

# The Independent.

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## TIME TO EDUCATE

The First Step in the Contest for Supremacy in 1904—Begin the Work Now

Americans have boasted that the United States is the most progressive, enlightened, and best governed nation in the world. Too frequently the boast is made without properly stating with any definiteness the particulars in which the United States excels. It is the greatest nation on earth in many respects. It has the largest area of good tillable soil, the greatest diversity in all the products that can be produced, and on account of its peculiar isolation from the rest of the world perhaps it would be the most powerful in a military contest. But there are other lines in which the United States does not excel—it trails along behind. Australasia has a system of land ownership and taxation that is far more just and equitable than any in practice in this country. It is so conceded by all economists. Many European countries have better control of the great corporations than this government has. In England the government owns and operates the telegraph system and parcels post exactly as the mail of that country and this is handled. In many of the European countries the governments either own already or are rapidly acquiring the ownership and control of the railroads and transportation facilities of the country. In Sweden and others the telephone system is owned by the government and telephones are furnished at so small an expense that almost every farm house is equipped with a telephone that enables him to talk to almost any resident in the kingdom. In many lines of government the United States was long ago distanced in the race. Why is it? Because our people have been so busy "going west" and developing the country that they have given but little time and attention to problems of government. The money power of the country has not gone to the front "to the west." They have lingered behind and by organization and combination have become so powerful that they are almost beyond the reach of congress. The trust on kerosene oil, the trust on sugar, the coal trust, the steel trust, the farm machinery trust, all collect their tribute from the farmers and laborers of the country upon every article sold or consumed. It is only by education and organization of the people that the rule of greed can be destroyed. Why should the plain people of America suffer the money sharks of the world to get this country as firmly in their grasp and control as they have had in India, Egypt, Ireland, Italy, Turkey, and other nations of the old world? In the language of a poem written by Mr. J. A. Edgerton, formerly a resident of Nebraska, now of Denver, Colo., and well known to many Independent readers "it is time"—time to educate and organize:

### It Is Time

In this age when gold is king,  
Seated on a brazen throne;  
When 'tis thought the proper thing,  
To rate men by what they own;  
When the brute is more and more  
And the spirit, less and less;  
When the world is lorded o'er  
By corruption and excess;  
It is time that men of worth  
Boldly step into the van,  
With this message to the earth:  
Down with Mammon, up with Man.

We have seen the idler feast,  
While the toiler lacked for bread.  
We have seen the king and priest  
Rob the living and the dead.  
We have seen the thief arrayed  
In the purple robes of state,  
While the honest man was made  
To beg succor at his gate.  
It has ever been the same  
Since this reign of wealth began.  
Let us stop the sickening game,  
Down with Mammon, up with Man.

Earth is far too wise and old  
For a lordling or a savior;  
To resp. ct a band of gold  
On the forehead of a knave;  
Far too old for war and hate;  
O'd enough for brotherhood;  
Wise enough to found a state,  
Where men seek each others good.  
We have worked for self too long.  
Let us try a better plan:  
Let us labor for the throng,  
Down with Mammon, up with Man.

Many of the brightest, best,  
Of the earth were counted poor.  
Some posse-sed "not where to rest,"  
Others toiled and hardship bore.  
Homer, at the dawn of Greece,  
Sung and begged from day to day.  
Buddha, born with palaces,  
Flung the naubles all away.  
Wealth is by the devil prized.  
God has cursed it with a ban.  
Let u hear the pauper, Christ,  
Down with Mammon, up with Man.

O, my people, will you heed?  
Be no more like beasts of prey.  
Turn from selfishness and greed.  
Let us find a nobler way.  
From the worn-out lies of old,  
Let us make the whole world free.  
Down with kings and priests and gold.  
Up with God, humanity.  
Lust for gain breeds hate and crime.  
Let us crush it while we can.  
Let us bring the better time.  
Down with Mammon, up with Man.

You have read The Independent and know of the work it is doing in educating the people as to existing conditions and the principles and doctrines it teaches for the remedy of existing wrongs and injustice. You have read The Independent and know of its loyalty to the cause of good government. Will you do your part in helping to overthrow the rule of Mammon and substitute Abraham Lincoln's government of the people, by the people, and for the people?

