



The Power Behind the Movement.

—Courtesy of The Commoner.

Commoner Comment.

In the New York World, under big black headlines it is reported that August Belmont went to Washington "representing Judge Parker's friends," and held a conference with certain democratic senators and representatives. According to the World, he returned to New York in a "glorious mood," with messages to Hill and Murphy. Now that Mr. Joseph Pulitzer has taken charge of the publicity and advertising department of the Parker boom, we may expect to read in the World a great deal of conferences and pledges, intermingled with tables, figures and prognostications. Some weeks ago the New York Herald announced that the friends of Parker, Gorman and Olney had agreed upon August Belmont as the proper man for chairman of the democratic national committee in case the reorganizers regained control of the party, and now comes the World and informs us that Belmont has already taken charge of the Parker boom, and as ambassador extraordinary, is negotiating for the delivery of the entire west and south. How much more evidence will it require to locate Judge Parker in the great contest between organized wealth and the masses? No better evidence of his unfitness for a democratic nomination could be given than that furnished by the selection of August Belmont as his financial agent and authorized envoy. Those who recall the Rothschild-Morgan contract entered into by Mr. Belmont's administration, will remember that August Belmont & Co. signed the contract "on behalf of Messrs. N. M. Rothschild & Sons, London, and themselves." That contract was so obnoxious that the house of representatives refused to endorse it, and it was one of the principal items in the indictment brought by the democratic party against the Cleveland administration. When, after an heroic struggle, the democratic party repudiated the Cleveland administration and took the people's side on the money controversy, Mr. Belmont, along with other money magnates, bolters and threves his influence to the republican candidate. That he should be selected as the diplomatic representative of Judge Parker is sufficient proof that the judge's nomination would put the democratic party back in the Cleveland rut, and make the administration co-partner with the Wall street syndicates.

Even if the party had not had its bitter experience with Mr. Cleveland it would have ample reason to avoid "a syndicated president," but with the experience of 1892 and 1896 fresh in the memory, it would be inexcusable, nay, even criminal folly, to put the destinies of the party and the country in the hands of a man mortgaged in advance to men of the Belmont type. Mr. Cleveland's servile and abject surrender to the money power not only divided the democratic party and caused the party's defeat in two presidential campaigns, but it threw away a political opportunity which, if properly utilized, would have made the democratic party invincible for a generation.

The World names a number of democratic senators as among those who conferred with Mr. Belmont in regard to the Parker campaign. The Commoner does not reproach these names because it does not care to do injustice to any who may have been erroneously included in the list. What democrat with intelligence enough to secure a

real source of trouble in Korea, but it is safe to say that if translated literally it would round very much like the one in power in this country.

The republican legislature of Iowa has amended its anti-pass bill so as to permit the giving and receiving of passes, and in this form the bill will pass.

We gather from republican sources that the Filipinos will be given their independence just as soon as there is nothing else for them to have.

The beef trust seems thoroughly satisfied that Attorney General Knox will not run amuck. The injunctionless injunction is a weapon that the beef trust does not fear.

It would appear that the decision of the supreme court in the merger case is wonderfully pleasing. It pleases the president and will not hurt the trusts so long as Mr. Roosevelt is president.

The scientist who mourns the disappearance of ambidexterity never saw one of our modern official grafters working both hands in the public treasury.

house of representatives, the senate and the president will be powerless to protect the public.

I trust that those who are honored with an invitation to speak at your banquet will raise a note of warning against the attempt now being made by the money magnates to control the democratic convention and to secure the nomination of a democratic candidate who will be obliged in advance to betray the hopes of the democratic masses. Yours truly,

W. J. BRYAN.

REPUBLICANS FEAR TRUST ISSUE.

The press dispatches from Washington indicate that the republican leaders are trying to secure an early adjournment, April 28 being the day now under consideration. The republicans are afraid of the trust issue and are trying to avoid it by an adjournment. The merger decision has put the administration in a dilemma; it must either take the position that the trust is sufficient and enforce the law or it must take the position that the present law is insufficient and then recommend some specific and effective remedy—that is, it must do one or the other of these things if it is going to meet the issue. But it grows more and more apparent that the party in power does not intend to do anything whatever on the trust question, and therefore the republican leaders are trying to get away from Washington so as to escape responsibility. The democrats of the senate and house ought to insist upon some affirmative and positive action against the trusts. Public attention ought to be called to the cowardice of the republicans upon this subject, and public attention can be called to it if the democrats in the senate and house will daily bring the matter up and demand action. They can refuse to vote and obstruct other and less important legislation. If the democratic leaders will but focus attention upon the inaction of the republicans, they may be forced to do something. No adjournment should be consented to until the trusts are put in the process of ultimate extinction. The democrats will be handicapped in their effort to hold the republican party responsible for the present trust domination of the government unless they themselves put forth every effort in their power to secure remedial measures.

