

Harrison Press-Journal

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HARRISON, - - - NEBRASKA

Anton Dvorak, the Bohemian composer, has been made a member of the Austrian house of Lords.

Li Hung Chang probably would be willing to pay the indemnity himself if the empress dowager had not been so rude to him in the earlier stages of the game.

President Schwab of the steel trust will have the most luxurious private car in the country. That alone should sell several million dollars worth of the common stock.

Green and yellow chartreuse may no longer be manufactured in France if the bill against religious associations goes through, as the head of the organization of Carthusians, the monks of the Grande Chartreuse, is situated outside of France.

Detroit will soon celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of its founding by Cadillac. Eastern people are apt to forget that there is so old a city in the west. In the story of the settlement and progress of Detroit much is revealed of the history of "the north-west under three flags."

The latest Paris idea is to pave the streets with glass, and experiments are now being tried to that end. According to the Telegraph's correspondent, pure glass is used without admixture of cement, but subjected to a special treatment, called devitrification. The result is a hard, smooth substance, opaque, absolutely non-porous, absorbing no foreign matter, and thus retaining no dampness or unpleasant odors.

The varied character of the Manila population is shown by such items as these, taken at random from one issue of a local daily: "Sim Viaco, a Filipino, ran amuck on Calle Anda on Thursday night and attacked Lu Tang with a heavy scantling. Mandarin Chang Quing, son of Carlos Palanca, the Chinese millionaire of Manila, has been appointed ambassador to Mexico, and is expected by his father to visit Manila about April 1."

Ex-Empress Eugenie has given to the municipality of Paris the cradle of Prince Louis Napoleon, the only son of Napoleon III. and the Empress. Prince Louis was killed in the Zulu war in South Africa in 1879. The body of the cradle is made of rosewood and is decorated with enameled in antique silver and chased bronze. The frames are of silver. A statue holds the imperial crown, in gilt and bronze, over the pillow, which is of white satin embroidered in gold with the letter "N." The cradle was originally a gift from the municipality of Paris to Empress Eugenie.

Farmers of Wabash county, Indiana, are building good roads by co-operation and at much reduced cost. They have an agreement among themselves on road-building, each owner of land abutting on a highway to be improved pledging in work or cash \$1.50 per acre within half a mile of the road. Payment may be made within three years, and the burden thus distributed is hardly felt. The work is done in dull seasons, and gravel roads have replaced the old mud highways over many miles of turnpike. On the completion of a road the task of maintaining it is assumed by the county authorities.

The general design for the naval arch, which is to be erected at the Battery, New York, has been approved by the trustees of the Naval Arch Association and the organization of the finance committee for the collection of the funds, with which to construct it will be effected at once. The design was prepared by Ernest Flagg. It is estimated that the arch, including the statuary, will cost \$550,000, while the sea-wall, beacons and monuments will cost \$300,000 more. In organizing the committee for the collection of the fund, every care is to be taken to make it as representative as possible, in order to give perfect confidence in the project.

The French military authorities, after protracted experiments, are said to be so far satisfied with the value of the motor car in war time, that they are making arrangements to acquire, if necessary, the whole of the auto-cars for military service in the event of the army entering the field. Notices are said to have been sent to owners of auto-cars, asking them if they are disposed to sell their vehicles to the government whenever the country should find itself threatened with war, and also requiring them to fix prices of the cars. The actual purchasing price will be decided upon by the military authorities when the vehicles are handed over after taking into account the depreciation they may have undergone in the meantime.

Recent experiments by railway officials in Bern with an automatic ticket machine, invented by a Swiss, have given entire satisfaction, says a Bern correspondent. The machine is similar to the ordinary automatic machine, but the glass case contains the tickets on which are printed the names of the stations and the price of the ticket. By dropping in the right amount and pulling a handle the ticket is issued. The machinery is so well constructed that on the most severe tests it will work the same.

LET THE PEOPLE RULE

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM IS LOOMING UP.

Will Be One of the Leading Issues in the National Campaign Three Years Hence—Several States Attain Justice of System—Dangerous to Oppose It.

