

THE TEST OF DEMOCRACY

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ted! Secretary Shaw in his latest report declares that we have just reached one phase of the money question. Your own splendid exponent of democracy, the president, has already called attention to it. Mr. Shaw says: "The frequent purchase and retirement of bonds renders the amount available for circulation gradually less, while a rapidly growing population, additional banking facilities, and expanding trade suggest the need of an ever-increasing circulation. I therefore believe the time has arrived when it will be necessary to adopt one of two policies: either the government debt must be perpetuated as a basis for national bank circulation, and additional bonds issued as occasion may require, or some other system must be provided."

Here is a financial proposition that must be met and it involves the same question raised by other phases of the money problem, namely, whether the government shall be run for the benefit of a few financiers or in the interest of the whole people. The democratic party is pledged to oppose a bank currency whether based on bonds or on the assets of the banks. It is pledged to the greenback issued and controlled by the government, and every democrat nominated for a federal office must take his stand upon this question. If he opposes the bank currency he will disturb "harmony" and "disrupt the party" again; if he favors a bank currency he will not be satisfactory to any opposed to the money trust. The democrat who attempts to ignore the money question is either deceived himself or is trying to deceive others.

Neither can the reorganizers be trusted to deal with the evils of private monopoly. Mr. Cleveland is the head and front of the reorganizers and we can judge by his record what the party would do on this subject if again under his leadership. He was elected in 1892 by money collected from the corporations, and his administration was dominated by the corporations. One trust contributed \$175,000 to his campaign fund—more than half as much as we were able to collect from the more than six million who supported our ticket in 1900. His administration was mortgaged to the trusts and his record has hung like a mill-stone about the neck of the party in two campaigns. He is nearer to organized wealth than any living republican and as a presidential candidate, if his nomination were possible, he would be more acceptable to the monopolies than any republican that could be named. What mockery to talk about harmonizing with him or those who worship at his shrine.

No matter what question is considered, whether tariff, money, trusts, imperialism or the labor question, the same principles must be applied and the democratic party must meet them all and on all of them deal fairly and honestly with the people.

Even on the low plane of expediency success cannot be won by aping republican policies and methods. With a party as with an individual character is all important, and what the democratic party needs today more than recruits is to get rid of those so-called democrats who use the democratic name as a cloak while they carry out undemocratic designs. They repel honest seekers after good government because their record is such that their very presence in the party casts suspicion upon the purity of the party's motives. The democratic party must stand for democratic ideals and it must apply democratic principles to all questions regardless of

the prospect of the temporary victory or the danger of temporary defeat. If a young man asks my advice I tell him to be honest and industrious, performing well every duty as it comes. If he asks me if that will guarantee immediate success, I tell him that immediate success cannot be guaranteed by any one, but that merit is the only basis upon which permanent success can be predicated. If a man seeks the truth constantly he will become better and better able to discern it. If he is willing to ignore it for a reward he ultimately loses the power to distinguish the true from the false. And I may add that it is not probable that a man of ability can live an upright life in any community for twenty-five years without so winning the confidence of his neighbors as to be called upon to serve them.

And so with a party. If it seeks the truth and stands by it, it not only improves in its perception of truth, but it is sure to be needed in the administration of public affairs. The democratic party must stand erect, neither indorsing the wrong nor surrendering the right. It must invite the confidence of those who want good government and are willing to have the government administered for the benefit of the whole people. Instead of trying to make the democratic party so much like the republican party that we shall get a few republicans by mistake, let us make it so different from the republican party that we shall get many republicans by design—republicans who turn from the mammon-serving leaders of that party and seek a party that puts the man before the dollar. When we gain such recruits the party will be strengthened both in numbers and in purpose. The republican party cannot long conceal its degeneracy. The commercialism that now dominates will so degrade it that there will be a revolt. The protectionists in the party will not allow any revision of the tariff, the financiers are becoming more and more exacting, the trust magnates insolent by refusing to permit any effective legislation, and Philippine syndicates continue to demand that their pecuniary ventures shall be made profitable at the expense of the American people. This cannot last always. Republican conscience and republican judgment must finally protest and to what party can republicans turn for relief? Let us make the democratic party their hope and their reliance. Let us prove its right to their support by giving assurance that it has the courage to fight and the strength to resist temptation. Let us make the word democracy stand for positive and aggressive principles. Let it apply to citizens who are untrifled and incorruptible. Let it be so holy a name that none will assume it who lack sympathy with the struggling masses or who are unwilling to trust the people with the management of their own affairs. The democratic banner may be an inspiration and an aid to those who are not in full harmony with all the party's purposes, but that banner cannot be placed in the hands of men about whose democracy there is any question. As in a church so in a party, the organization must be in the control of those who are strongest in the faith and whose lives are a living creed.

