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The Ticket

For Governor.....W. H. Thompson
(Democrat, Hall County.)
Lieut. Governor.....E. A. Gilbert
(Populist, York County.)
Secretary of State.....John Powers
(Populist, Hitchcock County.)
Auditor.....C. Q. De France
(Populist, Jefferson County.)
Treasurer.....J. N. Lyman
(Populist, Adams County.)
Attorney General.....J. H. Broady
(Democrat, Lancaster County.)
Commissioner Public Lands and Buildings.....J. C. Brennan
(Democrat, Douglas County.)
Supt. of Schools.....Claude Smith
(Populist, Dawson County.)

The logical candidate of the imperialists is "Hell Roaring" Jake Smith.

Populism is not socialism, nevertheless it is an earnest protest against the overstrained individualism of the last few decades.

Roosevelt, Knox, and Littlefield are going to knock the trusts out, so they say, but nevertheless the trusts will furnish the campaign funds to keep all those three gentlemen in office.

The republicans are going in for literature in this campaign at a wholesale rate. They print their documents by the millions and if one should form an opinion from the blood-red ink that they use so profusely, he would come to the conclusion that they were all anarchists.

Little by little the truth comes out. It now transpires that Senator Tapp of Kansas did not say he would vote the republican state and county tickets; that he did not say he would vote against Senator Harris' re-election to the United States senate. And again the Associated press is to blame for the dissemination of a lie.

The new ecclesiastic who will go to Manila under the orders of the pope will become a political power. The government of the United States will be greatly interested in the character of the man, which is the first time that this government ever got into such close connection with the Roman Catholic hierarchy. This imperialism leads to much very strange business.

Every one knows that the alien contract labor law has been a dead letter ever since commercialism took charge of the government through the agency of the republican party. Now that an election is approaching over which that party is very anxious, an order had been issued to the immigration commissioners to strictly enforce it. That is the republican way of doing things all the time.

It must seem rather lonesome for George W. Brewster of Lincoln, Neb., member of the national committee of the "Allied People's Party" for the state of Nebraska. He's—

"The midshipmite
And the bo's'un tight
And the crew of the Nancy Bell."
Or, in the language of the street, Brewster's the whole cheese. He's probably the only "allieder" in Nebraska.

There is lots of fun for a pop in this campaign. The republicans are printing some democratic speeches, such as Morgan's defense of the army, and the democrats are printing some republican speeches including those of Senator Hoar. One offsets the other and whether either party gains votes by the performance, one thing will be established and that is that some democrats are republicans and some republicans are democrats, yet party insanity has such a hold upon them that they will all vote their own party ticket and vote 'er straight.

The church takes on more and more the purely business aspect. There are evangelists who go about the country agreeing to save souls at so much a head. One in northern Illinois goes about from church to church on these terms: "Forty dollars a week and fifty conversions guaranteed or money refunded." He finds many ministers and churches ready to hire him. The money value of a soul under that agreement seems to be 80 cents. The Independent wonders what old Peter Cartwright would have said about an agreement of that kind.

FUTURE POLICIES

Whether one agrees with the conclusions of Mr. Newton M. Taylor or not, the article from his pen which appeared in The Independent affords subject matter for much thought. Let us all acknowledge the facts and then see if we cannot all come to some agreement. It will be well to remember past errors so as to avoid them in the future. The error committed in the last campaign was in not freely acknowledging and accepting the facts. The Independent was the only prominent paper that wanted to acknowledge facts and which urged that policy upon the national democratic campaign committee. Its editor secured the adoption of a plank in the populist platform of the state of Nebraska calling attention to the enormous increase in the volume of money and the results that followed. The democratic party should have done the same thing, but it did not. If it had, the whole field would have been cleared for new issues. The republicans, after denouncing the coinage of silver and predicting that it would bring disaster and ruin upon the country immediately went to work as soon as they were in power and coined more silver than was ever coined before in the same length of time, and although there was an immense output of gold they bent every energy to increase the currency and get "more money" into circulation in every possible way except by issuing greenbacks.

