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DUNNE REPORTS PROGRESS

At the Jefferson club banquet (Chicago, September 12) Mayor Dunne reported progress on the traction question. He pointed out that the city claimed title to about one-third of the trackage, the franchises for which either had expired or would expire within two years. He explained his plan to lease these lines to a company temporarily upon terms which will enable the city to control the corporation during the lease, give the city the receipts above running expenses and interest (an amount which it is estimated will pay for the road within eight years) and permit the city to take over the lines at cost, plus interest, as soon as it can legally do so. The democrats present at the banquet received the mayor's plan with great enthusiasm, and applauded his expressed determination to continue the fight for municipal ownership in spite of the opposition presented by the traction companies. It is fortunate for Chicago that her interests are in the hands of so faithful a public servant as Mayor Dunne is proving himself to be.

If he is embarrassed by the impatience of some of the advocates of public ownership he can find consolation in the fact that all reformers have had the same experience, but the voters will stand by him if he continues to show, as he has in the past, that his only purpose is to serve his people and guard their interests.

DESTROYING THE SILVER DOLLAR

A Washington dispatch says that the suspension of gold and silver coinage at the mint is occasioned by the fact that the stock of silver bullion is entirely exhausted. It suggests that a scarcity of small coin may warrant the recoinage of silver dollars into subsidiary coin. The question whether the government will add to the supply of subsidiary coin by the purchase of more silver bullion or by the recoinage of silver dollars has not yet been settled. In fact, the republican leaders seem to be afraid to re-open the silver question. If the policy of recoinage is adopted, it is only a question of time when the full legal tender silver will be converted into subsidiary coin and each dollar so recoinage will reduce the standard money of the country. Will the republicans attempt this stealthy reduction of the volume of standard money?

A REMINISCENCE OF 1896



They were so concerned about the National Honor that they forgot their own

THE PRICE OF A SOUL

(The following article was written for a religious periodical but was refused publication because of the Rockefeller paragraph. Not being willing to omit that paragraph or to write for a publication that gave to Mr. Rockefeller's business methods even a negative endorsement Mr. Bryan asked for the return of the article.)

What is a soul worth? This is not a new question; it was asked nineteen hundred years ago by One who could measure with accuracy the value of the immortal part of man. Christ presents an unanswerable argument when he inquires: "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul? Or: What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Is man ever tempted to part with this priceless possession? Is he ever tempted to put anything above it? The Master never wasted time or words. The fact that He called attention to this subject is proof positive that the world needs the warning uttered by Him.

In complying with the request of the editor of the ——— for a brief article, I do not know that I can do better than to suggest a few ways in which a soul can be bartered away and then point out the relative insignificance of the things sought in exchange for it.

Will a man put a price upon his soul? Probably not, if the proposition is presented to him bluntly, and yet many who would be indignant at the question if clearly stated do actually enter into negotiations, although sometimes they are scarcely aware of the nature of the trade.

Tolstoy says that the crime begins not when the murderer takes the life of his victim but far back when he decides to ignore the promptings of his conscience and to follow his selfish impulses—the final act being but a natural result of his earlier determination. And so it may be said that a man puts a price on his soul when he deliberately prefers anything else to its highest welfare.

Among the things that have been weighed in the balance against the soul may be mentioned money, social position and political power. Money deserves the first place because it not only tempts more people but because it is often used to purchase both social and political prominence. So ruinous is greed that "love of money" has been described as "the root of all evil." Certain it is that love of money has in a multitude of cases silenced conscience, and never seemingly more than now.

Mr. Rockefeller is at present the target of,