

A ROMAN EXAMPLE.

ARE WE BECOMING A NATION OF GAMBLERS?

Speculation by Guess Work at the Prices People Will Pay in the Future for the Necessaries of Life—Legalized Gambling Shops Known as Stock Exchanges.

What a nation of gamblers this country is getting to be! We bet on stocks, on wheat, on corn, on cotton, on horse races, on baseball, on yacht races. Every town, even most of the villages, has its gambling shop, its stock ticker. It is even stated on high authority that many society women are desperate gamblers, not only buying and selling stock, but playing poker and bridge with enormous sums. This is a great evil and will result in the destruction of all that is greatest and best in the American character if allowed to continue without protest. The vast sums of money locked up in these gambling transactions are beyond computation, the amount that is paid annually to Chicago and New York by the country is probably enough to pay the national debt. It is a constant drain, for on the average the country gambler has a large percentage against him, the commission charged on every transaction in the end eating up any profits. The banks encourage this gambling, for they make most of their money by loaning on the stocks or produce gambled in.

Of this evil the Nebraska Independent says: This gambling is a loss to the state of such magnitude that no man can compute it. Hundreds of thousands of men are withdrawn from productive industry and legitimate business who spend their lives in gambling. Many hundreds of millions of money are employed in gambling, which if put to work into legitimate industries would give employment to thousands and appreciably raise the price of farm commodities. That is not the worst of it. If it continues to increase it will result in a race of effeminate degenerates and the destruction of modern society. Every thinking man knows this to be true, yet we hear no general outcry against it, and the great churches are silent. They admit to their communions the most notorious gamblers—not those who bet small sums, but those who put large fortunes at stake every day of their lives, sometimes losing all and sometimes making immense fortunes. A man who goes on the board of trade and bets on the rise and fall of prices, who has no goods to sell and never expects any to be delivered to him when he buys, is simply a gambler.

A similar condition of affairs existed in Rome before the fall of that republic, and President Roosevelt, who in his speech at St. Paul so strongly hoped we should emulate the example of the Roman, should warn his countrymen against trying to vie with that degenerate people instead of holding them up as glorious examples.

GOVERNMENT MONEY LOANED TO THE TRUSTS.

Why should the dastardly attempt on the life of the President have made Wall street quail and call for help from the United States treasury? In no event would financial affairs be changed from the present program, the succession to the head of the government was assured to those who would carry out the policy of the present administration. A new Congress with a large Republican majority is but waiting to be called together. Wall street says business never was better and the large fortunes that have and are being amassed by the favored few is an indication that prosperity is in full blast in that favored region. And yet there is an undercurrent of trouble that any untoward event will bring to the surface and prick the beautiful bubble that has been blown with so much care and patience. The banks there have but little cash beyond the reserve they are required by law to keep, and the issue of clearing house certificate is talked of. There must be something radically wrong with a system that has so little stability. One of the causes is over capitalization of the trusts whose stocks the banks have taken as security for loans, and Morgan, Rockefeller and others are also loaded up with them awaiting the time that the least desirable can be unloaded on the investing public. A vast amount of these stocks and bonds have been paid out in lieu of cash for the plants of the manufacturing concerns when the trusts were organized and a good many of these stocks and bonds are constantly being thrown on the market by their owners, either because they would sooner have ready money or they fear they will decrease in price. The underwriting syndicate who organized the trusts are obliged to buy these stocks and bonds or the price would decline and more would be thrown on the market and the bears would take a hand and sell for a decline and a panic would soon be inevitable.

This is the reason that the trusts magnate and their allies, the banking interests, call for aid for the United States treasury, and it may be fairly said that every dollar that is advanced or loaned to them is used to bolster up the trust securities. So it comes to this that the people are being taxed beyond the necessities of the government to create a fund to be loaned to the trusts and the gamblers of Wall street.

REAL TARIFF REFORM.

