

but this is not true of our so-called civilized society. We find the banking-houses stuffed full of money, and the shelves of stores groaning under their loads of all kinds of goods, and at the same time thousands of people really perishing for lack of the common necessities of life; and many are actually starving to death every year. The Government has paid practically no attention to the matter of arrangement and order in the matter of producing and manufacturing, but has allowed any person to go in and cut and slash in any direction desired, no matter how many other people already in the same line of trade might be ruined by this phase of selfishness.

A Druggist With His Stock in One Box.

Suppose a druggist should dump all the chemicals in his store into one big box and let them work away, it would not require a philosopher or a prophet to tell what the result would be or where his trade would end. Yet society to-day is allowing matters of trade and commerce to be dealt with as foolishly as the stock of our supposed druggist, who stores everything in one receptacle without any regard whatever to the effect of this or that chemical upon others, or the whole mass!

Hogs in a Pen.

Suppose the reader owns a few fat pigs, and has them comfortably housed (as they should be), and suppose a large pig, stronger than any of his mates, went at it and worried the weaker ones, and in the row the door is broken down, and he drives those weak ones out to perish on a cold winter night. Or suppose this strong pig did no other harm but simply to go to the trough when the feed was being poured in, and fill himself, and then lie down in the trough, hog fashion, and prevent the other pigs getting their share of the feed. Would this hog be acting any more "hoggish" than some people do to-day, who call themselves civilized? Society has decreed that even hogs may not treat each other in this way, and if the owner of any kind of live stock does not provide for the due comfort and needs of his animals he may and should be prosecuted by law. Yet the human being may be ruined in his business affairs and driven to desperation by circumstances over which *he* has no control, but which *are* in the control of some other persons. The Government, which should take proper care of its subjects on all lines, pays no attention, and the poor and weak ones of the community may go down if they cannot find cold shivering charity to help them out of their pinching, blistering, depressing circumstances. A man who would keep hogs in the condition suggested would be punished, and should be; and a censure of the most stinging character is not too strong for a government that takes less care of its subjects.

Selfishness that Would Put a Hog to Shame.

Trade and commerce are ruled and controlled by *selfishness*—a selfishness, too, that would bring the blush of shame to the face of even a hog, were it possible.

Let it be well kept in mind that *selfishness* is the whole cause of the trouble to-day anywhere known to humanity, and any plan that does not cope with or dispose of selfishness in a community, so far as legislation is concerned, will fail utterly to produce the conditions needed.