

to have it abolished, asking them to contribute to his "philanthropic" institution instead. He should be turned down each time. Not only because contributions sent to him lessen the strength of the movement to abolish the deadly crossing, but because those financially interested in maintaining the crossing will not let the hospital close for want of funds, lest the misery of the injured ones arouse public indignation to such a pitch that the demand for immediate abolition will become irresistible. Opponents of poverty-breeding privilege may safely depend on its beneficiaries to furnish all support needed for charities.

—(8)—

This Leaflet can be had in any quantity desired, at the cost of printing (\$1.00 per thousand) and postage, or express charges for carriage, of the American Economic League, Blymyer Building, Cincinnati, O.



PINCHOT'S PERFECT PAINTING OF PHILANTHROPY.

Once upon a time a member of the great American public lived on a busy street near the place where the railroad tracks crossed it. The crossing was on the same level with the tracks. From his windows he could see the hurrying throngs stepping over the rails as they went about their daily work. But more than once he saw a train plow through the busy crowds, and then the writhing forms of the injured lying where they fell. Thereupon the ambulance would come clanging down the street to give help to the sufferers. Afterward the blood would be wiped up, the onlookers would disperse, and all would go on as before. In a certain number of cases the ambulance arrived too late, and the victims died for the lack of prompt attention.

So this member of the great American public bestirred himself, buttonholed his friends, got up public meetings, and finally succeeded in raising the money for a hospital, to be built close to the grade crossing, where a staff of well trained physicians and nurses constantly in attendance would give immediate

relief to those who were injured by the railroad.

With pardonable pride the found-

er of the hospital was one day showing a stranger through its wards and explaining to him the number of lives saved every year by such quick attention to the wounded as it was ready to give.

"This hospital," said he, "cost one hundred thousand dollars, and our people raise a quarter of that sum every year to maintain it in in-

stant readiness for its beneficent work." "But," objected the stranger, "for one hundred thousand dol-

lars could you not have abolished the grade crossing, and so not only have put an end to the accidents

for good and all, but saved yourselves twenty-five thousand dollars a year into the bargain?" A frown

gathered upon the brow of the founder. "I perceive," was his se-

vere reply, "that you are a radical,

worse. This grade crossing has

been in existence from my earliest

childhood. It is an established fac-

tor in our municipal life. Our peo-

ple are used to it. Have you no

respect for the institutions which

were handed down to us by our

forefathers?"

Saying which he hustled the

stranger out of the hospital, and on

the occasion of every future accident reflected with great satisfaction upon the wisdom of the arrangement which kept the hospital ready for the wounded and the wounded ready for the hospital, in a beautiful and perpetual adjustment of supply and demand, thus vindicating the constitution of the United States and confounding all the advocates of newfangled ideas or any kind of change.—From Address of Gifford Pinchot, at Philadelphia, Feb. 12, 1912.

Mr. Pinchot has accurately shown the manner in which existing evils are being treated by those who take great credit upon themselves for supporting charitable and philanthropic enterprises. The grade crossing, in the fable serves well as an illustration of monopoly of natural resources, the underlying cause of poverty and all the misery, vice, crime, disease and other evils resulting therefrom.

"The member of the great American public" is also drawn true to life. He has one characteristic to which Mr. Pinchot did not refer. He not only opposes abolition of the grade crossing, but when he gets hard up for funds to run his hospital, he sends begging letters to those who are giving of their means