

Labor's methods are in no need of change as a consequence of this remarkable incident. All that is needed is that if the McNamaras had any accomplices, they be exposed and visited with the full penalty of the law. Labor will do whatever it can to drive them from their hiding-places."

ABDICATION OF THE OIL KING

ONE OF THE secrets of Standard Oil success, remarks the *Kansas City Times*, "has been that it always had plenty of John D.'s on hand." And the press see little real significance in the resignation of John D. Rockefeller as president of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, only to be succeeded by John D. Archbold, who, as vice-president, has for several years been the active head of the concern. Even the Mr. Rockefeller's Retirement "coincides with the formal dissolution of the giant aggregate of companies which he created," it does not, as the *New York Evening Post* observes, greatly excite popular interest. This paper adds that people have of late been thinking of the founder of Standard Oil as a human being, rather than as an octopus, and the same thought occurs to the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*. In the country's financial center *The Wall Street Journal* notes benignly that "Mr. Rockefeller starts life anew with some advantages," while that irrepressible foe of the money power, the *Chicago Tribune*, speaks with a touch of irony, but in no less kindly tone:

"Mr. Rockefeller has saved enough to keep the wolf from the door, and his declining days will not be harassed by want and wo.

"Mr. Rockefeller thus brings the worries of a useful life to a close; a useful life, an extremely useful life.

"Mr. Rockefeller more than any one other man made the trust problem, and brought it to the attention of the people. He forced it on them. He demanded that they take cognizance of it. If they would have passed it by he detained them. He had them by the coat-tails, insisting that they should observe that they had a problem before them.

"A useful citizen was John D. Rockefeller, and his services were appreciated by no one less than by himself.

"Good-by, John; take care of yourself."

This "strange mildness" on the part of our vehement trust critics is remarked by the *New York Globe*, and attributed to the fact that "the noble company of Rockefeller's roasters apparently feel that to smite now partakes of the nature of hitting a man when he is down," and it continues in a thoughtful strain:

"The richest man in the world, and yet as his career draws near its close it somehow does not seem altogether a glorious and successful one. A business man pursues wealth because of the power it will bring him— perchance for the respect that riches are supposed to receive. And the richest man in the world does not seem conspicuously to have power. As to respect, he gets about as much of it as a man in a pillory. It would seem necessary to revise the opinion that the American is a lover of the possessor of money, and not disposed to ask questions as to the getting thereof."

Turning from the contemplation of Mr. Rockefeller's personality, we note that with him the other members of the Rockefeller family leave the various thirty-odd Standard Oil directorates. H. M. Flagler, another "original Standard Oil man," also resigns. The list of new officers and directors of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey has been given out from 26 Broadway, as follows:

"J. D. Archbold, President; J. A. Moffett, Vice-President; W. C. Teagle, Vice-President; A. C. Bedford, Vice-President and Treasurer; Frank Wilson, Assistant Treasurer; Charles T. White, Secretary; C. M. Pratt, C. W. Harkness, O. T. Waring, F. H. Bedford, Walter Jennings, and Frank Wilson, Directors."

The other fragments of the old Standard Oil concern each has its distinct list of officers and directors, without any overlapping or duplication.

Besides these changes it is also learned by the *New York papers* that all of the officers and directors of the old holding company have resigned from the boards or as officers of the former subsidiaries. This, according to the *New York Times*, "is in keeping with the policy of complete segregation of the thirty-three codendants from the old holding company." Elsewhere we learn of various details of the arrangements making these various companies actually independent and competing.

Thus "virtually the last of the pioneer element in great combination - making passes from the stage," comments the *Worcester Gazette*:

"To be sure, John D. Archbold succeeds, but he finds himself surrounded by assistants and executives who can

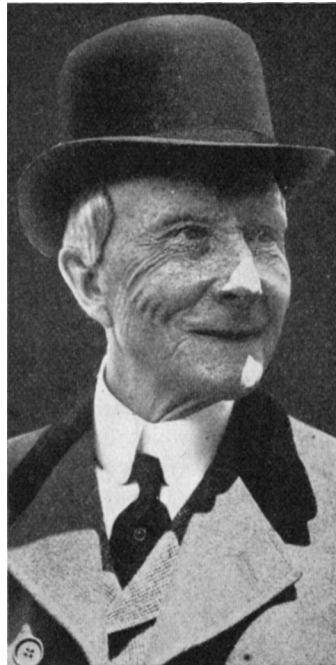
not fail to be imbued with the spirit of the newer era that has come to be by virtue of a quickened public conscience and sentiment which demand that the sharp practises, the bullying and brutality and the downright dishonesty be eliminated from big business.

"The Standard Oil Co. forcefully taught the advantages of combination and near-monopoly; under the new personnel in management it may teach the virtues and make plain the economies that are to be had from rigorous fair-dealing toward public and competitors."

The work of these men, who formed and conducted "the pattern trust of trusts," is passing with them, remarks the *New York World*, and it adds:

"There will not soon be another Rockefeller. There will never again be a Standard Oil Company such as the gigantic shape and portent we have known for thirty-five years. What the future may bring in the field of industry no prudent man will prophesy. What forms industrial production will assume no one can know. But the past is past. We are looking on at the end of an era."

And so the Standard Oil Co. "is no more," reflects the *Brooklyn Citizen* in like manner. The decree of dissolution has been "fully and faithfully carried out," and "if every trust that is dissolved by the Government would accept the decrees of the courts as faithfully as the Standard Oil has done," concludes the *Birmingham Age-Herald*, "it is plain that such trusts as are monopolistic could be dissolved without serious harm to any one."



JOHN D.

ROCKEFELLER



JOHN D. ARCHBOLD

THE TWO JOHN D.'S.

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