

The Nebraska Independent.

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NO. 46.

A MATTER OF MONEY

A Republican Congressman Tells Why the Porto Rican Bill Must Pass.

The Washington Post and Washington Star, both administration organs, reveal some interesting matter in connection with the passage of the Porto Rican tariff bill.

The Washington Post of March 24th quoting from the Star and commenting thereon says:

"We reproduce from the Washington Evening Star, of yesterday, an utterance so remarkable, not to say astonishing, as to call for the most careful and diligent inspection."

"The action of the Iowa legislature cannot affect the situation in Congress. The deal has been made; it is a matter of money for the campaign, and the tariff measure will be carried through."

"This statement was made by a republican member of the House who supported the bill in the House by his vote."

"You may as well set it down that the deal will be carried out," he added.

"The carrying out of the recommendation of the President for free trade with Porto Rico would have deprived the party of a very considerable contribution; the adoption of the reverse policy insures a very large contribution."

"The possible unpopularity of the Porto Rican tariff was balanced against the certainty of money to use in the campaign, and the decision was in favor of the campaign contribution. It was not expected that the storm of protest would be as strong as it is, but it is now too late for a change."

It is quite unnecessary to say to our local readers that the Evening Star is not a yellow journal, or a sensation monger, or an irresponsible purveyor of scandal and excitement. If the Star declares as it does in this instance—that a member of congress has made the statement above quoted, it is perfectly safe to assume that it speaks the truth.

The Star has everything to lose and nothing to gain by disseminating falsehood—and we may add upon our own notion that the Star does not bear the reputation of reckless or unsupported statement. We feel that we are warranted, therefore, in assuming that our esteemed contemporary speaks with knowledge and conviction when it quotes an anonymous member of the house as declaring that the Porto Rican tariff bill has been inspired by the detestable and base purposes of a campaign fund. To say that is to say that the republican party is using the administration and the congress as the footpad exploiters of the tariff—merely for mere plunder in the form of cash!

"We have frequently wondered, and as frequently asked, what there is behind all this astonishing determination in Congress to afflict Porto Rico with a tariff. Unable to understand it ourselves, we have appealed to the republicans for enlightenment—for even a suggestion. Every consideration of honor and good faith and justice demands that we should treat Porto Rico as the President eloquently indicated in his message last December. Almost without exception, the press, the republicans and the independent press—has supported this demand. And now comes the Evening Star, as if to answer the almost passionate anxiety of the country, explaining in deliberate terms that the tariff against Porto Rico has been devised—not for any purpose, but for the purpose of organizing a party to national honor—not even to establish a precedent in the public interest—but simply and solely to placate certain corporations which will contribute handsomely to a party campaign treasury."

If this be the case; if Porto Rico is to be sacrificed to the sordid uses of a political contest; if these innocent and trustful people, who welcomed us with open arms and confided their destinies to our honor and generosity, are to be immolated on the altar of a detestable and mean party emergency; if it be true that the republican congress backed by the republican administration, deliberately intend to trade upon the misery and helplessness of a people who have thrown themselves upon our mercy; then we say—and we believe—that the country will make haste to denounce and to condemn and to rebuke an infamy so monstrous and indefensible.

ASCERTAINING CIRCULATIONS

Association of American Advertisers Ask to Examine Subscription Lists of All Papers.

It has been asserted with startling frequency and unmistakable emphasis by certain advertising publications and newspaper directories that it is practically impossible to secure satisfactory circulation statements from publications and that with a few notable exceptions, the statements which are made cannot be relied on. In consequence of this the Association of American Advertisers has been organized having for its object the investigation of newspaper circulations. This association numbers among its members practically all the great advertisers of the country.

Under date of February 2, the association began operations by sending a letter to all publishers of newspapers and magazines in the United States claiming to have a circulation of 9,000 or more. The letter was as follows:

"Weekly Independent, Lincoln, Neb., Gentlemen:—The Association of American Advertisers was permanently organized on December 11, 1899. One of the objects of the Association is that 'it shall develop a means of ascertaining accurately the circulation of publications which accept advertising.'"

At a subsequent meeting the following resolution was adopted: Resolved, That we do not associate in opposition

to publishers, but with a view to serving their best interests as well as our own by equitably establishing the actual circulation of publications and furnishing this information to members of the Association."

I am instructed by the board of control to ask if you would be willing to submit your books and records to the inspection of the accredited representative of the association during the present year without further notice to you? The examination and classification of papers as regards their circulation would be conducted on a fair and impartial basis; and any statements issued concerning your circulation would be confidential, and given by us to the members of the Association.

