

our behalf, and as a matter of economy it might be cheaper to put the Datus on the pay roll than to suppress them by force of arms. His salary, however, is probably due as much to his being the head of the church as to his fighting qualities.

We sailed from Malbun to the Bornean coast in order to take a steamer for Singapore, and as we are studying colonialism, it was probably fortunate that we did, for we found a few foreigners developing North Borneo with Chinese coolies, the natives being lost sight of entirely.

At Sandakan there are thirty-eight English, two Germans and two thousand Chinese, but we searched in vain for a native. In and about Kudat, another Bornean port, there are twenty-two Europeans and ten thousand Chinese, and here we found only a few of the original inhabitants. At Labuan there are about twenty-five foreigners, and the local business is in the hands of the Chinese and East Indians.

I refer to the plan of development adopted in those parts of Borneo at which our steamer stopped because they throw light upon the colonial question with which we have to deal. Having described briefly, but as fully as space permits the conditions as I found them in the Philippines, I shall devote the next article to a discussion of the policy which should be pursued by the United States in regard to them.

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#### THE INDIANA PLATFORM

The platform adopted by the Indiana republican state convention is particularly interesting because of the fact that in Vice President Fairbanks Indiana has a candidate for the republican nomination in 1908.

The Indiana platform favors the regulation of railroad rates "in such manner as to prevent any discriminations and insure equality of service to all upon just and reasonable terms." It insists that such regulation "must be effected so as to operate justly upon the shippers, the common carriers and the body of the people," but it fails to say where the Indiana republicans stand on the vital question, "Shall the rate as fixed by the commission remain in effect until final decree of court?"

The platform is particularly strong for "the time-honored republican doctrine of protection," and declares that the republican party is "the friend of the protective policy through good and evil report," adding that it "can be trusted to make changes in tariff schedules whenever more good than evil will result." A very general demand is now being made for changes in tariff schedules. This demand comes not only from democrats, but from a considerable number of republicans. But the republican congress is deaf to the appeals of the people, and we have the right to infer that in the Indiana republican view the tariff barons, rather than the people, are to be the judges of whether tariff revision will result in more good than evil.

The platform approves such reciprocity with other nations as will increase our foreign trade "without injury to American industry." And from the record of the republican party we have the right to infer that the tariff barons in this country, rather than the people, are to be the judges whether any particular reciprocity proposition will work injury to American industry.

The platform favors the enactment of laws to protect the people against "the encroachments of combined capital," but adds: "We realize that capital must combine in a lawful way successfully to conduct our modern industries, and we believe in protecting it in its legitimate functions." Mr. Roosevelt is indorsed for "rigidly enforcing the anti-trust laws," and his administration is approved and applauded in all its details.

Altogether the Indiana platform is a thoroughly "let well enough alone" affair and indicates, it may be assumed, the lines upon which Mr. Fairbanks prefers to fight in his campaign for the presidency.

#### FAITHFUL IN SMALL THINGS

Recently The Commoner spoke of a Louisville printer who had worked for more than a half-century on the Courier-Journal and retired on a pension. His faithful discharge of his duties was recognized by his employers and he can look forward to a restful old age. Attention is now called to the death of Richard C. Jackson of Kansas City, another man who was faithful in small things.

Mr. Jackson was connected with the post-office department and had spent upwards of forty years in the postal service. During those forty years he rendered faithful and efficient service, and won many promotions. But when he

died only a few knew he had passed away. His fame was not world-wide. Instead of being known to thousands, he was known only to hundreds. But the hundreds who knew him knew that he was a faithful employe. And it is—such that the world owes its greatest debt of gratitude.

The world has been benefited by men who by some manifestation of unusual ability have conferred great good upon society. But the good thus conferred is small when compared to the benefits given by the faithful thousands who, in their limited spheres and in quiet way, faithfully perform the duties imposed upon them. The Man of Nazareth recognized this great truth and gave expression to it when he gave the parable of the talents: "Thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things." Men who have gained wealth and station may think that men like Richard Jackson were failures in life. But men who measure life by service rendered to the world will believe that these men have achieved success because they were faithful in the discharge of every duty that came to hand.

#### CAN IT BE?

An Orient, Iowa, reader directs attention to the March 15 issue of "The Iron Age." Referring to "the steadily increased supply of gold" the Iron Age says:

"As this precious metal is the world's standard, it follows if its production increases beyond commercial and financial needs for it as currency or the basis for currency that there can be but one result, and that a falling in the value of gold itself as a purchasing power, which can only be shown in one way, since gold is the standard—the rise in the value of those things which it buys. Unlike the useful metals, the discoveries of new bodies of precious metals seem to be proceeding faster than even the actual demand, so that the possible scarcity of the useful metals, on one hand, and the growing supply of gold, on the other hand, promise to change and possibly, for a time at least, arrest that downward trend in prices which has been so marked for so many years and which finds so many striking illustrations in the hardware market."

