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PLEASE MENTION THE INDEPENDENT

Hardy's Column.

Occupation Tax—Corporation Brimstone—Afraid of the Yankees—New Election Law—Poynter Got There—Big Judgment—Republican Taunt—Good Fortune—Reunion—He is Alive—Thurston—What They Intend Race War—Expanded Americans.

Now the city dads want more money and propose to tax things twice and tax everybody's occupation except the politician and tramp.

The rich senator of Montana has bought the volcano near the city of Mexico, the most extensive brimstone factory in the world.

Since the Yankees annihilated both of the Spanish fleets, all Europe begins to fear us, and in the peace convention they wanted to stipulate that no nation should use air navies or throw sleeping gas into each other's armies in time of battle.

We have a law now against corrupting the voter which has just gone into effect. We consider one of the great dangers hanging over our government is the use of election money.

It chafes the raw flesh of the republicans to think that Governor Poynter, General Barby and Congressman Stark should appear first, at San Francisco, ready to welcome our boys of the First and care for the sick and wounded.

A judgment has been rendered by the district court of Douglas county of near \$600,000 against the bondsmen of Joe Bartley in favor of the state of Nebraska. The republicans pretend to shed tears of sympathy for them, for they say it will take the combined fortunes of all of them to pay such a judgment.

The republicans threw it in our faces if we had left Joe Bartley alone a few days he would have paid up all the shortage. If he and his party friends had the money then they must have the most of it now and why do they not come forward and pay the judgment?

The expanded Americans are now fishing after San Domingo, an island lying between Cuba and Porto Rico and about half the size of Cuba. At present there are two republicans on the island, Harty and San Domingo. The republicans of San Domingo has just had a president assassinated and that is sufficient cause for sending them there to shut down the rebels who do not submit to the authority of the United States.

It is rather fortunate that we have two insurance commissioners offices for one man which the other and neither can play the Eugene Moore very easily. We want watching bondsmen if we have any bondsmen at all. These identity companies are just the thing. They come on treasurers when they are not expecting them. Our treasury and bank inspectors do not amount to a hill of beans. Just see how they inspected Moore's bank, but you let one of the industry inspectors come around and they will find out how things stand. There is no good in keeping so much

money in the city, country or state treasury.

A big reunion of the G. A. R. is expected on the 11th of September here at Lincoln. A train load of superannuated gold bug generals are expected who will undertake to make black white and white black. President McKinley will wade through the same mud hole and prove conclusively that all men were created free and entitled to liberty except the Filipinos. Politics will be ignored just as they were three years ago.

The gold bug republican leaders have just discovered that William J. Bryan still lives and that he will be a candidate for the presidency in 1900. They have contended for the last two years that he was dead and would never be heard from again. In his Chicago speech he clearly outlined his coming platform. He favors the use of the two precious metals as money. He opposes trusts, and is in favor of letting the Filipinos govern themselves. There is no need of saying anything about tariff while such men as Chauncy Dupew are coming over to the side of free trade and such an administration as McKinley has entered into a free trade reciprocity with France. Mr. Bryan's doctrine of tariff is taking care of itself. The reciprocity tariff is the only just tariff ever made. You can trade free in your own country providing you let us trade free in yours, but if you put a tax on our goods in your own country we will put the same tax on your goods in our country. Reciprocity is the only rule of foreign trade.

John Thurston advises the republicans not to declare for the gold standard in 1900 for it will jeopardize the success of the party. He advises the coining of silver at its intrinsic value, by comparing with property or with gold. A hundred thousand Mexican silver dollars will buy as many houses, farms, horses, or as much wheat and cotton as they ever would, just as much as an American gold dollar would in 1860. We remember hearing John say he rather gold would go to a premium than prosperity to a discount.

Reproaching the republicans because they did not pass anything in the way of currency reform is bad, in one claiming to be a business man and a banker. He knows well enough that the late congress was dominated in the senate by the popocrats and pope and that sixteen to nine had a majority in that branch up to the date of its adjournment.—State Journal.

It is clear to see that the republican leaders intend to retire the greenbacks and treasury notes as McKinley recommended in his message and perhaps roll up the silver dollars as Gage recommended. If they do not do it as soon as congress meets, it will be through fear of Bryan's mouth and the coming presidential election. The purchasing power of the dollar must be increased so the money grabber's bonds and mortgages will increase in value as compared with property. That is the currency reform intended. Something to help the rich and take it out of the common people.