We trust that you find it agreeable to afford the Association every facility for arriving definitely your circulation, and request the favor of your prompt response. Very truly yours,

A. CASSIDY MORRISON, Secretary.

To this letter only 367 replies were received, the answers being classified as follows:

Unqualified affirmative 315
Qualified affirmative 29
Negative or indefinite 23

"Profitable Advertising," a magazine devoted to advertisers and advertising matters, in its March number calls particular attention to the matter and publishes the list of the 315 publications that are willing to submit their subscription books for examination in proof of the circulation which they claim.

It is interesting to note that of all the English papers published in Nebraska only two appear among the 315, only two will be willing to submit their circulation claims with the proof. The two are the Daily World-Herald of Omaha and THE NEBRASKA INDEPENDENT.

Look out Barker.

The People's Advocate, a populist paper published at Meadville, in Wharton Barker's own state, says:

"The machine organs parade only the one question before the public, and that is, shall our Matthew Quay continue to run the Keystone state and dictate the distribution of its finances? A lovely state of affairs most truly. There is just one way to remedy it; one only. If we want a republican government in this commonwealth, we must elect the state of Pennsylvania supporting the democratic populists and insurgents (anti-Quay republicans) must unite in the coming campaign and defeat the Quay candidates for members of the next legislature."

There is not a populist paper in the state of Pennsylvania supporting the democratic populists and insurgents (anti-Quay republicans) must unite in the coming campaign and defeat the Quay candidates for members of the next legislature."

Galdwell Aphorisms.

"A corporation is organized capital; it is capital consisting of money and property. Organized labor is organized capital; it is capital consisting of brains and muscles. What it is lawful for one to do is lawful for the other to do. If it is lawful for the stockholders and officers of a corporation to associate and confer together for the purpose of reducing the wages of its employees, or of devising other means of making their investments profitable, it is equally lawful for organized labor to associate, consult and confer with a view to maintain or increase wages. Both act from the prompting of enlightened selfishness, and the action of both is lawful when no illegal or criminal means are used or threatened."

"If the lawyer fails to collect the debt he gets nothing, and if he succeeds in collecting it, the creditor gets nothing."

"Diligence in good works is a virtue to be encouraged, but diligence in bad works is a vice to be suppressed."

"Legal coercion of an honest debtor does not increase his stock of honesty or to his moral sense of obligation to pay, but diminishes both."

"No man was ever made honest by statute, but many men have had a great strain put upon their honesty by bad laws."

"Let us stop punishing honest men and the families, in the vain hope that we may sometime catch a rogue."

"It is the honest man who expects to pay his debts, and conceals nothing, who is successfully attached and ruined by mortgages, attachments and executions."

"Desolation and sorrow follow in the wake of foreign capital that takes the shape of mortgages on homesteads drawing a rate of interest in excess of any possible profit that can be made out of its use."

"The four corner-stones which support the social fabric are the dwelling house, the house of God, the school house and the court house. The dwelling house is the sacred abode of virtue and security. Nations that do not possess them are nomads or savages."

"A perfect judge would exhibit none of the passions which are the necessary adjuncts of human nature, but until man's nature is changed and he is endowed with something of the wisdom and virtue of his Divine Maker, the perfect judge will be unknown."

"The right for free silver ought to have been forced years ago on the line of absolute and unqualified free coinage of gold and silver at a ratio of 16 to 1, without regard to England or any other foreign power."

"If we are not capable and able to establish and maintain our own financial policy we ought to haul down 'Old Glory' and turn the government over to Queen Victoria, or ask Canada to annex us."

JUDGE CALDWELL

What He Thinks of Government by Injunction and Abolishment of Trial

By Jury.

It seems at present that Judge Caldwell will be the unanimous choice of both the populists and democrats for vice president and that he will receive the enthusiastic support for that position of the silver republicans as well as that of every old Abe Lincoln republican in the United States. He has been on the federal bench for thirty years and he has in that time delivered a line of decisions covering every principle in the populist platform. If he is nominated, these decisions will be collected, published in book form and sent out as a campaign document. He is the Judge who, when Coal Oil Johnny appeared before him as attorney for the Union Pacific, asking that the wages of all the employees be reduced ten per cent made reply as follows:

Judge Caldwell.—Have those men been notified that a motion would be made to reduce their wages?

Coal Oil Johnny.—No. I didn't know that it would be necessary to do that.

Judge Caldwell.—Do you suppose that I am going to issue an order reducing the wages of 5,000 working men without one of them being heard? (Do such a thing when they are not in court either in person or by attorney? Mr. Thurston in this case is continued and you will see to it that those men and their attorneys are represented here. Mr. Thurston, in this reduction of the wages of all the employees of the Union Pacific, did you include your own salary?

