

A THINKING MACHINE.

It Might Be a Good Thing, as So Many
Are Too Lazy to Think.

Now that Edison has invented a talking machine I am hoping he will invent a thinking machine. There is nothing needed more. If he can do that, and invent one that will think right, it will be a boon to the human race. The great majority of mankind don't do their own thinking. They allow some one to think for them. It is so much easier to get thought secondhand. It don't cost much to get the kind of thought sold in the markets and it would be all right with the buyer if the article was genuine, but the mills, the colleges, schools, newspapers, pulpit and press that grind out thought for the masses deal in spurious thoughts, on political economy at least.

Everybody ought to do their own thinking, provided they think right. If a man is too lazy to think or incapable of thinking right, then it would be an inestimable boon to have a machine that did think right for him.

Now that the world is struggling to get up on to the higher plane of morality, equality and justice; now that it is trying to throw off its old, worn-out childhood, boyhood garments, and put on a manhood suit; trying to get out of the brute force element of barbarism into the realm of love and universal brotherhood. It is so unfortunate, such a calamity to the whole human race, that the press, the great city dailies and the great colleges, schools and universities, act as brakes to hold back the train. It is the blind leading the blind. The masses are in their hands, as the clay in the potter's.

They pour out a stream of thought on political economy that is pure counterfeits. They teach error for truth and deceive the masses on every line of politics, and the one who tries to hold up the truth is denounced a crazy fanatic. They teach and the masses believe that the present restless, chaotic state of society is the best and highest that the world can ever attain. Thus they are holding the world in the old ruts of barbarism. What the world needs now is a correct moral development. It is not suffering now for want of knowledge. It is suffering and bleeding at every pore for the application of justice. The entire fabric, every timber in the structure of civil governments, all over the world is worm eaten with injustice.

The universal law of competition, in which it is every man for himself and the devil for no all, is a mass of moral corruption. It is social war. Selfishness, covetousness, avarice, greed, these constitute its essential elements. It develops all the bad in our nature. It makes selfishness of us all. It is a school of moral filth and a gospel of moral rot. Yet the world believes in it and practices it because of false teaching.—Rev. D. Oglesby in Norton's Monthly.

Government Railways.

In Belgium the railways operated and owned by the government have reduced fares and freight 50 per cent and doubled the wages of the employees and yet pay the government a profit of \$4,000,000 a year. In Germany you can travel four miles for a cent on the government roads. Wages are 135 per cent higher than when the same roads were owned by private corporations, and the roads furnish the German government with a revenue of \$25,000,000 a year. In New South Wales the government owns and operates the railroads, street railways, waterworks, docks, telegraphs and telephones. There are 3,877 miles of railway, all but 84 miles of which is owned by the colony. In 1894, 17,000,000 passengers were carried at 1 1/2 cents per mile. The net profits exceeded \$6,000,000. All government mails and freights were carried free. No employee works over eight hours. Engineers receive \$5.30 and laborers \$1.00 per day. In Hungary, where the roads are owned by the government, you can ride six miles for 1 cent, and wages have been doubled since the state purchased the roads. In France, New Zealand, India and many other countries the state owns some of the railroads, and Switzerland has just passed the necessary legislation to acquire all the railroads of the country.—J. Enoch Thompson in Arena.

Postoffice and Telegraph.

The deficit in the postal service during the last fiscal year was a little over \$9,000,000. Who cares? As a rule the people feel more interest in the postoffice than any other branch of the government, and very few care a rap whether it is self sustaining or not. What they desire is an efficient service at the least possible cost. They object, however, to the government doing the unprofitable part of the postal business and leaving to private monopoly the profitable portion. Last year the Western Union Telegraph company cleared over \$6,000,000, and a goodly share of the swag was drawn from Uncle Sam's exchequer. Congress alone has power to stop it, plundering of the government and the people, and bills are now in both houses with that end in view. Insist that your senators and representatives next winter haul those bills out of committee, urge their consideration and demand their passage.—Journal of the Knights of Labor.

