

(?) thus extended. But, be that as it may, the more acute silver question monopolized the field of politics to the exclusion, in a large measure, of the railroad issue for a number of years.

Now, that the silver question has passed off the stage, the railroad question which has grown to an acute stage is its legitimate successor in the politics of the state, and from present indications it is likely to occupy a position near the center of the stage in national politics.

Every new issue is accompanied by a new alignment of voters and the railroad issue is not likely to be an exception to the rule. To illustrate our meaning it is only necessary to call attention to the fact that among the most ardent bimetalists were found railroad presidents and manufacturers who profit by high tariffs and even some of the lesser lights of Standard Oil. Therefore, the alignment of voters upon the railroad question does not necessarily bear any relation to the alignment in the contest for bimetalism.

It remains to be seen whether or not the leaders of the democratic party in the state of Nebraska will acknowledge the railroad question as paramount in the politics of the state, and will select its candidates with special reference to dealing with that question. When they do this in absolute good faith the need of an independent organization to further that issue will have passed away, but not until then.

The fact that the party will make loud professions of hostility to railroad control in politics in its platform is not sufficient. The republicans will undoubtedly do the same. But the voter is very young and green who will accept the joint professions of the two great political parties of the state as settling the question or offering assurances of relief from railroad extortion.

It is true that the democrats in congress made a very much better showing than the republicans did upon the rate bill. But it is also true that no such bill would not have been before congress were it not for President Roosevelt. And, at this time there would be little assurance that the successor to President Roosevelt would continue the work initiated by him against railroad extortion and trust control were it not for the great and growing popularity of William J. Bryan, to whom alone among the great national leaders have the people reason to look for genuine measures of relief.

But aside from what congress may do or can do for the relief of the people there is yet a great work to be done in Nebraska that must be done by the citizens of our state to bring relief to the producers any taxpayers which makes it expedient for the people's independent party to maintain an effective organization until the alignment upon the railroad question is completed, and the people have evidence of good faith, in deeds done.

Again the fate that overtook the democratic party in the state two years ago must not be overlooked. In that year when the railroads and corporations named the democratic candidate for the presidency there were but comparatively few instances in the

state where the democrats and populists co-operated in the local county elections, resulting in the loss of the legislative ticket generally as well as county officers in that year. It should also be recalled that last year fusions were effected in a large number of counties in the state resulting in the court houses being recaptured by the fusionists. Under the circumstances it does not require a giant intellect to comprehend the need, for the present at least of an independent political organization that will co-operate with the democrats, in order to stand a reasonable chance of electing state officers and a legislature the present year.

When you visit Lincoln call upon The Independent. Our latch string is always out.

Tillman did good work in the conference on the rate bill. He deserves great credit.

It now looks as though the New York democrats would have to nominate William Randolph Hearst in self-defense.

A good fellow is good in his proper place. But, a good fellow is not good politically unless he stands for correct principles of government.

If you have friends to whom you wish to have sample copies of The Independent sent, send in their names and a copy of the paper will be mailed to each of them.

The state committee of the people's independent party has been called to meet in Lincoln on the 12th inst. The call contains an invitation to members of the party generally to be present.

If President Roosevelt only possessed genuine ability equal to his ambition he would accomplish much good, and make for himself a great name. As it is he does some good by making a great deal of noise.

It is now reported that Hon. William J. Bryan will arrive home about August 1st. He will receive a continual ovation from the time he lands in New York until he seeks refuge in his beautiful home at Fairview.

The exposures in connection with packing house products is of the most revolting nature. The muck rake is entitled to the thanks of the nation for uncovering a source of danger to the public health which was not suspected.

On account of throwing down his friends and allies on the rate bill the president is shorn of much of the power he formerly possessed which enabled him to do business. But he has the power left to expose abuses and attract attention to them, but in betraying his democratic allies and losing their confidence he has parted with the club that he held over the members of his own party in congress, and is therefore helpless.

