

Week Ending Dec. 12  
Circulation  
29,153  
Gain for week: 278

# The American Freeman

\$1 per year (50c per year  
in clubs of four or more.)

Devoted to Social Justice and Industrial Sanity

If you get The Freeman without having  
subscribed, it has been paid for by  
someone. Don't worry about payment.

Published weekly at 229 E. Forest Ave., Girard, Kans. Single copies 5c; (\$1.50 a year Canadian and foreign). Entered as second-class matter at the Girard, Kans., postoffice.

Hoover Racketeering  
Edition

Order 50 for \$1—100 for \$2—  
250 for \$5—500 for \$10—  
1,000 for \$20.

NUMBER 1882

E. Halldeman-Julius  
Editor

HALDEMAN-JULIUS PUBLICATIONS, GIRARD, KANSAS

John W. Gunn  
Assistant Editor

December 26, 1931

## Herbert Hoover, Slave Trader, Sold Shiploads of Chinamen

We cannot say of any one chapter in the story of Herbert Hoover that it is a blot on his career. His career is a blot from beginning to end. But here and there are deeper, uglier shades. The blackest of all is that which shows Hoover in the role of a slave trader. On slave ships chartered by his company, packed disgracefully and dangerously as the slave ships of three centuries before had been crowded with their tragic human freight, Hoover managed the transportation of poor Chinese coolies to South Africa. There the victimized Chinamen were enslaved and worked to death in the gold mines, a number of which were promoted, controlled and used for swindling schemes by Hoover's firm of Bewick, Moreing & Co.

We realize that this is a startling accusation to bring against the man who is now—more shame to our country!—the President of the United States. But we have the facts. A century after civilized nations had, in form at least, abolished the slave trade—three centuries after this vile trade flourished at its worst—Herbert Hoover was engaged at great profit to himself and his equally merciless and greedy partners in a slave trade between China and South Africa.

### Looking for Cheaper Labor

After the Boer War (1899-1902) the mine owners in South Africa found it difficult to obtain a full supply of native Kaffir labor, which they had used previously. (That war, by the way, was fought by England for the benefit of the English mine owners, who were not grabbing under the Boer flag as much as they wanted for themselves.) It had always been necessary to employ white men in skilled and responsible positions; but the main labor supply, doing the common, hard and killing work in the mines, had been recruited among the Kaffirs, the natives of South Africa.

After the Boer War (concerning which an American paragraphist of the time said that "A small boy with a diamond is no match for a big man with a gun") the Kaffirs were not so willing as formerly to work in the mines. They had been getting somewhat higher pay from the British military authorities during the war. The wage of 50 cents a day in the mines did not attract them. And the work was fatal. The death rate was terrific: official figures show that the death rate in the mines for 1903 was 71.25 per 1,000; in July of that year the death rate was 112 per 1,000. While robbing the small investors in England, Hoover and his crooked cronies were also mercilessly exploiting the laborers in the mines which they were managing for swindling purposes.

During the war and immediately afterward there had been a considerable immigration of white laborers and these had to be used not only for skilled jobs but for the common work in and about the mines. It was the great fear of the mine owners and the mining stock promoters that these white laborers would organize, thus forcing a higher wage scale and better conditions.

Hoover shared this fear and the record shows that both in Australia and South Africa—in whatever part of the world his mines were located—the man who is now President of the United States hated white labor because it meant, sooner or later, organized labor. One of his first actions on going to

Australia as an agent of Bewick, Moreing & Co. (even before he became one of the "big shots") was to order a cut in the pay of the miners, thus provoking a strike from which Hoover fled, leaving the manager of the mine to settle the trouble which he, Hoover, had so viciously aroused.

### The Scheme of Slavery

Hoover and other labor haters imported Italian laborers to Australia, exploiting them at lower wages in competition with English and Australian mine workers. Thus Hoover was coldly and relentlessly in favor of any scheme which would furnish cheaper labor in South African mining.

And the mine owners had a scheme. They would bring over Chinese coolies whom they would work for 25 cents a day. This would cut the wage bill in half and the Chinese workers would be treated as slaves and there would be no

## Will Hoover Answer?

We have submitted this Hoover Racketeering Edition to Herbert Hoover. It contains material that it would seem impossible for him to ignore—if it is at all possible for him to give any satisfactory answer to the charges we are making. There's the rub. Can Hoover answer? Will the President of the United States let these charges stand against him unchallenged or will he perhaps try to explain that his twenty years of racketeering were a perfectly legitimate and logical application of the theory of "economic individualism"? We have promised to print in The Freeman any answer which President Hoover may care to offer. If he does not choose to answer, his silence will be significant.

danger of their organizing. There is a hint in the record that Hoover suggested the use of Chinese coolies in South Africa. He had been in China, putting over the infamous Chinese mining steal. He regarded the Chinese laborers as slaves, anyway. He looked upon them as fit subjects for the last degree of cruel exploitation. However, in this story of Hoover's career (in all that we are telling about his past life and activities) we are keeping strictly to the facts. Thus we do not say as a positive fact that Hoover made this suggestion. It is possible—even probable. That is the most we can say on this point.

The main story is only too horribly true. The mining interests of South Africa, with headquarters in London of all the big companies (such as Hoover's company) that were really controlling the game, put their propaganda machine to work—also their political machine. It was said that the great South African mining interests were in a desperate situation concerning labor and that only the importation of Chinese coolies could save the situation. This was the tale which the public were asked to believe; many did believe it, although

there was a very strong and widespread protest in England and the colonies when the full realization of the scheme dawned upon the people.

### The Brutal Conspiracy of Greed

By that time the scheme had been rushed through the colonial legislature of South Africa and through the British Parliament. In advocating this ordinance for the importation of Chinese coolies to South Africa, the British colonial secretary, Alfred Lyttleton (an unscrupulous lawyer who was hand-in-glove with the mining interests), lied about the conditions under which the Chinamen would have to work. He told Parliament that the wage would be 50 cents a day, that the Chinese workers could bring their wives and children with them at the expense of the mine owners, and that they would dwell in "garden cities" where they could raise their own fruits and vegetables.

The actual terms which the mine owners had agreed to enforce and did enforce were as follows: The Chinese were to be imported as common laborers at a wage of 25 cents a day. They were to live in "compounds," squares made of rude huts and enclosed like prisons. They were not to leave these "compounds" without a permit—and a permit could not be issued for more than forty-eight hours. They could be handed, like dumb beasts of burden, from one employer to another without having any say in such a transfer. High fines were to be imposed for any violation of these slave regulations: so that a poor Chinaman, getting in the first place only a miserable wage of 25 cents a day, might find himself at the end of the month in debt to his master. Flogging and torture were other punishments, chiefly to be used on slaves who tried to escape.

At the end of three years (the designated term of slavery) the Chinaman, if he hadn't meanwhile died in the mine or been killed by flogging, would be sent back to his native land. If a Chinaman died, \$50 compensation was to be paid to his relatives in China; if a serious accident occurred to a Chinaman, \$25 was to be the compensation.

These Chinese slaves were, you may be sure, barred from holding property or enjoying rights of any description or from practicing any trade. Their wives and families were to be left behind in China. Add the fact that these poor Chinamen were taken from a warm climate to perform dangerous, unaccustomed, back-breaking labor in a severely cold climate and in mines that had an outrageously high death rate—and you can have a more indignant realization of the barbarity of this diabolical slave conspiracy.

### A Typical Capitalistic Deal

And let us not forget to mention these other details of the slave regime which Herbert Hoover helped to establish: These slave "compounds" were each about a half acre in size and two thousand Chinamen were to be crowded into each slave pen. The "compound" was encircled by huts; twenty men were to sleep in each hut, on wooden shelves, two men to a shelf; the huts were twenty-seven feet by nineteen and were twelve feet high. The coolies had to work ten hours

each day and, after that killing toil, they had to climb to the surface on ladders—climbing sometimes as much as a thousand feet. At the mines and in the "compounds" these poor slaves were watched by armed guards. Finally, it should be mentioned that 25 cents a day in South Africa was the equivalent of not more than 5 cents a day in China.

These were the terms of twentieth century slavery for the Chinese laborers in the South African mines. The wicked, heartless ordinance legalizing this slavery—and typifying all the evil and heartlessness in capitalism, of which Hoover is the damnably apt representative—was rushed through the British Parliament by lies and intrigues: the usual capitalistic political deals.

Even before the ordinance was passed, however, the South African mine owners had sent agents to China to recruit these slaves. These agents didn't use effective methods—perhaps they inadvertently let slip something about the conditions under which the Chinamen were asked to enter into slavery—at any rate, they succeeded in recruiting only a handful of coolies.

In the midst of this difficulty, while the mining exploiters in South Africa and London were wondering what was to be done, Hoover returned to London from a trip to Australia. Hoover was then (in 1903-04 while this slave deal was being finally worked out) a partner in the firm of Bewick, Moreing & Co. He got this partnership—in gang phraseology, he "muscled in" on this partnership—as the result of his bluffing, lying, swindling and coercing in connection with the Chinese mining deal. Hoover was also a partner in the Chinese Mining and Engineering Company, which had been formed to control the stolen mine property in China. In fact, all orders of the company were issued under the signature of "H. C. Hoover."

### Hoover Enters the Slave Trade

Conferring with the mine magnates upon his arrival in London, Hoover informed them that he had the very solution for this problem of luring the poor Chinese workers into South African slavery. He knew how to handle Chinese coolies—leave it to him. To be sure, he wouldn't carry out his plan for nothing—not even for other "insiders." He must have a contract. He must have a profit. Profits from a twentieth century slave trade in human beings was just a little matter of business with Hoover.

The upshot was that a deal was made whereby Hoover's Chinese Mining and Engineering Company would round up and transport the Chinese coolies to their slave pens in South Africa at a price of \$10 a head for each slave obtained and \$25 a head for shipping them. It was a slave trade monopoly that Hoover "engineered" on that infamous occasion; and maybe that was where he first got his name of the "Gree Engineer."

The operations of Hoover's slave-trading monopoly in China were simple enough: like his operations in mining stock, they were based largely on lies. Advertisements were circulated throughout the Chinese provinces of Shantung and

[Please turn to page 2]

## The Nigerian Tin "Mines"—No Tin!

The worst scandal in the city of London in thirty years—thus did the Tin and Copper World (London) characterize the Nigerian tin swindle of 1910-12. It is estimated that this swindle lifted one hundred million dollars from the pockets of English investors. It was a complete and deliberate fraud, "engineered" by a group of "insiders" among whom Herbert Hoover, Edmund Davis, W. F. Turner and F. A. Govett were the chief conspirators.

There was a company actually mining tin in Nigeria, northwest Africa, when the attention of Hoover and the gang was directed to this spot on the map. We were about to say this field of exploitation, but corrected ourselves just in time: the field of exploitation for Hoover and his fellow "insiders" was always the same: the London stock market and the English investing public.

The London promoters, with Hoover prominently in the foreground, were not interested in mining tin. They were interested in floating tin companies and selling tin shares. They never established a mine. They never had even a good, honest prospect. But they had plenty of facility in lying and swindling.

Sending Out an "Expert" Liar  
One of the companies that had been used in the financial juggling preliminary to the Chinese mining steal—the Anglo-Continental Syndicate—was "reconstructed" (a polite name for equipping it with a new set of financial burglars' tools) in December, 1909: the directors were Hoover, Davis, Turner and Johann Schaar, publisher of a racketeering sheet that specialized in tips on the mining market. The gang sent an "expert" to Nigeria: one John Thomson, who was no more an engineer than Hoover, and who could not tell tin ore from tinned sardines. Thomson took a "discovered" world of tin in twenty-four hours as easily as he could have "discovered" such ore in twenty-four years.

on the map of Nigeria." These prospecting rights were obtained—and could be obtained by any one—upon payment of a fee of a few dollars. This company did not have a solidary claim until fifteen months after it was floated; but Hoover and the gang coolly proceeded to grab a million dollars from the public in one of the most brazen "confidence" games on record.

"Mining" the Investors' Pockets  
Another company was formed by the Anglo-Continental (Hoover) gang in February, 1911—the Gurin River (Nigeria) Tin Mines with a capital of \$625,000 (put up by the "idiots" as usual). This company was supposed to obtain leases in Nigeria, hypothetically or hope-patetically rich in tin. It never discovered any tin—except the kind of "tin," slangily speaking, which was taken from the investors' pockets.