Jefferson said: "I am not amongst those who fear the people," but how different is the case with the modern republican party. The effort to give the people a direct vote on important laws that are to govern them has been endorsed by the Fusionists in some states and will be forced as an issue in others and possibly be adopted as a national remedy as a check on much evil legislation that we are now suffering from.

First attempts at radical changes in the machinery of government always meet with obstacles, especially when favored corporations with vast means of corruption, such as railroads, are likely to have some of their special privileges curtailed or abolished. It is no wonder, therefore, that in one of the first states to adopt the reform it should meet with a rebuff at the hands of a republican court and legislature.

South Dakota's initiative and referendum, which was embodied in the state constitution two or three years ago, says the Springfield Republican, is thought to have been wrecked by a recent decision of the state supreme court. The referendum amendment limited the absolute power of the legislature to such special cases of legislation as were mentioned in the constitution itself. Now the constitution also provides, somewhat loosely, that whenever the legislature declares certain bills to be emergency measures, these emergency measures may become laws without being brought within the scope of the referendum clauses of the constitution. A test case was made up by the foes of the referendum in passing an act legislating some fusionists out of office, the act being pronounced an emergency measure by the legislature. The South Dakota court decides that it is impossible to consider the motives of the legislature in making any bill an emergency measure, and that any law which emanates from that body thus labeled cannot be referred to the people. It also decided that no act which the legislature chooses to pronounce necessary for the protection of the public peace, health, safety or support of the state government and its existing institutions, can be referred to the people. The right of initiative by the people in legislation was not passed upon by the court, but that remains of little service if the referendum has been emasculated. It is evident that any legislation under that decision can choke off final reference of its work to the popular vote by a simple majority declaration. The friends of the referendum declare that while the first attempt to substitute direct legislation for the representative system has apparently failed, the question will be a live issue, if not the controlling one, in the next state election.

LESSONS OF THE PANIC.

There are few things that have been exemplified by the late Wall street panic that is of enormous importance to the whole people and the most important object lesson is the vast power of money. When the panic was at its height and money was loaning for 60 per cent, a few bankers met and agreed to loan \$16,000,000 at 6 per cent, and thus aid the recovery of the market. The banks composing the clearing house are a kind of money millions of dollars, and if it suited the purpose of the managers they can make or mar the market for stocks and bring on or retard a panic at any time, as nearly all the transactions on Wall street are conducted on borrowed capital and mostly on call loans which can be called or foreclosed at any time by simply giving a few hours' notice.

This power has been used both ways and will again when it suits the money trust to do so.

It will be remembered that the great panic at the beginning of the second Cleveland administration was precipitated by the banks to force Congress to pass the repeal of the silver coinage act. It is probable that the money trust did not intend that panic to be so disastrous, as it imperiled their own stability and led to the downfall of some of their own associates.

There is, however, a prospect that these princes of finance may disagree over the division of the spoils, won from the people by the trust combinations, and although this would probably precipitate a panic which would involve the whole country, it may be made to bring good out of evil by opening the eyes of the people to the causes that allow such an abnormal condition of affairs. It may thus lead to national and state legislation that will curb the trusts and by the repeal of the protective tariff and other laws that now allow monopoly and with honest servants to execute the laws, and not as is now done, leaving to the banks the enormous sums without interest, at present amounting to over ninety millions of dollars, a reform may be inaugurated that will allow every citizen an equal show in his efforts for success in life.

As an instance that all is not joyous among the powers that rule in the financial world the financial correspondent of the Chicago Chronicle says: Morgan's ambition was held responsible for the panic. It was charged that he had tried to "hog" the railroad situation in the north and middle west, and ride rough-shod over much less established kings in the railroad

world as Harriman, Vanderbilt and Schiff without regard to the consequences in that financial district.

Bank presidents for other reasons denounced James Stillman of the National City bank, while the panic was at its height. One of them declared that Stillman's ambition to rule in finance to the exclusion of all others was intensifying the panic.

Another heatedly made the prediction that Stillman and his ambitions would one day engulf Wall street in the greatest financial disaster the world had ever known.