Can it be possible that these men who so boldly maintain the quantitative theory in this day were the same ones who in 1896 denounced that theory as absurd?

In reading some of the republican confessions of the day democrats must pinch themselves in order to be assured that they are not dreaming, but are really perusing republican editorials of 1906 rather than democratic arguments of 1896.

#### TESTS

A French scientist claims that by fixing a comfortably padded leaden plate over the ear, and passing an electric current through it he can produce "all the characteristics of a smile." This scientist may find in America numerous tests for his scheme. He might try it on:

The managers of the Watch Trust and other tariff barons while engaged in reading the speech delivered recently in the house by Henry T. Rainey of Illinois.

The republican reader who, after condemning Judge Humphrey's decision in the beef trust case is confronted with Attorney General Moody's decision in the Paul Morton case.

The men who, during the recent campaign, shouted loudly for District Attorney Jerome under the impression that he meant what he said.

The American voters who in 1896 regarded the insurance and trust magnates as "defenders of national honor" and are now sufficiently wide awake to see through a stone with a hole in it.

The policyholders of the Equitable who imagined that Thomas F. Ryan paid \$3,000,000 for Equitable stock which provided a legitimate income of \$3,500 per year merely for the concern he had for society and the deep affection he bore the policyholders.

The men who insisted that if the packers were discharged through the blundering of Garfield, Garfield would be retired from the public service.

The men who accepted seriously the republican pledge that that party would revise the tariff whenever the public interest required revision.

The men who believed that the republican plea "let well enough alone" was made with patriotic purpose rather than in the interest of those bent upon plundering the public.

The men who, while admitting that figs can't

be gathered from thistles were made to believe that a political party obtaining its campaign funds from special interests could be depended upon to protect the public welfare.

The farmer on the treeless plains of the west who is compelled to pay tariff tribute to the lumber trust on the one hand and the barb wire fence trust on the other hand.

The laboring man who must pay a tariff tax in order to avoid the competition of pauper-made European goods while compelled to suffer the competition of the imported European pauper.

The newspaper editor who advocates a high protective tariff while paying tribute to the news print and wood pulp trusts.

The republican members of the lower house of congress who must beg a tyrannical speaker for the small privilege of advancing the interests of the people whom they represent.

#### AT THE WRONG END

The Chicago Chronicle rejoiced in the thought that the president would "administer a rebuke" to certain writers "who have prostituted their cleverness by accepting subsidies for blackguarding people in the pages of certain cheap magazines." We can imagine the Chicago Chronicle's pleasure in the thought that President Roosevelt would attack the magazine writers who have exposed graft in high places. Just now the owner of the Chronicle is living under something of a cloud, the result of the awakening of the American people to a realizing sense of the wickedness of certain forms of high finance and political manipulation. Some people may believe that Lincoln Steffens, Ray Stannard Baker, Thomas W. Lawson and others have been guilty of "blackguardism," but a vast majority of the people are of the opinion that Messrs. Steffens, Baker and Lawson have only made short excursions into the broad field of graft exposure. President Roosevelt should attack the matter at the other end, and instead of denouncing the writers who have been exposing graft and political chicanery, use his whip of cords on the backs of the men who have already been exposed.

#### ELECTIONS AND LEGISLATION

If a corporation has the right to appropriate money to aid the republican party to win elections when the officers and trustees regard republican victory as essential to the corporation's welfare, why has it not the right to give money for use in the legislatures of the various states in order to defeat legislation which its officers regard as detrimental to the interests of the corporation they serve?

Corporations are creatures of law, and are created for certain specific purposes. For the best of reasons their activities must be confined to their legitimate sphere. Men serving as trustees for a corporation whose stock is owned by democrats as well as by republicans, have no right to vote away money for the benefit of a partisan political party. They do a wrong to their stockholders but they do a greater wrong to the public generally, because the corporation which, as a rule, grows into a powerful concern must be barred from political activities if popular government is to be preserved.

#### NO APPEAL FOR GOVERNMENT

A Dresher, Nebraska, reader writes: "Will you kindly explain in your paper how it was that Judge Humphrey could dismiss the case against the packers so that it could not be appealed? Why could not that case be appealed the same as any other? I will be grateful if you will show what authority he had to dispose of the case."

The case under consideration was a criminal proceedings, and in such cases there is no appeal for the prosecution. Had a verdict of guilty been rendered against the packers they would have the privilege of taking an appeal to a higher court.

#### "THE BRIGHTER DAY"

The Prisoners' Aid Department of the Salvation Army has begun the publication of a little newspaper with the title of "The Brighter Day." The newspaper is unique in that it is the only paper published for circulation among the inmates of prisons, reformatories and jails. Its aim is to help the unfortunates and make easier the task of battling with the world. The little paper is filled with good cheer and seems well calculated to perform the mission for which it was founded. The Commoner wishes it unbounded success.