

FORUM OF THE WEEKLY PRESS

Gunnison (Colo.) News-Champion: Just as long as we hesitate to touch the tariff, the trusts will continue to touch the people.

Webster Springs (W. Va.) Echo: "We won't touch the tariff," says Quay. It is the tariff payers that the Quayites prefer to touch.

Wheeler (S. D.) Courier: The president's message constitutes an able brief for the defense in the case of the People vs. Special Privilege.

Mankato (Kas.) Advocate: The republican papers are beginning to boom Grover Cleveland for the democratic nomination for president in 1904. As the democratic candidate Grover would be highly satisfactory to the republicans.

Manchester (N. H.) Union: As President Roosevelt in effect said in his message it is no longer any affair of ours. We have become a world power now, and are in the business of interference with weak people ourselves.

Greenfield (Mo.) Advocate: A tariff commission of so-called "tariff experts" would give thousands in annual salaries to those fellows who are already fattening by the system at the expense of the plain people. A commission from the tariff payers might accomplish something.

Sauk Center (Minn.) Avalanche: The most noticeable peculiarity of the document is the fact that Mr. Roosevelt takes up considerable space to tell congress that the tariff has nothing to do with trusts, and then recommends the removal of the tariff on hard coal as a slap at the anthracite trust.

Woodsfield (O.) Spirit of Democracy: The republican who did not applaud McKinley's Buffalo speech when it was delivered, was looked upon as little better than a "copperhead." The republican who does not now repudiate the teachings of that speech is denounced as a traitor to the cause of "protection."

Madison (Wis.) Democrat: The Wisconsin republican newspapers are for tariff revision and they are against the ship subsidy steal; but all the same they are like republican congressmen—they are against these things individually, but they are for the party that is for them. Thus they are for the measures they unsparingly condemn.

McMinnville (O.) Telephone-Register: It is certainly an edifying brand of statesmanship that would refuse to admit Arizona and New Mexico to statehood because they might go democratic. Let Porto Rico and the Philippines take heed. Not development along the lines of civilization and culture is the prerequisite of admission to statehood, but the political views of the inhabitants.

Chadron (O.) Record: The United States pays for transporting the mails enough money every year to pay the interest at 3 per cent on enough money to duplicate every mile of railroad in the United States. Then why don't it do it? Because we, the fool people, vote to elect men to congress and senate who are in the pay of the railroads and they will not vote for such a thing. Only that and nothing more.

Crete (Neb.) Democrat: The republicans do not hold together on the cause of the panic in 1893. Many say it was the Wilson bill which of course

was not passed till 1894; and now comes Secretary Shaw who says it was the fear that the holders of paper money would get redemption in dollars worth less than 25.8 grains of gold. Then it was the money question and not the tariff which caused the panic. But the fact is, it was neither. It was the result of inflation, speculation and liquidation.

Grant City (Mo.) Times: Many conservative papers throughout the country are taking the president to task for his weak attitude toward the trusts. We believe Roosevelt would like to take the trust bull by the horns and rub his nose in the dust, but he has received orders from the political bosses not to undertake it, and he is heeding the warning. But putting all partisanship aside, this trust question must be met sooner or later, and if the republicans keep on dallying and delaying it the people will arise and again drive them from power.

Red Wing (Minn.) Argus: Roosevelt in October pointed out the anthracite combine as a conspicuous example of a trust that had not the benefit of protection. He argued that the trusts were not strengthened by the tariff. Roosevelt in December pointed out the duty on anthracite as the one change that should be made in the tariff. He spoke with intent to be true, but he did not know. They told him anthracite was not protected and he accepted their word. Now is it possible that on closer examination he could find some other cases where the tariff was due to be revised?

Grand Island (Neb.) Democrat: On Monday of this week the freight rate on Nebraska roads was raised in an amount sufficient to reduce the price of grain about two cents per bushel on the product of Nebraska farmers. We have asked that some of our good republican brethren explain why this should come so soon after the signal republican successes in state and nation. Others have asked that some of the republican shouters for trusts, ship subsidies and such, explain the "whyness" thereof, but all are silent. The earnings of the railroads have increased each year while their dividends and salaries to high officials have increased enormously. One more turn of the screw upon the back of industry—upon the productive energies of the laborer.

Cole County (Mo.) Democrat: The democratic party was right on the money question in 1896. Every development in financial circles since then proves that it was right. Every warning, every prediction has been or is being fulfilled. The panicky condition of the stock market; that money stringency whose evil effects are felt in the banking and business world; the strenuous efforts of the secretary of the treasury to prevent panics; the bills introduced in congress for the inflation of the currency, upon a credit and wind basis, all go to show that the democratic party was right. The ideas of the most rabid populist never went to greater lengths than those of the republican party at the present time on the question of an exchange medium. The whole people will not see the light until the occurrence of a financial cataclysm, and ruin is general. Pierpont Morgan has acknowledged that he and others like him are the harbingers of socialism. But the foolish people still will not see and will not hear "till anarchy" comes down on them like night."

TOM JOHNSON.

Democrats should read what the Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat says of his political future.

