



# Weekly Press Forum

Urbana (O.) Democrat: If congress would repeal the tariff on trust-made goods it could have the \$500,000 it has appropriated for a fake prosecution of the trusts.

Charlestown (Ind.) Democrat: It is time to swear off surrendering the party organization to so-called reorganizers who hope to win through cowardly silence, and who trust to luck instead of to organization.

La Fayette (Ind.) Democrat: Entangling alliances with foreign nations is the one to be dreaded thing that every administration of whatever party, has always avoided until the present time. But it now seems to have been accomplished.

Beavertown (Mich.) Clarion: The appropriation of half a million dollars to be distributed among such lawyers as Attorney General Knox may see fit to favor, appears to be about all the trust legislation congress will enact this winter.

Owensburg (Ky.) Messenger: And the beef trust incorporating in New Jersey, capital \$3,000,000, merely adds another horn to the Knoxian dilemma. But, bless you! The administration would just as soon be on one horn as on the other, and in a pinch could even straddle both.

Emmettsburg (Ia.) Democrat: In the next congress there will not be a populist in either house. However, populism has not been in vain. It has been one of the most successful political educators of our age. The good it has accomplished will live in the decades to come.

Auburn (Neb.) Granger: As congress has agreed on an appropriation to fight the trusts it seems probable that Mr. Hanna's declaration that there are no trusts has been overruled. The trusts, if they exist, will now proceed to select the attorneys to do the prosecuting and draw the money as fees.

York (Neb.) Democrat: The Fowler bill is being worked over so it can be given a new name, but the same old asset feature and pretended gold standard will be retained. The conspirators know that there is not gold enough on top of the globe to make this government and banks safe for anything.

Kenton (O.) Press: If the United States had confined operations to the Western Hemisphere England and Germany would never have sent a fleet to bombard or blockade the ports of Venezuela. But we jumped the Monroe doctrine fence to get out and England and Germany feel licensed to jump it to get in.

Sinclairville (N. Y.) Spectator: Mr. Rockefeller is a generous man and a pious class leader, but we respectfully suggest that he take a Sunday off to consider the question whether he could not do the poor a little good by restoring oil to its old price and deferring a few contributions to the Chicago university?

Canton (Mo.) Press: Just as soon as it was found practical to use Texas oil for fuel the Standard Oil people gobbled up the oil fields, and prices have gone to soaring upward. This gives Rockefeller more spare change to add another million of dollars to some favorite church or university. And the foreigner doesn't pay the tax either.

Waukesha (Wis.) Dispatch: Congress is not so unalterably opposed to the trusts as the appropriation of that half million to fight them might suggest. The appropriation will be expended all right, but scarcely to the demolition of the trusts, who will undoubtedly be found doing business at the same old stand after the appropriation has all been expended.

Wichita (Kas.) Commoner: This robbery (Standard Oil) is a mere bagatelle in comparison with the robbery of the great money trust in times past, and of what it will be in the future, under the manipulation of the gold-bug contingent. And in the efforts of the money trust to corner the finances of the people, such newspapers as the Kansas City Star have aided and abetted.

Harrisburg (Ill.) Register: The Chronicle claims that the reason a silver dollar will still buy as much grub and clothing as a gold dollar, notwithstanding the fall in the price of silver bullion, is "because Uncle Sam is doing business on a gold basis." If that fact makes a silver dollar as good as a gold dollar, why are the republicans trying to have a law passed to redeem the silver dollars in gold?

Noblesville (Ind.) Democrat: Brother Republicans, your party bosses have voted \$4,000,000 to the railroads centering into Washington, D. C., for a grand depot and \$2,000,000 additional for damages received by the Pennsylvania and B. & O. railroad systems, making in all \$6,000,000 of a donation to these two roads. How do you like it? Well, something has to be done with the money in order to keep up present high national taxes.

Arlington (Ga.) Courier: If the Monroe doctrine comes through the Venezuelan affair unscratched, it is safe to say that it will be equal to any further emergency. It has already been very much belted if not broken.

Sparta (Wis.) Democrat: It is evident that the president is ready to repudiate the promises of the republican national platform when it comes to a possible increase of the democratic majority in the senate by the admission of the territories.

Milan (Tenn.) Exchange: In the eighty years since the Monroe doctrine was first propounded, the navy of the United States has never equalled that of any of the great European powers and yet the doctrine has never been violated. The reason is plain. The United States feeds a large portion of Europe. Were Germany or England, for instance, to make war on the United States, their armies would starve. All this talk about making our navy equal in strength to theirs is jingoism.

Oskaloosa (Ia.) Times-Journal: There will not be one little bit of anti-trust legislation this winter. On the contrary every trust pirate can count on having his "vested rights" protected in every quarter of the world. For example, Roosevelt has just told our ambassador to Great Britain to inquire why the Standard O. company may not obtain a foot hold in India. Now would the dear people like to be obliged to yank the flag into that country so that Standard Oil trade might follow?

