## THE WEALTH MAKERS.

New Series of

THE ALLIANCE-INDEPENDENT. Consolidation of the

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Business Manager GEORGE HOWARD GIBSON...



## N. I. P. A.

"If any man must fall for me to rise, Then seek I not to climb. Another's pain ose not for my good. A golden chain, robe of honor, is too good a prise To tempt my hasty hand to do a wrong Unto a fellow man. This life hath woe Sufficient, wrought by man's catanic foe

and she that bath a heart would dare prolong Or add a sorrow to a stricken soul That seeks a healing balm to make it whole? My bosom owns the brotherhood of man." Publishers' Announcement. The subscription price of THE WEALTH MAE-is \$1.00 per year, in advance.

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THE columns of this paper will continue open to those who may wish to condemn and criticise us, but we ask all others to forbear writing anything for publication that bears on the controversy over which good men will be sure to differ with increasing bitterness if words from both sides are allowed to multiply.

"Think of the lofty foreheads of the world, That gleam like full moons through the night of time,

Holding their calm, big splendor steadily. Forever at the toss of history,-Think ye they rushed up with a suddenness Of rockets sportively shot into heaven, And flared to their immortal places there?"

Can God's wisdom fail? Never. But God's wisdom will not save us from human folly.

Can the faithful reformer please everybody? No. He must be "despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and

A WORD of apology is due our many local cast of this number of THE WEALTH Makers. It is not in variety a sample number, we desire those to know to whom this issue is their first.

WE greatly appreciate the compliment, coming from the source it does, when the Farmers Tribune, of Iowa, in its last issue refers to us in this way: "The reliable Populist state paper, the Lincoln WEALTH Makers, which is also one of the brainiest and most conscientious Populist papers in the Union." The words are from an article entitled, "Fusion in Nebraska."

PLEASE, may we say that Great Britain, France, Germany and Austria have for years had a government telegraph and telephone service connected with their government postal service, and that the people get all this service at cost, and that though it is "s-o-c-i-a-li-s-m" they are delighted with the cheap service and nobody complains? It is all in the Omaha platform, and Rosewater advocates the transfer of these great private monopolies to the government, and why can't THE WEALTH MAK-

THE Independent of New York, with whose financial and political ideas we seldom agree, asks:

What is the difference in the moral quality of the act by which a man of busess by shrewd devices secures, in a way that is not contrary to law, but contrary to morals, the rightful property of another, and the act of one who forcibly seizes it, or steals it outright? There is a difference in the eyes of the law, but not in the eyes of a righteous censor of con-

This is good doctrine enough for anybody. But the questions now remaining turn on the unsettled point of what "rightful property" is.

THE Supreme Court by a vote of five to four has decided the Income Tax to be unconstitutional and void. The entire act is annulled, the expressed will of seventy millions of people being set aside by five men's interpretation of dead men's ideas. One man's vote turned the scale. This is not a government of the people, but a government of judges whom rich men's candidates for president (no others have had any chance to be elected since Lincoln's time) appoint, to serve the class who run the machinery and dictate to the man who for life enthrones them. Now let the people cut off the stream of income by nationalizing and municipalizing monopolies. The only party that purposes to do that is the People's party.

## THE SCHOOL OF POLITICS

We ought to be taught much by reason. We ought to learn more by history and experience. The writer has a clearer vision than he had in '94, and he expects to know more in '86.

Do our readers care to compare views with us in the matter of what we consider right, wise and practical in politics? It can be briefly told.

We see very clearly that what is considered wise and practical by the politicians of old parties, would be most foolish and impractical, in the political leaders of a new party. What is a party? A political party has its origin in a distinctly moral conception, a conception of human rights. The moral truth which drew us together to form the People's party was the right of labor to its own. leading us to join hands and forces to overthrow the hydra-headed monopoly power. How can we grow legitimately as a party? By educating the people in justice, by showing them the forces of oppression, by calling their attention to the great streams and legally established channels which drain labor of its products and place them in the hands of a non-producing, and therefore non-return ing, class. Those who by a degree of monopoly power give less labor service for more, belong also to the non-returning, labor and liberty absorbing, class.) The legitimate work of a reform party is solely a work of education, and none other, such as trading and fusing, can be in any large and permanent way success-

Old parties may deceive the people and win success by so doing.

