

that even upon this question Parker is a coward and takes no positive stand more than that taken by Roosevelt. His supporters can not point to an utterance of Parker's assuring the Filipinos that we propose to immediately promise them their independence or self-government. Parker only says that it must be the purpose of this government to grant them such "as soon as they are fitted for it." This is as definite as he has made himself upon this question. And that is no more definite than Roosevelt was when he assured them the same thing in a congressional message. And the pledge of Roosevelt must be accepted as the more genuine, because it is an official document.

But suppose Mr. Parker is an advocate of justice to the Filipinos. Are the people of this nation to receive no relief from oppression? Are we to be lulled into silence? Are we to be quieted in our own appeals for economic justice, just to enable Mr. Parker to be just to the Filipinos? In fact, is not this hypocritical plea only the old play of tyrants to divert the attention of the people from affairs at home by complications abroad? This has been the game of tyrants in every age of the past, when they could no longer appeal to the people upon the basis of justice at home. Can we trust a domestic tyrant to carry democratic principles to foreign peoples? Parker stands for economic imperialism at home. Can he stand for political liberty there? Can he be just abroad if not in favor of justice at home? In a recent interview Mr. Parker said to Frederick H. Monroe, president of the Henry George association of Chicago: "We are stronger without your support"—"Your" referring to the radical democracy of the nation. If Mr. George believes Parker was right in that statement does he desire to defeat him?

Now, just for a moment, consider this other part of George's plea. To wit: "Since we must choose between Parker and Roosevelt," etc. Great God, what a plea! Do those who make this plea ever stop a moment to consider it. If two men are candidates for an office, both representing the same thing, or, rather one representing the genuine article and the other a counterfeit of it, and if the people vote only for these two, what does it mean? It means only that all the people are opposed to anything not represented by these two men. That is what it means and nothing else. It means that the people are satisfied with present conditions. It means that they want nothing to do with socialism, prohibition, trade unionism, and above all it means that they want nothing to do with the single tax, that philosophy that dives to the root of all injustice. Therefore, if all the people vote for these two candidates where is the hope for the reforms for which reformers have struggled in every age? Where is the hope for the reform for which the illustrious Henry George laid down his life? On the other hand every vote registered against both these candidates is a protest against present inequities, against present economic injustice. Let the hosts of reform not listen to such pleas, but rally like men to their standards.—Q.

**KNOCK 'EM DOWN**

The campaign of the people's party is directed equally against both old parties. We fight Roosevelt and his policies of government and we fight Parker and the same policies and could do nothing else. From a selfish party standpoint, it would be best for the populists that Parker should be elected. That would settle the matter as far as any attempt would be made to destroy the populist party by being swallowed by the democrats. The defection which is apparent from the democratic party in every state in the union would be permanent. Notwithstanding all that, the populist party is going to fight Parker and prevent his election if it is possible.

It is going to fight Roosevelt and would beat him if it were possible. Populists hate republican greed and republican Wall street rule with just as much intensity as they ever did. They have not forgotten how they were hounded by the republican press for years and called lunatics, anarchists and socialists in the same sentence ten thousand times over. Populists know that whichever of the twins wins out in this fight, the policies of the government will be the same and they can have no choice. If the populist campaign in one state helps Parker and in another helps Roosevelt, it does not remove the vileness of the charge that in the former we are charged with "getting democratic money" and in the latter that we are "getting republican money." In both cases the man making such a charge deserves to be knocked down. In the first place the

populist national committee hasn't any money. Less than \$1,000 all told has been sent to the committee. The national candidates are paying their own expenses out of their own pockets, and both of them will likely be swamped so bad at the end of the campaign that it will take them some time to earn money enough to square up. To bring such charges against men in that condition deserves to be answered with the tip of the jaw. Some of them will get it if they don't look out.

**GORMAN ON THE BRIDGE**

For some two or three weeks all sorts of stories have been sent out concerning the rows in the democratic national committee. About the only thing that was certain was that the committee was doing nothing and the campaign that ought to have been under full headway was not even started. There was evidently a fight between Tom Taggart and those who supported the democratic ticket during the last two campaigns, and those who bolted and voted either for McKinley or Palmer and Buckner. The result is that the old bolters came out on top and now are in full control. Taggart has been sent home and Gorman has been put in charge.

