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The following is copy of an Editorial appearing in the COAL AGE of July 3, 1915

CARLYLE, BRYAN AND KING.

We owe a debt to Mr. Bryan for quoting the following lines from Carlyle in his letter to the people entitled "The Causeless War." That debt is the greater because his quotation raised havoc with his argument. If the elected representatives of the people of any country cannot bind the people of that country, surely Mr. Bryan cannot derive any hope that the chancelleries of Europe can effectually bind those they even less closely represent.

We have little faith that the legislation of representatives truly exhibits the contemporary judgment of the public, but surely the actions of parliaments are more in accord with the popular will than the actions of chancelleries, which in many countries lay not the slightest claim to be representative and which even in our country, checked as their actions are by the Senate, are sometimes found to be strangely out of accord with the national intentions.

For instance the agreement about the Panama Canal made by the Secretary of State and confirmed by the Senate proved to be a most unpopular measure and was upheld by the executive only with difficulty. The public showed a disposition to reject it and would not even consent to have the treaty officially interpreted by the Hague tribunal.

The quotation from Carlyle to which reference has been made runs as follows: "Hast thou considered how thought is stronger than artillery parks, and writes and unwrites acts of parliament, removes mountains, models the world like soft clay."

The spirit of the pronouncement of Carlyle has been repeated recently by Mackenzie King, and all the foolish raisers of strife in Colorado and New York and many of the legislators in the former state have declared against the treason that any man should believe that anyone could do good by power of suasion and generous support of ameliorative measures.

Only those who advocate disorder and discontent or seek to make restrictive laws are allowed to believe they can and are doing good. All the apostles of coercion by law, all the advocates of unlawful violence and all the sinister seekers for political preferment like P. J. Walsh have professed to be shocked at King's statement that "the will and conscience of John D. Rockefeller is more powerful in Colorado at present than any force that could be brought to bear to better conditions."

We are fully of Mr. King's opinion. We will add furthermore that we would make the same statement of John R. Lawson and Mother Jones as he has made of John D. Rockefeller if those two breeders of discontent were together or single to seek, like Rockefeller, the pacification and betterment of Colorado. For men are better than legislators, and leaders are more than laws. We believe that a generous consideration of labor problems will eventually end social strife. In the end law will do but little. It is "the latter that killeth and the spirit that giveth life." And if a man of influence by reason of past association or by wealth devotes himself to the Colorado problem success is quite likely to follow.

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