It now appears there are two kinds of reciprocity, the James G. Blaine brand of 1891-2, which was forced by him on the McKinley tariff bill after his historic and exciting personal in-

terview with the Republican members of the ways and means committee. The other kind is the new brand, samples of which are seen in the reciprocity treaties now before the United States senate. The new Kasson brand is violently opposed by the Protective Tariff League, and in the matter it is furnishing to the Republican newspapers it said:

"Very many of the reductions strike directly at some established and important industry. The textile manufacturers and the jewelry manufacturers of Massachusetts have opposed with especial earnestness the ratification of this (the French) treaty by the senate." It then goes on and says that "the free trade newspapers are favoring this French reciprocity." In reading these fulminations of the league one has to make allowances for its misstatements, such as calling the tariff-reform newspapers free-trade and so forth, for the league is in dire distress just about now. Its scientific tariff is under fire not only by the ever wicked Democrats, but by those of its own household. Even President McKinley in his speech at Buffalo said "that reciprocity treaties are in harmony with the spirit of the times, measures of retaliation are not." But let these tariff doctors fight out who is best capable of making a diagnosis of the disorder that is troubling the over-protected patient and inquire if either of them are likely to strike at the root of the disease. It is not the question of a five or ten per cent reduction of the tariff on a few articles, as the French treaty provides, even allowing that the constitution will allow revenue to be lowered or raised by the action of the executive and the senate, but shall the protection given the trusts in the present tariff be taken off or continued. The French reciprocity treaty, nor any of the eight others now awaiting ratification, does not touch the monopoly granted the trusts and this is the main question of the tariff reform that the people want settled. The reduction of the tariff to a revenue basis will follow when the present extravagant and wasteful Republican party is replaced by one pledged to an honest administration who will be free from lavishness or waste.

What a help it will be to the farmer, the storekeeper and the workman when Hanna gets his ship-subsidy bill through Congress. It is true they will have to pay the \$180,000,000 the bill calls for, but that will all be returned to them with large interests by the lower freight rate the shipowners will be able to charge. At least that is what the clique who are forcing the bill say, but these Republican leaders may be mistaken and the steamship trust may keep the money and not make any dividend to the people. Of course they will have to pay a percentage to Hanna as chairman of the Republican national committee, but this will go to the strikers and dealers who the people would be ashamed to own as of themselves.

There is great gloom at the headquarters of the Protective Tariff League and the Home Market Club. They fear the tariff is about to be meddled with and that even some reasonable Republican hands may be helping to break open the shrine at which they worship. They are still firing blank cartridges at the Democrats, but it is only in a half-hearted way. They should reserve their ammunition and pour some hot shot into these recreant Republicans, and they may keep up the Chinese wall a while longer. Their allies, the trusts, should be called upon to give more material aid.

If Secretary Long desires to show his fairness to Admiral Schley, he should issue an order assuring naval officers that they can testify freely before the court of inquiry without fear of getting themselves on the department blacklist if their testimony does not suit the Sampson-Crownshield clique now running the department. If Secretary Long will not do this the president should take the matter into his own hands, he is commander-in-chief of the navy.

Prof. Sparks of the Chicago University told the history class the other day that periods of prosperity, such as we are now having, are always followed by one of depression. He advised the students to save their money in view of the coming hard times. There must be some mistake about this, professor, for the republicans tell us that President McKinley has just started his prosperity and good crops under way.

Another protege of Perry Heath's is in trouble, one William M. Hoey, customs collector of Nogales; he is charged with implication in the scheme for smuggling Chinese from Mexico into the United States. He came from about the same locality in Indiana as Neely and Rathbone. What an enterprising set of office holders the republicans have produced from that state.

It now appears that Hoey, who has been admitting Chinese by the back door for a consideration, is another friend of Perry Heath, who was also sponsor for Neely and Rathbone. Heath's Republican friends seem to be on the make wherever you find them.

The jingoes in Congress and out of it have at last a President after their own heart. They were never satisfied with Mr. McKinley. His foreign policy was too tame for them, but perhaps Mr. Roosevelt will not be so strenuous now he is president.

Commoner Comment.

Extracts From W. J. Bryan's Paper.

Slavery in the Philippines.

The Chicago Tribune of August 21 contains a Washington dispatch in which it is set forth that the war department is having considerable difficulty with the question of slavery in the Philippines. It is announced that the war department has determined that the "sale of children in the Philippines shall be stopped."

