

desire. Jefferson emphasized this doctrine when the people of France called Napoleon to the throne, and it has Bible sanction as well, for when the children of Israel still demanded a king even after Samuel explained what a king would do, he was told to let them have their way.

The next day we put on our best clothes and joined the line that passed before the king and queen. It was not a very satisfying experience, but it is worth something to know how such things are done and, I may add, the more an American sees of it, the more he appreciates the simplicity of public life in his own country.

Norway, in spite of the choosing of a king, is the most democratic country in northern Europe. She has no nobility, confers no titles and had to go outside of her own realm to find one of royal birth. She had her kings and princes in the early days, but one Norwegian statesman explained to us that when they lost their privileges they emigrated to America and went to farming. The choice of a Dane was not strange, if a king was to be chosen from without, for Norway was united with Denmark for more than three centuries, and there has always been a friendly feeling between the two countries. It was expedient, too, under the circumstances, to offer the crown to the son of the Danish king, for this brought Norway's throne into kinship with the thrones of England and Russia as well as with that of Denmark. In fact, the circumstances and the situation had a good deal to do with the four-to-one vote in favor of a monarchy. When it is remembered that Norway's paramount aim was to secure independence and that this might have been jeopardized by an attempt to establish a republic at the same time, it is really surprising that one-fifth of the people had the courage to vote to plant a republic amid surrounding monarchies. There are many in Norway who prefer a president to a king and who object to having two and a half millions of people taxed nearly two hundred thousand dollars a year to pay the salary of a kingly figurehead, but the monarchists reply that the king's position is purely ornamental and enables the government to maintain cordial relations with other European countries while the people govern themselves through the storting. They point out that the king has much less power than our president. While this is true, they forget that a president elected by the people and holding office but four years can be trusted with more executive authority than an hereditary monarch. The storting has absolute power, and as its members are elected by universal suffrage every three years, and as there is but the one parliamentary body, public sentiment finds prompt expression in the government. It can be truthfully said, therefore, that with the exception of the executive branch of the government, Norway is thoroughly democratic and that the influence of the king is reduced to a minimum.

Norway has a promising future. Her people are hardy and intelligent. Education has been compulsory for fifty years, and it is the country's boast that it spends more per capita on schools than any other country in Europe. Because of Norway's immense shipping interests she demanded a separate consular service, and it was the refusal of Sweden to consent to this that led to the separation. Now that her destiny is in the hands of her own people, much is to be expected of her. Her sons and daughters, those who have emigrated to America as well as those who have remained at home, prove to the world that it is possible for a people to acquire the refinements of civilization without losing their original strength and vigor.

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#### THE WAGES OF DISHONESTY

The suicide of Hipple, the criminal proceedings brought against several of those who are held to be responsible with him for the wrecking of the Real Estate Trust company of Philadelphia, and the arrest, in Morocco, of Stensland of the Milwaukee Avenue Bank of Chicago, are calculated to make people think about the wages of dishonesty.—Wall Street Journal.

True! And the moral can not be too often emphasized. But when people remember the many instances of graft and embezzlement revealed, say during the past year; when they recall the misappropriation of policyholders' money by insurance officials—misappropriations in which the republican party itself was the direct beneficiary; when they see all the laws enacted for the protection of the public from the encroachments of great corporations violated with impunity—the anti-rebate law utterly ignored, the

law prohibiting conspiracy in restraint of trade ruthlessly violated—when they see these things and then observe that none of the individuals responsible for this gigantic wrongdoing have been sent to jail, the people may be pardoned if they reach the conclusion that under the republican administration prison sentence is not part of the wages of dishonesty.

#### NO SECRETS FROM DEPOSITORS

The Wall Street Daily News in its issue of September 17, has an editorial entitled "An Admission of Weakness." This editorial refers to an action recently commenced by a banking institution against a former paying teller, which action seeks to compel the former teller to give accounting of where he obtained the moneys he deposited in other banks and with which he purchased real estate. The bank found such proceedings necessary because of its inability to say just when or how its former employe abstracted this money, although the bank officials were convinced that their teller had grown rich at the bank's expense. But the Wall Street News thinks that the bank officials made a serious mistake in beginning these proceedings. The News thinks there should be some way to remedy the trouble, but contends:

"If, therefore, banks are powerless against the unlawful desires on the part of their employes and can find no way to remedy the trouble, it would be an act of wisdom to lock the fact away in their private vaults, both on account of the public and the employes concerned."

This is strange advice to be given by a publication that is presumed to stand for the interests of the depositors as well as for the interests of the bankers. Should not the depositors, and all who trust their money with a financial institution, be informed of all losses to which the institution has been subjected? Is it not, indeed, a sound proposition that the bank officers have no more right to conceal from their depositors the losses they have sustained than a teller has to conceal from the bank officials his losses on the board of trade, and his shortage in the funds entrusted to his care?

