

**THE INDIANA POPULIST**

One Lewis Patterson, whoever he may be, has issued an alleged "call to arms" and announces that about the first of next January he will begin the publication of the Indiana Populist at Charlestown, Ind. As a feeler he sends out a sample sheet bearing the notation, "Vol. III, No. 4," probably to fool some well meaning populist into thinking it is an old established paper.

The Independent would feel like welcoming the Indiana Populist if Mr. Patterson showed any disposition to talk populism instead of rail at men, especially so long after railing can do any possible good. There is now no necessity to hold any more postmortems over what the people's party did in 1896 and 1900. We have quarreled with each other until both factions ought to be sick and tired of it. The Independent hasn't any more use for Jo Parker than the Indiana Populist has for Marion Butler, and wishes that some truce might be affected whereby both of them could step out of the way and let the two factions be united. Even upon the extremely diaphonous excuse that Parker claimed to be the chairman of the "regular" organization of the people's party, he is now out of it and at the head of a new party that attempts to out-fuse fusion. If Butler abandoned his chair at Lincoln in 1900, Parker abandoned his when he accepted the chairmanship of the "allied populist" or "allied people's" or whatever party it is called.

The Indiana Populist is away behind the times if it believes anything can be gained by calling Senator Allen, Senator Butler, and such men hard names. Even the Missouri World—once as rantankerous a mid-road paper as existed anywhere—admits that after a self-satisfying (but not gratifying) experiment it found that the sentiment for co-operation, or "fusion" as it is erroneously called, was far more wide-spread than it supposed. As the World truly says: "There was room for a difference of opinion and as good reformers as ever breathed favored, while others just as good opposed Bryan's indorsement."

It is high time that populists quit using "handles" to their party name. Let us simply be populists during this winter at least and preach populism. No one can tell whether there will be fusion or not in 1904—although it is doubtful, because just now it looks as if the democratic plutocrats may win and leave the democratic democrats partyless—but that is simply a matter of party policy and has nothing to do with government money and government railroads.

**POETS ALL POPULISTS**

Extended empire, like expanded gold,  
Exchanges solid strength for feeble splendor.  
—Dr. Johnson.

If thou art rich, thou are poor;  
For like an ass, whose back with ingots bows,  
Thou bearest thy heavy riches, but a journey,  
And death unloads thee.

—Shakespeare.

By heaven, I had rather coin my heart,  
And drop my blood for drachmas, than  
to wring  
From the hard hands of peasants  
Their vile trash by indirection.

—Shakespeare.

What is't to us, if taxes rise or fall  
Thanks to fortune we pay none at all.  
Let muckworms who in dirty acres deal

Lament those hardships we cannot feel.  
—Churchill.

That is the way it is with all the poets, for these are only samples. In the above extracts the poets take exactly the same position on imperialism, the accumulation of wealth, tariff taxes, that is, taxes by indirection, and the escape of the rich from taxation, that is taken by populists and announced in their platforms. The writings of poets live and are admired by all men because they strike at the very heart of things and enunciate great and ever-living truths. These truths populists would make effective for the uplifting of the human race.

**POST CHECK CURRENCY**

The Independent hopes that the efforts of Mr. C. W. Post may be crowned with success and that this session congress may pass the bill which will give us the Post check currency. The bureau of information under Mr. Post's management has rendered valiant service. Postmaster General Payne, Third Assistant Madden—he of erstwhile newspaper notoriety—and Auditor Castle all indorse the plan for some more convenient method of remitting small sums of money through the mails. And the Post check plan fills the bill.

The Independent hopes it was mistaken last spring when it predicted defeat of the plan—because the bankers will not permit any convenience to

the public which they can suppress, if such convenience should deprive them of revenue for writing drafts. And if Mr. Post's plan is adopted it will be only as the result of overwhelming public sentiment in favor of it.

Independent readers are familiar with the idea: One, two and five dollar bills, and fractional notes less than a dollar are issued—just plain every-day paper money, except that each note contains a blank line in which the holder can write the name of a payee. When this is done, and a common two-cent postage stamp affixed to the larger bills or a one-cent stamp to the fractional notes, what was money becomes a mere order to pay money—a government check or draft—and it may be sent through the mails with perfect safety, for no one but the person whose name is written in (the payee) or his order can cash it. It saves a trip to the postoffice or bank to get a money order or draft. The fractional note feature alone is worth fighting for. Write to your congressman and urge him to support the measure. If he declines, find out the reason why.

**FAMINE IN THE PHILIPPINES**

It is no longer possible to hide the desperate condition to which the United States has reduced the people of the Philippines. Vice Governor Wright has been forced to come to this country and make an attempt to obtain aid for them. This government is going to have a worse problem of starvation and death of its subjects on its hands than England ever had in India, although the conditions are much alike. The sufferings caused by the war, the pestilence and the rinderpest have left the people in a far worse condition than they ever were at any time under the Spanish rule. General Miles points out that the loss of their beasts of burden, the water buffalo, which is the only domestic animal that is suited to the climate, is the most serious of all. To replace these animals, except at the end of a long term of years, is impossible. Meantime how are the Filipinos to cultivate their fields?

