

hope of defeating Peabody is in a landslide to the populist candidate. There are indications that that may happen.

The strike among the workers in the packing houses in Chicago, Omaha, Sioux City, St. Joseph and Kansas City, is still on. It is impossible to arrive at the truth about it. All the dailies are in the interest of the packers and are publishing everything that would have any tendency to discourage the strikers. It is claimed that thousands of men have been shipped in and that the packers have nearly their normal supply. One thing is certain about the Chicago strike breakers. They are for the most part the off-scourings of the earth. They are plantation negroes and the most degraded of the foreign population of the eastern cities, many of them coming from the stamping ground of the anarchists at Patterson, New Jersey. The skilled men that must be employed are from the regular paid Hessians of the Parry army of labor union destroyers.

There is no longer any doubt that when plutocracy succeeds in electing either of their presidential candidates, the precedent set in Colorado will be followed everywhere, unless there is a very large protest made by the people of the United States in voting for the people's party candidate. Three million votes cast for Tom Watson would cause a halt in such proceedings. With nearly all the vote of the United States cast for the two plutocratic candidates, Parry and his gang will take fresh courage and the courts will follow the Colorado precedent.

ONE FARE RATE

All of the railroads have granted a one fare rate from all points in Nebraska, to those who wish to attend the Populist State convention in this city, August 10th. All Populists who can afford the expense should take advantage of this low rate to come to Lincoln and hear Tom Watson.

Tickets on sale August 8, 9, 10, good for return until August 12th.

Replies To Schöllenger.

Editor Independent: I notice in your issue of July 21 that Mr. O. L. Schöllenger of Omaha, rather justifies the military rule that has abrogated every civil and political right of every citizen who has had the misfortune to be a resident of the state of Colorado and at the same time be a member of any labor union, other than Gompers' republico-federation; and I regret to see that he so readily charges crimes to labor union men simply because the charge is made by Peabody's trust-employed Bell.

Your correspondent charges that thirteen non-union men were blown up by the union men, and yet those who read the news know that all the evidence so far adduced goes to prove that the agents of the mine owners' union or the citizens' alliance committed the crime. Without giving consideration or at least credence to the assertions of innocence made by the labor unions, we know that the dynamite was placed beneath the platform of a depot that was guarded; that a new wire was run a distance of several hundred feet from the mine to a mine owner's shaft house; that the mine was exploded by some one who was concealed in that shaft house; that it would have been impossible for a union man to have planted the mines, secured the wire, connected it, and remained in the shaft house and discharged the mine, without being detected and shot on the spot; that after the explosion Bell set bloodhounds on the track of the criminal and the dogs ran directly to the residence of a well-known and prominent member of the citizens' alliance and another ran to the residence of a well-known detective of the mine owners' union; that the experiment was repeated and the result was the same; that Bell then took the dogs away and denied that this was any proof as to the culprit.

If the dogs had gone to the residence of any union laborer, it would have been taken as proof positive that the owner was the criminal, and

he would have been hung in less time than it takes to tell the tale. But the crimes of assault that have been committed in Colorado, by both sides, and no matter how aggravating and outrageous, are of little moment in comparison with the arbitrary setting aside of every civil law and constitutional right, protection and privilege. These usurpations of despotic power have demonstrated that a governor—a single man placed in the gubernatorial chair—with the assistance of the state military forces, which are entirely at his personal and uncontrolled command, can set aside both the national and state constitutions; that he can ignore every court and every form of civil authority; that he can retire through the threats of his military, every elective state, county or municipal official whom the people have chosen to administer their affairs and that he can fill the vacancies with his own appointees.

These acts have proved that the governor may of his own motion declare any class of citizens of his state or many classes, to be "undesirable," and with force of his military, he may deport them. They prove that only such citizens may figure their tenure in a state as safe as may submissively worship at the shrine of the governor. They prove that in this "land of the free," the governor has really more despotic power than was ever assumed by a king or the most despotic czar.

