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"IF I CAN PREVENT THE MAINTENANCE OF THE GOLD STANDARD, YOU CAN RELY ON MY DOING IT."

"They say that I am begging for votes. Not at all. I never asked a man to vote for me. In fact, I have told some people to vote against me. That is more than most candidates do. I have said that if there was anybody who believed in the maintenance of the gold standard until foreign nations came to us and graciously permitted us to abandon it, I said that if anybody should believe that the gold standard was absolutely essential to the welfare of this country he ought to not vote for me at all. I do not want any man to vote for me and then object to my doing what I expect to do if you elect me, and if I can prevent the maintenance of the gold standard you can rely on my doing it the very first possible opportunity given me."

WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN.  
Philadelphia, Sept. 23, 1896.

"If there is any one who believes the Gold Standard is a good thing, or that it must be maintained, I warn him not to cast his vote for me because I promise him it will not be maintained in this country longer than I am able to get rid of it."—Hon. William Jennings Bryan, Knoxville, Tenn., Sept. 16, 1896.

**MUSCLE AND MONEY.** The trades-unions of the United States are

muscle trusts. Every one of them is endorsed by Bryan and all the small-bore and cross-road politicians who follow at his heels.

THE CONSERVATIVE has nothing to say against organized labor. But if it is right for labor to organize itself into muscle trusts for the avowed purpose of putting up wages, or maintaining wages, or preventing men who do not belong to the trust from getting wages,

THE CONSERVATIVE would like to know why it must necessarily be wrong for capital to combine for the purpose of maintaining its profits, either in banks, railroads, manufacturing plants or elsewhere. A money trust is all right if a muscle trust is all right. Let Col. Bryan and some of his deluded disciples explain why it is wrong for money to combine to maintain reasonable profits and at the same time right for muscle to combine to get satisfactory wages.

In the state of Nebraska during its thirty-four years of existence the price of the use of money has constantly declined. During that period legislation has been invariably against those who loan money or have large money interests in their control. Every sort of enactment to stave off the collection of debts, to prevent the "money power" from getting its grip on its own, has been brought into vigor upon our statute books. In these years the interest rates have declined from three per cent per month to five per cent per annum. In the same period wages have increased 25 per cent. During the thirty years the people of Nebraska have been taught by actual experience whether tyranny has developed most in muscle trusts or money trusts. Twice the militia of the state has been called out to protect wage-earners who were willing to accept compensation which the trades-unions, the labor muscle trusts, had declined. Human life was sacrificed at Omaha by men carrying the state arms in order to protect wage-earners who were trying to work for a per diem allowance which the trades-unions had declined. It is admitted everywhere that non-union men cannot with safety, attempt to work upon jobs which have been declined by the muscle trust or any of its members.

And yet during all these years, while money has been flowing into the state, and competition by agents desiring to loan money has grown to the hottest intensity, while rates have been cut year after year and month after month, until farm loans are now made all along the eastern edge of Nebraska at five per cent per annum, there has never been an injury to the person of one banker by the assault of another banker who had refused to take the rates accepted by his competitor. At no time have the state authorities been called out to allay

mobs, to put down riots, or to prevent insurrection caused by cutting rates or by competition among money loaners.

The tyranny of money, then, has not been so pugnacious, over-bearing and so expensive to the people of this state as the tyranny of muscle. Never have the authorities of any city or county or of the commonwealth been asked to intervene to prevent bloodshed between money loaners for cutting usurious rates. This being a fact, why is a money trust any worse than, or even as bad as a muscle trust?

#### TO COMPEL.

The twin down-pullers of Nebraska City industrial plants, generally, who on Wednesday night, September 26, 1900, made speeches in the court house square, particularly favorable to closing the starch works, pose as anti-imperialists.

Yet Bryan and Smyth each insisted that they would compel a dead corporation to live again; compel its stockholders to rehabilitate, capitalize and operate it; compel the payment of wages, and compel the employees to accept them. What superior despotism Bryanarchy teaches and what law Smyth preaches!

#### WEAVER.

In 1892 Bryan, the populist nominee for the presidency in 1900, was posing as a democrat and running for office as a democrat; but at the same time as a populist, voting for the Weaver electors and against Cleveland. He now claims the support of democrats for the pretense of 1892 and the aid of populists for the service actually rendered in self-sacrifice for principles. Bryan is indeed peerless.

#### DETECTED.

It is reported that Bryan's sleuths have detected skilled jewelers, in New York, at work on a gold crown which is adorned with a pint of diamonds, two quarts of rubies and sapphires galore. The crown is already initialed, but whether the letters "Mo" stand for "McKinley" or "Mike Croker" is not yet determined. "Imperialism," however, is imminent and it will become epidemic in New York and infect the whole country unless vaccination from Tammany virus is successfully entered upon, in every state, at once.