

REPUBLICAN TREASURY BUREAU

During the campaign the treasury department worked very energetically as a literary campaign bureau for the republican party.

The tariff grafters have an invulnerable fortress in the United States senate, which is not elected by the people.

Mark Hanna's Ohio legislature which was called in special session to head off Tom Johnson's reforms, has at last passed a municipal code which the Record-Herald declares "is a vicious reactionary law that recalls the worst days of spoils politics."

Indiana democracy under the leadership of Tom Taggart, having become too small a factor to be longer mentioned in the dispatches, it occurred to the Chicago Tribune that something must be done to keep it before the people in some way.

A lawyer when he begins to talk tariff can prove himself as big a fool as Thompson's colt inside of two minutes and not exert himself much either.

There is only one basis of assessment of any kind of property and that is its value. The value of anything is what it will exchange for in money.

he can trot a mile in 2:02, and he should be assessed at his salable value. A man may have a farm worth \$75 an acre. It may have cost him only \$10 an acre or may have cost him nothing.

A writer in one of the eastern dailies says: "The trust can do anything except to steal outright and no government official will ever prosecute them."

Whenever an effort has been made to reduce extortionate freight and passenger rates the corporation managers rush to the federal courts with a complaint that private property is being confiscated without compensation.

Senator Spooner is getting excited. In a recent speech he called public utilities and natural monopolies a "snake" and wanted a republican president, senate and house elected for twenty years.

The only one that has got ahead of Jim Hill's merger so far is the "lone bandit" who held up and robbed one of the merger trains and got away as easily as a trust does from the Sherman act.

News of the Week

General Pierson of the Boer army is still in this country. He recently said that many Boer families will soon immigrate to the United States and settle on farms in the rich Pecos Valley.

It is reported from Washington with much show of certain knowledge that the president threatened to withdraw the treasury department from the support of Wall street if Morgan did not force the coal operators to unbend.

There have been a great many train robberies lately. Last week a single man held up a whole passenger train, killed the engineer, looted the mail and blew up the safe. He got away. It seems to this writer that passengers on the trains are very cowardly or else there are none among them having arms.

One result coming from the capture of the democratic party in Illinois was the putting of the very worst element of the republican party in control of it. The Lorrimer, Yates, Hopkins crowd who are running the g. o. p. over there are the very worst element in American politics.

The imperialistic Outlook is turning populist like a great many other publications that have reviled and sneered at populist doctrines. It now adopts as its platform the following: "Whenever any private monopoly, whether of capitalists or laborers, controls any commodity or convenience important to the public welfare, the people must either destroy this monopoly by restoring competition, or put the monopoly under governmental control, or take possession of the monopoly and administer it for the benefit of the people."

European dispatches assert that another outbreak is threatened in South

Africa, this time in Cape Colony, and that large numbers of men are wearing the Transvaal and Free State colors. So serious is the situation that Chamberlain himself is going there to investigate in person.

All the hospitals in Chicago are refusing to receive consumptive patients. What is to become of these helpless unfortunates? Are they to be left to die on the streets?

The prolonged illness of Russell Sage causes much uneasiness in Wall street. It is said that if the money he has loaned them should suddenly be withdrawn a pinch would suddenly be felt.

Since the supreme court decided that the Filipinos were not citizens of the United States nor citizens or subjects of any other nation, some of their scholars have been trying to find out "where they are at."

The great dailies devoted pages last week to prognostications concerning the outcome of the elections. As usual on such occasions both party organizations claimed everything in sight and some things clear out of sight.

Frank Carpenter, in his letter from Lyons, France, says that "it contains 500,000 people, and with its suburbs has about 750,000," and then in describing the part of the city where the silk manufacturing is carried on says: "The houses are lean five-story structures, built along alley-like streets, with narrow entrance doors. They look like tenement buildings and they are indeed little more than tenements, great bee hives filled with laborers, every cell of which is a little factory."

The treasury department of the United States government is being largely used as a republican literary bureau, to disseminate spell-binder talk on prosperity and prophecies of its perpetual continuance.

The Independent has received quite a number of letters from eastern business men during this campaign, some with valuable suggestions and revelations of how the trust work things down there, but begging the editor under no circumstances to publish their names, for if they were published the result would be the ruin of their business.

It is reported in the New York papers that 90 steamships will arrive in that port during the next few days loaded with coal. As strange as it may seem, this is expected to raise the price of wheat. These ships will be seeking return cargoes and ocean rates have taken a slump which will enable exporters to pay higher prices for wheat.

The putting policies have resulted in putting election sale in almost every state in the union. Out in Montana the direct charge is made that one of the copper kings offered \$2,500,000 for the control of the legislature and judiciary. The bidder, F. A. Heinze, said that with an associate justice whom he could name and we could elect, and with the Judge of this county of his own selection his litigation with the Amalgamated company would become easy and that he wanted control of the legislature for the reason that he wished a bill passed to increase the number of justices on the supreme bench to five, and that he knew Governor Toole would appoint the man whom he would name. He then stated that he would give the sum of \$2,500,000 if his proposition was accepted.

