

THE GREAT OIL OCTOPUS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649178599

The great oil octopus by Anonymous

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**THE GREAT
OIL OCTOPUS**

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BY
"TRUTH'S" INVESTIGATOR

19386
26/10/11

T. FISHER UNWIN
LONDON: ADELPHI TERRACE
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PREFACE

THE appearance in *Truth* of the articles which form the greater portion of this volume has been followed by a wish expressed in many quarters that they might be republished in a more permanent and convenient form. The suggestion has been adopted. The articles have been carefully revised, some additional matter has been inserted, and it is hoped that they will form a useful contribution to contemporary social and commercial history. The late Mr. Henry D. Lloyd and Miss Ida M. Tarbell have each published exhaustive investigations of the Standard Oil Trust's proceedings in the United States, and further information is available in the records of the Missouri litigation, and—in regard to the flash-point scandal—in British Blue-books. Hitherto, however, there has been lacking a complete conspectus of all the many branches of this worldwide subject. One or other tentacle of the Octopus has been described in detail, but in this volume an attempt is made

Preface

for the first time briefly to describe them all. It has been necessary to exclude any reference to many other commercial enterprises—such as “Amalgamated Coppers”—in which the heads of the Oil Trust individually figure in order to concentrate attention on that combination in the oil trade which first brought them together, which set the example to so many imitators in America and Europe, and exhibits most clearly their business methods and morals in two hemispheres.

CONTENTS

CHAP.	PAGE
I. THE MEN AND THE MONOPOLY . . .	9
II. THE SECRET REBATE	25
III. THE RAILROADS AND THE PIPE LINES	43
IV. THE BIRTH OF THE TRUST	63
V. BRIBERY: THE ARCHBOLD LETTERS . . .	75
VI. ARSON AND ESPIONAGE.	89
VII. THE BOGUS "INDEPENDENTS" . . .	105
VIII. THE STANDARD "INVENTIONS" . . .	123
IX. THE TRUST IN AMERICA AND ASIA . . .	137
X. RUSSIA, GALICIA, AND ROUMANIA . . .	155
XI. THE TRUST IN GERMANY, SWEDEN, AND FRANCE	171

Contents

CHAP.	PAGE
XII. THE TRUST'S "TIED HOUSES" IN ENG- LAND	189
XIII. THE FLASH-POINT SCANDAL	207
XIV. THE ROCKEFELLERS AND THE HOME OFFICE	217
XV. THE LUBRICATING OIL TRADE	237
INDEX	251

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