

Every man who knows him will testify to that fact. Berge does not ride on railroad passes and Mickey does. Berge declares that if he is elected he will use all the influence of the governor's office to make the railroads pay their just part of the taxes. If you are any sort of a man at all you will vote for Berge.

THROWING VOTES AWAY

"Don't throw your vote away," is the new catch phrase of plutocracy. "One of two candidates, Roosevelt or Parker will certainly be elected," they say, "and if you vote for any other candidate, you throw your vote away." Such an argument is directed to the man who never thinks, for if stated seriously to a man who does think, it would be met by a burst of denunciation.

In the first place, it presumes that the man addressed has no principles whatever, that he is only actuated by a motive to be on the winning side and cast his vote with that party that has the best chance of winning, even if winning means the destruction of everything he holds to be honest, upright and for the good of his country. It comes at a man with the presumption that he is willing to cast his vote for a system that he believes would result in suffering, toil and hardships for the many, if only when the votes are counted he finds that his vote was among the unknown millions who voted for the winning side. It assumes that the voter so addressed has no desire to better his own condition, or leave a country for his children where they may enjoy peace and comfort—no higher aspiration while on this earth, no greater legacy to leave the world than to have it recorded of him that he was always with the majority, though that majority made slaves of him and his, and substituted a plutocracy for the free republic that the sacrifice and blood of his ancestors left to him. There is nothing that can be said to an honest man that would so enrage him as such a proposition. The man who makes such an argument is as base, low and vile as a human can get.

The honest man wants to say to his children when he comes to pull the green robe of mother earth over him and sleep the sleep that knows no waking here below: "I never cast my vote or gave my influence for a policy I believed was wrong. I stood alone, even if I had to stand alone, for what I believed was right. Though the way seemed broad and strewn with flowers and the multitudes walked therein, I chose the straight and narrow way, though sometimes there were few who found it."

That is the kind of a record that an honest man would want to make. He would not want it recorded on his tomb that he always followed the crowd, he never had any principles of his own, he was so afraid of "throwing his vote away," he would never stand up and be counted among those who protested against wrong. He never asked if a thing was right or wrong. All he wanted to know was whether he was going to be with the winning side or not.

Whenever a man comes to you with that catch phrase about throwing your vote away, that is the sort of a creature he takes you to be. If you are a "man" you will resent it. If he is of your size and you knock him down for so grossly insulting you, the recording angel will look the other way while the job is being done, for no greater insult could be offered you. It may not be right to knock a man down who calls you a liar or a thief, but in the case where a man tells you that you are willing to turn traitor to your country, your wife and your children, just for the sake of "winning," the case is different.

In whatever state you live go to the polls and cast your vote for the people's party electoral ticket if you believe the platform represents your principles. Do it if you are the only man in your county. Then go home and have your little daughter sing the old Sunday school hymn, "Dare to stand alone." If you do, you will be proud of the act as long as you live.

VINDICATED

The position taken by the editor of The Independent in regard to the fact that 30,000 populists in this state had refused to vote for the last few years has been fully vindicated by the work of one of the most careful and scholarly statisticians in this or any other state. For some weeks this gentleman has been investigating the subject and carefully comparing the official election returns and the result of the work shows that no populists have gone over to the republicans, that they are all here and are populists still. The republican vote in this state has not increased even in proportion to

the increase of population and in many parts of the state has actually decreased.

In the fight that occurred before the state convention was held the editor of The Independent constantly asserted that there were 30,000 populists in this state who had refused to vote and that there could be no prospect of carrying the state unless such a course was pursued as would get the populists to turn out and vote. Such statements when made to the wise politicians, were usually met with a sarcastic remark or a flat contradiction. The work of this statistician—the totals of part of which are printed in this issue—is a complete vindication of the course pursued by The Independent.

We are glad to announce without fear of further contradiction that there are as many populists in the state today as there were in 1892 or 1896. They can never be induced, cajoled or deceived into voting for any Wall street gang. The republicans can never get them. They stand today as they have ever stood, ready and willing to fight the money power, the railroads and the concentration of wealth. They can not be bribed or forced into supporting any man who allies himself with any Wall street machine under any name.

It would be a wise move if "the wise ones" would make some effort to get these 30,000 populists to vote.

WATTERSON SNUBBED

Henry Watterson got a dose of Wall street that he did not at all relish. He says that he and Clark Howell of the Atlanta Constitution were not treated with even ordinary courtesy by the democratic gold standard papers of New York at the recent meeting of the editors in that city. Those papers refused to print the speeches of Watterson and Howell. Watterson has been cuddling up to Wall street for several years, doing all the dirty work in the south for plutocracy that was demanded of him and now he finds that he is going to the same fate that Benedict Arnold did. After enumerating all the discourtesies that were heaped upon him, he concludes that "these things make us feel in the west and south—particularly in the south—that we are blacklisted in New York, that there is some sectional ban against us, that, personally, politically and professionally, we bear the ban sinister even in the house of our newspaper kindred."