Another thing to note is that stock gambling has assumed such large proportions that no town or village is without its votary. The newspapers all over the country tell the same tale of great losses by those devotees of the stock gambling habit. New York and Chicago are largely supported by the enormous amount of commissions paid to bankers and brokers by these small traders. Of the constant stream of dollars that pour into these cities from every town and hamlet but few return and those that do are sweated by the racket.

ANTI-TRUST LEGISLATION.

The need of tariff reform is so pressing in view of the domination of the trusts that it may be well, instead of waiting for the control of the government to pass into the hands of the Democrats to adopt the advice of the Washington Post, which says:

The Republicans took a hand in the Democratic tariff revision of 1894, a useful, helping hand, going so far as to dictate entire schedules. Let the Democrats reciprocate that favor in the next session of Congress. The Democrats were divided on tariff revision in 1894. To-day there is a division on that question in the Republican party. The movement for anti-trust legislation will divide the Republican party into two factions, as hostile as were the Cleveland and anti-Cleveland factions seven years ago. Why should not Democrats who want "sensible reform of the tariff" follow the example of those Republicans who aided Gorman in his anti-Cleveland fight? This suggestion seems to us to open up great possibilities of early and wholesome reform. Its adoption by the Democrats would be far more likely to expedite than retard their acquisition of full control of the government.

The Post is an advocate of protection and yet sees that the tariff must be revised so what it means by "sensible reform" is rather an uncertain quantity, but if a faction of the Republicans are really in earnest in pushing anti-trust legislation, though it is very doubtful if enough of them are, the Democrats will be found willing to aid them in passing such legislation if it includes a "sensible reform" of the tariff.

But will the Republican brethren be able to stand out against the decision of a party caucus and the wrath of Hanna and the lack of patronage that McKinley will withdraw from recalcitrant members. That will be the crucial test.

HAMMER AND ANVIL.

Next to a third term, it would suit the present administration to be succeeded by Hanna, then after eight years of Hanna—well, what matters? If a Democratic administration had been in power when the Wall street panic occurred, what a lesson the Republican newspapers would have drawn from it!

The extravagance of Republican congresses are proverbial, the amount appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1st has just been compounded and the total sum is \$730,338,575. No wonder the war taxes could only be in a small measure repealed.

Senator Frey has announced that he will reintroduce the ship subsidy bill directly the 57th Congress meets. A day or two after this announcement Senator Hanna was in Philadelphia holding a conference with the Pennsylvania railroad officials and other ship owners, probably arranging how much bonus they will contribute to the Republican campaign fund if the bill is passed.

Mr. Schwab, the president of the steel trust, has been making a speech to a graduating class in New York, in it he said: "Boys should start in business early and should place no dependence upon influence." Now this would have been good advice before this age of vast combinations and trusts, but Mr. Schwab should know that boy or man at this time has but small chance of employment at any work that is considered desirable unless he has some influence back of him. Mr. Schwab and his partner, Mr. Carnegie, made their start in life in more propitious times and even they may have had some influences that advanced their own strenuous efforts and they by luck or sharp wits fell into a business that was protected by a tariff that gave vast advantage to a few sharp men.

It is rather late in the day, but better late than never for the president to talk about saving the constitution as he did at San Jose. In his speech he said: "To us, my fellow citizens, young and old, the preservation of that constitution is committed. It is a sacred instrument, and is a sacred trust given to us to see to it that it is preserved in all its virtue and vigor, to be passed along to the generations yet to come. Glorious constitution, glorious union, glorious flag. Seventy-five millions of people stand together as they never before stood to defend them all." These be fine words, my masters, glorious words, but as a judge of the supreme court said of President McKinley when he had uttered his benevolent assimilation speech, it is not by what the president says that we must judge him, but by his acts.

McLAURIN MUST GO.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS NO ROOM FOR HIS ILK.

Properly Belongs to the Party of Means, Treachery, Imperialism and National Bank "Money"—Republicans May Be Working to Establish a Monarchy.

