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The dangerous classes—dangerous to liberty and good government—are the immensely rich and not the poor.

The states of Delaware and Nebraska are on an exact parity in regard to their representation in the United States senate.

The cow boy tastes of the president are shown by his admiration for Funston and his dislike for such men as Miles, Dewey and Schley.

Doubtless the federal judges take into consideration the fact that they are appointed for life and do not have to come before the people for re-election when they hand down many of their decisions.

The republicans say that they are willing to rest their case in the next campaign on the plea that an "investigation has been started" in regard to the high price that the trust charges for meat.

The Boston Herald wants to know how many more reports similar to the one made by Major Gardener are hidden away in the archives of the war department. Secretary Root could tell, but he won't.

King Ed only invited Whitelaw Reid to stay six days, but Whitelaw says he will stay at least six weeks. King Ed will pay expenses for one week and Whitelaw will have to foot the bills for the rest of the time.

Every thief and scoundrel in the Philippines hides himself behind the flag. "Who will haul down the flag?" he cries. The cry is taken up by every plunderer in the states. They rob and murder and cry: "Who will haul down the flag?"

The Washington correspondents now say that Roosevelt is going to forcibly retire Miles and appoint that old tub of intestines, Brooke, whose dawdling at Pine Ridge resulted in the massacre at Wounded Knee, commander-in-chief of the army.

If franchises are not property, how can it be claimed by the federal courts that to tax them is confiscation of property forbidden by the fourteenth amendment? There are things about some of these decisions of the federal courts that no pop can find out.

It is gravely announced by the Washington correspondent that Attorney General Knox does not expect to convict the meat trust and will only go so far as to furnish a basis for a refutation of the democratic charges that the republicans have been fostering and promoting trusts.

In the senate investigation this week, imperialism got a blow on the point of the jaw, it is laid out and the bottle holders are trying to get it on its feet again. General Smith has been ordered to be court-martialed and Major Glenn has been ordered home to be prosecuted for torturing Filipinos.

Some of the mossbacked old fossils in the republican party are just waking up to the fact that there is a growing demand for the public ownership of railroads, telegraph and telephones, as well as the public utilities of cities. After a while they will be advocating what the populists advocated ten years ago.

On the peace rumors from South Africa, hundreds of new companies are being formed nuanu nuanuuanun being floated in London and the suckers are biting like hungry cat fish in the spring. Stock exchanges are the same thing the world over. Wall street and Lombard street pursue the same tactics.

It is the admirers of Funston who continually charge Filipinos with treachery. Funston clothed his troops in the enemy's uniform, forged the signatures of the enemy's chief officers, concealed all the signs and insignia of a hostile force, marched under the enemy's flag and he's a hero. If a Filipino does one of those things put into leading strings to that sense-

WANT NONE OF THEM

The democrats have finally chosen the members of the executive committee that will take charge of the congressional campaign. They are as follows:

Ben T. Cable, Illinois, chairman; Lewis Nixon, New York, chairman of the finance committee; David Overmeyer, Kansas; Thomas Taggart, Indianapolis; Richard Olney, Massachusetts; and Daniel Lamont, New York.

The Independent wants a thorough understanding about this. It will march under no Funstonian false colors. As far as that crowd is concerned, it has no use for them. If forced to a choice between the two, it prefers Roosevelt to Dave Hill. It prefers Payne to Tom Taggart. It prefers Hay to Dan Lamont. All of these men have pretended to support Bryan, while all but one of them did all they could to beat him. The Independent would not toss a copper to see whether there should be a plutocratic congress called democratic, or the same kind of a congress called republican. Republicans are proud of being plutocratic and every one would so understand them. If the congress that this committee would elect should entertain its opinions, we would simply have Clevelandism over again. Two members of this committee were Cleveland's most trusted advisors. If democrats want a solid republican congressional delegation from Nebraska, let that committee take a hand in the campaign of the state.