The late Senator Arthur Pue Gorman was one of the foremost polit-

ical manipulators and legislative compromisers of his day. But, his name has never been linked with any measure calculated to perpetuate or hallow his memory.

Democrats must remember that the party experienced considerable tribulation in its efforts to keep gold democrats from monopolizing the offices. In selecting candidates for office it will be well to investigate their railroad connections until after the railroad question is settled.

Democrats are complaining that Roosevelt stole the ideas upon which his popularity was built out of a democratic platform. But nobody ever heard them complain that their party confiscated the whole platform of the populist sin 1896, and in addition to the platform scooped in a couple of million populist votes.

Bryan has always spoken kindly and respectfully of Roosevelt. Well, Roosevelt has made more votes for Bryan in the last two years than it was possible for any other fifty men in the country to make. It was because he was in the right position to call attention to a few democratic principles, and he did not neglect to do so.

If Senator Tillman really knew how many friends and admirers he has throughout the county it might stimulate his vanity a little. Intelligence, honesty and backbone count when the opportunity is presented, particularly when the possessor of these qualities has in addition thereto courage and aggressiveness. Tillman possesses all of these qualities and the country has just received a benefit therefrom.

Elkins realizes that Senator Tillman has the ear of the voters of West Virginia, and that his word would carry great weight among his constituents, and being somewhat under suspicion as regards his attitude on the rate bill he did not dare provoke the austere South Carolinian, by insisting upon mutilating the rate bill in conference. Tillman was the right man in the right place on the conference committee.

Bryan is the only hope of the democratic party. If the party can be made attractive to genuine democrats by dispensing the real article, every state in the Union will become overwhelmingly democratic in the near future. The popularity and power attained by President Roosevelt through promising the country some samples of good democracy proved that the republican party is full of good democrats. If the democratic party had stood for democratic principles in the past both the party and the country would have fared better than they did.

The Eastern conservatives that fought Bryan so vigorously in the past and are now endorsing him on the ground that he has modified his radical views and has grown more conservative, reminds us of the woman in the London fish market skinning eels. A stranger gazing in wonder at her deftness in stripping eels of

their hides and then dropping them into a tray where, minus their epidermus, they continued to squirm, ventured to inquire of her if the process didn't hurt the eels, to which she replied, "No;" explaining that it used to hurt them when she first engaged in that occupation, but that it did not hurt them now as the eels had gotten used to it.

Senator Gorman of Maryland whose death has recently occurred, enjoyed great fame in the South to which he was not justly entitled. He was generally credited with the defeat in the senate of the federal elections law, commonly known as the Lodge force bill. While the senator was opposed to the measure and would undoubtedly have made any sacrifice necessary to secure its defeat, yet the fact remains that the defeat of the bill was not due to the efforts of Senator Gorman. When the bill was before the senate it was violently opposed by the Maryland senator and his friends, but they realized that the bill was made a party measure and that as the republicans had a majority in the senate, there was no hope of defeating the measure, and therefore they decided to make a vigorous opposition for a short period for the purpose of affording an opportunity for southern senators to enter their protest and perfect their individual records regarding the same, when they would permit the bill to be voted upon. Their purpose became known to their colleagues in the senate whereupon Senator Gorman was informed by a republican colleague that if he would make a protracted and seemingly determined fight against the measure, and maintain a defiant attitude showing no signs of weakening, that after a week or two, or a sufficient time has elapsed so that their action would not savor of party disloyalty or attract especial attention, a sufficient number of silver senators would support a motion to displace the force bill on the calendar and thus defeat it. The proposition was made in good faith and accepted and acted upon by Senator Gorman with the result as promised. Senators Stanford of California, Stewart and Jones of Nevada, Teller of Colorado, Cameron of Pennsylvania and one or two others whose names are not recalled voted with the democrats to sidetrack the force bill. It is said that the suggestion leading to this course of action by the republican was originally made to Senator Stanford by Hon. Joseph C. Sibley of Pennsylvania.

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