New parties must tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth-Old parties may be run as machines. New parties must be run by intelligent

majorities.

Old parties to succeed must select as leaders the men of most shrewdness and nower to deceive.

New parties to most quickly win should choose as leaders the men who have most wisdom and ability to enlighten. They should also be men of untarnished moral reputation.

It is an advantage sometimes to the leaders of a broken-up or broken-down old party to offer to endorse the reform party's candidates, for a consideration. But no consideration can be given for votes by a reform party which would not be a lasting injury and loss to it. No party that believes in its own distinctive principles and sees a moral justification for its being, can endorse the candidates of another party; and when such endorsement is given it is certain that a commercially valued consideration therefor is either promised or expected.

The leaders of a new party cannot meet the leaders of an old party, openly or secretly, and possibly gain anything of value out of them, either in bargainacquainted with grief." And his enemies | ing for political assistance, or in the will think they are doing God service in | hope of getting something for nothing. Such efforts on the part of reform party leaders are always unauthorized and wrong, and when they accomplish any-

> A reform party is composed of individuals who necessarily differ some in opinion. But the bond of union between them is the platform of principles the adopt. That platform cannot be dropped or altered, abridged or extended, by any conference or combination of leaders. It must stand as the will of the people until another like delegate couvention of the people revises it.

> The action of conventions, municipal, county, state and national, is supreme and final in the matter of placing candidates in the field. When candidates have accepted the nomination of conventions no committee, or self-constituted body of politicians, has any authority or right to override the people's expressed will and judgment. The candidates themselves, having once accepted nominations have no right to withdraw from the race either to please themselves or others. Loyalty to the people requires committeemen and unofficial members of the party to do all in their power to elect the men whom the people in convention have selected to represent them. (Known lack of character in a nominee is of course cause sufficient for scratching him from the ticket.)

The members of a reform party should one and all consider it a most important duty, which must not be neglected, to attend the primaries (where selfishness and corruption always creep in) and be sure that they are not grasped and manipulated by office-seekers. Attendance and vigilance at the primaries can alone preserve purity in a party. Look out for the men who are cunningly quick with a motion and the puppets who second it, who thus bring office-seekers into control.

A reform party always contains radicals and conservatives, with all shades of opinion between. The conservatives at the rear can scarcely be distinguished from the men in other parties. There fore never go to the tail end of the procession for standard-bearing leaders. If nominated, expect them to talk in the campaign half the time on the tariff (as the Democrats talk), and the other hall on silver (as both old parties talk), and entirely ignore the more important money, transportation and land de mands of the Populist platform.

Is the world coming to an end, that the State Journal should advocate, or seen to, government telephones? Somebody will please cry, SOCIALISM!!! With the Journal turning socialist the foundation

## REPLY TO SENATOR ALLEN

accords Senator Allen three or four columns of space this week in which to defend his fusion record and relieve his long pent-up feelings by telling our readers what he thinks of us and several other gentlemen.

Even at such cost of senatorial dignity, lost sight of in his wrath, it is a good thing just now to draw from him this delense of fusion, this free expression of what he considers party policy, and submit it to the people. The editor of this paper entertains no feeling of ill-will against Senator Allen, or any other man. He has not at any time done the Senator a conscious injustice, and he would hasten to repair a wrong if it were shown him. Whether we shall be able to justify our words in his sight or not, we can show that all we have said has been called forth by his own words, the uncontradicted words of his friends, and the testimony of other reputable witnesses.

Mr. Allen's letter carries the impression that the editor of this paper has given him only unfavorable, unjust criticism. Our paper has been regularly sent to his address, but he seems not to have read it until after his efforts to "harmonize" us with the Democrats-at any rate he never said thank you for our words of of praise and appreciation.

In looking back over the files of our paper we find under date of Feb. 15, 1894, this personal paragraph, written by myself, in an editorial referring to The Populist Wedge" in Congress.

The Populists of Nebraska are beyond words proud of Allen. His splendid abilities and learning, which command the respect of his enemies and make him the equal of any in debate—his unexpected familiarity with the financial question, the records of Congress and the schemes of the bond-holders for thirty years—his great knowledge of law-and his boldness in defending the people almost single handed against the old party leaders, the intellectual giants, have given him in a few short months nation-wide reputation, have brought honor to the Populist name, too, and made him the bright est hope and strongest leader of people. He impresses all with his honesty, his inir-mindedness, his regard for justice and truth; and his deliberation in speaking adds to the strength and impressive ness of his well weighed words. He seem now to be our mightiest man to lead us in the next presidential campaign.