The performances of the democratic authorities in Kansas have made a republican delegation from that state a certainty, with the exception of one district which will likely go populist.

That gang of gold democrats would go out and talk tariff reform and then pass another Wilson bill with 900 Gorman amendments, and Gorman will be back in the senate to offer the amendments. The Wilson bill, after Gorman got through with it was the highest protective tariff measure that was ever got through congress. They would talk anti-imperialism and then rivet down imperialism as one of the permanent institutions of the country.

The Independent wants legislation, and who holds the offices is a minor matter. It wants men that it can trust like Bryan and Altgeld and not plutocrats like Dan Lamont. The Independent can say for the old populist guard of Nebraska without asking them that they want no cooperation with that Clevelandized crowd and what is more, they won't have it. Let that committee stay out of this state.

It is the democratic congressmen who have done this thing and not the rank and file of the democratic party. Wait and see what the rank and file say about it. These congressmen "think" that they have laid a sure foundation for the nomination of Dave Hill for the presidency. After a winter in Washington men often do some queer thinking. A blind horse could see that this is a Hill-Whitney-Cleveland arrangement. The Independent knows very well what the populists and Bryan democrats of this state will say about it, but the columns of The Independent are open to any pithy remarks they may have to make on the subject.

Dan Lamont, Tom Taggart, Olney! Good Lord, deliver us.

MR. HILL'S VERACITY

Dave Hill says that "democrats have always favored hard money—coined money—money of intrinsic value." How far back does that "always" go? Most of the Hill kind of democrats for some time have been favoring bank money—which is the very "softest" kind of "soft" money. He also says that "national bank notes are not legal tender and never have been, and no person is obliged to accept them." Now Dave Hill, being a lawyer with a large practice and closely connected with national banks and great financial interests of all kinds, knew when he wrote that, that on the back of every national bank note was printed the fact that it was a legal tender. The words are as follows:

"This note is receivable at par in all parts of the United States in payment of all taxes and excises and all other dues to the United States, except duties on imports, also for all debts and demands owing by the United States to individuals, corporations and associations within the United States, except interest on the public debt."

Not only the corporations, banks and the officers of the United States are forced to take these notes, but "individuals." The national bank note is a legal tender for hundreds of millions and it is impossible that Mr. Hill should be ignorant of that fact. There was never a greater outrage committed by any government than when national bank notes—simply promises to pay made by banking corporations—were made a legal tender. Mr. Hill thinks it a great outrage that greenbacks are made a legal tender, but he has constantly supported this other outrage, making national bank notes a legal tender

a magazine article the well known facts in the case.

As far as the money question is concerned, Mr. Hill is against making the notes of the government legal tender, but is in favor of making national bank notes legal tender. Then he talks about wanting "hard money," "money of intrinsic value!" Mr. Hill's statements show that he is not at all anxious that the silver dollar shall be redeemed in gold so that it may be kept at par.

A WHACK AT FARMERS

There has been some quips and turns made by this congress in relation to the countries that we hold in subjection by force of arms that is rather startling, especially to foreigners. Secretary Root has just ordered that the law in regard to levies on export duties which are levied in the Philippines contrary to the constitution, shall immediately go into effect. The export duty on hemp is very heavy and the duty on all hemp that is shipped to the United States will be refunded. "That will make all things manufactured from Manila hemp much cheaper in the United States than in any other country." That is what the cordage trust said when they got this little bill through. Binding twine, hundreds of tons of which is used by the farmers is made from this material. Will the farmers get their twine any cheaper? Not much. The tariff will protect the trust up to the full amount of the duties refunded and it will raise its price and take in a few millions more from the farmers. That is the kind of legislation that the farmers get from a republican congress and is the kind they ought to have as long as they insist on voting for republican congressmen.

