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HELP OKLAHOMA

The Oklahoma election will take place September 17. It is plain that in the pending Oklahoma campaign the democratic party stands for the people while the republican party represents the special interests.

The Commoner invites the attention of the democrats of the nation to the fact that the Oklahoma democracy is in need of financial assistance. Oklahoma democrats have many obstacles to overcome. They have arrayed against them the powerful influence of all the public service corporations of the state and the national administration, with every federal official in the vicinity actively engaged in the effort to bring about a republican victory. Then the republican party has all the money it can conveniently use.

Oklahoma democrats feel that they will win, but they will leave no stone unturned. They are entitled to some substantial assistance from the democrats of the nation. If every democrat who reads this article will contribute a small sum Oklahoma democrats will have ample funds with which to pay the legitimate funds of their campaign.

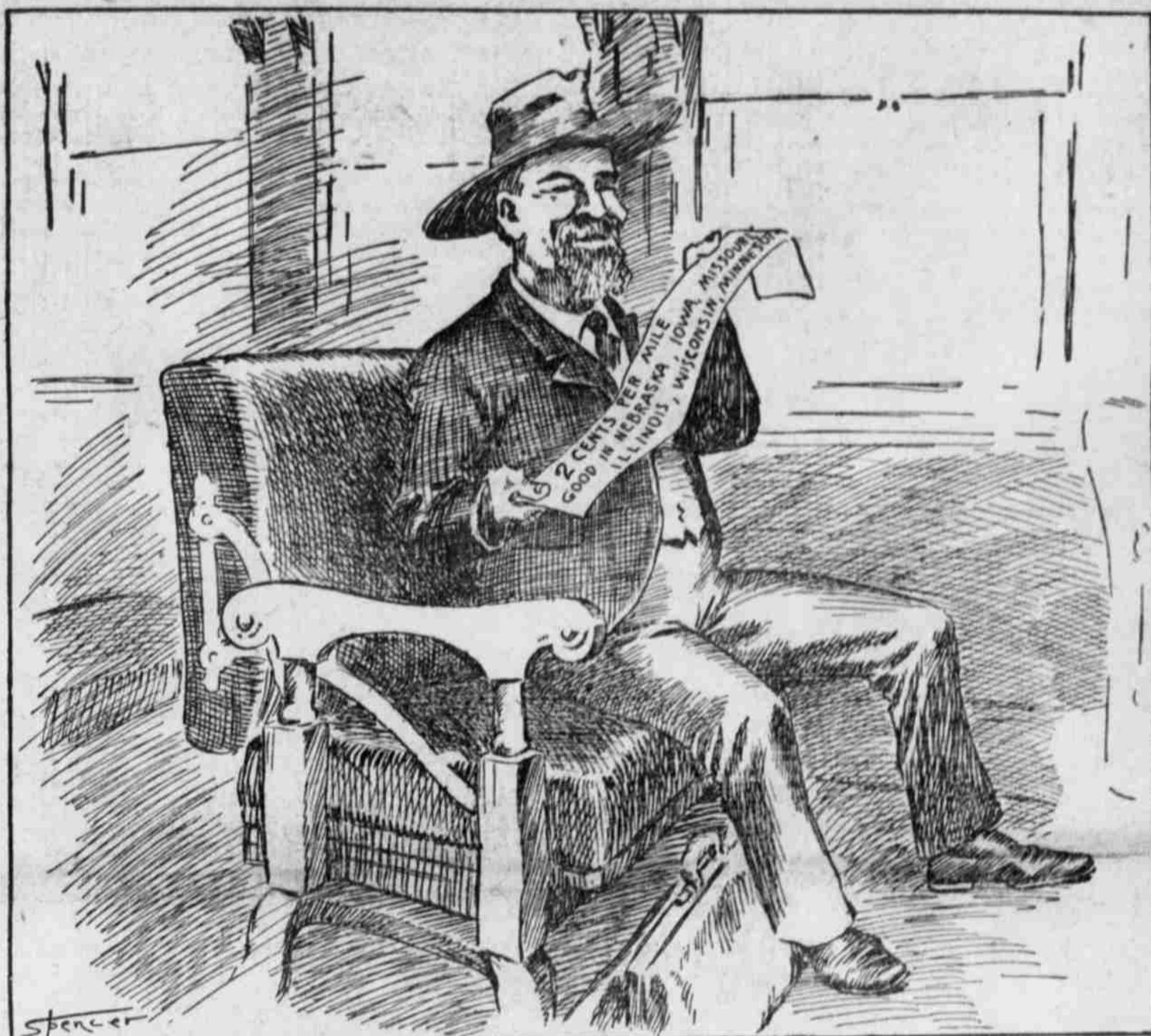
Such contributions may be sent to Ed. O. Cassidy, chairman of the Oklahoma state democratic executive committee, care Lee Hotel, Oklahoma City, Okla.

