

tion, but only the capture of a pool by superior dexterity at the game.

In business, all participants are presumably benefited in proportion to their several equities. That is, each receives, theoretically, the equivalent of what he has produced and added to the sum total to be distributed.

In gambling, the element of production is absent, while one merely expropriates from another by outwitting him.

The one process is wholly beneficent; the other totally baneful. The two processes are morally antithetical.

The fact that the element of chance enters into both does not make them identical, any more than that the element of carbon in iron makes it identical with charcoal. Chance is a minor element in normal business, and its entire extinction is the desideratum; while in pure gambling it is the chief element.

The fact that gamblers are also largely engaged in business, and that they have studiously degraded a large portion of the world's business to the low plane of chance—have made of it the play of the gamester—is not denied. On the contrary, it is a generally recognized fact that society is agonizing under the demoralizing influences of the gambler in business—the gambler, who craftily injects his vicious methods into the realm of business, and then, like the fakir that he is, blatantly proclaims the resultant as the inevitable condition of co-operative society!

Free the business world from the deliberate, cold-blooded machinations of the gambling spirit, and millions of suffering men, women and children will be lifted from the depths of poverty and despair to the uplands of ever-increasing affluence and intensifying joy in existence.

EDWARD HOWELL PUTNAM.

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WHAT OF THE UNDER DOG?

Always there has been the under dog. Always there has been the hewer of wood and carrier of water. These things have been a part of the intellectual development of mankind. In this, the old world is fixed by hundreds of years of toil and struggle, of pitting brain against brawn; to the end that after these many hundred years of unremitting labor, an aristocracy of title and wealth and culture has been so fixed upon the peoples of the old world that nothing short of a social revolution of many years' duration could unsettle the minds and conditions of the people, if such a thing could be started.

In justice, it has never been morally right for

one man to ride his brother, without that brother's consent; but the doctrine that might makes right, has so long held the minds of men, that it is considered right to take advantage of your fellow man, within certain bounds. What the restrictions are, is a matter of debate between thinking men, both honest and dishonest, and has been for thousands of years.

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In the older nations, where the under dog is placed within bounds from which there is practically no escape, there are the rights of the classes over the masses; rights to compel obedience and service, because of superior mentality that can summon the requisite force if need be. These rights of custom and training are recognized by all, save on the part of little groups of the discontented under dogs, when unusual oppression seems unbearable.

It is a fact, that the highest development of man, mentally, has been built upon the shoulders of others. The highest education in book lore and experience has been gained while subsisting on the wealth that others have produced. One gains leisure to cultivate the mind and manners, on the fruits of others' toil. Each one's early education and training comes from the accumulation of others' labors. This is the history of mankind. Each one, in the endeavor to outstrip his neighbor, must take advantage of his weaker brother, if progress be made. Such has been the theory to which the world has adhered for many thousand years.

The under dog of Europe is the peasant of France and Germany; the serf of Russia; the coolie of Asia. The under dog is marked and classified; he has his station and place in the society of the old world, fixed and immutable. For such a length of time has the riding of the weaker brother been in vogue in Europe and Asia, that nothing short of phenomenal ability can raise him from a lower stratum to the next higher, and no amount of development can change his station.

Out of this imposition of the stronger on the weaker brother, an aristocracy of classes, of two and three divisions, has been marked and enclosed against intrusion; living in most part on the impetus of past performances of ancestors, here and there ebbing to such low condition that only the name and station can save from the position of the under dog, here and there a new flow of aristocratic blood that develops the strength to wrest the weakened branch from the shoals, and place it once more in the ranks to which hundreds of years of mental success entitles it.

Always there has been the under dog. In the days of America's early childhood, the Negro held the position here. On his shoulders and brawn an aristocracy was reared that equaled the grandest of the old world. Coupled with the unbounded wealth of nature, it grew and flourished, as no other aristocracy ever did in a new land in the same length of time. But it takes much time to develop an aristocracy, and the bottom—the prop—the under dog, was ruthlessly struck from under the Southern aristocracy, and it was reduced to the pioneer stage once more. The developments of that building are still to be seen and felt, where the structure fell, and are like to be for many years to come.

There was a section that had none of this. A part that stood, each man on his own feet, to do and die for himself alone, without succor or support from any man. This state was brought about by the teachings and training of a lifetime in the New England colonies; a thing that was slow to develop and slower still to decay. But the inevitable law of the survival of the fittest, slowly but surely took root and grew in this land, and little by little has gained in strength and volume, until today there is such a disposition toward the building of an aristocracy on the shoulders of the weaker brother that no laws have yet been devised to check it.

Always there has been the under dog. If there be no serfs, or peasants, or slaves; what then? Of class distinction there is none. Of education and superior mentality, there is; but it does not satisfy. Such division of the sheep from the goats requires constant struggle in the maintenance, and is unsatisfactory and uncertain, because of the necessity of proof. What, then, can be done to so fix the social status of mankind in America that he who is born within the circle must remain, regardless; and he born without will be unable to enter?



There is but one opening for this condition, so long as the laws remain what they are. The solution is *money*. Not money in the making or in the hoarding of it, but money for ostentation and education and ease; a condition that bars the workaday man from the company of the rich. In this there must be constant building, that the smaller be kept from the growth. There must be constant struggle to eliminate more and more of the aspirants; to outdo in spending; to make the pace impossible for the next below. Just as the greatest development of a plant is made by the tearing away of obstructing plants that absorb

much of the coveted nourishment and sunshine, so this aristocracy must be developed—by eliminating obstructing persons, in the end to so entrench itself with dollars that nothing can rob it of the sunshine and space so necessary for its greatest development, so that finally the aristocracy of money will be free, in the days of the heir who lives on the impetus of the ancestor, to develop those qualities of mind and morals and manners that make up the best development of the greatest aristocracy of the world. Such is the theory of aspirants for place in the monied aristocracy of the United States.