For over sixty years Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used by mothers for their children while teething. Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers, there is no mistake about it. It cures diarrhoea, regulates the stomach and bowels, cures wind colic, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system.

Wants Light Turned on

Editor Independent: I wish that you would kindly do a little explaining so that we common mortals can understand the condition of money matters. Of course it is easy for the "wise men of the east," but please tell us out here in Colorado how it is that with only about two billion dollars in gold, silver and all kinds of paper money the bank deposits were \$8,533,053,136 in 1901.

Can it be possible that the banks are indebted to the people and are owing them that vast amount of money without security? How can they manage to receive nearly five times as much money as there is in existence? Does the amount include the money which Secretary Shaw has so kindly loaned the bankers to help them tide over the threatened panic in Wall street?

Kindly turn on the calcium so that we who are in a tree watching the show may have a little more light. I refer to your article on page 3 of The Independent of October 9, 1902.

Very respectfully and inquisitively yours, JESSE WHITE, Trinidad, Colo. (The Independent has been trying to turn the light of truth upon this subject of bank deposits for the last five years. Bank deposits are not necessarily money at all. A man goes to a bank and gives it his note for \$10,000. He is given a credit on its books for that amount and \$10,000 is added to that bank's deposits. If any one wants to know how much real, clean cash the banks have on hand, he must look in another place than where deposits are recorded. The money that banks have can be found in the item "cash," which is to be found in every bank report. Republicans often claim that the farmers in a certain county have over a million dollars on deposit in the banks—it is so shown in the bank report—when in fact the deposits in that county are for the greater part of the kind above described.—Ed. Ind.)

Freaks of the Mind

Editor Independent: Please discontinue The Independent. The language is good, the sentiment good and I like your style. The only thing that I can find fault with is your support of the present competitive system. Why not advocate co-operation of the workers of the world? You are continually calling attention to the rottenness of the present system. Why not help change it? Competition vs. Co-operation. While side are you on any way? H. B. BLAIR, Puyallup, Wash.

(Often the editor of The Independent has listened to an able orator who followed a course of reasoning without a flaw in it, and all at once would make some statement that was

as contrary to reason as the first part of his address was consistent with it. All students of psychology have noticed this tendency of the human mind to play freaks of that kind. The Independent has always encouraged co-operation. It not long since published statistics of the co-operative societies of Great Britain. "The workers of the world" are of many races and many lands. While The Independent has a very large general circulation, the editor willingly confesses that the Chinese coolies, the fellahs of Egypt, the black toilers in the African mines, the peasants of Siberia and a good many millions of other "workers of the world" never had the privilege of perusing its columns. The demand made by Mr. Blair that it should try to start a crusade of this kind seems illogical. Again the assertion "that continually calling attention to the rottenness of the present system" is not trying to change it, seems illogical. People who see nothing wrong in it certainly will not help to change it.—Ed. Ind.)

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A California Populist

Editor Independent: I have just read your offer to send three consecutive issues of your paper to those making the request. Please give me the advantage of that favor.

I am a most sincere populist, and showed my faith by casting my first vote for that grandest of living men, W. J. Bryan, in '96. I believe that populist reforms can more quickly be secured by welcoming the aid of sincere and honest democrats. I fear, however, that the reorganizers are going to undo all that has been done in the democratic party, and if they do the populist party should again spring into prominence. In the last two campaigns I could not see the necessity for a separate party.

HIRAM SHERA, Upland, Cal.

A Maryland Populist

Editor Independent: Some years ago I was connected with the people's party in this state, having left the republican party on account of its plutocratic tendencies, and later "drifted" into the democratic party when Bryan became the leader and exponent of the new democracy. But I regret to observe that of late there seems to be a premeditated, determined effort to throw Mr. Bryan "overboard," so to speak, upon the part of the so-called "sterling" democratic leaders in this state, and when they succeed in doing that and return to their old measures and idols, you will then see a division in the democratic ranks in Maryland.

The democratic party, as represented now by Mr. Bryan, stands nearer to the common people who produce the wealth of this country than it ever has before in all its history, and when

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Gentlemen, if elected to Congress, will you vote for or against the Fowler bill?

The Fowler currency bill embodies all the iniquitous features of the old wild-cat banking plan. It provides bank notes issued on bank assets, for branch banks, for retirement of the greenbacks, and for making silver dollar redeemable in gold on demand of the holder. It is the foundation stone of a bankers' trust. The Fowler bill has recommended for passage by the republican majority of the house committee on banking and currency.

The people of your respective districts have a right to know where you stand on this question. At present you are maintaining a discreet silence. But this is cowardly. Have you the courage to say publicly what you will do if elected and called upon to vote on the Fowler bill?