In the June 14, 1894, WEALTH MAKERS is the following praise, by the same hand:

Senator Allen is compelling the respect of all parties. He stands easily in the highest rank of statesmen and he is continually surprising friends and foes who marvel at his encyclopedic, constitution al, legal and historic information. His activity in the Senate also indicates that for the legislature (which he acknowhe is doing an immense amount of work.

These are not the words of an enemy. Senator Allen had no better or more appreciative friend than the writer up to the time that he began his efforts to fuse and confuse us with our political foes. Until then we saw no reason to doubt that he stood squarely on the Omaha platform, and with that belief, justified by his profession and sustained by evidence of intellectual power, we attributed to him statesmanship, and hoped to find readers in other states for the strong thing result in injury instead of benefit. him another Charles Sumner who should command deliverance for the people.

In the July 19, 1894, WEALTH MAKERS

Some three weeks ago the National Watchman, printed at Washington, declared in an editorial that Weaver, Allen, Kem and McKeighan had entered into a fusion conspiracy with the Democrats, and quoted from the Farmers Tribune [Weaver's paper] language concerning Bryan which lent color to the charge so far as Weaver was concerned. We did not print We could not believe it. And we are glad to see in Tuesday's Democratic daily at Omaha a general denial on the part of our Nebraska congressmen and

We published second hand their denial, of July 10, and were glad to be able to. Later, however, Chairman Taubeneck writing to at least two men in our state, Hon. W. F. Porter and Judge W. F. Bryant, made statements concerning a great fusion scheme originated by Senator Gorman and other great politicians the truth of which has never been called in question by any one, to my knowledge. In Taubeneck's letter to Porter, dated Aug. 6, 1894, and printed in THE WEALTH MAKERS of Aug. 16, are the following paragraphs:

Senator Gorman, the shrewdest politician in the Democratic party, set out two years ago to turn the Populist uprising in the west to account for the Democratic party. Secretary Hoke Smith and others are co-operating with him. Their plan is to force fusion on the best terms they can with Populists in the west, givlocal offices for congressmen and United States senators. They will never fuse on Populist congressmen and senators, unless they are pledged to become Democrats when it comes to a policical show down. These western Democrats are to go into the south at the proper time and show that the Blands, Baileys and Livingstons would be called good Populists in the west, and that there is no occasion for the Democrats leaving their party. In this way the south is to be kept in the Democratic fold, and the western Populists turned into Democrats.

Our party has suffered much by having men in Congress and in the United States Senate who came here by the aid of Populist votes, and are afraid to open their mouths in criticism of the Democratic party. There is no enemy so dangerous to our cause as the one who profess our principles and remains in the camp

of the enemy. The Democratic plotters of Washing ton, D. C., are exceedingly anxious that the Populists in your district [the Third, where Allen was later defeated in convention in his efforts to "harmonize," fuse, the Populists and Democrats of his own district.-Editor WEALTH MAKERS.] nominate some one whom they can us to organize the next House. You cannot afford to nominate a man simply because he can get the Democratic endorsement.

circumstances would be suicide. The THE WEALTH MAKERS very cheerfully party that can be so deceived, is the one

that will be betrayed. Therefore I am much pleased with the position taken by you in your letter in THE WEALTH MAKERS. The word should be given out that Populists will not vote for any candidate unless he be a true and tried Populist. Weakness and cowardice at such a time as this is treason.

In Mr. Taubeneck's letter to Judge Bryant, of Hartington, written in reply to his request for our national chairman's views on fusion, the latter said, in part;

The moment you fuse with the Democrats you discourage Republicans from coming to us, and at the same time the Democrats will say: "Why should we join the People's party when they are coming to us and electing our men?" This will cut off our supply at both ends. The Democratic steering committee of the Senate realize that after the 4th of march they will lose control of that body unless they can secure two or three Sena tors from the west. They will move heaven and earth to win in order to secure one from Nebraska, Wyoming and Montana, and the only way to do this is by utilizing the Populist vote. Senator Morgan exposed their hand when he said on the stump in Alabama, that "the Populists of Nebraska will elect a senator next January, but he will be a Democrat when he comes to Congress.'

