

Startling Figures.

In the current number of the Political Science Quarterly some startling figures are presented by Mr. George K. Holmes, who has been taking a hand in the investigation of the rapid concentration of wealth that has been going on all over the world in recent years.

In this most remarkable feature of modern progress America leads, but everywhere the same tendency is present. Formerly the owners of large entailed estates were the richest men in the Old World, and this is still the case in those countries that have made least progress in industrial development. But in Great Britain, Germany and France, as well as the United States, monopolists in trade, speculators and bankers have in recent years made prodigious strides in the accumulation of property.

Mr. Holmes arrives at the conclusion that we have in this country 12,692,152 families, with an aggregate wealth of \$60,000,000,000 and proceeds to analyze the financial status of these people as follows:

We are now prepared to characterize the concentration of wealth in the United States by stating that 20 per cent of it is owned by 5-100 of 1 per cent of the families; 51 per cent by 6 per cent of the families (not including millionaires); 71 per cent by 9 per cent of the families (including millionaires); and 29 per cent by 91 per cent of the families.

About 20 per cent of the wealth is owned by the poorer families that own farms or homes without incumbrance, and these are 28 per cent of all the families. Only 9 per cent of the wealth is owned by tenant families and the poorer class of those that own their farms or homes under incumbrance, and these together constitute 64 per cent of all the families. As little as 5 per cent of the nation's wealth is owned by 52 per cent of the families, that is, by the tenants alone. Finally, 4,047 families possess about 7-10 as much as do 11,593,887 families.

It will be seen that seventy-one per cent of the wealth of the United States is in the hands of nine per cent of the families. Less than five thousand families own seven-tenths as much property as do about twelve million families. Mr. Holmes might have gone further and stated that probably fifty per cent of the five thousand nabobs reside in the Atlantic sea-board states and a majority of the remainder in the great cities in other parts of the country.

How could such a state of affairs have come about except through the operation of laws giving special privileges to a few and imposing the labor and the burdens of society and government upon the many? Special privileges, did we say? Federal legislation has gone much further. It transferred millions and millions and millions of fertile acres, the heritage of the people, to private ownership. By becoming surety for immense sums, which the taxpayers must finally pay, it furnished enough money to build thousands of miles of railroad and handed them over, a free gift, to the same syndicates who had been given a title to the public domain. It closed our ports against foreign commerce, and gave manufacturers at home a license to organize great companies and syndicates, and then to organize these great companies and syndicates into trusts and combines, the more effectually to pillage the toiling millions. In order to retain these special privileges, by making the government a mere adjunct of the schemes of privileged classes, it has filed the United States senate chamber with the attorneys of corporations and trusts. It has gilded legislative halls with a swarm of lobbyists.

doors, and helps pave the way for such an uprising of the people as was never seen in the world before, and for such a demolition of politicians and the work of politicians as is not dreamed of in the philosophy of the ruling classes.

FORBIDDEN TO STRIKE.

Courts Restrain Northern Pacific Employees From Taking Concerted Action.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 27.—A conflict is on between the receivers of the Northern Pacific railroad and its employees, including all the engineers, conductors, firemen, trainmen and switchmen.

The new schedule of wages, which implies a cut of five to ten per cent in the employees' pay, was rejected by the employees' representatives at a conference held in St. Paul with General Manager Kendrick, and the prospects are that on January 1, when the new schedule is to go into effect, 3,500 men employed all along the road will quit work. This outcome of the controversy was foreseen by the receivers, for as early as December 19 they applied for and obtained from Judge Jenkins of the United States court of this city, an order authorizing and directing them to put into operation the new schedule of wages and restraining the employees and their unions from "combining and conspiring to quit, with or without notice, the service of the road with the object of crippling or embarrassing its operation, and, generally, from interfering with the officers and agents of the receivers or their employes in any manner by actual violence, intimidation, threats or otherwise."

This injunction was held back until yesterday, the receivers having expected to arrive at an amicable agreement. When they found such an agreement impossible, they telegraphed to their agents and attorneys all along the line to have the injunction served by the United States marshals on proper men, and to make the injunction generally known.

