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I flared as I had with Mr. McClure when he proposed to regenerate the business world. Our only hope for usefulness is in keeping our freedom, avoiding dogma, I argued. And that The American continued to do.

Steffins became more and more disturbed by being publically connected with a magazine which was doing its best to earn money enough to pay its dividends and get a little ahead, and finally he withdrew. ~~the money he had put out for the magazine was not used for the business which he had started. He was not a socialist, and he was not a socialist. He was not a socialist, and he was not a socialist. He was not a socialist, and he was not a socialist.~~

In the years that were to come wars and revolutions largely occupied him. Wherever there was a revolution you found him. He wrote many brilliant comments on what was going on in the world. When he came back from ~~the~~ Russia after the Kerensky revolution he was like a man who had seen a long hoped for vision.

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Digital Image, 2013. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944. Allegheny College Pelletier Library

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Steffins became more and more disturbed by being publically connected with a magazine which was doing its best to earn money enough to pay its dividends and get a little ahead, and finally he withdrew the money he had put in, invested it in Wall Street, wisely no doubt for he knew Wall Street. Steffins was cautious in money matters, probably feared that we might all lose what we had put in ^{and} The American, as indeed we might. He was for security first.

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Digital Image, 2013. The Robert Taft Papers Collection, 1899-1944, American College Paper Library

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Digitized Image, 2013. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library

It was to be the practical application of that Golden Rule he had so long preached. But to my mind the Russian Revolution had only just begun. The event in which he saw the coming of the Lord I looked on as only the first of probably many convulsions forced by successive generations of unsatisfied radicals, irreconcilable counter revolutionists. But when I voiced these pessimistic notions to Steffins he called me heartless and blind.

But there were other forces working against the type of journalism in which we believed. We were ^{classed} ~~under suspicion~~ as muckrakers and the school had been so commercialized that the public was beginning to suspect it. The public is not as stupid as it sometimes seems. The truth of the matter was that the muckraking school was ~~xxxxxx~~ ^{It had} stupid, /lost its passion for facts in a passion for subscriptions.

The coming of the War in 1914 forced a new program. It became a grave question whether under the changed conditions, the increased confusion of mind, the intellectual and financial uncertainties, an independent magazine backed with little money could live. In undertaking The American we had all of us put in all the money we could lay our hands on. We had out the salaries of McClure's in two, reduced our scale of living accordingly, and done it gayly as an adventure, ~~but we had nothing more to go on.~~ ^{but we had nothing more} The new conditions required new financing.

Mr
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91/ But we ^{had} come
too late when under
the new conditions the
magazine required
paid money & we
had no where to
put it
see pag 418

and it had been a fine fruitful adventure in
journalism comradeship. We had made a
good magazine and ~~felt~~ ^{were} all in making a
little one. Don't think and conclude we
could do it. Ray Baker wrote me not to
go "that etc"
see letter attached