In the same letter Mr. Taubeneck said: The Nonconformist of Indianapolis dated August 2nd, exposes a fusion scheme in the west, which, I regret to say contains much truth.

Now observe the connections. The Nonconformist, the national organ, is in evidence that a fusion scheme, in part affecting the Third district and the State of Nebraska, was hatched in Washington, and our national chairman has confirmed the truth of it. It has never since been publicly denied by any one. The subsequent events showed Senator Allen and Congressman Bryan using their utmost influence and working together to carry out the Nebraska part of the scheme we were fore-warned against. As actions talk, we were therefore justified in crediting him with being intelligently a part of The Senator says he never at any time

"urged our people to fuse with the Democrats." The word "fuse" seems to prick him. Well, call it "harmonize," his word, a better sounding word, but, as he used it, meaning the same thing. He admits that he advised Populists to help elect Democrats in Douglas county and in the Third district, and does not consider that such advice reflects on either his moral character, political loyalty, or judgment. Why then should he feel that we have done him a great wrong in saying he advised Populists to vote for candidates ledges he did)? or that he did his best to carry out the fusion deal planued in Washington and exposed by Chairman Taubeneck (which he did, wittingly or unwittingly)? or that he tried to get Devine pulled off or to withdraw to appease the Democrats (which his words published indicate and his friend Mackay testifies)? As far as he could do so Senator Allen tried to carry out a fusion program-of Nebraska or national orig n. If he honestly did the work of shrewder excite pity. But considering his ability, that is hard to believe, especially as he is supposed to read the papers.

Take notice that so far it is not a question of dollars-and-cents-integrity that has been under discussion, but a question of fidelity to party, to the professed principles of the Omaha platform; a platform which separates our party from all other parties, and makes fusion on the part of the faithful impossible.

Now a word regarding the effort to get Devine to withdraw or to pull him off. Senator Allen conveys a false impression when he says Mr. Devine was defeated by over 2,000 more votes than Mr. Poynter. The vote in 1892 shows Poynter third in the race, his vote being 8,433, against 10,950 for the Democratic caudidate and 12,589 for Meiklejohn. The vote in '94 was 11,739 for Devine, 8,078 for Hensley (Democrat) and 16,626 for Meiklejohn. Devine gained 3,306 votes over the Poynter vote and brought our party, by the unparallelled gain of 35 per cent, up to second place. The Democrats dropped to third. And this in the face of Senator Allen's influence and an exceedingly bitter fight by the fusionists. Mr. Devine was defeated by 729 (quite a difference between that figure and 2,000) more votes than Poynter, but they would seem to have been Democrat votes, for the 2,871 votes that the Democratic ticket lost, Meiklejohn appears to have gained, in the increase of his vote over what he had in '92. It is a most remarkable showing that Devine's vote reveals under all the circumstances. In the Madison Reporter (Democrat) supplement issued a few days before election the editor, Dr. Mackay, Senator Allen's special friend, says Senator Allen, Chairman Edmisten, and others "asked him [Devine] to come to the convention at Omaha to withdraw in the interest of the state ticket." THE WEALTH MAKERS bad never read or heard any denial of the truth of this statement, and as Mackay has been rewarded instead of censurrebuked, slight inaccuracy (which seems from what Senator Allen says to be only technically inaccurate) it appears was not considered in any degree objectionable until THE WEALTH MAKERS repeated the substance of Mackay's plain, emphatic statement that Senator Allen was one

who asked Devine to withdraw. Senator Allen admits in his letter to us that he did say to a World-Herald reporter about Sept. 15: "In this district if both Mr. Devine and Mr. Thomas re-

main in the congressional race, Mr. Meiklejohn will be re-elected. There should be by all means a consolidation of the opposition vote to defeat him." And he says further that he did "join in a tele" gram with others to J. A. Grimison with a view of getting Mr. Devine to go to Omaha to see what could be done in the way of uniting the anti-monopoly strength of the Third district on one man.

