

POYNTER'S LETTER

The letter from Former Governor Poynter, published some weeks ago in The Independent, has aroused more comment in populist circles than any recent document of the kind. Milton Park in the Southern Mercury of June 25 quotes from the letter and says:

"The old party bosses who are harboring the thought that 'populism is dead' and that the daisies will grow luxuriantly on its grave long before the next campaign is 'pulled off' will find the leaven working although there is no noise just now in the camps, nor is there any stir visible. Yet the same crowd which polled the 239,000 votes in Texas in 1896 is still here. Some have crossed over the great divide, but for every one who has fallen before the sickle of the grim reaper there are more than double that number who have gotten their fill of old party methods and measures, and are ready to line up for a grand struggle for reform."

And the Cleburne (Tex.) Watchman, referring to the same matter, says:

"It will be remembered that the governor was one of the strongest advocates of fusion with the democrats, and we give him credit for entire honesty in the course he pursued in the last two campaigns, and we are glad to see him with many others who occupied the same position, all coming boldly out for immediate action. Let Chairmen Butler and Parker sound the call and these old veterans of reform will come rallying in from everywhere ready to pull together the discordant elements of the party and get things ready to receive the honest element of the free silver democracy."

"WHERE ARE WE AT?"

Professor and Madam Curie have torn up the very foundation of things with their discovery of radium and polonium. At the Berlin conference Sir William Crooks said: "We stand on the border line where matter and force pass into each other. In this borderland lie the greatest scientific problems of the future. Here lie the final realities, wide reaching and marvelous. Will we be content to see matter dissolving into a multitude of revolving electrodes? Such a mysterious dissolution of atoms appears to be universal. It occurs when a piece of glass is rubbed with silk. It is present in sunshine, in a rain-drop, in lightning, in a flame, in a waterfall, and in the roaring sea."

As to polonium it possesses in a much higher degree than radium the property of shining in the dark, and although it is known that actual particles infinitesimally small are being shot out from it continually, this strange substance does not seem to exhaust itself nor to lose its luminous power. When a boy the writer wondered that Newton should have said after all his great discoveries that he was like one on the sea shore while the great ocean of knowledge lay unexplored before him. The words no longer seem strange. Is all matter simply different forms of energy, as Professor Crooks suggests? Do we after all live in a world where everything is only a manifestation of one great unseen power?

WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST

Whatever may be his personal views as to the availability of William Randolph Hearst as a candidate for the presidency next year, let no man fool himself with the belief that Hearst will cut an inconsiderable figure in the struggle. Beyond a doubt he has right at this moment the greatest following of any democrat now mentioned in connection with the nomination but it may well be doubted whether Hearst's following is made up of the men who dominate conventions or even attend conventions as delegates.

Back of Mr. Hearst is being arrayed the large majority of organized laborers. His campaign managers, by means of those comprehensive methods which have made the Hearst papers a power, are even now at work,

and they are keeping in close touch with every part of the United States.

To show the trend of organized labor toward Hearst, the Labor Compendium, St. Louis (official organ of the national building trades) made its issue of June 21 a special Hearst edition, devoting over four pages to excerpts from Mr. Hearst's speeches and expressions of personal and editorial opinion in his favor.

The Hearst papers, being somewhat socialistic editorially, are causing the kangaroo socialists no end of worry, for they profess to see a gigantic scheme of the millionaire newspaper magnate to side-track the "movement" and put off the coming of the co-operative commonwealth for years and years. This is all the more amusing when it is remembered that these socialists lay great stress on their pet "materialistic conception of history," and make no end of sport of populists for believing in Mrs. Eddy's "Seven Financial Conspiracies." If we are to accept without question the fatalistic theories of the socialists, Mr. Hearst is performing his part in bringing about the downfall of "capitalism," and all this "class-conscious" shrieking will not prevent the proletariat from rallying around his banner.

But men who have nothing to sell but their labor power are not numerous in democratic national conventions, and whether Mr. Hearst can capture the nomination remains to be seen.

INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL WORK

In the election contests that take place this fall The Independent can do most effective work if it is put in the hands of the people. There are thousands of men voting the republican ticket under protest in every state in the Union. They see the tariff made a shelter for the trusts; they see the trust methods expanding in every direction and all that they need to make them fighters against plutocracy and imperialism is a little information. They are republicans simply for the want of information. They know how they suffered from the exactions of the coal trust last winter. The farmers know that while the equipment of the railroads has been doubled during the last ten years the roads refused to furnish them cars and the elevators refused to take their grain until the manipulators got ready. They know how the price of machinery has raised since the harvester trust was formed, but they do not know how to escape these exactions. What they need is information and The Independent furnishes that every week. All these people are overwhelmed with papers that are sent to them free, so many indeed that the men who work have not the time to read half of them, but they do not contain a line that would be of benefit in enabling these men to solve the problems that confront them. Plutocracy is resolved that such information shall not reach them and Madden and his cohorts at Washington throw every obstacle that hellish ingenuity can invent in the way of an extension of the circulation of The Independent, while every facility is given to plutocratic papers to spread their falsehoods to every part of the union. The Independent has grown to its present circulation by the efforts of those who read it and show it to their neighbors. And it appeals to them to continue to work for the uplifting of mankind in the same unselfish way. Let the education of the people go on.

