

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

In this column we will publish communications of a worthy and suitable character...

ADVICE TO JOHNSON.

Those Who Live in Glass Houses Should Not Throw Stones

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 30, 1897. J. W. JOHNSON, Lincoln, Neb.:-

For God's sake Johnson what are you about? What are you thinking of and what are the rest of our party leaders thinking of...

WHILE WE ARE ROBBING NEBRASKA. Give us the good old Bartley days. We would have another steal...

CHORUS. Hurrah, hurrah, we are the s. o. p. Hurrah, hurrah, we are for the stuff you see...

Bartley now is in the pen, gone up for twenty years. But if Moore can be acquitted, we will give three hearty cheers...

Tom Cook will be our leader, when next we start the fight. For while George Post is posted, he isn't posted right...

Lawrence Casey lost his bank, and he shall be repaid. He spent his thousands on an egg the old hen...

Red Lindsey will be with us, we will have him for a champion. He'll show the kicking stranger and cultivate the bum...

Don't you think that's tip top for the first apfel, Johnson? Just as soon as I get better acquainted with the old machine...

THOSE WHO LIVE IN GLASS HOUSES.

There is many a man who will stir up a fight, without making sure that he is dead right. He shoots off his mouth and makes a great fuss...

Many political shysters have been brought to grief. Who built themselves up by crying "stop thief." They got into office and then did their best...

And then there are some knights of the quill. Who of their opponents always speak ill. They seem to forget the long missing link...

So they get thinking thoughts, or think they are. And the wheels in their heads get out of repair. They conclude, when shunned by Brown, Smith...

In conclusion let's hope, J. W. Johnson ain't one who has the best reason to watch out for a gun in his travels through life...

Johnson this seems pretty tough on you, but its mighty good poetry. Do you know I have got interested in this poetry business myself...

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JOHN W. JAYSON.

How About Those Foreigners?

As a foreigner, I have since last fall campaign been assailed several times with similar sentences. You, a foreigner? Yes, any man knowing your politics would know you was. Why? Simply because all the --- foreigners in the United States are a set of idiot anarchists...

You are the worst set of foreigners we have, you have come here, and we the republican party have given you land, homesteads, and then you turn around and buck against the g. o. p. that is the cause of you being here...

This has not been a single time, or by a single man, that such arguments have been put forth, but very general, every foreigner is well acquainted with similar sayings, and especially if he is a populist. I think it is about time for us foreigners to let everybody know what we are going to do.

It has often been a wonder to me why we were assailed in this manner so sudden. Up till last fall we were looked at as some of the best citizens in the land, and now what a change. By thinking and reasoning I have come to the conclusion that our worst sin, is not that we are foreigners, but that where there is one republican there is four or five populists. Now if this is the cause, I can assure all the good republicans that if they want our aid...

coaxed. We want reason, good sound argument and honest government. We despise boodle in any form, and don't think for a moment we are for sale by the dozen.

When the republican party plainly showed that it was run and controlled by such men as Mark Hanna, Carnegie, Pullman and their like, we do not go out one by one but march out in a solid body. We do not want to stay in the party of aristocracy; we are plain people, and do not expect to live and get fat out of others' work.

It is not enough to tell us that silver is produced in such enormous quantity that it is as plentiful as copper, we want also to know how enormous it is anyhow. It is not enough to tell us that we have the best banking system in the world. As long as a man has to give a mortgage several times the worth of money he loans, and if he wants to deposit any he can take a squint look at the banker's face and feel consoled that if the bank goes up, the banker still is a man of high standing in society.

It is no use to tell us when a man has a contract for armor plate, and make a defective work, that he is not a traitor of the worst kind; we are used to seeing such men behind the bars for life, or see them get their neck fatally out of shape.

We want a government that will enforce the law on rich and poor alike, let the thief be treated as a thief, no matter whether he is clothed in rags or silk or a beggar or a millionaire. Give us laws, such that an honest man can be a banker and stay in business, without fearing the dictation of the rascals, and such that the rascals must either be good or go out.

Give us laws and enforce them, that anyone who by scheming, or any other way defecate our national defense that he be treated as a traitor, no matter whether in war or peace. No matter whether rich or poor, whether with influence or with none, let him be a traitor and let him be punished as such.

Give us laws that taxes wealth, and not human flesh, make the rich that is rolling themselves in overflow pay off their income and let the tolling class, the class who earn their bread by the sweat of the brow go free. That class that owns nothing but their body, has got nothing to pay taxes on. That party there will give true reform we stay by. But we don't go by promises any more. We have seen delegations sit on the coast of Florida weeping and howling, let me in the boat and we will stop that Cuban fight. They got there, but went some other place, or lost their way, and have not been heard of since. We have seen them have a sound money election, but the money is sidetracked to Wall street and debris all around it, so there will be a long time until it is cleared away, and maybe never.