Branching out in his swindling operations, Hoover formed a partnership with the rascally F. A. Govett (Hoover and Govett being indeed two of a kind and what a kind!) in organizing the Kano Syndicate, which in turn made a deal with another company for a lease and, on the mere talking point of this lease, floated the Kano (Nigeria) Tin Areas. This company which had only a single worthless claim and one year's prospecting rights over forty square miles "marked red on the map of Nigeria," was capitalized at \$1,000,000 (of other people's money).

It was the old share-juggling procedure. The public were told that this company had proved reserves worth \$1,620,000. They had no proved reserves nor any reserves worth that many cents. There was no tin except in the lying statements of Hoover and the gang and in the deluded imagination of the investors. As the London Evening Times declared in February, 1912: "Insidious paragraphs have been appearing in papers, pointing out that as alluvial tin is exported, there must be big lodes somewhere and if these tin lodes can be found vast profits will result to the lucky finders. This is the veriest rubbish and the paragraphs were only inserted in order to enable the Edmund Davis group to boost up and unload Anglo-Continental."

Herbert Hoover was one of the "insiders" and ringleaders in "the Edmund Davis group."

Meanwhile Thomson, the "expert" who didn't know tin unless it were unmistakably converted into a tin can, began to send in rosy promotion cables. In December, 1911, he reported to the gang in London that he had discovered an outcropping of tin in the Jemaa district of Nigeria, that "red spot on the map" with which the gang was mesmerizing investors. Another report, from Thomson stated that there was a tin

lode, assaying as high as 25 percent tin. In the midst of a meeting of Anglo-Continental shareholders on February 23, 1912, another cable report arrived from Thomson, saying that he had followed the lode for five miles and discovered areas of tin ore as much as a hundred feet wide.

Working the Market Both Ways  
Cornwall mines in England were then paying dividends on one yielding 2 percent tin—and here was a glittering lode in Nigeria yielding 25 percent tin. And still another report came from Thomson: he had traced the lode continuously for more than eight miles, he said, and for one and a half miles the average width was thirty feet and the average yield 20 percent tin.

There was a mad scramble for these tin shares. In the middle of January the Anglo-Continental shares were listed on the stock exchange at \$27.5 a share; in the middle of March, after these falsely framed reports from Thomson, the "expert" hired by the Hoover gang for their swindling game, the shares were selling at \$40 a share. Then the gang conspired to run the market down and a few weeks later they ran the market up again.

Up, down, up again, down again: the gang worked the market both ways, always to the profit of the "insiders" and the grief of the "outsiders."

Hoover was also director in the Star Explorations Company, which in turn formed the Sybu Syndicate, which in turn floated the Dus (Nigeria) Tinfields at a capitalization of \$750,000—the gang grabbing \$500,000 at the start for fictitious property in Nigerian tin. They did not own a claim nor hold a lease nor discover any tin. They knew there was no tin in these "holdings" which they didn't hold but which they used to hold up the English investors for a hundred million dollars.

In April, 1912, the Financial Times of London sent a real expert, C. H. Wray, to Nigeria. Wray promptly reported that he could find no tin in this fraudulently promoted Nigerian field. Another expert, J. F. Balfour, reported that the field would surprise him if it yielded as much as 1-2 percent tin (whereas Thomson, the fake "expert" sent out by the Hoover gang, had reported 25 percent tin). Another expert—a real one—W. R. Rumbold reported in October that the Jemaa field in Nigeria was "hopeless even as a prospect."

The worst scandal in thirty years, said the Tin and Copper World. Just another scandal of Hoover racketeering!

### HOOVER'S COME-ON DEALS

The following is a complete list, so far as the financial records show, of all the companies with which Hoover was interested that paid dividends. Of this number, three companies became fabulous producers of dividends, and in that mysterious way known only to the initiate the stock of these companies passed into the hands of the insiders. In many instances, as in the case of Australian companies, the stock was depressed in price by false reports, and later bought up by Hoover and his friends for a song. On the strength of the showing made by these three or four successful concerns, the companies named in the list of no-dividend companies printed on page were successfully floated.

Anglo-Continental Mines Co., Ltd. Last dividend, 1929  
Herbert Hoover, director. Going concern.  
Camp Bird, Ltd. Last dividend, 1928  
Herbert Hoover, chairman. Going concern.  
Chinese Engineering & Mining Co. Last dividend, 1930  
Herbert Hoover, director. Going concern.  
Oroya Brownhill, Ltd. Last dividend, 1909  
Herbert Hoover, director. Sold in 1910 to Hoover Company.  
Messina (Transvaal) Development Co. Last dividend, 1931  
Herbert Hoover, director. Going concern.  
Oroya Blackrange, Ltd. Last dividend, 1910  
Herbert Hoover, director. Liquidated, 1911.  
Lake View Consols, Ltd. Last dividend, 1910  
Herbert Hoover, director. Consolidated with Hoover Company.  
Santa Gertrudis Co., Ltd. Last dividend, 1931  
Herbert Hoover, director. Going concern.  
Talisman Consolidated, Ltd. Last dividend, 1919  
Herbert Hoover, director. Liquidated, 1921.  
Kyshtim Corporation. Last dividend, 1916  
Herbert Hoover, director. Liquidated, 1919.  
Lake View Investment Trust, Ltd. Dividends, 1920-31  
Herbert Hoover, director. (No dividends were paid by this company until after Hoover had resigned as director.)  
Yuanmi Gold Mines, Ltd. Dividends, 17 1/2 percent  
Herbert Hoover, director. Liquidated, 1924.  
Zinc Corporation, Ltd. Dividends, 1918-1931  
Herbert Hoover, director. Dividends were paid after Hoover resigned as director.

### HE KNEW THE HOOVER GANG

Sir George Lewis was an eminent English lawyer who had numbered Hoover, Moreing and other London promoters among his clients. He had been one of the attorneys for the Hoover-Moreing gang in the Chinese mine swindle trial. Some time before retiring from practice in 1910, Lewis wrote:

It seems to me that fraud has been and is on the steady increase, both in volume and in scope. As the law tightens its grip, so the dishonest rascal exercises greater ingenuity in his methods, and the result in the end is the same—the surplus money of many fools slides into the pockets of one wily and unscrupulous individual. There is an old Yankee saw which says that a man who steals a nickel is a thief, but the man who steals a million dollars is a

genius. Many of the huge fortunes which have been amassed by mushroom "financialists" and promoters during the past decade have been built up on foundations of trickery, deceit and fraud, and if we examine the methods employed we find them little different from those of the racecourse thimble rigger.

Sir George wrote from inside knowledge. He described very aptly the nature of the operations conducted by Hoover, Moreing, Davis, Turner, Govett, Doolette and others. A correction or two is in order. Most of the deals of Hoover and the gang were technically within the law. On the occasions when their deals were crooked—and those occasions were numerous and notorious—they were quite capitalistic in method and aim. The laws of capitalism are framed to restrain the little fellows. The big fellows always evade them or use them for their own purposes. And capitalism, whether its operations are called legitimate or illegitimate, is one immense scheme of exploitation—"getting the most money out of some other human being." As a racketeer, Hoover followed the rules of the capitalist game, one big rule of which is that any rule may be broken if there is a big enough profit in sight.

It is important that the American people should know the kind of man Herbert Hoover is, because his career reflects the system of private ownership, profiteering and financial manipulation. But it is also well to realize that a perfectly honorable man, able and not wealthy, sincere and not a charlatan—but with the same capitalist philosophy that Hoover holds—would, like Hoover, be an enemy of the common welfare.

PROMOTION—ballyhoo through the capitalist press, false reports, extravagant assertions, glowing promises that were not followed by performances: these made the success of Herbert Hoover as a mining stock racketeer even as they made his success as a political charlatan. If people were reliably informed they would not be the victims of such racketeering—they would not be the victims of capitalism.

"Idiots"—that's what Hoover called those who were foolish enough to invest in his mining stocks. "Idiots"—of course that's what Hoover thinks of those who are foolish enough to vote for him and his racketeering system of capitalism.

IT WAS a first principle of ethics with Hoover and his gang that they should always be ready to lie for the glory of gold—some other human being's gold in their pockets.

PRIVATE ownership, promotional trickery, labor exploitation, stock juggling: out of these factors of capitalism was forged the racketeering career of Herbert Hoover.

### GRABBING EVERYTHING IN SIGHT

In 1902 Herbert Hoover and F. A. Govett obtained control of the valuable Lake View Consols mine in West Australia by sending false reports to London, making it appear that the mine was far less rich than it actually was. The shares fell from \$52.50 to \$8.50 a share within six months. Having got the mine into their hands by stock juggling, Hoover and Govett used it as a private bank. They took money from this property and invested it in a bewildering succession of schemes. If a scheme turned out to be a good investment, Hoover and Govett grabbed the loot. If the scheme was a failure, as so many were, the loss was borne by the mass of investors.

Again, in 1911, Hoover and Govett—with the ex-tailor Doolette in the wings—passed the word out that the Lake View mine had been exhausted. Then they took a couple of old, worthless mines—the Hannan's Star and the Boulder Deep Levels—and formed a company called the Hannan's Star

Consolidated with a capital of \$500,000 held by these "insiders."

More Hoover "engineering" came into play when the valuable Lake View mine was combined with the valueless new company (its capital being paper stock) on an even basis. Thus these promoters, for a worthless consideration, fastened their grip completely on the Lake View Consols and in a short time their jugglery made it appear that the company's assets of \$1,750,000 had dwindled to \$875,000, which were thrown in on still another amalgamation.

One other aspect of this deal needs mentioning. The Hannan's Star mine had some cash on hand, the ownership of a saloon at Ravensthorpe and an interest in the Sybu Syndicate for tin exploration in Nigeria. Before swinging the deal with Lake View Consols, the promoters seized all the real assets of the Hannan's Star by organizing a separate company called Star Explorations.

Hoover and his pals had one simple rule—to grab everything in sight.

## Wanted: A Million Readers for the Truth About Hoover

After reading this Hoover Racketeering Edition, you will agree that it is the most daring exposure ever printed. These are the astonishing facts about the man who is at present the most powerful political representative of capitalism. Every American citizen who reads this edition will understand clearly why Herbert Hoover and all such racketeers, whether calling themselves Republicans or Democrats, defend the system of capitalism and why they can never be depended on to serve the interests of the masses. You will agree that the information in this edition is so vital that it should be read by every American citizen. Try immediately to reach the goal of 1,000,000 circulation for this Hoover Racketeering Edition. We can print 1,000,000 copies as easily as we can print 100,000 copies. Don't let this material go to waste! Help us get it into the hands—into the minds—and into the resulting attitude and actions of the American people! Use the order blank below.

### ORDER BLANK FOR HOOVER RACKETEERING EDITION OF DECEMBER 26

The American Freeman, Girard, Kansas

Here is my help in getting 1,000,000 circulation for the Hoover Racketeering Edition of December 26. I am using the method marked below.

Method No. 1. Send me a bundle of ..... copies of the Hoover Racketeering Edition, at 2c per copy, minimum order 50 copies, for which I am enclosing \$.....

Method No. 2. Send ..... copies of the Hoover Racketeering Edition to the enclosed names and addresses, for which I am enclosing \$....., which pays for the papers and the mailing at the rate of 2c a copy.

Method No. 3. I am enclosing \$..... which is to pay for your mailing copies of the Hoover Racketeering Edition to good names in your possession, said copies being paid for at the rate of 2c a copy.

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State.....



## Hoover, Slave Trader

Concluded from page 1

Chi-li, telling about this opportunity to work in South Africa. It is significant that the Chinamen were not told about the slave conditions under which they would be compelled to work. They were told the lie about "garden cities."

They were instructed to inquire at Ching Wan Tao, the Pei-ho river port, where the wharves of the stolen Chinese mines were located. In preparation for the complete success of this worse than savage scheme, buildings had been erected at Ching Wan Tao, surrounded by walls eighteen feet high. Once inside these buildings (preliminary slave pens) no Chinaman was permitted to escape. This is known in sailors' terminology as "shanghaiing." Having stolen Chinese mines, Hoover went a step farther and stole Chinamen.