Coal Oil Johnny.—No. It is not included.

Judge Caldwell.—What is your salary?

Coal Oil Johnny.—It is \$18,000 a year.

Judge Caldwell.—You will amend your petition by including your own salary also.

As far as known Johnny never called up that motion again.

The following is part of one of Judge Caldwell's decisions:

"The modern writ of injunction is used for purposes which bear no more resemblance to the uses of the ancient writ of that name than the Milky Way bears to the sun. Formerly it was used to restrain parties from doing certain things, or to prevent them from doing certain things, but in modern times it has taken the place of the police powers of the state and nation. It enforces and restrains with equal facility the criminal laws of the state and nation. With it the judge not only restrains and punishes the commission of crimes defined by statute, but he proceeds to frame a criminal code of his own, as extended as he sees proper, by which various acts, innocent in law and morals, are made criminal—such as standing, walking or marching on the public highway, or parking, speaking or preaching and other like offenses."

"In proceedings for contempt for an alleged violation of the injunction the judge is the law maker, the injured party, the prosecutor, the judge and the jury. It is not surprising that, uniting in himself all these characters, he is commonly able to obtain a conviction. While the penalty which the judge can inflict by direct sentence for a violation of his code is fine or imprisonment, limited only by his discretion, capital punishment may be inflicted by indirect action. All that seems to be necessary to this end is to issue a writ to the sheriff commanding him to prevent a violation of the judge's code and then around their necks may be quickly dispatched if they attempt to march across his injunction dead line. It is said the judge does not punish for a violation of the statutory offence, but only for a violation of his order prohibiting the commission of the statutory offence. Such reasoning as this is what Carlyle calls 'logical cobwebbery'. The web is not strong enough to deprive the smallest insect of its liberty, much less an American citizen."

"There are but two constitutional modes of trying citizens for offences—by military courts in cases arising in the land or naval forces or in the militia, or in actual service in time of war, or public danger and the other trial by jury. * * * Jury and injunction are terms which cancel each other. In proportion as the injunction is expanded the right of trial by jury is restricted. And this result is not a mere incident to the use of the writ; in many cases it is real purpose is to deprive a party of the right of trial by jury."

"Armed with this powerful writ which has no defined boundaries or limitations, and which may be used at discretion, the power of the federal chancellor may be fairly characterized as imperial."

"From his opinions of the dangers made possible by the writ of injunction, we pass to his opinion of the relative merits of trial by jury and judge. He says: 'We pass from the right of trial by jury to its utility and value. Its importance and superiority as another mode of trial in criminal cases is indisputable. The criminal law is crude and arbitrary. The discrimination essential to distinguish between crimes dangerous to society, and those not so cannot always be formulated into a written rule. Human intelligence and foresight are not equal to the task of conceiving, and the English language is not adequate to express the nice distinctions and varying qualities in human actions. They depend upon the environments, age, temperament, education, motives and many other things, which can be applied to the particular case by a jury only.'"

"The law takes no note of moral justification, but only legal. It remains so for two reasons: one is the difficulty mentioned of defining with precision the cases of the application of the principle of moral justification or retributive justice, and the other is the knowledge that the jury, owing to their peculiar constitution and representative character, have power to and will supply this

defect. A jury will convict the assassin, but not the girl who kills her seducer; they will convict the man who murders for money, but not the man who kills the invader of his home; and when a hundred good men, overcome with virtuous indignation by the atrocious crime of some savage brute, do execution upon him without the forms of law, the jury will not hang the hundred good men for accelerating the outlaw's punishment. Cases arise in which to inflict the penalty of the law would be more dangerous to social order than to overlook the offense. Immunity to murderers generally would soon dissolve the bonds of society, but juries instinctively feel that the social bond is not weakened, but rather, strengthened, by the death of a seducer at the hands of his victims. The seducer knows that punishment from such a source cannot be secured as soon as the quibbles and technicalities of the law. In such cases the verdict represents the sense of justice of the people, and the immense justice of the people is almost as important as the justice of God."

"Representing as it does the immense justice of the people, and the justice of the people is almost as important as the justice of God. It is not surprising that, uniting in himself all these characters, he is commonly able to obtain a conviction. While the penalty which the judge can inflict by direct sentence for a violation of his code is fine or imprisonment, limited only by his discretion, capital punishment may be inflicted by indirect action. All that seems to be necessary to this end is to issue a writ to the sheriff commanding him to prevent a violation of the judge's code and then around their necks may be quickly dispatched if they attempt to march across his injunction dead line. It is said the judge does not punish for a violation of the statutory offence, but only for a violation of his order prohibiting the commission of the statutory offence. Such reasoning as this is what Carlyle calls 'logical cobwebbery'. The web is not strong enough to deprive the smallest insect of its liberty, much less an American citizen."

