

The Commoner.

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"THE ALDRICH PARTY"

The Sioux City (Iowa) Journal (Rep.) insists upon calling it "the Cummins party" in Iowa. When will the Sioux City Journal consent to the republican party in the nation being called "the Aldrich party?"

If the party in the Hawkeye state is to bear the governor's name because he is its master there, with what reason shall we object to the party in the nation bearing the name of the man who measured swords even with the occupant of the White House, and proved himself to be the master of the party in the senate?

NOT FRIENDLINESS

The Kansas City Journal (Rep.) says: "The legitimate friendliness of the government for silver is shown by the fact that Secretary Shaw is redeeming silver dollars in gold. When 100 cents is behind 51 cents' worth of metal, it shows that silver is tolerably safe yet."

It was only a few days ago that Secretary Shaw announced that silver dollars would be redeemed in gold; but never in the history of this government has a silver dollar, clothed with full legal-tender powers, gone to a discount.

The fact that Secretary Shaw ordered that silver dollars be redeemed in gold was not a sign on the administration's part of friendliness for silver. It is part and parcel of the plan to retire and destroy the silver dollar which, even when it has had less than "fifty-one cents worth of metal" has been not only "tolerably safe" but absolutely safe.

"INSPECTORLESS" INSPECTION

The failure of the Milwaukee Avenue bank of Chicago, the "Stensland bank," again calls attention to the flagrant disregard bank inspectors have for their duties. It is entirely within bounds to say that one-half of the bank failures during the past decade could have been prevented if inspectors had performed their full duties. In the case of the Chicago bank above mentioned the old and easily detected plan of using fictitious names, or the names of obscure individuals, on loans whereby the money was abstracted by the dishonest bank officials, was resorted to. This could have been detected in the very start had the inspectors performed their duties. Now that the officials have fled with the money the inspectors have no difficulty in detecting the plan followed. Their examination of the wrecked bank discloses what should have been plain at the time, that even as far back as 1901 the bank's accounts were \$250,000 short. Thorough inspection is the only safeguard of those who are depositors in banks, and the people who pay for this safeguard have a right to demand that it be a safeguard in fact as well as in name.



THE REPUBLICAN PARTY PRODUCING REFORM LEGISLATION—



AND THE REPUBLICAN PARTY TELLING ABOUT IT.

Before and After Talking

IN THE LAND OF THE TURK

Mr. Bryan's Thirty-third Letter

I was unable to crowd into the last article all of our experiences in the land of the Turk, so I devoted it to Constantinople, leaving to this paper the discussion of the sultan, his religion and his government.

Abdul Hamud Kahn II. is the present sultan of Turkey. He is sixty-three years old and has occupied the throne for nearly thirty years. His family has been supreme in Constantinople for twenty-four generations—ever since the taking of the city by the Mohammedans. He is not only an absolute monarch throughout the domain of Turkey, but he is the spiritual head of the Moslem church. His power is really due more to his religious position than to his sovereignty. He is credited with doing more for the spread of education than his predecessors, but he can hardly be called an enthusiastic patron of learning. He endeavors to maintain cordial relations with European powers and is on especially good terms with Emperor William. When he wants to show himself friendly to a nation he appoints some representative of that nation to a place in the army, navy or other department of the public service at a high salary, and he gives decorations to such foreigners as he desires to honor.

Every Friday about mid-day he goes to a mosque near the palace to pray and the occasion is one of great interest to those who are fortunate enough to obtain admission to the grounds,

as his journey from the palace to the church is a brilliant pageant. Tickets of admission must be secured through the diplomatic representatives and we are under obligation to the American legation for an opportunity to be present.

As early as eleven o'clock, bands, companies of infantry, troops of cavalry and bodies of police could be seen marching toward the mosque. From the right, over a hill, came the cavalry mounted on white horses and carrying pennants of scarlet upon their spears; from another direction marched the custodians of the sacred banner, a flag of black silk with texts from the Koran embroidered upon it in silver, then others and still others came. Before time for the sultan to appear several thousand soldiers had assembled and been assigned to their respective stations by officers in attractive uniforms. Drawn up several lines deep they guarded every entrance to the sacred precincts.

It was a gorgeous spectacle, for the Turk is a fine looking soldier. This may account for the tenderness with which the sultan is handled by the "powers." And there was sufficient variety in the uniforms to lend picturesqueness to the scene. The invited guests occupied a large front room and an adjoining garden from which they had a clear view of the broad street, freshly sprinkled with sand, and of the mosque about a block away. When all things were in readiness the