

he points out that they were not alone responsible, that they were not bona fide holders of the stock, that they were used by promoters of this scheme, that they were, in fact, mere figureheads placed in this position in order that the schemes of others might be carried into effect. Then he says:

"Your receiver charges that the properties of the various constituent companies were sold to the United States Shipbuilding company for an amount which the vendors of such properties, at the time of such sale, knew to be far in excess of the fair value of said plants; and that the plan to combine such properties was received by certain promoters and was consummated by them with full knowledge of its injustice to the United States Shipbuilding company."

It is important to remember that the methods exposed in the shipbuilding company investigation are but samples of the methods employed by the men who have promoted all these great trusts that prey upon the people, whose managers conspire in restraint of trade, and defy the laws of the land. It is also important to remember that the men who engage in these transactions are of those who claim that they are the "Christian men to whom God in his infinite wisdom has given the control of the property interests of the country." It is important to remember that these "trustees of God," and "captains of industry," these manipulators of what Receiver Smith calls "an artistic swindle," and "wholesale plunder" were conspicuous in the campaigns of 1896 and 1900 in the pretended effort to preserve the "honor" and the "integrity" of this government and are equally conspicuous now in giving encouragement to the effort to republicanize the democratic party in the hope that that organization may be used to further their own base ends.

Mr. Roosevelt and the Tariff.

When a man has spoken very clearly upon a public question and subsequently changes his position, making declarations utterly inconsistent with his former statements, he owes it to those who are inclined to be governed by his opinion to explain the reason for his change.

Mr. Roosevelt seems now to be an ultra-protectionist. Heretofore the republican doctrine has been that on all imports coming into competition with the products of American labor there should be levied duties "equal" to the differences between wages abroad and at home; but Mr. Roosevelt, suddenly and strangely converted to a policy to which, prior to his occupancy of the White house, he was opposed, tells us that the duties to be levied should be "more than" the differences between wages abroad and at home.

How does it happen that Mr. Roosevelt changed from a tariff reformer to an ultra-protectionist? We are told that several years ago Mr. Roosevelt was a member of the free trade club of New York of which organization Henry George was also a member. In the Contemporary Review for October, 1901, appeared an interesting article written by Poultney Bigelow. In this article Mr. Bigelow said that one evening in 1881 the free trade club gave a dinner to some distinguished free trader and that Mr. Roosevelt had declined to attend because of some other engagement, but Mr. Bigelow finally persuaded him to be present. Mr. Bigelow says: "He (Roosevelt) did come, much to our surprise and delight. More than that, he at once responded to a toast, stood up in his working uniform, and gave us a resounding speech on the virtues of free trade which warmed our hearts."

Mr. Bigelow says that in 1885 Mr. Roosevelt resigned from the free trade club and that on August 20, 1885, Roosevelt wrote to Bigelow a letter of resignation, concluding with the words: "I am a republican first; a free trader afterwards."

If Mr. Roosevelt does not deem it necessary to explain how it happened that he changed from a free trader to an ultra-protectionist, he might provide interested observers of his course with information showing why he so suddenly dispossessed himself of his pet plan to have congress appoint a commission whose duty it would be to revise the tariff.

A Monopolistic View.

If the reader will peruse the editorials presented below in parallel columns he will get some idea of the relative standing of the democrats mentioned as viewed from the standpoint of the monopolist. The New York Sun is probably the most bare-faced and unblushing defender of corporate greed and organized wealth in the United

States. It flatters every public man who bows the knee to Mammon and applies the lash to every one who utters a protest against the schemes of Wall street. The editorials reproduced appeared on the same page in the Sun's issue of November 6. If anything were needed to show the nature of the support back of the Gorman boom the fulsome praise of that gentleman by the Sun would furnish conclusive proof. If there were any doubt as to whom the republican party fears most, Johnson or Gorman, these editorials remove the doubt.

Mr. Bryan has declared that he is not a candidate and Mr. Johnson has never announced his candidacy, but the Sun savagely attacks Mr. Johnson and eulogizes Mr. Gorman.

The contrast between the two editorials shows both the tactics of the republican press and the sentiment the Sun is trying to cultivate. The Sun says:

MR. GORMAN IN THE SENATE.

It is safe to say that the Hon. Arthur Pue Gorman is neither surprised nor greatly elated by his success in taking Maryland away from the republicans. He never runs after rainbows; and he is as cool after winning as after losing. As the leader of his party in the senate he will soon have on his hands a campaign larger and even more difficult than the one which he has lately conducted with all his own skill and shrewdness. He has not only to steer his party in a prudent course and to make the most of republican mistakes, but he has to avoid friction within the party, to persuade the impatient hot-headed to go a little slower, to temper individual ardors and jealousies.