The Independent has announced a special rate, only \$1.00 for NEW subscriptions to run until after the presidential election in 1904. Recruiting coupon books containing five coupons in each book have been prepared. Each coupon is good for a subscription to The Independent to be sent to any address in the United States until November 17, 1904, twenty-one months from this time. Every reader interested in the cause of good government should send for a recruiting coupon book. No charge is made for the book or coupons in advance. We'll send you the book and when you have sold the coupons send \$1 to The Independent for each coupon sold. Any unsold coupons may be returned. It costs you nothing to try. Send for a book today. Here are those who have already ordered coupon books. Why not have your name added to the list:

O. S. Williamson, Beaver City, Neb.  
J. M. Knox, Cambridge, Neb.  
A. W. Gingery, Lamar, Colo.  
A. R. Cross, Lewis, Kas.  
A. F. Parsons, North Platte, Neb.  
J. T. Sims, Simsville, Ala.  
W. B. Essick, North Benton, O.  
J. M. Babb, Clayton, Ill.  
James McIluff, O'Connor, Neb.  
Ralph Ashton, Emmett, Neb.  
J. B. Vaughan, Clifton, S. C.  
Neb. Mut. Ins. Journal.  
Wm. Bailey, Eldorado, Kas.  
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Daniel Lovitt, La Harpe, Ill.  
A. S. McKee, Bassetville, Kas.  
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P. T. Sovereign, Wilsonville, Neb.  
J. H. Wright, Ruskin, Neb.  
Alexander Ritchey, Stratton, Neb.  
Chas. P. Postle, Boone, Neb.  
J. Wilkes, Hillsboro, Ore.  
E. E. Fancher, Yorktown, Kas.

### Not a Vote Maker.

The socialist labor party has always contended that the Appeal to Reason is of no value to the propagation of socialism, as it is not a socialist paper. The socialist of Seattle, Wash., prints a statement on this point that clinches our contention. Says it: "We point out that in some portions of this state where the Appeal circulates very widely, and where no other socialist paper is taken, we got the lowest vote, as in Walla Walla and Lewis counties." The Socialist believes that the Appeal has been making converts for W. R. Hearst's radical democratic party. When friends speak that way, who will deny that the socialist labor party is right in denouncing the Appeal?—Weekly People, N. Y.

Yet the Appeal talks of absorbing the populist party! Not yet, Mr. Wayland; not until your own factional fights are settled—and doubtless not then.

The Wilber Republican deserves commendation for the really excellent souvenir edition, "Wilber Illustrated," published for the "purpose of celebrating the 25th anniversary of the location of the county seat at Wilber and the 17th anniversary of the Republican."

## THE SERPENT'S COIL

Treasury Department Withdrawing Notes of Small Denominations and Replacing With Gold Certificates

Editor Independent: To those who wish to know what the financial interests (that are as much in control of the treasury as they are of their own banks) are doing, a brief analysis of the "Circulation Statement" issued February 1, 1903, may be interesting.

Under the head of "General Stock of Money in the United States" it is reported that, on February 1, there was in gold coin (including bullion in the treasury) \$1,252,842,475. This was an increase over what was reported January 1, 1903, of \$5,965,760.

Notwithstanding this increase, the statement shows that the amount "held in the treasury as assets of the government" was \$247,783,746. This is less than the amount held January 1 by \$22,993,518. The actual amount of gold in circulation is stated to be \$629,023,915. This is less than the amount said to have been in circulation on January 1 by \$656,717. The amount held as assets of the government, and the amount said to have been in circulation, was \$376,418,819 less than the stock in existence. This amount is also held in the treasury and is represented by gold certificates in circulation. It should always be remembered that the amount of gold actually in circulation as stated is only an estimate; an estimate that, in the opinion of competent judges, is considerably in excess of the actual amount.

The particular point that will attract the attention of competent observers is, that on February 1, the gold certificates had been increased during January \$29,615,995. The whole increase of "general stock," the whole decrease of gold held as "assets of the government," and the decrease of gold in circulation were represented by an increase in "gold certificates." This increase of gold certificates would mean an increase of \$28,959,278 to the amount of money in circulation if there was no decrease of any of the other kinds of money.

