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THE PRESIDENT SHOT

The Work of an Anarchist Who Glories in His Crime—The Whole Country Thrown into Mourning

The president of the United States while in attendance at the Buffalo exposition was twice shot by an anarchist last Friday, September 6. After reading more than a hundred columns of descriptive matter concerning the perpetration of the crime, The Independent presents the following account as the best that can be gathered from the mass of stuff, much of it hysterical and incredible that has appeared in the dailies.

brought in he started forward and partly regained his feet unassisted. I heard not a word from the assassin of the president. He was struck down the moment he fired the second shot, and if he could speak it probably was an exclamation at the very rough treatment he was receiving.

the grounds and stood right near the president, right under him, under the stand from which he spoke. "I thought half a dozen times of shooting while he was speaking, but I could not get close enough. I was afraid I might miss, and that the great crowd was always jostling and I was afraid lest my aim fall. I waited Wednesday and the president got into his carriage again and a lot of men were about him and formed a cordon that I could not get through. I was tossed about by the crowd and my spirits were getting pretty low. I was almost hopeless that night as I went home.

THE PRESIDENT'S WOUND

Description of the Surgical Operation Performed at the Emergency Hospital on the Exposition Grounds

Dr. E. W. Lee, who was for a long time a practicing physician in Omaha, gives the following account of the surgical operation, he being one of the surgeons who was summoned to assist, which was performed at the exposition grounds: "When I was summoned to the operating room there were present several physicians in addition to the regular hospital staff. The president's clothes had been removed and he was lying on the operating table. He had been given some temporary relief.

Kinley, and forced through the great free trade reform bill which ensured Great Britain's commercial and manufacturing supremacy for over sixty years. The great difficulty, however, in the way of the republican party carrying out an effective tariff reform program is that they will be tied and hampered at every step by their own supporters and creators. A half dozen reciprocity treaties engineered through under the provisions of the Dingley bill, are still hung up in the senate and show no signs of ever being brought to ratification.

lavish rate. There is money in it for them when they spend more for a nomination than the salary of the office amounts to and everybody knows there is. Where do they get it from? From the owners of municipal franchises. Prof. Richard T. Ely is one of the leading economists and sociologists of the age and he discusses this question in the following way: "The political classes of the public utilities," he writes, "are water, light and transportation." In the very start he antagonizes the idea that the question of municipal ownership should not be decided in accordance with general principles, but that each case should be decided as it arises, and also the proposition that private ownership should be adhered to until it is developed that a serious mistake has been made.

of public ownership is "marked and surprising." He has seen one investigator after another start predisposed to favor public control of private corporations, and "turn away from that position as a hopeless one, and take up a position in favor of public ownership as the only practical solution under our American conditions." As showing the continued trend of Prof. Ely's article, we make the following additional extracts: "Public ownership carries home to everyone the importance of good government, and arrays on the side of good government the strong classes in a community now so often indifferent. Frequently men who are powerful in a community, in working for good government, work against, rather than for, their own private interests. It is, indeed, gratifying to see men of wealth, as frequently they do, turn aside from selfish considerations to promote measures calculated to advance the general welfare. But can we expect this kind of conduct persistently from the great majority? Have we any right to expect it?"

ABOLISH ANARCHY

To do it We Must Quit Raising Pappers and Creating Millionaires—The Root of Crime is Poverty

In discussing the attempted assassination of the president, Mr. Bryan in the last issue of The Commoner says: "There is no place for anarchy in the United States; there is no room here for those who commit, counsel or condone murder, no matter what political excuse may be urged in its defense. The line between peaceful agitation and violence is clear and distinct. We have freedom of speech and freedom of the press in this country, and they are essential to the maintenance of our liberties. If any one desires to criticize the methods of government or the conduct of an official, he has a perfect right to do so, but his appeal must be to the intelligence and patriotism of his fellow citizens, not to force. Let no one imagine that he can improve social or political conditions by the shedding of blood.

REPUBLICAN FREE TRADE

The President's Buffalo Speech is the Signal That McKinley Has Abandoned High Protection

Washington, D. C., Sept. 7.—The shocking news of the attempt to assassinate President McKinley at the Buffalo exposition comes at a momentous time in his political career. His Buffalo speech of the preceding day indicated that he had materially modified his high tariff views as to become a free trader, though free trade was thinly disguised under the alluring phrase of reciprocity. Time brings wondrous changes. Had any man had the temerity twelve years ago to prophesy that the author of the high tariff for protection McKinley bill would become an open and avowed free trader in 1901, he would have been laughed to scorn.

THE OMAHA PLATFORM

The Principles Enunciated in it are as Last Finding Defenders in the Highest Scientific Circles

Upon the fundamental principles of government and political economy the populist party stands right where it did when it promulgated its first national platform. Slowly but surely these principles are being adopted and defended by the very highest authority and many of them have been adopted by foreign governments. American cities are the most corrupt in the world. That corruption comes from the private ownership of public utilities. When one sees as here in Lincoln, candidates for municipal offices which do not pay as much as a day laborer earns, hiring carriages and spending more money in one day than the whole legal emoluments of the offices amount to, he knows that there is corruption in the deal. Republican politicians do not spend money and time for the good of the city at such a

THE EL PASO WELL IS IN

It Has an Eight Inch Casting and is a Fine Gusher

The famous Lucas gusher has a rival in the Beaumont field which may strip it of its laurels. At eight o'clock this morning W. P. Strum brought in for the El Paso Oil Co. an eight-inch gusher, which is two inches larger than the Lucas or Healy. The well passed through the cap rock last night, but they would not hazard bringing in the well at that hour and the gate valve was closed until this morning. Altogether only three pails of water had been removed from the well, when, with a mighty roar, it cleaned itself out and shot an eight-inch stream of pure oil 125 feet into the air. El Paso is the first genuine eight-inch in the Spindle Top territory and reflects a great deal of credit on Conductor Strum. The well was permitted to flow only a short time and then closed down. El Paso No. 1 is located on the extreme southern corner of block 38, Spindle Top Heights, and on the Hogg-Swayne syndicate land. The well is 1,225 feet, or nearly 100 feet deeper than the majority of gushers in this section of the hill. The cap rock is eight feet in thickness at this point. Houston (Tex.) Post. The El Paso adjoins the property of the Texas American Oil Co. and the above well is within 100 feet of their line.

Women Barred

The general council of the American Bar association, in session at Denver, Colo., lately decided that women were not eligible for membership in the association, and could not be admitted until the rules were changed. This decision was reached after a lengthy and heated debate of the question.