LETTER TO THE IROUOIS CLUB.

Mr. Andrew J. Ryan, Chairman Invitation Committee, Iroquois Club, Chicago.—My Dear Sir: I am just in receipt of your invitation to attend the twenty-third annual banquet of the Iroquois club to be held on the 13th inst. I thank you for the invitation, and regret to say that I shall not be able to attend. I trust, however, that those present will take advantage of the occasion to present to the country the importance of maintaining democratic principles as they were set forth in the platforms of 1896 and 1900.

The merger decision shows how closely the supreme court is divided and how easy it is for those who sympathize with corporate wealth to find plausible reasons for staying the hand of the law when it attempts to rebuke those who exploit the people. Under our constitution the present appoints judges and those who have watched the decisions in the Hayes-Tilden contest, in the income tax case, in the trust case and in the cases involving the policy of the government in the Philippines cannot doubt that it is as important to have judges who sympathize with the people as to have judges learned in the law.

In the present struggle between plutocracy and democracy the corporations are seeking to control the supreme court, and if they can do that the

expense of maintaining the White House during the three years of President Roosevelt's incumbency is greater than the expense during any two full administrations of his predecessors. Is enough riding to be displaced by rough spending?

Legislation by proclamation is a natural result of the drift away from government by consent.

As water to a dog afflicted with rabies, so the mention of organized labor to the Chicago Chronicle.

Thomas Lawson and "Gas" Aldrich are each declaring that the other is guilty of false swearing. Up to date no one has questioned the competency of the witnesses as to the veracity of the parties to the dispute.

It appears that the republican machine managers object to the expenditure of any money in the promotion of a candidate's boom unless it is money freed from protected trusts and expended by themselves.

A woman can look more guilty over a dream she had than a man can over the real thing.

The candidate for delegate to the St. Louis convention who opposes being instructed is a good man to leave at home.

The war news from Tibet sounds very much like some British official is striving for an undeserved promotion.

Kansas and Nebraska were "redeemed" by the republicans but a short time ago. The honest voters of these two states are cordially invited to express their opinion upon the "redemption," but profane epithets are barred.

It seems to keep a number of the republican "redeemers" of Kansas and Nebraska busy dodging the penitentiary.

President Butler of Columbia asks for \$10,000,000 more endowment. The university endowment at present is \$25,000,000.

TO DECEIVE VOTERS

WHY REPUBLICANS ARE EAGER TO ADJOURN CONGRESS.

Fear That Actual Facts as to the Conditions in the Business World Will Become Too Well Known—What Those Facts Are.

The Republicans are doing their best to deceive the people as to the real conditions in the business world. They are pouring speeches into Congress for use in the coming campaign, the tenor of which is "Stand pat," "All is well," "Prosperity is still rampant," and a few facts to the contrary. They would have the country believe that we are rapidly recovering from the temporary setback to industry which occurred from October to January, when wage reductions became general and when nearly half the mills in many industries had to close.

Although there never was more important business for Congress to attend to than at present, in order to bring relief from the tyrannical trusts which have put up prices and increased the cost of living to the highest point ever known, while reducing wages in all directions, yet it is the aim and policy of the Republicans to adjourn Congress just as soon as the appropriation bills can be rushed through. They will then begin to circulate their "Stand-pat" and "Prosperity" speeches, hoping to lull to sleep the great mass of voters and to keep them ignorant of the real facts as to the industrial depression which is still on and which cannot be vanquished, even by Republican rhetoric. The Republicans know that every day they remain in Washington will not only bring to light new scandals in their administration, but that it will add new evidence of the depression which is now running its course. They know that the Democrats hesitate to picture conditions as bad as they really are and that, if Congress adjourns at once, the Democrats will practically be without frankable speeches to offset the frankable prosperity speeches of the Republicans. This, they think, will give them another opportunity to fool the voters. This accounts for much of their unseemly haste to adjourn Congress.