Dover (N. J.) Index: 'Tis well to recall the fact that when the republicans defend the Dingley tariff law,

when they assert that it shall not be revised, to remind the obstreperous g. o. p. that Congressman Dingley, the author of that tariff law, said while he and his republican associates on the committee of ways and means were framing those schedules: "We are purposely making them too high, because we want them as a basis which will enable us to offer foreign countries material inducements to enter into reciprocity treaties with us."

Hastings (Mich.) Journal: Schemers may talk about an asset currency, and theorists may prate about dispensing with silver as a money metal, but the unvarnished truth is, that there is more United States silver money in existence today than there was ten years ago, and ten years hence there will be more than there is today. Any increase in the volume of business will demand a corresponding increase of money, the basis of all business. In the present monetary panic—for that is what the condition is—the only solution will be found in the quantitative theory of the circulating medium.

Carmi (Ill.) Democrat: After much profound consideration the republican authorities ascertained that the Sherman anti-trust law was ineffectual. Thereupon a republican congressman immediately introduced a bill to appropriate \$500,000 to enforce the law, and a republican congress passed it with a whoop. Appropriating the people's money to enforce a law that is of no force is a fair illustration of how the republicans fight the trusts. The public gets the worst of it at both ends. It is skinned by the trusts and swindled out of its money by the government.

Rising Sun (Md.) Journal: In reading the editorials of the corporation dailies on the money question, you see a great deal about the 30-cent silver dollar, great pains always being taken to compare it to the national bank note, yet, as an exchange puts it, if a man should conclude that the small piece of paper issued by a national bank was not sound money and want it redeemed, all he could get for it is one of these despised 30-cent silver dollars. When you think about it, doesn't this make the "sound money" national bank note look a little like the proverbial "thirty cents" also?

Newton (Ia.) Herald: Is a rule made simply to be broken? Can we consistently enforce a principle here which we deny a few miles away? In other words, can we colonize wherever we please and deny that privilege to the nations of Europe? Hardly. The Monroe doctrine has been slapped in the face by the Philippine situation. A republican administration did the slapping. It is a poor rule that will not work both ways. What is sauce for the goose certainly is sauce for the gander. It comes in bad grace from a republican to even suggest the Monroe doctrine as an obstacle in the Venezuelan imbroglio, for it was his party which removed the obstacle.

Jefferson City (Mo.) Democrat: The fact that some of the leading lights of republicanism are trying to have General Smith reinstated, is persuasive evidence that Roosevelt meant what he said when he announced that the Philippine war had been conducted with "marked humanity" by the American troops. It is after all but

a matter of terminology. Perhaps the administration attaches to the quoted words a meaning different from that which the majority of us usually accept. If this be true, General Smith's reinstatement should follow as a logical sequence, and this new evidence of Rooseveltian consistency should be welcomed with delight. A man may issue an order to "kill all over ten," and still conduct the war with "marked humanity"—the only question being what kind of a mark? Why, the mark of Cain, of course.

Sedalia (Mo.) Democrat: The gold standard press, with "ghoulish glee," announce that Mexico is about to abandon the use of silver as money and adopt the single gold standard. It may be that, should our sister republic adopt this plan, the additional demand for the yellow metal will cause such an increase in the purchasing power of gold as to endanger the speculative stocks whose increase in price has made up much of our boasted prosperity. Money has been greatly in demand in Wall street during the past year, and more than once a panic has seemed imminent. Let Mexico adopt the gold standard and reach out after gold, and our speculative friends may have another experience like that of 1893.

Monmouth (Ill.) Democrat: An exchange says gold is sweeping almost everything before it in both hemispheres. Silver is despised, and it is possible that in some future generation the price of the white metal may finally sink to that of the red metal, copper. This may be true, but the "old dollar of our dads" is still very acceptable in many localities, and the aforesaid exchange can no doubt find use for a few of them any day in the week. It is really singular how people will deny and denounce the only metal that keeps gold from becoming all powerful throughout the civilized world. When the few great financiers of this and other nations get what they want by cornering the gold market, the little small fry financiers who are today so ably assisting them in their efforts to monopolize the earth, will, like the rest of mankind, look like a thirty-cent shinplaster.

Rockland (Me.) Opinion: It is worthy of note that the only northern state carried by the democrats this year, Rhode Island, is that one where the convention nominating the ticket took the most radical ground. The Rhode Island democrats fully indorsed and reaffirmed the Kansas City platform, gave the glad hand to Mr. Bryan, and made a declaration of principles that Jefferson would have been delighted with. The Boston Herald honored the democrats of Little Rhody with a rebuke of what it termed "democratic stupidity" in allying the party there "with Bryanism," which in its judgment made it certain that the state would be republican by a larger majority than usual. On this radical platform they nominated Dr. Garvin, a radical of radicals—for the single tax, absolute free trade, free silver, greenbacks, government ownership of public utilities, etc. And, on this platform, Dr. Garvin was elected by a majority of 6,000, in a state that is usually regarded as having the strongest republican party of any. Bryanism does not seem to be absolutely fatal there.