THE TRUTH WANTED

Since all the news gathering associations have become the agents of plutocracy, letting the people know only so much as the privileged class think it is proper for them to know, the most profound ignorance exists among the people, especially those who read only republican papers. Not one voter in ten thousand knows what bills have been passed by this congress or the nature of those that have been introduced and rejected. As a general statement it may be said that never was there a session of congress in which the privileged class has secured so many and so valuable gifts and that every bill that has been introduced in favor of labor and the producers has been either amended—like the one in regard to the oppression of the courts—so as to make it the very opposite to what was intended, or thrown out altogether.

To remedy this state of affairs and let the people know what congress does, Mr. Bryan has been advocating that a summary of congressional proceedings be printed and sold at cost containing a brief account of all bills favorably reported from the committees, a full text of all laws passed, with a summary of the arguments for and against them. It could also contain the messages of the president and condensed reports of what is done in the various departments. By this means the voters could be informed of all that was done by the federal governments. The news associations give but the faintest idea of the facts and often misrepresent them.

Such a publication would be of very great usefulness. The present congressional record is wearisome to the flesh on account of its size. But very few can get it—there is not enough published to supply the editors and libraries—and but a small part of it is of any use to any one.

A GOOD PLAN

The populists of Kansas are as full of fight as they ever were. They are actively at work in many different ways. Some of them are making sacrifices to get our literature into the hands of the people by selling blocks of five Liberty Building postal cards. One writes that he will attend the county convention and make an effort to sell them there. There are to be a good many county conventions in this state in the next two or three months, and it would be a good plan for those who want to place the current news and a knowledge of the political situation in the homes of the people of this state to send for a few blocks and sell them at the county conventions. Put 50,000 Independents every week in the homes of the people of Nebraska and that will be the end of republican rule.

Announcement is made by the Reed Publishing company, 1756 Champa street, Denver of the publication of "Songs of the People," a new volume of verse from the pen of J. A. Edgerton, known in Nebraska as the poet of populism. The book will contain 119 of Mr. Edgerton's latest and best poems made up from the "Side Veins" column of the Denver News, making a volume of 224 pages. All subscriptions before May 1 will be filled at \$1; after that regular price

SHALL WE BE RECREANT

As imperialism advances step by step, The Independent has watched its course desirous of doing something to awaken the people to the gradual overthrow of all the ideals that we have held sacred. Step by step it has gone on. First the denial of the right of government by consent of the governed. Putting the territories outside of the protection of the constitution. Engaging in wars of conquest. Establishing sedition laws that make criticism of public officers treason. The passage of the anarchy bill which is intended, or whether so intended or not, will be used to smother the press. The establishing of a censorship and the withholding of official reports. All these are advances made by imperialism. With them and other things of the same kind in view, The Independent can think of nothing better to say than the following:

The contest for ages has been to rescue liberty from the grasp of executive power. Whoever has engaged in her sacred cause has struggled for the accomplishment of that single object. On the long list of champions of human freedom there is not one named dimmed by the reproach of advocating the extreme authority; on the contrary, the uniform and steady purpose of all such champions has been to limit and restrain it.

Through all this history of the contest for liberty, executive power has been regarded as a lion which must be caged. So far from being the object of enlightened popular trust, so far from being considered the natural protector of popular right, it has been dreaded, uniformly, always dreaded, as the great source of its danger.

