

## IS HE A DEMAGOGUE?

Several republican leaders continue to declare that the panic of '93 was caused by the victory of the democracy. The democracy took charge of all branches of the government on March 4, 1893. Within a few weeks the panic was in full force. Every republican leader and newspaper that is in that party today, then declared that the cause of the hard times was the coinage of silver and that the Sherman act under which the coinage was done must be repealed and the coinage of silver stopped. They declared, one and all, that the Sherman act was the sole cause of the distress. But the Sherman act was a republican measure and Cleveland was in no way responsible for it. The distress, according to every authority in the republican party at that time was caused by an act passed by a republican congress and for which every republican congressman voted. After that, all the republican senators and representatives in congress who are in public life today in that party, joined Cleveland, advocated and voted for the policy which he recommended, succeeded in their efforts and then followed four years of the greatest distress that this country has ever known. Now Senator Hoar, and other leaders of the republican party, are saying the same thing. Senator Hoar declares:

"The men who proposed rag money to get rid of the burden of the national debt, and Dr. Bryan's financial policies to cure the hard times which President Cleveland had brought on, are filling the yellow journals with their advertisements now."

It was not Cleveland who brought on the hard times, though he added to their severity, and the relief from them has come from adopting the prescription of "Dr. Bryan" and coining more silver than was ever coined in the same length of time before, then adding to that an enormous quantity of "rag money" issued by the national banks.

It seems incomprehensible that Senator Hoar does not know how much silver has been coined since 1896 and how much "rag money" the national banks have issued. He certainly does not, for if he does, the above statement with all that it infers, would brand him as a demagogue.

## "FACILITATE"

Imperialism has created some new terms and there will have to be a revision of the dictionaries. An "appurtenance" now means a man without a country, governed by a commission appointed by the president, and who was bought for \$2.50 cash down. Justice Brown is responsible for that. "Facilitate" now means to abolish a tariff duty without the consent of congress or any other nation on earth. When hard coal began to be imported, the customs officers collected 67 cents a ton duty on it. The secretary of the treasury issued an order to "facilitate" the importation of coal. Since that day no duty has been collected on anthracite coal, no matter how much it lacked having "92 per cent carbon." The secretary of the treasury is responsible for this bit of imperialism. He abolishes duties according to his own sweet will. In any constitutional government he would be impeached for an act like that. But as this is no longer a constitutional government, nothing will be done about it. If any attempt were made to bring the secretary to account for this, then up would rise Justice Brown and declare that the constitution did not follow the tariff. From this on, "facilitate" means to abolish a tariff. The Independent hopes that there will be a lot of "facilitating" done.

## THERE ARE OTHERS

"An Old Democrat" writes to the editor that "the pops needn't howl so loud about traitors in their party. We democrats have had ten traitors

where you have had one." After that he goes on to enumerate them, beginning with Cleveland. He says that it was democratic traitors of the supreme court that made imperialism possible. If the democratic judges had been true to the doctrines of Jefferson that there would have been a majority against imperialism. When the democrats held all branches of the government, traitors like Gorman killed all tariff reform. Democratic traitors killed the income tax after it had passed both branches of congress. He declares that the populists, while they have suffered in this regard, have never had anything to endure that compares with the work of the traitors in the democratic party.

## A NATION OF GAMBLERS

There is more gambling now done each and every day of the year than was done in any ten years before the republican party demoralized the people of the United States and judges fined boys for playing craps in an alley, while millions were bet on the stock exchange and boards of trade and the betters protected by the courts and police power of the cities, states and nation. This sort of gambling has spread all over the nation. Farmers and merchants, mechanics and farm employes engage in it in every little town. The millions of money thus employed are beyond computation. When disaster portends, even the treasury of the United States rushes to the aid of the gamblers to prevent losses so heavy that they would precipitate a panic. The government and the courts foster and protect gambling. The nation is given over to it as no nation ever was before. Against this tendency the populist party has always protested and still protests. The gambling on the boards of trade not only demoralizes and ruins many thousands who engage in it, but is a detriment to every honest farmer whose products are there traded in and the prices affected by the bets made on the rise and fall of prices.