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WONDER OF THE WORLD

Populism Marches Forward With the Strides of a Giant and All Opposing Forces Go Down

The advancement and almost universal adoption of many of the principles of the populist party is the wonder of the age. When the writer of this first tried to make an announcement of them in the city of Omaha he had to do it on the street corners or in some small hall to a few auditors, mostly wage earners. Now behold the change! The republicans made their campaign in the city of Omaha this year on the populist doctrine of public ownership of the water works. The democratic party had long since made that a part of their party platform. Did ever a new doctrine make so great progress in so short a time?

But it is not in Omaha and Nebraska that this adoption of populist principles has made progress. It is the same story wherever one goes. The cities of the east have taken it up. The cities of the middle states are enacting it into law. It will be but a short time until we will see the same thing in regard to the railroads of the country. Populism makes its way wherever men think. It presses on to the fulfillment of the blessings it has in store for the people by taking part in the establishment of an empire based on force."

I deny the proposition that trade follows the flag, and that in order to maintain commercial supremacy we must establish colonies and have a great army. It is a ridiculous doctrine, the party bargains are made at the point of a shotgun, and that dividends are declared through the agencies of battle ships, or that goods are sold and profits realized by the help of battalions of soldiers. We send our bridges to Egypt, locomotives to Europe, and goods to all parts of the world, because we can make a superior article or can undersell our competitors, and the gleam of the bayonet and the rattle of trade balances.—Sutherland.

LIVELY RATE HEARING.

An Order Asked in Regard to the Lack of Depot Facilities in Receiving Grain from Farmers.

The World-Herald had the following account of a hearing before the board of transportation, March 21st.

A warm, and at times personal discussion between complainants and members of the state board of transportation marked the hearing of the complaint of the Palisade Grain and Live Stock Company against the Burlington & Missouri railroads. The hearing was on for the greater part of the day, the complainant being represented by L. H. Lawton, of Palisade, and T. H. Tibbles, of Lincoln, both well known populists; and the Burlington by J. S. Kirkpatrick, of Lincoln.

The basis for the complaint was the statement that the defendant road had not provided suitable depot facilities at Palisade and Arapahoe for receiving and delivering grain in carload lots. It is asked that the road be required to establish and maintain such facilities. The road, in its answer, shows that there are two elevators at each place, and that ample trackage is provided for the receipt of grain in carloads.

The argument hinged about the proposition of the representatives of the complainant that the road can be required by the board to establish facilities for receiving and shipping grain just as it does for merchandise, live stock, and other articles of commerce. That the road does not do so, it was argued, is a plain discrimination against the shipper of grain.

THE TREATY WITH SPAIN

Bryan Tells the Populists Why He Favored Its Ratification by the Senate

During the course of his speech before the populist convention, Mr. Bryan took occasion to refer to the criticism made against him by the middle-of-the-roads on the ground that he favored the ratification of the treaty with Spain. Mr. Bryan said:

"I did favor the ratification of the treaty. I believed then, and still believe, that it was better to ratify the treaty, terminate the war, give the volunteers a chance to come home and stop the expense of a large army, and make the light on a resolution declaring the nation's policy. I believed then, and still believe, that it was better for the American people alone to settle the Philippine question than to try to settle it by diplomacy with Spain. If the treaty had been rejected, those who rejected it would have been declaring the independence of the Philippines when it provided for the independence of the Cubans there would have been no trouble in the Philippine islands. But the defect in the treaty could have been remedied by resolution declaring the nation's purpose to give independence to the Philippines as soon as a stable government was established. I recommended such a resolution; such a resolution was introduced by Senator Bacon a month before hostilities broke out at Manila. It was voted upon about the time the treaty was ratified. It required the vote of the vice president to defeat such a resolution. No honest man can criticize me for advocating the ratification of the treaty without also stating that I favored a resolution promising independence, and no reasonable man can doubt the adoption of such a resolution would have secured peace in the Philippine islands. There has not been a day from that time in which hostilities could not be stopped by such a resolution, but the republican party has not had time to consider the Philippine question. While our boys were dying in the Philippine Islands, our idle bodies were being brought home and soldiers returned to insane asylums because of the effects of the climate, the republican party, instead of taking up this question and settling it upon American lines proposed that we should give up the gold standard and the national bankers to secure control of the nation's currency."