Why the democratic managers did not take advantage of so wide a gap in the enemy's lines and march triumphantly through, is a thing that this writer could never understand. He wrote frequent letters to the national democratic committee and to editors of prominent democratic papers urging that attention should be called to these things. He even collated statistics of the increase in money taken from treasury reports and reports of the director of the mint and presented them to democratic speakers and the said speakers refused to use them. Dr. King of Lincoln will remember one instance of that kind, for he had a hand in it.

If the democratic party had taken that position the decks would be clear for action now. As it is they are strewn with rubbish which neither crew or commander knows how to get out of the way.

As far as the populist party is concerned the decks are clear and every man stripped for the fight. Populists never made fools of themselves talking about "the two precious metals that God designed for money." They always said that what was needed was "more money" and that it did not make a particle of difference whether it was made of gold, silver or paper. They declared that an increase in the amount of money would relieve the distress and bring prosperity. They advocated the coinage of silver, not because it was "the money of the fathers," "constitutional money," or "the money ordained by providence," but because the coinage of that metal would make "more money," especially the coinage of silver lying idle in the vaults of the treasury. They are now in a position to say that the demand for more money having been complied with, they insist upon the remainder of their platform being enacted into law.

There is no silver bullion uncoined anywhere in the world. All the silver that is mined, excepting what is used in the arts, is coined and goes into the circulation of the world. Gold ought to be coined on the same terms that silver is as long as the world insists on the barbarism of metallic money. All the silver being coined what more can we ask?

Every economist knows that any greater rate of increase in the volume of money than is now assured from the tremendous output of gold and the coining of all the silver except what is used in the arts, presages danger. The position that populists should take in regard to money is to fight against inflation, and especially bank inflation. They should protest in their platforms against the issue of wildcat money, and enormous and unsafe expansion of credits. Bank credits now stand at the ratio of 10 to 1 for every dollar of money in existence. A short crop or any other national disaster would blot out all of this confidence money in the twinkling of an eye. As far as national finance is concerned, the fight of the fusion forces should be along these lines. The platforms should be built upon these principles.

The financial is but one question of many that statesmen must deal with. There are many other questions upon which the populists and Bryan democrats are hotly opposed to the republicans. They may be summed up as opposition to all those things which tend to concentrate wealth in a few hands, and the defense of the basic principles upon which this government was founded and has grown great. If it was worth while for Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln to devote their lives to the establishment of those principles it certainly is worth our while to defend them. The denial of the principles contained in the Declaration of Independence and the tearing in shreds of the constitution by supreme court decisions is certainly

a matter that presses upon us. Can we, because our stomachs are full for a time, afford to see the very foundations of the government removed with the certain knowledge that the whole framework will come tumbling down sometime in the future?

So far the fusion forces, and especially the populists, have constructed their policy on the eternal and unvarying laws of political economy. That is the reason that we can hold our heads and look all men straight in the eye. Shall we compromise our honorable record now? One of the fundamental laws of political economy is that restrictions upon trade hinder the production of wealth. Tariff restrictions upon trade not only do that, but they create monopolies, enable "the captains of industry" to rob the laborer and take to themselves all the increment of wealth made possible by invention, science and education. We will still stand by the principles in this regard that we have so long promulgated.

The populist idea is, the public ownership of all public utilities, including the railroads. Rebates on the railroads are the foundation of some of the great accumulations of wealth and the basis of the Standard Oil and some other trusts. Until the people are sufficiently aroused to demand the public ownership of railroads the fusion forces will give all aid possible toward complete control of the railroads by governmental authority.

The fight for equal taxation of all property held by individuals or corporations should be kept up with the greatest vigor. The justice and equity of this no man can deny.

Election of United States senators by a vote of the people will be demanded until it is granted.

The attempt to increase the credit currency by making silver redeemable in gold, when the credits already are more than ten to one of all the money in existence, including silver, should be fought with all the power and force that can be mustered. That means ruin and desolation such as this country has never known.

Branch banking, which is only another name for the greatest and most powerful trust that the genius of man ever invented, must be met with the fiercest opposition. That would create a power greater than was ever exercised by any czar, emperor or potentate that ever lived. When a year of bad crops take the managers of it would simply take in all that was worth having in the whole country.

An income tax, which is the only really just tax ever levied, must be advocated. By the present system of a tax on consumption, the poor pay as much as the rich, while the cost of government is mostly made by the rich. The protection of their railroads, street car lines and other vast interests fill the dockets of the courts from top to bottom and keep in service a vast army of marshals, sheriffs and policemen.