There are nine different kinds of United States money in existence as reported by this statement, the total amount of the general stock of which was said to be, on February 1, \$2,656,559,109. This is an increase during January of \$5,150,551, or an increase that is \$815,209 less than the increase of gold alone. During January there was an increase (by coinage of course) of standard silver dollars amounting to \$1,482,385. By a little calculation it appears that there must have been a decrease of other kinds of money amounting to \$2,297,594 made up as follows:

Subsidiary silver .....\$ 241,356  
Treasury notes of 1890..... 1,100,000  
Nat'l bank notes..... 956,238

While it is shown, under the head of "General Stock," that there was a decrease of treasury notes and national bank notes, the decrease is not alone sufficiently large to be significant. It becomes more significant when changes in "Money in Circulation" are examined.

The whole amount of the nine different kinds of money in circulation on February 1 is stated to have been \$2,255,738,834. This is an increase during January of the stated amount in circulation of \$7,037,933. I have already stated that the total increase by gold certificates was \$28,959,278. There must, therefore, have been a decrease in other kinds of money in circulation of \$21,921,345. This decrease is made up as follows:

Standard silver dollars.....\$2,471,886  
Subsidiary silver..... 1,842,855

Total decrease of silver circulation .....\$4,314,741  
Treasury notes of 1890.....\$1,054,948  
United States notes..... 3,563,345  
Silver certificates ..... 6,714,033  
National bank notes..... 6,274,278

Total decrease of paper currency .....\$17,606,694

Under the head of "Assets of Government," there was a decrease of the holding of gold and treasury notes amounting to \$23,033,570, while the aggregate decrease of the holding of

all kinds of money as assets is only \$1,887,382 during January. It is apparent, therefore, that the large decrease of gold, etc., was replaced by \$21,151,188, which is made up as follows:

Standard silver dollars.....\$10,668,304  
Subsidiary silver ..... 1,601,489

Total increase of silver assets .....\$12,269,803  
U. S. notes (greenbacks)...\$ 3,563,345  
National bank notes..... 5,318,040

Total paper currency held as assets .....\$ 8,881,385

What has occurred during January? First—The treasury department took out of circulation silver coin \$5,797,126 and silver certificates..... 6,714,033

Total silver currency taken out of circulation...\$12,511,209  
Second—The treasury department has increased its holdings, thus taking out of circulation in United States notes .....\$3,563,345

Third—The treasury department has increased its holdings of national bank notes .....\$5,318,040  
The banks decreased their circulation ..... 956,230

Total national bank notes taken out of circulation...\$6,274,270

Total .....\$22,348,648

This whole amount must necessarily be money of small denominations taken out of circulation and replaced by gold certificates of large denominations.

I have a letter from Ellis H. Roberts, treasurer, dated December 6, 1902, from which I copy the answer to the following question:

Question 3—"Will you explain to me why the small denominations of United States legal tender notes, 1s, 2s and 5s, and the larger denominations above 10s are being diminished, and the number of the denomination of 10s so largely increased?"

Answer—"The demands of the people for notes of small denominations have surprised the closest students of the currency. Year by year estimates of the maximum to be required have been proved by experience inadequate, and further provision was called for to meet the growing needs of business. In compliance with the spirit as well as the letter of the act of March 14, 1890, the issue of silver certificates is limited to smaller denominations, 1s, 2s and 5s. As redemption of United States notes are made, this class of paper is confined to denominations of \$10. Gold certificates of \$20 and upwards are issued in abundance against gold in the treasury and furnish the larger denominations required."

Compare this answer with the facts as shown by the "Circulation Statement" of February 1, and let any candid man express his opinion as to whether the treasury department is trying to conserve the interests of the people of this country, or the interests of the New York banking combine.

If Mr. Roberts is right about the requirements for small denominations of money (and there is no doubt about it), what inference must be drawn from the action of the department during January? The only inference that can be drawn is, that the wishes of the eastern banking interests have more influence over the treasury officials and the administration than the business requirements of the whole country besides.

The coil of this eastern financial monster tightens slowly but surely. How long will the American people submit to the dictation of these financial pirates, who have been plundering us on land and on sea ever since the beginning of the civil war?

FLAVIUS J. VAN VORHIS,  
Indianapolis, Feb. 10, 1903.

### Burning Corn

Coal has been raised another half dollar per ton by the combine. Much corn has been used for fuel in this country this winter. The farmers would be better off financially if they could sell their corn for only 15c per bushel and buy coal at the price of a few years ago and also other things at the prices they used to pay for them.—R. S. Scofield, in Loup County News, Taylor, Neb.