### A Horrible, Deadly Voyage

Then came the transportation to South Africa—another black chapter in this horrible black story of Herbert Hoover's "business" deal in poor, tricked, stolen and sold human slaves. In 1904 Hoover's firm, the Chinese Mining and Engineering Company—in which firm, remember, Herbert Hoover was a full partner and director and the orders of which firm were personally issued and signed by "H. C. Hoover"—contracted to ship into slavery at \$35 a head (including the passage money) 200,000 poor Chinese laborers. The number of slaves thus sold and shipped into slavery by Hoover's firm was 50,000—then, as we shall see, outraged public sentiment forced an ending of this early and ominously prophetic illustration of Hooverism. G. Todd Symons, a ship-broker and one of the directors of Hoover's Chinese Mining and Engineering Company, attended to the hiring of the vessels in which this human slave cargo was transported.

These vessels were the *Ikkal*, the *Cranley*, the *Swanley*, the *Tweddale*, the *Inkum*, the *Sikh*, the *Katherine Park*, the *Courtfield* and the *Brinkburn*: "tramp" steamers with a tonnage of about 3,000 tons each: twin-decked iron steamers in

which the Chinamen were packed to suffocation, with hardly standing room.

An agreement had been made between the English and the Chinese government that these coolies were to be shipped according to the regulations of the Indian Emigration Act of 1883, which limited ships of this type to 1,000 passengers each. Even that number was inhuman crowding; but such a limit didn't satisfy Hoover and his slave-dealing pals. They determined to squeeze the last bit of profit out of this deal, at whatever cost of suffering in the squeezing of human beings. Ignoring the agreement, the Chinese Mining and Engineering Company jammed 2,000 and more of the Chinamen into each one of these "iron tubs."

The first slave ship—the *Ikkal*, an "iron tub" of 3,400 tons—sailed from Taku, near Tientsin: there was, let us add, a little delay because some of the poor, trapped slaves tried to escape; but armed guards prevented the success of that attempt at liberty. The *Ikkal* sailed on June 30, 1904, carrying 2,020 slaves. The voyage must have been terrific, as it was midsummer and the heat was over 100 degrees in the shade and the trip of four weeks was through the hottest of the stifling tropics.

### Hoover, Slave Trader and Slave Driver

Fifty-one of the slaves were "missing" when the ship reached South Africa: whether they had died from the heat or had jumped overboard in desperation, who can tell?—*who but Hoover?* How cruel and perilous this ordeal was to the slaves is indicated by the fact that Hoover's firm insured each slave for \$125: the man who now sits in the White House as President of the United States and his pals were taking no chance of losing a penny of profit on this diabolical deal.

Herbert Hoover was watching the interests of himself and his slave-trading, stock-swindling pals at both ends. Vigilant to take full advantage of this slave deal in exploitation at the mines, Hoover landed in Cape Town on July 27, 1904, where he was on hand to meet the first shipment of slaves and see that a sufficient supply were put under the lash, the armed guards and the routine of wounds and death as laborers at the mines controlled by Hoover's firm.

The *Geduld* mine, for instance, was controlled by Bewick,

Moreing and Co., in which Hoover was a full and active (as well as a relentless and unscrupulous) partner. This item appeared in the *Johannesburg Star* (South Africa): "At the *Geduld* the coolies will, for months to come, in mining work be employed on shaft striking, which means that most of the time they will be working in water and in an atmosphere of perpetual rain."

Chinese slaves toiling under terrific conditions at 25 cents a day, under armed guards, imprisoned at the day's end in crowded, squalid slave pens—*slaves of Herbert Hoover, the person who now stands before the world as President of the United States!*

Many of the slaves reasoned that the risk of sudden death—even the risk of unspeakable torture if caught in an effort to escape—was better than the deadly certainty of slavery in the mines. There were dashes for freedom, stealthy attempts to flee that horrible slave life—and there were cruel blows and still more cruel torturings for those who were caught.

### Our President! A Slave Dealer and Racketeer!

One slave made three breaks for liberty. The first time he was dragged back at the end of a rope by the armed guards. The second time, getting away under cover of a tarpaulin in a delivery wagon, he was again caught and tortured. A third effort was successful: the poor slave managed to find his way to a native store, where he obtained shoe polish and red ochre, with which he painted himself like a Kaffir native.

Escape from the country, however, was next to impossible. Numbers of these escaped slaves were driven into banditry, as their only recourse in the desperate situation into which Hoover and his pals had brought them: they attacked the lonely homes of Boer farmers, who had been disarmed by the British after the Boer War.

What did Hoover care? He and his fellow "engineers" of capitalistic greed had the profits from the shipment of the slaves, the profits from the exploitation of the slave labor, and the swag they were lifting year after year from the pockets of English investors.

The situation became so scandalous that a general elec-

tion in England was fought chiefly on the issue of putting an end to this slavery in the South African mines. Following a victory of the Liberal party, the mine owners were ordered to ship the Chinamen back to their native land and further importation was stopped. To send the coolies back would be costly and the mine owners evaded this order to the full extent of their greed-sharpened ingenuity. And Edmund Davis, one of Hoover's partners and a director with Hoover on the board of the *Chinese Mining and Engineering Company*, tried to make a further profit on the slaves by offering to sell them to the German government for exploitation in the German colony of South West Africa.

"Cruel as death, insatiate as the grave" is the poet Montgomery's characterization of the slave dealer. "He buys, he sells—he steals, he kills for gold."

In 1904 Herbert Hoover was a slave dealer. For twenty years he was a thief on the highways of capitalist finance, using mining stocks and bonds as his dishonestly manipulated weapons. Exactly twenty-four years after his big deal in slave-trading, Hoover was elected President of the United States. In 1932 this slave trader, financial swindler and stock-juggling racketeer will ask the American people to reelect him President of the United States.

We print this sordid story of modern capitalism for the purpose of bringing home to the working class of the United States the utter hopelessness of relief at the hands of the Hoover crowd of capitalist politicians. Hoover will be nominated by the Republican party for President. But Hoover is not a Republican—he is a CAPITALIST. The Freeman has no interest in the fight between the Republican and Democratic parties for the political offices within the gift of the voters of this nation. If Hoover could have been persuaded that the Democrats had a better chance of winning than the Republicans, he would have been the candidate of the Democratic party—whose leaders made overtures to Hoover to become their candidate. Hoover's past would have been the same—under whatever political banner he won office, just as his methods of capitalist exploitation were the same under all flags!

## Rogues' Gallery of Herbert Hoover's Racketeering Pals

In view of his record before he became a "big shot" in American politics (as he had for twenty years been a "big shot" in mine stock racketeering) it is not surprising that Herbert Hoover sat so comfortably in the crooked Harding cabinet, rubbing intimate elbows with the most impudent gang of grafters that ever swarmed in Washington, protesting not, saying nothing—and not even uttering a word of condemnation after the scandal had been disclosed.

The reason is that Hoover had all his life been used to the company of grafters. Crooks had been his closest confederates. His "business" partners for years had been fellows who could have shown Fall and Daugherty many tricks about "the great science of getting the most money out of some other human being." These were Hoover's kind of people. With such as these he had hunted for years in the London stock market jungle, laying ambushes and springing traps for unwary investors. To sit in the Harding cabinet was—just like old times. The fat, sleek beast of prey felt at home.

This important fact is revealed by a glance—a careful, penetrating glance—at Hoover's pals, his fellow "insiders," in the mining promotion racket.

### NOT A "COMMON" THIEF

Let us look first at Charles Algon Moreing, the dominant partner in the firm of Bewick, Moreing & Co., through whom Hoover got his introduction to the dizzy racket that made his fortune. Moreing and his partners called themselves mining engineers—yet not one of them was a mining engineer. All they knew about mines was that they were traps for suckers.

Moreing was a promoter, which (as the record shows) means that he was a liar, which again means that he was a thief: not a common thief—oh, no, indeed; but an uncommonly, extraordinarily insolent and successful thief. Moreing floated a number of mining companies, before he knew Hoover and later in conjunction with Hoover. It was as Moreing's agent that Hoover carried through the infamous Chinese mining steal—one of the biggest, boldest steals in the history of modern financial piracy.

### TIGERS IN THE FINANCIAL JUNGLE

Then there was F. A. Govett: the relations of Hoover and Govett cannot be more fittingly described than by the old phrase: they were as thick as thieves. Their first association was in the *Lake View Consols* swindle. The two went to Australia together, faked up false reports about this mine, ran down the shares on the London stock market and thus gained control of the company. They stole this mine from the original shareholders. They used this mine as their private bank in promoting other crooked deals. Govett was a marauding, merciless tiger in the financial jungle. Hoover stuck with him for twenty years and the two profited enormously in a long succession of piracies called promotions.

### TWO OF A KIND

A very special pal of Hoover's, plotting with him in some of his most vicious adventures in "expert" brigandage, was Edmund Davis. Davis was in with Moreing on the Chinese mine swindle, in which Hoover was the agent who did the dirty work—sed, by no means incidentally, grabbed a sizable pile of loot and a share in future steals for himself.

Davis and Moreing together, with Hoover still serving as their crooked agent (not yet a fully accepted "insider"), profited by the thriving stock market deal with the *Sons of Gwalala* mine in West Australia.

Hoover and Davis worked together, as equal fellow conspirators, in the amazing Nigerian tin swindle in 1910-1912. Davis' reputation is clearly summed up by a note which appeared in the *Rialto* (a London stock exchange journal) on May 22, 1907: "Edmund Davis is making many journeys to Italy in connection with a nitrogen extraction process. Edmund was a very successful extractor, and now

that the pockets of the public are empty, he is trying the air. We cannot help feeling sorry for the air."

Davis and Hoover were two of a kind—two carnivorous (or should we say *canniborous*?) beasts in the stock market, mine promotion, racketeering jungle.

### OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY

Richard Tilden Smith was a swindling confederate with Hoover in several big deals, notably a crooked California oil financing racket under the title of the *Western Ocean Syndicate* and in the *Burma Mines* racket—the latter being known as one of the most monumental swindles on record.

Smith was the "big shot" in the *Share Guarantee Trust Co.*, concerning which he told a meeting of shareholders in 1906 (as reported in *The Economist*, London journal, of April 7, 1906) that "within the last 18 months the *Share Guarantee Trust* had dealt with the reorganization and construction of companies having a capital of \$5,000,000 pounds and had raised upwards of 2,000,000 pounds during the same period."

Big money—Tilden Smith was evidently a big promoter—but what was this big company? *The Economist* reported that "an examination of the records at Somerset House reveals the fact that the issued capital of the concern comprises 40,007 one-pound shares, 40,000 of which stand in the name of Richard Tilden Smith, who is the sole director."

In other words, Smith was running a one-man show with other people's money. As the sole director and the one-man performer and promoter of a company which had no financial standing—in which Smith had invested nothing—he was in the game of floating a string of companies for which other men paid; and you can have just one guess as to where the money went.

### ONE WHO GOT CAUGHT

Anthony Rowe was one of Hoover's unlucky associates—that is to say, he landed in jail. He had already served a term in prison for embezzlement before he joined his swindling interests with Moreing and Hoover as partners in 1901, when the Chinese mine robbery was consummated. The ex-convict Rowe and Hoover not only conspired with Moreing to rob the investing public, but they cheated Moreing himself (another instance contradictory of the myth about honor among thieves).

The partnership agreement of Moreing, Rowe and Hoover was that speculation in mining shares should be done in the name of the firm, not in the name of an individual partner; that is, the agreement was for a three-way split. Rowe and Hoover violated this agreement, speculating on the side, secretly, in shares of the *Great Fingall* mine controlled by the company. They were able to do this because Hoover, as the "engineering" partner in the firm, received by cable all information from the mine—and Rowe was secretary of the company.

With this inside information, the two promoters thought, reasonably enough, that they could beat the market. Quietly, as they imagined, they bought up *Great Fingall* shares (knowing, from their inside tips, that these shares were more valuable than the current market price). For once Hoover's grafting came to grief. Others were playing the market, running down the price of *Great Fingall* shares.

Rowe forged share certificates, on which he borrowed money for more frantic speculations—with which he hoped to save himself. This money, with forged certificates as securities, was borrowed from a stockbroker named Lionel Robinson. Robinson smelled something rotten in the air and, sending a clerk in his employ to examine the books of the *Great Fingall* company (in the same offices with Hoover, Moreing and Rowe and controlled by them), he learned that Rowe had tampered with the books

of the company: certain entries had been scraped away with a knife.

Is it possible that Hoover, an "insider," was ignorant of what Robinson, an outsider in that particular deal, learned? On December 21 Robinson sent a registered letter to each director of the *Great Fingall*, calling their attention formally to Rowe's forgery. As a director, Hoover must have received this letter. Yet he remained intimate with Rowe until the very day of the latter's disappearance (December 26).

