

The Commoner.

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Next Tuesday, November 5, is Election Day. It is the duty of every believer in Democratic Principles to go to the polls on that day and vote for the candidates who best represent those principles. This is your duty. Do not neglect it.

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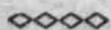
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PUT THE BLAME WHERE IT BELONGS

Charles G. Dawes, former comptroller of the currency, addressing the National Civic Federation in session at Chicago, criticised Attorney General Bonaparte, the magazine writers and some other people for present day financial conditions. He defended the financiers of New York, asserting that many of them who have borne the lash during the last four years are doing a work for the good of the country, the value of which it is hard to estimate. He further urged the amendment of the Sherman anti-trust law so as to avoid embarrassment to the "good trusts."

It is strange that men who take the position Mr. Dawes does have no word of censure for the men whose greed for gold has brought about present day financial conditions. He accuses the attorney general and the magazine writers of attacking the "business interests" of the country and he has much to say of the importance of upholding those interests. But so far as we have seen he has had not one word of censure for those men who have manipulated the banking business to their own selfish ends and who through wildcat speculation have brought on a panicky condition.

Mr. Dawes' words would carry greater weight if he had something to say in condemnation of the wealthy and powerful evil doers of the country.



BETTER INVESTIGATE

Interstate Commerce Commissioner Prouty says that there is no more railroad rebating.

Interstate Commerce Commissioner Lane says the rebate practice is still in vogue.

If the members of the interstate commerce commission could snatch a little time from their newspaper interviews and banquet hall speeches they might investigate this noticeable difference of opinion between Messrs. Prouty and Lane.



"Well, anybody that'll drive that critter must expect smash-ups occasionally"

The State and Labor

It is a little disappointing to find so well informed a man as Senator Beveridge attributing all the good things of life to the republican party. "Take the period of the Roosevelt administration," he says, and then he proceeds to assume that increased employment and increased wages are in some way due to the fact that Mr. Roosevelt became president. Strange that he should overlook the two prime causes of improved industrial conditions and attribute the improvement to causes that had nothing whatever to do with better times. Prior to 1896 we had an era of bad crops. For several years the crop failure was so complete that the farmers were selling off their live stock, mortgaging their farms and reducing their expenditures to a minimum. This necessarily decreased the consumption of manufactured products and lessened the demand for labor. Since 1896 we have had an extraordinary era of good crops. The earth has brought forth abundantly, and the farmers, having something to buy with, have become purchasers of all sorts of merchandise. The republican speakers and writers, however, studiously ignore this cause of prosperity and boastfully claim that the republican party has done it all. Some have been impudent enough to suggest that the republican party was in partnership with the Almighty and that the Lord

smiled upon the earth and made it fruitful in order to reward the people for putting their confidence in republican leaders.

But there is another cause to which Senator Beveridge seems entirely blind, namely—the increased quantity of money. For twenty-five years prior to 1896 the world had suffered from falling prices, and billions of dollars had been drained into the pockets of the money changers and holders of fixed investments. In 1896 the democrats insisted that an increase in the volume of money was the paramount question and pointed to bimetallism as the only relief in sight. The republican leaders denied the need for more money, although the republican platform held out the promise of international bimetallism and the republican campaign committee circulated literature which extolled the blessings of a rising dollar and falling prices. After 1896 new gold mines were discovered, and the increase in the production of gold has surpassed all previous records. In 1896 the republican speakers were talking about the possibilities of a flood of silver, and yet, today, the annual production of gold is greater than the annual production of both gold and silver in 1896. This increase in the world's supply of money has been felt the world over and "the period of the Roosevelt administration" has been marked by improved