

**PATERNALISM.** The secretary of agriculture, Mr. Wilson, has been advising the people of the Pacific coast that he is going to do everything he can to help build up their interests. "Congress," he has said to them, "will give me all the money that is needed to do it, and the president wants you to feel that everything his administration can do to help you will be done." This is paternalism with a vengeance. Mr. Wilson would probably resent being called a socialist. Yet he is a socialist without the socialist's sense or justice in distribution. Socialism proposes to make government paternal. It proposes to have the government promote business operations. But the socialist would see to it that the profits of these operations were enjoyed by all the people; whereas Mr. Wilson's socialism stops with production, leaving the strong, the rich and the privileged to grab the profits away from their brethren. Mr. Wilson appears to be a socialist or paternalist for the benefit of the few.

When one inquires into the manner in which Mr. Wilson proposes to help Pacific coast interests one is as much surprised as at the one-legged species of socialism he affects. For his object is to promote the export of Pacific coast products. No thought does Mr. Wilson give to importations with which to pay for the exportations. If he can help the Pacific coasters to get rid of their products, he will be satisfied. Whether they get any returns or not is a matter of indifference to him, and, as he supposes, to them. For is it not the thoroughly grounded belief of protectionists that people are enriched not by getting goods, but by getting rid of them? Of course, protectionists explain that they expect exported goods to be paid for in gold. But then the gold never comes. For instance, the gold brought into this country in excess of what went out, during the fiscal year that ended with June, 1899, was \$53,552,766 less than in the year ending June, 1898; and it was only about 10 per cent of the excess of merchandise exports. Since merchandise is not wanted by protectionists in payment for exports, and gold comes only in small quantities relatively to the excess of merchandise exports, we are left to infer that protectionists rather enjoy the kind of trade that consists in giving without getting. If their motives were unselfish they would be perfect types of the altruist.—The Public.

**EX-GOVERNOR HOLCOMB.** Colonel Bryan rejoiced and was exceedingly glad in the presence of many plain people because he "was proud of the humble part" he took in the election of Governor Holcomb. And this is a part of the proud record of Holcomb which seems to show that coöperation in rent-paying and in

voucher-making is a profitable style of petit larceny. The State Journal of the 18th says:

"The warrants drawn by Governor Holcomb for house rent during this period show that he received on an average more than \$50 a month. The money was drawn quarterly in advance and as the statements of the witness show, was not then paid out and when paid was only to the extent of about half the amount drawn.

"Records in the auditor's office show that in the forty-five months of Governor Holcomb's incumbency during which an appropriation for house rent was available he had drawn for that purpose \$2,303, or more than \$50 a month rent. During nine months he occupied the Crandall house on the northeast corner of Seventeenth and A streets, for which the owner drew \$60 a month rent. The remainder of the term he occupied the Gould house on the southeast corner of Eighteenth and A streets, to pay rent of which he seems to have drawn \$49.75 a month. Three of these warrants the governor refused to swear to the correctness of but after a conference with Auditor Moore the latter ordered a warrant drawn anyway."

#### Come Into Court.

The same issue of The Journal contains an invitation to ex-Governor Holcomb, of the proud record, which Bryan boasts he was humbly instrumental in bringing about, to appear before the investigating committee of Prout, Van Dusen, and Rocke and show *how* he, Holcomb, is absolved from participation in the attempt to fraudulently count in two populists as members of the supreme court of Nebraska? To prove that he, Holcomb, was in no wise connected with a conspiracy to debauch the ballot box is the pleasant task which the ex-governor is invited to enter upon:

#### The Invitation.

"Honorable Silas A. Holcomb, Lincoln, Nebraska.—Dear Sir: We have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 14th, which has just been received. In reply we beg to say that on the 10th inst. the committee notified you through the sergeant at arms of the taking of testimony, and invited you to be present, to which notification you replied, in substance, [that you had no interest in the subject matter of the investigation. On the 12th inst., a subpoena was issued by the committee directed to you and commanding you to appear before them to testify relative to the recount of the ballots. The sergeant at arms failed to serve the subpoena for the reason that you were reported out of the city.

"In view of the fact that you have been courteously invited to be present at the sittings of the committee it would seem to us that your request to be pres-

ent, and to be given an opportunity to refute the evidence already offered is somewhat gratuitous.

"The meetings of this committee are all held with open doors, and they cordially invite all persons to come before them and give any evidence they may have, touching any irregularities relative to the conduct of the executive or other officers of the state. And we would further suggest that when the committee is seeking to discharge a duty imposed upon it by the senate of this state, it would seem that in such proceedings it should not meet with the opposition of or the questioning of its power by one who has held the office of governor of this state. If there was an attempt to change the fundamental law of this state by fraud through remarking the ballots, and filling out blank ballots, none ought to be more interested than yourself in discovering that crime, and in punishing the guilty parties. You should be interested since you were governor at the time when it is claimed that this crime was attempted to be committed.

"The committee shall be glad to have you appear, but you must come as a witness, prepared to demand and receive all rights due to a witness, as well as to submit to such examination as the committee may on its own behalf or by direction make.

"The committee will be in session at the Lincoln hotel at 2 p. m. today and will be glad to have you present to answer such questions as may be put to you touching the conduct of the executive office during your incumbency, and any evidence you may have touching the recount of the ballots cast for the constitutional amendment at the election of 1896.

"We have the honor to be, respectfully,

"F. N. PROUT,  
"J. H. VAN DUSEN,  
"JACOB ROCKE."

Bixby Bawls.

But the most touching and pathetic part of this incident, which has rent the populist ex-governor's reputation, is the gloom and sadness which have enveloped the poet Bixby in a halo of woe and caused him in tearful verse to thus break out:

Silas Holcomb, I'm afraid  
It were better you had stayed  
In the pleasant home you purchased long ago;  
Where, deep-buried, is the wreck  
Of the spotted cow called Speck,  
And the boar black pig still squeals, at Broken  
Bow.  
You might never have been known  
Far beyond the mortgage loan  
While the fleeting moments hurried on their  
way,  
Nor have known this new disgrace,  
That you are now forced to face,  
"Holding up" the state for rent you didn't pay.

And yet Colonel Bryan is proud of Holcomb's record!