How does it happen that the colored men of the south should become so dangerous and criminal? During four years of the Jel Davis war all the white men were gone and the colored men protected the women and supported them and no complaint was heard of rape or murder. It is reported that whenever a colored man is industrious and prospering in business and buying property, the big white men become jealous of him and lay a trap for him and then shoot rape and murder him so get him out of the way.

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GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP

First, of railroads. There is no need at present for the government to own and operate all of the railroads in the country to accomplish a radical reform. The beginning ought to be made by the government acquiring the main trunk lines. The ownership by the government of three or four main lines from Atlantic cities to Chicago; two from Chicago to Pacific ports, and three or four north and south lines and their operation with out profit, would result in eight important reforms: 1. Break the power of railroad combines. 2. Reduce rates on all lines in the country. 3. Shatter the present system of discriminating in favor of some shippers and some cities. 4. Shake loose the grip of the railroads on legislation. 5. End railroad strikes. 6. Establish living wages on all roads. 7. Break combines between railroads and coal mine owners, oil producers and other giant monopolies now depending upon transportation to down competition, and built up with the aid of the railroads. 8. Save the government millions of dollars now paid in extortionate charges for carrying the mails and doing other government business. Other benefits would flow from this, but I must be brief and pass on to

Secondly, telegraphs and telephones. No more efficient instrumentality is in the hands of the monopolists today than the electric telegraph. Not alone does it make millions for its possessors; this is a small part of the evil of private ownership. By means of it great commercial transactions are carried on that were impossible without it; and taken in connection with quick railroad transportation capital is given an advantage in the race for more wealth. Never in the history of the world were such powerful and efficient instruments in the hands of wealth as these. Nor do the possessors fail to use them for their own upbuilding. Because of their wonderful efficiency they ought to be owned by the people and operated in the interest of all.

Telegraph monopoly makes and un-makes newspapers. No great daily is great enough to advocate government ownership of the telegraph. A few years ago John Wanamaker made an honest effort to secure this much desired reform. Some republicans of influence joined him in the effort. But nothing came of it but talk. Why? Because the power of the telegraph magnates crushed out all opposition to private ownership. This monopoly manufactures "news" so called to suit its purposes; and deliberately suppresses mention of occurrences of importance when it does not suit its purposes to have the people know what is going on.

I could give elaborate figures showing the saving to the people to flow from government ownership of the telegraph, but want of space forbids. And so with city utilities. The average cost of water in all cities where it is furnished by corporations is nearly double what the cost is in those cases where the city owns the waterworks. Likewise in the matter of city lighting. The flat rate without discount for gas in Kearney is \$2.50 per 1,000 feet; whereas in cities owning their own plants the cost is less than \$1. The corporations possess a similar advantage in furnishing electric lighting and running street cars.

But the inherent mischievousness of private ownership by individuals or corporations of these necessities of every city, lies in the fact that the millions thus made by corporations are made by the use and enjoyment of special privileges granted to them by the cities. First of all, gas, electric lights, street railway or water companies must obtain a franchise from the city. This costs little or nothing except the little "bribe" distributed to the councilmen but this franchise is what enables the company to make its money. This special privilege is coined into money.

And, mark it, this franchise carries with it and confers upon the corporation the function of government, viz: the right to levy a tariff or tax on the consumer of the product. Citizen when you pay your water rent, your gas bill, or your telephone rental, you are paying a tax that is levied upon you by the corporation which has obtained a franchise from your city carrying with it a special governmental privilege of levying a tax against you. This is the yoke you have placed your neck in, through your representatives on the city council. You worry along under this yoke and sweat and tug and toil to pay your tax, one half of which is often laid aside as profit by your task master. How much more sensible and business like it would be for you and all your fellow sufferers to supply yourselves with water and light and street cars through the city government at one half the expense.

Again in the matter of inventions and patents. The ownership of inventions kills competition. The owner of the invention reaps the profit from the death of competition. The government confers upon him, by the patent, the right and power to kill competition and make this profit. This is another special privilege. This is the creation of another monopoly by statute.

