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The Bilious Mr. Hill.

For some inexplicable reason Mr. James J. Hill takes a bilious pleasure in predicting disaster for the industries of his country, and his own success in business naturally attracts attention to what he says. An examination shows, however, that his prophecies are not based upon superior information. We all know that it is the ordinary course for periods of trade activity to be followed by periods of depression. We all feel, therefore, as Mr. Hill does, that the present era of prosperity must have its limit. But he himself is not convincingly definite as to the time, and some of the references which he makes to prove his case are both conflicting and misleading.

In one place he says that labor unions killed industrial England, and he argues that they will follow the precedent and kill industrial America. Later he gives out the impression that England was not "killed dead" and that it is beating the United States even now. "We can't meet the prices of German and English manufacturers," he asserts, "and pay the wages which the unions compel."

His idea of the relative position of the various competing countries of great trade is erroneous. "Germany," he declares, "is leading the world now and is making much swifter progress than this country or any other." That is certainly not true as regards general foreign trade, on which the figures for 1901 were:

	Exports.	Imports.
England.....	\$1,862,728,893	\$2,540,265,299
Germany.....	1,054,684,000	1,290,254,000
United States....	1,487,764,991	823,172,165

That is the latest year for which full returns are available, and though it is a fact that our imports have increased somewhat of late and our exports decreased, and that some lines of manufacture have been affected by the decline of the latter, the enviable position of Germany is wholly imaginary. The truth is that Germany is only slowly emerging from a period of very hard times. No country has complained more loudly of idle factories and unsatisfactory finance. But it is not necessary to go into a thorough exposition of all the conditions to show that Mr. Hill is guilty of an ill-considered generalization. He has clearly overshot the mark, and in so doing has deprived his comment of any value.

More Victims to "Four Per Cent a Week."

That the E. J. Arnold Company, a co-operative book-making concern of St. Louis, has succeeded in collecting \$2,500,000 from confiding speculators, and that the day has come when it suspends the repayment of deposits, are matters of much less surprise than that the company kept its doors open and paid interest regularly for several years, as it did. There seems to be no limit in times of prosperity to the supply of willing victims of such schemes, and the ultimate failure of all the alluring companies, at least as far as outsiders are concerned, is a certainty, but the much greater rapidity.

For those who invested in the Arnold company no sympathy can be felt. They deliberately chose not merely to gamble on horse races, but to involve themselves in a double gamble, in which the men with whom they dealt were more uncertain factors than the horses on whose running the bets were placed. If the investors reaped profits for a time at the exorbitant rates of four, then three, and at last two per cent, a week, even for a short time, they were receiving back just that much more than public opinion would probably believe them entitled to.

It is safe to assume that any man fit to be allowed to handle his own affairs without the intervention of a guardian must know that the only way he can make two per cent a week, through the agency of other people, in these days, is by getting an advance participation in the fleecing of late comers. If the first comers could be relieved in each instance of their wealth as thoroughly and completely as late investors always are, it would be better in the long run for all concerned.

Wanted: 5,000 Farm-Hands.

The California Promotion Committee, acting in conjunction with the California Employment Committee, is making an effort to secure the immigration of farm-hands from the Central States. Concerning the pressing need of such an accession to the population, and the certainty of their getting employment,

there can be no question. Each year a cry goes up from the farmers that they are unable to handle their crops because of their inability to secure farm labor. Last year the crops were abundant in all parts of the state, yet vast quantities of fruit went to waste in the orchards, merely because the farmers could not get it picked. Under the direction of these two committees, five prominent fruit-growers will travel through the Central States explaining to the people there the needs of California and the opportunities offered here. They will be provided with stereopticon outfits, with views showing not only the scenic attractions of the country, but also the industrial conditions. As each of them has had many years of experience in fruit-growing here, and as they are residents of different sections of the state, they are prepared to give reliable and practical information. They will travel together as far as Nebraska, and then separate, each one taking his own particular field, the intention being to cover the rural districts of the states bordering on the Missouri river. Public meetings will be called in the small towns, addresses will be made, and as far as possible communication will be established with the farm-hands, in order to ascertain their views regarding coming to California. These gentlemen have undertaken this work at their own expense, but there is something for the fruit-growers and farmers to do as well. The employment committee has established headquarters at 25 New Montgomery Street, and wants information regarding the number of farm-hands that can be guaranteed employment in each section.

