

MR. BRIDE'S REVIEW

Our Washington Correspondent Gives a Resume of What Our Two Billion Dollar Congress Has Done—Just Two Bills of Importance Passed

Washington, D. C., July 7, 1902.—(Special Correspondence.)—Congress has adjourned and the mantle of time has fallen over the shades of another session. It has been an important session, not only for the vast amounts appropriated from the government treasury, but from the lack of business transacted. Nothing of importance, save the canal bill and the Philippine civil government bill, has been passed which interests the entire country.

past two days to the little hamlet of Oyster Bay, Long Island. The president, after making his Fourth of July oration at Pittsburg, has started on his period of rest at his country home. So that for the heated term—and Washington is pretty hot—the capital of the nation will be at Oyster Bay.

Washington is no longer the capital of the United States. The seat of government has been transferred for the

RIGHT SPIRIT

Postmaster General Payne Urges the Establishment of Postal Currency—Treasury Department Says 'Too Much Work'

It is said that congress has been compelled to force upon the treasury department every reform of any moment insisted in the past twenty years, and it is quite time that congress specifically instructed that department to adjust itself to the public needs and to print its paper money of small denominations in such a manner that it may be conveniently and safely sent through the mails.

The particular department official most opposed to the Post check measure is Mr. Roberts, treasurer of the United States, an honored official, but grown old in the service. His objections seem to arise from an exaggerated idea of the work and change from the present routine, preferring to adhere to old methods no matter how imperatively new conditions may be demanded.

In other words, the preservation of existing official routine is placed at a higher value than the needs of the people arising from our rapid commercial development along new lines.

Now another demand has arisen which is pressed with as much persistency as any of the former ones. It is called "publicity" and that shall be tried also and will aid in bringing it about, but they have no more confidence in it than any of the other methods that have been tried and found futile.

Meanwhile it is gratifying to note that great progress has been made. The demands of the people for relief have been recognized by both the great departments from which relief may be sought. It is no longer a question of whether or not relief shall be given, but merely as to its form; details and completeness. It is such progress as made during the next session of congress as has been made during the present session, the people will soon be able to transact the immense volume of small business passing through the mails with as little inconvenience as attends their other daily purchases.

POLITICAL COMMON SENSE

That Has Been the Distinguishing Characteristic of the Populist Movement From the Beginning

The railroad problem was among the first to which populists gave attention. The hard-headed men who tilled the fields and whose products had to be transported by railroads saw that the cost by the existing official routine was a problem of the very greatest importance to each one of them personally and to nation and states as well.

But the thing most insisted upon by the public generally was "government control." Maximum rate laws were passed and boards of transportation to control rates were created. The populists never had any faith in any of these things, but they were willing to acquiesce in them so long as the railroad monopolies remain in private hands there will be unending corruption in congresses, courts, legislatures and boards of transportation, but go on and try it. We will help you to do it.

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In reply to that proposition the populists say that the public now knows, or at least the intelligent portion of it does, all the facts above enumerated. When the stock of a railroad suddenly rises 100 per cent, as did that of the Burlington, is there any other way of charging extortionate rates and that the profits secured by the monopoly are unreasonable? Documentary evidence of that fact can be obtained by every man now.

Populists are perfectly willing that all these things shall be tried. They will put no obstacle in the way. All the same they are firmly convinced that this and all the others put together will bring no relief. The billions in private hands invested in railroads, which in their very nature are monopolies and into which competition can never enter, will continue to control the government, both state and national, corrupt the courts and make politics a cesspool of moral rotteness. There is but one remedy and that is government ownership.

NEBRASKA AGRICULTURE

Census Bulletin No. 193 Tells of the Material Progress of Agricultural Nebraska

Census Bulletin No. 193 has just reached The Independent office. It treats of the statistics of agriculture for Nebraska. The census act required that "the schedules relating to agriculture shall comprehend the following topics: Name of occupant of each farm, color of occupant, tenure, acreage, value of farm and improvements, acreage of different products, quantity and value of products, and number and value of live stock.

That the Independent holds to the belief that figures "run in," as the printers say, are of little practical use for the average reader, and will give a brief abstract of the story told by Bulletin No. 193 in a series of little tables:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Value. Includes Total number, With buildings, Without buildings, Value, Land and improvements, Buildings, Implements and machinery, Live stock.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Value. Includes Total farm property, Products not fed to live stock, Expenses for labor, For fertilizers, For the farmers, White, Chinese, Negro.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Value. Includes An Average Farm, Land and improvements, Buildings, Implements and machinery, Live stock, Gross income, Farms Operated By, Owners, Part owners, Managers, Cash tenants, Share tenants.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Average size. Includes Under 3 acres, 3 to 9, 10 to 19, 20 to 49, 50 to 99, 100 to 174, 175 to 259, 260 to 499, 500 to 999, 1,000 acres and over.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Value. Includes Total farms, Value of Products—1899, Animal products, Farm crops, Total, Animal Products, Wool, Mohair and goat hair, Dairy products, Eggs, Poultry, Bee products, Animals sold, Animals slaughtered, Total, Farm Crops, Corn, Wheat, Oats, Barley, Rye, Buckwheat, Flaxseed, Kafir corn, Clover seed, Grass seed, Hay and forage, Chicory, Tobacco, Hemp, Hops, Broom corn, Peanuts, Dry beans, Dry peas, Potatoes, Sweet potatoes, Onions, Misc. vegetables, Sorghum cane, Sorghum syrup, Sugar beets, Small fruits, Grapes, Orchard fruits, Nuts, Forest products, Flowers and plants, Seeds.

