

A road is being built in the high Alps, which passes the great St. Bernard and also the hospice of that name. This great engineering feat will be finished and opened to the traffic in July of next year.

The biggest gorilla on record has been bagged by a German commercial traveler in West Africa and is now on exhibition in the Umlauf museum at Hamburg. The animal measures 6 feet 10 1/2 inches in height and its spread of arms is 3 feet 3 1/2 inches.

The day of the week to be selected for the coronation of Edward VII. in the coming year, is a subject of speculation. No sovereign of that realm has been crowned on Sunday since the time of Queen Elizabeth, and only one coronation in English history took place on Friday. It is safe, therefore, to exclude those two days from any prediction concerning the stately ceremonial.

"The Paris Messager" says that an attempt to resuscitate the old Roman amphitheater near the Jardin des Plantes, Paris, is about to be made. This ancient arena, which is now used partly as a playground for poor children and partly for omnibus stables, has a remarkable history. It is one of the largest known Roman arenas, and dates back to the first century. There is evidence that the Emperor Julian held sports there.

Woo-Tong, a Chinese merchant of New York, left New York the other day for the Pan-American Exposition. Soon after the train started he saw Grace Bradshaw, of New York, a pretty American girl, paid her some slight attention, rapidly became acquainted and finally asked her to be his wife, and after two hours of argument won her consent. They alighted at Wilkesbarre, Pa., to be married, but being unable to obtain a license went to New York state and were wedded.

The sword, which has had so long and so distinguished a military record, has been placed on the retired list. British army authorities have decided that in the future unmounted officers shall carry carbines instead of swords during manoeuvres and in active service. The decision is the result of experience gained in the war in South Africa. The sword is not only useless as a weapon, except in close quarters, but it serves as a mark to distinguish the officer from his men. He thus becomes a target for the enemy's sharpshooters, and when the private soldiers have small power of initiative, as is the case in most European armies, the loss of a large number of officers may mean disaster. The passing of the sword is one of the signs of the changed conditions of war.

An automobile savings bank is the latest French novelty. The authorities of Mezières, wishing to encourage thrift among the peasants, have had it built to specifications. It is an electric motor-car containing four seats, one for the driver and three in the rear arranged around a small table. Folding shelves make a convenient desk for a person standing beside the vehicle. Under the table is a small safe. The passengers are two clerks from the local treasury department and a cashier. The car travels about the country, making short stops in the villages on prearranged days, and receiving such sums as the citizens or farmers of the neighborhood may wish to deposit. So far, however, the innovation has met little encouragement. The peasants seem distrustful of the agility of the bank, and disinclined to draw out the old stock from its hiding-place under the hearthstone.

There is a reverse side to the semblance of luxury expressed by the mirrors, the gilding, the velvet carpets of many apartment and boarding houses. The head of the lace department in a great store recently spent her two weeks' vacation in a hospital. She laughed at the idea of being ill or even nervous; but she was tired, and for ten years had not slept in a real bed. In one apartment house, in order to keep her room fitted to receive callers, she slept on a sofa that opened in the middle, and had neither sides nor foot-board. Six out of seven nights the covers pulled off her feet. At another place her folding bed fell on her and nearly killed her, so she traded it for a narrow divan, from which pillows and blankets slipped off nightly. At the hospital she finally found a bed wide enough to sleep in crosswise, a bed by day as well as by night, a bed tuckable, with a bolster and counterpane; and she stayed in it for two weeks. In countless cases the make-believe bed is the symbol of a sham and comfortable existence for which apartment life is largely responsible.

A farmer living at the village of Souvanc, France, was seen to fall to the ground, and on a subsequent examination by a medical man he was pronounced to be dead. Arrangements for his funeral were in progress, and the man had been placed in his coffin, when he suddenly recovered consciousness. Sitting up in his coffin, he so terrified the watchers that they fled shrieking. This in turn seems to have terrified the man, for he was seen running in his grave clothes towards a neighboring wood, gathering up as though burnt of reason.

FOSTERING TRUSTS.

PROTECTIVE TARIFF LEAGUE, OFFICIAL REPUBLICAN ORGAN.

says that Trusts Cannot Be Wiped Out By Free Trade—Points to English Trusts as Proof—Tariff the Cause, Competition the Remedy.

The Protective Tariff league, whose publication bureau is just now especially active in denouncing any republicans who favor a revision of the tariff is also informing its devotees that there are trusts in free-trade England, and therefore it can not be protection that breeds trusts or fosters them so that something else must be looked for that is the "mother of trusts."