If our party will but maintain its integrity and convince the country of its steadfastness of purpose the flag of the party will yet be placed beside the flag of the union and the words "democracy" and "republic" will be recognized throughout the world as representing liberty, self-government and justice.

Mr. Depew Laughed Too Loud.

An astonishing report comes from the national capital. At a recent White house reception, it is stated, Senator Depew, of New York, who was in "the receiving line," gave vent to a laugh which almost shook the rafters of the executive mansion. Thereupon the gentleman who acts as master of ceremonies went to the New York senator and requested him "not to laugh so loud, as you are disturbing the president." It is not known what caused the New York statesman to explode with laughter—whether the uproar was caused by his appreciation of one of his own jokes or whether he was "tickled" by a story told by another statesman. The moral is plain, however, whatever may have been the cause of this exhibition of senatorial risibilities. Gentlemen who are in the "receiving line" at White house receptions should wear a funereal expression; they should think and speak of nothing more humorous than a statistical speech in congress. Laughter at White house receptions is unseemly, especially when it sounds like a volley of musketry at close range. If the story be true, Senator Depew and other statesmen who are addicted to the joke-telling habit should place themselves under the tutelage of a Turveydrop, who will teach them the art of silent laughter, no matter how great may be the temptation to explode with mirth. Then the dignity of White house receptions will always be maintained and senators will not expose themselves to a rebuke by the master of ceremonies. Not even a Chauncey M. Depew is privileged to "disturb the president" by an outbreak of rapid-fire laughter. —Baltimore Sun.

A Worthy Institution.

It is clear also that public-spirited citizens of large means, as well as their representatives in legislatures, should strive to carry forward the work we have in mind. At the south are a few manual training schools established by individuals and working under many disadvantages. These schools need assistance. To illustrate, there is at Lumberton, Miss.,—in the heart of the state—an institution which for want of money is prevented from doing notable service to the whole commonwealth. The school is situated in a healthful section. It possesses one thousand acres of land. Five modest frame buildings have been erected, and a beginning in manual training and in common school education along wise lines has begun. The object of the school is to attract boys and young men who lacked school advantages and to equip them not only with a practical literary education, but also with skill in the manual arts. The students are active, energetic and animated with persistent purpose. One-half the day they spend in the school-room; the other half in work either on the farm or in preparation for their trade. Their lives are ruled by the love of work. They are taught from the beginning to respect the dignity of labor. They do everything that is done at the institution, and, in this way, pay their tuition and defray all other expenses. This school has now accommodations for only 20 students; and although its doors have been open only a year or two, every room is taken and within the last three months more than one hundred applicants have been turned away. Applications come from every section of the south: from Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, from far away Tennessee and from farther away Virginia—thus indicating that the need of manual training schools is felt throughout the southern states.

When one thinks of the class of boys whom this school reaches, and of what such an institution does and

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can do for the ambitious, but unfortunate youth of the south, one begins to realize that these manual training schools possess a tremendous energy for good. The school at Lumberton, Miss., is but one of its kind, but its work has been so successful and has awakened interest so deep and so widespread that public-spirited citizens in the state and, indeed, in all southern states, should see to it that it is not hampered for lack of money. It is, in truth, the hope of many a boy in the state of Mississippi—opening as it does to him, the door of opportunity and enabling him to "have his chance" in life. Surely, such an institution should be promptly and substantially supported.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Woefully Ignorant.

"Them city people," said Farmer Smiley, "think themselves pretty smart; but they are an ignorant set. For instance, when I was ridin' 'long Queen street west last Saturday, I seen a big sign out, 'Great sale of Jerseys, all wool.' Ha! ha! What d'yer think of that? They act'ally think that wool grows on Jerseys. Why, any six-year-old boy on a farm knows better'n that."—Ram's Horn.

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