"If the People Rule Why Don't They Get What They Want?"

are a good many reasons "why the tariff. United action by the cotton people don't rule." Abraham Lin- planters, by drastic measures in coln, than whom no greater statesman since his election as president, placed capital secondary to labor, such employment. Should they con-Now the dollar is considered before spire to hold their product, the the man. He believed in the honesty and sincerity of what present day republicans designate as the common herd and incapable of self government. Mr. Lincoln was always guided by public opinion and of a higher morality. He was the leader in formulating that opinion, and as he was honest, he believed in the honesty of the people and in their capacity. He viewed and deprecated the rise of the capitalistic class as more dangerous to the perpetuity of the union than was the rebellion. Republicanism since his time, has dwindled until it has degenerated into a political cesspool, and men seek office for the graft it affords them. Insurgency in the republican party will never cleanse that political cesspool, and if the insurgents want genuine progressive reform they will have to become democrats. United action by them and their constituency with democrats will produce beneficial results, otherwise their endeavors will be failures. We have had presidents far more tion-a painfully slow and heartdeserving of impeachment than was Andrew Johnson, men who violated said that "Life is just one d-d their oath to support the constitution thing after another." How approand the congressional laws enacted priate that is applied to our political thereunder. The people do not as life! How do we learn? During or they should hold the big stick and after the silver campaign of 1896 the as capital and corporation influences dominate the government, and in my opinion (which may be sneered at) such domination will be continued would knock the persimmon, but it if the present administration retains didn't. I think the next campaign its usurped power until overthrown was won by the slogan of the "Full by revolution. Then they who Dinner Pail," coupled with the brought on the storm will meet the threat, that if Bryan was elected only be held in power by misleading Now it seems that that was a fallacy. their partisans by false and malicious One of the surest ways to learn anystatements, promises made which fail thing is first to learn how not to to materialize, that employment of do it. There is only one drawback labor depends on high protection to it, and that is, that before we (the tax of which enriches the bene- learn all the ways how not to do it ficiaries and impoverishes the many), we are dead. As long as labor has it only requires that they who labor no more self-respect and manhood be educated to have knowledge of than to "lick the hand that smites," present conditions. Labor will find as they did the last election, they do employment whether we have a tariff not deserve "a full dinner pail." But or do not have it. The cotton crop I firmly believe, that in another genof the south protects the labor in all eration, this will be a pretty good the industrial mercantile corpora- country to live in. And all brought

J. N. K., Carthage, Mo .- There tions of the country, and not the their power to adopt, would show the fallacy that protective duties give courts might decide against their conspiracy as in restraint of trade; and the conspiracy entered into by Aldrich, Payne & Co., and their beneficiaries in the late law of tariff enactment comes under alike in restraint of trade and in discrimination between citizens. Multiplicity of commissions, of new offices, giving greater patronage to the administration, increases its hold of power and prevents rule of the people.

W. F. Hood, Animas Forks, Colo.-If the people rule! It is to laugh, or swear, as one is inclined. I have not been able to express my opinion concerning the last presidential election (to say nothing of the three previous ones) in writing that would pass the United States mail inspectors. Ignorance and prejudice on the one hand, and deceit and cunning on the other, is the reason why the people do not rule. So it is selfevident that the remedy is educabreaking process. Some wag has do not rule. They never will so long Hon, C. S. Thomas of Denver said: "The people will have to think it out through their stomachs." Now one would think that that method cyclone. When a political party can they need not come back to work.

and recall, which being interpreted, means the people rule. Even then the millineum will not be at hand, simply because humanity is not perfect and probably never will be, but words, the mistakes will not be as by and for the people. now-malicious deceit-as exemplified in the Payne-Aldrich tariff law, and such would-be laws as asset cur- Let Me Send You rency, ship subsidy, and the lack of such laws as the income tax, inheritance tax and any other honestly enforced tax law. If our laws reflect public sentiment, what a fine aggregation of rascals we are. We are as bad as the fellow who was slightly under the influence of John Barleycorn and robbed his own trunk. But we are not all drunk. After the nation has had the initiative, referendum and recall for a few years we will abolish the American house of lords, not only as undemocratic, but infernally expensive, especially when you consider how they are elected. Forty dollars per vote in a general election would spell quite a sum. The reason the people don't rule is there are too many who believe that "Jones pays the freight," and that the tariff is not a tax. In regard to the latest fallacy, which I suppose will last about a generation (and the democrats are about as deep in the mud as the republicans are in the mire) is this, that the tariff must only cover the difference in cost of production at home and abroad. Again, it is to laugh. Is the wage paid per day the only factor to be considered? Perish the thought. It is a fact conceded by all that the efficiency and daily output of the American steel worker and the factory worker is several times that of the daily output per man than of any country on the earth. Furthermore, if this is not true, how can we undersell the foreigner at his of labor production! Rats! hour, yes, all hours. That is good rids the system of the poisonous time. The children are not ready coupon lelow. for that yet. They like to be humbugged too well.

R. W. Safford, Moscow, Idaho .-In answer to the question put by Senator Owen, I wish to say that to assume that the people rule is delusion, for a majority of the people will assert that we do rule. Now for some of the reasons why we do not rule: Apathy and indifference; a subsidized press; party prejudice, caused by listening to one side; intimidation and coercion of employers, and the influence of the many thousands of federal employes who desire to hold their jobs. All these together with the subtle influence of money used to corrupt the people and the law-making bodies are reasons why the people do not rule, and for the same reasons do not get what they want, or in other words what they ought to have. Apathy and indifference we might point out as a prime cause why the people do not rule. With a great many voters he who serves them is only a passing incident, while with the privileged class who profit by legislation it is a constant thought with them and quite important who is elected to the legislature and to congress. Here is where the subsidized press that ning water. is independent between times comes to the scratch in the campaign and bargains; call or address Wm. M. Hosier, Waldo Ark.

about by the initiative, referendum chain is no stronger than its weakest link," and the government is no stronger than the people make it. I am a firm believer in the initiative and referendum and believe when it becomes the universal law of the then all mistakes will be of the head land and firmly adhered to we will and not of the heart. In other come nearer having a government of,

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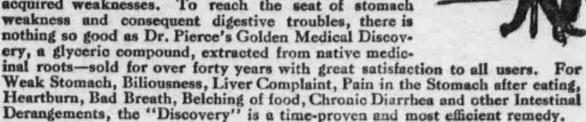
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