UNMINDFUL OF WARNINGS

The Chicago Tribune in defending imperialism cites Egypt, Macedonia, Rome, England, France and Germany as nations that "have occupied foreign territory and governed alien peoples in the interest of commerce and civilization." The first three have already fallen and the others are inviting disaster. The Tribune is not only unmindful of the warnings of history, but it is indifferent to the advice of Lincoln, who declared that we could not destroy the spirit "which prizes liberty as the heritage of all men in all lands everywhere" without "planting the seeds of despotism at our own doors." Man has not changed much; human nature is quite the same. The man who denies the principles of self government when applied to others can not defend them with any force when he seeks to apply them to himself. Who would have thought, ten years ago, that imperialism could find apologists in the United States?

A NEW QUESTION

If, as it seems, the reading public has lost interest in the New York World's famous question, "What is a democrat?" that great newspaper might provide an interesting symposium from answers to the question, "Why does the New York World show signs of uneasiness every time the railroads are hit?"



ADVOCATES OF EXCLUSIVE FEDERAL REGULATION PLEASE NOTE

RAISING A FALSE ISSUE

Error always employs deception. Nothing is more fatal to a false doctrine than to have it clearly stated and the defenders of a false doctrine admit this when they studiously misstate the issue. The St. Louis Globe-Democrat furnishes an illustration of this. In an editorial entitled "The New Irrepressible Conflict" the Globe-Democrat takes Governor Glenn, Governor Comer and Governor Swanson to task for prosecuting the railroads and declares that these governors are assisting the doctrines that led to the civil war. The charge is not true and the Globe-Democrat confesses the weakness of its position when it attempts to present a false issue. Neither Governor Glenn, Governor Swanson nor Governor Comer has disputed the supremacy of the federal government in the regulation of inter-state commerce. The question involved in North Carolina and Virginia is, have these states the right to regulate commerce wholly, within their borders?

A federal judge undertook, at the request of the railroads, to suspend the state rate law and to release persons arrested for violation of that law. The law had never been declared unconstitutional or confiscatory, but the judge ASSUMED that the exparte statement of the railroads was correct and proceeded to restrain the states. The governors decided to test the question, and the roads finally decided to do what they ought to have done in the first place, namely, comply with the law while they contested its validity through the regular channels.

Governor Comer of Alabama is testing another question, and this is the question which most disturbs the Globe-Democrat, namely, whether a state can forbid a corporation to transfer a case to the federal courts when suit is brought against it. The Alabama legislature

enacted a law forbidding the removal and providing for the revocation of license as a penalty. The Southern railroad violated the law and the road's license to do business in the state was revoked. Governor Comer is enforcing the law, and why should he not enforce the law? He swore to enforce the law when he took the oath of office, but probably the Globe-Democrat would have him read into such oath "except where the law concerns a railroad."

If a state creates a corporation can it not fix the terms on which it can do business? And if a state permits a foreign corporation to do business within its borders can it not prescribe the terms and compel compliance with those terms? And what requirement is more reasonable than that the corporation shall submit its controversies to the courts of the state? The state courts are less expensive and nearer to the litigants. A state acts not only within its rights but according to its duty when it protects its citizens from the vexation of litigation in federal courts.

The Globe-Democrat does not dare to state the issue as it is for then it would have to admit its sympathy with the corporations as against the people. To conceal its bias in favor of corporate aggression it refers to the war and appeals to prejudice. But its attempts will fail. Every state ought to have a law like that which Governor Comer is enforcing and every state ought to have a governor like Governor Comer. The republican readers of the Globe-Democrat in Illinois and Missouri are just as much interested as the democrats in securing protection from the delays, inconveniences and costs of the federal courts.

All of these controversies are hastening the day when the rights of corporations will be defined and their powers properly limited. There