

PLUTOCRACY'S AIM

IS TO MUZZLE THE HONEST PORTION OF PRESS.

After Having Purchased the Dishonest Papers—Freedom for Dishonest Press and Muzzle for Honest Press Is the Aim of Corporations.

The attempt of the plutocrats to muzzle a free press and free speech is as old as the government. Hamilton and the Federalists tried it and were so thoroughly defeated that as a party they disappeared from the stage of American politics, but their teachings unfortunately did not die with them, and now appear again under the stress of national misfortune, taking advantage of popular excitement to again rear its hideous head. The Nashville News well describes this when it says, "An arbitrary government and a free press can never agree together without an explosion. This is a self-evident fact, and is the teaching of history. It is as well known to the gentlemen who are seeking to monopolize the industries of the nation and tax all the people for their industrial benefit as it was to Thomas Jefferson or any other of the founders of the government. Free speech is essential to a free people, and the one cannot exist without the other. Undoubtedly the blackest portend of trouble in the future which has recently shown itself is the disgraceful attempt of the organized capital of the country, through its subsidized newspapers, to use the sentiment aroused by the national misfortune of the murder of the president, as an excuse for an attack on the freedom of the press. If this were an isolated case it could be put down to the idiosyncrasy of some hysterical editor. But it is national and shows unfortunately in it, that an enormous percentage of the daily press has been acquired by the same interest which now controls practically all the transportation lines, the coal oil, the ships, the iron, the steel, the coal and the agricultural machinery plants, and which is reaching out after a monopoly of the hardware, the retail dry goods business and the federal judiciary. The order has been issued, and from Maine to California the chorus of yelps and howls from the pack has answered vociferously. The burden of the song is the same in every case. The cry is "yellow journalism," and the demand is that the government be allowed to decide what may be said and what may not be said in a newspaper about public affairs.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT OVERRIDDEN.
The civil government in the Philippines which was established on Declaration Day to emphasize that a certain amount of freedom had been inaugurated and to carry out promises made to these Filipinos who surrendered, is a farce. It now appears the military claim full authority and have ordered the deportation of a civilian who on appeal to the Supreme Court, that the civil end of the dual government has set up, has been ordered released under a writ of habeas corpus. General Chaffee, however, holds that the court has no such power and is in fact a figurehead to please the Filipinos and fool the American people into believing that peace exists there, and has appealed to the war department, who is, through the president, the real power under the extraordinary Spooner amendment.

The trouble arose from the fact that the government has been trying to carry water on both shoulders, to be prepared to trace its authority to either source as legal exigencies may seem to require with a view to meet the constitutional questions that are before the United States Supreme Court. If the civilian can be deported by the military commander there can certainly be no civil government in the Philippines, and the expensive one that has been set up is worthless.

LABOR LOOKING AHEAD.
The steel strikers appear to have learned a lesson from the result of their late repulse by the steel trust, for their organ, the National Labor Tribune, in discussing the effect of the strike, says: "Now, as a matter of fact, there is never likely to be a time when the steel corporation can afford better to precipitate a fight than it could the past summer. What it fears, and what every other trust fears, above everything else is a public anti-trust agitation which will affect the elections, and either bring about hostile legislation by the existing congress or bring into power a congress representing a hostile political party. A year from next month a new congress will be elected. Two years from that again there will be elections for not only a new congress, but for a new president. The best time for a strike, from the company's standpoint, is when there is no political campaign in progress. The worst time, from its standpoint, is the time of a campaign of some importance.

THE COAL TRUST.
The coal trust, it now appears, can work the double twist on the price of coal. As the trust controls the railroads that carry the coal and also owns the coal mines, they can, when they have raised the price of coal to the top notch, give it an extra twist by raising the freight on coal, "all the traffic will bear," as the following interview in the Washington Post shows: "While the recent combinations of railroads in this country have not materially advanced freight rates so far as coal is concerned, they have resulted in the price of coal being increased," remarked Mr. John Duff, a coal jobber of New Bedford, Mass. "You see," he continued, "all but about 15 per cent of the total output of coal of the United States is controlled by the railroads. Prior to the consolidation the roads owned as many mines as they do now, but it was individual ownership, and competition kept the price down. Now there is no competition, and as a result we pay just about \$1 a ton more for coal, both hard and soft, than we did one year ago."

