

"If the People Rule Why Don't They Get What They Want?"

L. S. Kirby, Chicago, Ill.—My answer to the above question is, because the great public conscience is dead, dishonesty and hypocrisy reign, because the education of the great rank and file of the voters ends with the public school course, and because the public school is controlled by some interests which have not the interest of the people at heart, the young graduate leaves school with a great void in his mind. In his school reader he found no lessons on good morals to study, or the reason we put on our coats, "In God we trust," then begins the struggle for existence and all else is forgotten. I have my old style school reader of forty-five years ago and though I am now sixty years old I can read over those beautiful lessons with pleasure; they keep the moral perceptions clear and the conscience from becoming numb. Early impressions are most lasting.

E. W. Webster, Inwood, W. Va.—The people do get what they want. The people want the dollar and they get the dollar. What do our candidates make their appeal to the people hinge upon? The "full dinner pail" and prosperity. They know and understand that it is the "fishes and loaves" that caused so many people to follow Christ, and when He quit feeding the people they went back and followed Him no more. The way to a man's heart is by his stomach. You can't get the people to see the ethical principles upon which a nation must build to stand. Satan understood how to appeal to Adam and Eve that he might lead them to fail; it was by the "stomach." The republican party re-discovered the plan and named it "the full dinner pail" and "prosperity," and the devil went to sleep; he will not be disturbed until they are defeated. Mark you as long as the stomach rules men's brains men will sell out and that which is right, (the ethical) will be defeated. It is the rule of gold that we have and not the "golden rule." The people have what they want. They voted for it and have it; let them suffer, let them be tyrannized, let them be ruled, let them be driven, let them fill their stomachs, let it become bitter, unbearable. Let them be driven to the sweat shops and the slums of the city. Let them toil for the taskmasters until the yoke becomes unbearable and they see their folly. Let them groan until their groan becomes a bitter sorrowing cry and may it sever them from the worship of Mammon. Let the task-master of predatory wealth put on the lash until they are awakened from their mad rush after the dollar and then may they turn and repent in sack cloth and ashes, yea in the fragments of a once glorious republic. Looking back on the path strewn with the bleached bones of their fathers may they gather the smouldering spirit of their fathers—those who fought for freedom from the shackles of a crazy king, and as they breathe this spirit, may it inspire them to know the worth of manhood and womanhood and in the name of the Prince of Peace may they set up a banner with this motto: "Down with the rule of gold, and up with the golden rule, for by it we shall have redemption; it is the only method." Then may the gold of the rich rot in the coffers.

Perry Engle, Newton, Iowa.—The people do not rule, this is not a people's government. All parties favored and congress passed a graduat-

ed income tax; it was sustained by the supreme court; a rehearing was had and the law declared unconstitutional. Laws of states are nullified by judges' injunctions. The people do not elect the federal or supreme judges; nor the president or senate or the postmasters. In legislation all minority parties are virtually disfranchised; a very small per cent of the party controls its actions. Corporations elect our president who appoints the court, the postmasters; and vetoes all legislation that does not suit his masters. The people must elect all officers direct; must have the initiative and referendum; the power of recall and minority representation. People should vote for principle not party. We have only a representative government in name.

Deacon Donham, Publisher "Donham's Doings," LeSueur, Minn.—I would suggest that they are deceived by the newspapers into voting too many men into office who disregard their party platforms, and ignore their ante-election professions, if not out-and-out promises to the masses. In other words the people elect too many Judas Iscariots to positions of public trust.

R. H. Craig, Los Angeles, Cal.—The people do not get what they want because they vote for what they do not want. They vote for what they do not want because they are bribed with money and promises. Therefore it is the fault of the bribe-givers in the first place; in the second place it is the fault of the bribe takers, but if they were let alone they sure would vote for what they want and get it, for the balance of power is in the hands of the bribe-takers, and there is no one who knows it better than the bribe-giver. This is proven in the Lorimer case in Illinois, and in many other cases too numerous to mention. This is as near as I can get it in a nut shell.

AN OLD LIE REFUTED

Spilling forth a spellbinder's plea for high protection, John C. McKinley, stand-pat candidate for senatorial nomination, said at Springfield of the panic of 1893:

"All knew that our factories could not sell their products in competition with the cheap labor of other countries, and hence the mighty wheels of industry shook, trembled and then stood still under the awful convulsions of political change. Enterprises which had sprung up under the happy influences of the McKinley tariff law stopped short like grandfather's clock."

That falsehood has been repeated so often the habitual standpatter is no longer morally responsible for it. He mutters it in his sleep, swears it when he is drunk and babbles it to his girl in the twilight. Refutation has been ample in the past, and just now is more abundant than ever. Here, for example, is a statement from the Jewish Year Book for the ensuing year. It occurs in a defense made of Jewish immigrants before the house committee on immigration, last March:

"Only last month a clothing manufacturer returned from abroad having established agencies in London, Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Brussels and other cities, for New York made clothing. This is the second or third manufacturer who has recently put American made clothing upon European markets, and in all likelihood

a large foreign commerce in manufactured clothing, the product of immigrant labor, will ensue."

Do not these facts prove that the Jewish immigrant in New York underworks in the manufacture of clothing the worker of Europe? Is it not clear then that if we had free trade in wool, we could have high grade woolen clothing and woolen goods of all kinds, as cheap as they are in Europe? Certainly it is not the immigrant workingman nor the native workingman, who is getting a plutocratic income from the wool tariff. Neither was the McKinley tariff any more than the present one imposed upon the people for the benefit of labor.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

HOW THEY DO IT

In a hotel in Montana is the following notice: Boarders are taken by the day, week, or month. Those who do not pay promptly are taken by the neck.—Lippincott's.

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