

to the time when they shall enjoy all the rights and privileges of citizenship in the states. It must be remembered, too, that the inhabitants of the District of Columbia, and of all the territories that lie between the Atlantic and Pacific, enjoy all the guarantees of the constitution. They are also under the operation of the same general laws as the people of the states. The more the Inter-Ocean discusses this question, the more apparent will become the fact that the republican party in its Philippine policy is not only defying the principles of self-government, but criticising a condition in the south which from every standpoint of government is infinitely superior to the condition of a colony. If the Inter-Ocean will publish this editorial and answer it, The Commoner will be glad to reproduce the answer for the benefit of the readers of this paper.

### The Republican Bargain Counter.

In his admirable speech delivered before the Nebraska democratic state convention, Mayor Reed of Kansas City recalled a Lincoln story, which he said that republican managers of today must have heard. Farmer Jones owned a breechy mule. One day he started with his son John to look for the mule along the creek bottom. Jones, being a sagacious individual, gave this advice: "John, you take the right side while I will take the left, for from what I know of the habits of that mule he is liable to be on both sides of the creek at the same time."

This story aptly fits the habits of the republican party of today and Mr. Reed's points on this line were so striking that they deserve wide publication. Mr. Reed said:

"The republican party may once have been an organization of fixed principles and settled policies. Today it is a compassless, rudderless, chartless craft drifting before expediencies' shifting breeze. The crew were statesmen who sought to steer their course by patriotism's shining star, while now commercial pirates man her yards and weight her to the very water's edge. The spectacularistic swashbuckler now struts her decks, grashes his teeth and waves his gleaming sword and swears that he will sweep freebooters from the commercial seas; the while he knows were one to heave in sight, his crew would mutiny and welcome them as friends. What wonder then that the old republican party has become an organized paradox; a collection of contraries; an intermingling of opposites; a concatenation of impossibles; a sort of intellectual bargain counter where every opinion, creed, profession, policy or promise is gladly swapped for votes. (You will observe I began my simile as a vessel and ended with a bargain counter. The metaphor I own is mixed. It has to be to properly describe the republican party.)

"Let us examine this republican bargain counter. Side by side on the same table, each in the original package, carefully wrapped in the American flag, and marked down to the same common price we find the statements:

- (1) "The tariff built up our great manufacturing and commercial industries."
- (2) "The tariff has absolutely nothing to do with the creation of trusts."
- (1) "All monopolies are destructive of liberty and must be destroyed."
- (2) "There are good trusts and bad trusts and we must be very careful not to injure any good trust."
- (1) "The creators of monopolies are public enemies."
- (2) "The captains of industry have done much for our beloved county."
- (1) "We will destroy all these commercial conspiracies."
- (2) "The present industrial system has come to stay."

(1) "We now have an absolutely sound and abundant currency."

(2) "We must at once pass remedial financial legislation."

(1) "A silver dollar bearing the stamp of the United States government is an abomination to the Lord."

(2) "But rag money based upon the fluctuating and uncertain assets of a bank is the delight of Wall street."

("This may not be a contradiction for it is entirely possible that a thing which would not find favor in the eyes of the Lord might be extremely popular in the home of the bulls and the bears.")

(1) "A war of conquest is not to be thought of, for that would be criminal aggression."

(2) "A war of conquest is a holy crusade. Anyhow the Lord got us into the scrape."

(1) "We will free Cuba which lies at our door and is the fortress of the gulf."

(2) "We will conquer and fortify islands eight thousand miles away to strengthen our coast defenses."

(1) "We believe in the doctrine of religious liberty."

(2) "The sword and the Bible go together."

(1) "Where the flag once goes up it can never be hauled down."

(2) "This does not apply in Cuba or China."

(1) "We must extend our commerce."

(2) "We will maintain a tariff embargo against commerce."

(1) "Trade with the mongrel races of Cuba is very desirable."

(2) "Trade with the English-speaking white people of Canada is not to be thought of."

On this point Mr. Reed concluded: "These positions may seem slightly contradictory, but they are, however, very simple to one who thoroughly understands the republican philosophy of geographical ethics, and migratory morals. In the meantime do not complain, for captains of industry are doing well and are content, Dewey-like, if an occasional Spaniard leaps upon the battlements, swears a few fierce oaths and shakes his impotent sword, if meanwhile their ships may safely enter and silence the opposing forces."