It appears from later scrutiny of the election figures in Ohio that the "jolt" given Tom L. Johnson Tuesday was much less severe than it was jubilantly reported to be in the early dispatches. There was ill-concealed joy in the first reports indicating that the Buckeye state had been swept with an anti-Johnson broom. The Associated press is after all a very human institution. Ordinarily its news reports are coldly impartial. But under circumstances such as those characterizing the Ohio campaign even the associated press could not escape the bias of its surroundings and so the initial Ohio returns were exaggerated into a tremendous victory for Mr. Hanna and the monopoly interests with which he is bound up.

As a matter of fact the Ohio election is very far from discouraging to democratic democrats. It is true that the republican party elected its state ticket and held its own in the congressional delegation. But Mr. Johnson again won a sweeping victory in his home county. The court house at Cleveland is for the first time in five years in fair way of being filled with democrats. Mr. Johnson's friends have gained a number of judicial offices; they have maintained their hold in the city of Cleveland; and all through the state, except in the lower corner where John R. McLean is paramount as a democratic boss in close alliance with the republican bosses and thoroughly identified with the monopoly interests which the republican bosses conserve, the democrats have shown most encouraging gains. Had there not been treachery of the vilest kind in Hamilton county and in the few other counties where McLeanism is dominant, it is apparent that the republican majority would have been enormously reduced if not completely eliminated. McLean and Boss Bernard were able in Hamilton county alone to throw 20,000 votes to the Hanna ticket and in the other counties controlled by this plutocratic combine similar assistance to the enemy was rendered. The same sort of treachery that prevented the election of Bryan in 1896 has in Ohio had the effect this year of putting that state in the attitude of endorsing crooked taxation, ripperism, boss rule and privilege in general. It is only when we look more closely at the returns that we discover that only in a comparatively small portion of the state did the democratic cause suffer. Reaction developed only where treachery was rampant. The cause of the people showed progress wherever Mr. Johnson had gone and wherever an odious bossism did not prevail.

The war is not fought out. The battle of Tuesday was merely a preliminary struggle. That it has gone against Mr. Johnson is no more to be taken as eliminating him from politics than the union defeat at Bull Run was to be taken as settling the contest between slavery and freedom. The reverse at Bull Run merely served to arouse the spirit of the north and to draw more clearly the lines between loyalty and disunion. And the reverse which the democrats have sustained in Ohio will but intensify the determination of democratic democracy to continue its war on privilege. Mr. Johnson has made it plain that the skulkers and the traitors must get out and stay out. He has declared war upon John R. McLean and all his kind. He is not the man to weaken or waver. The battle royal will come next year. Mr. Johnson will again be a candidate for mayor of Cleveland. Four successive victories in his home city

in all probability will be signally crowned by a fifth. And then will come the supreme struggle. On one side will be Mr. Johnson with five victories to his credit. On the other will be John R. McLean with a record of defeat and another one of treachery. Both will seek to control the democratic party of Ohio. Can it be doubted that in such a contest victory and honor will win over defeat and perfidy? Can it be doubted that the brave and clean-handed leadership of Tom L. Johnson will triumph over the skulking and debauched leadership of a man in open and notorious alliance with the unclean forces of a degrading bossism?

It is a safe guess that the democrats of Ohio will take no backward steps. Mr. Johnson or someone standing for the great principles for which Mr. Johnson stands in all political likelihood will be nominated for governor of Ohio next year. We believe Mr. Johnson himself will be the man. And we believe that in the great struggle which his nomination will bring on the powers of plutocracy will not be strong enough to prevail against him. There will be elements at work for him before the middle of next year which in themselves will probably be decisive in his favor. Hanna has provided for a system of boss government which can hardly fail to invite the bitterest antagonism. He has practically destroyed home-rule in the cities of Ohio. But thus far the effect of this has not been felt by the people. They are still governing themselves. But by next year the people will have begun to discover that they are ruled by a central power—a power controlled, not by themselves, but by powerful special interests centered in the executive office of the state. When they realize this fact and begin to understand its true significance, is it to be doubted that the spirit of revolt will seize upon the people and spur them on to a sharp rebuke to the party responsible for robbing them of so precious a right as that of controlling their own affairs? Apparently this consideration has not been taken into account by those who have been jubilating over Mr. Johnson's defeat. But it is a consideration of the first importance and those who overlook it are pretty certain to wake up to a surprise before the end of 1903.

Tom Johnson is still a potent factor in American politics and those who have jumped at the conclusion that he has been eliminated are putting themselves in the way of a very sharp disappointment.—Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat, Nov. 7.

Regular.

The western journal which expresses doubt as to the regularity of the Anglo-German proceedings on the Venezuelan coast is poorly informed. Where there are two rich and strong powers against one that is poor and weak such proceedings are decidedly the regular thing.—Pittsburg (Pa.) Dispatch.

On December 16 Representative Martin of South Dakota introduced a bill in the house making October 21, the anniversary of the discovery of America, a legal public holiday to be known as Columbus day.

HEART

And Stomach Diseases
Write Dr. Miles, Dept. H.
Chicago, Ill., for \$2.50
free treatment and book.
1,000 of the most remarkable
cures on record.