This incident from Hoover's past explains how he could sit in Harding's cabinet and appear not to know about the crookedness which was going on all around him. Apparently Hoover was also an "expert" in "not knowing" things which it would be inconvenient for him to admit knowledge of.

Rowe fled to Canada, but in 1903 was caught and returned to England, where he was sentenced to ten years in prison. Just six days before Rowe was brought back to England for trial, Hoover left for Australia—on a "business" trip.

Rowe got caught. Hoover and the other "insiders," equally dishonest, always managed to dodge around the law. And, as the story of the Chinese mining swindle explains, Hoover had a special "drag" with the English imperialist government.

### GAMBLING IN A BIG WAY

Another "insider" with whom Hoover prowled the dark ways of the financial jungle, looking for the defenseless little game that was so easy to capture (but that in the total made very big game for the "insiders"), was A. M. Grenfell: a banker (head of the Canadian Agency); a gambler—with other people's money; a promoter of mining companies which were, like the *Lake View Consols* under the sleight-of-hand work of Hoover and Govett, his private banks.

Among the investments of the *Zinc Corporation*—investments of the shareholders' money, most of them worthless, amounting to \$1,600,000—were railroad stocks floated by Grenfell. Hoover was one of the "insiders" who managed the *Zinc Corporation*—to the immense and deliberate loss of the shareholders who were outsiders. Hoover was in with Grenfell on other shadowy jungle deals—hence his investment of other people's money in some of Grenfell's practically worthless stock.

Funds of the *Zinc Corporation* were also sunk in a number of Hoover's pocket-picking rackets, such as the *Barrier South, British Sulphur, Eastern Trading, Granville Mining, Inter-Californian Trust and Western Ocean Syndicate*. Grenfell was deep in the *Western Ocean Syndicate* oil financing (swindling) deal.

Typical of Grenfell's "business" practices is the fact that, as controlling director of the *Messina* mine company (a South African copper property), he appropriated the entire proceeds of a new issue of *Messina* bonds—\$915,000—for his own private speculations in other stocks.

Grenfell didn't get into jail; but in 1914 he crashed with a loss—of other people's money—in the sum of \$15,000,000. Grenfell was a gambler in a big way. He and Hoover were pals. They were "insiders" together. Their victims were "idiots," as Hoover himself impudently termed them in a signed letter to the *London Mining Journal*.

### "UPS AND DOWNS" IN STOCKS

Although a fast play had been put over on Lionel Robinson, stockbroker, by one of Hoover's partners, the ex-convict Rowe, that didn't vex Robinson too long nor unduly. It was part of the game that "insiders" would cheat one another now and then (that is, whenever they had a good chance); but an "insider" always knows where to turn for satisfaction. What's a small loss now and again when such big hauls can be made from the thousands of little investors?

Less than a year after Rowe had been sent to prison for lifting a roll from Robinson (while he, Rowe, was engaged with Hoover in double-crossing Moreing), Robinson was in with Hoover on a stock-swindling deal in

### THE MINING JOURNAL

253

and I feel like a distance is like those an brain called night-reach of sound leg-

on to Mr. Spilsbury in particular instance's percent is consid- clare that the life of ounds to be at least ize of the ore-bodies, em, the profit per ton, and the fixed charges, ke my plan fit or stow on before death should

r in the JOURNAL of letter in that of May Mr. Ingalls and Mr. ouble they have taken which I desired to port they have given ggestion that in such duct of variable price in conditions, be very own has prepared a st Mr. Spilsbury will r much simplifies the and might assist him

er in the JOURNAL of letter in that of May Mr. Ingalls and Mr. ouble they have taken which I desired to port they have given ggestion that in such duct of variable price in conditions, be very own has prepared a st Mr. Spilsbury will r much simplifies the and might assist him

er in the JOURNAL of letter in that of May Mr. Ingalls and Mr. ouble they have taken which I desired to port they have given ggestion that in such duct of variable price in conditions, be very own has prepared a st Mr. Spilsbury will r much simplifies the and might assist him

Above we reproduce a page from a letter written by Herbert Hoover in 1904 and printed in the *London Mining Journal*. Your attention is directed to the end of the second paragraph, in which Hoover refers to "the great science of getting the most money out of some other human being." Those words are extremely significant. They describe the motive and indicate the methods of Herbert Hoover's financial career during twenty years. Hoover did not devote himself to enriching the common resources of mankind. He did not engage in constructive labors. He did not promote enterprises that would benefit his fellow men. Even when valuable minerals were taken from mines under the control of Hoover's companies, he made sure that this was not due to engineering ability or activity on Hoover's part. Hoover's business was to arrange that this wealth should be grabbed by himself and a little group of "insiders"; and, as in many instances, to persuade gullible investors to turn money over to Hoover and the other "insiders" for the alleged development of properties that were worthless and that were fraudulently boosted by the "insiders." A mining stock promoter, Hoover resorted to the same old tricks of capitalism—tricks that are in common use today throughout the world of so-called high finance. Unintentionally perhaps, but accurately, Hoover was describing capitalism when he wrote about "the great science of getting the most money out of some other human being." It is as a defender of capitalism—of the "science" of exploitation—that Hoover writes in the *White House* and continues to promote a system of fraud that has made him rich while making millions poor.

connection with an Australian mining venture known as *Boulder Deep*. Hoover's firm (Bewick, Moreing & Co.) obtained the management of the *Boulder Deep* mine when Frank Gardner, originally in control, became involved in heavy speculation.

Putting their own agent in charge at the mine, Hoover and his pals quickly had glowing reports issued about the mine's value—sent to them in London for the particular purpose of boosting the shares, which advanced from 60 cents a share in March, 1904, to \$10 a share in June, 1904—a 1,500 percent rise. With the price of the shares thus dizzily elevated, Hoover and his crooked associates began to unload on the thousands of small investors—and Lionel Robinson managed this stock racketeering for the gang.

All the while Hoover and his confederates were secretly getting inside reports of the true condition at the *Boulder Deep* mine. And when they were ready to have the market break, they let it be known that the mine had been "salted": that is to say, rich ore specimens had been deliberately planted in the mine and faked reports had been made expressly with the object of boosting confidence in the *Boulder Deep* shares.

The whole scheme—running the shares up and running them down—had been engineered by Hoover and his gang. *Boulder Deep* shares dropped seven-eighths of their price when the gang had unloaded; as usual, the small investors bore the loss.

Robinson was an "insider" on this deal, and, being a useful, (which means unscrupulous) man, he was taken in on another deal of Hoover's: the *Zinc Corporation* racket, which

copper mines—this programme would flood the market with metal.

In your issue of April 21 you raise the question of the occasional desire on the part of a mine owner to devote himself to development work with a view to increasing his ore-reserves and profit in sight to a figure desirable from the standpoint of sale of the mine. This, of course, is a matter of policy entirely out of the discussion of a method to get the greatest ultimate profit on the ore itself—this involves the great science of getting the most money out of some other human being.

In your issue of June 23, Mr. Bancroft raises an important subject in a discussion of the care and nurture of infant mines. I wholly agree that the problems which surround the installation of the primary plant may often be far different from those of the secondary plant. Mr. Bancroft's article I must point out to one critic as my justification for stating the case in the manner in which I did—that the real problem of mine lies for its solution in expansion not in original installation.

If I were going to generalize on the subject of primary plants I should probably go back upon the principle of a friend whose opinion is the operation of mines through the nursery stages; that is, "In common business prudence do not erect a treatment plant at all until there is enough profit in sight to repay the cost of it."

H. C. Hoover.

Johannesburg, July 15, 1904.

was simply the familiar game of collecting millions from shareholders and then forming a succession of subsidiary companies, with the sole purpose of adding to the fortunes of Hoover and his mining stock racketeering pals. The original shareholders would put up money for Hoover and his pals to invest—not, you may be sure, for the benefit of these small shareholders.

Robinson, the stock juggler, proved himself a fitting associate of Hoover the racketeer.

### FROM TAILOR TO TRIMMER

Cast your eye on one more exhibit in the rogues' gallery of Hoover's racketeering pals—G. P. Doolette, who had been a tailor in Adelaide, Australia, who had slipped into this attractive game of "getting the most money out of some other human being," and who had rapidly lied, cheated and bi-jacked his way into a position among the "big shots."

Doolette and Hoover were pals in a number of brazenly fraudulent rackets. An interesting example of this jolly kind of partnership was the manipulation of the funds of the *Oroya Brownhill* mine. This was a rich mine. In 1907 Doolette, then chairman of the board of directors, told the shareholders of the company that the mine would continue producing 30,000 tons of ore (gold) a month "for years to come."

Then Hoover stepped in as managing director; and right away things began to happen. On April 7, 1908, Doolette told the *Oroya Brownhill* stockholders that it was just too bad —he was sorry, of course, and so no doubt was Hoover—that the ore had played out and dividends in the future would be scarce. (What a lie

this was is shown by the figures of the Chamber of Mines of West Australia, which reports that in 1912 alone \$500,000 worth of gold was taken out of this mine.)

When Doolette, inspired by Hoover (and with the trained but not named animal of the jungle, Govett, in on the deal), told this sad, disillusioning lie to the *Oroya Brownhill* stockholders the cash assets of the company were \$1,750,000. A few of the stockholders were naive enough to want this money returned to them and

### KEEP IT GOING!

We refuse to set a limit to the circulation of this Hoover Racketeering Edition. We plan to keep it going throughout 1932. We shall be able to reprint this edition continuously during the next year. Undoubtedly it will be the hottest document in the campaign of 1932—and what interests us most of all is that it will be not merely an exposure of Hoover the MAN but of capitalism the SYSTEM. For this reason—its double value as an exposure of the most eminent champion of capitalism and an exposure of the inner workings of the system—we consider this Hoover Racketeering Edition the most important we have ever printed. Help us get these facts into the hands of every American citizen. Help us keep this edition going during the campaign of 1932. We shall supply you with the papers, now and at all times during the 1932 campaign, at the bundle rate of 50 copies for \$1. Will you please join in circulating them?

their fellow investors: obviously a reasonable and fair suggestion in view of Doolette's statement that the mine was a dead one.

But no—that would never do. It was against the code of these racketeers to give any money back to stockholders (the outsiders) so long as they could contrive ways of holding on to that money and using it in further ventures of crooked promotion.

What happened, in short, was that the funds of the *Oroya Brownhill* company were "invested" in various amalgamations and reconstructions of new companies (all organized by and for Hoover, Doolette and Govett); so that in 1910 when *Oroya Brownhill* was "liquidated" the stockholders got back only \$168,750 of the funds which they had blindly put up for these jungle "experts" to gamble with, to throw away and—for this was the principal end and aim of all their maneuverings—to grab for their own private fortunes.

So much for Doolette. He also was an eminently worthy associate of Hoover the racketeer.

### AND NOT ONE HONEST MAN!

These were not all, but they were the main, intimate, inside associates of Herbert Hoover in his twenty years of racketeering in mining stock, oil stock, tin stock—twenty years in which hundreds of millions were swindled out of the investing public from the mine.

## IF YOU WANT TO KNOW--

The truth about current events, as distinguished from the false news and opinions which fill the pages of capitalist papers—The causes of the present distressing conditions in a changing world, the tendencies of this period of change, and the remedies that must be applied for the common welfare—

Daring exposures of such false leaders as President Hoover and his fellow racketeers of finance and industry and politics—

Ideas, facts and reports that are unbiased by any selfish private interest—views that go straight to the heart of the questions of the day—news that other papers, serving capitalistic and conventional interests, dare not print—

You will use the blank below to subscribe for *The American Freeman* at the low price of only \$1 per year (\$1.50 in Canada and other foreign countries.)

### ORDER BLANK FOR THE AMERICAN FREEMAN

The American Freeman, Girard, Kansas.

I am enclosing \$1 (\$1.50 in Canada and other foreign countries) for a year's subscription to *The American Freeman*.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_



# How Hoover Became A "Big Shot"

## Further Astonishing Details in the Chinese Mining Swindle

As a result of his handy lying in early Australian mine swindles, Herbert Hoover took a step up toward the big world of racketeering. He stepped right inside when by lies and threats he had carried through the scheme of Moreing and his associates, Edmund Davis and W. F. Turner, to grab the enormously valuable Kaiping mines in China, then owned and operated by the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company. A resume of the Chinese mining swindle, with some very important additional circumstances which we have never before published, must be given in this story of Herbert Hoover's racketeering career.