The initiative and referendum will be broadened until it is granted.

On broad lines, the fight by the fusion forces and especially by the populists, will be for a government in the interest of the whole people as in contradistinction to a government by the syndicates, trusts, banks and railroads for the privileged few.

STOP TALKING

The modern Massachusetts Puritan is very much like his ancient ancestor. Beginning with Vermont and ending with Connecticut the shrewd traders of that district, foreseeing the end of slavery, transferred their slaves to the south to raise cheap cotton for their looms. From that sort of labor they grew rich. Now they have transferred many of their looms to the south where they have inaugurated a slavery ten times worse than ever that of the African was. It is child slavery. The weavers, toddling things are driven to these Massachusetts owned factories and worked from ten to fourteen hours daily and the Massachusetts aristocrats grow rich from a toll that is cheaper than that of the negro slave ever was. These sanctimonious gentlemen go to church every Sunday, and walk about with a holler than thou strut, while they denounce the labor agitator and walking delegate and their judges send Mother Jones to jail for "talking." It is true that Mother Jones has done a good deal of talking. She has been down south and seen the little tots toiling in the cotton mills to pile up money for the already wealthy northern owner. After she saw those sights she "talked." And now a federal judge has sent her to jail because she would not stop talking.

All this is part of the gospel of greed—the concomitant of the worship of Mammon. It is the result of the doctrines taught in some of the churches and the political idea that the object of national existence is to amass great fortunes. The whole machinery of government is used to that end. The great apostles of the republican party bend all their energies to that purpose. The men and women must toil and the little children must never have any time to play or study, they must spend their years from just above babyhood until they die in the factories piling up gold for the cap-

tains of industry. Any working man or woman who has the spirit to protest and "talk," must be sent to jail. After the judge gets them in jail on his own order, then he walks the streets and while off the bench insults and abuses his helpless victims. Judge Jackson's remarks about organized labor while off the bench was the most abusive that ever fell from human lips. He exercises the right to "talk," but denies it to wage-workers.

RAILROAD MERGERS

The modern plan to consolidate the railroads in few hands is simplicity itself. The only wonder is that it has not generally been adopted before. There is no possible way of any governmental interference with it. It requires but comparatively a small amount of capital to do it. Any one can understand how it is done.

In the first place a railroad is owned by a joint stock company. The control of the road is in the hands of those who own a majority of stock. At a meeting of the stockholders those owning the majority of the shares elect the directors. These directors control the road, appoint its officers and fix the salaries. All that, everybody understands. In the past directors have sometimes so managed the road that the stock run down to a nominal price and it took but little money to buy a majority of shares. Now a new plan is adopted.

The syndicate called the Moore Bros. has obtained a majority of the shares of the Rock Island. The stock of that company amounts to \$75,000,000. It sells at nearly \$200 a share. To get control of the road and hold it under the old plan would require \$75,000,000. That was a little too big a thing for the Moore Bros. syndicate to manage for any length of time. So they adopt this new plan that will enable them to control the road and manage its business for less than one-seventh of that amount of capital. They do like the steel trust tried to do. They invite the stockholders to take first mortgage bonds for their stock. They will give the stockholders who are willing to do that two dollars in bonds for one dollar of stock. The bond is simply a mortgage on the road and calls for 4 per cent interest. As soon as a stockholder changes his stock into bonds he has no more to say about the management of the road. The control remains in the hands of those who own what stock is left. The stock will be reduced by this plan from \$75,000,000 to about \$20,000,000. Ten million and one dollar of stock will give complete control of the whole vast system and the Moore Bros. will become Goulds and Vanderbilts right away. Under this system less than one-seventh of the amount of capital will control the road than is now required. Working this plan on a large scale will throw the whole railroad system of the United States into the hands of a dozen men, and they will have no trouble in making arrangements to take all the traffic will bear.