This view of the matter is commented on by the Washington Times, which says: "The champions of the tariff-pampered trusts in the United States have been in the habit of meeting the demand for the removal of duties from trust-controlled products by pointing to England, where, it is said, there are many trusts flourishing under the banner of free trade. That sort of argument may be satisfactory to those who are anxious to be satisfied, but it ought not to be to one who is honestly seeking a remedy for what is undeniably a very great evil.

"If the claim has ever been made that there are and can be no trusts at all without the aid of the tariff, the claim has been thoughtlessly urged by only a few not very well-informed people. Large capital and combinations in business are nearly always an advantage to those who combine. Obviously an individual with a million-dollar capital can make many profitable turns in business that are impossible to a man whose capital is only five or ten thousand dollars. This is true in England as it is anywhere else.

"But the circumstance that large capital has an advantage in and of itself does not prove that it is wise to increase the advantage by relieving it of all competition and giving it a complete monopoly by tariff laws which operate directly to that end. To illustrate: If an English trust unreasonably advances the price to the consumer, foreign goods will at once come in and bring the price down again. In the United States the price may be set up 25 or 30 per cent and still the foreign goods can not compete for the protection of the American consumer. The result is that the English trusts are forced to content themselves with profits no greater than flow naturally from the advantageous working of their larger capital; while the American trust not only has this advantage, but a very much greater one in the tariff which enables them to charge the American consumer 25 or 30 per cent more than the same goods are worth in the world's markets. The man who does not see the difference between the two cases must be either wilfully blind or most woefully stupid. It is the artificial bolstering of the tariff that has literally made the United States the home of the trusts, and has swollen them to such proportions that the greatest combinations in England look like babies by comparison."

FREE TRADE A REPUBLICAN MYTH.

The standing charge of the protectionists against the democratic policy of tariff reform is that it is free trade and the manufacturers would be ruined by it by the influx of foreign goods made by pauper labor and that the wages of our workmen would have to be reduced to the same level to be able to compete with them. This charge has been so persistently made that many people who do not do their own thinking have been led to believe it. But the platform of every democratic convention from the first one in 1840 to the present time have all declared for a tariff for revenue, except in 1868, when "incidental protection" was added. In 1872 the tariff question was remitted to congress, that being the year that Mr. Greeley was the candidate, he always having been a protectionist.

The last democratic platform declared for placing the products of the trusts on the free list, which so far as the steel trust is concerned has been approved by many republicans, and such a bill was introduced in the last congress. From this it will be seen that the democratic party has never declared for free trade, for such a policy is impossible without a most radical change in raising the necessary revenue for the support of the government. Free trade would mean to close the custom houses and either greatly increase the internal revenue taxes or a direct tax on the states. The Wilson tariff bill, which is the only democratic legislation on the tariff since 1860, reduced the tax on necessities and added the income tax, which was declared unconstitutional by the supreme court, though its previous decisions had been uniformly the other way.

Democratic tariff reform, as conditions at present exist, would place the productions of trusts on the free list and would reduce the tariff on articles that are necessities of life and continue the present tax on luxuries. That is a plain business proposition and should injure no business that is not enjoying protection and therefore a monopoly that allows the people to be robbed under the guise of law. That is what the present republican tariff does and the democrats would wipe out the enormity.

Free trade is an impossibility as long as the nations of the world are bent on keeping large armies and navies, and, as in our own case, have an enormous pension list in addition that

must be provided for. England, which has the lowest tariff of any nation, exacts duties on twenty articles on which \$98,000,000 are paid, but the duty on these articles is all laid with the intent to produce revenue and not protection to her manufacturers, whereas 1,200 articles were on the list in former times. The United States is approaching the same conditions and must soon resort to a tariff for revenue only.

REPUBLICAN POLICIES AND PROSPERITY.

It is a standing argument of the Republican spellbinder and Republican newspaper that when their party is in control the country is prosperous, while disaster always follows in the wake of a national Democratic victory, says the Washington Times. The great objection to this argument is that it is not true. It is a claim that will not bear scrutiny in the light of the country's past history. There have been some exceedingly unfavorable conditions in the United States with the Republican party in absolute control of national affairs. The panic of 1873 came with the Republican power at its height, and Republican policies in full force. There was not even a remote prospect of any change. General Grant had just been re-elected and had nearly a full term to serve. And yet the financial storm swept the country like a tornado, and there never was a complete recovery until considerably more than a score of years had passed.