The editor of the Wall Street News would better advocate publicity, for that financial institution is in a bad way whose officers have secrets they can not share with their depositors.

#### THE NATIONAL PASTIME

The great national game, baseball, seems to be more popular this year than ever before. It is the cleanest of our professional sports, and cleaner than very many of our amateur sports. In fact, baseball is a game that appeals to every age, to both sexes and to all communities. The season just closed has been a profitable one in professional baseball circles, and satisfactory to the public. The game has been brought up to the standard that appeals to rightminded men and women, and the hearty patronage has convinced managers that their interests demand that they keep the game clean and free from rowdyism.

Other games may come and flourish for a season, but baseball seems to have come to stay. When the first balmy winds of spring blow from the south the Rusies and Waddels and Lajoies of the future may be seen playing on the vacant lots, on the commons, behind the country school house and in the crowded streets. It takes a chilling frost to end the season, and then the winter hours are beguiled with tales of prowess on the diamond during the season just ended. It is a noble sport, and lovers of clean athletics hope that it will remain clean and free from those things that have destroyed other outdoor sports.

#### DANGEROUS

Although Mr. Bryan is not a candidate for office he is now described as "a dangerous man," and it is noticeable that this description comes from men who in 1896 claimed that the Hydes, the McCurdys and the Depews stood for national honor.

There were in Mr. Bryan's 1896 speeches many references to this charge that he was "a dangerous man."

For instance, in a speech delivered at Battery D, Chicago, during the 1896 campaign, Mr. Bryan said:

"They tell you that I will not enforce the law. My friends, the fear of these people is not that I will refuse to enforce the law; their fear

is that I will enforce the law. They know that I entertain old fashioned ideas upon this subject, and that according to my ideas the big criminals should wear striped clothes as well as the little criminals. I want to say to you that I believe in enforcing the law against all classes of society, and those who believe in that policy are better friends of the government than those who would make scapegoats of little criminals and then let the big ones run at large to run the government itself. The very men who would suffer most from the enforcement of law are the ones who seem to be most troubled. They are not afraid that I will encourage lawlessness, but they know that, if I am elected, the trusts will not select the attorney general."

At Ottumwa, Iowa, Mr. Bryan said: "My friends, you have been told that I am a dangerous man. There is nothing in my past life, either public or private, that justifies any citizen in saying that my election would be a menace to law and order, or to our form of government, or to the welfare of society; but there is much in what I have said and done to create a suspicion that my election would be a menace to those who have been living on what other people have earned."

#### THE CHAMPION HEN

The department of agriculture is getting right down to business and showing renewed evidences of doing something to warrant the expenditure of the money given into its care. It is going to considerable expense to locate the champion hen of the country, and when it is found a suitable prize will be bestowed upon "Biddle." It is high time, too, that the merits of the faithful old hen be acknowledged before the world. The egg crop of the country has afforded untold happiness to the wives and daughters of the American farmers, to say nothing of the delights enjoyed by the business man in the city when the freshly laid eggs, properly cooked, are placed before him at his morning meal. The faithful old hen has tided many a family over hard places. She has laid the foundation of many a fortune while laying the eggs for which she is famous the world over. The egg and poultry crop of this country runs into the millions, and compares favorably with the total output of our gold and silver mines. If there is a creature on earth deserving of homage, that creature is the patient, persevering and ever faithful old hen.

#### NOT A MISTAKE

Senator Beveridge predicting intervention in Cuba says: "But when we have once more done that work we will never again let it be undone. We have made a mistake once; we will not make that mistake twice. If the American flag again goes to Cuba it goes to stay."

Senator Beveridge may yet discover that public sentiment in America does not harmonize with the Indiana senator's opinion, that the United States of America made a mistake when, redeeming the pledge they had given through the Teller resolution they won the gratitude of the Cuban people and secured commendation from the leaders of thought throughout the civilized world.

#### BEVERIDGE, TOO

In his speech delivered at Chicago, September 22, Senator Beveridge of Indiana said: "When these managers (of railroads) treat their trusts as their private affairs to be conducted for independent profit alone, government regulation is needed, but not government ownership, unless government regulation fails."

"But not government ownership, unless government regulation fails," said Senator Beveridge.

Very well. We will all be for government regulation, and will give it a fair test; and then when it fails Senator Beveridge must help bring about government ownership for he promised as much in his Chicago speech.

#### SURPLUS AND DEFICIT

A Boston, Ind., reader writes: "What was the surplus in the United States treasury at the expiration of the Cleveland administration, March 4, 1889, and the deficit at the close of the Harrison administration, March 4, 1893?"

The surplus at the end of Cleveland's administration on March 4, 1889, was approximately equal to \$84,186,890. There was a deficit at the end of Harrison's administration March 4, 1893, of a sum approximately equal to \$3,589,691. This was shown by the treasury's books.