

There was never a faro lay-out in Arizona that equals the sure-thing gambling in Wall street. A trust can, by passing a dividend or declaring an extra large one, put stocks up or down at its own sweet will. Still the mullet heads who inhabit the provinces along the Atlantic coast walk up and bet their money against as sure a thing as the shell game.

The other day the British and the Germans came in contact in China and two men were killed. That matter was hardly adjusted before the Germans came in contact with the United States soldiers and one German was wounded. The Germans will have to stop the arrogance which they have been displaying or there will be trouble outside of China.

A Chicago Daily says: "The resumption of gold exports, with a balance of trade of nearly \$700,000,000 in our favor, can mean only one thing. We must be making Europe our debtor at an astonishing rate. It is a good time for people who have American stocks to hold on to them." That editor is evidently off for Mr. Rosewater has information that leads him to believe that the gold in circulation in this country has been largely increased by our excess of imports.

Our excess of exports over imports for the last year was \$678,537,220. That is about equal to the whole amount of gold in this country. Those two statements taken together show that the balance was not paid in gold. There are two ways in which settlement could have been made. Foreigners could have returned to this country American bonds, stocks and other evidences of indebtedness or foreigners have become our debtors to that amount.

Two hundred Indiana editors met the other day and declared that they would no longer use the boiler plate patent insides. They have just found out that a trust controls the output and that the price charged is altogether too high for the sort of goods furnished. These editors all ran the patent insides during the last campaign while the matter was devoted to building up the trusts and now that they find that a trust is squeezing them they kick.

Rev. J. M. Greene preached before the general assembly of the Presbyterian church recently upon the missionary work in Porto Rico. He has a very poor opinion of the "civilizers" who have been sent down there. The drunken soldiers who quarrel and fight in the saloons, insult women, and generally put on airs of lords of the world, he does not think have a tendency to educate the people up to that point where they "will be capable of self-government."

The American Economist, published by the American Protective league, which has for years sent out large editions in support of the tariff barons, has changed its tune lately. It is now fighting reciprocity treaties, and says: "The price in any domestic market is the world's price, plus the duty." It used to tell us that "the foreigner paid the tax." When it said that, every mullet head believed it, when it says the other thing now, every mullet head also believes it.

The circulation per capita in the United States is about 33 per cent larger than it was in 1896, when the mullet heads got out and voted to further diminish it. Who won in that fight? The pope. What was the result? Just what the pope said it would be. Hurrah for populism! It was the salvation of the United States. It still marches on. McKinley is coining more silver every day and the only thing that the gold bugs have to say is: "Look at the prosperity," and then dream that we have the gold standard.

If a young man enlists in McKinley's army all the great dailies declare that he must be provided with a saloon where he can get beer at cost, furnished by the government or there will be the very Old Nick to pay. If he enlists in any one of the "great captains" he is forbidden to go into a saloon at all and if he is caught drinking, he is immediately given a dishonorable discharge. Why this thing is thus is one of those things that no pop can find out.

Capt. W. H. Ashby of Beatrice has launched out into journalism and will publish on May 30 Ashby's Crucible. It will be a five-column folio, all home print. He says: "The Crucible will be sent to subscribers who pay \$1.00 per year in advance, and to no others; and will be stopped when the subscription expires." The Independent hopes that when Captain Ashby gets his Crucible seven times hotter than usual that he will chuck every Nebraska mullet head into it and keep them there until he roasts the political insanity out of them.

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When the demand comes upon the New York crops and the banks call upon some of the trusts to return the loans that have been made them on five or six times the true valuation of the plants that have gone into the combination, what will happen then? The western banks will be needing money at the same time and if all their reserves are down in New York, how will they get them? There is an immense amount of money in circulation, but is the supply absolutely inexhaustible?

A dispatch from Deadwood says that the Homestake Mining company, Black Hills, has declared the regular monthly dividend of 25 cents per share and the usual extra dividend of 25 cents per share, both payable May 25. This profit comes from ore that will not average \$4 per ton. That shows what the Lord is doing to the plutocrats who wanted dear money. Four dollars ore could not be handled a few years ago at all. Now all the dumps in the Black Hills are being worked to make money more abundant.