That, Senator, is a smooth way of saying you wanted a leader's job of fusion. The conventions were past. The people had spoken, and they had spoken spired with a few others to set aside the people's will, regularly expressed in con-Edgerton our state chairman and secretary, but they did not confer on you or any one convention powers, authority to undo and reverse their work. Devine sion efforts and after-convention "bosshimself, having once accepted a nomination from the people's hands, had no right advice of individuals. He did not withdraw, and it was your duty, the duty of false to the party you profess allegiance to, and false to the people.

You charge me. Senator, with repeatedgress the Populist doctrine of government ownership of railroads. I cannot recall that I ever made one statement of the kind, and in the limited time at my disposal I have not been able to find the statement. I did find, however, in the ing you for presuming to report to the world on the floor of the U. S. Senate, as "the substance of the doctrine of the Populist party in this country," a carefully written and numbered thirteenresemblance to the Omaha platform. I and, taking you at your word as an interpreter, was forced to conclude that you do not believe in the government ownership of the railroads, as your platform left out this Populist demand and only called for the regulation of abuses. What a man says last, if said deliberately, is what he has to be judged by

In the World-Herald of Oct. 30, 1894, is the report of an interview with Senator Allen which contains this question and

ing generally throughout the state on legislative candidates?"

"Populists and Democrats alike." replied Senator Allen, "realize the necessity plotters behind him his simplicity must of united and concerted action, and there is a general disposition to harmonize, and where three candidates have been nominated, the third man has been or will be withdrawn and the Populist and Democratic vote given to one candidate. The reform element of this state realizes the necessity of this action and of making the legislative ticket throughout the state absolutely sure.

This is further evidence from your own mouth, Senator, that you were doing your utmost to have Bryan elected, and that you were using your influence as a leader with local committees to have them set aside the people's will expressed regularly and authoritatively in delegate conventions, that your will, Bryan's will, the will of a ring of self-constituted fusion bosses might be enthroned. You were taking a great interest in the election of a fusion legislature, knowing of course that no one but Bryan, a Democrat, could be elected by such a body. And the effect of your influence is revealed in the following words of \*Chairman Edmisten, from an interview with him printed in the World-Herald of Nov. 4.

"We cannot hope for success of the Populist legislative ticket in this [Douglas] county, and I would advise all Popu lists who desire to defeat corporation domination in state affairs to give the ticket nominated by the Democratic county convention their unqualified support. I say this after mature consideration and after consultation with Senator Allen and other gentlemen prominent in the councils of our party.'

You were, it appears, the head and front or the leading adviser, of the Populist destroy the work of our conventions, your published words showing that you covered the state in the matter of knowledge of the situation, influence and opetrying to corrupt Populist legislative candidates by secretly demanding that they privately pledge themselves to the Democratic State Central Committee to vote for Bryan, first and last, for U. S. Senator, and offering them Democratic recently published an exact copy of one of the Democratic bribe letters sent out to Populist legislative candidates before

 After this reprint from the Nov. 4, 1894,
 World-Herald and our comments were in type,
 Mr. Edmister called at THE WEALTH MAKERS Mr. Edmister called at THE WEALTH MAKERS office and upon being read the words deuted that he uttered them, but refused to say what he did say. We are anxious to do justly by all, and if this interview, published just before election to influence Douglas county voters, was a fake even now, for Mr. Edmisten's saye, it should shown to be such. Its genuineness has never before been denied, we believe, by either of the meaning of the meaning of the saye of the saye of the meaning of the saye of the been denied, we believe, by either of led in it.—Editor Wealth Marens.

The after-convention fusion leaders, the long-headed "practical" politicians, who despised THE WEALTH MAKERS' warning, went ahead. And in the October 31st World-Herald Senator Allen was reported as saying:

"I think the legislative ticket is safe and that there will be a combined majority of Populistsand Democrats larger than there was in 1892.

But the result showed that fusion between an old and new party fails to connect, and that Populist fusionists are the fools. The lesson of the last campaign is plain. The question of fusion must be authoritatively and finally against brought up in our coming state and Robinson and against fusion, and for local conventions, and if the people as a Devine. Despite your disclaimer you (and whole want to dicker with the Democrats the others who were with you in your on a give and take deal, let it be done, effort to get Devine out of your way) open and above board. If it is a good evidently believe in "bossism." You con- thing to do or to consider, let the people have a voice in it and decide what they want to do. Then if, after they have vention, and to force upon them your taken action in convention against fusion judgment, your will. Now meet this like the state or local committeemen dare to a man and say if you are not ashamed override and set aside the people's will, of it. The people's representatives made as some few did last year, let them be you our Senator and Edmisten and bounced from office and branded as would-be bosses.