In this dispatch it is stated: "In the third district of the department, where Major O. C. Sweet is in command, the slavery question is a constant source of trouble on account of slaves escaping from one master to another. That officer says: 'Whenever a question relating to slaves comes before me I simply make the owners prove their slaves beyond a doubt, in which case I have nothing to do with them, but in case I can pick a flaw in their title I give the alleged slaves freedom papers. Thousands of Moros are held as slaves who are by right free people.'"

It would be interesting for the people of the United States to see one of their army officers on territory where United States sovereignty has been proclaimed, sitting in judgment on the ownership of human beings. It is reassuring to be told by this Solomon, now sojourning in the Philippines as the representative of the greatest republic on earth, that whenever a question relating to slaves comes before him he "simply makes the owners prove their slaves beyond doubt." It would be all the more interesting if this army officer would reveal to the American people the character of evidence which he requires in such cases. Certainly the evidence must be strong, because he insists that the proof shall be "beyond doubt." What proof can establish title to a human being according to American law?

It is also interesting to be told by this army officer "in case I can pick a flaw in their title I give the alleged slave freedom papers;" and yet we are at liberty to infer from the tone of the officer's statements that there have been cases in which he could not "pick a flaw in their title." Perhaps it has never occurred to this, of any other army officer, that it is the easiest thing under the sun to pick a flaw in any alleged title to a human being on territory over which the United States flag waves. The evidence at hand is not the mere word of an irresponsible Filipino native; it is the unsupported testimony of a bystander; it is nothing more nor less than the constitution of the United States, the Thirteenth amendment to which declares that neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall exist "within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction." That is the weapon that hews to pieces any claim made, on territory under United States sovereignty, to the body of a human being; and that weapon destroys the alleged title of the Sultan of Sulu or any other pretending monarch as effectually as it does the alleged title of the humblest farmer in the Philippine archipelago.

Confidently Expects Vindication.

The Kansas City platform is sound throughout. It applied democratic principles to the conditions then existing. Those principles are still democratic and we must apply them to present and future conditions. The line between the republican party and the democratic party is the line between plutocracy and democracy, and we cannot afford to obliterate that line or to make it less distinct. As a matter of principle we must not compromise with those whose sympathies are against the rights and welfare of the masses; as a matter of policy we cannot afford to compromise, because organized wealth has more confidence in the republican party than it could possibly have in the democratic party. If we abandon the Kansas City platform we shall lose the support of the plain people without gaining the support of those who are opposed to that platform. We may deserve to win and still lose, but it remains true that to deserve success is the surest road to victory. Those who boast of their willingness to do "anything to win" are unsafe pilots, because they throw away the compass when they discard democratic principles. The party now stands for positive principles and definite policies. If the party is right, as I believe it is, we can confidently expect vindication, and we can better afford to wait for the vindication than prove recreant to the trust reposed in the party by more than six million voters.

Mr. Hull says the war in the Philippines is over but that the presence of 40,000 soldiers is needed to preserve the peace. The Philippines have about 8,000,000 inhabitants. Forty thousand soldiers there means one soldier to each 200 inhabitants. The same proportion in the United States would make an army of 390,000. Mr. Hull is adding much to the gaiety of nations by his interviews.

Bishop Cranston lays the blame of President McKinley's death at the door of the newspaper cartoonist. Of course the good bishop is mistaken. What he thinks is righteous indignation is merely unreasoning partisanship. If cartoons incite to murder, then hundreds of public men are not safe.

The Columbus, Ohio, Citizen has seen a great light and is now a full-fledged organ of democracy. The Citizen has always been a great newspaper; now it will be a great teacher.

Freedom of Speech.

Some of the republican papers are suggesting limitations upon the freedom of speech as a cure for anarchy. The editor of the Commoner has as much reason as any living man to know of the abuse sometimes heaped upon candidates for office. He has been the victim of as much malice and vituperation as have ever been employed against an American, and yet he is opposed to placing any additional restriction upon the freedom of speech or freedom of the press.