The proposition that Mr. Wright presents is to lower the tariff between the islands and the United States 75 per cent. Whether that measure would bring any adequate relief is very doubtful. If the Filipinos are in such a condition that they cannot produce, they would have nothing to ship to the United States and nothing with which to buy goods that might be sent there. The fall in the price of silver has made the price of foreign goods so high, and it takes so much more silver to get them, that it will be an utter impossibility for the Filipinos to buy them, unless there was a general rise in the price of the products they have to sell, including labor.

A private letter to the editor of The Independent intimates that General Miles was so impressed with the suffering in the islands that he cut short his visit and will return much sooner than he at first contemplated, in the hope of aiding in some measure of relief.

The most important thing in that direction advanced by Governor Wright is the admission of cooley labor and the production of sugar to be shipped to the United States. He says the possibilities for the production of cane sugar seem to be unlimited. It looks now as though this imperialism business will result in one of the great disasters of all history. The facts concerning the condition of the islands cannot much longer be suppressed.

In a private communication to The Independent, Mr. W. J. Ghent expresses his thanks for the review of his book, "Our Benevolent Feudalism," which appeared in the issue of November 20. He believes it is "by far the best interpretation of the spirit and purposes of the book" that he has yet seen in print. He calls attention to a small error in the review—where "A Modified Individualism" is credited to Henry D. Lloyd instead of to Professor Clark. Mr. Lloyd's article appeared in the New York Independent of May 1, 1902—strongly socialistic of course; but Professor Clark wrote the article named above.

**SOMETHING SPECIFIC WANTED**

Jules Huret, a member of the staff of the Paris Figaro, lectured in New York the other day on the social question in Europe. He said he had made thorough and prolonged investigations in Germany, Italy, Russia, Austria and the United States and had come to the conclusion that, "apart from a very small number of workmen, the laboring classes in Europe are practically ignorant of true socialistic notions and that everywhere in Eu-

**STALLIONS**

IAMS' October, 1902, importation of black Percherons, Belgians and Coachers was the largest ever made west of the Missouri River. His stallions of big size, quality, finish and extremely low prices are propositions that will make you his buyer. If you can pay cash or give bankable note, you will sure buy stallions of Iams. Only man in the United States that imported only black or bay stallions. He has just imported

**63—STALLIONS—63**

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References: St. Paul State Bank, First State Bank, Citizens National Bank.



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rope the socialist parties consist of men who are merely opposed to the actual state of things."

He is certainly correct as regards the socialists of this country. If an inquiry was put to the whole mass of them individually, asking the question, "If the socialist party should carry all branches of the government at the next election and you had elected the president and an overwhelming majority of both branches of congress, what would be the nature of the bill that you would introduce to establish socialism?" no two of them would give the same answer. As a protest against present conditions, socialism is very interesting, but it will have to advance to a stage where it is willing to put out a platform containing the specific legislative demands that it insists upon. It will not do to simply say: "We demand the collective ownership of all means of production and distribution." It must indicate the nature of the laws by which it expects to bring those things about. Government consists, not in generalizations, but in specific, legislative acts. No organization of men can expect to accomplish anything until it gets beyond the stage of generalization, and can get its ideas into the form of specific laws. If the socialist press would for a time stop denunciations and protests and fill its space with definite propositions in the form of law, that socialists wish enacted, then they would find that reformers of all kinds and sorts would take up those propositions in a fair and candid way, and if after investigation they believed that their enactment would be for the benefit of mankind, they would advocate them.

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J. C. Mc Nerney, Attorney at Law  
NOTICE.

C. F. Blanke, Tea and Coffee Company, a corporation organized under the laws of the state of Missouri, and Charles Spies and Victor M. Seiter co-partners as Charles Spies & Co., will take notice that on the 20th day of November, 1902, Fritz Westerman a justice of the peace in and for the city of Lincoln, precinct, Lancaster County, Nebraska, issued an order of attachment for the sum of \$114.30 in an action pending before him, wherein Frank D. Eager is plaintiff and C. F. Blanke, Tea and Coffee Company, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Missouri, and Charles Spies and Victor M. Seiter co-partners as Charles Spies & Co. are defendants, property consisting of money and credits due and to become due said defendants has been attached under said order in the hands of the following persons and in the following amounts, viz:  
George M. Beach.....\$14 13  
Edward L. McLaughlin..... 21 77  
Amos S. Eager..... 22 63  
John S. Bowers..... 7 50  
Said action was by said justice continued to the 10th day of January, 1903 at 9 o'clock a. m., at which time said defendants are required to appear.

FRANK D. EAGER, Plaintiff,  
By J. C. Mc Nerney, his Attorney.

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