

COLORADO ANARCHY

The Republican Governor Turns the Command of the Militia Over to the Great Corporations

Some thousands of the members of the labor unions in Colorado insisted on voting the republican ticket, enough doing so to give the state offices to that party. Now it is charged that the great corporations out there are working every scheme to raise a conflict with the labor unions, bring on strikes and then crush the unions with the militia, which will be used to protect the importation of scab labor. One of the great concerns is already building a huge stone wall around its works and making a veritable fortress of it. The high wall, shutting out the free circulation of the air, will make the lot of the men who labor within very much harder than it has been.

In pursuance of this policy, the Colorado Chronicle declares that the republican governor has turned the command of the militia over to the big mining and smelting corporations, one of which forced one of its superintendents to take the office of adjutant general at a salary of \$1,800 a year, although his present salary is \$5,000, the corporations making up the difference from their treasuries. The Chronicle says:

"Sherman Bell of Independence, Colo., mine manager for the Smith-Moffat interests in the Cripple Creek district at an annual salary of \$5,000, was appointed adjutant general. Mr. Bell was not an applicant for the position and had repeatedly told the governor so. Mr. Bell, one of Teddy Roosevelt rough riders during the Spanish-American war, who has the reputation of being a nervy, dare-devil soldier, and one who has a great idea of his own importance and power of bluff with men, was the man whom the mine owners wanted for adjutant general. But Bell persistently refused the place on account of the small salary of \$1,800 per year.

"Mr. William H. Sweeney of Pueblo is the new assistant adjutant general. Mr. Sweeney has been connected with the national guard for a number of years and his sympathies have always been against organized labor.

"Frederick W. Gross, an employe of the Colorado Telephone company, is the new inspector general.

"William R. Freemon, tax agent for the Colorado Midland railroad, Pullman Palace Car company and several other corporations, is the new military secretary, while corporation men largely make up the governor's military staff."

If the corporations proceed to carry out their present plans there will be some months of anarchy in the state and a condition such as the people there have never before experienced. Would it not have been much better for the wage-workers to have followed the advice of The Independent and have taken command of the militia themselves?

Ontario

Word has just come from Robert Tyson, who engineered the Toronto campaign which won out, that he and others have arranged for a paid secretary to organize a Direct Legislation league for the province of Ontario, on the federation plan. The secretary is to give one-fourth of his time, and \$150 is the cost. Fifty dollars has been raised and we herewith ask that everyone who can will help to pay the balance. Send your subscription to Mr. Robert Tyson, 6 Harbord st., Toronto, Canada.

The Toronto federation for majority rule has published a "Report of Progress," copies of which have been mailed to the 30 trade unions and the single tax and democratic club, that compose the federation. Copies have also been mailed to the unions that have not yet joined the federation. These organizations contributed from one to ten dollars each and were the sole support of the movement whereby the pledged candidates were elected in Toronto on January 5.

The Money Question

Editor Independent: In the last few issues of The Independent there appear several articles on the financial question, but the writers made the same errors the gold standard writers do, confusing money with currency. National bank notes are currency, but they are not money within the meaning of the law, they are only make-believe money; the treasurer of the United States will redeem them in greenbacks when presented in sums of \$1,000. Banks cannot issue money; congress alone can do that.

We have not got a gold standard and cannot have while greenbacks and silver dollars are money. Congress