In the beginning the thing was simple. A professional burglar hears about a big collection of diamonds and immediately he plans how he will get the diamonds. Moreing heard about the rich Kaiping mines in the province of Chi-li, China, and he resolved to grab those mines. They were coal mines; but coal or gold, what Moreing and his pals wanted was any loot they could lay their hands upon.

The Chinese mining company was privately owned in the main, but the Chinese government had an interest in it and had placed a high Chinese dignitary, Chang Yen Mao, in charge of the mines; he was responsible not only to the private shareholders but to the Chinese government. The Kaiping mines were ninety miles from Tientsin, sixty miles from a deep water seaport, and were most capably managed to produce and market a very high grade of coal. The Chinese company had built a canal fourteen miles long and had also constructed fifty miles of railroad. It owned a group of buildings, a compound and wharves on the river Pei-ho in the American concession, which had been ceded by China to the United States in 1861. The company ran a fleet of six steamers.

At the strategic port of Ching-Wan-Tao the company was, at the time Moreing entered the scene, in the process of making a good harbor; it had bought all property for ten miles surrounding the port. This port was strategic and valuable because it was free from ice all the year round; it was a needed outlet for the product of the Kaiping mines. Bonds for this harbor enterprise had been issued, bearing 12 percent interest and backed by the security of the Kaiping mines. Thinking to make the port and harbor safe from the imperialistic clutch of any one nation, the Chinese government declared it a treaty port, open to all nations.

Shortly before Moreing took a hand in the game, the Chinese government had authorized the use of foreign capital in developing the mines. The amount of this capital was limited to 50 percent and it was an essential provision that the control of the property should remain in Chinese hands. The first suggestion of Moreing was "that a Mines Department be created under a high Chinese official with a European mining adviser." This proposal was made to Gustav Detring, a German residing in Tientsin upon whom Chang Yen Mao depended for counsel in dealing with foreign interests and who was very influential with the Chinese government.

Detring saw no objection to Moreing's proposal. A Bureau of Mines was created and Chang Yen Mao was the high Chinese official representing his government and the interests of Chinese shareholders. Moreing said that he would select for the company an English mining expert, who was to be given a large salary (\$12,500 a year) and who was also to represent the interests of Moreing, although he was to be paid by the Chinese company.

It would be incorrect to call this a case of serving two masters: Hoover served only one master—the Moreing gang in London.

Smoothing these preliminary arrangements, Moreing had agreed to negotiate a million dollars' worth of the Chinese company's new bonds, issued for the construction of the Ching-Wan-Tao harbor.

### Hoover Prepares for the Grab

After conferring in London with Moreing, Davis and Turner—being given clearly to understand, we may be sure, what his mission in China was—Hoover left for the Orient on this "engineering" adventure. The ostensible "engineer," who was in reality spying out the land for a gang of thieves masquerading as financiers, idled for some time until a group of assistants arrived from Australia. Then a big expedition, under guard of cavalry, set out to explore the provinces of Chi-li and Jehol. Fifty districts were covered, but this great English "expert" found no valuable mineral deposits. The expedition was an expensive and complete failure.

It may be said briefly that at no time in China—nor, for that matter, elsewhere—did Hoover show "expert" ability of any kind, either as an explorer or a manager or an engineer. His object in China was not to explore. Moreing and his gang already had their eyes on the coveted loot. Hoover was their agent in arranging the details of the grab. This was made easier when Chang, finding Hoover useless elsewhere, directed him to the Kaiping mines. He informed Moreing of this move. Forthwith the London gang, through their Anglo-Continental Gold Syndicate, formed a new company called the Oriental Syndicate; its registration

in London on December 14, 1899, stated that its business was "to adopt a certain agreement for the acquisition of certain concessions, rights, mineral properties, etc., and to deal with and turn to account the same." They didn't yet have the Chinese mines, nor were they yet actually negotiating to acquire them, but nevertheless they intended to get them and "turn to account" this valuable property.

The new company issued to the Anglo-Continental Gold Syndicate 10,000 ordinary one pound (\$5) shares and 10,000 deferred one shilling (25c) shares. There was set aside a reserve of 8,500 one pound shares. The by-laws of the company declared that a dividend of 100 percent should be paid on the ordinary shares, after which the excess profits would be divided as follows: 50 percent to the ordinary shares and 10 percent to the deferred shares and 10 percent to the directors. It will be seen that the deferred shares, considering their price of 25c as compared with \$5 for the ordinary shares, were to be given sixteen times the rate of profit assigned to the latter.

These shares represented no investment by Moreing and his associates. They put up no money and, at the time it was formed, the company didn't own even the smoke from a coal mine. The real capital of the company was the greed of Moreing and his associates.

After setting up these promotional preliminaries, Moreing visited China in March, 1900. But Chang Yen Mao's mother had just died and, in compliance with Chinese custom, Chang would not discuss any business for one hundred days. Leaving the affair in Hoover's hands, Moreing returned to London.

Shortly afterward an international situation gave a tremendous and unexpected boost to the scheme of the London gang. The Boxer uprising occurred. There was a siege and desperate fighting at Tientsin, ninety miles from the Kaiping mines. The territory around the mines was in disorder and the mines had suspended operations. In passing, let us say that Hoover took no part in the defense of Tientsin. He stayed safely in the house of Chang Yen Mao—the man whom he intended to rob.

After the siege of Tientsin, Hoover lost no time in urging Chang to place the Kaiping mines under British protection. If this were not done, he declared, the Russians would seize the mines. Chang was reluctant but his confidential adviser, Detring, thought the suggestion was wise under the circumstances. It was therefore agreed that a deed of trust for the mines should be made out to Moreing, who would form an English company with—as Chinese law required—the control of the mines in Chinese hands. Chang was to be guaranteed for life his position as director-general of the mines. A young English lawyer in Tientsin (J. B. Eames) was sent for to prepare the papers.

At the last minute Hoover suggested that the deed of trust should be made out to him rather than to Moreing, his argument being that the deed must be registered in China and Moreing was far away in London. After some reluctance, because Hoover was not known to be a responsible party while Moreing was thought to be, the deed was made out to Hoover. After all, they regarded him as Moreing's agent.

Thereupon the immense, valuable properties of the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company—all but the property in the treaty port of Ching-Wan-Tao—were deeded to Herbert Hoover, in consideration of his agreement to form an English company with a capital of one million pounds, 375,000 pounds to be issued to the Chinese shareholders of the old company in fully paid shares of the new company. It was also a part of the agreement that the new English company was to provide 100,000 shares (\$500,000) of working capital, and this sum was to be deposited in the Tientsin branch of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China not later than Feb. 28, 1901. It was stipulated that the control of the new company was to be in Chinese hands.

### Hoover Becomes an "Insider"

Legally Hoover was trustee of the mines, being pledged to convey them to the new English company when that had been organized according to the terms set forth.

Immediately Hoover went to Shanghai and registered this deed—at the British consulate. This is an interesting point, as the British consul was not permitted by law to register a deed for anyone but a British subject. If this strict point of law was complied with, Hoover must have declared himself a British subject.

Now Hoover had the deed and he was playing a double game. He was willing to help steal the Chinese mines, but he was in a position to demand a big share of the swag from Moreing and the London gang. He knew the rascals he was dealing with and he would compel them, not merely to reward him, but to let him on the inside.

It may be imagined that the members of the gang were not too pleased when Hoover, quickly journeying to London, informed them that the vital deed was made out in his name. They had to accept the inevitable. Hoover won. He had been an unscrupulous agent of the "Insiders." Now he was one of the "Insiders," where his crookedness would have a wider range and would be more profitable to himself personally.

In swinging the Chinese deal one important obstacle that had to be removed was the provision for con-

trol by the Chinese. The situation called for some political whispering and intriguing. Capitalist racketeers always have their friends in government. Moreing was no exception and he soon was engaged in secret consultation with friends in the British Foreign Office. He had a trump card; namely, the suggestion that the English government should seize the treaty port of Ching-Wan-Tao—this in return for helping the Moreing gang seize and completely control the Kaiping mines.

The Chinese company which owned the mines had also acquired the property and erected the buildings at Ching-Wan-Tao. Moreing's bargain was that the British government should grab the port, while the Moreing gang would grab the mines. The government acted quickly on one point: on October 3, 1900, a few days after Hoover returned to London, a party of sailors from the British ship, *Aurora*, landed at Ching-Wan-Tao and what had been a treaty port, extending common rights to all nations, became by this simple act of forcible occupation a British port.

More dickerings were necessary before the support of the English government was obtained for the rest of the deal—that is, English instead of Chinese control of the mines. When this support was finally assured, Moreing cabled Detring that he would carry out the agreement made with Hoover.

According to the usual procedure, still another company was formed. The company was capitalized (on paper) at \$5,000,000—five million one pound (\$5) shares. Actually its sole paid-up capital was \$35, representing the seven paid-up shares necessary to the organization of a company.

### The Crooks Play A King

Meanwhile another embarrassing difficulty had to be solved. The deed held by Hoover made him a trustee for the new English company and according to English law he had to transfer all this mining property directly to the company and neither he nor the gang could legally appropriate any profits as promoters. To get around this difficulty, Moreing wired Detring that because of a technicality the deed would have to be altered, making it appear that Hoover was a trustee for Moreing personally. When Hoover was back in China this was done, the lawyers Eames interlining words to change the meaning of the deed—obviously a violation of law.

The new company was already formed and Hoover, as trustee by the original deed, should have conveyed the properties as required by that deed; instead the terms were not carried out, but an illegal alteration was made in the deed so that Hoover and the men who were formerly his bosses but now were his fellow "Insiders" could add to their profits on what was, from first to last, a complete and barefaced steal.

The plotters were very active in London, but after all they had not yet actually laid their hands upon the properties in China. To make doubly sure and to obtain all possible help on the spot in China, King Leopold II of Belgium (notorious for his atrocities concerning Negro slavery in the Congo Free State) was brought in on the deal. Leopold had strong interests in China. He was ready to help for a share of the loot.

Emil Franquet, the Belgium consul at Hankow, and Emanuel de Wouters, legal adviser to the Chinese Parliament, were ordered to sit in the game with Hoover. They assisted in the final persuasion—and coercion—of Chang Yen Mao.

Franquet was balking and well he might; the agreement which Hoover and de Wouters offered him to sign contained no provision for control by the Chinese shareholders—the real owners of the mine—nor did it mention the understanding that Chang was to be director-general of the mines during his lifetime. Chang was obdurate, so a new trap was sprung.

Hoover and de Wouters showed a separate memorandum, which they said was to be the genuine binding agreement and which would include Chang's points. If Chang would sign the agreement transferring the mining property finally and completely over to the new English company, also calling itself the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, this separate memorandum would be signed by Hoover and de Wouters (and, of course, by Chang and Detring). Repeating his warning that the Russians would grab the mines unless quick action were taken to consummate this deal, Hoover at length prevailed upon Chang.

They had argued for days and in the course of the dispute Hoover had become angry and bluntly threatened that Chang would be destroyed by the British, American and Belgian governments if he did not sign. Although he had hidden himself safely in Chang's house in Tientsin while others, both soldiers and civilians, were defending that city in the Boxer siege, Hoover on this occasion foully abused the man who had befriended and protected him: Hoover's language was so obscene that Sir Walter Hillier, the famous Chinese scholar of England who was court translator during the trial of the Chinese mining case in London in 1905, would not render it into English words.

With the papers of transfer in their hands, there was yet another item of the agreement which the gang had to consider. It was a very important item: the one requiring that half a million dollars be deposited by the new English company on February 28, 1901, in the Tientsin office of the Bank of India, Australia and China, to be used as working capital for the mines.

At this juncture the secondarily King Leopold saved the deal. On February 28, 1901, he had his bank, the Banque d'Outremer, cable the half million to the bank in Tientsin; and on the very next day he had the

money withdrawn, meanwhile the Chinese had been tricked and robbed.

### Millions for Nothing

The London gang had put up only \$35 (the actual paid-up capital of the newly formed English Chinese Engineering and Mining Company); they had obtained properties worth hundreds of millions. The coal in the Kaiping mines, not to speak of the other properties, was estimated (an estimate based on Hoover's own figures) to be worth more than a quarter of a billion dollars.

