

liberty, freedom, equality, etc., which we enjoy in this country, that we have become over self-satisfied, and while we have been standing still, or actually retrograding under the influence of the growth of the political machine, other nations have been quietly forging away ahead of us. Instead of equality we have privilege—cursed privilege everywhere. Instead of liberty we have rule by political machines, that are in turn under the domination of the great monied interests. These great monied interests are closely allied. Their interests are interwoven in many ways, and they may be depended upon to stand together in self-defence, against the interests of the common people, upon whom they are now enabled to levy taxation for their own private pockets. These great interests, representing vast aggregations of capital, which now have such a powerful influence over our political life, may be depended upon to oppose any such political movement as Direct Legislation, and that is one of the best reasons why the common people should give it their hearty support.

Re-organized Society

The people would make short work of privilege, if we could once get them trained into the habit of studying economic and other questions free from party bias. Direct Legislation, by separating important questions from political party issues, will provide the educational influence which will in time lead people to place less reliance upon party leaders and more upon their own judgment. Those who are working so