THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 1908.

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E. J. Hale, Jr., Business Manager

CHARLOTTE.

On Wednesday the great Democratic State Convention will assemble in Charlotte the first since the memorable one of 1858.

Common expectation attributes to the coming convention momentous nces, and history tells us how important were the results of that of a half century ago. But, to this writer, interest lies chiefly in his own retrospect-the recollection of the little town of the ante-bellum period, in contrast with the splendid city which entertained the Press Convention the other day. In 1857, he was coming with his father's family from Charleston, and was on his way to enter as a Soph, at Chapel Hill. Some days were spent in Charlotte in connection with Dr. Hawke's great Mecklenburg ovation. It was an aspiring town then but quite small in comparison with larger places-Fayetteville, for example. And he has watched its phenom enal growth since, the result of the pluck and genius of the remarkeble people who stirred the sleeping col-

Charlotte has often been called boastful city, but it always "makes good." It started out a year ago to eall itself "The Convention City" Refore one could quite realize the meaning of this pretension, behold, it is, indeed. The Convention City. Charlotte progressive and beautiful!

No doubt the heat and turmoil of a North Carolina State Convention, the districts say Craig, the Fifth and Setumult, and the wounds and scars of many conflicts, will find, this time, un usual mitigation in the hospitality of Charlotte, whose civic motto should be: "Fortiter in Re: Suzviter in

Note.-The writer takes occasion here to make acknowledgment of the amon hospitality with which he was treated on the occasion of his recent visit to Charlotte with his brethren of the Press-at the hands of Messrs. Caldwell, of the Observer. Dowd, of the News, and Harris, of the Chronicle, all of them, editors and papers, splendid exemplars of modern journalism. The tardiness of this acknowledgment results from the fact that, upon his return from the Press Convention, he was forced to jump into the Fayetteville street paving contest, and, then, immediately, to leave for the Washington waterways convention.

RIVER AND RAIL.

It is frequently asserted, and with excellent foundation, that the Prussian system of inland waterway improvement-a work in which no section of the country is so vitally inter ested as the great North West-is the best and the most comprehensive in all Europe, but the inland waterway system of France is, none the less, a most admirable object lesson. That France should enter on the expenditure of more than one billion of dollars on inland waterway improvement is not surprising. The French are the most economical, and the richest of all peoples of Europe. They saw in the improved waterway a means of communication between producer and consumer at once cheap, safe and cortinuous and they sureciated the fact the hostility between river and rall was a hostility without substantial ba-

Imbued with the soundness of that view the Committee of the French mate, having the question before it thus reported to the Senate in 1903, "It is futile to deny that traction is less costly by water than by rail and where transportation by water and by rail are both available they comple ment and complete each other, the one transporting heavy materials, the low cost of which is an indispensable condition to the vitality of industries which augment, in their turn, the traffic of the railway."

The report, concurred in by both branches of the legislative body of the French Republic, resulted in the perwaterways of France and every branch of trade and commerce is feeling the inestimable benefit of the wisdom of the Prench legislative body in the ties and Gen. Davidson ten. a part of the fixed policy of the govcountry. Of the traffic on the Prench will finally gve Kitchin the nominawaterways the latest available figures show that while it reached 32,438,701 tons in 1905, it increased to 33,977,340 tons in 1906. Coal was carried by water from Cette to Toulouse at \$0.77 per ton, while the railway charge between the same points was \$1.84. The rate for wheat, on the Rhone between Lyons and Marseilles, in 1906 was \$1.03. per ton, while by rall between the ne points, approximately the same

distance, It was \$2.63 per ton. Great though the difference in rates, etween the two modes of transports tion in Prance unquestionably is, the difference in the United States is still greater-with the difficulty, in this county, that the difference applies only to the section enjoying the benefit of ved waterway and they are while France reaps the benefit of an inland waterway system of im-provoments, such as the National Rivand Harbors Congress advocates, and on a fixed policy on definite ant for the work and with the work

ertainly no section , would profit by he system as the great North West would profit by it. France is illustrate ng the immeasurable benefits coming ment of an enlightened and definite system with river and rall supplement ing and completing each other as means of transpportation without hosfility between them, but with both sharing in the benefits that come to every interest in the entire country.

THE VERDICT OF NEUTRAL TER-

Webster's Weekly.]

Three splendid gentlemen are asking for the Democratic nomination for Governor. Their merits have been There is not the faintest suspicion against the integrity of either. have found it difficult to decide be tween them. Mr. Craig lives beyond the Blue Ridge, and the mountain peo ple are practically solid for him. Kitchin has represented the Fifth Dis trict with signal ability for the past twelve years, redeeming it in from the dominion of the brilliant Set tle, and naturally the Fifth District desires to see him honored with the gov ernorship. The Second District, which his father formerly represented in Congress, and now represented by his brother, is of course partial to him. Mr Horne bases his claims on the ground that he is a business man and farmer and that the State needs a resi from agitation. All the counties have Convention will have to canvage the situation and decide the isome.