That the business world, after some slight recovery in February and early March, is again on the down grade is reasonably certain. The testimony of the trade papers is conclusive. Thus, that greatest of all trade journals, the Iron Age, in its issue of March 31, mentions numerous wage reductions and closed mills, some of which are:

"McKinley Lodge, Amalgamated Association of Steel and Tin Plate Workers, Elwood, Ind., all hot mill men and numbering 500, have decided to quit work rather than accept the 30 per cent reduction in wages proposed by the American Sheet Steel and Tin Plate Company and endorsed by the officers of the Amalgamated Association."

"At New Castle, Pa., the men in the lodges of the Amalgamated Association employed in the tin plate mills in the Greer and Shenango works of the American Sheet and Tin Plate Company, have voted to accept the reduction of 20 per cent in wages which went into effect on March 31. At South Sharon, Pa., the men in the lodge of the Amalgamated Association have voted not to accept the reduction in wages."

"The Tin Plate Wage Reduction.—Pittsburg, Pa., March 29, 1904.—(By Telegraph).— * * * "While the Amalgamated officials refuse to give out anything to-day as to whether the vote is in favor of or against the reduction in wages, we learn from reliable sources that the tin plate workers have voted against the reduction. It is now known at this time what action will be taken by the association in this event, but it is probable that a number of the union tin plate mills will be closed. At other plants where the men voted in favor of the reduction, as they did at the Greer and Shenango works of the American Sheet and Tin Plate Company at New Castle, Pa., the plants will likely continue to operate at the reduced wage scale. The whole situation from the Amalgamated Association's standpoint is serious, and it will require the greatest diplomacy on the part of the officials of the organization to hold it together."

The Wool and Cotton Reporter of March 21 mentions a 5 to 10 per cent reduction in wages at the Arlington Mills, Lawrence, Mass., affecting 2,000 of the 4,000 operatives, which took effect on March 28. It also says that the woolen mill at Newcastle, Delaware, and the Chester (Pa.) Manufacturing Company have closed down for indefinite periods. Also that the West Warren Cotton Mill (Mass.) has shut down No. 5 mills and that the mills of the Lonsdale (R. I.) Company will, in future, run only five days a week.

Turning to the New York Journal of Commerce of March 31, we learn that some of the drawer finishers in the Harrower Knitting Mill at Troy, N. Y., are on strike because of a cut of 2½ cents a dozen on the goods handled. Again on April 1 it tells us that 39,000 textile operatives in Philadelphia are idle because of poor conditions in the cotton and woolen goods trade and that "in the next few weeks it is probable that many more mills will suspend operations, and that the number of men, women and children out of employment will be increased materially." It says that "Many mills are running on half time, and some have closed down entirely. Among the latter are the Dobson Cloth and Blanket Mills at Manayunk and the Winfield Manufacturing Company."

Other trade and commercial organs contain similar news as to industry. Only two or three weeks ago 130,000 soft coal miners voted to accept a reduction in wages of over 5½ per cent. It has become known that the average reduction in wages of those of the 188,000 employes of the Steel Trust who were not discharged a few months ago was more nearly 30 than 10 per cent.

The window, flint glass and silk industries are perhaps in as bad condition as are those of steel, textile and coal-mining. Railroad earnings

are greatly decreased, notwithstanding that thousands of men were recently laid off and that hundreds of thousands have had their wages reduced. Only a few days ago President Mellon of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad announced that the trade depression in New England had become so severe that his road had found it necessary to curtail its passenger service.

These are some of the facts that indicate that Republican tariff and trust legislation is rapidly reducing the size of the workman's dinner pail. Not only have money wages declined greatly recently, but the cost of living, according to Dun's tables of prices, is now 45 per cent higher than when the Dingley tariff bill became law. If dinner pails are to be full this year, they must be very, very small. To get a feeling of fullness, the workmen must wear shorter belts than usual and keep them buckled up tight.—Byron W. Holt.



TAX AND TRUST RIDDEN.

People Everywhere Complaining of Tariff Exactions.

When you hear a Republican saying there is no need to reform the tariff, ask him why the rates in the Dingley bill—the present tariff law—were made so much higher than the McKinley law, which was higher than any other previous tariff. The fact that the rates are higher now than ever before would seem to demand reform.

