

Forum of the Weekly Press.



Rathdrum (Id.) Silver Blade: Confidence has been restored all right enough, but we notice that every time Secretary Gage gets a surplus dollar in the treasury he has to turn it over to the bankers to keep it restored.

Greenup (Ky.) Democrat: Freedom of speech is too dear a possession to be given up. It is the bulwark of our liberties, the safeguard of our institutions. Anarchy must and will be suppressed, but it will not be done by destroying one jot or one tittle of our liberties as fearless American citizens.

Rochester (Ind.) Herald: During the campaign last year the republicans attributed every Filipino uprising to Bryan speeches. One of the very worst slaughters of the war has just occurred and will the republicans now lay the blame to Roosevelt who has just become president?

Elma (Ia.) Democrat: Grover Cleveland has written a book on "The Plight of the Democracy." The worst plight of the democracy is that such men as Grover Cleveland persist in calling themselves democrats. Some one should write a book on The Plight of Grover Cleveland—the man without a party.

Mexico (Mo.) Ledger: Democrats who stand on the Kansas City platform, the last utterance of the democratic party, are necessarily for the free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1. No man can repudiate the last national platform. Every loyal democrat will abide by that platform until a new one is made.

Ramsey (Ill.) News-Journal: Anarchism is the illegitimate offspring of Europe, and in Europe there is less freedom of press and speech than in any other country on the face of the globe. Abridging American liberties can only prove fatal to American institutions and will in no degree abate the red hand of anarchy.

Jackson (Mo.) Cash Book: The republican leaders and their allies, the bolting goldbug democrats, by trying to force the tariff to the front again, are endeavoring to divert the minds of the people from the questions in politics that are really the issues before the country now, namely, imperialism and the domination of the government by the national banks and money kings generally.

St. Marys (W. Va.) Oracle: Governor Stone of Pennsylvania has made the declaration that "there is no difference between the teachings of Emma Goldman and the democratic platform." This is an important discovery, but coming from such a source has the old familiar ring of "stop thief" to cover up the disgraceful and unlawful proceedings of the legislature of the past year in that respectable commonwealth.

Beardstown (Ill.) Enterprise: It is fortunate for the republicans that they can raise the mad dog cry against socialists. They need to divert public attention from the rapacities of the trusts and from the grabs of greedy syndicates. They need to distract notice from legislative debauchery and judicial usurpation. They need to draw the minds of the people away from the anarchy of lawless monopoly and grasping privilege.

New Lexington (O.) Herald: In 1894, a republican farmer of Perry county brought his wool into New Lexington and as he passed through the street he yelled, "Here is your 22-cent democrat wool." A few weeks ago the same farmer brought his wool into town and sold it for 20 cents. But not a sound emanated from the wagon. It was too much like a funeral procession. Take your medicine!

Norton (Kas.) Liberator: Just now everybody, trusts and all, want to get rid of the anarchist. How will it be about the time the labor organizations begin to demand recognition in such

force that there are chances for their success? We make a guess that those syndicate-trust stock owners who are now making the air blue will dispose of American labor to make room for cheap labor from abroad. Then the anarchists will gain a new foothold.

Boston (Mass.) Republic: The democratic party has ever been the party of the whole people. It has been and is now the foe of class privilege and class legislation. It has vigorously opposed every scheme designed to curtail the liberty and the rights of the citizen, to exclude from citizenship by sumptuary legislation the deserving immigrants who flee from oppression abroad and who seek a home and fresh opportunities in this free land. It is only when the democracy is strong and resolute and united that such assaults upon our scheme of government are prevented.

Millheim (Pa.) Journal: The democratic party is the progressive party, which voices the people's needs as soon as they are expressed. It is the party of the plain people. Even in defeat it is their buckler and shield. Standing as a conservative delineator of popular rights and common liberty, pointing unto the declaration of independence not as a fresh declaration of independence from Great Britain, but an ever living declaration of independence from all forms of tyranny and oppression.

Denver Democrat: The so-called reorganizers of the national democracy are in deep water. The waves of enthusiasm they expected to sweep over the country have turned out to be mere drops, not enough to make a ripple in the sea of honest democracy. These "reorganizers" are peculiar folk. Wholly peculiar are they in that they did not support the national democratic ticket in 1896, nor again in 1900. What claim they have to the title of democrat is known mainly to themselves. As for the democratic masses they distrust them to the last notch.

