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**REAPING THE WHIRLWIND.**

How surely we reap the whirlwind when we sow the wind! A contemporary calls attention to the obligation which we assumed as the commercial debt collector and guarantor when we interfered in Cuba while it was a Spanish possession. That is, unfortunately, more true than agreeable to recall, and it is an awful reminder of the never ending wrong which war begets.

How terrible are the results of the war of 1861-65! Behold the disastrous consequences—in Atlanta today, in one form, as well as throughout the country in other forms, including the purchase of the presidency in 1896 by the Republicans and Clevelandites with the trusts funds of Democrats as well as of those whom the purchase served—behold the disastrous consequences of the war of 1861-65 that lie about us on all sides! Behold, as our contemporary reminds us, the incalculable and further evils which we seem to be entering upon as the result of our war upon Spain in 1898!

War is the plaything of despots, who force their subjects to fight, but do not themselves incur the dangers and hardships of the battlefield. War should be the last resort of a self-governing people, and then only in defense of their liberties. A self-governing people who engage in a war of aggression are bereft of reason.

Not the least of the evil consequences of the war of 1898 upon Spain—may it, it is probably the greatest of them in its effect upon the United States—is that it facilitated the defeat of co-operation in North Carolina at a critical time. The defeat of co-operation in North Carolina in 1898 defeated the national Democracy in 1900, and this paved the way to our treacherous subjugation of the friendly Filipinos, after we had asked and accepted their indispensable aid in the capture of Manila from the Spaniards.

When one realizes the awful consequences of war, he is prepared to appreciate the importance of Mr. Bryan's resolution, adopted at London the other day, extending the scope of international arbitration. But our first duty is to ourselves, and Mr. Bryan's efforts for peace in the international field are in harmony with the efforts for peace where the United States is concerned. How different the attitude and career of Mr. Roosevelt, who will be remembered in our history not as the pacificator of distant Russia and Japan, but rather as the American god of war.

**IN MAINE, FOR EXAMPLE.**

The platform of the New York Republican Convention, which was forced to nominate Mr. Hughes, the insurance investigator, as its only hope for a successful contest against Mr. Hearst, contains the following remarkable tribute to the influence of President Roosevelt in State elections:

"He [the President] has fought the battles of the plain people so courageously and successfully that his name is an inspiration in every State campaign and his record the platform on which every good citizen is willing to stand."

Take for example the recent election in Maine, where the administration threw all its strength and effected a Democratic gain of many thousand votes!

**THE MUGWUMP EFFORT TO STAMPEDE THE DEMOCRATS.**

Mr. Bryan's "Commoner" makes the following comment upon the effort of the New York mugwumps to stampede the Democrats after his Madison Square speech:

While Mr. Bryan did not expect to have his views on government ownership of railroads endorsed unanimously, he did expect the opposing newspapers would treat the subject fairly.

Some of the interviews published in the New York papers against government ownership were manufactured. For instance, Hon. E. J. Hale, of North Carolina, repudiated the interview which was attributed to him, and Governor Folk was made to say that Missouri had tried government ownership, whereas Missouri has simply tried the aiding of railroads the same as the other States tried, and with the usual result. When the southern states understand the proposition, they will not be so violent in their opposition to it; in fact, it affords the only means yet proposed of securing the benefits of public ownership without the dangers of centralization.

**THE ROOT OF THE EVIL.**

Says the Raleigh News and Observer:

Corporations in this age of co-operation are essential to the wise conduct of the world's business. The laws wisely make the small savings of many move the wheels of commerce. The putting together of the hundreds of dollars by a half hundred people or the thousands by a score of people, establishes industries which the individual could not successfully launch. Therefore, it is to the interest of the small corporation and the legitimate corporation, whether large or small, that the combination in trusts should be prevented and these giant trusts held in check. Lewis Emery, Jr., the reform candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania, states the true position that ought to be adopted toward all corporations when he says:

"We do not aim to destroy, but to regulate and make it impossible for the corporations to do wrong. The first step is to break the political machinery by means of which the wrong is accomplished. Instead of submitting a system under which the corporations make the laws, we should see to it that the corporations obey laws justly conceived and fairly drawn so that neither the interests of the public nor the rights of the corporations shall be endangered."