Mr. Kitchin goes up to the convention with a lead of 50 votes over his

searest competitor, Mr. Craig. Horne's friends insist that he holds he key to the situation and that the riends of the two leading candidates will come to him rather than see i written Governor Kitchin or Governo Crair Mr Horne's vote is shoot 142 or less than half of that of his near est rival

The Weekly is confident that Mr Kitchin will win the prize. When the delegates get to Charlotte and comter in this way: The three mountain ond Say Kitchin, Charlotte and Wil mington, and Johnston county sa Horne. Now what do the nentral cou ties say? Then they will turn to th Charlotte Observer's bulletin of Ma 17th and will read this:

Seven countles held primaries ye terday and though many of them were in Congressman W. W. or Claude n Congressman W. Kitchin's district the results of the bal loting for the day leaves Mr. Lock Craig still with a good lead. of some 58 votes. It was Mr. Kitchin est day and it is said that with yeste day's balloting he has about run h course-that the battle from hence forth will be fought in neutral terri tory and that Mr. Craig will have th

"Thus far 49 counties-just one-ha the State-have voted, leaving Mr Craig with a lead of 58 votes. balance of the battle is to be fourth out in neutral territory and Mr. Craig's supporters confidently believe that he vill get a majority of the votes to b vention with a sufficient number of rotes to be nominated on the first bal

How has it been since then? the will ask. If Kitchin has exhausted his strongholds when half the counties had poken and was 58 votes behind Crais. where has he secured the votes to not nly catch up with Craig, but to lead him 50 votes? For answer they will turn to the Charlotte Observer of June 14th, where they will see the countless

vided	the	rir	V	ote	s as	follo	WS:	
Kit	chi	n		00			.178.87	
Cra	ig						. 95.04	
Ho	rue						66.40	

Thus they will see that in what the Charlotte Observer pronounces "neu-tral territory," Kitchin's vote exceeds hat of both his competitors combined. Eliminating from the account the partiality of the mountain country Craig and the partiality of the Fifth and Second Districts for & tchin, the "neutral terrtory" has decided for Kitchin. Leaving out of the accounthe Tenth, Ninth and Eighth Districts Craig carries only one Congressional District in neutral territory, the Sav

Leaving out of the account the Firh and Second Districts Kitchin earries the First, Third, Fourth and Slath Districts, all in neutral terrtory. Or o view the matter in another light Craig gets a plurality in the Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Districts. winde Kitch p carries he First, Second. Third, Pourth, Fifth and Sixel Distrricts-making his lead by Dis tricts six to four.

The hopes of the Horne men are that the rivalry between Craig and Kitchin will be so fierce that the friends of either will go to the Johns-t nocounty man rather than see Kitchin or Craig, respectively, win the prize Similar hopes were entertained by the Turner men four years ago, but the man who went into the convention in the lead held his forces together, and was nominated by the votes of the Turner and Davidson men. Glenn lacked 78 votes of winning on the first ballot, which was relatively the same fecting of the system of improvement being composed of \$55 delegates, of the artificial and the natural inland whereas the convention of 1904 had 1250 votes. Horne has a plurality in only five counties, Johnston, New Han-over, Brunswick, Anson and Mecklen-

spletion of a system which is now and Horne forces will hold together without a break for several ballots. tion, just as the Turner and Davidson men did the leading candidate in the

convention of 1904.

Kitchia will share generously in the votes of the uninstructed counties, especially Rowan. Having caught up with Craig, overcoming a lead of 58 votes and distanced him in the race by about 50 to win the nomination, and tion can be formed that can take the prize from him now.

The "neutral territory" has spoken and the verdiet is for Kitchin.

THE STORY OF ELECTRICITY.

Deep in the vellum-bound ancien volumes of many an old book store lies hid the romance of electricity. It is a story so old as to be lost in the ob-scurity of the mystic East and so intersting as to read more like fiction than

From the electric light in the libra-ry reading room and the electric cars rumbling past the building the story of electricity can be traced back through esciuries until the finy thread is lost in the Great Empire of China thousands of vegra are.

Long before any records written in books the superstitious people of the flast bowed down to the magical powers of the lode-stone. The name "Elec-

ries and is derived from the Greek work "electron" meaning amber. This from the north Baltic entries and was extensively used in It was one of the old Greek philoso-phers. Thales, who discovered in polishing this amber stylus that the fossilized resin possessed the mysteriou power of attracting light bodies when rubbed. Thales argued that the amber possessed the secret of life but he failed to explain the megnetic attrac-