Tampa (Fla.) Herald: It has been two or three weeks since the plutocratic papers have re-buried Mr. Bryan. This is a flagrant neglect of duty which ought to be explained. Mr. Bryan is still having a very lively being, and he should be sepulchered with more regularity and efficiency.

Farmington (Mo.) Times: At their state convention the democrats of Nebraska in a strong platform indorsed the principles of the Kansas City platform. All good and true democrats stand on that platform. There is nothing in it that a democrat can reject with good reason.

Rawlins (Wyo.) Journal: It begins to look very much as if the republican party intends to flop clear over on the tariff question before the next campaign, just as we predicted some weeks ago. Taking President McKinley's last speech for a keynote republican papers and speakers all over the land are beginning to argue in favor of tariff revision and the placing of various articles on the free list. Are our republican friends prepared to admit that they have all along been on the wrong side of the tariff question, while the democrats have been right, or will they just flop without trying to explain.

Price (Utah) Advocate: Free coinage is a living principle. It has been pushed somewhat from the front by the discovery of new gold fields, but the gold supply—large as it has been in the past several years—is not sufficient to enable this country to do away with silver as money. Western democrats can gain nothing by courting the support of the east. To get the support of that country we must abandon sound principle, and adopt practically the republican platform. Western democrats are not ready for this and they will never adopt such a course. In fact, they are firmly convinced today of the righteousness of free coinage as they were in 1896.

San Francisco Equity: The events of the past month have so shocked the world that discussion

of them has taken precedence of aught else. In this discussion a vital error has taken possession of the minds of many; the error that in repression alone, is the remedy for anarchy. We give precedence to none in our respect for law and order, and our abhorrence of violence, but he who takes up the dagger and pistol cannot be repressed by the sword and rifle. Emerson said, "the older, more cautious among ourselves are learning from Europeans to look with some terror at our turbulent freedom. . . . Our property is timid, our laws are timid, our cultivated classes are timid." In this lies a great danger. The danger that we will allow our fears to lead us into the paths which are followed over the ocean. We shall not gain security for our officials by it; czar, king and emperor do not. We shall sacrifice much that is essential to our democracy. Real security lies in making the laws more nearly the wish of the people; in enforcing the idea that the executives we elect are not rulers, but public servants; in securing absolute justice to all—even the weakest and most despised.

Lewiston (Ill.) News: If our government falls it will be because the people themselves decay and rot. So long as that virtue which was in our fathers—the founders of the republic—remains in their descendants we have nothing to fear. So long as we faithfully guard our free institutions and keep bright the altar fires of

not fail and this nation will not perish from the earth. Very foolishly, it appears, do the press and orators magnify the dangers of anarchy. In so doing we are apt to lose sight of the truth that the real danger to our cherished republic is that we ourselves become tainted with the lust of avarice and conquest and fall into the ways of nations that have gone into destruction. Let us beware of colonialism and militarism whose certain fruit is despotism. Let us renew our faith in the doctrines of our fathers.

Athens (O.) Banner: United States Senator Bacon in an address delivered in Manila a few days since told the Filipinos that when the war is over the United States would grant them freedom as is enjoyed in this country. Senator Bacon may be a good prophet, but there will have to be considerable change in this country before his words will be fulfilled. The republican party never intends to grant the Filipinos independence and never to accord to them the full rights of citizenship as enjoyed in this country. The democratic party is the only party that adheres to the doctrine that "all governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed," and even in the democratic party are many who proclaim themselves as commercial democrats, ready to disregard the constitution and the rights of the Filipinos in order to reap the benefits of trade. Senator Bacon's words were nice words for the occasion, but they will hardly prove prophetic—at least in the near future.

Hot Springs (S. D.) Times-Herald: We favor an income tax that the rich may bear their share of the expense of government. We are opposed to trusts to the end that all men may stand upon an equal footing and the dealer or manufacturer with limited capital may carry on his business with no fear of being crushed by unlawful competition. We favor the government or municipal ownership of all natural monopolies to the end that consumers and patrons may be enabled to enjoy the benefits purchased by price far removed from extortion. We are opposed to government by injunction, that the rights of all men may be recognized in courts of justice, not injustice. We are opposed to any form of imperialism or expansion except that of acquiring in a peaceable manner by colonization or purchase of contiguous territory. We favor the strict adherence to the Monroe Doctrine which should mean that as we do not intend that foreign powers shall acquire territory on this side of the ocean, neither should we "grab" territory on the other side of the water. We are uncompromisingly in favor of the restoration of silver to its constitutional place in our monetary system.