roosevelt's anti-trust programme is identical with that of Mr. Bryan with the single exception that Mr. Bryan did see what the president denies, that protective tariffs have been a factor in the trust development. The want of clearness of thought on economic problems is not apparent in that portion of the message which considers the trusts. In one place the president asserts that the trusts are not due to "the tariff nor to any other governmental action." Elsewhere he speaks of the corporation "which derives a portion of its wealth from the existence of some monopolistic element." What is a monopolistic element but an advantage conferred upon one and denied to another through the operation of unwise laws?

It is full of hopeful significance, however, that the president should even hint at the real remedy as he does in his message when he speaks of the proper taxation of the trust as one of the problems to be solved. It is to be hoped that he will come to appreciate more fully the vital connection between the trust menace and unequal taxation. Mayor Tom L. Johnson showed a more comprehensive view of the trust problem than any political leader of prominence to-day, when he said: "Trusts live through special privileges granted to them, upon which they do not pay taxes. Tax the special privilege and the question will be solved."

MAYOR JOHNSON'S WAY.

"A BUSINESSLIKE ADMINISTRATION."

"I spent a short time in the city hall at home the other day," said a Cleveland man who did not care to be quoted, "and I can see now how Mayor Johnson manages to get so much work turned out by his administration. His motto for all his helpers seems to be: 'Do things; don't talk about them.' He seemed to know as much about each department as does the man who manages it. As each subordinate came in to report, the mayor always wanted to know if

'anything was doin',' and not merely going to be done.

"I call it emphatically a business-like administration."—New York Letter to Cleveland Dealer of December 5.

THE TENDERLOIN CLEANED UP.

"I think Mayor Johnson has been too generous in the matter of granting pardons to workhouse prisoners," said President Buckley, of the city board of elections, Wednesday, "but at the same time I want to give him credit for cleaning up the Tenderloin district."

Buckley has lived at the corner of Wood and Summit streets, where he owns property, for many years.

"That district," he continued, "has never been so quiet as it is now. All the decent people who live down that way say the same thing, and if they don't know no one does. When Johnson became mayor he started out to clean up the Tenderloin and he did it right. The two worst places in the city, where thieves and thugs congregated and were harbored, one on Ontario street and the other at the foot of Seneca street, were closed up and they are now torn down. Since Johnson has been mayor policemen have been standing at the doors of other tough places in the district, excepting those which have been forced to close as the result of this system. I don't agree with Johnson in everything he does, but I like to see a man given credit for things he does that deserve commendation."—Plain Dealer of December 5.

DEMOCRACY NO RECOMMENDATION.

Twenty men were added to the police force by Director Dunn yesterday on the order of Mayor Johnson.

The new policemen will not have uniforms and they may not carry guns and clubs for any great length of time. The mayor concluded that owing to the amount of crime being committed an emergency had arisen in the affairs of the city justifying an enlargement of the force. As soon as conditions are normal, or sooner, if it is thought advisable, the 20 men will be returned to private citizenship.

"In selecting these men," said Mayor Johnson to Director Dunn, "I want you to get the best men who have passed the necessary examination and are eligible to membership on the police force. Go over your list carefully and select the most intelligent of the candidates. There must be no question as to politics. If it

should happen that the 20 brightest men on the list are republicans, those are the men you are to appoint. The fact that an applicant is a democrat is no recommendation."—Plain Dealer of December 6.

AN OPEN LETTER TO SENATOR HOAR.

For The Public.

Hon. George Frisbie Hoar, Senate Chamber, Washington, D. C.—Honored Sir: Let me congratulate you on the zeal you have manifested in the direction of stamping out anarchism. It occurs to me that I may be able to afford you some helpful suggestions before you offer the measures in the senate.

I pray you let us be guarded in this movement lest we commit irrevocable errors. I well remember how, when I was a much younger man, I was deeply engrossed in the movement of that period directed to the stamping out of abolitionism. If my memory serves me you were as ardent in that movement as you were afterward fervent in your satisfaction that the stamping out process had not prevailed. Those of us who wanted to stamp out that agitation were impressed with a sincere conviction that the abolitionists were miscreants who had no other purpose than to deprive our southern friends of their property. The mistake we made in youth was that we did not clearly recognize that the stamping out of the anti-slavery sentiment was not to be accomplished by the processes we undertook to apply. However, a beneficent Providence so arranged it that notwithstanding our failure to stamp out that agitation, property rights were buttressed rather than weakened. Many thousands of our fellow men were slaughtered in the final phases of the agitation, but since property interests were fortified by the result we had no real tears to shed, though many of us who underwent the metamorphosis to which I have referred, made many displays of solicitude for the poor fellow at the front.

Whatever the result of this new crusade on which you have made so notable and so noble a start, let us see to it that we do nothing to endanger our vested interests. Our first duty, as you seem often to have recognized, is to our class. The landlord class cannot afford to indulge in division and dissensions. But it is always wise to keep up an appearance of strife among ourselves for the tenant may be relied upon to