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**CALAMITY HOWLER IS HARD TO EXTERMINATE**

Some Americans Who Believe Everything in U. S. Is Wrong are Worse Pests

The American government has wisely spent a good deal of money exterminating the boll weevil, the Hessian fly, the Mediterranean fruit fly and similar pests. But the government is unable to do anything about a pest which has cost the American people many fold as much as all these vermin combined. That is the calamity howler who is continually talking down American values, American institutions and American prospects, says the National Republic.

There is plenty of room of course in any government of public opinion for reasoned criticism. Ninety per cent of the criticism which emanates from demagogues, doctrinaires and pseudo-improvers in general is, however, destructive in character and proceeds from no honest desire to effect social, political or individual betterment. Politicians in search of votes, newspapers hot after circulation, professors and preachers with the itch for notoriety, authors eager to produce best-sellers, affect the pose of reform in many instances only in order that they may foist their wares on the public they harm with their continual knocking.

**Senseless Doctrine**

The doctrine "Everything that is, is wrong" is just as senseless as the dogma "Everything that is, is right." People with schemes for economic, social and political change seem to feel in most instances that it is first up to them to demonstrate that there is no value in existing institutions and systems, and that the American masses are being swindled and exploited without stint, while an indifferent, stupid or wicked government stands by indifferent to the sufferings of the downtrodden proletariat.

The American farmer is the principal victim of this type of critic. Because American agriculture was not in as prosperous a state as industry in general following the deflation after the World War, self appointed apostles of the farmer, most of them ambitious politicians out to boost themselves, deliberately cried down the farming business until the biggest loss sustained by the farmer was not in current operations but in the destruction of land values and consequent loss of credit.

**Natural Result**

How could it be expected that farm lands would not sink in value when several hundred thousand supposed friends of the farmer in the United States were insisting that farming was a no-account, unprofitable, bankrupt and hopeless business? The loss to the farmers of the United States through this sort of advertising runs into the billions of dollars, and has resulted in thousands of farm foreclosures because of the decline of underlying farm values through this persistent "bear" pressure.

The fact that industrial securities in the United States have reached high price levels seems to worry many politicians and economists. It does not take much research to discover that at the bottom of this is unprecedented prosperity, based upon increased volume of production and consumption in the United States.

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