

members of the house had passed it? Was it a good bill? If so, what secret influence killed it in the senate? If the senate had been composed of men ELECTED BY DIRECT VOTE it would have passed the Littlefield bill; does the ex-congressman prefer a senate that has the "courage" to assassinate a measure in the public interest to a senate that would be afraid to oppose what the people want and need? Mr. Littlefield ought to be the last man to reproach the house with cowardice or to commend the senate for courage. Some change must have come over him—possibly this change may be explained by subsequent acts.

In the meantime, the fight for the election of senators by a direct vote of the people will continue. Those who believe that the people should think for themselves and then elect officials to carry out their wishes see in the popular election of senators a necessary step in the reform program—the gateway to other reforms.

THE LEADER VS. THE BOSS

The leader is not a man who thinks for the people but a man who thinks with the people. The leader is going in the same direction that the people are going—far enough ahead to be in advance but not far enough to be out of sight. The leader is not only in sympathy with the people but he relies upon persuasion to influence them. He presents his arguments to them but recognizes the right of the people to reject any proposition submitted by him. The leader's title to leadership rests upon his ability to propose the best thing at the right time and, as those who follow the leader follow him voluntarily, he must appeal to their conscience and their judgment. The leader is a moulder of opinion, and a moulder of opinion does not create public opinion—he merely expresses it in effective language. As Thomas Jefferson simply put into appropriate words the aspirations of the people, so, today, the leader—the moulder of public opinion—coins into current language the sentiment, like precious metal, which experience brings forth from humanity's great store house.

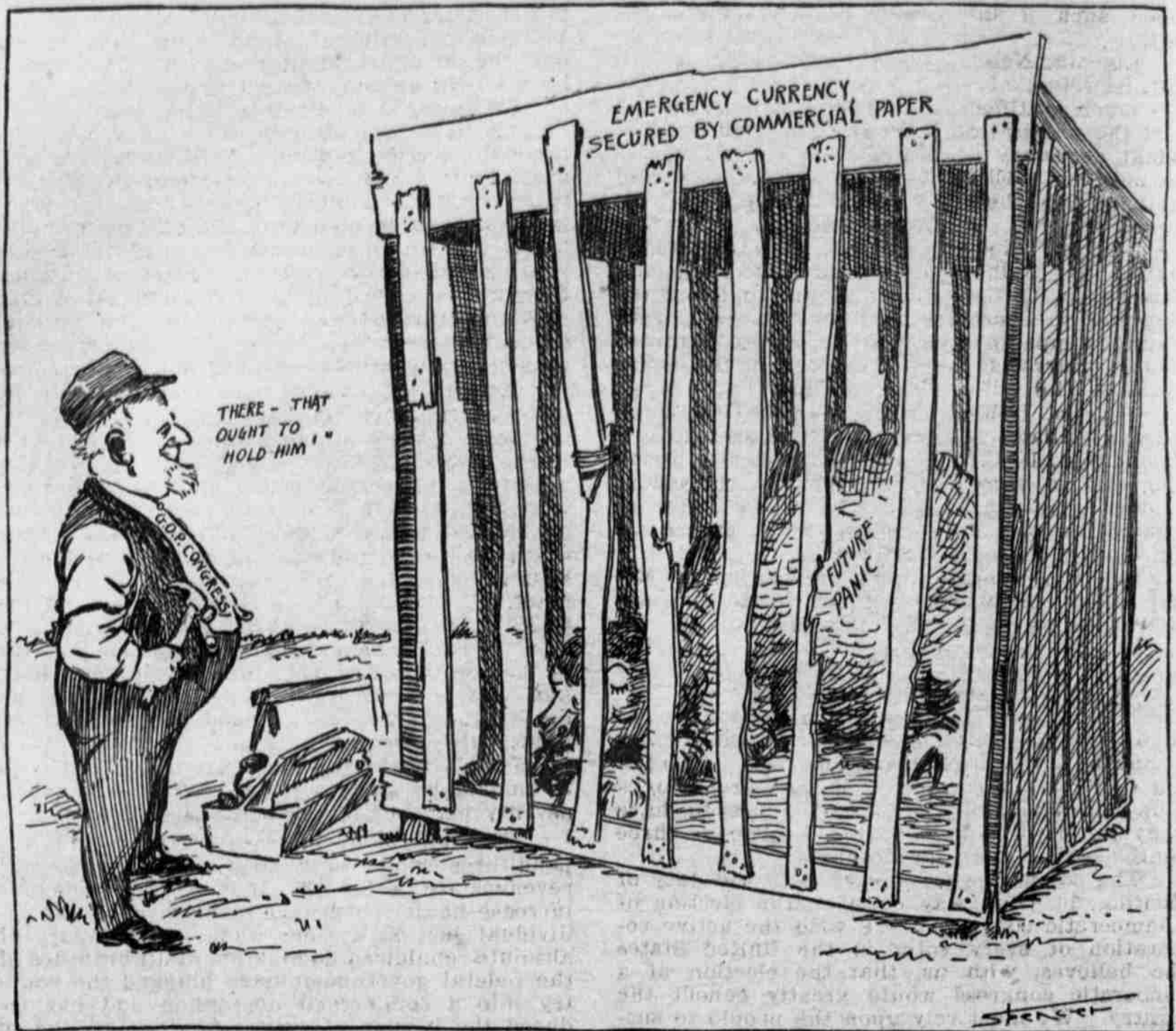
The boss, however, is an entirely different character—if the word "character" can be applied to one who is often without character. The boss has no sympathy with the people; he has his own interests to serve and whatever authority he can secure he turns to his private advantage. The boss is an embezzler of power and, measured by every moral standard, he is in the same criminal class with the embezzler of money. The boss has introduced bribery, corruption and intimidation into politics and he will go out when these are eliminated. "Let the people rule" is as much a terror to the boss as the commandment, "Thou shalt not steal," is to the thief. The spread of the primary is only a reaction from boss rule and, like every other plan for the bringing of the government nearer to the people, the primary system increases the relative influence of the real leader and lessens the influence of the boss.

