

**FORMULATED
MENDACITY.**

In a spasm of hysterics an alleged national democratic convention at Chicago, in July 1896, formulated mendacity into a party platform. That effort at falsehood would win the belt in a tournament with Ananias, Saphira, Gulliver, Baron Munchausen, Eli Perkins and all the expert liars in the Dreyfus trial.

Read this consummate specimen :

"We declare that the act of 1873, demonetizing silver without the knowledge or approval of the American people."

(But this lie is exposed by the Congressional Record which shows that the bill was debated in the house and in the senate and the archives of the government demonstrate that the act of 1873 was pending and discussed more than two years after its first submission to congress). Mendacity now proceeds: "has resulted in the appreciation of gold and a corresponding fall in the prices of commodities produced by the people; a heavy increase in the burden of taxation and of all debts, public and private; the enrichment of the money-lending class at home and abroad; the prostration of industry and impoverishment of the people."

What about "the prostration of industry and impoverishment of the people" during the year 1899 when all business is in larger volume and the influx of foreign gold greater than in any previous year of the existence of this republic? What have the supporters of the foregoing absolutely false and malicious avowals to say now in extenuation of that crime against the contentment and prosperity of their fellow citizens?

How can the same men reiterate the same untruths in 1899 and ask credence from the people to whom they lied in 1896?

When forecasts, predictions and prophecies of the vintage of ninety-six all sour and spoil how can the same soothsayers ask to be believed in 1899?

Do the American people have no powers of memory? Can they recall a single prophecy of Bryanarchy made in ninety-six which has been verified between that year and this?

What brazen effrontery for the bankrupted prophets of three years ago to again enter upon the prediction business and ask, in the light of the proven falsity of their former forecasts, decent, thoughtful citizens to credit them!

How puerile, insignificant and ridiculous are the prophecies made by Bryan during the last presidential campaign. Each and every one of them relative to the gold standard and its maintenance has been demonstrated false in its entirety. Not one forecast remains undemolished by events. Every prediction as to the pecuniary trials and sufferings which would afflict the citi-

zens of the United States has been proved a falsehood.

The sixteen-to-one financiers know perfectly well now and knew perfectly well then that their theories put into practice would make the United States a monometallic country. They knew then and know now that the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 would institute and maintain silver monometallism. But read their inconsistent platform of 1896. Look about for "the paralysis of hard times" and for "prosperity locked fast" and read again this putrescent platform:

"We are unalterably opposed to monometallism, which has locked fast the prosperity of an industrial people in the paralysis of hard times. Gold monometallism is a British policy, and its adoption has brought other nations into financial servitude to London. It is not only un-American, but anti-American, and it can be fastened on the United States only by the stifling of that indomitable spirit and love of liberty which proclaimed our political independence in 1776 and won it in the war of the revolution. We demand the free and unlimited coinage of both gold and silver at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation. We demand that the standard silver dollar shall be a full legal tender, equally with gold, for all debts, public and private, and we favor such legislation as will prevent for the future the demonetization of any kind of legal tender by private contract."

VOTES.

The great national struggle for votes will be renewed next year with the control of the national government as the prize for that party which gets the majority. Therefore in 1900 the old and threadbare twaddle that a "majority is always right" and the Latin embalmed blasphemy "vox populi vox dei" will be roared from thousands of throats. The efficacy of ballots in correcting wrongs and reforming bad methods, however, must depend upon the intelligence and patriotism of those who cast them. The vote of ignorance and vice is not a good medicine to remedy the ills of a government.

Mr. Carlyle once said:

"Practically men have come to imagine that the laws of this universe, like the laws of constitutional countries, are decided by voting; that it is all a study of division-lists, and for the universe too depends a little on the activity of the whippers-in."

This is the fusion and confusion view of ballots. House Rent Holcomb looks to "the whippers-in" for an endorsement of the populist conspiracy to count in an amendment to the constitution and two judges and also for an approval of his house-rent vouchers.

TALKING.

Statesmanship consisting wholly and exclusively of talking is not wise nor safe. Good acts are better than fine words. The men who can show prairies plowed, farms fenced, homes built, trees planted and patches of wilderness turned into patches of paradise by their inspirations and labors are better men for the commonwealth than professional declaimers and emotional orators.

Carlyle says: "Talk, except as a preparation for work, is worth almost nothing; sometimes it is worth infinitely less than nothing; and becomes little conscious of playing such a part, the general summary of pretentious nothingnesses, and the chief of all the curses the posterity of Adam are liable to in this sublunary world."

The beginninglessness of deeds and the endlessness of words are the chief characteristics of Bryanarchy. Talk without thought is like food without nutrients and those fed upon it grow thin now and promise to be intensely thinner in 1900.

WHAT PARTY?

On August 21st, in Lincoln, Colonel Bryan submitted to an interview in which he remarked with silver-toned sincerity:

"As a member of the party I have said and still say that an abandonment of the ratio of sixteen to one would be equivalent to an abandonment of the money question, because no free coinage law can be adopted until a ratio is agreed upon, and, since the sixteen to one ratio has been agreed upon, an abandonment of it would mean either that the ratio is wrong or that, although it is right, we are afraid to advocate it."

Whether as a member of the populist party or a member of the Chicago platform party or a member of the silver republican party or a representative and candidate of all these parties Colonel Bryan does not tell. But, of course, one who began seeking office in Nebraska with the avowal that he wanted money in it, rather than honor, is excusable for being less explicit under present circumstances.

"To the extent that the president can accomplish it, he has made permanent and forcible annexation of the Philippines the policy of his party," comments the Philadelphia North American (rep.). "It remains for congress and the next national republican convention to endorse or reject or modify that policy, so boldly and nakedly proclaimed by Mr. McKinley. The great majority of the American people at this stage are obviously in favor of prosecuting the war to victory, but it is not so sure that they favor the imposition of our rule upon the inhabitants of the Philippines in perpetuity."