The attempts at combination that have recently been made by the New York millionaires are attempts to establish socialism among the rich. Their watchword has been, "community of interests." If they had said communism of the rich, it would have expressed the same thing. Their attempt has developed just the same difficulties that has attended communism among the poor. It all went well for a little while and then there was trouble. The communists then began to quarrel among themselves and a fierce fight for control was engaged in while each side called the other scoundrels. That has been the history of communism in all ages.

The thing that aroused the ire of the Chicago papers against Professor Starr is the following statement: "Money contributes to human happiness without doubt, but it is not the only thing, nor yet the chief thing to be sought, and it is possible to pay for it several times its value. The age in which we live seems to me to be money mad. Schemes are on foot where moral principle is sadly absent and character is chloroformed that our cunning may obtain what cannot be had by fair means. Therefore envy is stimulated by wealth, and crude and purely animal passions environ the struggle for it! We prefer wealth to peace of soul, and are too ready to sacrifice the latter for the former."

The Independent again issues a word of warning to western bankers. Be careful of the amount of money you have in New York banks. The New York banks, as shown by the clearing house statements, are loaning from five to six times as much money upon manufacturing plants as they would loan before those plants went into the trusts. The security that those banks are taking for loans is entirely insufficient. When you want your reserves to save your own banks, if they are in New York, you will find that your correspondents there will not be able to call in and collect these enormous loans made on insufficient collateral. What will these inflated securities held by New York banks be worth when the final day of liquidation comes?

If in this city of Lincoln, with its mullet head majority of over a thousand, one should be discovered in the streets, the city council would immediately meet and make a present of them to D. E. Thompson or some corporation and the mayor would stay in the council chamber to sign the bill the moment that it was passed. At least that is the way they did about the electric light plant. The street lamps were so demoralized by that performance that they have sputtered, flickered and gone out every ten minutes ever since.

A Chicago instructor in the schools gave utterance the other day to the following truths: "More than a million people are in Nebraska. The percentage of illiterates is the lowest in the nation (or was in 1890). They are freest from the dictation of political bosses, and I tell you from experience that a teacher who may hold a first grade certificate in Illinois can't pass a second grade examination west of the Missouri." He might have added that Nebraska has the greatest state university on earth, where every man has perfect freedom of thought and expression and is at perfect liberty to advocate anything that he honestly believes without danger of ostracism or dismissal.

"The most enlightened nations," according to the songs that were sung in 1896 and 1900, have national debts as follows: (1) France, \$5,800,691,814; (2) Russia, \$3,167,320,000; (3) United Kingdom, \$3,060,926,304; (4) Italy, \$2,583,983,780; (5) Austria, \$1,697,255,140. According to the republican spellbinders, the United States was not enlightened enough and the first thing that McKinley did was to get an act passed that permitted him to issue \$400,000,000 of bonds, to restore the party, as it were. He did issue \$200,000,000 and the debt of the United States now stands at \$1,107,711,257. McKinley has increased our enlightenment that much and in a few years more we will, without doubt, get to be as enlightened as France or Russia.

It is interesting to watch the contest that is going on in the republican party over the tariff. While the Home Market club was listening to Roosevelt and Senator Hoar sang the praises of "protection," McKinley was traveling through the country singing the praise of an increased foreign trade and reciprocity treaties. Meantime Representative Babcock is filling a great big scrap book with compliments from republican papers concerning his plan to abolish the tariff on all trust products. Not very much reliance should be put upon the hope that this quarrel will amount to anything. Before the next campaign they will all get together and agree upon what kind of a lie they shall tell when they go upon the stump.

The Independent has information that Treasurer Stuefer has written certain county treasurers that they need not remit collections of principal on school lands—to just let it run awhile. Inasmuch as such money would be placed in the permanent school fund on its arrival at the state treasury, and in view of the fact that Treasurer Stuefer has now over \$300,000 of idle school money "on hand," it is not

much wonder that he is not anxious to have the county treasurers remit promptly. In a little while we may confidently expect to see a return to the former republican method of allowing county treasurers to remit about twice a year, instead of monthly, as Treasurer Meserve required. And that means temptation to speculate with public funds, and a rake-off for republican office-holders. You can't teach an old dog new tricks. A "regenerated and rejuvenated" republican party, controlled by the same old gang, will make no better record in governing the state than did their republican predecessors, who made no hypocritical pretenses of believing other than that a "public office is a private snafu."