The first object of a free people is the preservation of their liberty; and liberty is only to be preserved by maintaining constitutional restraints and just divisions of political power. This is the very essence of free political institutions. The spirit of liberty is, indeed, a bold and fearless spirit; but it is also a sharp-sighted spirit; it is a cautious, sagacious, discriminating, far-seeing intelligence; it is jealous encroachment, jealous of power, jealous of man. It demands checks; it seeks for guards; it insists on securities; it intrenches itself behind strong bulwarks, and fortifies itself with all possible care against the assaults of ambition and passion. It does not trust the amiable weaknesses of human nature, and, therefore, it will not permit power to overstep its prescribed limits, though benevolence, good intent and patriotic purpose comes along with it. Neither does it satisfy itself with flashy and temporary resistance to illegal authority. Far otherwise. It seeks for duration and permanence. It looks before and after; and, building on the experience of ages which are past, it labors diligently for the benefit of ages to come. This is the nature of constitutional liberty; and this is our liberty, if we would rightly understand and preserve it. Our security is in our watchfulness of executive power. It was the constitution of this department which was definitely the most difficult part in the great work of creating our present government. To give to the executive department such power as should make it useful, and yet not such power as should render it dangerous; to make it efficient, independent and strong, and yet to prevent it from sweeping away everything by its union of military and civil authority; by the influence of patronage and office and favor—this, indeed, was difficult. They who had the work to do saw the difficulty, and we see it, and if we would maintain our system we should act wisely to that end by preserving every restraint and every guard which the constitution has provided. And when we and those who come after us have done all that we can do, and all that they can do, it will be well for us and for them if some popular executive, by the power of patronage and party, and the power, too, of that very popularity, shall not hereafter prove an overmatch for all branches of the government.

Sir, in our endeavors to maintain our existing forms of government, we are acting not for ourselves alone, but for the great cause of constitutional liberty all over the globe. We are trustee, holding a sacred treasure, in which all struggle for our constitution and government, but heaven forbid that they should us recreant.

The above thoroughly populist editorial is an extract from a speech by Daniel Webster.

ENCOURAGING REPORTS. Editor Independent: I have been out in the country working and just got in last night. Sold those five postals this morning in five minutes. Draft enclosed for three dollars. Send me five more. G. A. MILLSPAUGH, Atkinson, Neb.

(Such letters as this encourage the editor as well as the business manager. The editor feels that his work must be appreciated when a friend of the paper can take five subscriptions in five minutes. The business manager feels encouraged, because al-

low rate—five subscriptions for \$3—yet every new name added through the solicitation of friends of the paper is on the average worth two secured by traveling agents. The Liberty Building plan is bound to succeed if our friends will each give only a few minutes to the work. Perhaps Mr. Millsbaugh's record is exceptional, but it shows what an energetic man can do when he tries.—Ed. Ind.)

Seven blocks of Liberty Building postals—35 cards—disposed of in less than two months, is the record of C. A. Skoog, Holdrege, Neb., and he writes, "I think I can sell a good many more."

A PLUTOCRATIC NOTION

The legislature of Rhode Island has been passing laws to make men honor the flag.

"Say what is honor? 'Tis the finest sense Of justice that human mind can frame."

While the flag represents that, there will be no need of laws to force men to honor it. If it represents anything else, all the laws that parliaments can pass cannot force men to reverence and revere it. That men can be made by law to honor a flag is a plutocratic notion. Honor and reverence are emotions of the human heart and parliaments have no jurisdiction there. Last year a poor rag picker was arrested in Boston and fined for dishonoring the flag. He had fished one out of an ash barrel and wrapped some of his finding in it. The people of Boston would have paid more honor to the flag if they had taken their senator, who is trying to establish a despotism under it and chucked him in an ash barrel, then put the barrel in a cart and hauled it out to the dump and left it there.

BOUNTIES AND TARIFFS

Wherever and whenever the laws of trade have been violated by forcing industries with bounties, tax exemptions or in other ways, the result has been disastrous. For a time they seem to be prosperous, but in the end there is loss. Some city wants to become a manufacturing place. Now if manufacturing would pay there it would soon be learned by those who have money to invest in that kind of business. But the city is far from raw material or inconveniently located and manufacturers are induced to come by bounties or exemption from taxation. These put it on a level with cities more favorably situated. In the end the tax exemption and the bounty ceases and then there is disaster to both the city and the investor. The same result follows when nations go into the bounty giving business. The bounties on sugar in Germany are increasing taxes to such an extent that it forebodes disaster to the whole commercial situation in that country and steps are being taken to abolish them. But Germany will have to pay the penalty for this false doctrine. The investors of millions in bounty made sugar, the farmers who went into it and the men who built the factories will all suffer. Germany will be fortunate if it does not end in a commercial crash. In the end if the farmers of Germany cannot raise sugar beets without taxing the remainder of the inhabitants to secure them from loss they will have to raise something else.