First, because the evils of restriction are greater than the evils of freedom, and, second, because abuse does not hurt the man or the party made the subject of attack. The death of President McKinley cannot be traced to anything spoken or written against him. The assassin spoke affectionately of his victim and said that he killed him not because of his dislike for the man but because of his opposition to government of any kind. Some who are engaged in schemes which will not bear the light will shield themselves behind the murderous deed of the assassin and denounce freedom of speech because they do not want the public to be informed of their doings. Others, stirred by a righteous indignation, strike at free speech because some have abused the latitude allowed. It is time for liberty-loving citizens to protest against the attempt to suppress free speech. The warfare must be against anarchy, not against freedom of speech. Anarchy is an European product and thrives most where there is least freedom of speech and least freedom of the press. Let us not make the mistake of undermining our institutions under the delusion that we are protecting those institutions.

Free speech and a free press are essential to free government. No man in public life can object to the publication of the truth and no man in public life is permanently injured by the publication of a lie. That much is published that should not be is only too evident, but let public opinion correct the evil; that will be more effective than law and will bring no danger with it. If a paper abuses a political opponent stop your paper and teach the editor to conduct his paper on respectable lines. There is a sense of justice in the human heart and he who violates it violates it at his own peril. This sense of justice ultimately turns abuse to the benefit of the man abused. The present laws against slander and libel are sufficient; leave the rest to a healthy public sentiment—and then help to create the sentiment.

Should Set Better Example.

The time fixed by General Kitcheners' proclamation demanding the surrender of the Boers has ended, and we are informed that Great Britain will now proceed to use harsh measures. Boers found carrying arms are to be shot, and the policy of concentration will be made even more severe. Had the Boers adopted such a policy Great Britain would have been using the fact as evidence that the Boers are not entitled to the consideration of the civilized world. It is probable that the Boers will make the British thoroughly tired of this policy. Heretofore, the Boers have taken no prisoners, being content to let the captured British soldiers go free, preferring that to the expense of feeding and guarding them. When Great Britain begins to shoot without mercy all Boers found carrying arms the Boers may begin to shoot all British soldiers captured in skirmishes. This is not war, of course; it is little short of murder. But the British ought to set the Boers a better example.

It must be mortifying to honest and well meaning republicans to find that some of the more partisan members of that party wagged their malicious tongues or employed their venomous pens in abuse of democrats while the president's funeral was in progress and while all patriotic hearts joined in the mourning. It was not an inspiring spectacle to see these debased representatives—or rather misrepresentatives—of the republican party sucking political comfort out of the wounds of the chief executive. Fortunately, however, the number of such was small compared with the number of those who recognized that the calamity was national and that the tributes of respect were non-partisan in their character.

A Good Bill.

The commission which is at work revising the federal statutes suggests a bill making it a capital offense to kill or attempt to kill an executive officer of the federal government, when the attempt is made for the purpose of obstructing the government. The suggestion is a good one. The qualification avoids the objection which might be urged if the law applied to all kinds of assault, but where the purpose of the assault is not to injure the man as an individual but to injure the government through him, it becomes an offense against all the people.

The bullet of an anarchist cannot overthrow our government, neither can it settle public questions. Our government rests securely upon the good will of the people, and public questions will be settled by the intelligence and patriotism of the people.

Mr. Taft says the Filipino have not been given all that he had hoped and desired to give them, but promises more in the future when the Filipinos are better able to appreciate it. This has a delightfully George Thirldish sound.

LAST OF CROP REPORTS

The Bureau at Washington Gives Season's Final Report.

FAVORABLE FOR MATURING CORN

Heavy Rains. However, Damage Hay and Stacked Grains in Nebraska and South Dakota — Cotton Conditions in the Southwestern States.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—Following is the last weekly summary of the crop conditions to be issued by the weather bureau this season:

The temperature conditions of the week ending September 30 were highly favorable throughout the central valleys, lake region, middle Atlantic states and New England and no damaging frosts occurred in these districts. Heavy rains in the upper Missouri valley and Minnesota interfered with farm work and caused some damage to hay and stacked grain in South Dakota and Nebraska. Excessive rains also interfered with farm work in portions of the South Atlantic and East Gulf states. Rain is generally needed in Illinois, Indiana and southern Michigan, to put the soil in condition for plowing and fall seeding and also over the greater part of Texas for pastures and truck farms. On the North Pacific coast the week has been cool and wet, with damaging frosts in Oregon and Washington. Injurious frosts occurred over the middle Rocky mountain districts.