The remedy? Government ownership of all inventions and the free use of them by the public. But what shall be done with the inventor? Pension him. Fix the pension in accordance with the value of the invention. This is not determinable at first, but as the invention comes into use its value may be determined. Let the six per cent of the pension be charged accordingly, but in no case to exceed a reasonable sum. The great share of the profit ought to go to the public; for if there were no "public" the inventor would make nothing. A board of patents could regulate the whole matter under a wise law. Of course this would relate only to future inventions.

Many other industries fall into the same category as those above discussed and similar principles ought to be applied; but for want of space I cannot consider them in detail.

Did your readers ever consider the effect upon wages of having a large number of men and women at work for the government and for cities? In all cases men who are employed thus receive good wages, the best of any class of laborers for the work done. No strikes ever occur among them. Now suppose the number of men and women at work for the people in these capacities were to be increased from 100,000 to 2,000,000. Is it not very plain that there will be a general lift in wages of all

workers in all occupations? And consider what an impetus would be given to the idea of government management of important industries. With 2,000,000 contented, well paid laborers as living examples how rapidly would grow up a strong sentiment in favor of extending the system.

But some objections are urged to government ownership and operation of any line of industry. The banks want the government to go out of the banking business; railroad corporations want government to keep hands off; manufacturers want nothing but a high tariff, high protection; telegraph companies "stand upon their rights" and they call us pestiferous howlers because we insist that they are hurting us; and so on to the end of the chapter. All the privileged class want is to be let alone so they can use without hindrance the advantages conferred upon them by law to extort more wealth from the toiler. They see nothing wrong in present conditions; they want no reforms.

With rare exceptions the well-to-do man is never a reformer. Like the strong handed republican farmer I talked with yesterday, who owns his farm and keeps his grain for the best price, the way the race is to the strong and the "devil take the hindmost."

Our government is not fashioned, but it is conducted, on this principle. It pays no regard (except to erect asylums and prisons) to the weak. He is left to take care of himself while the strong is favored by law. By government ownership and operation of leading industries, which is a form of co-operation, we would change this and give the weak ones an equal chance; nay, make them the object of the government's special care; not by way of charity, but by protecting them against the strong and making it possible for them to be independent and live by their labor.

The objection that a large army of government employees would be used for political purposes is puerile. It is only another way of saying that the people are too childish to govern themselves, or to establish a good system of civil service reform based upon merit. Well might the man who is assured employment for life at a living wage, prefer to forego his right to vote in order to prevent the great industrial army from exerting an evil influence in politics. In regulating these matters we should need the system of direct legislation so that the people and not the politicians, should control.

W. D. HAND.

DECEIVING THE PEOPLE

How the Politicians, Lawyers and Editors Mislead, Beguile, Deceive and Enslave the People.

If there is a thing that I prefer to do it is to learn the truth and if others do not know it I glory in the act of telling it to them. Many of the people are greatly misled by others who prefer to mislead. It is the case today that there are many people who, through every act of their lives use a certain amount of deception, and yet are considered honest persons. The politician is the great deceiver of today, the man who ranks next is the merchant. Of course I do not mean to say that there are no exceptions. I do not mean to say that there are but two classes of these deceivers, and do not mean to except a great portion of the lawyers and editors, when I say politicians. There are many good editors and more deceivers; there are many good lawyers and more deceivers; but good politicians are out of the question. The word politician to me is a menace. A politician is a man who in a deceptive way controls the nominations of candidates to office, at the same time professing that he does not seek office, and has not enough intelligence to prevent him from being dishonest, and does not know enough to be a statesman, but is simply as you say sharp, not intelligent. How many politicians in the populist party can dispute my definition? Speak up so we may know who you are. The average lawyer of today is not a lawyer, he is simply an attorney. He does not study law as much as he does precedent. And that means that he does not know from a course of reason, but he knows law by believing what some one else has said ought to be law. The profession of law has grown greatly into the practice of making a good appearance before the court, and leaving out the truth. And you know that this means hypocrisy. The editor tells all the truth he can possibly tell, he will tell you all the truth you know, so that his story is sound truthful, but woe be to the truth when you don't know the truth; that's where the editor pulls the wool over your eyes. If, for example, the republican editor is going to prove to you that the silver dollar is worth but fifty cents, he will tell you much truth in his little explanation. He will begin by saying that to add six and six together makes twelve. Of course every republican knows that six and six make twelve. He doesn't even stop at that much truth. He goes so far as to tell you that six inches and six inches make twelve inches, and the rank and file of the republican party even know that much truth. But let me ask you, what would you do if you didn't know that six and six make twelve? There is lots of truth in that, and the republican editor has told all of that, my what a fellow he is for the truth, he can tell lots of it to prove that the silver dollar is worth but fifty cents. But when the republican editor comes to tell the people that six inches and six inches make twelve inches, and yet does not make a boat you may believe that with that much truth he is telling, he is getting in some fiction. Well, populists are expected to know that twelve inches make a foot, but the common rank and file of the republican party is not expected to know that twelve inches make a foot, because they don't read anything but the Lincoln State Journal and the Omaha Bee, and up here in Valley county, the God Q. & G. Of course they wouldn't know that twelve inches make a foot. Another way of explaining this would be to say that way. They tell you that it takes ten miles to make one cent and that is the truth; they tell you that it takes ten cents to make a dime, and that is the truth. I pity the man who doesn't know that much. They tell you that it takes ten times to make fifty cents, and the rank and file of the republican party believe it. Populists are expected to know better than that, you can't be deceived if you do not. We can

