

MONEY MONOPOLY AN IMPOSSIBILITY, MORGAN ASSERTS

**Financier Tells Pujo Committee
He Doesn't Know He Has Vast
Power and Doesn't Seek It.**

LIKES 'A LITTLE COMPETITION'

**Concentration of Influence by
Interlocking Directorates Not
Unwise, He Believes.**

CREDIT BASED ON CHARACTER

**Has Made Out Many a Million-
Dollar Check, He Says, for
Men Who Had Not a Cent.**

TALKS LIGHTLY OF MILLIONS

**Suggested to Thomas F. Ryan
That He Wanted Equitable
Stock and Ryan Sold It.**

OPPOSED TO MANIPULATION

**But Would Not Restrict Speculation
—Not in Favor of Supervision
Over the Stock Exchange.**

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Alert and refreshed after a good night's rest, J. Pierpont Morgan, the most influential factor in the American financial world, to-day resumed and completed his testimony before the Pujo Money Trust investigation committee. The marble committee hall was packed with several hundred spectators, most of whom had to stand throughout the long examination of the financier. Immediately after the session Mr. Morgan and party went direct to the Union Station and left for New York on a special train.

Mr. Morgan's testimony was of a most absorbing character. Whether stating his personal views respecting control of credit, when he insisted that "money is gold, and nothing else," or ridiculing the idea of there being a money trust and telling Mr. Untermyer "You can control business, but you cannot control money," or asserting that he had many times drawn his check for a million dollars to men who did not have a cent, but who had character, Mr. Morgan always riveted the attention of those who heard him testify.

Interwoven with such striking phases as these, the story of Mr. Morgan reached its climax this afternoon when he told how he acquired personal ownership and control of the stock of the Equitable Life Assurance Society with its present assets of more than \$504,000,000 from Thomas F. Ryan. Mr. Untermyer pined Mr. Morgan hard and steadily with pointed questions in an effort to discover what motive actuated Mr. Morgan when he paid about \$3,000,000 for this stock, although its par value was \$51,000, and the transactions yielded him a return of only about one-eighth of one per cent. annually.

Thought It the Thing to Do.

The question was put in many different forms, but Mr. Morgan steadily replied that he thought "it was the thing to do," to make this purchase.

Some Congressmen in the audience fairly gasped when Mr. Morgan told of the reluctance of Mr. Ryan to part with his Equitable stock, and said Mr. Ryan hesitated, but finally consented to sell when Mr. Morgan insisted that he wanted to buy. Previously Mr. Morgan had disclaimed any realization of his power.

Apropos of this Equitable transaction Mr. Morgan made his only appeal of the day to counsel for advice. Mr. Untermyer wanted to know whether James Stillman, ex-President of the National City Bank and George F. Baker, President of the First National Bank, were associated with Mr. Morgan in the purchase of the control of the Equitable from Ryan and Harriman. Mr. Morgan paused and consulted several minutes with his counsel, De Lancey Nicoll and Richard V. Lindabury, and Henry P. Davison, one of the leading partners of J. P. Morgan & Co.

The throng waited intently while these four men had their heads together, expecting a clash between Mr. Morgan and the committee, since he had stated that he considered this private business that he could not disclose. Mr. Morgan disappointed his audience in this regard by answering the question, but did so in a way that gave ample compensation, when he disclosed an interesting financial secret, stating that neither Mr. Baker nor Mr. Stillman had any interest in his purchase of the Equitable, but he had a written agreement under which Messrs. Baker and Stillman were to take half of his stock interest in the Equitable any time he "wished" them to do so.

Joseph H. Choate occupied a seat near Mr. Morgan throughout his testimony. His son and daughter, J. P. Morgan, Jr., and Mrs. Herbert L. Satterlee, sat behind him, and not far away were ex-Senator John C. Spooner, William F. Sheehan, Cordenlo A. Severance, George B. Case, Henry P. Davison, and Thomas W. Lamont.

Seemed to Enjoy Testifying.

The vigor and alertness of Mr. Morgan to-day was in striking contrast with his

tired expression of yesterday. He seemed to enjoy every minute of the day, and several times toward the end of the morning testimony, after he had been on the stand two hours, when the committee expressed a willingness to take a recess, Mr. Morgan replied that he was ready to continue. At another time Mr. Untermeyer wanted to know whether he was going too fast for the witness and Mr. Morgan replied:

"Not in the least. I can keep up with you."

Frequently, however, Mr. Morgan dropped his jaw and opened his mouth as if gasping for breath. It was learned later that this was due to a slight cold he had contracted. Again, during the course of the afternoon, Mr. Morgan's cold bobbed up and made it difficult for him to hear Mr. Untermeyer's questions.

At his request, Mr. Morgan was allowed to take another chair, this time at the long table on a raised dais, where the committee sat, and this brought Mr. Morgan within arm's reach of Mr. Untermeyer during the most absorbing part of his testimony. After making this change Mr. Morgan seemed to be able to hear very distinctly, and the questioning of the witness became as rapid as a fusillade.

The things Mr. Morgan said he did not know interested the committee almost as much as those which he said he did know. He said he did not know how the voting trusts for the Bankers' Trust Company, and for the Guaranty Trust Company, were formed in 1903. He did not know whether Daniel G. Reid was a Director in these two trust companies or in the Liberty National Bank. He had never heard of the International Harvester voting trust until he read of it recently in a newspaper. He did not know how large his interest was in the National Bank of Commerce. He could not tell whether his son was a member of the Executive Committee of the National City Bank or whether any issues of New York Central securities had been made in the past five years except through the firm of Morgan, which is that road's sole fiscal agency. He did not know that the voting trust of which he was a member for the Great Western Railway would expire in 1914, or whether he was a member of the voting trust for the Southern Railway.

Does Not Control—Does Not Want To.

Mr. Morgan insisted very positively that he did not dominate anything and that he wanted "to control nothing"—that he was not even in control of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co.

Among other notable statements that he made in explaining his views were these:

That there was no way in which one man could obtain a money monopoly. That the control of money in this country at least was based on personality. That he would rather have combination than competition, but did not mind competition, and, in fact, would like to have a little of it. That credit cannot be bought. That "all the money in Christendom cannot control credit."

He defended the control of large corporations by means of "voting trusts," and said he regarded them as necessary in the infancy of a corporation for the protection of the property.

Nor did Mr. Morgan think it unwise or dangerous to control vast concentrations of wealth in various institutions by means of so-called interlocking Directorates. While he would not prohibit the practice, Mr. Morgan unhesitatingly asserted that he was opposed to "manipulation" of stocks, but not to legitimate "speculation." He had never considered whether the Stock Exchange should be placed under some sort of Governmental control, but was not inclined "off-hand" to favor such regulation. He had never done any "short" selling in his life; did not like the practice, but would not criticise it because he did not see how it could be avoided.