

THE FORUM OF THE WEEKLY PRESS

Tarkio (Mo.) Independent: The reorganizers in Missouri tried hard to get up a fight on Hon. W. J. Stone, for United States senator to succeed G. G. Vest. All the republican papers and other gold brick papers of the state are publishing falsehoods concerning Mr. Stone. The assault upon him had no significance and only served to show the spleen and hatred of the reorganizers for Mr. Stone. The common people want Mr. Stone to succeed Mr. Vest and he will do so notwithstanding the frantic opposition of the reorganizers and the republicans. Here is to Senator W. J. Stone of Missouri.

Rockland (Me.) Opinion: A republican paper, called the Yellow Jacket, printed in North Carolina, concedes that "it is true that there were not quite so many trusts when the democracy was in power;" but then, it says, there are no soup-houses now. Sure enough; can't get coal enough to make soup now, and beef is so dear that it is the rich man's luxury and is not made into charity soup. But there have been more people frozen to death and starved in this winter of republican prosperity than in the hardest times ever known under democratic rule.

Windle's Gatling Gun: No democrat ought to be at a loss where to stand on the question of imperialism. Democracy and imperialism is as antagonistic as light and darkness, good and evil, heaven and hell. Nothing that is imperialistic can be democratic, and nothing that is democratic can be imperialistic. The imperialistic idea rests upon force and fraud. The democratic idea is based upon truth and freedom. One recognizes the rights of man, the other tramples them in the dust. One depends upon reason for its triumph, the other relies on the sword. The democratic idea was born in heaven. The imperial-

istic idea is a child of perdition. A man can believe in conquest, government by force and impose taxation without representation, and be a republican, single taxer, or socialist, but he cannot be a democrat. If the imperial colonial policy of the republican party is right, there is not the slightest excuse for the existence of the democratic party. If governments do not derive their just powers from the free consent of the governed, then the existence of a republic is an impertinence—a living lie.

Cambridge (O.) Jeffersonian: The stock of gold in the United States December 1 is figured at \$1,230,673,723, of which \$615,319,397 is in the government treasury and sub-treasuries. This is said to be the largest amount of gold ever held by any government at any one time. Instead of being encouraged, financiers are alarmed at this condition. This gold is not in circulation and for direct business purposes is no good. The people of the country might freeze to death while the government had billions of tons of coal stored away.

The Public: Another weekly paper of the order of the democratic democracy has proved its right to a place in the growing list. We refer to the Press, of Helena, Mont. Edited with distinctive ability by W. E. Eggleston, the Helena Press is trying to do for Montana what John Stone Pardee's Red Wing Argus is doing for Minnesota, what Warren Worth Bailey's Johnstown Democrat (daily as well as weekly) is doing for western Pennsylvania, what Herbert Welsh's City and State of Philadelphia is doing for eastern Pennsylvania, what the Springfield Republican (daily and weekly) has long been doing for New England, what the San Francisco Star does for the Pacific coast, and what Bryan's Commoner is doing for the country at large. All these papers

ring true democratic notes. Against an expanding force like that, the subsidized and shackled press of both parties will not long be able to make headway with public opinion. We are living in stirring times, when democracy and plutocracy are gathering for a terrific struggle, and papers such as these are marshalling the democratic hosts.

Frankfort (Ind.) Standard: It will be downright funny when Smoot, the republican polygamist, is elected United States senator from Utah to read the G. O. P. papers that had so many and such grave scruples against Roberts, the too-much-married democrat congressman. Not that the republican papers will lack for excuses at all. They have had such a wide and varied experience in reconciling conflicting platforms, etc., you know. Still it will be highly diverting to see them adjust the belt on the other pulley.

Armstrong (Mo.) Herald: Oh! ye gods, just listen to the wail of Mr. Ellis H. Roberts, treasurer of the United States. He says that the stock of gold in the United States has made a gain of over \$107,000,000 per year for the past five years. The United States treasury holds \$615,000,000 in gold, the largest of any nation in the world, and \$400,000,000 more than was in the treasury vaults five years ago. He further says, "Here lies possible peril. Inflation of currency incites to dangerous expansion of business." Too much gold for the gold bugs to control the money supply. Will they now seek to demonetize gold?

Penn's Grove (N. J.) Record: Financiers would have the people believe that the money question is a dead issue, yet scarcely a day passes that the big dailies do not have something in stating that the currency system is all wrong and that currency needs more elasticity. Only last week the

congressional committee on banking, while they set aside the infamous Fowler bill, yet approved a new bill which will allow banks to issue notes to the amount of 25 per cent of their capital stock. Now they are allowed to issue notes only to the amount of government bonds. This new bill will be a new and grave departure towards handing over the circulating medium, which is a necessity, to banking corporations. It will cost the people millions and make more millionaires. The real value in the bank note does not contain even the 33 cents value in a silver dollar. It is the next step of the money power to deprive the people from issuing their own money at cost. The United States constitution says gold and silver shall be the legal tender money and the United States supreme court has decided that greenbacks can be issued and made a legal tender when there fails to be enough gold and silver to make a sufficient supply of money. Having stricken down silver from the mints, the next step is to allow banks to issue all the notes they wish, then to strike down the legal tender law of the present silver dollars and destroy the balance of the greenbacks. Every citizen should make a close study of what legislation is proposed and made on the money question. It is far more important than the tariff, imperialism and trusts, because trusts can only be formed when syndicates can control the money.

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