THE REPUBLICAN RECORD

The republican state government has been the most miserable failure from the beginning to the present that ever disgraced this commonwealth. They started out with a legislature that spent three months trying to elect two United States senators to the neglect of all the interests of he state. That tremendous effort resulted in the election of Bartley's partner and the unspeakable Dietrich. The latter was the candidate of the hoodlums and was in every way a fit representative of that class. He has kept up his reputation while in Washington. Their governor made an assault upon the educational institutions of the state which was a fit and proper thing for a hoodlum governor to do. To offset this, a tax had to be laid upon the students while the money raised by taxation for the university lay idle in the treasurer's hands. Two costly state buildings, the penitentiary and the Norfolk asylum, where guards paid by the state were supposed to have every room under their eyes night and day, were burned down. No reasonable man will say that there was any necessity for these fire losses, and if the guards had been appointed on account of their fitness to perform the duties, they never would have occurred.

They have had two governors, the hoodlum whom they elevated to the United States senate and his successor who has prostituted the pardoning power to such an extent that it has been a matter of comment all over the United States. Their state treasurer made himself so disreputable by his bond deals that the party dared not renominate him. Their board of equalization of taxes, composed of state officers, have rallied around them every railroad attorney in the state to enable them to devise schemes to relieve the railroads from paying their just share of the taxes. Their state attorney general has proved to be such a legal imbecile that he is the laughing stock of the whole bar. They have increased the state indebtedness nearly a million dollars.

Their conventions, with the exception of the few sharp, shrewd railroad attorneys and managers, have been a mass of hoodlums that painted the

town red and filled the police courts with cases of plain drunks. They insisted upon keeping the saloons open after midnight and got some very good citizens into trouble by their urgent demands that whisky should be dealt out to them all night long.

Now this gang, without one act of good government to recommend them, come before the people for re-election. While some of them may have doubts of success, most of them are arrogant and full of confidence. They know that the mullet heads are accustomed to "vote 'er straight" and that is the basis of their confidence.

CREDIT AND PRICES

The inflation of bank credits is so enormous that even among some of the "sound money" men who have gone into this wildcat banking, creating liabilities of ten dollars for every dollar they have in their vaults, are inclined to halt a little. The great burden of it, however, comes upon the wage-workers. They, in their blind way, are protesting all over the country. The enormous increase of cost in living expenses, with a wage scale that responds to it in only a slight degree, produces a very great amount of hardships among the toilers, especially in the eastern states. Very much of this suffering is directly traceable to the inflation of credit.

John Stuart Mill says: "In a state of commerce in which much credit is habitually given, general prices at any moment depend much more upon the state of credit than upon the quantity of money. A person who, having credit, avails himself of it in the purchase of goods, creates just as much demand for the goods, and tends quite as much to raise their price, as if he had made an equal amount of purchases with ready money." That statement is so self-evident that it needs no argument to sustain it.

Bills of exchange, promissory notes, checks, and the clearing house scheme for quickly handling them, have all greatly increased the facilities of credit. In any city, if all the inhabitants had credit at one bank and did all their business with checks, no money would be used at all. In every transaction there would simply be a credit and debit made on the books of the bank. This can be very easily understood if applied to only two persons instead of hundreds. A buys \$1 worth of sugar of B and gives B a check on the bank for that amount. B sends the check to the bank where B's account is credited with \$1 and the same amount is charged against A. No money has been used. Then if B buys a hat of A for \$1 and gives him a check on the bank for it, when the check reaches the bank the process is reversed and another debit and credit is entered on the bank's books. Still no money has been used. A and B may never have put a dollar in the bank. Each of them may have gone to the bank and given it a promissory note, and the bank has given them a credit on its books against which they have drawn these checks. It will be seen that by this plan of promissory notes and checks, money has been entirely eliminated. The two together have performed all the functions of money. This is what is called "credit money."

As prices depend, other things being equal, upon demand and supply, it can be readily understood how credit raises prices just in the same proportion as that increase in the amount of actual money would. A's credit enables him to buy a dollar's worth of sugar and that added just that much to the demand for sugar. It does not matter if these checks pass through many hands before they get to the bank or whether B ever buys anything directly of C or not. The whole multitudinous exchanges of a city can be done in this manner.