It was admitted by Senator Dilliver of Iowa in a speech in the senate that the rates were purposely increased to allow for reductions that might be made in reciprocity treaties with foreign countries. Mr. Kasson was selected by President McKinley to negotiate reciprocity treaties and he did so with France, Nicaragua, Ecuador, Argentine and the British and Danish West Indies.

But the Republican leaders in the United States senate refused to allow those treaties to be ratified and the Dingley law rates have continued to be paid by the people of the United States without the small concessions that the reciprocity treaties would have made on some articles. And yet the Republican National platform of 1900 contained these words:

"Reciprocity and protection are twin measures of Republican policy and go hand-in-hand." The Iowa state platform of 1901 said, "We endorse the policy of reciprocity as the natural complement of protection and urge its development as necessary to the realization of our highest commercial possibilities." And that tariff plank closed with this important declaration: "We favor any modification of the tariff schedules that may be required to prevent their affording a shelter to monopoly."

Nearly every state Republican platform has declared for reciprocity and some of them declared for such modifications of the tariff schedule as may seem to be required. The Idaho Republican platform of 1902 declared openly for tariff revision and contained the most radical anti-trust plank that any political party has declared for. It says: "We favor a revision of the tariff without unreasonable delay which will place upon the free list every article and product controlled by any monopoly and such other articles and products as are beyond the need of protection."

In spite of these declarations and promises made by the Republicans, President Roosevelt and the leaders in congress have determined to not even consider the tariff, or attempt to modify those schedules that give the trusts their monopoly of the market for many of the necessities of life. The Republicans refuse to ratify the reciprocity treaties of their own making and they refuse to reduce the Dingley rates, although they purposely placed those rates much higher than the protected trusts asked, that when the reciprocity treaties were ratified, the trusts and combines would still be amply protected. But the trusts controlled the Republican leaders and have been strong enough to keep the law intact and the protectionists declare it must not be touched.

Thus are we tariff taxed and trust ridden. Ask your Republican neighbor how he likes it do nothing program of his party and if he thinks his prosperity is enhanced by it.

Awkward Fix for the G. O. P.

The Smoot case is becoming a political embarrassment for the Republican leaders. If Smoot shall be expelled Utah, Nevada, Colorado, Montana and Idaho, where there is a considerable Mormon vote, will be put in the list of doubtful states. If the Senate shall fail to expel him there will be Eastern disgust to contend with. It is more than likely, under the circumstances, that decisive action will be postponed until after the election. A position on the fence is confessedly awkward for the Republican elephant, but there seems to be no help for it.—Philadelphia Record.

The People Will Know It.

It is complementarily remarked, apropos of the reduction in the size of the loaf of bread, that people will soon get accustomed to it, and that they'll scarcely notice the difference after a time. And yet there is no getting away from the fact that they will be deprived of just so much sustenance. You can't deprive people of any part of their food and make them believe that they are eating it too. Even the horse can be trained to get along with a curtailment of his oats, but he generally shows it on his ribs.



Nutriments in Rice Water.

When boiling rice some cooks allow the cereal to absorb all the water in which it is cooked, while others keep it supplied with more water and then drain off and throw it away. When the latter method is adhered to much of the nutriment of the rice is wasted. The orientals long ago discovered that rice water contains the very essence of nutriment, and travelers in oriental countries when attacked by stomach troubles incident to the climate have found that rice water, when sweetened and flavored with some favorite extract, and set away to cool, makes a jelly which may be eaten cold with cream. This makes a very nice dessert to serve to children.

Misses' Eton Jacket.

Eton jackets are peculiarly well adapted to young girls and are in the height of present styles. This one can be used with or without the collar and made with either the plain or full sleeves and is adapted to all the season's fabrics. It is shown, however, in blue-tinted cheviot with trimming of fancy black and white braid and handsome gold buttons. The narrow vest is a peculiarly attractive feature and can be made from a variety of materials. The cape collar adds largely to the effect and gives the fashionable droop to the shoulders, but can be omitted if a plainer garment is preferred. The Eton is made with fronts and back and is fitted by means of shoulder and underarm seams and single darts. The narrow vest is applied over the front edge and the cape collar stitched with corticelli silk is arranged over the whole, its inner edge serving to outline the vest. The full sleeves are wide and ample, finished with shaped cuffs, and can be made either with fitted linings or loose as may be preferred. The coat sleeves are made in regulation style and cut in two pieces each, being simply stitched to form cuffs.