There was another smaller panic in 1881-82, and the whole period between 1873 and 1893 was one of very general depression, subject only to temporary and spasmodic revivals. This is a matter of economic history, and the cause of the troubles has been made the subject of the most exhaustive investigations on both sides of the Atlantic. During all of this period the policy of the country was exclusively Republican, for the Democrats never controlled both houses of congress and the presidency at the same time, and consequently were unable to place a Democratic measure upon the national statute books.

The panic of 1893 likewise came with every vestige of our economic legislation of Republican enactment. The only Democratic measure we have had since the civil war was the Wilson tariff, and this was not enacted until about fifteen months after the financial storm broke. The great moneyed interests of the country insisted that the panic was caused by the Sherman law, a distinctly Republican measure, and during the debate on the repeal bill Senator Sherman declared in the senate that if the law were repealed (that is, the purchase clause of it) prosperity would return in ten days. The repeal bill passed, but prosperity did not return in ten days, or in ten months, or in five years. And when the campaign came on in 1896, forgetting their former declarations, the Republican leaders asserted that the continued hard times were owing partly to the Wilson tariff, and partly to the silver agitation; but they conveniently omitted to explain what caused the trouble before the Wilson law was enacted and before the silver agitation began.

The panic of 1893 was, in fact, a forced one, brought on by President Cleveland and Secretary Carlisle, in collusion with the New York banking ring, for the express purpose of giving the country an "object lesson," and thus forcing a repeal of the Sherman law. The effort was eminently successful in all respects except in restoring prosperity. In carrying out this delectable scheme, as is well known, Mr. Cleveland put himself outside the pale of true Democracy, and straight in line with the current of Republican thought. There might and probably would have been some trouble even without this artificial forcing of the panic, for the business stagnation was almost world wide, and we could not reasonably hope entirely to escape; but the panic would not have come when it did or have been so severe. When the revival came, that also was international in character, the change appearing in Europe about a year before it did here. But our main purpose now is merely to show how unfounded is the claim that we always have prosperity under Republican policies.

Are we acting in a "hogish manner" in our trade relation with foreign countries? Senator Cullom has discovered that they think we are and for expediency's sake would have us ratify a few reciprocity treaties. But as the senator had just left the porch at Canton when he made this announcement it is probable that he imbibed this idea from the president who is working tooth and nail to find some plan to protect the protective tariff and reciprocity is the only way he has been able to discover. Of course it would never do to revise the tariff and withdraw protection from the trusts, that might be our "plain duty," but cannot be thought of especially as it is the Democratic program.

The tin plate trust is one of our youngest infant industries protected from all competition from abroad and is a monopoly at home. This baby trust managed, however, to squeeze from the American people last year about \$48,000,000 of profits and this was accomplished by selling sheet iron covered with a composition of lead, which the trust called tin. Have you noticed since the truth was forced that there is very little real tin on the market?

Wall street is figuring on how much the steel trust will lose by the strike. They forget that when the price of products of the trust are advanced to get even, it is the American people who will be the losers.

RAIDING THE PEOPLE

TRUST CORPORATIONS ACT LIKE MASKED HIGHWAYMEN.

The Abolition of the "Protective" Tariff Would Be Some Relief—Banking Power Aids the Work of Organization for the Purpose of Robbing the People.

It used to be an axiom that competition is the life of trade, but now that competition has been eliminated in many lines of business it will be necessary to revise the truism and say that monopoly is the only trade condition that will assure good profits. The manufacturer is fast being absorbed into the trust, the small trader is being wiped out by the department store, the competing railroad is a thing of the past and even the high seas are to be controlled by the transportation combine by the purchase of all the steamships.

These combinations are all being perfected and some like the steel trust and the hard coal trust are consummated and the work of robbing the people under the guise of the law is well under way.

The people have been too busy trying to adjust themselves to this new order of things that they have so far given but little attention to the changed political conditions that have accomplished this economic revolution. They have allowed their representatives to enact laws under which these combines are organized and are maintained as monopolies.

It will be a long and arduous task to undo the harm already done, but it can be accomplished by reversing the lever and repealing the laws that authorize these gigantic corporations or by taking from them the special privileges and immunities they now enjoy.

The tariff protection can be revised. That will introduce competition against such as the steel trust.

The interstate commerce law can be amended to compel all lines of transportation to give equal rights to all shippers great and small and that charges must be reasonable.

Taxation can be equalized so that corporations may be assessed at the cash value of their stock and franchises so that they may be taxed the same as the farmer and the small trader and householder.