Banks and Bonds.

It will be something of an eye opener to many plodding farmers to know that under the present banking system the banks make about 20 per cent on net cash invested in bonds besides having a safe investment for other people's money as they may be able to get it. These figures are taken from the statement of an authority which favors banks. The figures are conservative, but conclusive. They indicate the nature of the enormous pressure brought to bear upon a bond issue is up for settlement. The banks have substantial reasons for wanting the bonds.—Buckshot Times.

GENERAL GARCIA ARRIVES.

In Favor of Temporary Occupation of
Cuba by Americans.

New York, Nov. 23.—General Camilo Garcia and the other Cuban commissioners from the Cuban military assembly at Santa Cruz del Sur, who are en route to Washington for the purpose of laying before President McKinley a resolution recently adopted by the assembly as to the future of the island of Cuba, arrived here on the Ward line steamer Segurana.

"I will go to Washington in a day or two, to see the President, and after my work in the United States is accomplished will return to Cuba."

"The Cubans have no other feeling for the Americans than those of friendship and gratitude. As for myself, I believe in American occupation of Cuba until order has been restored. I believe in the United States having Cuba, but not forever. I am for free Cuba, and so are all other Cubans. There is no sentiment on the island for annexation. All Cubans have faith in Mr. McKinley."

RIOS DID NOT WITHDRAW.

The Dispatch From Paris Monday Was
a Fake.

PARIS, Nov. 23.—The report sent out from here yesterday to the effect that, on presentation of the United States' ultimatum demanding absolute cessation of the Philippine, the president of the Spanish peace commission broke off peace negotiations, was a fake. Peace negotiations have not been broken off, and no threats have been made.

Twenty-Five Rebels Shot.

MADRID, Nov. 23.—General Rios, the Spanish governor of the Vizcaya islands, cables from Iloilo that the rebellion of the native forces in the Spanish military service has been subdued. Ninety-seven rebels were court-martialed, of whom twenty-five were shot and sixty-nine sentenced to imprisonment for life at hard labor.

The insurrection at Davao in Mindanao has been suppressed, according to General Rios, and tranquility prevails in the rest of the islands, except Negros.

Rios asserts that the Spanish garrison at Iloilo made several sorties, inflicting serious losses upon the rebels. He adds also that, at Bohol, the rebels continue to besiege the town.

Philippines Want Damages.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 23.—At the Palace hotel in this city are registered a number of very prominent Filipinos. They come direct from the city of Manila and are en route to Washington, D. C. The object of the visit to the United States just now is to present large claims for damages before the President and cabinet. The damages, the claimants assert, were incurred owing to the recent war with Spain, and an attempt will be made to show that valuable property owned by the Filipinos was destroyed by the American troops. It is not definitely known just how large an indemnity will be asked for by the Filipinos, but it is believed the aggregate claims will reach several hundred thousand dollars.

All Checks Must Be Stamped.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Within the last three days, the department of justice and the internal revenue bureau of the treasury department have received a very large number of letters and telegrams inquiring as to the truth of the statement sent from Columbia, Mo., to the effect that the attorney general had rendered a decision that bank checks drawn on funds belonging to the payee were not subject to stamp taxes. There is no truth in this statement. It has been repeatedly held that all checks on banks for the payment of money are subject to tax irrespective of any conditions.

Lillookalani Here Again.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 23.—Ex-Queen Lillookalani of Hawaii has arrived here from Honolulu. The object of her visit is to try to influence Congress to allow her to retain possession of the crown lands, valued at \$5,000,000. Lillookalani maintains that, despite the annexation of the Hawaiian islands to the United States, the crown lands are her absolute private property, and that this country has no more right to assume ownership of the lands than it has to take the property of any private citizen.

Verdict for \$717,000.