The week has been favorable for maturing and gathering corn and reports from the principal corn states indicate that a much larger acreage than usual at this date has been cut. The crop is now practically safe from frost in all districts.

The weather conditions in the cotton belt have been more favorable for picking, except over portions of Georgia, Florida and North Carolina, where this work has been retarded to some extent by rains of the latter part of the week. Picking has progressed rapidly in the central and western districts, where cotton has opened rapidly, the bulk of the crop being gathered in some districts. Over the eastern portion of the cotton belt the low temperatures of the week were not favorable for the development of the top crop and heavy rains have damaged the staple in portions of North Carolina, Georgia and Florida, while the sea island crop of South Carolina suffered from drouth. In Texas late cotton is being damaged by insects and the outlook for top crop is poor.

Only a small part of the tobacco crop, and that in Kentucky and Tennessee, remains unharmed. The reports generally indicate that this crop has been secured in satisfactory condition. In Kansas and portions of Missouri, Arkansas, Illinois and West Virginia, more particularly in the first named state, the reports respecting apples are encouraging, but no improvement is reported from other districts.

Plowing and seeding have progressed favorably in nearly all districts and the early sown wheat in the states of the lower Missouri valley has come up in excellent condition. In southern Michigan and portions of the Ohio and Mississippi valleys, however, plowing and seeding have been delayed on account of the dry condition of the soil, and in Ohio seeding has been purposely delayed on account of the Hessian fly.

MORE LANDS FOR SETTLERS.

Two Indian Reservations in the Northwest Soon to Be Opened.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—The Interior department is rapidly completing plans for the opening of the Fort Hall (Idaho) Indian reservation. The date for the opening has not yet been fixed, as the preliminary work has not been completed, but it is expected that the reservation, which contains 400,000 acres, will be thrown open to settlement within a few weeks. The Quinault reservation in Washington, comprising 300,000 acres, probably will be thrown open to settlement next spring. The contract for surveying the reservation is about to be awarded. Commissioner Herman of the general land office said today that it was probable the old "sooner" system would be adopted at the opening of both of these reservations.

Attorney for Topeka District.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—The president has decided to appoint J. S. Dean a United States attorney for the Topeka (Kan.) district, vice I. E. Lambert, resigned.

Funeral of Joe Haver.

SALT LAKE CITY, Oct. 2.—Funeral services over the body of Jack H. Haver, who died in this city Saturday, were held in the opera house this afternoon. Many friends of the former "minstrel king" and all the theatrical people of the city were in attendance. The stage was draped in crepe and the casket was literally covered with floral offerings. The remains will be taken to Philadelphia for interment.

THE LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Latest Quotations From South Omaha and Kansas City.

SOUTH OMAHA.

Cattle.—There was a good run of cattle today so far as numbers are concerned, but the quality was rather common. There were a few pretty good westerns, but the fat steers as a general thing were common. The same was true of the corn-fed. The scarcity of good cattle naturally had a tendency to make buyers indifferent and the liberal receipts all the week also gave them an excuse for buying conservatively. The market was far from being active, and it was late before the bulk of the offerings was disposed of. There were only just a few corn-fed steers in the yards and most of those were on the commonish order. Good stuff would probably have sold about steady, but the undesirable grades were slow sale, and in most cases a little lower. There were close to seventy-five cars of cows and heifers on sale, and the market was steady to a little lower. Bulls, calves and stags sold at about yesterday's prices, where the quality was satisfactory, but otherwise they were very slow and lower. There were not very many western beef steers included in the receipts this morning, and while the good kinds sold about steady, the common grades were slow and generally a little lower. Cows sold steady to a little lower, and good heavy feeders were steady and active. Common feeders were not wanted at any price.