One term of office has spoilt many a good man. After sitting for two years in his office chair he is not worth a copper for anything else on earth. Nine times out of ten he becomes a wire puller and office-seeker and is utterly useless to himself and all the rest of mankind. The man who comes out of office and goes actively into business and acts as if he never was an office-holder at all is the chap who does some good in the world. Office-holding is a snare and a delusion. Never accept an office except as a duty you owe to the state and in return for the benefits that you have received from free government. That was the old populist doctrine and it is a good one, based, as all the populist doctrines are, upon good, hard, common sense.

The paupers who are being educated by taxes collected from the people at West Point have again violated their word of honor and begun the hazing which they promised should be suppressed. The result is that five of them have been court-martialed and dismissed and a good many more punished in other ways. If the military officers in command at West Point can't prevent mutinies and disobedience to orders, other officers should be appointed and the court pets who are now there should be sent as legation guards to China or to Luzon to tramp through the swamps for a couple of years. If the cadets now there are of such low moral standards that they will continually violate their word of honor, the whole lot had better be sent home and a lot of farmer boys be allowed to take their places who have been trained in a different way from these cads.

South Carolina seems to be very much of a populist state. What has been called the "imperative mandate" has been voluntarily put in force. Both United States senators have resigned and an appeal is to be made to the people. Tillman had a round-up with McLaurin in which he told McLaurin that having voted constantly with the republican party, the honorable course for him to pursue after having deserted the party that elected him was to resign and appeal to the people. McLaurin replied that Tillman never would resign, whereupon Tillman dared McLaurin to sign a joint resignation with him and send it to the governor. McLaurin was cornered, but after some attempts to back out was forced to do it, so both senators resigned and a canvass is to be made of the state by the two. Democratic pri-

maries are to be called and the question of who represents the people and who shall represent them in the future is to be decided by the people themselves. If that is not straight populism, what is it?

#### PAYING THE PRICE

Since the beginning of the Boer war 14,978 British soldiers have been killed or died of wounds and disease.

There are now 13,797 British soldiers in hospitals.

And 17,209 British soldiers have been wounded. Those Transvaal gold mines come high, but British speculators must have them if it takes every Briton available for military duty.

If the Colorado miners keep up with their cyanide processes and cleaning up of old dumps, by the time the British get Kruger's gold mines they will not have very much value left in them. But as the British believe in "intrinsic" value they will probably keep on fighting even if gold becomes so plentiful that Denver and Cripple Creek conclude to copy the Celestial City and pave their streets with gold. If the Joe Chamberlain lunatics are so determined to have the gold mines, let them fight on. America and Dewet stand for liberty.

#### Hardy's Column

The Difference—Why the Fuss—My Politics—Corn Corner—The State Fair—Which Person—The Rich Must Be Made Richer—Education—Dunkard National Meeting—

Who ever saw a greater difference in Marks than there is between Mark Hanna and Mark Twain.

Why make so much fuss about the Boyd hotel having a saloon handy by the side with doorways connecting, while the Lindell and the Lincoln have saloons inside? Saloons are all of them either good or bad everywhere.

I was not a Buchanan democrat, could not be one; neither was I a Cleveland democrat. I was a Lincoln republican, but cannot be a McKinley republican. I am now a Bryan democrat.

The corn corner is off and No. 2 is worth but little more than No. 3. The small quantities of No. 2 and large quantities of No. 3 and there was no way of mixing No. 1 with No. 3 and making No. 2 as Armour did with wheat on the Leiter corner, for there was little or no No. 1 was the real corner of the corner.

Twenty thousand for the old state fair grounds, with buildings thereon, is a low price, and why the state board do not see it we cannot imagine. It may be another Dorgan deal.