The property and buildings in the port of Ching-Wan-Tao and the buildings in the American concession in Tientsin had not been included in the agreement of transfer. A British party of sailors had already seized the port by order of the English government. Hoover seized the company buildings there and in the American concession in Tientsin. The treaty port became a British port and the American concession became a British concession. Thus Hoover served not only his London gang of racketeers but he also served the British government.

At the London end the promoters worked their usual game. They sold 625,000 shares of the new company, raking in about four million dollars (as most of the \$5 pound shares sold at a premium). These shares were sold before the racketeers had obtained control of the property; as we have seen, they had invested only \$35—and right at the start they cleaned up a cool four million.

Then the promoters issued two and a half million dollars in 6 percent debenture bonds, to provide working capital. This meant that the proceeds of the stock sales were not used as capital, and it also meant that the promoters "watered" the shares so that their value was decreased by one-half.

The "Insiders" had issued these shares to themselves and dumped them upon the investing public. To play safe, they held in reserve the 375,000 shares which had been promised to the Chinese shareholders in the original Chinese company. They delayed turning these shares over to their rightful owners; secretly they bought up the shares held by Chinese in the original company, which those holders were beginning to regard as very doubtful in value; once in the hands of the promoters, these shares were exchanged for shares in the new company.

The story of the suit which Chang Yen Mao brought in London against the Moreing-Davis-Turner-Hoover gang was published nearly a year ago in *The Freeman* and is contained in permanent form in Little Blue Book No. 1612, *Herbert Hoover's Record Before He Became President*. Mr. Justice Joyce, the trial judge, ruled that the memorandum given to Chang, which the company had persistently refused to honor, was binding and should be carried out.

Chang never obtained actual redress until 1912. When the English gang succeeded in their racketeering deal, a British mining engineer was engaged by Yuan Shi Kai, viceroy of China, to conduct mining operations at Lanchow and Kailan near the Kaiping mines. This enterprise competed so powerfully with the swindle-born Chinese Engineering and Min-

ing Company that the latter agreed to an amalgamation in 1912. This amalgamation was signaled by a special treaty between England and China, whereby the Moreing-Hoover company had to pay \$700,000 compensation to Chang and nearly an equal amount for other obligations that had been ignored by the London gang. But the gang had made millions—absolutely velvet—and Herbert Hoover had promoted himself to a good place at the trough as an "Insider."

ONE of the crooked deals casually "engineered" by Hoover and his racketeering associates was the combining of the *Yuanme* mine and the *Black Range* mine into one company. The reason given was that the *Black Range* mine was worked out. Subsequently it produced much gold for Hoover and the gang. Commenting on this deal, the Sydney (Australia) *Bulletin* of November 30, 1911, said: "As in the case of the *Lake View* and *Onopa* Hoovers combine, Hail Columbia Hoover, assisted by F. A. Govett and G. P. Doolittle, was the moving spirit behind the scenes."

"Big Shot" Hoover always went after the little game. Like the coward that he is, he always robbed the small investors who were unfamiliar with the tortuous ways of high finance in capitalism's jungles of promotion and fancy—or sometimes just plain crude—racketeering. Of course, Hoover wasn't above robbing an "Insider" if the chance was very, very good; but usually he picked on the easiest victims.

period, and a part of the living of several brokers and jobbers and their satellites. To arrive at a figure, however, we may assess this at \$15,000. We have therefore a total "economic" investment of \$120,000. It is quite possible that the Blank mine may be capitalized at \$1,000,000 and that the *Insiders* may sell the shares to the Outsiders at that price, but the \$880,000 representing the difference, if we assume that the mine should fail abjectly, is not itself an economic loss. It simply means that this much of the national wealth was transferred from one individual to another. It might result in a decrease in national wealth if the \$880,000, or any part of such purchase of the mine were removed from this kingdom. It is quite possible to say that the *Insiders* may spend more than the \$15,000 upon legitimate living or on riotous extravagance, and that they may never again perform any labor, so that a portion of the \$880,000 does not return for re-investment in productive work, but, in any event, experience shows that a very small quantity. Further, from an economic point of view, this \$880,000 of capital in the hands of the *Insiders* is often invested to more reproductive purpose than if it had remained in the hands of the idiots who parted with it. We can assume that they will, for instance, that the *Insiders* succeeded in selling only \$120,000 worth of the shares to the Outsiders. The enterprise would show a shrinkage in market value of \$760,000, but even the *Insiders* would not be hurt, for the transaction would be a mere change of hands, and the enterprise would still be in the hands of the parasites and racketeers.

money withdrawn, meanwhile the Chinese had been tricked and robbed.

ONE of the crooked deals casually "engineered" by Hoover and his racketeering associates was the combining of the *Yuanme* mine and the *Black Range* mine into one company. The reason given was that the *Black Range* mine was worked out. Subsequently it produced much gold for Hoover and the gang. Commenting on this deal, the Sydney (Australia) *Bulletin* of November 30, 1911, said: "As in the case of the *Lake View* and *Onopa* Hoovers combine, Hail Columbia Hoover, assisted by F. A. Govett and G. P. Doolittle, was the moving spirit behind the scenes."

"Big Shot" Hoover always went after the little game. Like the coward that he is, he always robbed the small investors who were unfamiliar with the tortuous ways of high finance in capitalism's jungles of promotion and fancy—or sometimes just plain crude—racketeering. Of course, Hoover wasn't above robbing an "Insider" if the chance was very, very good; but usually he picked on the easiest victims.

## You Need These Books! You Can Get Them FREE!

You need the books in our FREE Library of Socialism, if you want to understand the great social, economic and political forces that are important throughout the world today. In these books you will get a thorough analysis of the principles of capitalist society, which is being challenged today as never before by the world movement of Socialism. These books will give you a clear and complete understanding of the Socialist philosophy and program. They will explain the evolution of social conditions. You can get these 20 valuable books absolutely FREE

by sending us \$2 for four 50-cent Freeman subs (at the club rate of 50c a year). The knowledge in these books will enable you to take an intelligent part in the modern world struggle. And by helping to circulate *The Freeman*, you will be furthering the sane discussion of the economic questions that press so urgently for solution. Just send us four names on the blank below and we will put them on *The Freeman* subscription list for one year, at the same time sending you FREE the 20 volumes of our Library of Socialism.

### ORDER BLANK FOR FOUR 50c FREEMAN SUBS AND FREE LIBRARY OF SOCIALISM

The American Freeman, Girard, Kansas

I want to act on your suggestion to send immediately a club of four 50c Freeman subscriptions (at the club rate). I am enclosing \$2 to pay for the four subs entered on the lines below. Send me a FREE set of the 20-Vol. LIBRARY OF SOCIALISM, just off the press.

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE

Name of Sender.....Address.....

City.....State.....

(Sender to receive Free Library)

### OVERSEEING ONE DITCH AS NEAR AS HOOVER CAME TO "ENGINEERING"

The most brazen and baseless fiction ever imposed upon the American people is the myth that Herbert Hoover is or ever was a "Great Engineer." Hoover was never even a fairly capable engineer. He was never an engineer at all. His pose of being a "mining engineer" or, as he later called himself somewhat more vaguely, a "mining expert" was only a bluff.

The bluff worked, because Hoover's dealings as a promoter of mining stock companies were almost wholly with persons who were as ignorant of "engineering" as Hoover was. In all of Hoover's big deals covering a period of twenty years, neither he nor any of his hi-jacking pals—the "Insiders"—were mining engineers or experts. The only thing they ever knew about mining was that stock in almost any real or fictitious place prior to hundreds of thousands of inexperienced investors.

Other People's Money  
Stock racketeering, not mining, was the real business of Hoover and the grafters associated with him in the many dark enterprises which made up his career. The career of Hoover is fittingly summarized in an expression that he himself once used in a signed letter to the *Mining Journal* of London—"the great science of getting the most money out of some other human being."

A long string of companies with high-sounding names was formed by Hoover and his fellow gamblers and grafters to juggle stock in many mines; but the one mine that Hoover and his pals actually worked, under many names, was that seemingly inexhaustible mine—a gold mine indeed for grafters—known as Public Credit.

Millions in gold, copper and other valuable ore have been taken out of mines that were at one time or another under the control of companies in which Hoover was a leading figure. The bulk of these millions went always to the "Insiders"—to Hoover and his promoting confederates—never to the ordinary buyers of mining stocks and bonds who invested their savings in these mining ventures. The wealth taken from these mines, however, was small compared with the countless hundreds of millions taken from the pockets of gullible investors.

The real education of Herbert Hoover—the kind of education that enabled him to grab a fortune by scheming instead of by genuine knowledge or labor—was learned from the stock gamblers, promoters and confidence men (the "Insiders") in London and Australia. All that Hoover ever studied about engineering was contained in a picaresque, crude, immature three- and a half years' course in Leland Stanford University back in 1891-95.

Hoover's Meager Training  
Leland Stanford was then a raw, new university. Its instruction in geology (which Hoover studied for three terms) was about on a level with ordinary high school instruction in that branch today; decidedly far from sufficient to make Herbert Hoover a professional or experienced geologist, mining expert or anything scientific.

In his first term at Leland Stanford (1891) there was no geology class; so Hoover studied mechanical engineering—what there was to study in that little obscure school—as a result of which he learned something about the use of carpenter's tools and an elementary acquaintance with drawing, arithmetic and algebra. That is to say, Hoover's training as a "Great Engineer" was such as to give him less than the equipment of skill which may be found in thousands of good ordinary mechanics.

Perhaps the instruction at Leland Stanford, in the days of its awkward beginnings, was good as far as it went. Limited educational opportunities are better than none; and all things must have a beginning. The fact which stands out most significantly for our story is that Herbert Hoover's supposed role of a "Great Engineer" rests only on this slender foundation of a very poor, ordinary, limited early training—if one could call it training.

Hoover barely scratched the surface of the science of engineering. And there is nothing in his record to show that at any time after his three and a half years at Leland Stanford he advanced in engineering knowledge.

JUST REMEMBER THIS: Only under capitalism could Herbert Hoover have engaged in his infamous racketeering career. Capitalism gave Hoover the opportunities for his rackets. That's why Hoover wants to perpetuate capitalism.

After leaving college, he gained no practical experience of engineering. He was turned, mainly by a lucky accident and to a great extent by sheer bluff imposed upon men as ignorant technically as he was, into the game of mine promotion (on paper), stock juggling, the "Insiders" conspiracy to "get the most money out of some other human being."

Ignorant of Mining  
Time and again in his career of mine swindling, when confronted with technical problems, Hoover revealed his ignorance of even the simplest details of engineering. When running his bluff as manager of the valuable Kaiping mines in China (in the stealing of which, by lies and threats and the armed menace of British warships, Hoover was the chief agent), this man who is now called "the Great Engineer" amazed Chang Yen Mao, Chinese director-general of mines, by his complete ignorance of the first principles of mining.

During one of his summer vacations while learning a little bit of carpentry and drawing and arithmetic at Leland Stanford, Hoover worked as assistant to the state geologist of Arkansas; during two other summer vacations he was the helper of the state geologist of California; these were surveying trips and young Hoover's "expert" role was that of a mere handy man, packing the tools of a trade he never learned.

Upon leaving school, the man who was destined to crash the gates of international mythology as the "Great Engineer" worked for a few months pushing cars in a Nevada gold mine. This was common labor, honorable certainly, but not very educational; unless we may conclude that it formed an essential part of Hoover's education in the theory that to get money in any big quantity one must cultivate "the great science of getting the most money from some other human being."

When this job came to an end, Hoover drifted into the job of errand boy for Louis Janin, a Belgian mining engineer in San Francisco; Hoover got \$30 a month for this job and was still no appreciable step along the road to becoming a "Great Engineer." Subsequently he was employed for a time by Janin as a field man, taking a look at mining properties in which Janin was interested.

Another step in Hoover's education as a "mining expert"—and about as educational, too—was a few months' job overseeing the digging of a water ditch in Colorado. Watching a group of laborers dig that ditch was, so far as we have been able to discover, the nearest Herbert Hoover ever came to serving as an "engineer."

His short connection with Janin—as a combination office boy and errand boy—was terminated when, by a timely stroke of luck, young Hoover was given an opportunity to work for the London firm of Bewick, Moreing & Co. This was a firm of mining engineers and one interesting fact about the firm was that no member of it was a mining engineer.

