

the choice between a republican senator and a populist senator, a committee of democratic United States senators, among whom were Arthur P. Gorman and John G. Carlisle, sent telegrams to the democratic members of the Nebraska legislature, urging them to unite with the populists in the election of Senator Allen.

It will be seen that the democrats who voted for the Weaver electors in Nebraska in 1892 did so at the request of the democratic national committee, and are not at all chargeable with having bolted the national ticket when they acted on lines presumable at that time to be favorable to the ticket.

The charge that Mr. Bryan went to Chicago in 1896 at the head of a bolting delegation is also preposterous.

The split in Nebraska came in 1894. The corporation democrats were then in control of the party machinery in this state. Democrats who had grown weary of corporation domination in democratic party affairs organized for the purpose of wresting the party from corporation control. They succeeded and won the democratic state convention by an overwhelming majority. That convention was called to order by the retiring chairman of the state committee, who was one of the gold contingent. The convention was permanently organized, a platform was adopted, and then when the convention, by a large majority, nominated for governor Silas A. Holcomb, who had previously been nominated by the populists, a dozen men walked out of the convention. They repaired to a hotel room and on their way gathered up a half dozen men, none of whom had been elected as delegates to the convention. These eighteen men, two-thirds of whom had bolted the democratic convention, and some of whom had never even been delegates, proceeded to organize what they called "the democratic party of Nebraska."

Upon that organization these people held a convention in 1896 and chose delegates to the democratic national convention.

The delegation which Mr. Bryan led was chosen by the regular democratic organization, from which these pretenders had bolted.

The pretensions of these bolters were so absurd that their claims were promptly rejected by the democratic national convention, and that was the last heard of the organization built up by these pretenders. It went to pieces, a few of its followers voted the regular democratic ticket, while others went over to the republican party.

Many newspapers, notably the Cincinnati Enquirer and the New York World, have reproduced the false accusations made by the Chronicle. These and other newspapers whose editors claim to have no disposition to misrepresent, ought to see to it that the truth with respect to these accusations is laid before their readers. The Commoner does not, however, expect the Chicago Chronicle to tell its readers the truth. No falsehood is too absurd for the use of the Chronicle in its fight against those whose views antagonize the special plans of the great financier who happens to own the Chronicle.

Some "Hints" Omitted.

Cablegrams from London, under date of January 25, announced that Colonel Arthur Lynch, who commanded an Irish brigade against the British forces during the war in South Africa, and who was afterwards convicted of treason and sentenced to imprisonment for life, was liberated "on license."

The Associated press takes the pains to say that—

"The liberation of Colonel Lynch is the outcome of an interesting series of events. When Michael Davitt was last in the United States, he saw President Roosevelt, who mentioned Colonel Lynch to him and said he had once entertained him at Albany. The president expressed interest in the case and regretted he could not suggest clemency without laying himself open to a palpable snub. On his return to England Mr. Davitt mentioned his conversation with President Roosevelt to Sir Thomas Lipton and to Mrs. Lynch, who has suffered bitterly since her husband's arrest. He also made a pathetic appeal to Sir Thomas, who then personally interceded with King Edward on behalf of the condemned fellow Irishman. Without any hesitation his majesty promptly informed the home secretary of his wishes in the matter, and Lynch was released."

Many Americans will be highly gratified because of the liberation of Colonel Lynch. Colonel Lynch was a British subject and while he fought

with the Boers, because of his sympathy with the men who were fighting for constitutional government and against the impositions of a great power, he was, nevertheless, guilty of treason to his own government. While we may all be gratified that Mr. Roosevelt gave a hint which resulted in the release of Colonel Lynch, we cannot forget that Mr. Roosevelt failed to take the several opportunities to give a hint on the side of the republics of South Africa that were struggling for existence.

If Mr. Roosevelt could, with propriety, give a hint in the case of a man charged with treason, could he not with even greater propriety have said one word in behalf of the brave Dutchmen of South Africa at the time they were fighting for their own government. One word at that time from the president of the United States would have been of enormous value to those people.

Even though he could not summon the courage to give a hint to the British ministry at that time, he might have stood up in the open and given a hint to his own subordinates, particularly at the port of New Orleans. He might have hinted to those subordinates that the exportation of horses and mules for the use of the British army in its warfare against the republics of South Africa would no longer be tolerated.

But he not only failed to give a hint that America's sympathy was with the South African Dutchmen in their fight for their own government, but he failed to discharge his duty in prohibiting the exportation of horses and mules for the use and benefit of the British army; and it is believed by many today that without the horses and mules which the British army obtained from America, the warfare against the South African republics would have failed.

Monopoly on Monopoly.