The Republican papers are making much of the speech recently delivered by Senator McLaurin, of South Carolina, at Charlotte in that state. And well they may, for it marks the beginning of a movement in the south which will have an influence upon the politics of the nation, says Mr. Bryan in the Commoner. It is not likely that Mr. McLaurin will be the leader of the movement because he is handicapped by the fact that he is using his official position to misrepresent the views and interests of his constituents, but some leader will arise to give direction and force to the aristocratic and plutocratic element for which Mr. McLaurin speaks. There is such an element in every community and now that the race question no longer unifies the white people of the southern states, it will doubtless manifest itself. Then, too, the corporations are increasing in number and magnitude in the south and with their growth will come attempts to secure from the government privileges, favors and immunities. The commercialism that has debauched municipal and state governments in the north will soon be apparent in the south and the senatorial contests which thus far have been comparatively free from scandal south of the Mason and Dixon line will show the handiwork of organized capital.

Senator Tillman has already taken up the gauge of battle thrown down by Senator McLaurin and will doubtless be able to marshal a considerable majority in that state, but the same influences are at work in other states where there is greater danger of their success.

Imperialism gives to the plutocrat his opportunity. He can hide behind a pretended patriotism and conceal his mercenary purposes by profuse declamation about the nation's expanding greatness and international obligations. Those who are willing to purchase trade with everybody's blood but their own and who will sell any political or moral principle for a pecuniary consideration rush to defend the administration's Philippine policy.

The democratic sentiment is strong enough to resist and overcome the McLaurin movement, but those who believe that the man is more important than the dollar will have to bestir themselves. The corporations are not much on public meetings but they are diligent in securing delegates to conventions. The real democrats, confident of the merits of their cause, often lack organization and are, therefore, at a disadvantage. Their hope lies in a prompt open and persistent appeal to the voters at the primaries.

A white republican party in the south may bring some compensation in that it is likely to divide the colored vote in the north and answer the argument of those northern republicans who have been able to give no better reason for remaining with their party than that the south was solidly democratic.

THE PHILIPPINES AND CHINA.

Republicans boast that in seizing the Philippines the United States hold the key to China and its trade. In view of the enormous cost in men and money to hold the Philippines in the future and saying nothing about the vast loss already sustained, it is well to know exactly what we are likely to gain in the future from this Asiatic trade. The late Consul General Wildman who had represented this country for many years in China, pricked the bubble when he said:

The majority of the peasantry live at the rate from 2 to 5 cents a day, and even if they could afford to purchase modern American farming machinery there would be no room to use it. The nearest thing to such machinery I have seen in Southern China is a fanning mill, which is easily constructed by the ingenious Chinaman. The grain is either trod out of the straw by water buffaloes or whipped over an open tub. Even if an entire village should combine to buy an American threshing machine, it would be used but once, as it would be considered too wasteful both in the way it mangles the straw and the grain in its expensive upkeep. In Southern China there are no horses except the diminutive China pony and, as the agricultural country is mostly flat, there is no way to utilize water power. As for steam, it is an impossibility, fuel being one of the most expensive Chinese luxuries. As long as labor has almost no value and flesh and blood is the cheapest thing on the market, I cannot recommend American manufacturers to waste good printed matter and postage stamps on so impossible a field. I have already called attention to the uselessness of mailing to this consulate trade papers devoted to the carriage and harness industries, and mentioned the fact that we had but three carriages and a hearse here all of which are in a fair state of preservation.

PROTEST OF WAR VETERANS.

The resolution adopted by the Association of Spanish-American War Veterans, says the Indianapolis News, asking our Indiana Congressmen, without regard to party, to use their influence to obtain a court of inquiry, so promptly and repeatedly demanded by Colonel Harrison, to correct the injury and right the wrong done him in his dismissal from the army, will re-

cite the fact that the name of Harrison has been associated with the military history of Indiana from its formation as a territory. They also recite the fact that ex-President Harrison died believing that the creditable military record of the Harrison family, made in every war that the country has been engaged in from the Revolution on, was injured by the manner and circumstances of the dismissal of his son. The recital of these facts is ample explanation, if explanation is needed, why this action be taken. Had it been added that Colonel Harrison was dismissed in order to punish his father for his failure to support without qualification the political views of the administration, the common belief of the people of Indiana and of the country would have been voiced. But whatever the motive, the people ought to make it plain that they do not agree with Secretary Root that this is "a closed incident." They cannot afford to have any such incident closed in this manner. They have a right to demand that justice be done a fellow citizen. None can more appropriately lead in such a demand in this case than the people of Indiana. We trust that this is but the beginning. We hope, for the sake of fair play, the rights of American citizenship and a simple justice in the recognition of the equality of such rights, that this movement will continue until it is crowned with success.