Expert in "The Great Science"

That was exactly the kind of company in which Hoover belonged. He never served Bewick, Moreing & Co. as an engineer, but he soon made himself solid with the members of that company by showing that he was as unscrupulous as they, as quick to see a good thing for the "Insiders" which could be made a bad thing for the investing public, as rapacious and shameless in practicing "the great science of getting the most money from some other human being."

Hoover became, after an apprenticeship in Australian mining trickery and his crooked work in the Chinese mining swindle, a partner in Bewick, Moreing & Co. In his twenty years of promoting mine stock (sometimes there was a mine on the map somewhere) Hoover was a director in many companies and was closely associated with many "Insiders" who posed as mining "engineers" and "experts." Neither Hoover nor any of these close associates was ever remotely qualified to call himself a mining "engineer" or a mining "expert."

\$1 puts four friends on *The Freeman* list for 25 weeks each.



# Warren's Page

By Fred D. Warren

THE four pages making up this issue of The Freeman are more than a story of Herbert Hoover. They are the story of capitalism. What is here set forth is not alone the record of Herbert Hoover, but it is the record of capitalist exploitation throughout the past century. What Hoover is shown to have done has been done, and is being done today, wherever capitalism prevails. By capitalism I mean that system which permits the ownership of the machinery of production and distribution by individuals. This private ownership gives them the power to do as Hoover and his associates are shown by the records of their own class to have done. There is nothing in this story that will shock the capitalist-minded individual. Rather will he glory in Hoover's accomplishments. He agrees wholly with the Hoover sentiments as expressed by the extracts from his own letters. The authenticity of these quotations cannot be doubted.

In what may appear to be an uninteresting array of figures we give you the record of Hoover's financial operations from the time he landed in London, until he severed his official connection with the companies, through which he succeeded in "extracting the most dollars from other human beings."

The reports of their organization, their operation and final disposition are taken from Skinner's Stock Exchange Year Book and Skinner's Mining Year Book. These are English publications that correspond to the Moody and Poor Manuals in this country. They are books circulated exclusively among financiers who must have reliable information on which they base their own operations.

Financial publications of this character must be correct, otherwise they would be of no use to their wealthy subscribers. They are not for general circulation. They are expensive and are found only in banks, investment houses, brokers' offices and in a few of the public libraries of the larger cities.

When I reached Girard a few weeks ago, The Freeman staff was hard at work on the material for this edition. I went over it carefully. Familiar as I have become with financial methods, through my personal contact with capitalists of high and low degree on LaSalle Street, I was not prepared for the startling array of facts which was brought to my attention. I was dumfounded—it was hard to believe that the Republican party leaders—astute politicians as they are—would risk their party's future by nominating for the presidency a man with such a record as the official reports indicate Hoover had. I decided to do some investigating on my own responsibility to remove beyond any doubt in my own mind the accuracy of the statements which we expect to print in this edition.

In the public library of Chicago—in the reference book department—will be found copies of Skinner's Mining Year Book and Skinner's Stock Exchange Year Book, referred to above, covering the years from 1900 to 1931. The latest volume gives the present status of the companies organized by Hoover and his associates.

Read the reports of these corporations carefully, and note the similarity of many of them: Organization; sale of capital stock; no dividends; company's affairs wound up by receivership or voluntary liquidation. You will also note, by the dates of organization, that the few companies that succeeded in paying dividends were the early ones organized—only three of the companies organized after 1912 paid their stockholders any returns and one of these only after Hoover had resigned from the board of directors and had been denied a vote under the provision that "foreigners" could not exercise the right to cast a ballot in determining the company's affairs!

## "Heads, I Win---Tails, You Lose"

HOOPER operated on the principle so well known in the oil regions: A man would announce that he had absolute geological evidence of the existence of oil. Gullible men standing around would listen eagerly to his story. For an interest in the oil well, he would disclose this information. A fund would be raised to buy the lease on the land and drill the well. If it was a good one, the geologist would have his interest, and all would be rich. If it was a failure, he would smile, and announce that his figures were slightly off and move on to newer pastures.

From the official records, printed in this paper, which are copied from well-known financial authorities, it would appear that Hoover would announce to an expectant public that he was in possession of positive information that gold, silver, lead, zinc, oil existed in some remote part of the world. In the eagerness of the gamblers to share in this wealth it was easy to get money to "operate." If the enterprise proved profitable, Hoover and his friends possessed themselves of the property by those devious ways known to the upper circles in the financial world. If it proved a failure, the stockholders were allowed to run the company.

Thus brazenly did Hoover and his pals carry on their racketeering system of high (-jacking) finance during twenty years, in which they robbed the public right and left, up and down, around and around in dizzy circles of crooked promotions, lies about tin mines in Nigeria, gold mines in Timbuctoo and copper mines in Limbo, stock exchange jugglery and the flotation of an amazing rogues' march of companies having an actual \$35 capital and a paper capitalization of from one to five million dollars.

We have heard of crooks who were polite enough to leave their victims carfare. But Hoover and his gang made it an unflinching rule to skin their victims completely. They didn't give their victims a chance. They weren't gamblers. They were lead-pipe sluggers—only they were so cowardly that they chloroformed their victims with lies before slugging and robbing them.

The man who steals pennies from a blind man is a thief of trivial pretensions when compared with the mammoth, monstrous, multifarious swindling operations of Hoover, Govett, Davis, Turner, Doolette and others of the gang whose names run, like sinister threads, through the Hoover tale of twenty years of racketeering.

The following is a complete list of the companies with which Hoover was directly associated as director or chairman of the board of directors. Note how the "No dividend" record runs through by far the major part of them. This list does not include 100 similar companies in which Hoover's brother or close associates occupied the important positions:

Anglo-Continental Syndicate, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1899. Sold 1907.	No Dividends
Australian Smelting Corporation	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1905. Liquidated 1909.	No Dividends
Bellevue Proprietary, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1902. Consolidated with Bellevue, Ltd.	No Dividends
Bellevue, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1907. Liquidated 1913.	No Dividends
Burma Mines, Ltd.	(No dividends while Herbert Hoover was director.)	No Dividends
Burma Corporation, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1913. Company sold 1919.	No Dividends
Canadian Klondike Mining Co.	(This company purchased by one of Hoover's gold mining enterprises, the Granville Mining Co., which paid no dividends and went into receivership.)	No Dividends
Inter-Guarantee Syndicate	Herbert Hoover, chairman. Organized, 1914. Liquidated 1915.	No Dividends
Babilonia Gold Mines, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1911. Voluntary liquidation, 1920.	No Dividends
Burma Trust, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Affairs liquidated 1915.	No Dividends
Dutch Indies Exploration Co., Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1903. No record after 1907.	No Dividends
Inter-Mexican Syndicate, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1913. Liquidated, 1916.	No Dividends
Inter-Guarantee Syndicate	Herbert Hoover, chairman. Organized, 1914. Liquidated 1915.	No Dividends
Inter-Siberian Syndicate, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, chairman. Organized, 1914. Liquidated 1916.	No Dividends

Irtysh Corporation	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1914. Sold.	No Dividends
Inter-Russian Syndicate, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, chairman. Organized, 1912. Liquidated 1916.	No Dividends
Inter-Yukon, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, chairman. Liquidated 1914.	No Dividends
Inter-Californian Trust, Ltd.	H. C. Hoover, director. Organized, 1912. Liquidated 1913.	No Dividends
Inter-Argentine Syndicate, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, chairman. Organized, 1912. Liquidated 1913.	No Dividends
Granville Mining Co., Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1911. Liquidated 1928. (Capital stock, \$7,000,000. In 1919, 68,000 shares sold in New York for \$15 the lot. On this basis entire capitalization would have been worth just \$250.)	No Dividends
Great Fitzroy Mines, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1912. Liquidated 1922.	No Dividends
Mohochang Mining Syndicate, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1908. Liquidated 1911.	No Dividends
Natamos Land and Dredge Trust	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1915. Sold.	No Dividends
Irtysh Corporation, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1914. Sold to Russo-Asiatic Consolidated, Ltd. (These properties were confiscated by Russian government, 1918. Originally capitalized for six million. Hoover filed claims against Russia, with England, for \$280,000,000.)	No Dividends
Lancefield Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1904. Liquidated 1913.	No Dividends
Maikop and General Petroleum Trust	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1910. No record after 1912.	No Dividends
Maikop Oil and Petroleum Producers, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1910. No record after 1912.	No Dividends
Tanayk Corporation, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1912. Liquidated 1919.	No Dividends
Oroya Exploration Co., Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1910. Sold in 1911.	No Dividends
Russo-Asiatic Corporation, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1912. Sold to Irtysh Corp.	No Dividends
Oroya Leonesa, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, chairman. Organized, 1910. Sold 1913 to Central American mines.	No Dividends
Zinc No. 1 Corporation, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1913. No further record.	No Dividends
Russo Canadian Development Corporation	Herbert Hoover, director. Organized, 1917. Sold 1919.	No Dividends
Babilonia Gold Mines, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover director. Organized, 1911. Liquidated 1920.	No Dividends
Burma Trust, Ltd.	Herbert Hoover, chairman. Organized, 1912. Liquidated 1915.	No Record of Dividends

[All of the above information was taken from financial reference books published in England, and include Skinner's Mining Year Book, Skinner's Stock Exchange Year Book and London Stock Exchange Official Intelligence. Hoover's connection with these companies changed frequently. His official positions were held, in a majority of the companies, in the early years of their organization. No official record is found of his connection with any of these concerns since he was elected President of the United States, his resignation having been handed in prior to his connection with the United States government.]

### HOOPER IN NICARAGUA

Reporting the meeting held in London in February, 1911, regarding the proposed launching of the Babilonia Gold Mining Company, the *New South Wales Bulletin* said:

Meeting held with the object of inducing shareholders to put up \$500,000 more cash, because market was not favorable to floating them at once. Chairman H. C. Hoover was in great form. Hoover then transported his shareholders to the Babilonia and Los Angeles mines in Nicaragua. The Babilonia was worth \$40,000. Another mine of the hand and the Oroya illusionist took his spellbound hearers to the Maikop oil field in Russia, where—But, anyhow, the total profit on paper was \$1,100,000.

As a result of this effort to take good money from the "idiots" the Babilonia Mines, Ltd., was organized in June, 1911, with a capital stock of \$1,000,000, on which no dividends were ever paid. The mine was later sold to one of the Hoover companies for \$200,000—the rest of the million disappeared, so far as the records show. This mine, with its plant, etc., has been under option for the past three years for the munificent sum of \$35,000.

### HOOPER IN CENTRAL AMERICA

The following report of a meeting of the board of directors of the Oroya Brownhill, printed in the great English financial paper, *The Statist*, of June 7, 1909, will give you a very clear idea of how the racketeers operated. What follows is from the address of Chairman Doolette: "In view of the urgency of our obtaining other profitable business of the company, we decided to obtain the services of our good friend, Mr. Hoover. He was, fortunately, free to help us. We therefore appointed him a general manager of this branch of our business. He has gone into the possibilities of some 600 or 700 different propositions of all degrees of merit, and the directors have perused and considered the reports on 60 properties in the Malay States, 65 in western Australia, 93 in the eastern States of Australia, 22 in Burma and 125 in other countries of the world. Out of

### TREMENDOUS SIGNIFICANCE

of the facts printed in The Freeman prompts the editors to urge our readers to contribute to the fund to send a copy of this issue to every editor in the United States. No single issue of an newspaper printed so completely shows how capitalism operates—how the wily and unscrupulous amass at the "expense of other human beings" the wealth created by the sweat and toil of the men and women who do the work of the world. To lay a copy of this issue on the desk of every editor in this country will be an outstanding achievement, and I hope to see your name on the list of contributors. These editors reach 30,000,000 actual subscribers every day, and the influence of this one edition cannot be calculated. Two dollars will reach 100 editors. (Unlucky 2-dollar bills will be accepted on this fund!)

### Use This Blank Today

The American Freeman, Girard, Kansas.

Here is my contribution of \$..... to the Editorial Fund to send this Hoover Racketeering Edition of The Freeman to the editors of the United States, at 2c per copy.

