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A PALPABLE HIT

In an editorial entitled, "Wages Delusion," the Louisville Courier-Journal makes an interesting answer to a republican newspaper that claimed that the cotton mill operators in North Germany get only \$191.04 a year, while in America they get \$304.57.

The Courier-Journal says: "It looks a little queer to see arguments for protection made on the ground that it gives our laborers \$304.57 a year. There are 313 working days in a year, barring holidays with pay, so that the wage is less than a dollar a day. Now a farm laborer at \$20 a month and board gets \$240 in money, and the board would, even at a low rate, bring the total up as high as that of the cotton-mill operator. It is well known that the farm laborer has no protection, and it is hard to see how the cotton-mill operator gets any benefit from it. Laborers in many unprotected employments get more than a dollar a day. Moreover, the owners of cotton mills import laborers free from foreign countries. If the protective tariff makes prices of commodities high—and we know it does—why is there not a tariff on imported labor? That is the logic of protection to labor by a tariff, if it is to be done at all, but the fact of it is that it is not intended to make labor high. The men who make this argument in order to get labor support are the same men who import foreign labor to keep down the prices they must pay to laborers at home. They are the men who sell to customers in America steel rails for \$28 a ton, and sell them abroad at \$20 or \$22, making a big profit on an article which confessedly costs about \$16. The argument that protection makes high wages is a ridiculous fallacy. They have always been higher in America than in Europe. But in Europe the highest wages are paid in free-trade England, and the countries where they are lowest have the most rigid systems of protection."

THE MONEY MARKET

The Pittsburg Dispatch complains of the "tightness of the money market" and offers as proof the fact that the cities of Pittsburg and Allegheny offered four per cent bonds aggregating \$1,800,000 and did not receive a bid. Then it proceeds to blame the railroads for this state of affairs. A day or two before these bonds were offered and no takers in sight, the state of Nebraska went into the open market and bought a big lot of Idaho state bonds in competition with eastern bidders. The state of Nebraska has also bought Massachusetts bonds recently, these investments being for the state school fund. Perhaps it is not a "tightness of the money market" that is responsible for the failure of the two Pennsylvania cities to get a bid.



THE PLEA OF THE PARTISAN

"LET THE PEOPLE RULE"

Mr. Bryan's Speech at Banquet Given by People's Lobby at Newark, New Jersey, May 1, 1907

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: I shall speak until half past one—

A Voice—As long as you like.

Mr. Bryan—I am informed that you have to take the cars over here at half past one—

A Voice—Or walk home.

Mr. Bryan—And I do not want to talk after the cars leave.

I would thank you for waiting so long, and would appreciate it as a compliment to me if I did not know that you have been entertained by speeches during this long wait and have thus been well repaid for the waiting.

I am very glad, indeed, to take part in a non-partisan demonstration of this kind. I have so many opportunities to be partisan that I welcome an opportunity to be non-partisan, although I am not sure that I need to make much change in my speech.

I find it very difficult to be partisan now even when I want to be, for if I make a straight-out democratic speech, the first thing I know the president makes one of the same kind and then the subject immediately becomes non-partisan.

I was at a banquet at Washington two years ago last January where the president was the chief guest. It was a banquet given by the Gridiron club, and that club, as you know, is made up of newspaper men and they are the brightest men we have in the country. The Gridiron club banquet is, I think, the most delightful thing of the kind in the world. It is the custom at such banquets to spring jokes upon the guests and at this banquet the newspaper men were joking the president about what he was taking from the democratic platform, and when it came my time to speak, I referred to the

matter also. I said that I had not felt so good in Washington for years as I did then, to find that things that I had been advocating—and had been called an anarchist for advocating—had been made respectable by being advocated in high places; I enumerated several things that had been taken from our platform, but assured the banqueters that I did not speak of these things in a complaining way. Our platform was made for use and if we can not get a chance to use it, we are glad to have any one use it who will.

It rejoices me to see our opponents joining with us in the support of these reforms. It rejoices me so much that if I can not take back what I have said about the republicans I do not feel like saying it again. In fact, I am about in the position of the young fellow who courted his girl for a year before he had the courage to propose to her; one evening he made bold to tell her that he loved her and to ask her to marry him. She was a very frank sort of a girl and replied: "Why, Jim, I have been loving you for all these many months and I have just been waiting for you to tell me so that I could tell you." Jim was overcome with delight; in the fulness of his joy, he went out and, looking up at the stars, exclaimed: "O Lord, I hain't got nothin' agin nobody." That is the way I am beginning to feel, and it is mighty nice to feel that way after so many exciting campaigns.

I am glad to come over into New Jersey and join with these democrats and republicans who are more interested in carrying out an idea than they are in winning a barren victory for any party. I am glad that there is a contest in the republican party between the reformer and the standpatter. It is a good sign and I can