

comes the great pastime. At certain times of the year challenges are sent broadcast, and then follows the celebrated German duel. The combatants are protected over all vital parts of the body, the face being the open battleground. Each contestant holds a saber on high and after the preliminary ceremonies blows begin to fall. It is a slash stroke, given with a peculiar twist of the wrist. A contestant is not permitted to dodge a blow, but must stand up and have his face slashed until loss of blood compels him to stop. This accounts for the scarred faces of German students and army officers so often seen in the United States."

AN OBJECT LESSON

Mr. Bryan recently received from a prominent citizen of Butte, Mont., a letter from which the following is taken:

"While reading your speech at Des Moines, in which you so strongly show up the iniquities of the present tariff, it occurred to me that I could give you from an experience of my own, a pertinent illustration of the infamous robbery perpetrated upon the American people by the millionaire beneficiaries of said tariff. In 1893 I bought from the Singer Sewing Machine company a sewing machine, for which I paid \$65. In 1894 I went to South America and located at Montevideo, the capital of the republic of Uruguay, a city of 250,000 inhabitants, where I found in the principal stores, the same identical Singer sewing machines with all the latest attachments and improvements, all brand new and just received from the Singer factory. I inquired the price and was told it was \$35. I bought one, and thinking the price astonishingly low, I inquired at the other stores and found the price the same, and had I so desired I could have purchased a dozen at that price. Now these merchants had paid freight for 5,000 miles, and a heavy import duty, on these machines, and yet could sell them at a profit for \$35."

A GOOD STORY

The Kansas City Journal (rep.) is greatly exercised. As the Journal puts it, "the editor of an Indian Territory paper can not see how the tariff protects the farmer." Concerning the Indian Territory editor, the Journal says: "He is very probably honest in his position, though he is putting charity to somewhat of a strain when he declares that 'a farmer who can be a republican is one of the curiosities of the political situation.'"

That reminds us of a story which Judge Joseph E. Ong, formerly of Nebraska, but now of Colorado, was wont to tell.

A democratic orator was addressing a crowd in Indiana and said: "Now I am going to put to you farmers a question which I want you to think over for several days, and then if you can give me an answer, write to me at my home. The question is: 'What is there a farmer sells which he gets more for, and what is there a farmer buys which he gets for less, on account of a high protective tariff?' Think of this and answer at your leisure."

Several weeks later this democratic orator received a letter from an old farmer, who had been one of his audience, and the letter was about as follows: "Dear Sir: When you were down in Indiana several weeks ago, you asked: 'What is there a farmer sells that he gets more for, and what is there a farmer buys that he gets for less, on account of a high protective tariff?' Well, sir, I have been thinking about that question ever since, and I have come to the conclusion that there isn't a dar-darned thing."

"PALPABLY FOOLISH"

The Omaha Bee published approvingly a letter from a man in Kearney ridiculing the idea that Swedes in this country are sending money to banks in Sweden for safekeeping. "Such an assertion," says the learned contributor, "is so palpably foolish that one would hardly care to discuss it if the World-Herald did not give it such prominence."

The World-Herald, with great pleasure, presents the following extracts from pages six and seven of the last annual report of the postmaster general, submitted to President Roosevelt November 30, 1907:

"More than seven millions of immigrants landed in this country during the past ten years, and it has been demonstrated that in the aggregate immense sums of money have been hoarded or sent away by these people. In many instances it has been found that, for want of

postal savings banks, money orders are being bought, payable to the purchaser, good for one year. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, the postoffice department sent to European countries alone in the form of money orders, \$72,101,748.94. This money, while it was accumulating, would naturally have been placed for safety in the postal savings banks. In fact, it has been brought to my attention that money of the immigrants, on account of its possessors being ignorant of our language and suspicious of our private institutions, is being sent home in order that it may be placed in the postal savings banks of their native countries."

Is this statement of Mr. Roosevelt's postmaster general, buttressed by facts as it is, also "palpably foolish."

It bears out directly the point this newspaper was making. It explains why thirty-three of the banks of Sweden advertise in a single issue of a Swedish newspaper published in Chicago, for the deposits of Swedes who have made this country their home.

So extensive is the practice, not only among Swedes but among foreign-born citizens of other nationalities, that the postmaster general used the fact as a strong argument in favor of postal savings banks. It is, of course, equally strong as an argument for guaranteed bank deposits.—Omaha World-Herald.