But there is a very great difference in doing business in this way and with actual money. If A had paid actual money for his sugar that would have been a final settlement. The account would be closed forever. Not so with this check business. Between the time that A gave his check on the bank and its presentation there might have been a run on the bank. When he got there he would find the doors closed. Then he would return the check to B and demand "money." While the bank stays open, and everybody has "confidence" in everybody else, this "credit money" is a great thing. But all this credit money may vanish in a twinkling of an eye. An order from Wall street in 1893 destroyed it from one end of the union to the other and the effect upon prices was exactly the same as if so much real money had been destroyed. An unreasonable panic may start at any time which all the bankers put together can't stop. Yet upon so frail a thing rests the fortunes of millions. The wreck of fortunes produces crime, insanity, want, starvation and even death.

Public policy demands that the government should take every precaution to prevent such disasters. Credit currency is no new thing. All governments have passed laws to control it. Scientists have studied every phase of it. The subject was thrashed out by the economists more than fifty years ago and governments generally

accepted their conclusions. It was shown that credit money could be deemed fairly safe when it amounted to four to one of real money. Anything beyond that was full of danger. In enacting the first national banking law that basis was adopted. Banks were required to keep a reserve of 25 per cent. Little by little the government has allowed this credit money to expand. The first move was to let the banks loan their reserves to other banks. Just to the extent that that is done, the reserve is destroyed and banks instead of having one dollar in cash for every four dollars that it owes always in its vaults ready to check any run, or meet any special and unlooked for demand, have now less than one dollar for every ten of demand liabilities.

Two things result from this: First, it is a very great hardship upon labor, for this enormous amount of credit money has doubled the cost of living, acting on prices while in existence precisely as would that amount of real money, and, second, it creates a most dangerous financial situation. It must be kept up or there will be a fall in prices, wrecking business. A short crop, a black Friday on Wall street, or any one of a hundred other things may knock it all out of existence. Then look for '93 over again.

A check could be given to this inflation and credit money gradually reduced, with great relief to the wage workers and without wrecking business. But the present tendency is to increase it. Again this the populists set a face of steel. They will do all that is within their power against wildcat banking and the inflation of credits.

AS TO JO PARKER

From far off New Jersey, the home of most of the tramp corporations, comes a marked copy of the Vindicator Independent, published by John J. Streeter, in which three columns are devoted to "A Bit of People's Party History," reviewing an editorial paragraph in the Nebraska Independent relative to Jo Parker and the "allied" people's party. Mr. Brier's letter of protest, our answer thereto, and Jo Parker's reply in the Southern Mercury of July 19. Mr. Streeter seems to be at the outs with Parker because Parker does not take kindly to Streeter's "septuerial" plan of division and subdivision by sevens, but otherwise stands with the "chairman" of many "parties" in his attempt to steal the organization of the people's party by James B. Weaver.

The point raised by the Nebraska Independent," says Mr. Streeter, "that Parker was never chairman of the people's party," is not well taken nor can it be sustained." Here is how Parker claims the gavel: "So when the chairman declared the committee adjourned I protested, and demanded a vote to show our strength. I knew that I had a majority of the votes, for I had a record of every proxy, and knew just how many votes they could legally muster. The chairman refused to recognize my demand for a vote and deserted the chair. I at once nominated Mr. Deaver for chairman pro tem in the absence of the chairman, and we proceeded to regularly adjourn the committee to another place."

Parker's own testimony fully sustains our point. There could be no desertion of the chair after an adjournment of the committee. The action of Parker, Deaver, et al., was the action of bolters (and they had a perfect right to bolt), but it gave them no right to the people's party name. We reiterate that Parker was never the chairman of the people's party—he was chairman of something he and his fellow recipients of Mark Hanna's money choosed to call the people's party, but it was not the organization that made such a grand showing for General Weaver in 1892.

Mr. Streeter now raises the point that Parker, by accepting the chairmanship of the "allieders," has abandoned the former chairmanship and suggests that it is the duty of the national executive committee to get together and elect a chairman, "though we would not nominate Clem Deaver to the chair," he adds.

The whole discussion is a profligate one. Marion Butler is chairman of the people's party, elected as such by the Sioux Falls convention; he has not resigned or abandoned the chair. If he should resign, then the executive committee might act.