Protective tariffs and bounties are essentially the same thing and are subject to the same economic laws. This country has endured bounties and tariffs because of its natural wealth. The forests have produced many millions, the coal mines near the top of the ground, while in Europe it is down deep in the depths of the earth, there are mountains of iron ore, it has had interstate waterways, a virgin soil the very richest in the world, a healthy climate, and by means of these it has prospered in spite of tariffs and bounties. The application of the discoveries of science to industry have had their first application here—many of the great industries are the result of work done in the laboratories of the chemist.

We have been able to endure under this false political economy by mortgaging the country to foreigners. The tremendous excess of exports over imports with no return of gold, is evidence that the country is mortgaged to foreigners and sooner or later the debt will have to be liquidated or an enormous tribute be forever paid.

Altogether aside from the justice of taxing one industry to support another, is this question. There are economic laws as certain in their results as the laws of gravitation. All the ingenuity of man cannot find a way of escape. The penalty is sure to be inflicted. The forests are nearly exhausted, the land in many of the states is becoming worn and fertilizers have to be applied to raise a crop. After a while we will have to go deeper for coal and the country as a whole will come down in the level of natural wealth to those of the old world. Then we can no longer en-



DEWEY'S FLAGSHIP OLYMPIA—CAPTAIN GRIDLEY, COMMANDER.

Mrs. Gridley, mother of Captain Gridley, who was in command of Dewey's flagship, at the destruction of the Spanish fleet at Manila, says of our remedy, Peruna:

"At the solicitation of a friend I used Peruna, and can truthfully say it is a grand tonic and is a woman's friend, and should be used in every household. After using it for a short period I feel like a new person."—MRS. GRIDLEY.

Mrs. Longstreet is the wife of the famous Confederate General, Lieutenant-General James Longstreet, the only living ex-Confederate officer of that rank. She writes as follows to The Peruna Medicine Co.:

"I can recommend your excellent remedy, Peruna, as one of the best tonics, and for those who need a good, substantial remedy, I know of nothing better. Besides being a good tonic it is an effective cure for catarrh."—Mrs. James Longstreet.

Hon. Lucius E. Gridley, brother of Captain Gridley, also speaks a good word for Peruna. In a letter written from 1511 T Street, Washington, D. C., he says:

"Gentlemen—Your Peruna has been thoroughly tested in my family. My mother and wife used it with the very best results, and I take pleasure in recommending it to all who want a good, substantial remedy, both as a tonic and a catarrh cure."—Lucius E. Gridley.

Miss Mary J. Kennedy, manager of the Armour & Co.'s exhibit, Trans-Mississippi Exposition, Omaha, Neb., writes the following in regard to Peruna, from 842 West Sixty-second street, Chicago, Ill.:

"I found the continual change of diet

with bounties and tariffs. We had better begin to prepare for it by the gradual reduction of tariffs and bounties and place our industries upon the solid foundations.

THE TIME TO QUARREL

Why should there be war to the knife among populists, single taxers, and socialists. As The Independent has often pointed out, the single taxer's diagnosis of our economic ills, so far as noting the symptoms is concerned, does not differ materially from that of the socialist or populist. But as to what caused the economic disease, these doctors differ; and naturally they differ as to the remedy.

A unity of opinion exists that the rich are growing relatively and actually richer, and that the poor are growing relatively, if not actually, poorer. It might be pointed out that even the poorest in our great cities have some advantages which were not enjoyed by even the richest hundreds of years ago; but this does not change the fact that the gulf between the richest and the poorest is constantly widening. Upon this point socialists, single taxers, and populists unanimously agree.