Name.....  
Address.....  
City..... State.....

the number submitted the only one taken up is the Leonesa mine in the highlands of Nicaragua, Central America. Mr. Hoover succeeded in getting the vendors to agree to a great reduction in price, with the result that we are now possessed of a property for the sum of \$250,000, a price well below the estimated profit of the ore in sight, namely \$300,000. Now we turn to the official record and find that the Oroya Leonesa, Ltd., was organized on March 13, 1910, with H. C. Hoover chairman, and offices at 1 London Wall Building, London, with a modest capitalization of \$1,500,000. Skinner's Mining Year Book for 1913 says no dividends are reported as having been paid, and furthermore that on Nov. 27, 1913, this magnificent property was taken over by Central American Mines, which is not now a going concern!

### HOOPER NOT AN EXCEPTION

It must not be understood that we are singling out Mr. Hoover and the horrible example of capitalism. There are at a conservative estimate 10,000 promoters of high degree in the United States who have followed identically the same practices as those reported officially as the methods used by Herbert Clark Hoover. These shrewd men prey on their own class, and extract the money from them which the capitalist class, as a whole, has taken from the workers of the world. It should be kept carefully in mind that ALL wealth of whatever form is created by the application of human labor (physical and mental) to the natural resources of the earth. This wealth is taken from the workers by a process we designate as the wage system, and is made possible by the private ownership of the machinery of production and distribution. Many promoters, like Hoover, have found the processes of regular business too slow in the accumulation of wealth, and so they adopt the more subtle form of stock manipulation which the career of Hoover so well illustrates. It is in order to make plain this type of hi-jacking that we give our readers this information. It is safe to say that if Hoover had not done the things with which he is officially credited, SOME OTHER RACKETEER WOULD HAVE! The Socialists have no interest in abolishing Hooverism in the narrow sense of "reforming" capitalism—it is capitalism which we hope to abolish by establishing in its stead a system of collective ownership of the productive and distributive machinery of the nation to the good end that exploitation shall be ended. Under such a system the wealth created would be retained by those whose labor and brains created it!

Why does Hoover hate the Soviet Union? Because the Soviet revolution knocked in the head a stock racketeering deal in Russian mines which Hoover and his pals were engaged in "floating." By the way, "floating" is a good word. Or perhaps it isn't quite good enough. Other people's money flew into the pockets of Hoover and his racketeering cronies. Another thing about the Russian mines: Hoover and his gang didn't own the mines. But that was a trifle. They had plenty of nice-looking stock certificates.

In 1901, before Hoover took charge of the west Australian mines, 175 miners were killed or injured out of 17,800. In 1905, while Hoover was in control, there were 304 killed or seriously injured in a total of 17,700. Mr. Scaddan, afterwards premier of west Australia, in parliament in 1904, called attention to the utter disregard at the mines under Hoover's control of the safety measures provided by law.

## Hoover Said---

Writing to the *London Mining Journal* in July, 1904, Herbert Hoover described his mining stock racket. To get the greatest profit out of these mining ventures, he said, "involves the great science of getting the most money out of some other human being." Candid—and cynical! See page 2.

## Hoover Said---

In the *London Mining Journal* of May, 1912, Herbert Hoover wrote that in a case where investors lost \$4,000,000 "this capital in the hands of the insiders is often invested to more reproductive purpose than if it had remained in the hands of the idiots who parted with it." See page 3.

## Hoover "Red Scare" Has Motive in Soviet Interference With His Mining Racketeering

A "red scare" against the Soviet Union and American radicalism will probably be the principal feature of Herbert Hoover's campaign for reelection in 1932. As one observer, long familiar with affairs and signs in Washington, shrewdly expresses it: "Hoover will not run against Roosevelt or Ritchie or any Democrat—he will run against Stalin."

It seems that Hoover has already begun to prepare the way for this sort of campaign. This is indicated by recent press dispatches from Washington, which are obviously inspired by the administration and which attempt to weave a very lurid and anti-American menace about the National Hunger March.

This is a march of representatives of the unemployed from all parts of the United States, elected by the Unemployed Councils in their communities. The object of the marchers is to place dramatically before the President and before Congress their demands for relief.

Government secret service agents pretend to have discovered that this National Hunger March is a Communist "plot." It is, at any rate, an open "plot," a legal "plot," and a highly meritorious "plot," and the discovery that it is organized and led by Communists is not remarkable. Communist speakers and Communist publications have been arranging this "plot" for months in the broadest light of publicity.

It is a "plot"—would there were more of such "plots" and a greater number of participants in such "plots"—to obtain adequate federal relief for workers who have been thrown out of their jobs by the collapse of capitalist industry; a "plot" to bring the workers' situation fully—not before an administration which has been eager to help the bankers, the railroads, Wall Street's foreign investments, every interest except the interest of the working class—but before the aroused conscience and the concentrated, intelligent alarm of the nation.

This movement to petition the elected representatives of the nation met its first response in the arrest of fourteen members of an unemployed committee whose only "crime" was that of approaching the White House. Bankers are invited into the White House. Workers are arrested for approaching the White House. And because they dared to approach the White House, these fourteen Communist representatives of the unemployed have been sentenced to six months in jail.

Thus it seems that Hoover has begun his 1932 campaign against Stalin, against the Soviet Union, against American economic discontent and radicalism. The purpose of such a campaign is crudely apparent. By this sort of political trick Hoover hopes to obscure the vital issues that are really deserving of the closest and most critical attention of the American people. By a "red scare" Hoover intends to ignore and plans to persuade the American voters to ignore the facts of unemployment, bank failures, the breakdown of capitalist industry, the need for unemployment insurance and the more sweeping and equally urgent need for a fundamental readjustment of the nation's economic life.

Hoover will run against Stalin. He will raise the "red scare." We shall be glad to meet him on the genuine issue of Soviet cooperative versus American capitalist economics. We will meet that issue, meet it fully, meet it unsparingly, meet it with facts and analyses that will shatter all the pretense of Hoover and the bankrupt system of capitalist exploitation.

Meanwhile we remind ourselves

that Hoover's interest in the Soviet Union is more than theoretical. He has a personal, mercenary interest in the activities of the Soviet government. He hates the Soviet government—the government of the world's first workers' republic—because it interfered with one of his major schemes of racketeering. It is therefore appropriate that in this Hoover Racketeering Edition we should expose Hoover's personal and financial motive for hostility to the Soviet Union by giving the following summary—from the official record—of

### HOOPER'S RUSSIAN DEALS

Hoover's operations in Russia were gigantic undertakings. He began his career in that country in 1911 as financial promoter of the erection of a smelter at Karabash for the Kyshtim Corporation, Ltd., of which he was made a director. This concern, operating through the Kyshtim Mining Works, held timber and mining concessions, under the Czarist government, for over 2,000 square miles in the southern Urals.

The high price of copper in 1912 and the bonus of 33 percent paid by the Czar enabled the Kyshtim Corporation to show good profits and in 1912 a dividend of 22 percent was paid.

This fact was widely heralded in the newspapers, and extensively advertised in the mining journals. Reports of fabulous riches excited the gullible "idiots" who rushed in and bought the shares of Mr. Hoover's Russian company for \$5 to \$18. The shares of the Russo-Asiatic Corporation, Ltd., rose from \$16 to \$47, though this company never paid any dividends and its affairs were liquidated in 1919.

In 1918, the Soviet government abrogated the concessions and confiscated the mines, and later operated them under the direction of competent American engineers. In 1928, Hoover was elected to the highest office in the gift of the American people. Almost immediately efforts were started to force the Russian government to hand back these valuable properties to Hoover and his associates. A meeting was arranged with the Soviet authorities in Berlin, in January, 1929, the Hoover representative being J. P. B. Webster, secretary and later on liquidator of the company's affairs. The Soviet representatives were threatened with the power of the American government unless they returned the properties. The Russians smiled, and kept the properties. Mr. Hoover's company then filed with the British government a claim against the Soviets for \$280,000,000 as compensation for the loss of their properties and probable profits! This claim was filed from the headquarters of the Racketeering Gang: 1 London Wall Building, by a new organization, the Russo-Asiatic Consolidated, Ltd., and the public was kept interested in the hope that the now powerful Mr. Hoover would be able to swing the deal, and bring back to them these valuable properties. It can readily be seen why the American government has NOT recognized the Soviet government, though practically every other important nation in the world has done so. Mr. Hoover is a great baigner!

Hoover, it appears from the records, was an influence of importance in the various attempts of the European governments to overthrow the Soviet government following the collapse of the German offensive in 1918. It can readily be seen from these plain and undisputed financial reports why Hoover has always been against the Soviets. After a career of hi-jacking in his mining and financial opera-

tions, it is easy to understand his attitude of hostility. From a modest capitalization of \$6,000,000 in the original Russian company, of which Hoover was director and "expert engineer," its values had grown to \$280,000,000, as is evidenced by the claim filed with the English government against the present Russian government by Hoover and his associates.

### MR. HOOPER IN INDIA

The Burma Mines, among the richest lead-zinc-silver-copper mines in the world, are located at a place called Bawdwin, in one of the northern Shan states of Burma, in a mountainous region 140 miles north of Mandalay. Through a long-drawn-out juggling of the shares and reports of these mines, the original stockholders who put up the original capital were stripped of their holdings and the mines became the property of Hoover and his associates. On February 10, 1910, Herbert Hoover made a sworn affidavit before Justice Neville of the Chancery Division of the High Court, and on February 23, another one correcting the figures of the first one, in which he recited that he had been a director of the company since its organization and was aware of the status of the company and that of the paid-up capital of \$1,700,000, all but \$168,000 was lost, which loss should be regarded as a permanent deficiency and ought to be written off or cancelled. At the annual meeting of the Burma mines in July, 1913, Hoover said that the Burma mines would require another million or more for refinancing. They were, he said, with their backs to the wall! With this sort of a report from the "winner" it was not difficult to get the "idiots" who had put up the money to part with their shares in what later proved to be one of the richest mines in the world. From 1906 to 1921 no dividends were paid, but reports made to the Indian government show that the Burma mines sold an aggregate of \$13,000,000 worth of silver, lead, etc. It was only after the poor boob who had put up the original money to develop the mines were out of the picture that the company began to pay dividends, beginning in 1922 at 2½ percent and growing steadily until 1928 when 10 percent was paid. The 1929-30 dividend of 8 percent was paid and in February, 1931, an interim dividend of 1 7/8 percent was paid. There are no available records to show what is the interest of President Hoover in the mines at this time.

### Hoover's Little Deal in Alaska

The *Mining Journal* of April, 1911, says: "A syndicate with a capital of \$1,000,000 has been formed by H. C. Hoover and A. C. Beatty, half the amount being placed in New York and half in London. The intention is to bring out a company later with a view to exploiting a number of claims situated in Dominion, Quartz, Last Chance, Eldorado and other famous creeks near Dawson."

Later, the Granville Mining Co. was formed and its stocks and bonds offered to the public. An issue of \$2,200,000 first mortgage debenture bonds were sold. What became of the money only the Hoover crowd can explain. No record of any dividends has been made public through the usual financial channels. The wind-up of the company's affairs as reported by Skinner's Mining Year Book for 1921, for a nominal sum, clearly brings out what Hoover meant when he said in an article quoted elsewhere in this paper: "From an economic point of view, this \$4,000,000 of capital in the hands of the insiders is often invested to more reproductive purposes than if it had remained in the hands of the Idiots who parted with it."

### HOOPER IN AUSTRALIA

Here is a paragraph from a letter said to have been written by Robert J. Grant, a Canadian mining engineer, who afterwards was made Food Director in Colorado, and later made Director of the Mint in Washington, a position which he holds today. Said Grant, who was then acting as manager of the Cosmopolitan Proprietary Mine in west Australia under Hoover: "It has simply come to this, that so far as I am concerned, I will not continue after the first of June, as I should be laying myself open to a charge of manslaughter. The mine is getting very shaky. On the question of dividends you have certainly kept up your reputation as letter writers, as I have letters on this subject nearly every week, but on a vital question such as mining timber, I have been unable to get a reply. I can only say that I have been disgusted at the way in which the London office has treated my correspondence. All they seem to care about has been the payment of dividends."

Help The Freeman grow bigger.

## Please Use This Blank for a Club of Four Subs

The American Freeman, Girard, Kansas

I want the influence of The Freeman to be greater and greater in this critical time. I am doing my share by sending in the following club of four subs, at 25c each for 25 weeks.

1 Name .....	Address .....
City .....	State .....
2 Name .....	Address .....
City .....	State .....
3 Name .....	Address .....
City .....	State .....
4 Name .....	Address .....
City .....	State .....
Name of Sender .....	Address .....
City .....	State .....