

old Radical farmer was asked how he intended to vote. "I've allers voted Radical," he replied; "but I'm told the Blues are going in for Traffic Reform, and so I shall vote for them. I can't abear them motors."

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A CANDID MILLIONAIRE.

Report in the Chicago Tribune of March 10, 1910 of a Startling Speech by Joseph Fels.*

"Carnegie, Rockefeller, Morgan and other captains of industry are robbers and their millions are ill-gotten gains. We cannot get rich fast enough nowadays without robbing the public. I admit that I, too, have robbed the public and I am still doing it, but I propose to spend the accursed money in wiping out the system by which I made it."

Joseph Fels, who became a millionaire by making an extremely "sudsy" soap, made this statement last night in talking to fellow diners at the University of Chicago settlement, Gross avenue, near Ashland. As suds is to soap so is public speaking to Great Malefactor Fels.

He was the guest of honor, the hostesses being Mrs. W. F. Dummer and Miss Mary McDowell. His remarks were in amplification of a briefer statement that startled members of the City club, whom he had addressed at luncheon earlier in the day.

Under a fire of questions, Mr. Fels, who had fled from the LaSalle hotel to escape the appeals of fortune hunters, excited by reports that he intended to divide \$5,000,000 among "the worthy," explained his plans to "quiet his conscience" by heavy expenditures of his "robber wealth."

"I do not believe in charities," he said. "They are agents of pauperization. Neither am I a philanthropist. I have in mind no plan to aid institutions of mercy, however worthy they may be generally esteemed."

Neither, said Mr. Fels, did he mean that he and Rockefeller and Morgan and Carnegie had been personally dishonest in the accumulations of their fortunes. He did not mean that he had advertised his soap as containing a certain thing when in fact there was none in it.

"Nor do I have any intention," he added in reply to a query, "of reducing the price of soap."

"John D. Rockefeller," he continued, "is a mild, harmless man with a mistaken ideal, but personally honest. None the less, he is a robber."

"Rockefeller and other millionaires have accumulated their wealth through unjust laws, especially under the tariff's protection, and because of these laws I, too, have robbed the public, and

*The statement in this report that Mr. Fels delivered this speech at the University Settlement is an error. At the Settlement he was a private dinner guest and made no speech. He had spoken at the City Club (228 Clark street, Chicago), which has printed his speech in full.

am stilling robbing it. I am not responsible for these laws, but am doing and intend to do what I can to change them."

"How are you getting rid of your 'robber wealth'?" Mr. Fels was asked.

"For one thing," he replied, "I am interested in spreading the Single Tax propaganda throughout the world. The movement is active in the United States, England, Canada, South Australia, New Zealand, New South Wales, Denmark, Sweden and other nations."

One of the diners who knew volunteered the information that this work was costing Mr. Fels \$150,000 a year, as he duplicated, dollar for dollar, every contribution made to the cause. A host of public speakers, trained in the arguments against "land monopoly," are kept in the field.

"If we had an educational fund of \$1,000,000 a year," said Mr. Fels, "we'd upset the world in twenty years as to economic conditions. I will be one of twelve to supply the funds."

Mayland, a "model town" fifty miles from London, also has been the recipient of about \$150,000 of Mr. Fels' "conscience fund," or "swag," as he calls his wealth.

"I intend to use my money," explained Mr. Fels, "to force into use land that is being held for the increment. I do not believe in speculating in land values. It is an enormous swindle. As a business man and land owner I have taken advantage of monopolies which private ownership of lands gives me, lands which rightfully belong to the many instead of the few."

"The tariff is a further pauperization of the toiler for the benefit of the monopolist. Perhaps I would have made a fortune despite these laws, but I want to bring into operation conditions of equal manhood, conditions under which all will have an equal chance."

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ON THE ROAD TO JERICHO.

From an Address on High Prices by Herbert S. Bigelow.

That unnamed person who was recipient of the charity of the Good Samaritan discovered, if he ever got to Jericho, that his purchasing power in that city was not what it had been in Jerusalem. In Jerusalem he could command the necessaries and perhaps some of the luxuries of life. In Jericho he could not pay his board bill. This, of course, was because he had been robbed on the way.

But if, while going from one city to the other, the United Steal Corporation of Jerusalem and Jericho, with the High Priest, head of the Meat Trust of Jerusalem, as president, had been organized, and had doubled the price of the necessaries of life, the condition of this man on reaching Jericho would have been much the same as though he had