excuse the yellow ribbon fellows, but I can't excuse you after reading this. But this is the way that the republican editor proves to you that there is but fifty cents in a silver dollar.

Now there are a great number of those fellows who deceive the people. I am sorry to say that there is some deception in the populist party. I have seen with my own eyes men brought into a convention and nominated for an office who, if a majority of the delegates had known that a few fellows were pushing the candidate from behind the curtain, he would have been defeated in every round for the nomination, but this was hidden from the eyes of the people. When is the populist party going to quit that thing? Let us set down on it.

But the great deceiver among the people today is the republican party. How many of the rank and file of the republican party believe that William McKinley and Grover Cleveland are a unit on the question of finance? Not very many believe it. If the writer were to go out today and tell an ordinary republican that William McKinley and Grover Cleveland were a unit on the money question, he would be given as hard a name as some of his populist friends have seen fit to apply to me. But to prove to you that Wm. McKinley and Grover Cleveland are a unit on the finance question I quote from an official document, report of the committee on banking and currency, 1894.

In that document Lyman J. Gage, the present secretary of the treasury under Wm. McKinley, advised Grover Cleveland in the following words: FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO—Chicago, December, 10, 1894—Dear Sir: I am honored by receipt of your request to appear before your committee on Saturday next, or on some day prior thereto, in the recommendations of the president and the secretary of the treasury concerning the currency.

The notice is so short that I cannot arrange to be present in person, but beg very briefly to state here the conclusions at which I have arrived.

Agreeing with the criticisms made by these officers of the government as to the present weakness of our situation, and the great desirability of separating the government from the direct responsibility of the currency issue, I am persuaded that the country is not ready to accept their recommendations as to the methods proposed. In making any change the method should be so simple that all can comprehend it, and it should be seen that the individual effects would not be in any direction disturbing to trade, commerce or industry. I believe that the "Baltimore plan" carries the true principles of a credit currency, but we cannot reach it by any one step, and years may intervene before it could be realized. In the meantime, the way for the government to step out of the currency business and place the burden of redemption upon the banks is plain.

Authorize the issue of \$250,000,000 of 2 1/2 per cent bonds, payable at such time as congress may elect (twenty five years desirable), to be offered to subscribers at par. Accept in payment United States legal tender notes or treasury notes, the same to be canceled.

Amend the national bank act so that banks can obtain note issues to the face value of bonds deposited as security for circulation. Reduce the tax on circulating notes to one-half of 1 per cent.

Make good the national bank notes by the retirement of government notes; in fact, there would be some expansion under it, through forced redemption of bank issues if it be true, as some claim, that the volume of circulating media in the United States is larger than can be maintained, and that the outflow of gold is nature's method of equalizing things. It is to be so, if contraction through the exportation of gold, or by the retirement of a portion of the paper money, then, in that case, the government being safe from demands, the banks with circulation outstanding would be obliged to bring their issues within narrow limits; but all this would work itself out, and need not be dwelt upon at length now.

The problem is this: To take the government out of the note-issuing business (1) Without contracting the currency in the process.

(2) Without inviting to expansion. Secretary Carlisle's plan is subject to the danger involved under the last suggestion. Yours, very truly, LYMAN J. GAGE.

Hon W. M. SPRINGER, Chairman Banking and Currency Com., Washington, D. C.