For four hundred years this new nation, as a whole, has struggled against such an end; but to what purpose? That this building of a monied aristocracy is well under way in America, no thinking man can deny. How far it will progress, or how long the laws will stem the tide against it, on the principle that every man is born with an equal right to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness, can not be answered now. Only the future thought and action of those who can think and act will determine this.



But what of the under dog? Already there must be laws to compel the growing aristocracy to safeguard the lives and property of those who produce them wealth. There must be laws to compel justice to the miner, to the engineer, to the artisan. It is found necessary to make laws to protect the public from the manipulation of stocks and bonds. There must be constant war against predatory wealth and great corporations, to compel obedience to laws already existing, and legislation to prevent the entailing of property to the fourth and fifth generation. Laws innumerable—to suppress the imposition of the rich and powerful on the poor and weakly. Already the idea has gained firm root in this free nation of ours, that he may gain who has the power and he may keep who can. The riding of the weaker brother is "business acumen"; the imposition of the powerful is "business ability", and is considered respectable. Always it must be done, they aver, if progress is made.

So long as the present average of mental ability is maintained, so long as the men are on the same level politically, the growth of the aristocracy must necessarily be slow and difficult. It is the ignorance of the masses that will make its task easier. And so, the child is made to labor and remain ignorant. Of necessity this means ignorant offspring, who, in turn, must labor without learning. The inevitable result is plain—*increase*

of ignorance by the masses, and increase of wealth and mental strength by the classes.

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If the masses of this nation were exactly as ignorant as the masses in Russia, we should be in exactly the same political condition that country is in today. Mankind is much the same the world over; only mental condition and environment makes the difference. Only the ignorance of the majority of the peoples of Russia, made so by hundreds of years of oppression and enforced ignorance, makes such a government possible, where the vast majority is subservient to a small minority, and only the illiteracy and ignorance of a majority of our citizens will make possible the existence of an aristocracy of money in the United States.

Only one plea is made in favor of child labor—it is cheap labor. This is all sufficient from the standpoint of money making, and the only excuse offered (when an explanation is asked for) is the alleged necessity of assistance to indigent parents. The result is twofold. It cheapens labor, thereby increasing dividends, and at the same time lays the foundation for still cheaper labor in future generations and less opposition to the development of the monied aristocracy; there is no hope for the illiterate, and no fear of the ignoramus.

The enforced slavery of poverty in the mining regions and in the slums of the cities, the cheapness of life in these places, is small consideration to it, in comparison. These men and women pass away because of accident or sickness or violent death, and leaves space for others. Consideration for them is of slight worth—they are but individuals of today. It is to the future generations we must look—those of us who favor and those of us who oppose the building of a monied aristocracy.

For him who favors and is seeking the aristocracy builded on money, there is much promise in child labor, because it lessens resistance; but to him who advocates the right to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness in every man, there is room for much alarm, and there is much need of antagonism, for the practice of robbing the child of liberty and opportunity to learn is steadily on the increase in this land of liberty, despite the laws and ravings against it.

The aristocracy grows apace. Five and twenty years ago there were 50,000 child slaves in the United States, between the ages of five and fifteen; today there are 2,000,000 of them, laboring to enrich the rich in every State in the Union.

GREEN CLAY.

NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Tuesday, December 15, 1908.

Venezuela and the Netherlands.

International attention is turned toward Venezuela by the action of Holland, which has captured a Venezuelan guard boat. The Venezuelan government had issued an order last May for bidding the transshipment of goods at Curacao for Venezuelan ports. As Curacao is a Dutch possession the Holland government demanded the revocation of this order by November 1st, regarding it as inconsistent with the relations of Venezuela and Holland under a protocol of 1904. The Venezuelan government having ignored this demand, the Netherlands ordered war ships into Venezuelan waters (p. 879) and have repudiated the protocol, which bound them to prevent the promotion of Venezuelan revolutions. The Dutch officials at Curacao have accordingly been instructed by the Netherlands to declare the ports of Curacao free for the import and export of weapons and ammunition, and in no way to interfere with revolutionary movements directed against the Venezuelan government. Meanwhile three Dutch warships are blockading the Venezuelan coast. On the 13th one of these, the Gelderland, came into the port of Willemstad, Curacao, with the Venezuelan coast guard ship Alexis, in tow as a capture. The capture had been made without resistance and the Venezuelan crew put ashore. Following was the demand which the Dutch warship served on the captain of the Alexis:

Her majesty the Queen of Holland has given orders for her warships temporarily to sequester and embargo all Venezuelan government vessels. This is a retaliatory measure. We demand that you lower your flag and surrender your ship and your persons to the commander of the Gelderland. All resistance will be useless. If you resist the result will be the loss of your vessel and death to many of you.

Protests were delivered by Venezuela on the 13th to the diplomatic corps at Caracas, Venezuela, against the attitude of the Netherlands. The protest relates to searches and seizures of Venezuelan commercial vessels by Dutch war ships and warlike demonstrations in Venezuelan waters endangering commercial shipping. At the time of this protest the capture of the Alexis was not known at Caracas. When it became known, the acting President, Gomez, issued a decree, dated the 14th,