THE BALANCE OF TRADE.

The chief of the national bureau of statistics has been trying to answer the much mooted question of "what has caused so much produce, merchandise and specie to go out of the country without the ordinary corresponding returns." That is, without any goods or money being returned for it, and known as the wonderful and illusive balance of trade.

The chief of the bureau acknowledges that nothing but an estimate can be given, which he summarizes as follows: "Freight paid to foreign vessels, \$50,000,000. Interest and earnings of foreign capital, \$75,000,000 to \$100,000,000 and a similar sum expended abroad by Americans. American funds invested in foreign securities in 1900 about \$100,000,000 to which must be added the amount of our foreign indebtedness actually canceled by the return of securities for which no definite estimate has, so far as I am aware, been made."

This is very much like saying that he knows nothing about the matter as any basis for a statistical statement and yet the bureau has been publishing monthly with great flourish of trumpets, the enormous balance of trade in our favor. But this balance is of no use to us unless we obtain something valuable in return and as we do not seem to be getting much back, at least a large part of it, that much is a drain on this country that no statistics can overcome, and instead of being a matter for the Republican party to crow over is something we should all regret. For instance, the \$75,000,000 or \$100,000,000 expended abroad by Americans is an annual drain upon the resources of this country without any corresponding benefit except to the few who enjoy the trip, they are like absentee landlords, they make their money here and spend it elsewhere.

There is not much advantage in exporting goods unless we get money or goods in return and as the export statistician of the treasury cannot tell us with any certainty, or even approximately within hundreds of millions, that we get anything in return for a large part of the value of the goods we are said to export, it is quite possible and probable that there is some great error, either in the reported value of the goods or in the gathering of the figures.

FORCED INTO THE TRUST.

The way the trusts wipe out competition and force old business concerns into their combines is fully told in the case of the locomotive trust which has obtained complete control of all the works in the country. One concern, the Schenectady Locomotive Works, objected to being absorbed by the trust, but has finally decided to do so, says the Chronicle. The company will be reorganized and the capital stock will probably be increased. It is known that the stockholders have been reluctant to join the combination. Practically all of the stock has been in the hands of the Ellis family for forty years and the stockholders have always felt that their position as owners involved some obligations toward their employees and the people of Schenectady.

At the present time the works are enjoying a period of unexampled prosperity. It was pointed out by the representatives of the trust that the large part of the output of the works goes to the New York Central, Delaware and Hudson and Northern Pacific, which are controlled by the Morgan, Vanderbilt-Hill interests, and that they could not get orders enough to keep the shops running a quarter of the time if they stayed out of the combination. The works would also be shut out from buying iron and steel, could not fill whatever orders were received, and the plant would be worth only the value of the machinery sold as old iron. In the face of these statements, which were given as an ultimatum, the stockholders felt themselves powerless.

This Vanderbilt trust acts like a highwayman, with it is your money or your life, if you won't come into the trust we will kill your business. It is about time that action was taken to curb these giant combinations and the people have it in their hands to do so if they will only elect men to legislate for them whom the trusts cannot control.

AN HISTORICAL LOCATION.

Northwest World's Fair Site Association Discovers Interesting Place.