To accomplish this the people must elect public servants who are their friends instead of as now the compliant tools of the corporations and the rich and powerful. The President must be an anti-trust man and thus an attorney general will be found who will prosecute the trusts. Whereas during the republican administration he has been selected from the chosen trust lawyers.

Congressmen and senators who have shown themselves to be the willing tools of the corporations must be defeated and friends of the people elected in their stead.

Moreover, as the trusts and corporations are the creatures of the states, the laws under which they are organized must be repealed or modified, this is the sole business of the state legislatures and is quickly accomplished if the people are determined to protect themselves. Without the sovereign power of the state of New Jersey the steel trust could not exist, unless some other state should be equally subservient to the money and power of the trusts.

The trusts and corporations have not begun to put forth all their power, they are feeling their way until they can be sure of maintaining their monopoly. As it is now the few who control them have absorbed more than half of all the wealth of the country and are rapidly gathering in the major part of the remainder. Every day the coming battle is postponed, the procrastination of the people makes the fight more difficult to win.

Money is power, and the trusts and corporations know it. Their avarice, rapacity and greed will increase as their power expands. Now or never is the time to strike for economic freedom.

MARK HANNA AND CORRUPTION.

Just before the last national election Mark Hanna visited Nebraska for the avowed purpose of beating Mr. Bryan in his own state. The extraordinary prosperity that suddenly followed his visit and the number of political strikers of all parties that exhibited bank rolls was noted at the time. There is no doubt that the strumpet of corruption stalked in naked horror through the land and the democrats claimed that the middle-of-the-road populists were some of the strumpets. The evidence that at least they were in the market and were willing to accept offices at the hands of Hanna has now come to light, for the Commoner says: "In the last campaign the republican papers denounced democrats and populists for co-operating against the common enemy. Both parties were accused of sacrificing principle to 'get office.' The subject is mentioned at this time because D. Clem Deaver, a Nebraska politician who had charge of the middle-of-the-road populist campaign in the west, has recently received at the hands of President McKinley a substantial reward for opposing fusion. A republican by the name of Dickson severely criticised Mr. Deaver's appointment on the ground that Mr. Deaver was not a republican. In reply Mr. Deaver gave this explanation of his appointment:

"I have no desire personally to answer the strictures of Mr. Dickson, but as a matter of record I wish to say that my application for appointment to

this office was endorsed by Governor Dietrich and every other republican state officer, also by R. B. Schneider, republican national committeeman, and the leaders of every faction of the republican party in this state.

"Further, upon the promotion of Governor Dietrich to the senate, he took up my case and enlisted the support of Senator Millard, who had never met me prior to the time of his election, March 28.

"In view of the fact," continued Mr. Deaver, "that the party leaders were a unit in supporting my application, Senator Millard's assent was cheerfully given. I have about perfected my bond and expect to assume the duties of the office."

"During the last presidential campaign Mr. Deaver went up and down the country urging the populists to have nothing to do with the democrats and the republican newspapers spoke of Mr. Deaver as a populist who 'stood by his principles.' But now all the republican leaders ask for and secure a valuable appointment for him. This proves, if indeed proof was necessary, that there was secret fusion between the republicans and the middle-of-the-road populists. In 1896 the republicans and gold democrats denounced fusion between democrats and populists, and yet when the election was over prominent democrats like Bynum and Irish applied for and received appointments from the administration, showing that there was a secret understanding between the republicans and those who were in charge of the Palmer and Buckner movement.

"The cry of 'down with fusion' does not come with good grace from populists and gold democrats who have been affiliating with republicans. With even poorer grace does the cry come from republicans who have made use of the two extremes, gold democrats on the one hand and middle-of-the-road populists on the other.

"Honest co-operation between the reform forces is natural and necessary, and such co-operation will be advocated by those who are earnest in their efforts to overthrow republican policies. Secret and dishonest co-operation will still be indulged in by those who denounce fair and open methods."

TARIFF A FAILURE.

The National Association of Manufacturers, which has its headquarters in Philadelphia, is about to issue a call for a national reciprocity convention. The dispatch, which announces this, also says that this action is taken as the result of dissatisfaction among manufacturers who are in the export trade, and that congress at its next session will be asked to give the desired relief. The dispatch goes on to a conclusion in these words: "The sentiment of the manufacturers, says President Search, is in favor of securing treaties of commercial reciprocity with other countries, with a view to the extension of America's trade in foreign lands.