These conditions may be new to us, and many of us may not as yet have adsorbed their full portent; but we must awaken to the fact that the things here briefly stated have been done, that the precedent has been established; and further, that there has been no emphatic protest entered by the American citizens of other states who have been spectators at the presentation of the Colorado tragedies; and I want to say, too, to the "better element" of the community of observing states that have prevented the expression of any objection by the weight of their quasi approval, that it is a poor rule that will not act both ways, and that if some day the laborer wakes to a realization of his numerical power both at the ballot box and in the application of force and applies these same methods to those who are now applying them to him, that no matter how fully warranted their loud protests may be, or how thier cries of anguish may rend the tendrils of an honest conscience, while they may receive our commiseration, they will not be in a position to demand any sort of justice.

We are not at this time, condoning or excusing, nor have we ever condoned or excused any infraction of the laws by the union laborers of Colorado; but such crimes as union laborers may have committed were all punishable under the statutes of the state; there were the courts and the officers ready and willing to perform their duties in enforcing the laws and every infraction could have been properly punished. But such crimes as may have been committed by members of unions, or all of them put together, were of such infinitesimal importance when contrasted with the criminal acts of Peabody acting at the dictates of the mine owners' union and the citizens' alliance, that they shrink to such small proportions as to be scarcely discernable. Members of the unions may have committed simple crimes against individuals; but Peabody committed the most flagrant crimes against the nation and its established conceptions and declarations of personal liberty and individual and collective right. We do not plead that Mr. Calderhead "does not understand the situation in Colorado," he understands it fully, and he also appreciates and understands the blow that Peabody and his Hessians have struck at real American liberty.

Then, your correspondent says that "capital and labor should go arm in arm," and it is a sentiment that the poet may weave many a muse about; and when our thoughts float away to a dreamy millenium, we are able to tint the stern reality with the rosy hues of this moral speculation; but when we come down to the realities of every-day life, we find capital in the market buying with its cash—labor at the lowest market price; and we find labor there selling at the highest price it can command—and right in this market, where their interests are as diametrically opposite as can be, we find them disentwining their arms and taking antagonistic positions.

The first business move of these arm-in-arm brothers is antagonistic—and pity 'tis, under our present system, no matter how much we may moralize, they must so continue. It must be conceded by every one who has given the matter thought or has come in contact with its exactions, that capital is essentially selfish; that its one object is to make money.

That being granted, it follows that capital buys as cheap as it can—raw material and labor; it sells its finished products to the consuming public at the highest price it can command. These necessities to the maximum of prosperity for capital, have produced the universal trust organization.

Capital being wholly selfish, and it having organized the capitalistic unions for its own benefit, it must be taken for granted that it will set in motion such business policies as will add to its profits. To add to its profits it must and will by the organization of trusts, place itself in position where it will not compete with itself in the labor market, and it being organized into a consolidated single bidder for labor, will be in position to name the price at which the laborer shall sell his work; it will also be placed in the same position as the purchaser of raw material. On the other hand, being in single control of the finished products, which the people must have that they may live, it will make the people pay the highest price for those things they must buy.

Capital has one abnormal faculty—commercialism. It is in business for profit. The smaller price it has to pay for labor and raw material, and the higher price it can force the public to pay for the finished product, the more it can make—and if your correspondent can point out any room in this business scheme for "affection," we would like to have him indicate the exact spot. The theory that the interests of capital and labor are identical is one that affords opportunity for oratorical hyperbole, but it offers no jutting upon which to hang a reason of fact. As Cleveland said, this is a condition and not a theory that confronts us. Altruistic dreams are of little use when the sternest of adverse conditions are staring us in the face. We have allowed ourselves to be marched up to the dividing line where, if we display the intelligence that is required of American citizens, we must say: this is for the interest of capital (using the word in the common acceptance of the term) and this is what it will do if we allow it; this is for the interests of the people who are not rated as capitalists, and this is what must be done for them if their interests are to be concerned—and having marked the ways, we must each for himself chose which of them we will follow.

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