What causes this widening gulf? The socialist will tell you that the competitive system, capitalistic production, wage slavery causes it. The single taxers maintain that the private ownership in land is at fault, that and the system, or systems, of taxing the products of man's labor, either by taxing him upon what he consumes, or receives, or what he has. The populist says that the people themselves are primarily to blame, because they have permitted congress to delegate its powers to private persons; that by and through congress the people have given away in the first instance millions of dollars worth of wealth in franchises to national banks, railroad companies, and the like, and in the second instance have permitted these corporations to rob them of other millions by "watering" stock and by other devious methods. Further, that the people, through congress, have permitted themselves to be robbed of untold millions under the guise of protective tariff taxes, bounties and subsidies. And that, aided by these tariffs and bounties and subsidies, together with rebates from the railroads and special advantages from the national banks, ordinary businesses have developed into the modern trusts, with all their attendant evils.

The remedy proposed by each of these reformers varies according to his judgment of what causes the disease. The socialist demands the "collective ownership of all the means of production and distribution." The single taxers ask that all taxation be dispensed with except a tax on land

incidental to eight years' traveling completely upset my digestive system. On consulting several physicians they decided I suffered with catarrh of the stomach.

"Their prescriptions did not seem to help me any, so, reading of the remarkable cures perfected by the use of Peruna, I decided to try it, and soon found myself well repaid.

"I have now used it for about three months and feel completely rejuvenated. I believe I am perfectly cured, and do not hesitate to give unstinted praise to your remedy, Peruna."—Mary J. Kennedy.

Congressman Geo. W. Smith of Murphysboro, Ill., writes:

"I take pleasure in testifying to the merits of Peruna. I have taken one bottle for my catarrh and I feel very much benefited. To those who are afflicted with catarrh and in need of a good tonic I take pleasure in recommending Peruna."—Geo. W. Smith.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, Ohio.

any improvements, and hopes thereby to bring about state or collective ownership of the land, but with private possession of the land and private ownership of property and the means of production other than land. The populist demands the abolition of all special privileges and asks that congress cease to delegate any of its sovereign powers to individuals or corporations. In other words, that the government issue all money in the direct manner possible, without the intervention of banks or any other private agency; that in the exercise of its powers as defined by the constitution, the government condemn and take for public use the railroads, telegraphs, telephones, and other kindred institutions.

Now the socialist asks more than either of the others. He cannot expect to get everything he asks at once. There must be a gradual accomplishment of these objects, and the natural order of events will be something like this: First, municipal ownership in cities of gas, electric light, street car, water works, and kindred public utilities. Second, state insurance, state ownership of telephone lines, stockyards—and perhaps state ownership of railroads, although this would doubtless prove a failure. Third, national ownership of railroads, telegraphs, express companies, canals, irrigation systems, etc.

The single taxer's demand will never be granted in the nation until it has been tried in localities first. Perhaps the best way would be to allow local option, something after the fashion of Colorado. He agrees with populist in demanding the direct issue of all money by the government. He goes part way with the populist in demanding that the state own at least the right of way of railroads, etc.

The socialist will not see collective ownership of all the means of production until some means of distribution have become public property. Accordingly he need have no quarrel with the populist upon the points on which they agree. After protective tariffs have been abolished, national bank issues done away with, the single tax in successful operation in some of the states so far as concerns local and state taxes, and cities operating their public utilities, then will be time enough for these three to quarrel over what will be the final policy.

As a means of securing the things the majority wants, whether socialism, Georism, or populism, these three can unite in pushing the principles of direct legislation—and this, too, must grow from the municipality upward.

Read this paper carefully and then hand it to a neighbor. Ask him to subscribe; or better send for a block of five "Liberty Building" Postals and get up a club of subscribers. There is no other way in which you can do so much to advance the cause of pop-