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A NEWSPAPER TRUST.

Within the past year the public of the United States have been shown by a minister of the Gospel what a newspaper should be and have heard considerable lay opinion on the subject, some inexperienced people even going so far as to endorse a newspaper "to tell the truth."

"We are entering the century of combination and centralization. For good or for ill, the day of the small trader is past, and that of the great emporium has come. The tendency is for large corporations to absorb the individual."

tion of the great newspaper of the coming years:

My ideas of the newspaper of the twentieth century may be thus expressed in brief. Let us suppose one of the great American newspapers—say The Sun of New York, in my opinion perhaps the best arranged of all American newspapers—under the control of a man of the journalistic ability of DeLaine, the greatest of the former editors of the London Times, certainly the greatest political editor in the history of journalism, backed by an organization as perfect as that of the Standard Oil company, and issued simultaneously each morning in (say) New York, Boston, Chicago, Pittsburg, St. Louis, Philadelphia, and other points in America; or at London, Liverpool, Manchester, Bristol, Edinburgh, Belfast, and Newcastle in Great Britain.

"Aye, here's the rub! No doubt it would, so far as suppressing other newspaper enterprise goes, but would a number of newspapers published by a trust have the influence over the public opinion that the same number of papers now have, each expressing its own views in its own way?"

But to continue with Mr. Harmsworth, he asks, "But how could such a multiple newspaper come into existence? Obviously, it would have to be initiated by some man, or group of men, holding practically unlimited capital and possessing intimate knowledge of everything appertaining to the journalism of their country. Such a group might easily be formed of the directors of three or four leading papers of New York, or London. In my opinion, these first steps would be to buy the best brain, newspapers and machinery, to construct private telegraph wires and cables, or—where existing monopolies for the time prevented that course—to purchase the exclusive or preferential use of the wires."

"The possibilities of such development would be practically without limit. Possessing its own cables, wires, dispatch boats and special trains, the simultaneous newspaper concern would soon have its own paper mills, printing ink factories, machinery shops and the like; that is already partly true of the London Times and other leading journals. It would probably take the control of all railway and street news stands, and by persistent and overwhelming pressure would compel all news agents to accept the position of agents of the combine."

In other words Mr. Harmsworth thinks such a monopoly would crush out all competition and at the same time increase the excellence of newspapers and cheapen them for the public. We venture to predict, however, that no monopoly that has ever been attempted in this country would arouse such opposition as an attempt at a newspaper monopoly. Before such a thing should be consummated there would be such a newspaper war as even the fiercest political campaign never saw. If there is any class of men in this world who propose to go their own way and say their own say it is the newspaper men of the United States. That is what a large number of them are in the business for. That is what has made the leading newspapers in the world. Horace Greeley made the New York Tribune, Dana made the Sun, Raymond the Times, Bennett the Herald, Grady the Constitution, Henry Watson the Louisville Courier-Journal and some man of ideas, originality and energy has stamped his individuality on every successful newspaper in this country—not alone his opinions but his views as to what a newspaper should be, and the newspaper has been forced to maintain the standard and style set by this man in order to keep its readers. Newspapers cannot become a colorless mechanical production, turned out all over the country like so many cans of Standard Oil, but each must have certain vital, distinctive qualities that can be given it only by a dominant personal equation. There are plenty of chances for combination of newspapers, but a vast monopoly, a monopoly which would prevent any man—William J. Bryan, for instance, from starting a paper, running it according to his taste, and conducting it to success or failure according to his ability, we do not think even the twentieth century will see. If it should see such a monopoly it will also see the decline of the newspaper and the rise of the pamphlet as a power.

Grover Cleveland, as the prodigal son is lacking in some ways, especially in his manner of returning and the welcome extended to him.

"One of the drawbacks of the fine winter weather we have been having, is that men could stand in the sunshine and bellow the sidewalks with tobacco juice," remarks the Knoxville Journal and Tribune. This of course could not be said of Asheville, as a city ordinance preventing (owing purely to the terror inspired by city ordinances) any interference with the enjoyment of the weather in the way suggested by the Journal and Tribune.

PERSONALS.

James B. Huntington, physical director of the Y. M. C. A., returned yesterday from Charlotte, his former home, where he spent Christmas.

P. L. Bridges, one of the Spartanburg Herald's machine artists, is spending a vacation here.

Ralph R. Ruvinger of the Philadelphia Press is in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Judson of Cleveland, Ohio, en route to Jacksonville, Fla., stopped over in Asheville yesterday and spent the day as the guest of Mrs. Ingersoll at 156 N. Main street. They leave for Florida this afternoon, and express themselves as delighted with Asheville and the mountain air and views.

G. M. Scott, of Ceres, Va., arrived yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Bore, of Cleveland, O., are staying at the Swannanoa.

Hon. J. M. Moody was in town yesterday from Waynesville.

J. B. Lawson of Columbia is a recent arrival.

W. S. Thomas of Franklin and B. W. Thomas of Sylva were in the city yesterday.

Mr. E. Bell, of Columbus, Ohio, arrived here yesterday.

R. R. Deaver of Brevard is in town today.

J. Light of New York arrived in Asheville yesterday.

C. P. McEnery of New Orleans is staying at the Hotel Berkeley.

TORTURED A WITNESS.

Intense suffering was endured by witness P. L. Martin, of Dixie, Ky., before he gave this evidence: "I coughed every night until my throat was nearly raw; then tried Dr. King's New Discovery, which gave instant relief. I have used it in my family for four years and recommend it as the greatest remedy for Coughs, Colds and all Throat, Chest and Lung Troubles. It will stop the worst cough and not only prevents but absolutely cures Consumption. Price 50c and \$1.00. Every bottle guaranteed. Trial bottles free at all drug-stists."