It appears to The Independent that the democratic Wall street gang is rubbing it in pretty hard. They do not expect to elect Parker, but they do expect to get complete control of the party machinery in every county and state, so that Bryan's threat to reorganize after the election will be futile. All the way he can reorganize will be to get up subsidiary organizations under the democratic name that will not be recognized by the authorities of the party. The Gorman outfit, which is gold-bug and high tariff, will control everything and Mr. Bryan will be entirely eliminated. That is what this new deal means. They will have the great machine—and men who know anything about practical politics know what that means—in every state in the union except the democratic organization in Nebraska, completely at their command. Even if Bryan succeeds in keeping control of the machine in this state, it will be too feeble to keep him before the public as a national character. All the speeches that he can make in this campaign for Parker, will not soften Gorman's heart. All the real leaders who supported Bryan have already left the democratic party, or will leave it before this campaign is over, and they will not be there to help Bryan reorganize. All that will be left to fight Gorman, Cleveland and the controlling force in the democratic party, will be Bryan and the democratic organization in Nebraska where it never yet polled 50,000 votes.

At first there was talk of getting Bryan to New York to counteract the stampede of genuine democrats to the people's party. Now, since Gorman has been put in charge of the campaign, it is intimated that he is not wanted, and that he would do more harm than good if he went to New York, or any other eastern state. All this is no surprise to populists who have been readers of The Independent. As soon as Bryan came home from the St. Louis convention and wrote those famous words: "I shall vote for Parker and Davis," every populist knew what his fate would be. Wall street had got the great democratic machine away from him, and it would use that machine to establish plutocracy.

**NEW JERSEY POPULISTS**

The movement in New Jersey is of as much importance it seems as the great bolt from the democratic party in New York. Populism is marching on with seven-league boots all over the eastern states. The Baltimore Daily American, in speaking of the upheaval in New Jersey, says:

"The independent-democratic movement in New Jersey is of formidable aspect and places any possibility of success in that state for the Parker-Davis ticket out of the reckoning. The bolting convention, which assembled at Atlantic City on Saturday, was composed of representative democrats—men who have had a voice in party management and have been possessed of prestige and influence. Efforts on the part of the regular organization to prevent and finally to disorganize, the convention after it had assembled proved unavailing. The action of the convention has attracted the greatest attention throughout the state, and the unconcealed feeling in democratic circles is that the democracy of the state is hopelessly split.

"The people's democratic party," as the new movement is called, walls nominating an independent candidate for governor of New Jersey, will support the Watson-Tibbles presidential ticket. The introductory clause of the

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There can be no doubt that Stillman considers all labor organizations as "unintelligent competition." If Stillman can get his bank schemes through congress, there will be no more labor organizations to trouble the capitalists.

**WHAT WALL STREET PROPOSES**

When in New York in attendance at the Cooper Union meeting, the editor of The Independent was surprised at the certainty of every banker that he met, that at the coming session of congress there would be an act passed authorizing branch banking and asset currency. At the meeting of the National Bankers' association in New York last week, President Bigelow said:

"A bond-secured currency never did and never can respond to the demands of trade. On the other hand, a circulating medium, to be efficient, to be

a ready help, needs to be invoked promptly without displacement of capital; to do its instant work and as promptly to be retired.

"With regard to silver, I should like to see part of the silver stock converted into subsidiary coins and part of it sold outright; it is a strained and abnormal situation that we have in silver. Everything has been done by practical rules and regulations to minimize the danger of these silver issues, but still they are inherently wrong."

Mr. Bigelow also argued that small banks in country districts should be allowed to carry a certain percentage of paper on real estate security. This speech of the president of the National Bankers' association taken in connection with the argument of Stillman in favor of concentrating all business and the control of all capital in few hands, gives pretty certain indication of the kind of contract made by Morgan and Rodgers with President Roosevelt. One great trust, such as Ignatius Donnelly described in one of his books, is what these men are intent upon. They are laying their plans while the great dailies are amusing the people with stories about baths and dives and the horseback rides of the