### Beveridge as a Prophet.

Senator Lodge says that Senator Beveridge of Indiana would make an "ideal running mate" for Mr. Roosevelt. Writing to the Chicago Chronicle, W. A. Croffut of Washington says that he heartily agrees with Senator Lodge because, as Mr. Croffut says, "we ought to have a vice president who is both a statesman and a prophet." For obvious reasons Mr. Croffut does not deem it necessary to speak of Mr. Beveridge as a statesman; but the public may have forgotten about his ability as a prophet, and so Mr. Croffut provides a few interesting reminders.

Mr. Beveridge delivered his famous speech on the Philippines on January 9, 1900. Reviewing the events of the Philippines, Mr. Beveridge went into prophecy as follows:

"The men sent to administer civilized government in the Philippine islands must be the highest examples of our civilization—incorruptible as honor, stainless as purity. Such a government will have its effect upon us here in America. Model administration there will be an example for model administration here. Perfect government abroad will be a stimulus for the best government at home."

Doubtless it has occurred to many people, just as it does to Mr. Croffut, that Mr. Beveridge's bold prophecy has been fulfilled. But Mr. Croffut states the manner of fulfillment in such a captivating way that it deserves wide publicity and in its form cannot be improved upon. Mr. Croffut says: "The purity of the American administration in the Philippines is reflected in the most startling manner in the municipal governments of Philadelphia, St. Louis and Minneapolis. The sales of

rice to prisoners of war at 50 per cent profit finds its counterpart on the banks of the Potomac in the sales of office at a profit of more than 50 per cent. So astonishing and fascinating has been the display made by 'the highest examples of our civilization' in Manila that a boy within a stone's throw of the White house has borne away upon the back of his red devil something like \$75,000 belonging to the people of the District of Columbia. Water torture in the Philippines does not seem to bear transplantation, but the knock-down graft and blackmail inoculation have been successfully substituted for them and continue to thrive in all parts of the country. The success of Senator Beveridge's predictions, dimly adumbrated by the performances of Neely and Rathbone in Cuba, shows that his lips have been touched with true prophetic fire and marks him not only as the coming man, but as the come man, who has been waited for with much anxiety and who will perform the Aaron act for the rough rider of San Juan hill."

### The "Patient" Prescribes.

The New York Tribune in a recent issue had an editorial entitled "As To the Wall Street Disease." The Tribune said that:

"Recently New York has witnessed the most gigantic consolidation of interests and expansion of securities in the shortest time the world has ever seen—a thousand millions in one company; a hundred millions, two hundred millions, three hundred millions in many companies. Sometimes they represented new enterprises, oftener merely the conversion of old enterprises into securities of a new form. In any case, the volume of the securities was always expanded, far above actual cash invested; and the dance went merrily on, to the joy of every investor who received a dollar and a half or more for an old dollar, and of every banker who received his princely commission on the huge reissue."

Then, referring to the "sudden halt" that came upon these proceedings, the Tribune said that in a burst of candor one man explains that the market is staggering under a load of undigested securities and that another with perhaps almost as much truth, replies that it is staggering under indigestible securities. The Tribune added that "in any case everybody admits that because of the greed to profit by the amazing temper of the times, the digestion of Wall street has been enormously overtaxed." The Tribune adds: "Naturally the patient doesn't like it and complains; but he will get well sooner if he doesn't try to shut his eyes to the fact that his own greed in attempting to eat too big a meal in too short a time is the cause of his indigestion."

Of course "patients" seldom like the medicine prescribed by the physician; and good physicians seldom permit the patient to say just what medicine shall be prescribed for him. But the New York Tribune, as well as other republican papers, admitting that we are afflicted with "a Wall Street disease" insist that the "patient" shall be permitted to designate the remedy that shall be prescribed for the ailment.

Just as the Tribune says, naturally the Wall street "patient" doesn't like the disease—and naturally the Wall street patient complains. But unlike other patients, who hope to get well, the Wall street "patient" insists upon making his own prescription; and unlike other people who stand in the presence of contagious or infectious diseases and who insist that they have a right to protect themselves, the editor of the Tribune and other republican leaders, while readily recognizing the seriousness of the disease, insist that the "patient" shall be permitted to write the prescription regardless of the rights of others and regardless, also, of the well established rule that a sick man is a very poor doctor for himself and is not really in a situation to protect the public health.