OMAHA, Neb., Nov. 23.—James A. Doyle of Denver secured a judgment by default against James P. Ryan, president of the Portland Gold Mining company, at Council Bluffs to-day for \$717,000. The suit is for possession of certain shares of the company's stock and the dividends thereon, alleged by plaintiff, who was former treasurer of the company, to have been withheld from him by the defendant, who is president of the company.

Fatal Springfield Quarrel.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Nov. 23.—James M. Kirby, the well known wholesale liquor dealer and capitalist of this place, in self-defense shot and, it is thought, fatally wounded Russell Campbell in a saloon quarrel at 5 o'clock last evening.

Martial Law in Panama.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Nov. 23.—Governor Tanner has issued a proclamation placing Panama under martial law. The commanding officer is ordered to take possession of all arms in the hands of miners or citizens in the district.

At Hartsboro, Ind. To-day, three brothers named Green shot two Russians named Morris and Butawinski, killing both instantly. An old feud in Russia was the cause of the trouble. The Greens were arrested and placed in jail.

Evolution in Ideals.

The hero of the Thanksgiving of these modern days is the modern end of the century is not the chivalrous hero of bygone times, with his hair in a cue and laces dangling from his wrists, but he stands a stocky figure of herculean strength supported on a gridiron pedestal and holding aloft a grimy football in place of the sword of romance.

His face is massive with the force of his purpose. His hair recalls the jagged shreds of Japan's royal chrysanthemum. His muscles are hardened with the power of iron and the strength of his determination to do or die. His armor is an assorted collection of pads and shields, and, on the principle that it is impossible to get too much of a good thing, his appearance on the field of honor is strikingly impressive and forceful. The football player rules the land on Thanksgiving day. His voice is loud in the land, and his supremacy is unrivaled. Banners are waved at him, and cheers are shouted. Canes proclaim his victory, and beauty extols his prowess. He is lord of the day.—Chicago Chronicle.

Shame on the stay-at-home voters of the state who permitted this defeat. Had these men gone to the polls on election day and voted as they should Senator Allen would not have been defeated. But his defeat has taught us that while the reform forces of the state have the votes to carry the state and legislature as well, we must not be too confident, but make victory doubly sure by getting out every vote. In this manner we can again win two years hence, when Senator Allen must be elected.—Custer County Independent.

The republicans never made such an effort in Nebraska to win the state as at this election. They have tramped over every quarter section and solicited votes from everybody and the result shows that all you have to do is to ask some men for their votes and you get them. Their highest duty and privilege as American citizens are valued about as much as they would an old shoe. The reform forces now say that they cannot win without a big effort at every election; that some voters can be captured by smooth-tongued candidates and voted against the principles they advocate.—Crate Democrat.

MARK AT THE OPERA.

One of "These Troublesome Cusses"
Bumps Against the Boss.

Like many others of Cleveland's team of society, I took my wife to the opera house two weeks ago to enjoy "Lucia di Lammermoor," grand opera as it was. Clementine de Vere electrified the audience with her schooled and superb voice. She and her excellent company earned well deserved applause. But that is not what I wanted to talk about. I wish to say something about my meeting with Mark Hanna in the lobby of the opera house. After the first act Mark left his box and stepped down among the more common mortals and finally grasped me by the hand and greeted me warmly.

"Is she not magnificent and worth the price?" he said, referring of course to the prima donna.

I thought it was, but regretted that comparatively so few could afford to partake in the rare treat, and concluded by saying that if I had in charge the formation of industrial conditions they would be such as to enable every one who cared to listen to such soul inspiring music to do so.

"That's all very well," said Mark Hanna, "but how in the devil are you going to do it? I venture to say that all the millionaires in the United States could not stand it a week to send every workman to such places of amusement."

Triumphantly he looked around and noticed with deep satisfaction the approval nodding heads of his admirers and surely thought he had me pat.