A mining expert, said to be close to the officials of the Standard Oil company, declares that Rockefeller now controls the copper supply and the copper markets of the world. The Chicago Record-Herald, a republican paper, explains that as a result of the litigation over the Heinze properties in Montana and the "disturbed condition of the market," it is averred that the Rothschilds, who control the European copper agencies and properties, have formed a combination with the Standard Oil company, which it is claimed has secured "or intends to secure" the American producers and agencies.

Assuming that the copper supply and markets have actually passed or are about to pass into the hands of the Rockefellers, the Record-Herald says that "it is interesting to speculate for a moment on the colossal holdings of the head of the great Standard Oil trust." That republican paper adds:

"How much does the 'silent czar of Wall street' own anyway? Financial experts and authorities say 'Mr. Rockefeller's wealth is about \$250,000,000,' yet when he first embarked in the oil business he was so poor he could not get credit for a carload of oil. Rockefeller is a director in only four corporations—so far as the world knows—and yet it is claimed that he dominates a hundred and fifty. For twenty years the Rockefellers have been putting their enormous dividends from Standard Oil into railroads and other properties. In addition to being the controlling factor in many railroads John D. Rockefeller is heavily interested in Western Union, United States steel, in New York elevated roads, in iron mines in the northwest and in lake transportation. No one at this time would undertake to mark the boundary lines of his control in the industrial world.

"The finest organizing brain of this generation," said the late Jay Gould in characterizing Mr. Rockefeller. He has not only accumulated millions, but it is said of him that he never worked for a salary and has made a hundred men millionaires."

It might, also, be interesting for the Record-Herald to speculate for a moment on the situation, serious to public welfare, involved in the fact that one man is able to pile monopoly upon monopoly so that, according to a former statement made by the Chicago Record-Herald, it will be but a few years when at the present rate Mr. Rockefeller will count the United States of America as "merely one of his appurtenances."

This republican paper might also undertake to tell the people what the republican party has done and what the republican party proposes to do to put a check upon the Rockefeller tendency toward the proprietorship of the world and the complete domination of the people.

"Opposition" to Roosevelt.

The San Francisco Chronicle claims that among those who are opposed to Mr. Roosevelt's nomination are "a large number of active and unscrupulous promoters and speculators who thrive by the manipulation of stocks of doubtful value, and who viciously oppose the president as an apostle of publicity in corporate affairs." Also, "Many of this class are rich and influential. They are important contributors to the campaign fund of any party whose candidates they approve, regardless of the platform on which they are running." Also, "Unfortunately for them, the people are for Roosevelt and determined to have him, and their reasons for wanting him are the precise reasons for which the opposition object to him." Also, "The nature of the influences opposed to the president are so perfectly understood that they are regarded as the strongest evidence of his fitness for the great office. The fact that Wall street gamblers refuse to contribute to his campaign will bring to his support ten times more voters than would be attracted by the fireworks and spell-binding which Wall street money would pay for."

It will require considerable evidence to convince many people that these same influences will not be found supporting Mr. Roosevelt in the event of his nomination; but it is interesting to recall the fact that in 1896 and in 1900, these same influences were lined up in support of the republican ticket; we do not remember then to have heard any protest from the San Francisco Chronicle or, indeed, from any other republican paper.

Men representing these influences were important contributors to the campaign funds of the republican party in 1896 and in 1900. They were lined up defiantly against the democratic party, and we do not remember to have heard the San Francisco Chronicle or any other republican paper say that the reasons these men had for wanting the democratic party defeated provided reasons why the people should support that party.

The nature of the influences opposed to the democratic party in 1896 and in 1900 are perfectly understood; but we do not remember the San Francisco Chronicle then to have said that that provided evidence why the people should support the democratic ticket.

The Chronicle need not, however, be alarmed. If the democratic party remain true to its principles, if the democratic national convention shall nominate a man upon whom the people may rely, the Wall street gamblers will not refuse to contribute to Mr. Roosevelt's campaign fund. The fireworks and the spell-binding will be in evidence and the bill will be paid by the Wall street gamblers.

Will You Lend a Hand?

Orders for subscription cards for The Commoner are coming in at a gratifying rate, but the battle for the preservation of democratic principles is now on and those who sympathize with the policies of this paper are asked to act promptly in order that The Commoner may be placed before thousands of men who do not now receive it.

In order to increase The Commoner's circulation, this special subscription offer has been arranged. 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 on page 3 for the convenience of those who are willing to assist in the coming contest.

The Only Answer.

The New York World says that Mr. Bryan has admitted that the democratic platforms of 1896 and 1900 only "pretended to be democratic, but were framed not primarily to please democrats, but to catch the votes of populists and free silver republicans." This recalls the conundrum propounded by the little boy: "That girl's father is my father, and her mother is my mother, but she is not my sister. What relation is she to me?" The only answer to the conundrum is that the boy told an untruth. The World's statement is very similar to the boy's conundrum.