PLATFORMS

A platform is binding as to what it omits as well as to what it contains. According to the democratic idea, the people think for themselves and select officials to carry out their wishes. The voters are the sovereigns; the officials are the servants, employed for a fixed time and at a stated salary to do what the sovereigns want done, and to do it in the way the sovereigns want it done. Platforms are entirely in harmony with this democratic idea. A platform announces the party's position on the questions which are at issue; and an official is not at liberty to use the authority vested in him to urge personal views which have not been submitted to the voters for their approval. If one is nominated upon a platform which is not satisfactory to him, he must, if candid, either decline the nomination, or, in accepting it, propose an amended platform in lieu of the one adopted by the convention. No such situation, however, confronts your candidate, for the platform upon which I was nominated not only contains nothing from which I dissent, but it specifically outlines all the remedial legislation which we can hope to secure during the next four years.—From Mr. Bryan's Speech of Acceptance.

NOT REVOLUTION BUT REFORMATION

The democratic party seeks not revolution, but reformation, and I need hardly remind the student of history that cures are mildest when applied at once; that remedies increase in severity as their application is postponed. Blood poisoning may be stopped by the loss of a finger today; it may cost an arm tomorrow or a life the next day. So poison in the body politic can not be removed too soon, for the evils produced by it increase with the lapse of time. That there are abuses which need to be remedied, even the republican candidate admits; that his party is unable to remedy them, has been fully demonstrated during the last ten years. I have such confidence in the intelligence as well as the patriotism of the people, that I can not doubt their readiness to accept the reasonable reforms which our party proposes, rather than permit the continued growth of existing abuses to hurry the country on to remedies more radical and more drastic.—From Mr. Bryan's Speech of Acceptance.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY DEFENDER OF HONEST WEALTH

We may expect those who have committed larceny by law and purchased immunity with their political influence to attempt to raise false issues, and to employ "the livery of Heaven" to conceal their evil purposes, but they can no longer deceive. The democratic party is not the enemy of any legitimate industry or of honest accumulations. It is, on the contrary, a friend of industry and the steadfast protector of that wealth which represents a service to society. The democratic party does not seek to annihilate all corporations; it simply asserts that as the government creates corporations, it must retain the power to regulate and to con-

trol them, and that it should not permit any corporation to convert itself into a monopoly. Surely we should have the co-operation of all legitimate corporations in our efforts to protect business and industry from the odium which lawless combinations of capital will, if unchecked, cast upon them. Only by the separation of the good from the bad can the good be made secure.—From Mr. Bryan's Speech of Acceptance.

JUSTICE TO ALL

Recognizing that I am indebted for my nomination to the rank and file of our party, and that my election must come, if it comes at all, from the unpurchased and unpurchasable suffrages of the American people, I promise, if entrusted with the responsibilities of this high office, to consecrate whatever ability I have to the one purpose of making this, in fact, a government in which the people rule—a government which will do justice to all, and offer to every one the highest possible stimulus to great and persistent effort, by assuring to each the enjoyment of his just share of the proceeds of his toil, no matter in what part of the vineyard he labors, or to what occupation, profession or calling he devotes himself.—From Mr. Bryan's Speech of Acceptance.

THE DIVINE LAW OF REWARDS

There is a divine law of rewards. When the Creator gave us the earth, with its fruitful soil, the sunshine with its warmth, and the rains with their moisture, He proclaimed, as clearly as if His voice had thundered from the clouds, "Go, work, and according to your industry and your intelligence, so shall be your reward." Only where might has overthrown, cunning undermined or government suspended this law, has a different law prevailed. To conform the government to this law ought to be the ambition of the statesman; and no party can have a higher mission than to make it a reality wherever governments can legitimately operate.—From Mr. Bryan's Speech of Acceptance.

THE SINGING STARS

They sweep out of the centuries, the stars that journey high—
They trace the path of ages, of eternities gone by;
They move through seeming silences across the field of night
And fling along the leagues of space their flames of living light;
But somewhere in the heart of things no wall of silence bars
And in a wondrous cadence rings the singing of the stars.

A thousand thousand stars there be, and thousand thousands more.
To fleck the skies we may not see, to gleam in heaven's floor.
And they go jewelling the years, these lustrous gems of time—
The stars that glow where no man peers—what long, long heights they climb!
The hazy, distant dust of light by unknown suns bepearled
Sings on forever through the night that shrouds another world.

The stars whose song we can not hear—they roll through realms unknown;
Adown the ages, clean and clear, they send their marvel-tone.
And none may know the melody they are decreed to hear
Into the centuries to be, from centuries that were.
For they know neither time nor space, beginning, halt nor end—
But we who dumbly mark and trace, we can not comprehend.

They sweep out of the centuries, the stars that come and go.
They mirror the eternal seas whose age-tides ebb and flow—
And always, always as they run, they touch the chords of time.
And star and star and sun and sun make harmony sublime.
For while long dead creations slept the stars have journeyed on
And with their primal chant have kept the drum-beat of the dawn.

—Chicago Post.