The order of the court restraining the Northern Pacific employes from "combining and conspiring to quit the service of the road," is an extraordinary document. It is the first order of its kind, it is said, ever issued in the United States.

WOMEN CRUSADERS AT WORK

They Make the Rounds of Wichita Joints, Singing and Praying.

WICHITA, Kan., Dec. 27.—As an outcome of the revival meetings which have been in progress for some weeks at the First Methodist church, a band of women to the number of sixteen made a tour of some of the principal saloons in town yesterday afternoon. The ladies knelt in a row in front of the bar and prayed, then sang and later exhorted the proprietors to close their doors and turn their talents to other pursuits. Among the crusaders were some well known ladies, Mrs. Mason, head of the W. C. T. U.; Mrs. Sawyer, wife of a city councilman; Mrs. H. L. Taylor, wife of the state coal oil inspector; Mrs. Henry Fellows, wife of a prominent real estate man, and others. They were well received and treated respectfully, except in one saloon, where the proprietor kicked out a bum for insulting them. The ladies promise to continue their crusade.

The Profit Sharing Plan.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 27.—The N. O. Nelson Manufacturing company, one of the largest industrial establishments in this city, with branch factories in Mound City and LeClaire, Ill., is conducted on the profit sharing plan. The men have received dividends for the last ten years, and when the money stringency became severe last August they cheerfully accepted a cut

OUTLINE OF THE TARIFF PROGRAM IN THE HOUSE.

WILL BE DEBATED FOR A MONTH

A Permanent Tariff Commission, moved as far as Possible From Political Bias, Talked of—Seven Democratic Senators Against the Wilson Bill—Other Capital News.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—The programme upon which the tariff duty will be deducted, as outlined by a member of the ways and means committee does not include fixing a time for taking a vote as soon as the bill comes before the house. It is the present intention to allow the debate to run for some time, and if it becomes apparent no vote can be reached or that the bill can not be reasonably considered by paragraph the committee on votes will be asked to fix a time for consideration under the five-minute rule and a final vote. It is believed by the Democratic members that when there is a general understanding that the final vote is to be taken until the last of January there will be no difficulty in securing such vote by an agreement on both sides.

A tariff commission, permanent and as far as possible removed from political bias, is the latest suggestion for making the Wilson bill acceptable to the house of lords. The idea of a tariff commission is not new, but has been brought forward at various times because of the demand which comes from the entire country to have the tariff question, so far as possible permanently settled. There are less than seven Democratic senators who insist upon amendments to the Wilson bill. Whether they will go far in their opposition as to vote against the bill in its present form the Democratic majority insists upon its passage, without amendment, purely a matter of speculation. There have been additions here and there to the Democratic senatorial list, but kickers until friends of the bill admit that an overhauling of the measure may be forced. The proposed tariff commission presents in all alluring form the dangers which beset the bill.

HAWAIIAN INVESTIGATION.

Senate Committee Begins Its Work Which Will Require Two Months.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—To-day the senate committee on foreign relations began its work of investigating the Hawaiian question under the terms of the resolution introduced by Senator Morgan. The investigation will be conducted by a sub-committee consisting of Senators Morgan, Gray, Butler, Sherman and Frye, and will be held behind closed doors in accordance with the custom of this committee. The sergeant-at-arms of the senate has been notified to be in readiness to wait upon the committee and issue such summons as it may direct, but there is no likelihood of any witness being called at the sitting. It is improbable that before the investigation is concluded Commission Blount, ex-Minister Stevens, Minister Willis, certain army and navy officers and such Hawaiians as are in the city will be called before the committee. The committee will put forth its best endeavors to get at the important facts. It is thought that two months will be consumed in the inquiry.

