Tarbell: The Nationalizing of Business

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A HISTORY OF AMERICAN LIFE
IN
TWELVE VOLUMES

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follows style of Cole: impossible conflict

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A HISTORY OF AMERICAN LIFE
Volume IX

THE NATIONALIZING OF BUSINESS

1878–1898

BY
IDA M. TARBELL

New York
THE MACMILLAN COMPANY
1936

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The change that is being wrought in all our methods of industry and trade and commerce, by the discoveries and inventions of our century, is wholly without parallel in history, and staggers the imagination of the boldest believer in progress. Steam, electricity and the other astonishing factors that are now for the first time introduced into the service of man, are revolutionizing the world of business.

(16) 8 R. H. NEWTON, Social Studies (N. Y., 1886), 167.

The power of groups of men organized by incorporation as joint-stock companies, or of small knots of rich men acting in combination, has developed with unexpected strength in unexpected ways, overshadowing individuals and even communities, and showing that the very freedom which men sought to secure by law when they were threatened with the violence of potentates may, under the shelter of the law, ripen into a new form of tyranny.

(16) 8 JAMES BRYCE, The American Commonwealth (London, 1888), II, 407-408.

One of the prime features of the existing situation is the increasing organization of workmen on one side, and a corresponding development of organization among the employers of labor on the other. . . . Such excesses as every fair-minded man has deplored in this country within the last twenty years are the almost inevitable result of a consciousness of power far in excess of the consciousness of responsibility . . . .

(16) 8 N. P. GILMAN, Socialism and the American Spirit (Boston, 1893), 253.

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