The canal treaty with Columbia has not only been signed by the representatives of the two governments but the document has been favorably reported by a committee of the Senate without amendment. The crucial point in the negotiation has therefore been reached. Will it be ratified by the Senate? Will it be ratified by the Colombian authorities. The treaty provisions have been made public, and they do not vary much from the terms which have been discussed during the negotiations. Both parties have made some concessions. The treaty provides for a hundred-year lease of a strip six miles wide along the canal route, and renewal on expiration for a similar term. Within the region police and sanitary supervision are granted the United States, while actual sovereignty remains with Columbia. The termini at Colon and Panama are embraced in similar provisions. Columbia is to receive \$10,000,000 on the exchange of ratifications, and an annuity of \$250,000 a year, to commence nine years hence, as an offset to the revenue from the Panama railroad, which will be turned over to this government. The canal must be commenced in two years from ratification, and finished within fourteen years, unless there arise unforeseen difficulties, when an extension of ten years more may be had. Difficulties about ratifying appear already at both ends of the line. Senator Morgan, famous for his advocacy of the Nicaragua route, has objected to the validity of the treaty, on the ground that Dr. Herran, who signed the document for Columbia, was not a legally accredited representative of that country. Senor Conch has gone home to Bogota in a huff, vowing that he will prevent ratification by his government. The general tone of public sentiment in the United States is one of satisfaction that a decisive step toward building a canal has been made; it is, however, coupled with warnings that any commission appointed must be of the best materials, and no scandals permitted to disgrace the enterprise. There are those still who think a blunder has been made in the selection of the route. These point mainly to the climatic and engineering difficulties, as compared with Nicaragua. The American Association for the Advancement of Science, at its recent session in Baltimore, memorialized the President on the subject of appointing a medical man on the Isthmian Canal Commission, to combat malaria and yellow fever among the workmen during the building of the canal.

The union depot at Portland is going to maintain an exhibit of the products of each county for the benefit of eastern visitors as they arrive in that city. Each county is to be given a space in which to exhibit her products. Portland has provided all but the exhibit itself and it is up to each county to say as to what kind of an exhibit it shall have if any at all. If Clackamas county wants to show the eastern visitor or prospective settler what she can produce in the way of grain, fruit, fish, hops, hay, lumber or minerals, she must get her exhibit ready. Many a man looking for a location will be influenced by what he sees at this exhibit. Can Clackamas county afford not to exhibit, and if she puts up an exhibit can she afford to put up anything except the best she is capable of? The people having charge of this matter want a map of the county showing the condition of the various parts of the county in reference to her resources. This is an important matter to the county and we believe she should get in line as this will influence many a man to locate here if a proper showing is made.

Each side has made concessions in that contest between the miners of soft coal and the operators. This will be good news for the country. A report was extant a week ago that Mitchell intended to advise the miners to strike next April if their demands were not met in the interval. It is well that a different state of things has come to pass. With each side giving up something in favor of peace, there is a chance now that the strike of 1902 will not be repeated in 1903. This country will not, for two or three years yet, fully recover from the effects of that conflict. It will take two years for the coal production to catch up with the consumption, and to cut prices to their former level. The demand is rapidly increasing on account of the business prosperity. The prosperity, however, would be greater had the coal strike of last year been averted.

Billion and Trillion.

