

GOV. PEABODY AND FREE LABOR

After long silence Governor Peabody of Colorado issues an adroit appeal to the "law-abiding" citizens and "conservative" unionists of Colorado to re-elect him to the position that he has prostituted that he may again resume his reign of despotism in that fair state. His appeal overflows with general and indefinite charges against members of the Western Federation of Miners. Nearly if not all of these charges have already been proven absolutely false by the prosecutors themselves, who abandoned their prosecution before trial in some instances. This fact is recognized by the governor himself by his failure to be specific.

And here follows the hypocritical climax of his frenzied appeal:

"I have had to deal with an organization which has no counterpart in this country. Its official proclamation, full of defiance and challenge, issued from time to time, have amounted, as has been said, to a 'declaration of war against the state.'

"I have met the challenge with a policy none too vigorous for the outlawry I was called to oppose. But through it all I have had but one object, and that to show the people of Colorado that the laws will be upheld—that a criminal organization can not dictate the policy of this administration, and that everywhere within the borders of Colorado, property shall be secure and labor shall be free."

"Labor shall be free," forsooth! Yet every attempt to make the conditions of labor free in Colorado has been frustrated by Governor Peabody and his official mob. After the people of Colorado had voted in favor of constitutional amendments for the betterment of the conditions of labor this official anarchistic mob urged on by the most corrupt elements of Colorado, defeated that will of the people in the state legislature. All this was well set forth in a recent issue of McClure's by Ray Stanard Baker and needs no repetition here.

But the essence of hypocrisy appears in the expression that in Colorado "labor shall be free." This flattering phrase is too often rung into the ears of members of organized labor. "Be free men." Free indeed. Yet every attempt of laborers to be free, truly free, is frustrated by such would-be despots as Peabody. Who can honestly say that any laboring man is free so long as he must beg for leave to toil? And having secured from monopoly the "leave to toil," he must accept for his labor not what he honestly earns, but what monopoly sees fit to pay. Free indeed. How free is he who leaves his home in the early hours of morning without a mouthful of food, leaving the last morsel there for a careworn wife with hollow cheeks who in her turn bestows it upon a starving child? How free is he who having left his home under such conditions and tramped footsore all day long, secures at last from some "captain of industry" a leave to toil, and hears from that captain the words, "Your pay will be one dollar a day"? Can he say, "I think I ought to have two dollars a day"? Is he free? No, he will not say such things. He dare not. But with bowed head he stoops to kiss the hand of him who bestows upon him this "blessing." No, it is not the freedom of labor that such fellows as Peabody desire. It is the more complete dependence, the more abject enslavement of those who toil. When an attempt was made a year or two past to pass a constitutional amendment in Colorado that would have lifted from the back of labor its burden of taxation and freed the storehouse of nature that labor might apply its genius and enrich itself in nature's bounty, thereby doing much to "free labor," did Peabody and his official mob aid the cause? Far from it. It is hardly likely now that the labor unionists and the American, liberty-loving citizens of Colorado will be deceived by the governor's hypocritical appeal. They will assert their rights and their manhood, and show to him and his kind what "free labor" really means.

LABOR DAY.

It is encouraging to note the continued interest manifested year after year in the observance of Labor day. It is still more encouraging to note that more and more, each year, the day is devoted not alone to sport and idle frolic, though this is to be encouraged, but that the day is being made one of education as well. Labor organizations have served a great purpose, and their continued growth proves that they are becoming more and more appreciated by toilers of all classes year after year. But the greatest work of labor organizations has yet to be accomplished. They can not hope for any permanent good in mere increases of wages and shortening of hours. Time and again they have

learned that this, however good in itself, is of very small importance. They have found that most of the increase of wages has been absorbed by greater cost of living—especially in the item of rent. They will yet see the importance of wielding that potential power they possess at the ballot box, in bringing about a more equitable economic system of things. They have already accomplished much in this line. They will accomplish more in days to come. Meantime their celebration of labor day on the first Monday of September will continue its educating influence. The unions of Lincoln have prepared an inviting program of exercises at Lincoln park. Let the great work continue.