NEBRASKA AGRICULTURE

Nursery products, Miscellaneous, LEADING COUNTIES, Corn—Gage and Saunders with more than 8,000,000 bushels each; grown in every county.

Wheat—Clay and Adams, with more than a million bushels each; nearly every county represented. Oats—Sewar, Gage, Butler, Platte, and York, with over two million bushels each; nearly every county represented.

Barley—York; raised mostly in northeast portion. Rye—Merrick, Boone, and York; raised in most counties. Broom Corn—Cass, Polk, and Saunders produced more than half of the total production in 1899.

Apples—Otoe, Richardson, and Cass. Peaches—Gage and Nemaha. Sugar Beets—Dodge, Hall, Madison, and Merrick led in 1899 with 77.7 per cent of total acreage, although 41 counties reported.

Milk and Butter—Lancaster. Sales of Milk—Douglas. Cheese—Platte and Pierce produce nearly one-third of the cheese made on farms in the state.

Poultry and Eggs—Lancaster, Saline, Saunders, Gage, and Otoe each reported more than a million dozen eggs produced in 1899. Wool—Hall, Kimball, Sheridan, and Dawson.

Let The People Say. It is a misuse of language and a waste of time to talk about establishing a democratic form of government without the initiative and referendum, or, more generally called, "direct legislation." Direct legislation means simply an actual, instead of a mere theoretical, sovereignty of the people.

When the power of government is to be used in the interest of the people, they must have continuous and effective possession of the government. We call legislators "agents" and the people their "principals." Queer agents who can give away their principals' property despite their protests; queer principals that cannot veto his agents' plans, no matter how much he objects to them, nor instruct his agents by what to do whenever he thinks proper, nor discharge his agents when they refuse to carry out his orders; queer principals who have to obey the commands of their agents, instead of giving them orders. What objection there is raised to direct legislation grows out of the old idea that the government was a thing separate and apart from the people, which had rights in itself other than those of the people.

THOMPSON AT MADISON

Fourth of July Address by Hon. W. H. Thompson, at Madison, Neb.—Inspiring Sentiments—The Declaration Still Lives

The fusion forces are justly proud of their nominee for governor. He is a man who for years has been battling in the ranks of the common people, inspired by the high ideals of the fathers who founded this republic. His Fourth of July address at Madison should be read by every lover of America. Every sentence, clothed in the choicest English, is an inspiration to greater deeds of patriotism, an earnest appeal to every American citizen not only to exercise his rights, but also to perform the duties of citizenship devolving upon him.

Man's mission on earth is so hedged in by destiny, so veiled by mystery, and so clouded by his own inauspicious weakness, as to make his journey that of a wanderer, not drifting listlessly as a leaf on the pond, and not absolutely directed as a ship on the ocean. He is not exclusively a free moral agent and not unchangeably pre-ordained. If he is started on a course suited to his make-up he will meet with some success, and if not, in looking back over a wasted life, he sees at his every cross-road failure. Thus we are at a loss always to know with exactness just what mood of praise or censure to bestow. Yet we do know that no circumstance can make a man unless the man has so equipped himself as to be fitted to the circumstance.

It is a misuse of language and a waste of time to talk about establishing a democratic form of government without the initiative and referendum, or, more generally called, "direct legislation." Direct legislation means simply an actual, instead of a mere theoretical, sovereignty of the people. We are governed today, not by democracy, but by an elective aristocracy, holding for a term. The people are sovereign only at the moment of election; the men they elect become their rulers for one, two or four years, as the case may be. Self-government is one thing; the choosing of the men who are to govern you is a very different thing. A child may choose its guardian; a slave may be given a voice in choosing his master, and yet be absolutely subject to his dominion after the choice is made. Power will be used in the interest of its possessor. If the power of government is to be used in the interest of the people, they must have continuous and effective possession of the government. We call legislators "agents" and the people their "principals." Queer agents who can give away their principals' property despite their protests; queer principals that cannot veto his agents' plans, no matter how much he objects to them, nor instruct his agents by what to do whenever he thinks proper, nor discharge his agents when they refuse to carry out his orders; queer principals who have to obey the commands of their agents, instead of giving them orders. What objection there is raised to direct legislation grows out of the old idea that the government was a thing separate and apart from the people, which had rights in itself other than those of the people. He who attempts to rule the people in total disregard to their commands is a usurper, and for a legislator to declare that it is superior to the people and is independent of them, is an outrageous piece of political usurpation and a crime against human rights and human liberties. Discussion of the principles of direct legislation is shunned, not more to keep the people silent than by discussion. A stumby speaker who would tell our people that they are not fitted to govern themselves; that they are not capable of discerning between good laws and bad laws, would not be a voter-winner. So we do not find avowed opposition on the stump; nor do we find frank opposition in the slavish press controlled by the same plutocracy. Other parties should be governed for the profit of the few and the enslavement of the many. No decision should be final except that of the people by direct vote. Shall not the people—the people who are living now—begin to rule? This is a good year to vote into power the initiative and referendum. In this state, if secured, it does not favor that you just forsake your principles, democratic or prohibition principles. Advocate any political principle that your judgment dictates and vote direct for those principles and for what you want, instead of what you do not want, as many times you are obliged to do under the present system in order to get what you do want. The liberal democratic party is pledged to put this system in operation over the heads of the present parties; do not favor it; or rather, the political bosses do not, for it takes away their power to manipulate political parties for their own self-aggrandizement. You all know that political parties have been run for the benefit of two or three men; that nominations are made in private offices; that conventions are merely ratification meetings; that legislatures are simply required to legalize the acts of the bosses. No laws can be passed that the boss opposes.—A Liberal Democrat, in Newburgh (N. Y.) Sunday Telegram.