Now can any republican deny the fact that Grover Cleveland and William McKinley are bed fellows on the finance question? I have shown this policy of McKinley's and Cleveland's to a number of those fellows who didn't know that it took twelve inches to make a foot and you ought to have seen the old dragon come up from his nest and on his broad ten horns, and upon his horns he brad

and upon his horns the name of blasphemy. And he would not stop there, he would say you—folks, don't you know that that is pop doctrine, and that it is a lie printed by you fellows to deceive the people? But can any man believe that Grover Cleveland and Wm. McKinley are not a unit on the finance question? WALTER JOHNSON.

12TH INDIANA CAVALRY

LINCOLN, NEB., July 22, 1899. The annual reunion of the 12th Indiana Cavalry will be held at South Bend, Indiana, Wednesday and Thursday, September 27th and 28th, 1899. Please do not fail to attend this our first formal reunion, and notify all comrades of the 12th. Camp fire on the evening of the 28th.

It is expected that every survivor of the 12th Indiana Cavalry will be present. Bring wife and children if possible. JEROME SHAMP, Pres. Lincoln, Neb. W. B. HARMAN, Sec. South Bend, Ind. D. N. DREHLEER, Rec. Sec. South Bend, Ind. Major Williams of the First Nebraska will meet with the veterans of the Twelfth. Reform papers are requested to copy.

HOLCOMB REPLIES

(Continued From First Page.)

EXPENDITURES. January 10, 1899, S. A. Wilson, warrant No. 32575, \$ 61 80 February 1, 1899, S. A. Wilson, warrant No. 32658, 66 40 March 7, 1899, S. A. Wilson, warrant No. 32709, 64 90-192 40

Balance lapsed back into treasury, \$ 814 80 State of Nebraska, Lancaster Co., as—J. C. Pool, deputy state auditor of Nebraska, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true statement of the appropriations made by the legislature of Nebraska to pay house rent for the governors and the expenditures made from the same as shown by the records in this office.

Witness my hand and seal this 29th day of July, 1899. C. C. POOL, (Seal) Deputy State Auditor. Gov. Holcomb adds the following caustic criticism upon the action of these men.

It is said that a truth half told is worse than a lie. There is much merit in the saying, and this is the unenviable position the gentlemen known as the Prout investigating committee occupy. The moral turpitude involved is aggravated because their actions are inspired by shameful partisan motives. They could appropriately be called the misleading committee.

I have been made the special object of their venomous attacks in an unjustifiable effort to cast obloquy upon me. They have entirely ignored the objects of the resolution under which they pretend to act in order to, if possible, manufacture campaign capital for the party they so willingly serve.

The palpably false reports which they have been instrumental in giving circulation have been seized with avidity by the partisan press of the state and served to their readers in every conceivable form. I shall be agreeably surprised if the editors of these same papers shall, in fairness to me, give to their readers my statement regarding the matter.

While I am not willing that my actions should be judged by men who are blinded by partisan prejudice to all sense of fairness or by a partisan press, I always have been, and now am desirous that the people of the state shall know my every official act while serving them as their public servant.

Home for Thousands.

If you are looking for a new home, you cannot do better than to investigate the advantages to settlers in the new state of Utah. No climate in the world is more even tempered and no country offers greater natural resources. There is much land to be had cheap. Take advantage of the half rate in effect on the first and third Tuesday of each month to go to Utah to look over the field for yourself. See that your tickets read via the Rio Grande Western Ry., which will carry you through the center and most favored part of the state. For copy of "Painter to Prosperity" write to Geo. W. Heints, Salt Lake City. t1

The Farmer's Exchange, 231 North Tenth St.

- Will sell a Good Patent Flour for 75c per sack. The best bargain we have ever offered and the Finest Patent Flour that can be made 85c A Good Family Flour, 50c, the kind you usually pay 75c for. 3 large cans Tomatoes. 25c 4 cans Sugar Corn. 25c 4 cans Best Blackberries. 25c 20 lbs. Yellow C Sugar \$1.00 17 lbs. Best Granulated Sugar \$1.00 2 lbs. Java and Rio Coffee 25c 1 lb. Fine Java and Mocha 25c 5 packages Rolled Oats. 25c 12 lbs. Cracked Hominy. 25c All Goods Cheap for Cash. Butter and Eggs Wanted.

J. W. HARTLEY, MG'R.