

because an adverse vote upon it might have been accepted by Mr. Parker as an indorsement of the republican position on these questions. But any one who describes them as "little questions" has yet to learn much of the money question and much to learn of the issues before the country. The plutocratic element in the democratic party which now rejoices in a triumph over the rank and file will find in the questions described by Mr. Williams as "little," issues with which Mr. Parker will have to wrestle if elected and when he begins to take the Wall street side of these questions he will have the same experience that Grover Cleveland had.

### Philippine Delegates Not Admitted.

The national democratic convention refused to admit the delegation from the Philippine islands on the ground that the supreme court decided that the islands are not a part of the United States. That being the case, the convention did not feel that delegates from colonies had a right to participate in the convention. The action of the convention was correct. The democratic party cannot very well object to colonialism and at the same time allow colonial delegates to sit in the convention. There seems, however, to have been an additional reason for refusing seats to the delegation. The editor of The Commoner has it upon good authority that the colonial government in the Philippine islands went actively to work to control the democratic convention with a view to securing an indorsement of the colonial policy of the administration. In the city of Manila the anti-administration element in the democratic party secured fifty-two delegates out of the seventy, but the government officials drummed up men to act for the outside provinces and in that way made a showing in the convention. Manila contains a large majority of the democrats of the islands, and yet the outside districts represented by local men under the influence of the colonial offices, controlled the convention and sent a delegation to St. Louis. The fact that this attempt was made and made successfully to control the delegation from the Philippine islands only shows how dangerous it would be to have these islands a part of the United States and their representatives recognized in the councils of the party or of the nation. It would be impossible to prevent fraud and nearly as impossible to investigate it so far away, and we would find the corrupting influences now so powerful at home still more powerful in remote colonies. The democratic party is to be congratulated upon the unanimity with which it spoke against imperialism and colonialism. The party's position on this important question is so righteous that if Mr. Parker were wrong on everything else it would be worth while to bear with his errors in order that imperialism might be stamped out and the country again planted upon the Declaration of Independence.

### Death of Paul Kruger

Paul Kruger is dead. The president of the Boer republic has been called to his account. As the leading figure among the South African burghers in the struggle to retain their independence his name and face has become familiar to the world. The hearts of the American people were with him, and but for our nation's conduct in the Philippines American sympathy would have been unhesitatingly expressed for him and his compatriots. It is a sad and melancholy reflection upon this country that a people struggling for liberty looked in vain to the United States for a friendly word of encouragement and sympathy.

Bereft of country and then bereft of his life companion, he awaited "the inevitable hour." Death found him with his work finished and his name indecibly written upon the pages of history. Hasten the day when liberty and self-government will be so universal that no patriot will end his life amid conditions as discouraging as those which hemmed in Paul Kruger during the closing days of his career!

### Mayor Jones Dead.

The spirit of Mayor Jones of Toledo has taken its flight to the world where the love he preached here is practiced and where the golden rule for which he stood is universally observed. Without a party or a party organization he so impressed his loving personality upon the people of his community that he became invincible as a candidate. Not all who voted for him agreed with him in his views on public questions or in regard to methods of government, but they could not with-

hold admiration and affection from a man who so courageously and consistently proclaimed a doctrine of benevolence and good will.

He proved by his life and the success which accompanied it that the heart dominates the man and controls the destinies of the race. He proved that heart can speak to heart and that all can understand the language of the heart.

The world is not so rich in generous souls that it can spare this one without a pang of sorrow. A multitude mourn his demise and share the sorrow that has overwhelmed his family and the community in which he lived and wrought.

### Chronical Lays Aside Mask.

The Chicago Chronicle, which has for eight years been masquerading as a democratic paper, lays aside its false pretense and comes out as a republican organ. Good riddance. The democratic party is the stronger for its withdrawal. Its commendation of democracy—a sin which it committed but rarely—did the party harm. Its open opposition will be a testimonial. Now if a few more of its plutocratic colleagues will follow the example of the Chronicle, the party may hope to merit public esteem.

The Chronicle is owned by a republican banker named John R. Walsh. It is the servile defender of every scheme for the spoliation of the public and if so many of the republican leaders were not themselves engaged in the same nefarious business they would ask for an injunction against the Chronicle to prevent its use of the republican name.

On another page will be found an editorial from the Chronicle. It is quoted to show that the Chronicle in leaving the party carries its venom with it, and that it proposes to follow on the outside of the party the same malicious and mendacious course that it followed when it was using the livery of democracy for the service of the republican paper. Now that the Chronicle is republican, The Commoner will be glad to quote from it, for its editor is indiscreet enough to say many things in behalf of the republican party to which the republican leaders would not dare to give expression.

### The Writing of the Platform.

The papers have credited Mr. Bryan with an influential part in the writing of some of the planks of the democratic national platform. While he did what he could and feels gratified with what was accomplished, he would have been powerless but for the active and constant support of a number of strong and faithful men.