Seeing that it would be useless to delve too deep into the labor question, I simply answered: "It is strange that you should reason thus, but it is quite logical if I say to you that this very class, which you think the millionaires could not afford to send to places of amusement for one week, can, however, furnish the millionaire class with palaces, carriages, blooded stock, yachts and European counts and princes, and you will admit especially the latter come almighty high, and."

I could not finish my reply, because Mark Hanna was informed by the head usher that the diva would be delighted to receive him. The great man then unceremoniously departed.

A shabbily dressed individual who had listened to our conversation wanted to know if that well fed gentleman was a millionaire. I told him that he was commonly rated as such and hardly would deny the charge himself.

"Well," said the stranger, "I was very much interested in your conversation, because it showed me in what a miserable condition most people are. Take myself, for instance. I had to save a month to buy this ticket, and other people spend money lavishly and recklessly by the thousands. I really think we poor people ought to exterminate all people who have more than a million dollars."

I asked him abruptly how he intended to vote his next election day. This was his answer:

"That is my own business, and nobody should trouble about it. But, if you must know, I am a Republican and proud of it. You know how I will vote."

The curtain then rose, and we took our seats. I thinking that there is an enormous darkness among the commoners which must be removed. If Mark Hanna could have heard my conversation with that man he surely could and would cease his class. "As long as we have such a lot of followers in the g. o. p. this country is safe for us." But I would say that this class of ignoramus breeds likewise the Gutierrez, Luchochua, Angellion and others.—Observer in Cleveland Outlook.

NAPOLEON'S REVENGE

He Bequeathed to France in His Will the
Duty of Avenging His Death.

Napoleon has been dead for two generations. In his will by formal words and solemn injunctions he bequeathed to France the duty of avenging on England the untimely death to which it had consigned him. He might have saved himself the trouble. He has found avengers whom he little suspected among the Englishmen themselves.

At the demand of the creditor class the gold standard was adopted in England after the Napoleonic wars in order that the war debt, a large portion of which was incurred in paper, might be paid in gold. The debt being afterwards by law made payable, pound for pound, in gold, it is obvious that the bond holders of Great Britain mulched the people of that country as at a later period, the public creditors of the United States mulched the people of this country. The English people supposed that they had long since paid the expense of the struggle with Napoleon, but by their annual increase in the value of the pound sterling, that struggle is costing them more and more as the years go by. Although the war is over, so far as concerns destruction of men in uniform and on the battle field, yet their distraction continues without uniform and without the formidable formality of battle lines. Although three-fourths of a century has elapsed since that war terminated, the conflict still rages. The bonds that were issued to pay the expense of those wars are increasing in value at the same rate at which gold increases, which for the past twenty years is at the rate of two and a half per cent per annum.—John P. Jones.

The Stay at Homes.

The republican majority in Kansas on the state ticket was 15,739 at last report. The populists made gains in the cities and lost heavily in the country. Indifference is what defeated the silverites of Kansas and they have no one to blame but themselves.

Lee Is Elected.

The revised returns from South Dakota confirm the election of Lee, fusionist, for governor, by a majority of 412. The balance of the state ticket and the legislature is republican.

Republicans didn't gain a vote in Pawnee county this year, but about 250 fusionists husked corn and remained away from the polls. Too bad! do better next time, boys!—Pawnee Press.

Comparing the vote of Saunders county of 1898 with that of 1897 the republicans lost six and the populists lost three hundred and sixteen. The vote of 1898 as compared with that of two years ago the republicans lost 329 and the pops 408. The stay-at-home vote this year as compared with two years ago is 737, and including the Palmer democratic and the prohibition vote would make the stay-at-home vote 800 in this county over the 1896 vote.—Wahoo Wasp (Rep.)

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Purifying Politics.

One of the results in the recent election in Idaho, was the election of a great many women, especially to the position of superintendent of schools. Two women were elected to the state legislature and the state superintendent of public instruction is a woman. It is to be hoped that this pretends a purification of politics in Idaho.

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