What THE WEALTH MAKERS has said

Senator, in criticism of your disloyal fuism"-as little as faithfulness to the people would permit-has rankled in your to withdraw at the demand or request or breast, but you could not deny the substance of what we charged and so have kept out of print, hitherto, though not our state committee and all Populists silent regarding the state paper. The who knew him or believed him to be an spark which fired the magazine and exhonest man, to support him. You, by ploded everything was the word we your own confession, were false to him, dropped two weeks ago regarding Senator Murphy and his present to you, a matter of published news to which our attention had been called by the Crete ly stating that you had ignored in Con- Democrat. In your opinion the present of a very valuable Hambletonian colt from one of the Democratic senators involved in the great sugar scandal of 1894, from Gorman's man Friday, did not hurt you so much as our few pen strokes which pictured the man, his re-Feb. 14th, 1895, issue of our paper, the cord, and his, to say the least, questionexpression which you probably have in able motives. In our opinion the folly of mind. It is an editorial sharply criticis- accepting such a present from such a man is where the great injury comes in, is the hurt that will not heal. Our enemies had already associated your name with the Sugar Trust senatorial scandal. THE WEALTH MAKERS of June 28, 1894, plank platform which bore almost no did the best it could to defend you from the Chicago Tribune's editorial attack, have a copy of the document before me, in which ridicule was heaped upon your motives, or upon your affirmation that you voted for the Sugar Trust Gorman amendment (an alleged fifty million dollar steal) as a choice of two evils. Here are two paragraphs from that Tribune editorial:

What the Trust does not pocket foreign producers will pocket. Between them the government is bilked out of fifty millions of the revenue in order that Nebraska farmers may have free foreign barbed wire! Now what the people want to learn from Senator Allen is the names of the Senators who drove the bargain with him. Who told him that he could not have free barbed wire unless he voted for the sugar steal schedule? Who went to him while the metal schedule was under consideration and a : "The amendment you are going to offer to free list barbed wire will be seaten unless you vote for the Sugar Trust steal when the sugar schedule is reduced? Who are they?

of these buildozing senators for they are the names of the boodling senators. The men who "held up" Allen of Nebraska are the ones responsible for this villainous scheme of "hoiding up" the United States treasury for the benefit of the robber trust. Who are those senatorial highwaymen who forced Allen in exchange for his free barbed were to g ve up to a trust which is odious to Nebraskans fifty millions of revenue which ought to go into the United States Treaury? Until those names are made public Senator Alien's explanation will not be accepted.

It is most desirable to know the names

Nor was it political enemies alone who charged the Populist senators who voted for the Sugar Trust steal with unjustifiable action. From that time to this some of the most influential journals of national reputation, and independent is politics, have been referring to the trades with Populists, meaning those who helped to pass the amended tariff bill. It is notorious that a very large amount of Sugar Trust boodle was dropped among the senators who, under the leadership of Gorman, voted for the steal. (Senator Allen was made chairman of a committee to investigate it.) All who voted for the Gorman amendment are under a cloud, subject to the suspicion of being 'boodled,' and cannot, because of their votes, clearly and completely separate themselves half of the fusion bosses, who tried to from the scandal, from their corrupt associates. This being the case made it bad enough, but now for Senator Allen to accept a valuable present from one of the Gorman-led gang provides personal rations; and you doubtless knew that cause, an apparently reasonable ground, your Democratic "reform" partners were to question his integrity. The Constitution of the United States forbids any person holding any office of profit or trust in the nation, without consent of Congress, accepting any present, emolument, office or title, of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign influence and votes if they would so sell state. And is not the Sugar Trust as ed for his political work last fall, his un- themselves. THE WEALTH MAKERS just alien and oppressive a power as was in the minds of the founders of the nation when they framed the above feature of

our nation's organic law? It may be said by Senator Allen that Senator Murphy did not handle the Sugar Trust boodle funds. That is at matter which cannot be proved, perhaps, one way or the other. But all indications are in support of the belief. He stands close to Gorman, and is a Hill-Tammany man, having the worst kind of a political record. Elsewhere in