General Weaver, of Iowa; Senator Newlands, of Nevada; ex-Senator Pettigrew, of South Dakota; Mr. Tarpey, of California; Senator Dubois, of Idaho; Mr. Barkworth, of Michigan; Governor Beckham, of Kentucky; Congressman Jackson, of Kansas; Mr. Flemming, of Wisconsin; Mr. Hurd of Missouri; Mr. Vesaley, of Minnesota; Mr. Green, of Rhode Island; Mr. Butcher of Oregon; Mr. Goodman, of Washington; Mr. Roy Stafford of Oklahoma; Mr. Fitch, of New Mexico; Mr. Timming, of Arizona; and a number of others were with us in the thick of the fight on every question.

Senator Bailey of Texas did splendid work in the shaping of the tariff and anti-trust planks of the platform, and in the fight against the gold plank. Ex-Gov. Thomas of Colorado suggested the plank on the Colorado situation. A number of southern members of the committee, among them Senators Clark of Arkansas, Tillman of South Carolina and Carmack of Tennessee, opposed the gold plank with considerable vehemence and the majority on this question was larger than any other upon which the vote was taken. Congressman Williams of Mississippi and ex-Congressman Shiveley of Indiana, Mr. Maginnis of Montana, and Mr. Rhodes of Alabama voted to strike out the gold plank.

The principle of the income tax was advocated by all but one of the members who spoke upon the subject, but a large majority opposed the insertion of it in the platform on the ground of expediency.

The contest over the platform was a memorable one. The last session occupied sixteen hours, but as a result the committee made a unanimous report and presented a platform which, while not embodying all that each desired, did present several definite and clearly defined issues.

### To Correspondents.

For eight years I have endeavored to answer all letters received, but it has been a constantly increasing burden. I have devoted more time to

the answering of letters than I have to editorial work, more than I have to any kind of remunerative employment and more than I have to public speaking. I have felt that this was necessary lest correspondents might think me unappreciative of the interest which they manifest and of the information which they often furnish.

The attempt to personally answer this mass of correspondence has denied me time for reading and study. Even if I were to give all my time to correspondence it would be impossible to communicate directly with any large percentage of those who supported me. For instance, The Commoner has a circulation of 140,000. If I read and answered a hundred letters a day in every working day of the year, I could only answer about 30,000 letters—thus I could not communicate directly with more than about one-fifth of the number of those who receive The Commoner, not to speak of the millions outside, many of whom write about various subjects.

Thus, if I gave my whole time to correspondence and ceased to attempt anything else, I could only communicate with a small proportion of my political friends, and that, too, at a large expense and to the exclusion of other work.

I feel, therefore, that those who are interested with me in the advancement of economic reforms will agree as to the necessity of the following course: I shall not attempt hereafter to answer all letters received. Those desiring to send information or to make suggestions are invited to do so. I shall consider these suggestions and shall utilize them wherever I can, but I shall not acknowledge receipt of them. Sometimes questions have been asked the answering of which would require a day's search. It is evident to all that I cannot answer any large number of questions if I am going to try to do anything else. Questions therefore which are asked hereafter will be answered through The Commoner where I am able to answer them and feel that the answer will help our cause.

I have profited much by clippings, quotations, extracts and suggestions that have been sent and I hope that no one who has anything to communicate will hesitate to address me, but this statement will show the impossibility of my making personal acknowledgement. If the writer will add, as many now do, "No answer expected," I will understand that he appreciates the situation.

Through The Commoner I speak weekly to a larger number than I could possibly correspond with, and I speak more at length than I could by private letter. So also in lecturing and in making public speeches, I address more people than I could address by letter, and while personal correspondence is as gratifying to me as it is to those who write to me, I feel that I am giving more assistance to political friends when I devote myself to the study and discussion of public questions than I could in writing personal letters to them.

W. J. BRYAN.

### Before And After.

During the campaign of 1900, republican papers printed an interview with Albert Hirschheimer of La Crosse, Wis., in which interview Mr. Hirschheimer said that he intended to vote the republican ticket for purely business reasons. "We want stability in our financial affairs . . . I submit that the commercial interests of the country should not be made the football in the game of the politicians," said Mr. Hirschheimer.

Mr. Hirschheimer did vote the republican ticket and on May 8, 1901, Mr. Hirschheimer, as president of the Packers Package company, said:

"The Packers Package company was forced to sell out to the trust. They control the tin output and they have been hindering us so during the past month that we have not been able to run our factory only one-half its capacity. They have refused to deliver us the tin ordered, shipping only one or two cars a week. Thus we either had to sell out to them or fight them. We could not do the latter thing, for we could not get the tin with which to make our product, and carry on the fight. Therefore, we simply had to sell out to the trust. It was either that or lose our money."

John R. Walsh has made his Chronicle a republican organ, but Mr. Walsh will take good care to keep his Chicago National bank strictly bipartisan. Mr. Walsh is overlooking nothing these days.

If kindly allowed to continue its monopoly undisturbed, doubtless the Western Union Telegraph company will be willing to admit responsibility for delay in the Parker telegram.