

shoes, and then buy the shoes back, paying freight on the hides east and freight on the finished product west, and all the money save the little for the hides goes east to build up big business there. We are a very foolish and short-sighted people.

Every member of congress who voted for the woolen schedule in the Payne-Aldrich tariff voted to put a tax of \$7 per capita on every man, woman and child in the United States. For what? There is less than one-seventh of a sheep in this republic for each man, woman and child. The wool tariff simply means that the consumers of wool are taxed \$49 per capita for every sheep raised in the country. And we've heard men stand up and defend that sort of thing and vote for the re-election of congressmen and senators who voted for it. Wool tax per capita, \$7; sheep per capita, one-seventh! Aren't we the easy marks?

Now that the back of smoke—or as we meant to say, the boke of smackle—no, the smack of bokle—no, no! Now that the smoke of battle has cleared away, let's get down to business, wipe the slate clean and start all over again. And here's a contribution to help provide the boiling oil for the first man who undertakes to inject libelous personalities into the next campaign.

#### SHORT ARM JABS.

Of course LaFollette won out in Wisconsin. What honest man would have it otherwise?

Champ Clark is doubtless looking about for that span of mules he expects soon to drive up Pennsylvania Avenue.

"I have absolutely nothing to say," exclaimed Roosevelt at 11 o'clock last Tuesday evening. All of which reminds us of a certain little boy on an historic occasion.

Woodrow Wilson is elected governor of New Jersey, which means that the special interests are grooming him for the democratic presidential nomination two years hence. Wilson will run in the west about as well as a prohibition candidate in a distillery district—or Jim Dahluhan in University Place.

Mr. Roosevelt will doubtless announce that the defeat of his preferred candidate for governor in New York is the result of an alliance between vice and crime. The fact is, it is a rebuke administered by an independent people tired to death of bloviation, bulldozing and abuse.

One of the really bright spots in the congressional election is the triumph of Henry George, Jr., in New York City. It means just one more member of congress who can not be controlled by privilege, and who will be a consistent fighter for the reforms that really mean something to the common people. The trouble is that too few men of the Henry George, Jr. calibre are elected to congress.

The democrats have won out handsomely all over the country. The result of last Tuesday's election is merely to show that the people are protesting against abuses heaped upon them. The pity of it all is that the protest will simply amount to nothing. The result merely means that privilege has moved its lares and penates from the republican domicile to the democratic domicile, and in due time privilege will resume its old game of running the dominant party.

Roosevelt went over into Iowa and made an especial plea for his friend Grilk, republican candidate for congress in the Eleventh district. Ordinarily the Eleventh is overwhelmingly republican. The most noticeable effect of Roosevelt's pleas for Grilk was the wonderful race made by Pepper, the democratic candidate. It was the real pepper that Pepper put into the campaign, and Grilk was defeated by a majority that is really brutal, considering all the circumstances. The Strenuous One should content himself with cursing judges who refuse to construe the law as the Strenuous One would have it.

#### EARLY HISTORY OF LABOR.

By the Rev. Charles Stelzle.

History has been written around the lives of kings and warriors. The common people have scarcely been considered in the narratives of the world's development, excepting as a back-ground to picture

the glory and the achievement of the ruling classes. There is, therefore, very little of an authentic nature which tells the story of the working people. Only here and there do we get a glimpse into the lives of the masses.

While there was a civilization of a very superior kind centuries before the Christian era, men had not learned the lesson of brotherhood. Indeed, even the noted philosophers of ancient times—some of whom the world to-day delights to honor—declared that a purchased laborer was better than a hired one, and in accordance with the principle half the world lived in slavery when Christ was born. Practically all the work of the world was done by slaves. To labor with one's hands was regarded as dishonorable, and to be a laboring man was to be placed on a level with the beast of the field.

The wise men of the times said that the slave had no soul. It did not matter whether that slave was a man of their own race; the mere fact that he was a slave took from him all claim to manhood and citizenship. Whether men became slaves by birth, through their sale when children by their parents, through the sale of themselves because of poverty or debt, through capture in war or by pirates, they were all classed alike—they became less than men, even though they had been endowed by nature with temperament and ability far superior to their captors.

The struggle of the ancient Israelites against the tyranny of Pharaoh, presents a picture of the condition of labor in the earliest days. For hundreds of years they sought release from an unendurable situation, until Moses came as labor leader and emancipator, with the oft-repeated demand: "Let my people go." While it is true that the Jews themselves later became slave-holders, the Jewish law protected the slave from violence and from permanent bondage.

In some countries and at certain periods the slave was given a measure of privilege, sometimes equal to that of the citizen, but this privilege was usually limited and very rarely did it change his economic condition. As a workingman he was always a slave—the beast of burden and the helpless victim of his owner. The porter was chained to his master's house. In the mines and in the fields the slave was driven with the lash. To give his captors pleasure, he was torn and mangled by wild beasts in the arena, as he struggled, weaponless, to defend himself. As a gladiator, he stabbed, strangled or disemboweled his fellow-slave. When he became old and worn out, or sick, he was turned out or killed, in accordance with the advice of such as Cato, the moralist and reformer.

The effect of such treatment upon the slaves themselves was bad enough; but the effect upon the masters was utterly degrading. The morals of the ruling class became corrupt and kingdoms and empires founded upon the system of slavery went down in ruins.

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