Which person will be most likely to pass the pearly gates into the New Jerusalem? The one who makes no profession, belongs to no church, yet leads a pure, kind and benevolent life, the one who makes a loud profession, occupies the highest church relations, but at the same time leads a brutal, indulgent life. Right living is the corner stone of salvation. He that does others good gets more good to himself than he can be selfish. How few in church or state work more for the masses than for themselves.

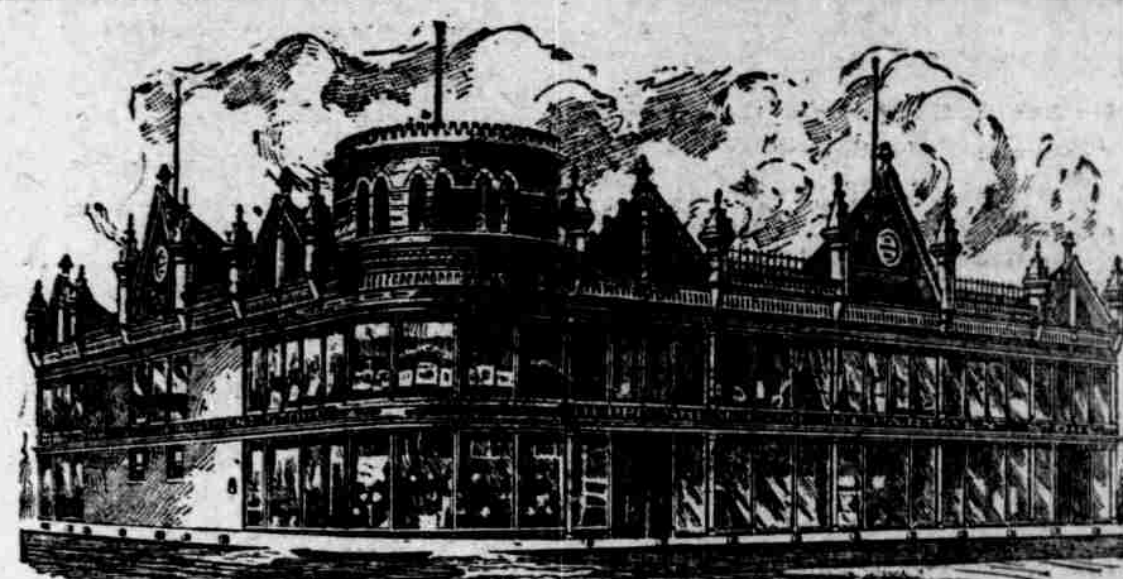
Who besides the wealthy ship owners are at work for the subsidy bill? Whom else will the law benefit? Anything to make the rich richer and the poor poorer will not be vetoed by McKinley. We must conclude that the Yankees are not smart enough to hold their own on an evener with foreigners they must have protective tariffs, subsidies and who knows what next. Make a law to tax United States bonds to pay the subsidy and we would not object or tax corporation, but no, the farmers must pay it or the most of it.

Education, like suffrage, has been extended more and more contrary to the will and wish of the high bloods. Free schools and free colleges have been fought by the upper crust. Fifty years ago none but the wealthy could get a college education. Now a poor boy or girl can work their way through college by the time they are twenty-one. We have been fifty years fighting the aristocratic colleges for the admission of girls as well as boys. Most of the college doors are now open for both sexes, rich and poor. So now, at the line of business has been opened to the fair sex. More and more the girls of today demand an even marriage or they will support themselves. It is no longer necessary for girls to marry or be left homeless. She can make her own home and unless a man is a home-maker she is justified in turning a deaf ear to his proposals of marriage. It is the doctrine of imperialism that the masses are made to work and subserve the interests of the few. Much comment has been made on the fact that some of the women lost on the board of trade the other day, but ten times more men lost. Some of the women made large sums. It is just as proper for a woman to gamble, smoke, chew and drink as for men.

Lincoln has been thronged with several thousand Dunkards, from all parts of the United States, in attendance upon their national yearly meeting. The name is derived from the German word which signifies to dip. They are baptists and believe in immersion. They read the Bible, sing, pray and preach as other denominations do. They seem to be plain, common-sense people. The men's hats are the same as other people wear. The only peculiar-

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