INDIAN TERRITORY AFFAIRS

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becoming surety for immense sums, which the taxpayers must finally pay, it furnished enough money to build thousands of miles of railroad and handed them over, a free gift, to the same syndicates who had been given a title to the public domain. It closed our ports against foreign commerce, and gave manufacturers at home a license to organize great companies, and syndicates, and then to organize these great companies and syndicates into trusts and combines, the more effectually to pillage the toiling millions. In order to retain these special privileges, by making the government a mere adjunct of the schemes of privileged classes, it has tiled the United States senate chamber with the attorneys of corporations and trusts. It has gilded legislative halls with a swarm of lobbyists and self-seekers. It has dictated the nominations of inventions, and even chosen the judges of our courts. It has converted senators into capons, legislative proceedings into conspiracies against the people, and the courts into the means of enforcing the edicts of the despoilers. It has established an aristocracy at the great financial and commercial centers of the country, who look with disdain upon any measure for the relief of the people, and who regard the country as the spoil of speculators and monopolists. Instead of submitting great public questions to the people to be determined at the polls, it has listened to the petitions and performed the will of the privileged classes. It has submitted to a clique of London bankers statutes determining the monetary system and financial policy of the government. It has taken counsel of the usurer, of the trader, of the manufacturer, of the corporation, as to what was the best for the country, and at every step in the history of twenty-five years of spoliation and robbery these purse-proud nurselings of governmental favoritism have exercised a controlling influence in the formulation and administration of the laws.

What Mr. Holmes aims at in his contribution to The Popular Science Quarterly is to prove the necessity of a graduated income tax law. For this purpose his paper possesses the value of the present law in that it is an income tax law, and it is a graduated law. The only difference between the two is that the present law is a graduated law, and the proposed law is a graduated law. The only difference between the two is that the present law is a graduated law, and the proposed law is a graduated law. The only difference between the two is that the present law is a graduated law, and the proposed law is a graduated law.

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The Bolters' Ticket Elected.
St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 27.—An election occurred yesterday in this city in the Lindell hotel for officers and directors of the Western Travelers association. There were two tickets, one headed by George S. McGrew, the regular caucus nominee, and the other the bolters' ticket, led by R. W. Shapleigh. After a spirited contest Shapleigh was declared elected. The McGrew men charge bribery and recanting and say they will secede if a recount of the ballots does not show their candidate elected. There are some 700 members of the association.

Four Days on the Rocks.
New York, Dec. 27.—Four days on the rocks, with scanty clothing and scantier food, drenched by the spray from the waves which were rapidly beating their schooner to pieces, a couple of ship's lengths away—such is the story of shipwreck and privation told by the six men who form the crew of the schooner Milford, which sailed from Mobile to Kingston, Jamaica, on November 18. The steamer Santa Neutone yesterday arrived with five of the crew.

Obituary Record.
RAYMOND RAY, Dec. 27. C. S. Ryer, son of Capt. R. C. Ryer, Hon. Sec. of the Navy, aged 74.
FRANK B. THOMAS, Senator, Victor, N. D., died at his home in a western city, aged 67.
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INDIAN TERRITORY AFFAIRS.
A Bill Is Pending Which Will Remedy the Evils Comp Incd of.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Chairman Holman, of the house committee on Indian affairs, in discussing the letter of Governor Fishback, said there is now pending before the committee on Indian affairs a bill designed to remedy the existing conditions by conferring on the United States courts in the Indian Territory greater authority than they now possess. It was probable, he said, the committee would report the bill very soon after congress reassembled, and he would take occasion to ask its early consideration. The bill was prepared at the interior department for the purpose of securing better government for the Territory.

American Flour.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—In reply to the wheat and flour contract of the department of state, Charles N. Dauby, consul at Gnolph Out., reports he people there are ready to buy American flour if it can be sold as well as of as good quality as the domestic. The obstacle to the use of American flour is the duty of seventy-five per barrel on American flour. John N. Derby, United States consul at St. Johns, N. B., makes a similar report as to the Dominion tariff.

Neely for March.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Dr. S. F. Neely of Leavenworth is to be the next United States marshal for Kansas according to the announcement of Senator McGinn, and also according to the indications that have come to the surface during the last few hours.

