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The Republican prosperity which the coal trust is now enjoying, at the expense of keen suffering among the working classes, culminating in sickness and death, is likely to stimulate more fear than pride in the makers of this unique kind of prosperity. Most people must now begin to lose interest in a prosperity that can be enjoyed only by ear.

It is interesting to observe the growth of the army of "calamity howlers." James J. Hill has hardly enlisted when Charles T. Yerkes comes up for examination. Both believe that a panic is at hand, and Yerkes is especially hard upon the trusts, those erstwhile prosperity producers. He makes a fairly good "calamity howler" when he himself begins to feel the bruises of prosperity.

Judge Grosscup, of Chicago, a Federal jurist, has discovered a new remedy for the trusts, and so new that he has been at the pains of inventing a new word to describe it. He would "peopleize" them. To most persons his speech at the Hamilton club indicates that in "peopleizing" them, as he calls it, he would make it easy for the people to buy shares in trust stock. That, however, is more suggestive of enabling children to catch little birds by making it easy for them to put salt on the birds' tails, than of anything rational. Yet Judge Grosscup may mean, what in one part of his speech he seems to have said, that the trust question is to be solved by making the country's "opportunities open alike to all." That is the true solution. If he meant it,

however, he managed to mask his meaning with even more than judicial skill.

Professional economists and semi-socialistic pulpiteers who glibly proclaim the unwisdom of attempting to return to individualism, would do well to reflect a moment upon the fact that never within historical times have we had an era of individualism to return to. If we are ever to have individualism it must be after the plutocratic socialism of the past and present, and the possibly democratic socialism of the future, have spent their force. Periods of slavery, serfdom, and restricted competition in trade, are not individualistic periods; and calling them so does not make them so.

The Merchants' Association of New York has discovered that the traction companies are appropriating public property, a fact which was recently known only to "anarchists," "socialists," "calamity howlers," "commew-nists" and other wickedly envious folks. The vehicles of the elevated and surface roads, says this association through one of its committees in addresses to the public on the indecency of overcrowding, "are public property," and the companies "pay the city sums which are trivial in proportion to the value of the privileges enjoyed by them." Those observations are close to "populism," if the Merchants' Association did but know it.

A wholesome verdict by a Michigan jury at Jackson, on the 11th, rendered under the influence of sound legal instructions from the judge presiding at the trial, emphasizes an almost forgotten but vital right of American citizenship, the right, namely, of exemption from arbitrary arrest. The defendant had refused

submission to an arrest by officers without a warrant, and in defending himself against the lawless proceeding had shot and killed one of the arresting party. He was consequently indicted and tried for manslaughter. The judge charged the jury that the defendant had a right to use all necessary force to protect himself from the unwarranted arrest, and upon that explanation of the law the jury acquitted the prisoner. It is to be hoped that this just charge and righteous verdict may serve as a salutary lesson to disorderly policemen everywhere.

Were starving working people to make a raid upon bakeries and confiscate bread, they would be sent to jail if few in numbers, or shot down by the militia if an otherwise resistless mob. This is not a guess; it is a statement of historical fact. And preachers, lawyers, bankers, and other good people would commend the arrests, and while deploring the necessity would approve the slaughter. But when a mob led by preachers and bankers in want of coal makes a raid upon a train of coal cars and confiscates the cargo, the leading Republican paper of the West, the Chicago Tribune, heretofore an organ of "law and order," makes this mild comment:

When the leading men in a town—its bankers, merchants, lawyers and doctors—lay violent hands on coal which does not belong to them it is evident they are in sore need of coal. . . . The action of the good citizens of Arcola was clearly illegal. No one has a right to help himself to the property of another without obtaining the consent of the owner. But "self-preservation is the first law of nature." If the state of affairs at Arcola has been as bad as the dispatches report, it is not to be wondered at that the people should take advantage of the opportune breakdown of a coal train.

Which goes far to show that a stern enforcement of the law is not for