

activity as soon as the rates are in force, while the millers all over the country hold the bag.

With short stocks of wheat in Europe and available world supply curtailed, Continental mills closing down for want of wheat and many English mills close to the same position, heavy exports of wheat will undoubtedly be the result of this cut. This will not only make export trade in flour for months to come even more impossible than it is at present by giving the English miller a further advantage of easily five cents per sack, but it will also place many mills in this country, which are already confronting a very serious situation through their inability to obtain sufficient supplies, in a still more trying position.

There is one obvious and perfectly feasible way to meet the situation, and that is by doing away with the present unreasonable and undefensible discrimination in flour rates. Perhaps good may come of evil, and the recent reduction in ex-lake wheat rates, by driving home the injury that this discrimination is doing to the milling industry, may hasten its abolishment. American flour is wanted abroad if it can be had at anything like a parity with the home milled product, and if the present handicap of rates be removed the outward flow of wheat would largely stop, and this would at once relieve both the export situation and the scarcity of milling wheat for home consumption.

If, on the other hand, the carriers want to deliberately shake out of the American flour trade what little life is left in it, by continuing the present rates on flour while further reducing the rates on wheat, now is their opportunity. If the carriers, in order to obtain a temporary revenue from wheat, wish to kill an industry which can, and under anything like fair treatment would, furnish them with a large and steady source of income

year in and year out, they have only to adhere to the campaign they have inaugurated.

If such is their disposition, there is only one means of relief and that is that the Interstate Commerce Commission shall stay their hand by a ruling which shall place wheat and flour rates on an equal basis. But unless such ruling comes promptly it will be too late to enable the American miller to regain his export trade or even to hold what little is left to him, for enough wheat can leave this country in the sixty days of the reduced wheat rates to do irreparable damage.—The Northwestern Miller

### SPARKS FROM A LIVE WIRE

(From the American Co-Operative Journal, Chicago.)

"For a farmers' company to sell or ship grain to a Chicago firm which favors the Grain Trust, is but another method of delaying your leaders in securing the best results. To fight the trust is a task in itself; but to have to fight the money which the farmers pay the trust and its Chicago henchmen in commissions, imposes a double burden."

...

"As the idea which created wireless telegraphy is greater than telegraphy itself, so is the principle of economic freedom greater than the mere dollar. Coin is but an incident resulting from the correct application of a fundamental principle; no great accomplishment worthy of success is possible until the common life is filled with a noble purpose."

...

"As monopoly uses money as its chief agent of defence, be sure your managers do not 'Sweeten the Kitty' of Corruption to stack the cards against you, by selling or consigning to men who have no heart in your

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BOX 1147  
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