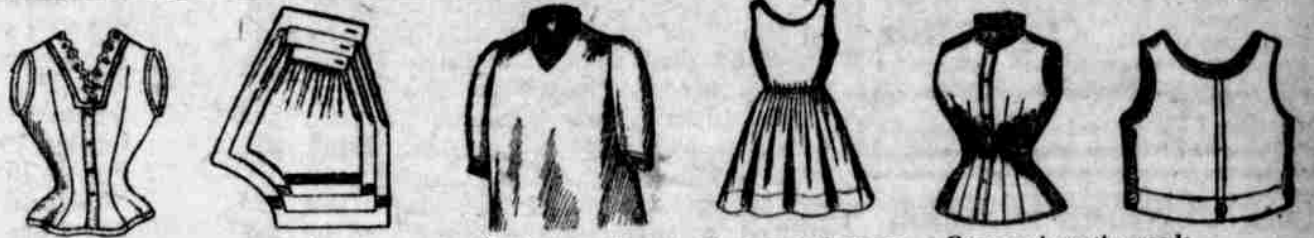
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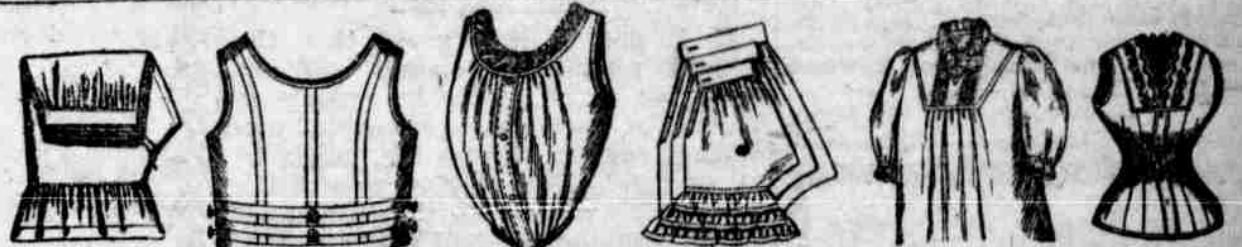
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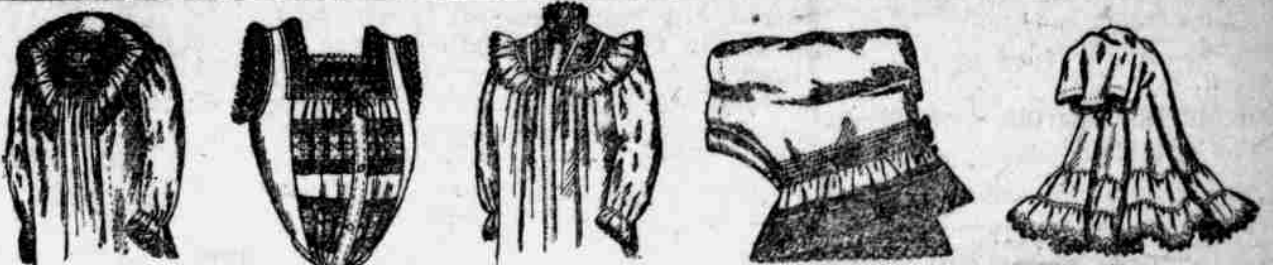
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must first take the legal tender quality away from everything but gold to have a "gold standard." There is no such a thing as a standard of value as value is an ideal thing and is always changing. We may have a standard foot or yard, a standard bushel; a standard is fixed by law. All articles of commerce are valued by money or currency and this make-believe money is just as good as any money as long as it passes for money, and the values rise and fall with the volume of money and currency; subsequently the more notes or currency the national banks issue, all kinds of produce will rise in value. It is their drawing in this currency that causes depression and panics.

If we are to have national bank currency, we should have a law compelling them to issue an amount great enough to supply the wants of the people to do the business of the country on a cash basis and not allow them to call this currency in, and no kind of money or currency should be redeemable, for no one ever gets money redeemed for a legitimate business. Out of the 76 million people in this nation no one ever got money redeemed in any other kind of money except a few hook-nosed Jews in Wall

street. They are gold gamblers, connected with other gold gamblers in the large cities of Europe. There is very little gold in our treasury in Washington; it is kept in the sub-treasury, No. 30 Wall street, New York, and very little is coined into money. It is in bullion run into bars and bricks for the convenience of these Jew gamblers.

The secretary of the treasury counts this 130 millions of bullion as money, yet it is no more money than our warships and other government property. He also has about 125 millions loaned out to national banks without one cent of interest and if this money was called in, it would cause the greatest panic ever known in the history of the world, and it is a question if this money will ever find its way back to the United States treasury, where it belongs. There is very little money among the people at the close of business every day; nearly every dollar is deposited in banks and if your readers will look at the sworn statement of bank officers they will find that with all they can rake and scrape to make a good report, they only have enough to pay from 10 to 15 per cent of their deposits. And if they will get the last report of the

comptroller of the currency, they will be surprised to see the small amount of money the national banks carry compared with their deposits. If the government and all the people who have money on deposit in the banks should attempt to draw their money out on the same day, I dare say it would break every single bank in this nation and bankrupt one-half of the people and nine out of every ten mercantile houses would close their doors next day.

Although our government has coined silver dollars as fast as the mints could turn them out and the banks have issued hundreds of millions of wild cat currency, the great financiers now tell us we are on the verge of a panic. Wall street has been crying for money for months and any day may bring the worst panic the world has ever seen.

T. J. QUAIL.

Watertown, Neb.

There have been more changes in the Fifty-seventh congress than in any of recent years. Of a membership of 357 in the house, 15 have died in office, two have been removed by contest proceedings and five have resigned.