That is right. But how shall reform be effected? By removing the obstacle to the control of bad corporations. And what is that? Bossism! Bossism is the root of all political evil. And what is the condition precedent of Bossism? The concentration of power in one man's hands. That is also the condition precedent to monarchy. Democracy is the antipodes of monarchy. Its cardinal doctrine is the diffusion of power, instead of the concentration of power. It is useless, not to say inconsistent, to rail at the wicked corporations while keeping silent in the face of the concentration of power in the hands of the Boss, for without the intervention of the Boss, the popular will would make short work of the bad corporations.

Keep the eye on the office-holders who aggrandize their power as such by adding that of the control of a party machine. It is upon them that the Democratic batteries should be turned.

**THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.**

Cherchez son Leatier.  
We'll begin with a box, and the plural is boxes.  
But the plural of ox should be oxen, not oxes;  
The one fowl is goose, but two are called geese.  
Yet the plural of mouse should never be meese;  
You may find a lone mouse or a whole nest of mice,  
But the plural of house is houses, not hiee;  
If the plural of man is always called men,  
Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called panned?  
The cow in the plural may be cows or kine,  
But a cow if repeated is never called kine,  
And the plural of vow is vows, never vine;  
And if I speak of a foot and you show me your feet,  
And I give you a boot, would a pair be called beeth?  
If one is a tooth and a whole set are teeth,  
Why shouldn't the plural of both be called beeth?  
If the singular of this and the plural is these,  
Should the plural of kiss be nicknamed keese?  
Then one may be that and three would be those,  
Yet that in the plural would never be hose.  
And the plural of cat is cats, not cote.  
We speak of a brother and also of brethren,  
But though we say mother, we never say methren;  
The masculine pronouns are he, his and him,  
But imagine the feminine, she, shis and shim.  
So the English, I think, you all will agree,  
Is the dod rottest language you ever did see.

**FOLK ON TAXATION.**

A telegram from Jefferson City, Missouri, says that Governor Folk has issued an explicit statement of his convictions concerning the abolition of personal taxes in Missouri and the shifting of a large part of the burden upon the big corporations.

It is asserted by some persons that the removal of State tax from personal property, thus placing upon real estate and corporate monies the burden of government, would benefit the rich at the expense of the poor.

On the contrary, in proportion to property, the personal property tax and by personal property is not meant corporate franchises and privileges falls heaviest on the poor and honest.

The abolition of this tax and putting it on corporate privileges and no corporate holdings.

Every farmer under the present system, pays on every cow, horse and hog; every widow or orphan whose estate goes through the probate court must pay in full, while too often the man of wealth, having his personality in such shape that it cannot be reached, pays practically nothing.

Some persons object to corporations and real estate bearing the burdens of State Government. But the State gives to corporations, which are artificial creatures of the State, rights and privileges which the ordinary citizen does not enjoy, and it is only just that the State should receive full return in the way of revenue for the powers granted."

**THE BRAIN OF MAN.**

The brain of mankind has been defined as a kind of phonographic cylinder, which retains impressions made upon it through the medium of the senses, particularly through the eyes and ears. If this be true, memory must depend for its intensity or retentive qualities upon the degree of observation with which the record is made. Nor is this all. If memory's record is kept in the shape of identifications upon the folds of brain matter, are they ever entirely effaced? In other words, do we ever really forget anything? May it not be that in the inner depths of the brain memory has stored up recollections of things which are never again purposely turned to perhaps, but which instantly spring into being and flash through the mind whenever we hear or see something which recalls them?

**THE NEW YORK DEMOCRAT PLATFORM.**

Following is, in part, the platform adopted by the Democratic State Convention of New York, at Buffalo, day before yesterday:

"At this time, when the authority of Democracy is invoked to defend plunder of the masses by a few rich men through partial laws on one hand, and, on the other, to justify many extravagant and revolutionary proposals which if adopted must inevitably produce worse disasters than the abuses they seek to cure, we deem it eminently fitting to declare that the whole of Democratic principle is embraced in the injunction laid on the first man—that in the sweat of his brows he and all his posterity must eat their bread."

"We affirm it to be as much the supreme duty of government to prevent any man from taking by violence, fraud, device or legislative favor one dollar—or its equivalent—produced by the labor of another man, as it is to protect every man in the enjoyment of all the property, however extensive, produced by his own labor."

"We, therefore, denounce Republican high protection, which enables a few to plunder the whole body of their fellow-citizens, by charging exorbitant prices for the necessities of life, the essentials of industry."