There have often been said, and not without some foundation, that we foreigners love our home country more than this. This is true to some extent. We love the country of our childhood, like the young bride loves her mother's home, who looks out over the hills to see the tops of the tall trees, where she has spent so many happy hours, where that gray haired lady lives, that is always such a good counsel, always have a remedy for all ills. The same with us, we love the country where we were born, reared and grewed, we like to, after the toils of the day, to look up to the same stars as we saw at home, and sail on the swift clouds of thought, over and rest for a few moments under the beautiful green leaved beach, and the sweet smelling spruce and pines; rest on the bank of the crystal clear river, that tosses her ever running water over rock and stones, hastening to reach the mighty deep blue ocean. Our love to dwell there in thought, and recall the sweet thrill of the Nightengale and the soothing song of the singing lark. We love to think us sitting on the cliff and see those mighty steamships go by, and the schooners with waving sails plowing the deep ocean billows. And is it any wonder that we, on a hot, dry July day, dream ourselves back to the meadow, where the Holstein milker stands in clover till over knee.

We love the country where we were born. But this is our home; this is where our toils and cares are laid, and our children raised, we can never be contented any other place. Be kind to us that makes our new home brighter, softer and more content. Few realize what I have to say, to be cut off from one nation and grafted into another.

Direct Legislation. We have from time to time felt it our duty to call the attention of our readers to glaring imperfections in our economic conditions, from which the physician suffers more than his share.

But it is strange that physicians in various parts of the country write us: "What can we do? We have given our lives to the study of science, and intrusted economical questions to those who make a specialty of them. If they have made such a disgraceful failure, what can we do? If partisanship and corruption are the cause, are not both the dominant parties equally guilty? Physicians in different parts of the country naturally have different political affiliations and attachments. We can do nothing without uniting, and what can we unite upon?"

We are very glad to have the opportunity to answer the above. There is something that every physician and every other honest and earnest citizen can unite upon, whether he be a republican, democrat, populist, prohibitionist, socialist or single taxer. Our republican institutions, as good as they are, are notoriously imperfect. Corruption seems to be the disease of republics. The Roman republic died of it. France and our own republic are seriously afflicted with it. But the oldest republic now in existence, Switzerland, after long suffering, found a remedy for it, and she now stands forth purged and

pure, an example to her larger but younger sisters.

Republics are governed by representatives, elected usually for a specific time. During this time they hold absolute sway, without, as a rule, feeling the responsibility felt by officers in monarchies, who hold their positions permanently. Hence these representatives, temporary, but absolute for the time being, are too frequently an easy prey to scheming politicians, each serving the other's selfish interests.

One of our subscribers suggests that it would be a good thing to "have a string to our Congressman when he fails to give satisfaction to his constituents. That would be a good plan, but the Swiss plan is better.

A feature was added to the Swiss organic law requiring that all bills above a certain degree of importance, and not being of immediate urgency, should be referred to the people for their ratification or rejection at the next general election. Then the wily politician sought pastures new, for his occupation was gone. This is called the referendum.

But the Swiss people, suspecting their representatives still further, retained the privilege of initiating legislation. That is, any bill (which any voter can propose), when endorsed by a certain percentage of the voters, must be acted upon by the government, and in turn by the people at the next election, if necessary. This is called the Initiative. That is, the people claim for themselves the privilege of proposing and determining legislation. This is called direct legislation; and it has purified the hitherto very corrupt politics of Switzerland.

Democrats, isn't this fair? It is a return to simple democracy. Republicans, isn't this fair? It is only a wider application of the principle, "government by the people." Populists, isn't this fair? It will place directly in the hands of the people all the modern reforms. Prohibitionists, socialists and single taxers, isn't this fair? Your ideas will then have a fair chance.

Now this—the Initiative and Referendum—is what all can unite upon, and it should be done immediately. It is the key that will unlock the golden future. Opposition to it is self condemnation. We want immediate and united action. A party with that single principle alone for a platform would deserve success at the next general election. If it should require a struggle for the next eight or ten years, it would be worth it.

When has a political party kept its promises? What do political platforms mean? What do electioneers mean? The meaning of every election is interpreted in hundreds of different ways. Read the various "opinions" after every election. With the referendum the meaning would be direct and specific.

We could then vote for principles and measures, and not merely for men; and our expressions at the ballot box would be understood. Let us have it, and through it let us oust the professional politician, the lobbyist, the corruptionist, and obtain justice for the weakest as well as the strongest in our midst.—Dr. C. F. Taylor in the Medical World.

To go to Nashville.

Governor Holcomb has appointed the following delegates from Nebraska to the national road parliament which will be in session in Nashville, Tenn., September 16, 17 and 18. Curtiss Turner, Omaha; I. C. Phelan, Brayton; C. H. Elmendorf, Syracuse; W. S. Delano, Lee's Park; J. P. Mullen, O'Neill; G. C. Barnum, Columbus; W. A. Messick, Robert J. Atchison; Charles L. Smith, Omaha; W. M. McCall, Grand Island. Dr. F. C. Allen, Beatrice; W. H. Troyer, Lincoln; E. R. Pease, Fremont; D. J. O'Brien, A. R. Edmisten, J. E. Howe, Omaha. These delegates will also be entitled to seats to the southern irrigation congress.

F. D. SHERWIN



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