The Lehigh, the Philadelphia and Reading, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, the Jersey Central, and the Pennsylvania roads in the big Moravia syndicate own practically all the

TO TELL OF TURKEY.

coal mines in this Eastern section. They secured them by increasing freight rates to the mine owners along their lines, thereby compelling them to sell out. Railroad rates for shipment of coal are about the same, but they stay down because the companies don't have to put them up. They put the increase on the coal itself. Of course we here in the East ship most of our coal by water, but most of the barge companies are controlled by the railroads of the combination. Rates have not advanced for water shipment, because an increase would immediately drive many vessels now carrying other products into the coal business.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE TRUSTS.

President Roosevelt in his Minneapolis speech delivered but a few weeks before his accession to the presidency, said: "We shall find it necessary in future to shackle cunning as in the past we have shackled force. The vast individual and corporate fortunes, and the vast combinations of capital, which have marked the development of our industrial system, create new conditions and necessitate a change from the old attitude of the state and nation towards property."

To which the Kansas City Star replies: "These are pointed and direct sentiments inspired by conditions to which no thoughtful and sober-minded man can be blind. They are not uttered in any spirit of intemperance or agitation or any false alarm for political purposes. They come from an influential member of the party which capital in modern years has regarded as its chosen champion. They do not proceed from a person who has excited the suspicion of the conservative element by the radical character of his opinions."

If President Roosevelt tries to shackle the trust and corporation, which are all noted for their cunning, he will split the Republican party into two camps. He will have the common people with him, but the Republican politicians will be against him, at least the most important of them who are maintained in their places by the money of the combines. But President Roosevelt making a stump speech and Roosevelt as President may be entirely different persons.

GAGE AND GAMBLERS.

The Wall street sharks and their side partners, the bankers thereabouts, should keep a tighter muzzle on some of their newspapers that are apt to let the cat out of the bag. To work their graft on the United States treasury they should all stick to the same tale, or the people will be asking with more emphasis than they are now, why the treasury should be run in the interest of the banks and the Wall street gamblers. The banks of New York made a demand on Secretary Gage for money. He gave it to them out of the United States treasury in order that the money stringency might be relieved. Now comes a banker of New York—Forgan of the First National—who says in the Chicago News: "At the same time our deposits are keeping up in a highly satisfactory way. Country banks are not withdrawing their balances and this is doubly gratifying when applied to the institutions in the northwest where heretofore the demand at this time of the year has necessitated a heavy diminution of the money deposited in the reserve centers." Under the circumstances why do you suppose Mr. Gage was so ready to extend aid to the New York bankers.

The ship-subsidy bill will not have such an easy sailing in the next congress as its promoters have expected. It is quite possible that the steel will not be recommended by President Roosevelt in his message to congress, for the Washington correspondent of the Record-Herald states that "Senator Spooner has been in consultation with the President respecting it and has fully stated the position of the West. Among other things the senator is reported as saying that Western Republicans are in favor of building up the American marine by discriminating duties, that is, by lowering the rates upon foreign goods brought in American ships." That would be a legitimate bounty to aid the building up of the American merchant marine. But before endorsing it, the bill with all the details, must be examined, for Mark Hanna and the ship-subsidy schemers are experts at getting up bills that give away more than they seem to.

The financial organs of Wall street are hinting that another combination of capital will soon be announced that will be more startling than the enormous Steel trust, but they do not tell us what line of enterprise is to be monopolized. The consolidation of all the railroads is about due, instead of the community of interest plan they are now working under. In vastness of capital and the number of men employed that combination would be a fearful menace to our political institutions which would make thousands of voters at the beck and call of one man.

The inevitable result of the imperialistic tendencies of the government is found in the annual report of the heads of bureaus of the army and navy. They all demand more officers and more men, and tell of the great danger to the country if their demands are not complied with. As the army has been raised to a maximum of 100,000 men and the naval force largely increased by the last congress, the former at all events far beyond what is necessary, these demands for a still greater increase is pretty good proof that the Democratic chair of militarism is rapidly being accomplished.

A report just issued by the English Board of Trade gives statistics of the changes in rates of wages and the hours of labor. The great feature is the rise in coal miners' wages, which in the different districts range from 26 to 43 per cent. No wonder the English are unable to compete with American coal, with our lower miners' wages and much less value of coal lands.

Dan Daly appears as a star in "The New Yorkers," a musical farce which succeeds Andrew Mack at the Herald Square Theater.

WOMAN KNIGHT ERRANT COMING TO AMERICA.

The Princess Haire Ben Ayud, Wife of Former Diplomat of Ottoman Empire, is Carrying on a Crusade Against Social Conditions.