Hogs.—There was by no means a heavy run of hogs and sellers for that reason held their droves at stronger prices. Buyers started in bidding just about steady with yesterday, but they only got a few loads, as sellers were asking an advance of 2½¢. Packers would not pay it and so it was rather late before very much was done. They finally, however, were forced to raise their bids and the bulk of the hogs sold at \$5.75 and \$6.50, or a shade stronger than yesterday. Some of the choicer loads went at \$6.25 and from that up to \$6.75.

Sheep.—The receipts of sheep and lambs were liberal, making the supply for the week exceptionally heavy. Packers are evidently pretty well filled up, as they did not take hold with much life, and the morning was well advanced before very much was done. As a general thing the better grades of ewes and wethers sold at just about yesterday's prices, but the lambs they tried to buy a little lower, particularly if the quality was not very good. It was a slow market from start to finish on fat stuff, but feeders were active and sold without much trouble at fully yesterday's prices.

KANSAS CITY.

Cattle.—Corn-fed steers, steady at recent decline; stockers and feeders were steady; grass cattle were slow; choice export and dressed beef steers, \$5.50; fat to good, \$4.00 to \$5.00; stockers and feeders, \$2.50 to \$4.25; western fed steers, \$4.50 to \$5.50; western range steers, \$2.50 to \$4.50; Texas and Indians, \$2.50 to \$3.50; Texas cows, \$2.00 to \$3.00; native cows, \$2.00 to \$4.25; heifers, \$3.00 to \$5.00; canners, \$1.50 to \$2.50; bulls, \$2.50 to \$3.75; calves, \$3.00 to \$5.25.

Hogs.—Market 5¢ to 10¢ lower; top, \$6.25; bulk of sales, \$5.50 to \$6.75; heavy, \$6.75 to \$6.85; mixed packers, \$5.50 to \$6.75; light, \$5.00 to \$6.25; pigs, \$5.00 to \$6.00.

Sheep and Lambs.—Market was steady; western lambs, \$2.50 to \$4.25; western wethers, \$3.00 to \$3.15; ewes, \$2.50 to \$3.00; feeders, \$2.50 to \$3.25; stock sheep, \$1.50 to \$2.75.

PHILIPPINE TRADE GROWS.

Exports and Imports Greater than During Same Period Last Year.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—The following extract from the monthly bulletin of the commerce of the Philippine islands, covering the period of nine months ending March 31, 1901, and 1900, has been prepared in the division of insular affairs of the war department. The total value of merchandise imported during the nine months ending March 31, 1901, was \$22,969,008, as against \$15,107,148 for the same period of 1900, and the total value of merchandise exported during the nine months ended March 31, 1901, was \$17,363,188, as against \$12,928,464 for the same period of 1900, an increase of 52 per cent in the value of imports and 34 per cent in the value of exports.

The value of imports of merchandise from the United States was \$2,007,007, an increase of 86 per cent over the previous year, and from European countries \$11,475,871, an increase of 81 per cent.

The value of exports of merchandise to the United States was \$2,042,069, a decrease of 15 per cent, and to European countries \$10,768,325, an increase of 73 per cent.

SCHLEY RETIRES WEDNESDAY

Reaches Age Limit for Active List and Makes Room for Subordinates.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—Next Wednesday, October 9, Admiral Schley will retire from the active list of the navy by age limit and from present prospects this will take place while the court of inquiry is still in session. His retirement will promote two captains to be rear admirals. Captain Frank Wildes, who was in command of the Boston during the battle of Manila bay, now heads the list of captains. He was promoted for war service, and under the law his advancement must not retard the regular course of promotions. Therefore, Captain Henry Glass, who stands next to him on the list of captains, also will enter the list of rear admirals of the navy.

When Lipton Comes West.

CHICAGO, Oct. 5.—Sir Thomas Lipton will be royally entertained during his coming visit to Chicago, according to the preparations being made by the committee. The date has not been set, awaiting the time to be chosen by the distinguished guest. In addition to the members of leading local clubs, invitations will be extended to foreign consuls and representatives residing in Chicago and to many personal friends.