He knows all the arts of parliamentary process and management. The republicans in the senate may have more brilliant and loquacious adversaries, but none more formidable. If the democratic party is to regain the popular confidence which it has been brown away, it must be by proving itself judicious, not unreasonably obstructive, not fanatically partisan, but patriotic, intelligent, "safe." It is good fortune for it to have as its leader in the senate a man with no burrs in his convolutions. Mr. Gorman will not "slop over." He will not let any chance escape him. He will not delude himself with any premature enthusiasm. He watches his opponents. He watches his own side as carefully. He is pretty sure to play the game for all it is worth. Himself an example of what political sagacity can do for a discouraged party, he returns to the senate with increased prestige; and sober-minded democrats will hope much from his sagacious and passionless leadership.

The Panama Case.

The haste in recognizing the republic of Panama, while defended by the administration on the ground of precedent and interest, contrasts

TWO DEFEATS AND A VICTORY.

The Hon. Tom Johnson is the foremost representative of Bryanism. More radical than Mr. Bryan, he has been taken to that great man's bosom. He is or was the heir apparent.

The conservative Ohio democrats have joined with the republicans in cooking Tom's hash. In spite of his liberality, activity and rushing methods of campaigning, he has been beaten, absurdly, ignominiously.

His signal defeat is the best piece of good luck the democratic party has had for some time. And Mr. Bryan's state continues to be republican. The hopelessness of socialistic and populist democracy, smashed at two presidential elections, and now smashed again in the states of its leader and his ablest associate, must be apparent even to its blindest partisans. Democratic victory in Maryland, under the direction of an old fashioned democratic statesman, points the way toward the rehabilitation of the party.

Ohio and Nebraska, with their indorsement of the Kansas City rubbish, show the democrats how to stay beaten. Maryland shows them how to beat.

harshly with the delay in recognizing Cuba and the entire failure to recognize the Philippine republic. In diplomatic matters the facts are not always known to the public and among the grasping nations the end is often held to justify the means. Since the acquiescence of so many republicans in the policy of imperialism it will not be surprising if they refuse to examine the circumstances attending the sudden uprising in Panama and the equally sudden action of the United States.

This government's interests did not require precipitation; it was in position to protect itself and its rights. Whether future events will relieve our position of danger remains to be seen, but even future events cannot remove the suspicion that our nation acted toward a weak neighbor as it would not like to have a strong nation act toward us under similar circumstances.

Whether Colombia has a remedy is not the question. Our position, if defended at all, must be defended on the ground of justice, not on the ground of Colombia's weakness.

Lend a Hand.

In order to extend The Commoner's circulation and preparatory to the great contest of 1904, a special subscription offer is now being made.

Readers of The Commoner who believe in the principles advocated by this publication, are asked to co-operate in this effort to enlarge The Commoner's influence by materially increasing its circulation.

This subscription offer is similar to the "lots of five" plan adopted by The Commoner in 1902. Cards, each good for one year's subscription to The Commoner, will be furnished in lots of five at the rate of \$3 per lot.

This places the yearly subscription rate at 60 cents.

Any one ordering the cards may sell them for \$1 each, thus earning a commission of \$2 on each lot sold, or he may sell them at the cost price and find compensation in the fact that he has contributed to the effort to widen The Commoner's sphere of influence.

These cards may be paid for when ordered or they may be ordered and remittance made after they have been sold.

A coupon is printed below for the convenience of those who are willing to assist in the coming contest.

THE COMMONER'S SPECIAL OFFER

Application for Subscription Cards

5	Publisher Commoner: I am interested in increasing The Commoner's circulation, and desire you to send me a supply of subscription cards. I agree to use my utmost endeavor to sell the cards, and will remit for them at the rate of 60 cents each, when sold.	
10		
15		
20		
25		
50		
75		
100		
Name		
Box, or Street No.		
P. O. State		
<small>Indicate the number of cards wanted by marking X opposite one of the numbers printed on end of this plan.</small>		

If you believe the paper is doing a work that merits encouragement, fill out the above coupon and mail it to The Commoner, Lincoln, Neb.

Four hundred thousand democrats voted for Tom Johnson, and that is about three times as many votes as the "gold bug democracy" polled in 1896. Yet the Cleveland "democrats" declare that Johnson's defeat removes him from politics. Consistency is as scarce as devotion to democratic principles among the voting "democrats."

While Mr. Crumpacker is pushing his bill for a reduced representation from the south, let him consider something of the same kind for those sections of the north where the trust factory managers issue the ultimatum just before election: "If the republican candidates are defeated the factories will not open Wednesday morning."

The Indianapolis News talks at length concerning the "country's interest in the welfare of the democratic party." The News has its views on hindside before. If it were politically honest and courageous the News would be helping the democratic party in its efforts to perform some service in the interests of the country.