BRYANS. LATEST SPEECH.

Lincoln, Dec. 27.—Bryan in addition to the synopsis of his speech furnished to the papers, said in course of his remarks at the Jeffersonian club banquet last night, that when the alive returns were coming in on election night some one asked him why he remained in Lincoln, the hot bed of republicanism, and he leaned to the bible for solace. There he found "love your enemies, do good to those that hate you," and he responded that he knew no better place to practice this injunction than in Lincoln.

"Hypocrisy," he declared, was the name well fitted to the republican party and in support of his assertion pointed out that in 1896 the republicans repudiated the gold standard and in the last election declared they did not stand for imperialism, yet McKinley in his message indicated that trial by jury had been denied Filipinos.

Mr. Bryan said the democratic party could not be destroyed until its principles were destroyed. If their principles did not prevail the American form of government was a failure. He expressed the belief that victory surely would come and said he would rather have history say the party died defending these principles than to say it died for any other purpose.

Referring to the toastmaster's mention of Cronje he said those who supposed he would be forgotten erred. The waves that beat on St. Helena's shores may be sad but they will be remembered long after the cheers which greeted Roberts shall be forgotten.

Again turning to politics, Mr. Bryan declared that liberty was inalienable and the Filipinos could not sell their liberties. He said there could be no peace in the Philippines until the Filipinos allowed what the Americans demanded themselves. Bryan left for Texas today where he will remain ten days the guest of Col. Moody.

STAMEY VS STRINGFIELD

Notice of Contest For Senate Seat Was Properly Served.

The Asheville Citizen, on December 24, stated that there would be no contest as to Stamey vs. Stringfield. It said that no notice had been given according to the statute of North Carolina as amended by the last legislature. Will you please state that I duly served notice of contest on W. W. Stringfield December 8, 1900.

J. W. STAMEY.

HEALTH AND ECONOMY.

3000 boxes of What-Hearts sold last month. It's the best food for young and old. That's the reason. THE WHEAT-HEARTS CO.

WHEN YOU are feeling tired and out of sorts you will find Hood's Sarsaparilla will do you wonderful good. Be sure to GET HOOD'S.

A Nice Stock of Hurd's & Crane's Stationery. Just received. Also a fine line of frames and novelties. We make frames to order, having the largest stock of moulding in the city to select from. A specialty of photo supplies. The French Broad Press, A. H. McQuilkin, Proprietor, 32-34 Patton Avenue.

1901 TWENTIETH CENTURY DIARIES. Bainbridge's, Book Shop 47 Patton Ave.

Everyboday Konw's How pure, fresh and efficient our candies are, but everybody ought to see what quantities we have this year. Our packages are more unique than ever, and all tastes can be suited. Also all kinds of Fruits. Oranges, Bannas, Apples, Grapes, Grape-Nuts, Figs, Dates, Nuts, etc. Leave orders early for Christmas day Ice Cream, Salted Almonds, etc. The Candy Kitchen.

PATRICK McINTYRE, 53 South Main Street. WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT. Sole Owner Beech Nut Rye Whiskey. Sole Agent Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association's Celebrated Budweiser Beer. And dealer in every thing known to the Wine and Spirit Trade. Telephone 218.

The Asheville School of Music, Art and Languages. FERDINAND DUNKLEY, Principal. NEW TERM BEGINS MONDAY, DECEMBER 31. DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES. Miss Anna Bernkopf, Director. Classes in French and German now being arranged, to begin with the opening of the new term. Berlitz Conversational Method, combined with grammar. SPECIAL CLASS FOR CHILDREN. Evening Les sons Given. DEPARTMENT OF VOCAL MUSIC. Mrs. Carroll Washburn Rockwood, Director. Classes in Vocal Culture two hours a week, eight in class, now being formed. \$7.00 for term of seven weeks. Mr. Dunkley's Sight Singing Class and Mrs. Rockwood's Fortnightly Repertory Class FREE to all vocal pupils. Also classes in Theory, Harmony, Drawing and Painting. SEND FOR CATALOGUE. THE SCHOOL NOW OCCUPIES A SUITE OF ROOMS IN THE SONDLBY BUILDING. OFFICE ROOM 15. (Over Wingood's Drug Store.) Office hours 10 to 1, 3 to 5. Phone 307.

Imported and Domestic Cigars Sold by the Box at Factory Prices at the Berkeley Cigar Stand

Paragon Drug Company, EDWARD HOPKINS, President. L. B. WHEELER, Sec.-Treas. WE DESIRE to call your attention to the new management of this elegantly appointed Pharmacy Their object is to conduct the business to meet the approval of the citizens of Asheville. Paragon Drug Company. Opposite Post Office. Asheville, Nor. Car.

Bon Marche is where you want to go to see the best display of HOLIDAY HANDKERCHIEFS ever shown at any season heretofore. The line is unequalled for quantity and variety at 6c, 10c, 12 1-2c, 15c, 25c to \$1.50 each, in cotton-linen and silk-plain hemstitched for 50c to 50c—Laced for 50c to \$1.00—Embroidered for 50c to \$1.50 for Ladies, Children and Men. KID GLOVES—A large variety and stocks from 80c to Centemeri's celebrated Kids, Umbrellas and Furs and Liberty Silk Boas, Fine Towels, Linens, in fact lots of useful articles for presents. See the nice things at the Bon Marche