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"BATTLING FOR THE PEOPLE"

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, a republican paper, says that the issue of the congressional campaign will be the trusts. The Globe-Democrat then makes these remarkable statements: "A victory for the democracy this year would be a victory for trustism in the most offensive shape in which it can present itself. Behind every democratic candidate for congress will stand the resources and the power of the packers' combine, for the Hills and the Morgans of the Northern Securities company, which Roosevelt overthrew in 1904, and the rest of the aggregations of consolidated capital whose existence will be menaced if the republicans win. Against the banded barons of corporate greed the republican party is battling for the industrial freedom of 85,000,000 of Americans in the congressional canvass of 1906, and the fight which it is preparing to put up and the principles which will be involved will make the contest memorable."

Comment upon such statements as these is unnecessary. They serve to give a fairly accurate idea of the estimate which some of these republican editors place upon the intelligence of the people.

WHAT ECKLES MEANT

Referring to the democratic nomination for 1908, James H. Eckles of Chicago, who was controller of the currency under the Cleveland administration, said: "The desirable qualities in such a candidate would be a belief in those things which are absolutely democratic and are wholly removed from populism. The democratic party can win if it is willing to be democratic; it can not win if it is not democratic."

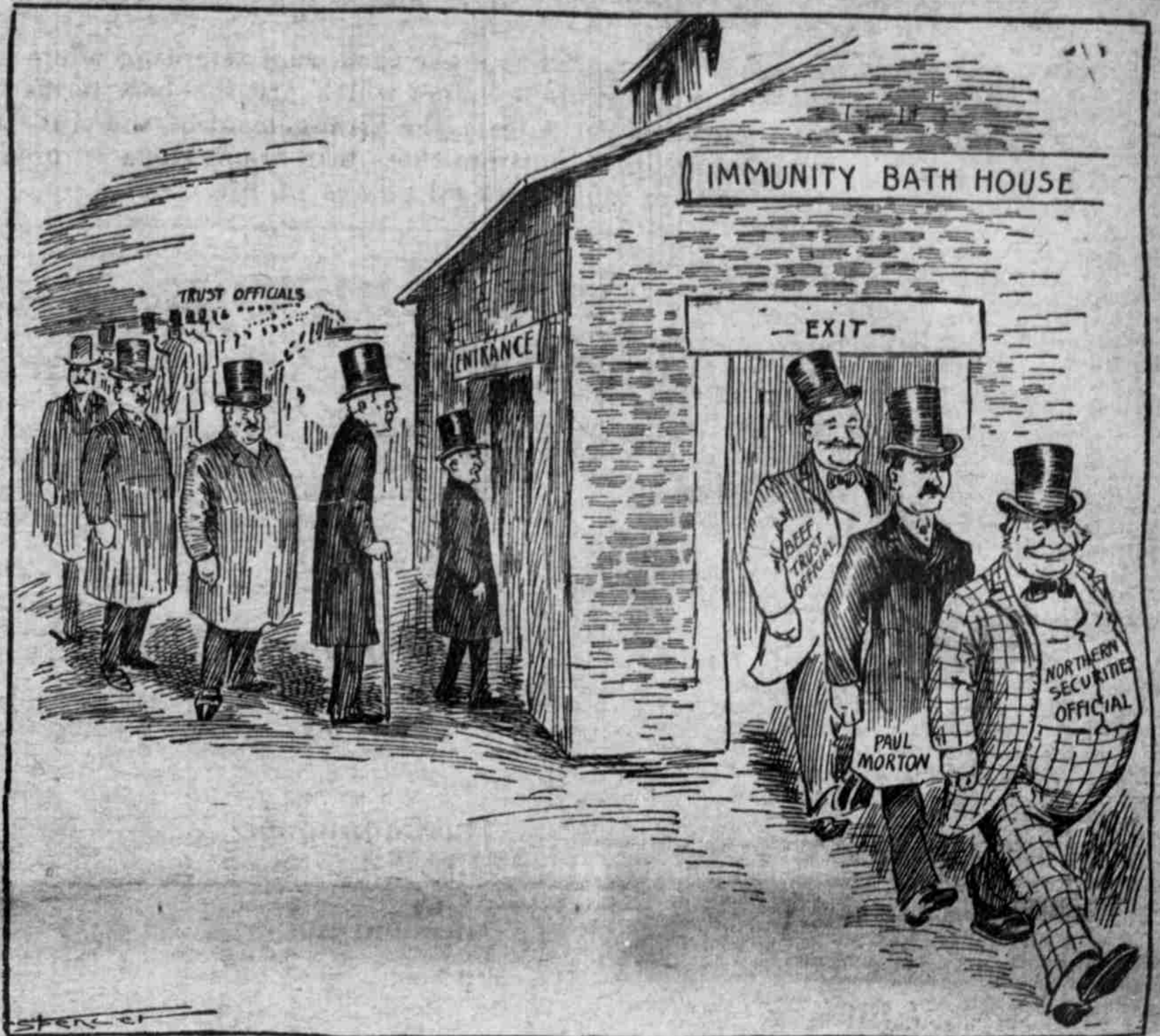
Thomas Kendrick of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, referring to this statement, says: "I don't quite understand it. Will you please explain just what Mr. Eckles means by being willing to be democratic. And what is 'wholly removed from populism?'"

