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WILLIAM J. BRYAN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

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ALWAYS "MANANA"

A newspaper dispatch from Washington under date of August 10, 1902, said: "It is also promised that there will be some tariff revision after the November elections."

Commenting upon this promise The Commoner said at the time: "It is significant that every hope held out by republican leaders depends upon what the party will do 'after the election.'"

Since then there have been three congressional elections and one presidential election and now the tariff revisionists within the republican party are expected to accept without question the promise that the republican party will revise the tariff "after the presidential election of 1908."

◇◇◇◇ "PANIC"

In a newspaper interview John D. Rockefeller said: "Financial depression and financial chaos will be the effect of the runaway policy of the present administration toward great business combinations." And many of the newspapers that are now indignantly protesting against this plain effort to frighten the American people with the cry of "panic" were eagerly printing, with columns of editorial approval, the same sort of threats from the same source during the presidential campaign of 1896.

◇◇◇◇ WHERE?

Where is that "conservatism of the south," of which Wall Street has boasted? With Governor Glenn of North Carolina forcing the railroads to respect railroad regulation, Governor Swanson of Virginia compelling the railroads of his state to reduce rates and Governor Comer of Alabama revoking railroad charters it looks as if "radicalism" were rampant and the "demagogues" in control. Is there no place where predatory wealth can find a sanctuary? Must the big corporations at last obey the law?

◇◇◇◇ IMMUNE

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat says: "Oklahoma's new constitution contains upward of 50,000 words. Suspicion naturally points to Colonel Bryan."

Oklahoma's new constitution also shows a determination to bring the government closer to the people and to destroy the political influence of the special interests that prey upon the people. Suspicion does not, however, point to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.



G. O. P.—BE CALM, BE PATIENT; AFTER ELECTION I'LL THROW HIM OFF.

"Swollen Fortunes" and Property

The Wall Street Journal says that Mr. Roosevelt's repeated use of the word "swollen" is "becoming a little tiresome and painful to his (Mr. Roosevelt's) friends." The Journal admits that there are a number of "swollen" fortunes in the United States. It says:

"But there is a time for everything, and this does not seem to be exactly the time to raise a hue and cry about swollen fortunes. It should be remembered that the same principle upon which the fortune of \$1,000 depends for its protection is exactly the same principle which protects the fortune of \$100,000,000. If the fundamentals upon which the swollen fortune rests are weakened, the small fortune is put likewise in peril. At this time the rights of private property are under attack. An assault is being made, not merely against swollen wealth, but against all wealth privately owned and controlled. It is inconceivable that this attack should be successful, but it necessarily causes more or less uneasiness. It would seem to be the duty of statesmanship at this time to strengthen the foundations upon which the rights of property rest, rather than to give the slightest encouragement to its enemies."

The very time to direct attention to "swollen" fortunes is when those fortunes are being accumulated at a rate never before dreamed of by greedy men.

It is true that the principle upon which the small fortune depends for its protection is exactly the principle which protects the large fortune; and it ought to be true that the man

who acquires or hopes to acquire \$100,000,000 must, in the accumulation of his fortune, trust to the same principle through which his humble neighbor acquires his \$1,000.

Men who attack swollen fortunes are not assailing the rights of property. The foundations upon which the rights of property rest are not weakened by those who insist that no individual or set of individuals shall be given special privileges within—or without—the law. It was, we believe, J. Pierpont Morgan himself who declared that in the concentration of wealth he was "the precursor of socialism."

The real defenders of property are those who insist upon the destruction of any system whereby men take advantage of their fellows through laws enacted under the guise of patriotic legislation but for the purpose of granting special privilege.

Whenever any vested wrong is to be righted or any long standing abuse corrected, those who profit by the wrong or the abuse are prompt to pose as the defenders of property and to charge the reformers with attacking property rights. This is the historic attitude of those who oppose remedial legislation. The insincerity of the position taken is usually shown by the arguments employed by these self-styled champions of property, and one of the best illustrations of these arguments is to be found in the story of Demetrius, the silversmith. It reads as follows:

"And the same time there arose no small stir about that way. For a certain man named Demetrius, a silversmith, which made silver shrines for Diana, brought no small gain unto the craftsmen; whom he called together with the workmen of like occupation, and said, Sirs,