Iron Castings for a Tunnel.
Mason City, Iowa, Dec. 27.—Hon. I. S. G. of Iowa Bridge, Iowa, is an iron casting works for the construction of a tunnel for the state of Iowa. The works are located in Mason City, Iowa, and are under the supervision of John H. G. of Iowa Bridge, Iowa. The works are located in Mason City, Iowa, and are under the supervision of John H. G. of Iowa Bridge, Iowa.

California State Forestry Fund.
New York, Dec. 27.—The agents of the California State Forestry Fund are now in New York City, and are engaged in raising money for the purchase of land for the establishment of a forest reserve in California.

of submitting such public propositions to the people to be chosen not in the polls, it has listened to the petitions and performed the will of the privileged classes. It has submitted to a council of London bankers statutes determining the monetary system and financial policy of the government. It has favored counsel of the usurer, of the tender of the manufacturer of the corporation as to what was the best for the country, and at every step in the history of twenty-five years of spoliation and robbery these proud parasites of governmental favoritism have exercised a controlling influence in the formulation and administration of the laws.

What Mr. Holmes aims at in his contribution to The Popular Science Quarterly is to prove the necessity of a graduated income tax law. For this purpose his paper possesses little value. For the present the enactment of an income tax law sufficiently comprehensive to be of much benefit is impossible. The congress that demonetized silver cannot be expected to take a step so strongly demanded by the necessities of the times, but which is so distasteful to the faction in control at the national capital. Nevertheless, the startling disclosures made by Mr. Holmes will serve a good purpose. The eyes of the people are being opened and the day of reckoning will soon come.

Meantime, instead of a tax on incomes, let the tax on whisky be increased. This will bridge over the immediate necessities of the government and put fifteen or twenty millions into the hands of the whisky trust. Restore the stamp-duty on articles not indispensable to the comfort and happiness of the people—regardless of the fact that they enter largely into the daily consumption of all classes. Demagogues can claim that this is a tax on luxuries, and so on and so forth. Go right on, gentlemen. Let the mutterings of the rising storm go unheeded. Keep on trifling with these questions, but be assured that every false step—every attempt at ex-

of the Western Miners association. There were two tickets, one headed by George S. McGraw, the regular annual nominee, and the other the better ticket, led by R. W. Shapleigh. After a spirited contest Shapleigh was declared elected. The McGraw men charge bribery and repenting and say they will secede if a recount of the ballots does not show their candidate elected. There are some 100 members of the association.

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BARSTOWN, Ky., Dec. 27.—C. S. Barber, one of Kentucky's millionaires, died here last night, aged 75.

PARIS, Dec. 27.—Senator Victor Schoelscher, who is well known as a writer and traveler, is dead.

BOSTON, Dec. 27.—Henry W. Paine, the eminent lawyer, died at his residence in Cambridge this morning, aged 83.

YONKERS, N. Y., Dec. 27.—Robert C. Gisher, millionaire and philanthropist, aged 57 years, is dead.

Carpet Mill Resumes Work.
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.—The large ingrain carpet mill of Donan & Bro., resumed operations in full this morning. The employes of every department have consented to accept a ten per cent reduction in wages. The mill has been closed since November 20.

Best Coal
 Only \$3.25 per ton North Kansas City Coal Mining company. Telephone 1782

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Iowa Candidates for Senator.
MASON CITY, Iowa, Dec. 27.—Hiram L. S. Coffin, of Fort Dodge, Iowa, is an announced candidate for the United States senate, to succeed James F. Wilson. The following are now actively in the race: John H. Gear, A. B. Cummings, W. P. Hepburn, Johnny Stone, George D. Perkins, John F. Lacey and L. S. Coffin. It is the most sensational contest in Iowa since the memorable Kirkwood-Harlan fight.

A German Ship Probably Lost.
New York, Dec. 27.—The agents of the German tanic steamship, Burgo-meister Petersen, admit they fear she has been lost. Nothing has been heard of her since she was reported on December 10 in a disabled condition.

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