Since the people of Chicago concluded at every election and have made it a practice to go to the polls and vote, for at every election and have it a practice to go to the polls and vote, they have obtained several things of vast importance, the last of which is an ordinance that secures to them pure milk and stops the sale of skimmed milk as genuine whole milk.

HAYDEN'S Special Mail Order Clothing Sale

Write for Samples or Send Your Order. Every Garment Guaranteed Satisfactory or Your Money Back

Special \$5.00 Suit Coat and Vest \$3.75 Pants not sold separate

Men's Suits made from all wool worsteds will be sold by Hayden Bros. for \$5.00. All well made and have good linings and trimmings. They're put together to stay together; and come in regular sizes also stout and slim cuts, made in four button cutaway sack style. In all sizes from 34 to 46.

Your home merchant will tell you that it is cheap at \$8.00. If you don't like them after you get them we want you to send them back to us and we will refund your money. This applies to anything we sell as well as these suits.

Pure Worsted Four-Button Sack Suit \$9.00

Coat and Vest, \$7.00. Pants not sold separate.

Men's fine pure worsted suits in a neat stripe and cut in the very latest styles, four button cutaway sack.

This material is made from pure long worsted yarn, will probably wear longer and give as much satisfaction as any cloth that you can procure no matter what price you pay. The coat is made with hand padded shoulders, hair cloth fronts which keeps coat in perfect shape; also lined with a good serge lining and well tailored throughout. Comes in sizes from 34 to 46, regulars.

NEW GROCERY LIST NOW READY FREE FOR THE ASKING

HAYDEN BROS. Wholesale Supply House Omaha, Neb.

Hereafter skimmed milk will have to be carried in cans painted red and every customer will know what he gets. The board of health says that the ordinance will save the lives of hundreds of babies during the coming hot season. There were seven human devils in the form of aldermen who voted against the ordinance. They were willing to murder hundreds of infant children so that a few of their constituents could sell skimmed milk for the genuine article and thereby make a few dollars. Such degenerates as those seven aldermen should be driven off the face of the earth. There is no place for the like of them even among savages, and especially not among civilized men.

Whenever a reform movement is started that interferes with any of the special privileges of corporations the dailies never fail to denounce those who are active in it as "irresponsible parties." That phrase they think is a crusher. When it comes to government one man is just as "responsible" as another. The day laborer has one vote and the multi-millionaire one vote, the government rests upon the shoulders of those who vote, and the responsibility is alike upon all. Those who are advocating in Chicago the immediate public ownership of the street car lines are denounced by the Tribune and other plutocratic and corporation dailies as "irresponsible individuals," and they seem to think that settles the whole question, although among these same individuals can be found merchants, lawyers, doctors, educators as well as wage-workers. When it comes to government no man of sound mind, twenty-one years old or over, is an "irresponsible party."

The performances of some of the labor unions are perfectly absurd and if a halt is not called the whole system of organized labor will be overthrown. A man by the name of Ceretti down in Vermont employed fourteen stone cutters, signed the union scale and conformed to all the rules of the union. He had a rush of work and his patrons pushed him to get the stone ordered. He went into his shop and to help things along began to sharpen the tools that the stone cutters used. The blacksmiths' union

made complaint to the stone cutters' union that the men were working in a shop with a non-union man, and his fourteen men were called out. Ceretti then tried to join the stone cutters' union and they would not admit him. He tried to join the blacksmiths' union. They wouldn't have him either. There he is. He is not allowed to work for himself and the unions will not allow any one to work for him. It is no wonder that the men of brains among the unions are getting discouraged. They see the patient and intelligent work of years in building up organized labor being destroyed.

The sharks who deal in securities are sending up long howls because "the public," that is, the gudgeons who have been losing their money, will no longer buy. The wall of the Chicago publication called "Farm Loans and City Bonds" is particularly long and loud. Finding that no more money can be made in that line it now advocates farm loans in Nebraska and elsewhere. In its argument it tries to show that this is a much better graft than national banking and makes a statement concerning the loss that bankers suffer in taking government deposits on which they pay no interest, but which must be secured by government bonds. It says that the banker must buy government 2s at 168 1-2. The market price for government 2s is 10s to 105 1-2. It is that kind of lying that these sharpers indulge in to fleece the people out of their hard earnings. Then think that the controlling power in politics is in the hands of such men! It is about time for these men to make a drive to get loans on farm mortgages. There is a panic coming in the future and if they can only induce farmers to mortgage their lands to make improvements or to buy additional machinery, it will not be long before they will come around and take the farms in as they did in 1893-94.

The people of Philadelphia pay their money to the republican boodlers of that city with the same cheerfulness and alacrity that the farmers of Nebraska pay the taxes for the railroads. The mayor of Philadelphia who has just retired had known debts of \$40,000 when he entered upon his duties. He is now the president of a big national bank.