THE BROOKLYN EAGLE.

After having accomplished the reorganization of the democratic party, the reorganizers, of which the Brooklyn Eagle has been most conspicuous, propose to "rub it in" on the reform democrats. The Eagle recently said that the "gold telegram" of Judge Parker had "made the convention right about face, after the Bryan men had been absolutely foorced." "Judge Parker had made the convention reverse itself, and his telegram as a gold plank, had virtually been injected into the bowels of the platform, and the overthrow of Bryan and his handful of malignants or scoundrels had been made manifestly complete." "Injected into the bowels of the platform" is certainly a dignified expression to come from the chief organ of the "safe and sane" democracy. It refers to Mr. Bryan as having "broken loose again," and having "given the adhesion of the lip and the incision of the dagger to Judge Parker's candidacy."

"Nor was free silver," says the Eagle, "the only infamy and idiocy of the platforms of 1896 and 1900. Free riot, the packing of the United States supreme court in the interest of repudiation and riot, sympathy with murderous strikes and striking murderers, the war on thrift and property, involved in a demand for a tax on incomes, and many other abominations," etc. The two planks in the St. Louis platform that squint at progressive democracy, the Philippine and tariff planks, the Eagle roundly denounces, but these, says the Eagle, "do not command our open hostility, because the republicans will have the senate, for the whole of the next presidential term, and can not lose it." Besides the Eagle is sure that Parker's nomination nullifies the "nonsense" of these two planks. Think of the attitude of a party that appeals for votes by assuring the country that voters need not fear the only two planks that do seem to raise an issue, by assuring them that their candidate will be "conservative" and "safe and sane" on these points, and that even if the party does go wrong on them, the republicans will protect the country from rash democracy. Think of it. And then to think of an intelligent man asking other intelligent men to support such a ticket. And here is the warning that the Eagle serves upon all those democrats who were loyal to their ticket when it was worth supporting, while it turned traitor: "Those who expect consideration at the hands of the new democracy, which is the old, will do well to keep their identification with the rancid rottenness of 1896 and 1900 out of sight and out of mind." There you have it, Mr. Bryan democrat. How like you the picture? Think of the absurdity of the attempt to harmonize such a democracy. Think of the idiocy involved in the attempt to persuade the American people to elevate to trust and power such a malodorous aggregation of pretenders.

MR. BRYAN'S SUPPORT OF PARKER

In the Commoner, June 24, of the present year, just two months past, the following is what Mr. Bryan said of Judge Parker, democracy's nominee for president:

"The editor of the Commoner learned months before that Judge Parker was Mr. Morgan's candidate. Before the papers began to boom him it was known that he was being discussed in financial circles, and eighteen months ago Mr. Morgan was reported to have declared him a safe and suitable man before the papers began to discuss the possibility of his candidacy. We have had one J. Pierpont Morgan president, and he did the democratic party more harm than all the republican presidents since the war. When the republicans elect a Wall street man, the democrats can denounce him and gain recruits by so doing. When the democrats are unfortunate enough to have a Wall street president, they have to either denounce him or apologize for him, and no matter which they do they have to bear the odium of his administration. No wonder Mr. Cleveland

speaks highly of Judge Parker. He is on the inside, and knows that Mr. Parker is satisfactory to Morgan and Belmont and the other financial magnates who run the Cleveland administration and yet while it is as plain as day that the Parker boom finds its source in Wall street, there are many democrats who are trying to argue themselves into believing that Judge Parker would be a good man to harmonize on. He has the same environment that Mr. Cleveland had, and it can be set down as a certainty that Wall street always finds out a man's views before it supports him, however much those views may be concealed from the public generally."

And yet in less than one month after pronouncing the above denunciation, Mr. Bryan was urging his followers to support this "J. Pierpont Morgan (candidate for) president."