By "absolutely democratic" Mr. Eckles means absolutely subservient to special interests. By "wholly removed from populism" Mr. Eckles means entirely free from the temptation to sympathize with the oppressed, and an indisposition to deny the divine right of the oppressor.

ROLL CALL IN WASHINGTON

At the Jefferson banquet of the Douglas club, held at Springfield, Mass., April 2, former Congressman John R. Thayer—according to the New York World—said: "A United States senator said to me 'Thayer, it is so rotten in Washington that when the roll is called in congress I don't know whether to say present or not guilty.'"

Yet there are some eminent republicans who urge the people to "let well enough alone."



PLUTOCRACY AT THE BATH

The Philippines—The Northern Islands and Their People

Mr. Bryan's Thirteenth Letter

While a deep interest in the political problems tempts me to deal at once with the policy to be pursued by our government with respect to the Filipinos, I am constrained to proceed logically and discuss first the islands and their people. And in speaking of the Filipinos, a distinction should be made between those who inhabit the northern islands and are members of one branch of the Christian church and those who inhabit the island of Mindanao and the Sulu Archipelago—people who are followers of Mohammed. While a considerable number of Filipinos are to be found in Mindanao and some in Sulu, the Sultans and Datus have dominated the country. Even Spanish authority never extended over the southern islands and the garrisons maintained at the seaports were constantly in fear of massacre.

Leaving the southern islands for the next article, I shall confine myself at present to Luzon, Panay, Negros, Cebu, Samar and the smaller islands which make up the Visayan group. These islands contain the bulk of the territory, a large majority of the people, most of the material wealth and practically all of the civilization of the Philippines. Luzon, the largest of the entire group, reaches almost to the nineteenth parallel and is about six degrees long. Like the islands of Japan, it is mountainous and well watered. The other islands of the group are considerably smaller and extend as far south as the ninth parallel. They, too,

are mountainous, but the valleys are fertile and support a large population. The principal industry is agriculture, and the soil produces a variety of cereals, fruits and vegetables. Rice, as in other oriental countries, is the chief article of food, though hemp is by far the largest export. The hemp plant looks so much like the banana that the traveler can scarcely distinguish between them. Sugar cane is also grown in many parts of the islands and would be cultivated still more largely but for the low price of raw sugar. Sugar, however, can not be raised here with the same profit that it can in Hawaii and Cuba owing to the fact that it must be replanted more frequently. Tobacco of an excellent quality is produced on several of the islands sufficient to supply the home demand (and nearly all Filipinos use tobacco) and leave a surplus for export.

The cocoanut is a staple product here of great value and its cultivation can be indefinitely extended. Of all the crops it probably yields the largest income on the investment, but as the trees do not begin to bear until they are about eight years old, they are only cultivated in small groves or by those who can afford to wait for returns. Copra, the dried meat of the cocoanut, is now exported to the value of two and a half million dollars, but systematic effort ought to very largely increase this export.

The methods of cultivation and the implements used are not as modern as one would expect. The carabou, or water buffalo, is the one