"I advocated the independence of the Philippines in the statement given out by me on the 15th day of December, 1898, the day after I left the army. I have advocated the independence of the Philippines ever since. I am glad the democratic party is opposed to imperialism, but I would be opposed to it whether the democratic party was or not. I am glad that the populists are opposed to imperialism, but I would be opposed to it even if they favored it. I am glad that the silver republicans are opposed to imperialism, but I would oppose it even if they were supporting it. I would rather have the reform forces stand by the doctrines of the Declaration of Independence and go down to defeat than have them secure victory by taking part in the establishment of an empire based on force."

THE SILVER REPUBLICANS

Speech of Dr. J. N. Lyman Delivered Before the State Convention, Held in Lincoln, Neb.

The national republican convention of 1896 declared "We are opposed to the free coinage of silver, excepting by international agreement with the leading commercial nations of the world, which we pledge ourselves to promote, and until such agreement can be obtained the existing gold standard must be preserved."

This was a sad proclamation to many millions of republicans, who could hardly realize that the republican party which was organized for the elevation and betterment of humanity, was about to become the open oppressor of mankind.

There was however no mistaking what that platform meant, notwithstanding it was cunningly crouched in language calculated to deceive the unwary voter. Our reason condemned the platform as unjust and un-American.

Most of us who are here to day, as silver republicans, then withdrew from the republican party, determined not to vote for principles so diametrically opposed to those before taught by all great Americans.

This determination to withdraw from the old party was not reached without a serious mutual struggle in many cases. It is surely no trifling matter for a man to leave a political party with which he has been affiliated with for forty years or perhaps for his entire political life.

It is so much easier to float with the tide than to go against it, easier to remain with the old crowd of friends and associates than to break away. Then we were sometimes called pet names, as "republicans," "anarchists," "copperheads," "traitors," etc.

I remember very well the first time I was called a "pop," and it nearly knocked me off my feet; but that name came to sound quite euphonious to us all—I had rather be called by almost any old name, than to actually be a dupe.

This argument of hard names which our opponents have applied to us so freely has not been all; social and business ostracism has sometimes been indulged in by the more virulent adherents of the gold standard party; so that some of our members have been martyrs as well as patriots, but I do not know of a single silver republican who has returned to the republican party.

The un-American proposition that we must go on our hands and knees before the crowd of standard party; so that what kind of money we might use in this country was too gaudy to be seriously considered by thoughtful citizens of a country whose material resources were greater than those of England, France and Germany combined. We felt this and still feel this. We know that our cans need not ask John Bull, Kaiser Bill or any prince or potentate on earth what our domestic laws and institutions may be.

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The un-American proposition that we must go on our hands and knees before the crowd of standard party; so that what kind of money we might use in this country was too gaudy to be seriously considered by thoughtful citizens of a country whose material resources were greater than those of England, France and Germany combined. We felt this and still feel this. We know that our cans need not ask John Bull, Kaiser Bill or any prince or potentate on earth what our domestic laws and institutions may be.

The proposition of international bimetalism promulgated in the republican platform of 1896, was conceived in iniquity and brought forth in sin, hypocritical; made for the purpose of securing the thoughtless voters and those who thought the king could do no wrong, who still had faith in the promises of the party; it was made to catch suckers with—and it caught them.

When they said the present gold standard must be preserved till international agreement can be obtained, deception was practiced by leading those unskilled in the use of language to suppose that we were then actually upon a platform of \$16,000,000,000.00. We know that all the government debt was payable in coin, either gold or silver, and it is probable that at least half of the other debts or in round numbers, \$20,000,000,000.00 were payable in either gold or silver. This was the law, when this insidiously deceptive proposition to "maintain the present gold standard" until international bimetalism could be obtained was promulgated.

How have they kept that promise? The perfidious action of President McKinley and the republican congress is now a matter of history, and no language of mine can adequately condemn the high handed treachery and open robbery of the people by changing our contracts as Wm. McKinley told the United States bankers should be done, so as to give the gold standard the validity of public law. They have violated the promise to maintain the pretended gold standard we then had. Out of their own mouths they stand condemned in the light of history.

Silver republicans are men who had the courage of their convictions, who knowing the right did it—a man who does less than this, when it comes to casting his vote is hardly worthy to be called an American citizen, for it is only by the honest and enlightened use of the right of franchise that American liberty can be maintained.

Silver republicans were entirely correct in their conclusions as to what the international bimetallic resolution meant.

We told the republicans that it meant gold monometallism. They held up their hands in holy horror