THE OKLAHOMA WAY

The following report on an Oklahoma bank failure shows the way they do things in that democratic commonwealth:

"The International Bank of Coalgate was reported to the bank commissioner by one of his examiners a few days ago for violating the banking law of the state, particularly in its managing officers borrowing from the depositors' money.

"The bank commissioner at once visited the bank in person and found that the total deposits were about \$37,000, of which the president, L. A. Connors, owed over \$6,000, and the cashier, L. Elzy, owed over \$4,000—in other words, about thirty per cent of the deposits had been borrowed by the two managing officers. The bank commissioner demanded that they immediately replace the money. They failed to do so. He closed the bank at 2:15 Thursday evening; telephoned the state banking board; received instructions to immediately proceed to pay all approved deposits. In forty-two minutes from the closing of the bank the bank commissioner was ready to pay approved deposits. By Friday evening sixty per cent of the depositors had appeared, proved their claims and received their money. By the end of the second day ninety per cent of all deposits had been paid. A few depositors who live in the country don't seem to be in any hurry about drawing their deposits. ONE FARMER IS REPORTED AS



THE MONSTER CAGED!

ANSWERING OVER THE RURAL TELEPHONE THAT HE IS TOO BUSY TO COME AFTER HIS MONEY, BUT WILL WANT IT IN A WEEK OR SO.

"In the meantime both the president and the cashier have been arrested for the violation of the state banking law, and are held under heavy bond.

"There will probably be no loss to the state guaranty fund, and no assessment required on other banks. Liquidation will likely reimburse the state fund within thirty days. The loss will probably not exceed the capital stock."

ALL ARE "SATISFIED"

In an editorial entitled "Bryanism as a Trust Asset," the New York World undertook to show that the democrats should repudiate "Bryanism" because Wall Street was satisfied with Taft. Summoning the New York Times to its aid, the World said:

"The Times, in a single sentence, disposes of Mr. Bryan's delusion that the trusts are opposing his nomination:

"The trusts today do not want Mr. Bryan elected, but they want him nominated because they are entirely satisfied with Mr. Taft and they know Bryan is the weakest candidate the democrats can name."

"A hint to the same effect can be found in Henry Clews' speech before the Manchester Economic club Wednesday night.

"It may surprise some to learn that the great power concentrated in the president's hands by congress has made the great corporations, including the railway companies and banking institutions, ambitious and eager to control the federal government itself, and they are resolutely working to control it as far as they can by the force of capital, but as unobtrusively as possible."

"Already they are sub rosa powerful political machines. In this connection it is significant that some large railway and banking interests have identified themselves with the Taft movement."

Less than sixty days ago the New York World practically announced that it would support Mr. Taft. And now comes the World with the admission that the trusts are "entirely satisfied with Mr. Taft" and that these interests

"have identified themselves with the Taft movement."

If there are men who, in years gone by, had respect for the New York World's pretensions but now believe that the World's policy is controlled by certain special interests and that for this reason alone the New York newspaper will give its support to Mr. Taft then the World has only itself to blame for its unenviable plight.

Poor old New York World! It has some well-earned credit marks. But now that it has been unmasked even the good it has done in certain particulars does not serve to protect it from the jibes of men of all parties who despise hypocrisy even though they pity the hypocrite.

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS

The following telegraphic correspondence explains itself:

Lincoln, Neb., May 25, 1908.—Secretary William H. Taft, Washington, D. C.: I beg to suggest that as leading candidates in our respective parties we join in asking congress to pass a bill requiring publication of campaign contributions prior to election; if you think best we can ask other candidates to unite with us in the request.—W. J. Bryan.

Washington, D. C., May 26, 1908.—Hon. William J. Bryan, Lincoln, Neb.: Your telegram received. On April 30th last I sent the following letter to Senator Burrows, the chairman of the committee on privileges and elections of the senate: "My Dear Mr. Burrows: I sincerely believe that it would greatly tend to the absence of corruption in politics if the expenditures for nominations and elections of all candidates and all contributions received and expenditures made by political committees could be made public both in respect to state and national politics. For that reason, I am strongly in favor of the passage of the bill which is now pending in the senate and house, bringing about this result so far as national politics are concerned. I marked this letter personal because I am anxious to avoid assuming an attitude in the campaign which it is quite possible I shall never have the right to assume, but so far as my personal influence is concerned, I am anxious to give it for the passage of the bill. Very sincerely yours, William H. Taft." Since writing the above, in answer to inquiry I have said publicly that I