UNDER SOCIALISM

Creating new demands, instigating new wants is what makes the difference between savagery and civilization. "Under socialism" what will there be to create demand or inspire new wants. The people of this country were perfectly satisfied to do without clocks for a long time. They had no idea that they wanted a clock at all and when a man offered one for sale he was told that they had no use for it. Then the Connecticut Yankee started out to create a demand. He traveled through the country, would stop at a farm house and ask if he might leave a clock there until he came back as he didn't want to haul it for nothing. He was granted permission. He always had a handy little shelf for it to stand on which he could jack

against the wall. Up went the clock. Then he would politely request the housewife to wind it every day as it injured it to stand unwound and not running. After a month the Yankee would come back and when he started to take the clock down every member of the family objected and wanted him to sell it to them. He had created a demand. The peanut boy on the train creates a demand in very much the same way. But there are thousands of other ways of creating a demand. That is what makes the advance in civilization. "Under socialism" what would there be to create demand? Would the world come to a standstill?

Under date of Albany, N. Y., September 12, 1896, David B. Hill wrote to Hon. Hamilton Ward, Belmont, N. Y., in answer to a request to aid in the campaign as follows: "The situation for a democrat who desires at all times to be loyal to his party is very difficult. I am giving the matter very careful consideration and moving slowly. I was a democrat before the Chicago convention, and I am a democrat still—very still. I am always glad to hear from you." The thing for Hill to do now is to keep still—very still.

That Roosevelt has started in to build up a machine of his own seems to be indicated in several ways. The republican boss out in Colorado who is for Roosevelt recommended the reappointment of D. C. Bailey as marshal of the district because he was "a man whose connections are valuable to the party." Judge Hallet, in whose court Bailey serves, wrote: "Bailey is not a fit person to hold the office of marshal or any other office under the government." After reading these two letters Roosevelt appointed Bailey. This is the same Roosevelt who has said so many fine things about "merit" and civil service reform.

We have increased our exports since 1893 about 60 per cent. That is all on account of having colonies, and waging a war of conquest. But Canada has increased her exports more than 50 per cent in the last ten years. The exterior trade of Canada during the last fiscal year amounted to \$70 per capita, while that of the United States amounted to less than \$35. Canada has not been engaged in wars of conquest, but in developing her own resources. She sent one or two companies to fight the Boers. Perhaps her immense increase in foreign trade was all caused by that. If republican logic is sound, there can be no doubt of it.

Judge Jackson, a representative of the aristocracy of wealth which just at present rules the country, has succeeded in establishing a despotism in his district. On his own motion he makes a thing a crime which was heretofore lawful, he prosecutes the offender, adjudges him guilty and sentences him to jail, thus becoming prosecutor, lawmaker, jury and judge. Was that the kind of government that Washington and Jefferson set up in this country? Such little despots as Jackson the republican party has set up all over the land. They are not called czars, but federal judges, and their functions seem to be exactly the same.

That this inflation of bank paper and credit currency, while it has doubled the cost of living, has not materially affected wages is proven by the labor statistics of Massachusetts. The statistics of the labor bureau of that state are always given full credence by all scholars. They are absolutely reliable. A recent report of the bureau shows that the average wages in 1891, right in the midst of hard times and low prices, were \$421.81. Last year they were \$449.62. With beefsteak 25 cents a pound in Boston that insignificant rise in the average wages shows the suffering that wage-earners in the eastern states are now enduring. The full dinner pail down in Massachusetts at least was a delusion and a snare.

The republican managers intend to conduct their campaign in the same old fashion. Beveridge starts out by saying: "The people are not likely to invite a repetition of the financial disasters and industrial paralysis that followed the revision of the tariff by the followers of Cleveland and Vilas." Everybody, except the mullet heads, knows, and they are not expected to know anything, that the panic came under the McKinley high tariff and that it was a year and a half old before the Wilson bill was passed. But anything goes. Republicans are on the streets already repeating Beveridge's statement. They are excusable. The poor fellows don't know any better. They read nothing but republican papers.

The republicans have increased the state indebtedness in two years nearly a million of dollars. It seems that they have a preconceived plan to increase it still further. The vagaries of the board of equalization seem to have a method in their madness. The taxes received from Douglas and Lancaster counties will be \$100,000 less than they were last year through their manipulations. That means more state indebtedness. Governor Savage says that the revenues will not cover the