

system to try and do what was necessary in connection with the American troops in France. Woodrow Wilson seized all the telephone lines of the country and for a couple of ~~XXX~~ years the country experience Government operation of telephones and after that no one was interested in it further, for a long time in having Govt. control of telephones.

But the progress that has been made in these last years is simply beyond the imagination or realization of most of us. One hundred years ago we were just beginning to get railroads established in different parts of the country. It was slow. It took 8 or 10 days to go from one coast to the other. It was however a tremendous advance over what the situation had been 50 yrs. before.

When the Assyrian conqueror spread over the ancient world in say 700 or 800 B.C. their modes of transportation were just as fast as the modes in Europe during the Napoleonic Wars 150 years ago! Our progress in transportation has practically all come within the last 150 years.

Now why has this tremendous progress been made? What is the reason. Here the word capitalism comes in. A capitalist is not a good word. But I don't know of any other for it. I don't know of any word that describes the system which along with the Christian character of ~~XX~~ people ? has been the cause of the advances in material things in the last century or so. Capitalism suggests an idea that is quite contrary to what it really means. It suggests that a few people have got capital and they decide what's going to be done. Well now that's more like the capitalism of the middle ages in which the lords of the manor controlled a certain territory and on that territory the people lived and did pretty much what he told them, and struggled 15 and 16 hours a day to try to get a poor living, for themselves and for their lords of the manor.

Capitalism does not, should not -- I should not say capitalism does any word ~~it~~ can be made to mean anything you make it, but the situation that has had so much to do with American progress, has been the result of a system in which capitalism (indistinct) under the control of a few, but because of flowing easily.

Of course one reason for our great progress is invention. The invention of telephone was a marvellous invention. The invention of railroads, the invention of automobiles, all these are marvellous inventions. But our people of the last century have no greater minds than the people of antiquity.

You read about Archimedes(?) in Syracuse in Sicily, and how he constructed the great reflectors that set the Roman fleet on fire and protected the city for a long time. from an overwhelming force of Romans. You read about the discoveries he made You read about the scientific advances made by other people of antiquity. Their minds were just as great as any of the men today. There have been important inventions made but the important thing has not been the invention it has been the development of the invention, and the spread and making of them available.