

under Bryan in precisely the same manner as we now have it under McKinley. If the maintenance of a standing army for the purpose of establishing a stable government in the Philippines be militarism we would not escape it by electing Bryan president. His election would only augment the difficulties in the Philippines for the reason that Bryan has caused the impression to exist among the Filipinos that he favors immediate independence, which he does not. In the event of his election, when he should put his policy in force, the Filipinos would discover that they had been deceived by this apostle of purity, and they would resist more stoutly than ever before our efforts to establish a government for them.

There is nothing in Bryan's record or in the platform adopted by his party to commend either Bryan an Imperialist or anti-imperialists. The latter, in supporting Bryan, would not only be endorsing imperialism and militarism but would be upholding financial heresies and the many anarchistic utterances of the Chicago platform, so repugnant to intelligent American voters. Why then should those who oppose militarism and imperialism favor the election of Bryan over McKinley? As the record of neither can be endorsed from the standpoint of the anti-imperialist, would it not be better to aid in electing the one whose position on the currency question is sound and whose election would not endanger the stability of the business and commercial interests of the country? THE CONSERVATIVE believes the anti-imperialist convention can resist more effectively imperialistic tendencies by adopting a platform opposing imperialism and denouncing the fallacies of populism, without nominating a ticket, leaving the voters to choose between the two evils presented by republicanism on the one hand and Bryanarchy on the other.

THE KANSAS CITY PLATFORM. The importance of the following plank in the platform adopted at Kansas City cannot be overestimated:

"We reaffirm and endorse the principles of the national democratic platform adopted at Chicago in 1896."

It distinctly "reaffirms and endorses the principles of the national democratic platform adopted at Chicago in 1896." Every paragraph, every line and every syllable of the discredited Chicago platform is thus incorporated in the Kansas City platform as effectively as if the exact words had been reproduced and rewritten. It means that this declaration of political wisdom, enunciated at Chicago four years ago, is reiterated and again made a part of the creed of Bryanarchy:

"We declare that the act of 1873 de-

demonetizing silver, without the knowledge or approval of the American people, has resulted in the appreciation of gold and a corresponding fall in the price 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 the impoverishment of the people.

"We are unalterably opposed to monometalism which has locked fast the prosperity of an industrial people in the paralysis of hard times"

The Kansas City convention thus describes present conditions. According to the Bryan-archists a most depressing condition of affairs now prevails. These sage economists, who so bravely follow their peerless leader, impetuously declare that "prices are falling," that "industry is prostrated," and that the "people are impoverished." For this they declare the gold standard to be responsible. The friends of the gold standard are willing to assume for it the responsibility for present conditions. Every intelligent voter knows that the industrial life of the community was never healthier than it is today. Conditions were never more encouraging.

A Nebraska City paper, a local organ of the calamity shouters, published the Bryan platform and in the same issue inserted the following notice of the mortgage record for this county:

"During the last six months there were filed for record on farm land 144 mortgages amounting to \$256,649.05 and 216 releases amounting to \$357,895.31. There were filed on city and town property during the same period fifty-nine mortgages amounting to \$28,557.68 and sixty-six releases amounting to \$37,969.10. This shows that during the past six months there has been a decrease in the debt of \$110,656.68. What county in the state can make as good a showing?"

Otoe county is not an exception. The farmers of the country are generally prosperous. They are cancelling mortgages. They are building new homes. On every hand we see indications of industrial activity and evidences of greater prosperity. Knowing all this, how can any honest, intelligent voter cast his ballot for the Bryan ticket?

A vote for Bryan under existing conditions is either a confession of ignorance or the acknowledgment of dishonesty. To endorse the Kansas City platform and by so doing declare that "industry is prostrated" and the "people are impoverished," is of necessity either the wilful assertion of a falsehood or an untruthful declaration prompted by ignorance.

The Kansas City platform again en-

dorses the following appeal to rioters and anarchists:

Appeal to Anarchists.

"We denounce arbitrary interference by federal authorities in local affairs as a violation of the constitution of the United States and a crime against free institutions."

President Cleveland's conduct in using federal troops to suppress the Chicago riot, to prevent the destruction of property and to protect the lives of citizens, was upheld by the supreme court of the United States, by congress, and endorsed by every intelligent and law-abiding citizen. It remained for the Chicago anarchistic sympathizers and the brainless reaffirmers at Kansas City to denounce the act. THE CONSERVATIVE believes that the American people will not tolerate a man for the presidency who thus appeals to the enemies of society, to those who oppose the present social order, to those who believe that riots should be unsuppressed and lawlessness should go unrestrained.

The convention at Kansas City also endorsed the attack upon the civil service as enunciated at Chicago and again makes it a vital principle of Bryanarchy:

"We are opposed to life tenure in the public service, except as provided in the constitution. We favor appointments based upon merit, fixed terms of office, and such an administration of the civil service laws as will afford equal opportunities to all citizens of ascertained fitness."

Because of this plank the friends of the civil service arrayed themselves against the nominee of the Chicago convention. This declaration was denounced as a menace to the civil service, a step backward, the substitution of the spoils for the merit system. This plank is just as much a part of the Bryan creed now as it was in 1896. If in 1896, a vote for Bryan would have been an attack upon the civil service, it will be no less hostile in 1900. If the people of the United States are ready to acknowledge that the civil service is a failure; if they wish to make the vast number of federal positions mere spoils of office; if they wish to thus increase the power of the professional politicians; if they believe such an elaborate system of partisan rewards would increase the efficiency of government, they should vote for Bryan. If, on the other hand, they wish to maintain the civil service, to remove imperfections and make it more efficient, they should cast their votes against the spoils leader as they did in 1896.

THE CONSERVATIVE cannot be coerced into the support of any man, measure or measures against which its reason revolts. THE CONSERVATIVE is not the organ of any clique, political organization or conspiracy. It is merely the outspoken enemy of all that it believes to be wrong in government.