The officers of the Northwest World's Fair Site association claim to have made a discovery which they think will have much weight in the selection of the site for the Louisiana Purchase exposition, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. They say the home place of Gen. William H. Clarke, governor of the territory of Missouri, is located on Goodfellow avenue, in northwest St. Louis, and covers part of the vast property on which the association has obtained options for the benefit of the directors of the World's Fair. Secretary E. T. Grether, President Lewis E. Snow, Treasurer J. M. Williams and others have been visiting the different property owners for the past two weeks, spending hours daily in interviewing the oldest inhabitants and looking over old municipal documents in an effort to get historical data. It was while on these expeditions that they gathered data which they assert shows conclusively that on the identical spot where now stands the Goodfellow mansion, Goodfellow avenue and Natural Bridge road, formerly stood the residence of Gov. Clarke, at which place, known to the Indians as Council Grove, the Indians met to make their treaties, and from where started the Lewis and Clarke expedition. Directors Fred Delbel, Jewett Wagoner, John Fitzgerald, H. H. Ellers, Judge David Murphy, Ed. W. Greer, J. L. Grether, Edward H. Bickley, George P. Prendergast, W. S. Brawner, M. M. Fitzgerald, Fred Spangler, H. B. Schilling, W. J. McDonald, W. H. Redemeyer, Sidney E. Davis and Charles H. Filley, the executive committee, will go before the World's Fair site committee to state that the Goodfellow place is singularly appropriate for a fair site and that the natural conditions surrounding it fulfill all the requirements. The history associated with this place, they will argue, could well be preserved by permanent buildings commemorating the exposition.

Lamb's Wool.

The new beverage, so-called, that is being introduced under the name of "lamb's wool," is as old as the hills, Victor Smith says. It is nothing more than the juice of apples roasted over spiced ale. Every Irishman should know it. A great day for it used to be the feast of the apple gathering called "la mas ubhal," pronounced "lamb's wool." The corruption into "lamb's wool" was easy.

Teachers and Old Maids Preferred.

A farmer's wife, writing to the American Agriculturist, says that it has been her good fortune to take summer boarders for the past seventeen years, and she sums up her experience thus: "I have had boarders of all ages, from the baby with its nurse to the aged grandmother, but my favorites are maiden ladies and school teachers. They are most always contented."

Fine feathers may not make fine birds, but they make soft pillows.

"COMMUNITY OF INTEREST."

Some of the Effects of the Great Railroad Changes Which Are Occurring.

"Community of Interest" seems to be the watchword among the great railroad corporations, nowadays, and certain persons who are apt to decide upon topics of general interest, especially new ones, without thinking upon the facts, have supposed that this meant an arrangement of interest only to the railway companies participating in the deals, traffic arrangements, leases, etc., which show in the stock transactions and engage the thought and ability of traffic and passenger agents. It is undoubtedly the financial interest of the corporations which moves their officers to enter into contracts, but the consideration of this topic necessarily includes that of the convenience, comfort and attractions which they can offer to their patrons. If competition be less intense, and rate wars be relegated to the dead past, it means that more attention will be paid to those inducements which will bring business to up-to-date lines of transportation.

An instance of the early profit of the public is most worthy of mention. Under the plan of arrangements known as "Community of Interest" very close relations have been established by the Missouri Pacific System with the Denver and Rio Grande railway, the Rio Grande Western Railway and the Southern Pacific Railway and other lines diverging from junction points. So that now, for the first time in the railway history of the country, a passenger may take train at St. Louis and remain therein until he has reached San Francisco. The route is one of the most popular because of its great scenic beauty, and because it gives the traveler the benefit of variety of altitude and climate, taking him across the smiling plains of Kansas into the wonderful canyons of Colorado, and through her most noted mining localities, and by the great inland salt sea, where a great religious organization has built a city of magnificence in an oasis of the desert, and whose political power has been maintained in spite of the objections of the concentrated power of the United States and in the face of all the obstacles which have ever, from the dawn of Christianity, contended against its establishment by any sect or creed.

These places are of great interest to the traveler of today, and since they may be visited with such ease in the magnificent trains of this monster system of railway, the tide of tourist traffic is being turned to them by natural selection. The Missouri Pacific and the Rio Grande reach all points in Colorado, Utah and the West, and thus "Community of Interest" among the railroads already benefits the public in such an everyday way as to convince the thoughtless person that he must revise his hasty judgment.