"When the democrats are unfortunate enough to have a Wall street president, they have to either denounce him or apologize for him, and no matter what they do, they have to bear the odium of his administration." Strong words these, and though Mr. Bryan has, since the St. Louis convention, said that he had "nothing to take back," yet he desires to put upon the democratic party "the odium of a Wall street administration" of the presidency. Can he do so and remain a good democrat—a Jeffersonian democrat? If Mr. Bryan knew what he was saying when he wrote the foregoing (and he had no moral right to say it, if he did not know it to be true), can he be sincere with his loyal following and true to his conscience now? He must have known it to be true when he wrote it, for he now says he has "nothing to take back." Yet he asks the American people to elect this second edition of Cleveland to the presidency, and thereby put upon not only the democratic party, but the American people as well, the necessity of apologizing for another "Wall street administration." If Mr. Bryan's following desire to destroy his influence in the democratic party they will vote for Parker. If they desire to preserve it, they will vote for Watson and Tibbles.

JUDGE PARKER "HIS OWN PLATFORM."

The Press-Post (Columbus, Ohio) in appeal for support of Judge Parker, says:

"In breaking the sphinx-like silence he has maintained, Judge Parker has fulfilled the promise of his sponsors when they asserted that he was the ideal candidate for a "safe and sane" democracy.

"Taking his speech as its keynote, the democracy clearly is presenting its appeal to the nation on grounds to which the most conservative can raise no objections. No longer can the charge of wishing to disturb the business conditions of the country be laid at the door of democracy.

"Even more than the platform, does the speech of Judge Parker indicate that the party has completely reversed the policy of the last two campaigns.

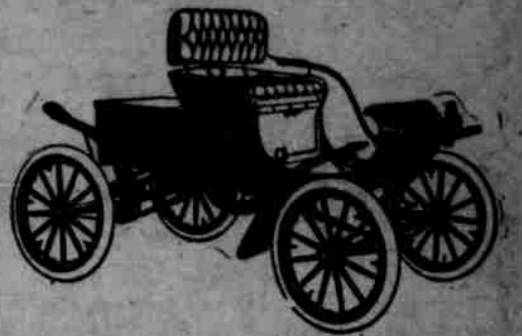
"No longer can the democratic party be characterized as socialistic, populist or anarchistic, for it contains no element of any one of these doctrines or set of doctrines.

"There is none of the Roosevelt in Judge Parker. He is as distinct from Roosevelt as day is from night. There is no trace of Bryan, of Debs, of Weaver, or of Swallow. He is himself, the scholarly, dignified, independent, courageous, refined and moderate judge. His whole speech, his whole personality teems with the idea that he wants to do whatever is reasonable. He is his own platform; his own issue."

There you have it "Mr. Bryan democrat." You claim to support Judge Parker because of the "good democratic platform," but Judge Parker "is his own platform; his own issue." No trace of Bryan about him. Only "safe and sane democracy." You are insulted for your support of the platform under Bryan, yet to be "regular" you vote for your traducers. Mr. Bryan says his election will "check imperialism," yet Judge Parker is already proving himself an imperialist with his party. Can he be an imperialist at home and a Jeffersonian democrat in foreign relations?

The Plattsmouth Journal says "Judge Parker's initials stand for 'A Born President.'" They may also stand for "A Born Plutocrat," or, reversing they may stand for "Plutocrat's Born Ally." Small comfort may be had from spelling out hope from initials.

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We have yet about 10,000 acres of this land to sell with perpetual water rights and are of the opinion that anyone purchasing a farm in this valley will double his money within one year.

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We have sold this week two farms in the Box Elder, Larimer county, Colorado, to a prominent gentleman of Lincoln. After purchasing them he leased them for three years, at an annual rental of 15 per cent on his investment, to good and responsible parties.

We have sold several parties during the past year who have rented their farms at equally as high percentage.

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