"We deplore as the most sinister consequence of the corruption and graft which degrade our political and industrial life the widespread distrust and discredit of Republican government which they have produced and which have led many men of undoubted probity and ardent patriotism to listen passively, if not approvingly, to proposals distinctly socialistic, which if adopted must inevitably wreck the foundation of Republican government and endanger the entire fabric of Christian civilization."

"We hold that the cure for these abuses is not in socialism, which by enormous extension of the power of government must aggravate them, but in Democracy, which by excluding government from any interference whatever with private industry must cure them."

"Every proposal that a municipality assume operation of all public utilities and reduce rates to persons serving them, regardless of what the service may actually cost, is an attempt to force some men to bear the expenses of others, because by excluding the outlay for operation exceeds earnings the deficit must be made up by taxation and this would be socialistic, and therefore hostile to justice and subversive of Democratic government."

"It is the duty of government, therefore, to ascertain the actual cost of operating all public service corporations and fix from time to time reasonable rates for the service they perform."

**THE PENDULUM SWINGING BACK?**

A few years ago there was a craze for consolidation and bringing scattered industries under one strong central management. Most of the cotton mills were brought up by the big fertilizer company and a gigantic scheme was nearly consummated to get most of the cotton mills of the South in one gigantic company, to be managed by famous captains of industry in the money centers. Fortunately the cotton mill trust fell through and independent oil mills were constructed. Then it was thought the thing to have was a few "captains of industry" finance and run everything and to minimize the brains and capacity of local business men, manufacturers and bankers. So far did this idea of consolidation go that the local banks became alarmed for fear the most advocated branch bank scheme would swallow up or put them at a disadvantage if they refused to sell out to the giant banks that threatened to invade the whole country.

Today the pendulum is wisely going in the other direction. We have learned that Raleigh can run a Raleigh factory or bank better, more safely and economically than it can be run from New York. Instead of wishing to get in the hands of the "captains of industry," who are often wolves who organize to devour, small industries dread them and fight shy of them. We have learned that in manufacturing and in business, combinations are often more hurtful, and that the big men supposed to be able to do everything, are often incapable and oftener dishonest.

Mr. Stuyvesant Fish calls attention to no trivial evil when he points out that "too few men try to manage too many corporations." He cites a noble example to illustrate his remarks when he gives the records of the ninety-two men who a year ago served as trustees or directors of the three large life insurance companies, which have recently been under examination. One man was a member of seventy-three boards, another of fifty-eight, another of fifty-four, another of fifty-three, another of forty-seven, another of forty-three and another of forty-one. The ninety-two field a total of 1,439 directorships. In most instances they were mere dummies, as recent insurance investigations disclose. In truth, no man ought to be a director in many institutions or have his fingers in too many pies. He ought to accept no responsibilities that he cannot fulfill to the best of his ability. Whenever you see a man who is director of scores of companies that demand careful attention, you can in nine cases out of ten put it down that he is a Napoleon of finance or has little regard for his name. "Too few men try to manage too many corporations."

The best managed concern is that managed by one thing. When they spread out too much they cannot give the necessary attention, and it is then that a directorship is a fraud and a delusion. The safe rule is for no man to accept a directorship in any concern to which he cannot give enough time to be true to the trust.

Competition and many small strong concerns are infinitely better than gigantic combinations and too many corporations in a few hands. The pendulum is now swinging back in the right direction. Let us hope the era of trusts is to end.

The Charlotte News well says: Senator Bailey, of Texas, is one of the ablest men in the South, or in America, for that, to-day. Recently he had a client who was a millionaire. It later developed that the client held heavy stocks in the Standard Oil company, and for that reason a lot of newspapers have been accusing the Senator of pandering to that big corporation. Senator Bailey has as much right to appear for a millionaire who held stock in a corporation as a dentist has to pull the tooth of a millionaire. In the latter case the simple act of pulling the tooth does not implicate the dentist in the murder and with equal reason, in the former case, the senator is not implicated in the affairs of the Standard Oil. Of course the Senator is accustomed to having folks criticize him. That is one thing that has made him. In other words such unwanted and unfounded criticism of any man merely boosts the world-beat him while it only lowers the accuser.

When the Senator gets through with some of his pigmy critics there won't be enough left to distinguish them.

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