"Within the past few months, he says, Russia, Italy, and some other countries have dealt a heavy blow to our foreign trade by the levying of a countervailing duty. It will be endeavored to show to congress that American industries have suffered by the present tariff laws and their interpretations, and congress will be asked to give the required remedy."

The president of the association must know that the senate is required to ratify reciprocity treaties and that the representatives of the people, who alone under the constitution have the power to initiate tariff legislation, have this power usurped from them by the executive and the senate by revising the tariff under these treaties.

The manufacturers' association is largely composed of those interested in textile products, and although they were generous contributors to the Republican Hanna corruption fund, they have not participated to any great extent in the promised prosperity that the trusts are enjoying. Hanna has persuaded them that under reciprocity they will get their share of the good things going and that they must bring pressure to bear on these recalcitrant Republican senators who oppose the plan.

Of course the legitimate and constitutional plan of revising the tariff by the representatives of the people cannot be thought of for that would open up the whole tariff robbery to discussion and would "disturb business" and perhaps lead to the elimination of the protection that the trusts are now getting rich under. In all this there is no word said of what would be for the interest of the people. It is all how will it suit the trusts or will it benefit the manufacturers? But the people that pay the tax are never consulted.

The stock argument of the high protectionist has been that when the tariff built up an industry, competition among the Americans themselves would then bring down the price. Whatever may be the theoretical force of this argument, it is perfectly clear that it cannot hold good with the trusts in full control of our industries and competition utterly strangled. From this it follows conclusively that so far as trust controlled products are concerned there is no longer any argument in favor of the tariff, which, instead of being beneficial to the country as a whole, is simply an instrument whereby the trusts are enabled to enrich themselves enormously at the expense of the American people.

Schmidt, Champion Rifle Shot. Private Schmidt, of Company D, Fourteenth United States Infantry, now camped at the rifle range near Moulton, Mich., made a score at shooting at 600 yards that broke the record of the whole army. The target was a dummy man. Nineteen out of twenty of his shots took effect, any of which would have caused instant death in a living man, while the twentieth shot would have inflicted a serious or fatal wound. Schmidt's achievement is said to be not only unparalleled in United States army rifle shooting records, but also without precedent.

Another New Ocean Flyer. Another new ocean greyhound will soon start on her maiden trip to New York, and great things are expected of her. The vessel is the Kronprinz Wilhelm, and is owned by the North German Lloyd line. She will leave Bremen on September 17, and there will be many bets laid as to when she will reach her American dock. The Northern German Lloyd company sets the date for September 24, but they secretly hope that she will reach here before that time, and there are many to wager that she will. The Kronprinz Wilhelm, while built as a sister ship to the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, is ten feet longer, and varies also in other proportions which count for speed. It is expected that the Kronprinz Wilhelm will beat the time of the Deutschland, of the Hamburg-American line, which now holds the record across the Eastern seas.

One for the Silly Season. Professor Gautier, a member of the Institut de France, has propounded a theory on the subject of perpetual youth. In isolating the bacteria of physical fatigue, he has found, he says, that it is a poison strongly resembling ptomaine poison in nature. From this he argues that fatigue can, by the use of disinfectants, be avoided like any other poison, and consequently man need not weaken or age.

Couldn't Wear Shoes. Sumpter, Ill., Sept. 9th.—Mrs. J. B. Flanigan, of this place, had suffered with dropsy for fifteen years. She was so very bad that for the last three years she has not been able to wear her shoes. She had doctored all the time, but was gradually getting worse.

Last winter Mr. Flanigan, who was very much discouraged, called for some medicine at Mr. J. J. Dale's drug store in Carmel. Mr. Dale persuaded him to have his wife try Dodd's Kidney Pills, and he bought six boxes. His wife used five out of the six, before she was entirely cured. She is now as sound and well as ever she was, completely restored to health, and free from any symptom whatever of dropsy.

To say that Mrs. Flanigan is pleased at her wonderful deliverance does not half express her feelings, and she and Mr. Flanigan are loud in their praises of Dodd's Kidney Pills, and of Mr. Dale for recommending this wonderful remedy to them.

The fact that Dodd's Kidney Pills cured Mrs. Flanigan of such a severe case of dropsy, after the doctors had given her up, has made them the most talked of remedy ever known in White county.

Greatest Codfish Catch. What is reputed to be the largest catch of codfish in the Pacific waters is credited to the crew of the barkentine Fremont, which arrived at San Francisco last week with 177,000 of the fish stored away. Most of the catch was in Bering sea.

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