## GET MONEY FOR IT

The kind of economic education that the readers of the great dailies get can be inferred from the following paragraph from the Boston Advertiser:

"We call it the 40-cent dollar, because we are disposed to be charitable; but, in fact, the latest London quotations make its bullion value precisely 39½ cents. We are willing to give the advocates of 16 to 1 the benefit of a possible doubt whether, since yesterday, the white metal may not have risen a fraction of a point. At latest quotations, the ratio between silver and gold is just about 40 to 1."

The ratio entered into the discussion of the money question during the last two presidential campaigns from the fact that the ratio determined the number of dollars that could be coined from any given amount of silver. If the ratio was 16 to 1 a certain number could be coined. If the ratio was 32 to 1, only half the number could be coined from the same weight of silver. It was the "quantity theory" that was under discussion. The Bryan democrats and populists adopted the theory as expressed by John Stuart Mill and the republicans denied that the "quantity" of money had anything to do with its value. The fact is that all the silver that is mined is still coined into money except what goes into the arts and manufacture. There is no considerable amount of silver bullion anywhere. The republicans still coin it by the ton in this country at the ratio of 16 to 1 and in Europe it is coined at the ratio of 15½ to 1 and 15 to 1.

Six hundred millions of silver dollars coined at the ratio of 16 to 1 are in circulation in the United States, and the republicans are coining millions more of them at the same ratio. These silver dollars, coined at the



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It won't be hard for anyone to find reasons for giving thanks this year. However, there are aids to the peace and comfort of your mind that are very valuable and many of them are to be found right in this clothing store.

Going to the old home in an Armstrong \$10.00 overcoat or ulster insures comfort on the way and a stylish appearance that is personally pleasing.

Sitting down to Thanksgiving dinner with yourself clad in one of those Armstrong stylish \$10.00 suits is calculated to give you a comfortable frame of mind that is very helpful to digestion.

With an Armstrong hat on the hall tree, and a pair of Armstrong gloves in your pocket, and Armstrong underwear next your body and Armstrong linens and furnishings adorning your person, you are going to be in a thoroughly proper condition to enjoy Thanksgiving to the very limit.

One of your personal reasons for giving thanks would be the money you save when you buy your clothing here.

## Armstrong Clothing Co.

1221, 1223, 1225, 1227 O St., Lincoln, Neb.

ratio of 16 to 1, are the foundation of the present prosperity. Take them out of the money of the United States and there would be a panic beside which the days of Cleveland soup houses would be a paradise of heavenly prosperity.

If the Boston Advertiser has any "40-cent silver dollars," as hard up as The Independent is with the putting up of this Liberty Building, it will take a few thousand of them and pay for them in "one hundred-cent gold dollars." It could easily manage to get the money for a speculation like that. The fact is that the editor of the Boston Advertiser and all other editors of that brand are innate scoundrels, and know that they lie when they talk about 50 or 40-cent silver dollars. Their depravity is the depravity of satan and is as black as the midnight of hell. They write such stuff in the interest of the trust and tariff robbers and because they get money for doing it.

## CONSERVATIVE BRYAN

The absolute and contemptible failure of the democratic party in those states where the reorganizers ruled is attracting attention everywhere. Look at the states of Connecticut, Wisconsin, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania and contrast the result with what the democracy did under the leadership of Bryan. Now, what was called the radicalism of Bryan, has become conservatism. The question now forcing itself into American politics beyond hope of dodging passes under the general description of the labor problem. It is a question, in the last analysis, of intrusting the industrial concerns of all, together with the award among all of the net product, to the managers of concentrated capital fast possessing themselves of widespread monopolistic privileges, or substituting for privileges, wherever they appear, public control or ownership. The man who gets control of the democratic organization and marches into the breach as did the republican party under Lincoln, will be the hero of a new revolution. The day of the old mossbacks has passed. Call it the labor question or the trust question, which you please, it has to be met by radical measures. But can the old democratic party rise to the occasion or will it go the way of the old whig party



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which died of compromises? If it does attempt "like a wounded snake to drag its slow length along," there is a party ready and willing to take hold of these questions along radical lines. It requires no change in its platform or leadership. It is not a large party, but every man in the ranks has kept his powder dry and is ready for the fray. The year 1904 will tell the tale.

The whole world of business worships one god only, and at no other shrine does any member of it bow. That god is money.