The United States is to receive a visit this winter by Princess Haire Ben Ayud, who has created a stir in England by her crusade against social conditions in Turkey. The Princess, who is a daughter of a former Turkish minister to France, hopes to eradicate polygamy in Turkey by organizing a movement against it from the outside. Her lectures in London have been crowded and she has become a fad with society there. She has a beautiful and refined face, unlike the usual heavy type of the East, and carries herself in a regal way. Her husband, who was sentenced to prison for espousing the cause of the deposed sultan, Murad, but escaped, is



PRINCESS HAIRE BEN AYUD, with her in London. When out driving she wears a heavy veil over her face, according to Turkish custom.

LIFE IN GUATEMALA.

Happy-Go-Lucky Disposition of Americans Leads to Their Fond parents with dissipated sons should send them to the tropics in the hope that the outdoor life and new surroundings will reform them, writes a Guatemalan correspondent. The experiment has been made many times with disastrous results, and nowadays, when a young fellow steps down the gangplank at any Central American port the American and European veterans who have for years been on their way to the devil via the tropics, mutter cynically: "One more unfortunate. Wonder if he has any good money to sell," and as a preliminary to conversation, ask the newcomer to take a drink. If he takes the first one, it is generally all off with reform, and the chances are ten to one that he will drink from three to five times as much as he did at home.

There are men, of course, who are strong enough to resist the temptation to drink, but they are even fewer than one would expect. Indeed, it is only natural that it should be so, since there is every inducement to forget present miseries in drink and few reasons for not doing so. While the tropics contain many "white" men, as distinguished from natives, who are of the finest character and highest attainments, it is unfortunately true that they also contain more than their full share of men who have made a failure of life elsewhere.

Life in Guatemala, as elsewhere south of Mexico, is a strange medley of civilization and barbarism, grim life and death struggles, and happy-go-lucky, devil-may-care humor. To begin with, the absence of public opinion makes every man a law unto himself to a large extent. The constant never-failing source of jokes, and onths as well, is the money. When a man lands in the country with \$200, and suddenly finds that he has \$300 he is apt to think it is a fine country and to throw away what he has as if it had no value whatever. The rate of exchange is constantly varying, and as all railroad salaries are paid in the native currency, no man knows what he will be drawing at the end.

"President Roosevelt," said an old resident of Washington, "has many of the tastes and traits of Gen. Grant. Of course he is more loquacious, and I do not doubt that he will make a better administrative officer, but, like Gen. Grant, he doesn't wish to have a sort of halo thrown around him because he is the President of the United States. He walks to church and he permits his children to romp. Gen. Grant's children were not so young as the Roosevelt heirs, but just the same they ruled the unofficial end of the White House. Gen. Grant walked nearly everywhere he went, and a stranger who had never seen his portrait would probably have taken him, on one of his trips from the White House to the capitol, for a countryman seeing the sights. He was the greatest window-gazer I ever knew. Anything novel would attract him. I can see him now in my mind, with the inevitable cigar between his teeth, standing in front of some store on Pennsylvania avenue looking at baubles designed to attract women and children. And so democratic was President Grant in his habits that the crowd passed him by."

Smoking in Cuba.
Cuba produces no tobacco for chewing or pipe smoking. The Cubans who smoke pipes may be counted on one's fingers without making a second round on the fingers. The cigar and the cigarette prevail. To what extent the Cuban cigarette might ever become popular with American smokers is a matter beyond determination. It is certain that most Americans of prolonged residence, become, if they be smokers, addicted to the Cuban brand and find difficulty in wearing themselves back to American brands on their return.

Byron spent the leisure hours of nearly four years in the preparation of the first two cantos of Childe Harold.

DEFIANCE STARCH.

Had Bishop Potter of New York not become eminent as a churchman, he might have won high honors as a diplomat. Asked by a lady the other day what he thought of female suffrage he answered: "I have got far beyond that point; I am trying to make the best terms with the sex that I can obtain."

Look at the Labels!
Every package of cocoa or chocolate put out by Walter Baker & Co., bears the well-known trade-mark of the chocolate girl, and the piece of manufacture, "Dorchester, Mass." Housekeepers are advised to examine their purchases, and make sure that other goods have not been substituted. They received three gold medals from the Pan-American exposition.

Noted Writer Changes His Name.
Ernest Seton-Thompson, the well known author and writer, has been granted permission by Justice Gischoff of the New York supreme court to change his name to that of Ernest Thompson-Seton. Mr. Seton-Thompson in his petition said that the surname of Thompson was a pseudonym adopted by his family, which hid from the English government after having taken part in the Jacobite rebellion of 1745.

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The hope of being elected to public office has saved many a politician from the penitentiary.

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