There are two systems of numeration in use at the present day, commonly called the English and the French systems. In the former the billion is a million of millions, a trillion a million of billions, and each denomination is a million times the one preceding. In the latter, which is the system used in the United States, the billion is a thousand millions, and each denomination is a thousand times the preceding. Therefore, according to the English notation a trillion is the product of a million involved to the third power, or the number represented by a unit with its ciphers annexed; according to the French notation, the number expressed by a unit with twelve ciphers attached. A billion according to the French method is the number represented by a unit with nine ciphers and according to the English method with twelve ciphers annexed.

Pulling a Tooth.

An Irishman who had gone into a dentist's to get a tooth pulled had it out in a few minutes.

"That will be half a crown," said the dentist.

"Half a crown?" said Pat. "Why, the last tooth I got pulled at home the old doctor set me down on the floor and put the pliers in my mouth and pulled me round and round the room, out of the door and down the stairs. When we got to the foot, the doctor said, 'By the help of heaven and the attraction of gravity we'll hev her out yet,' so when we got to the top out came the tooth, and he only took a shillin'!"—London Tit-Bits.

Ring Her In.

"And when you marry," she softly said, "I hope you'll remember to invite me to the ceremony."

He looked thoughtful. "It will be awfully crowded, no doubt," he said, "but I think I can ring you in somehow."

And a moment or two later she declared the ring was an astonishingly good fit.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Not Worried by Them.

Mamma—Johnny when you told me that that Sever boy threw stones at you you did not tell me that it was after you had thrown stones at him.

Johnny—I wasn't afraid of the stones I threw at him, ma. It was only the ones coming my way that I was scared of.—Boston Transcript.

Wanted—An energetic manager for office to be opened in this city for large manufacturing concern. Salary, One Hundred Dollars per month extra commissions and expenses. Five Hundred Dollars cash security required. Best of references. Address Manager, P. O. Box 2124 San Francisco, Calif.

Bucklin's Arnica Salve.

The best and most famous compound in the world to conquer aches and kill pains. Cures Cuts, heals Burns and Bruises, subdues Inflammation, masters Piles. Millions of boxes sold yearly. Works wonders in Boils, Ulcers, Felons, Skin Eruptions. It cures or no pay. 25c at Geo. A. Harding's drug store.

HAPPY AND HEALTHY.

A Beautiful Canadian Girl Saved From Catarrh of the Lungs by Pe-ru-na.



MISS FLORENCE KENAH.

Miss Florence E. Kenah, 41 Maria street, Ottawa, Ont., writes:

"A few months ago I caught a severe cold, which settled on my lungs and remained there so persistently that I became alarmed. I took medicine without benefit, until my digestive organs became upset, and my head and back began to ache severely and frequently. I was advised to try Peruna, and although I had little faith I felt so sick that I was ready to try anything. It brought me blessed relief at once, and I felt that I had the right medicine at last. Within three weeks I was completely restored and have enjoyed perfect health since."

"I now have the greatest faith in Peruna." F. E. KENAH.

WOMEN should beware of contracting catarrh. The cold wind and rain, sleet, and mud of winter are especially conducive to catarrhal discharges. Few women escape.

Upon the first symptoms of catching cold Peruna should be taken. It fortifies the system against colds and catarrh.

The following letter gives one young woman's experience with Peruna:

Miss Rose Gerling is a popular society woman of Crown Point, Ind., and she writes the following:

"Recently I took a long drive in the country, and being too thinly clad I caught a bad cold which settled on my lungs, and which I could not seem to shake off. I had heard a great deal of Peruna for colds and catarrh and I

bought a bottle to try. I am pleased that I did, for it brought speedy relief. It only took about two bottles, and I considered this money well spent.

"You have a firm friend in me, and I not only advise its use to my friends, but have purchased several bottles to give to those without the means to buy, and have noticed without exception that it has brought about a speedy cure wherever it has been used."—Miss Rose Gerling.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address: Dr. Hartman, President of The Standard Sanitarium, Columbus, O.

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The Red Front

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