We are sorry for Henry because he takes the matter so much to heart. He ought to do as the editor of The Independent does when he goes down to Wall street. He snaps his finger at the whole gang, tells them that they are the worst thieves of all God's ages, and then on the side gives them a little instruction in the science of banking, or how to keep order, and points out to them the fate that is in store for them. They always listen with the greatest interest, after which the bankers generally ask for a further conversation or offer to take him out automobile riding. He has found out that neither the lords or dukes of England, or the pirates of Wall street have any respect for a sycophant. If a man wants to be treated with respect in Wall street, instead of being obsequious he must make it plain that he is ready to fight for his money and his opinions.

GOD'S ASSISTANTS

It is doubtful if man ever achieved anything that nature unassisted would not have accomplished as the cycles of time rolled on. Man simply hastens the processes of evolution, he can not alter them in the least. If it were otherwise, chaos would result. Emerson well says: "There is a power in nature and over the heart of every man, so that none of us may wrong the universe."

Some times man's interference with nature works the most disastrous consequences for a time, but finally that power which dominates all things, rights the wrong. There are many instances of man's interference with nature to his own injury. Among them the introduction of the English rabbits into Australia, the English sparrow into this country and the coddling moth into Massachusetts. Slowly but surely this is being righted. When man works along the lines of natural evolution, he may be called God's assistant.

In California there lives a man by the name of Luther Burbank. This man has given to the world, among other things, a plum with the flavor of the Bartlett pear; 500 varieties of apples all produced on one tree; painted innumerable lilies in innumerable colors; removed thorns from the cacti family; put new tints into the dahlias and added rows of petals to their blossoms; made daisies as large as the palm of the hand; produced a stoneless

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plum; crossed the plum and apricot; created the paper-shelled walnut, and produced that wonder of the fruit world, the white blackberry. His latest achievement, however, is to change the hue of the California poppy from a bright orange color to a scarlet red. Without taking from or adding a leaf to its foliage, without changing its petals either in size or number, and without reshaping a pistil or remolding a stamen, has this complete change of color been wrought.

Others have produced the seedless orange and the seedless and coreless apple. All this is perhaps only the hastening of evolution which the ages would have accomplished without the assistance of man. It would also appear that wherever man interferes with nature and the result is a blessing to man, the change becomes permanent, where it is hurtful it disappears.

STARVING CHILDREN

Dr. William Maxwell, superintendent of the public schools of New York city, says: "There are hundreds of thousands of children in our schools who can not learn because they are always hungry." Why are these children always hungry? Because the Wall street government of that city makes their parents pay a daily tribute to Rockefeller, Belmont and others, in excessive charges for gas, coal, electricity, street car fares and in a thousand other ways by which these privileged few gather millions and the children go hungry. The Independent will never support any man, not even if he were clothed in the shining robes of God's angels, as long as he votes for and advocates the election of any of the men who starve the children that they may gather millions.

WHAT DOES IT PORTEND?

There was never such a state of affairs known in this country as exists in our great cities today. The readers of The Independent were informed of the extraordinary precautions taken by the New York police to get the president across the city when he returned to Oyster Bay from Washington. When he started back to Washington, the New York police would not guarantee his safe passage through the city and he was transferred from Oyster Bay to Jersey City in a government revenue cutter. Ten detectives surrounded him on his way from his house to the water's edge, two stayed with him while on the vessel, and the others hastened by rail to Jersey City to guard the landing in advance. There, these detectives were reinforced by a whole battalion of Jersey police. The president was not allowed to walk from the pier to the special car—a distance of less than two blocks—but was put in a carriage with a detective on the seat with the driver and six more in front, on each side and behind. Besides that policemen were

strung all along in a line on each side of the way. Roosevelt is not a coward and when he submits to such extraordinary precautions as that, he must be convinced that he is on the verge of breaking out at any moment. What does all this portend?

THE POPULIST PLAN

The populist plan is that the very poor, that the men and women who toil ceaselessly and can only obtain enough to sustain themselves and their families, should pay no taxes. That was the idea of all the great men of the earlier times. They, therefore, in nearly all the states, exempted from taxation a certain amount of household goods, a cow, a team, the tools of a trade, etc. In those days we had men in charge of the government who had hearts as well as brains. Now the government has passed over into the hands of the sons of Wall street, and the whole burden of taxes is taken from the rich and placed upon the poor. A tariff tax is a tax upon consumption. You pay the tax in the increase put upon the price of everything that you buy. To remedy this evil the populists proposed an income tax, forced it through congress, and a court, in the interest of the rich, pronounced it unconstitutional, although the same court for eighty years, had repeatedly declared it good, sound law.

OUR CORRESPONDENTS

It becomes more difficult every day for the editor to choose between the contributions of really valuable articles to The Independent. The desk is stacked high with contributions that indicate in the writers an insight into the political situation of the day that would put to shame the intellect of the average daily newspaper editor, judging from the specimens of political rot emanating from those sources. Every one of these contributions is worthy of space in every paper, and some of them of a higher order than is often seen in the magazines. It is a source of great embarrassment to The Independent that space can not be found for all of them. However, we have not entirely despaired. It may be that these papers will yet appear before the campaign is over. Those that do not, and that are of a character that can be used at any time, will appear from time to time as occasion will allow.

During this political campaign the pressure upon the columns of The Independent is so great that much news of surpassing interest to thinking people must be suppressed. In that class comes all the news that is creating such an upheaval in scientific circles. The chemists are creating a new heaven and a new earth. Even that conservative publication, The Journal of Psychology, in discussing electro-chemistry, says: "Mind constructs the body."