4693 Misses' Eton Jacket, 12 to 16 yrs.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 3½ yards 21 inches wide, 3¾ yards 27 inches wide, or 1¼ yards 44 inches wide, with 2½ yards of braid to trim as illustrated. The pattern 4693 is cut in sizes for misses of 12, 14 and 16 years of age.

The Satchet Bag.

Sachets play an important part in the modern woman's wardrobe. That delicate, evanescent perfume that clings to dainty garments can be given by sachets alone, for liquid perfumes are invariably the reverse of subtle or delicate. Nearly all straight-front corsets are worn with a satchet tucked into the top. Sometimes it is a long, straight cushion, very soft and thin, and delicately perfumed; tied around the middle with a ribbon bow. Again, it may be heart-shaped and lace-trimmed, with a tiny bow at the top.

Blouse Eton. Blouse Etons are among the most satisfactory of the season's wraps and offer a wide range of variety. This one allows a choice of the plain blouse or the cape collar that is extended at the back and does away with the over broad effect that so often is found. The model is made of royal blue cheviot stitched and trimmed with fancy braid, but it is adapted to all seasonable suitings and the finish can be anything the wearer may prefer. The pointed belt is peculiarly becoming, as it gives a far more slender effect than can be obtained by a round one, and the wide sleeves are eminently desirable over the fashionable waists.

The blouse is made with fronts and back and is fitted by means of shoulder and underarm seams. The lower edge is gathered at the back, plaited at the front and finished by means of the belt. The cape collar is entirely separate and is arranged over the whole, the edges being finished with braid or in any manner that may be preferred. The wide sleeves are made in one piece each and are finished with broad roll over cuffs. The quantity of material required for the medium size is 4 yards 27 inches wide, 2½ yards 44 inches wide, or 2¾ yards 52 inches wide, with 3 yards of braid for edges or blouse and cuffs.

Summer Frocks in Winter.

Fashion's superfluous disregard of climate inside the house is one of the most notable symptoms of that automatic madam's present mood. In America and Russia the custom is gradually gaining ground of assuming airy frothy wearables indoors in winter instead of the warm, heavy garments of a former regime. The improved method of heating houses by steam or hot water radiators has much to do with the change, no doubt. We no longer are obliged to huddle round the hearth for warmth while the room's four corners are hovering about the freezing point. But it is not alone in the house that summer garments are possible in January. At most of the smart restaurants at home or abroad diaphanous dress is the order of day and evening. In Paris this was especially noticeable on a frivolous evening at the Ritz. Everybody was more or less garbed in chiffon frock and a

Belts Must Be Wide.

Sift kid belts are wider than ever—assuming the proportions of actual girdles. Some specially smart ones noted in a recent tour of the shops were fully six to eight inches wide. They were made of the most pliable kid—in red, white, all the pale tints, cerise and the like. Large buckles in silver and "gold washed" completed the smart effect.

Prairie Grass for Floor Coverings.

Prairie grass matting is restful and substantial floor coverings. They suit all seasons, but especially summer. Those of the best quality wear indefinitely, need no tacking down, and are easily preserved from raveling by tying the warp and knotting it securely. The solid green is the prettiest.

For Milady's Writing Room.

Cocooned fibre scrap baskets are the latest novelties for the writing room. They are made in the shape of a large jardiniere, and are rich in coloring. The fibres cross and recross in a labyrinthine design which is most attractive. A large bow of ribbon is tied about the basket and attached to one side.

Soutache Braids.

Shaded white effects are much in evidence in the soutache trimmings, and nothing could be more effective than one shading from a deep cerise to a chalk white, a line of gold being added to the edge.

Readers of this paper can secure any May

Manton pattern illustrated above by filling out all blanks in coupon, and mailing, with 10 cents, to E. E. Harrison & Co., 65 Plymouth Place, Chicago. Pattern will be mailed promptly.

Name _____
 Town _____
 State _____
 Pattern No. _____
 Waist Measure (if for skirt) _____
 Bust Measure (if for waist) _____
 Age (if child's or miss's pattern) _____

Write plainly. Fill out all blanks. Enclose 10c. Mail to E. E. Harrison & Co., 65 Plymouth Place, Chicago.