The learning of the Greeks was

idopted by the Romans and Pliny, the elder, wrote considerabe of this strange property of amber. He said the stone was rubbed into life by his fingers. The Romans contented themselves with this knowledge and arriv ed no further towards a solution of While they believed Jove hurled his immortal thu in just anger over some fancled wrong they little knew that their amber or naments contained the secret of the lighting. The great Caesar was awed and astounded at the strange lights which on certain nights played ghost-like about the spiked helmets and spear points of the Roman legions. Those accient minds believed more in ghosts and immortal than in science. They little understood nature and at tributed all such phenomena to static electricity shining in "St Elmo's light" upon the steel spear points of the army and the masts of each tireme in the Roman navy was translated as a message from the gods in assurance Fortunately electricity was neither

forgotten or neglected when the great Roman civilization passed away and the Dark Ages succeeded. The next of electrical experiments is rec rded in the seventeenth century when Gilbert an Englishman studied the lectron and the magnet and wrote his famous book "De Magnete" which was the beginning of a new era in elecric science. Gilbert told little that Thales had not known but he paved he way for a new scientific develor nent. Guericke, a Prussian, invented he first crude electric machine. Hi simple device was a cylinder of sulbur mounted on an axle and turned with a crank. By whirling this cylnder and pressing a silk cloth against frictional or static electricity was rduced. This machine gave a conquantity of electricity and insulated further experiments. Though any properties of the mystic force vere discovered little other progress made during that century.

The next century brought discover-es which filled all Europe with exement and nearly every book print d during that time contains articles The glass electrical electricity. nachine invented at this time con isted of a large glass cylinder or is's revolved on an axle and rubbed ith leather. This machine produced large, brilliant spark, DeFaye, renchman, sent a spark through rd-1,300feet long and suspending m elf from a silk cord was charge electricity. When his friends apreached him they were astonished t e a large spark leap from his body re electricity and produced the Levjar, named after the city when was first used, and received a shock the nearly knocked him to the floor Leyden jar brought alarm and ter o all who saw for the first time great power of electricity. ochs say that Louis XV held an audi ee with this jar of stored electricity nd that his royal arms were jerked

arly from their sokets, which mystid him greatly. Then our own Benjamin Franklin ed to the front and proved with hite that the electricity from the ction machine and the lightning rom the clouds were the same thing ie was the greatest electrical scienist of the age and the history of elecrical progress dates practically from f Leyden jars which was little short of

ightning itself, shocking animals to eath and setting fire to tinder. Franklin's experiments were repeating the greatest scientist of the age. Up to this time static electricity was only kind known. To-day two tinds of electricity are recognized he static electricity which is motion ess and takes the form of discharge rom one body to another and electririty generated by chemical action or nechanical means. The next world-asmishing development in electricity

was the discovery of the chemical battery which gave a steady flow of cur rent. A man named Galvani, a professor of anatomy at Bologna, in 1790 was experimenting with an electric machine By chance some frog legs were lying upon the same table having been or dered by a physician for Galvani's sick wife. A spark jumped to one of the frog's caddles and it twitched as though with life. Galvani followed up the experiment thinking he had discorered the secret of life, which was the topic of all scientific study and research in those days.

In the course of his experiment Gal vani hung the frog's legs on a copper hook with the toes touching on a zinc plate. This also caused the legs to twitch evidencing an electric current. But it remained for Volta to show that Galvani had created an electric battery. Volta constructed his "voltaic pile" composed of alternating sheets of copper and sine separated with cloth moistened with an acid solution This gave a continuous flow of electricity and scientists dropped their experiments with the friction machine to take up the study of the cell bat-tery. They thought then that the body was nothing more or less than a vol tale pile and that life was a manifesta tion of el cirical energy. Personality an emotions were spoken of, and Pew erful batteries of as many a 3 thou and cells were constructed and it was soticed that the new machine gave no brilliant sporks but a steady flow of current of a nower so mysterious and threaten's as to be held in silent dread. When the poles of such a machine were grasped it was as though the victim was held in the grasp of giant and his body was convulsed and tossed about. By its action water was decomposed, carbon and metals melted, chemistry was revolutionized and scientific research extended.

Galvani and Volta were followed by coterie of brilliant men and the sames of Oersted, Ampere, Davy and Wollaston became known throughouthe world. In 1820 Oersted discover ed the relation between magnetism and electricity. By his experiment it was found that the galvanic current deflected the magnetic needle. After the amperage and voltage of the

ciple of voltaic induction which gave rise to the faradic, or alternating cur rent. Then followed the dynamo, bas-ed upon this same principle, and elec-tricity began to assume great commer-cial importance. The telegraph, the telephone, electricity as a source of power, the arc and incandescent light, electric motor car, the X-ray, wire less telegraphy, the electric furnace and many impopriant discoveries have

more for this world than any other

to fill it with purpose, earnestnes and

But this Prince of Peace prop not only peace but strength. Some have thought His teachings fit only for the weak and the timid and no-

suited to men of vigor, energy and ambition. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Only the man of faith can be courageous. Confident that he fights on the ide of Jehovar he doubts not the success of his cause. matters it whether he shares in the shouts of triumph? If every word spoken in behalf of truth has its infinence and every deed done for the right weighs in the final account it is immaterial to the Christian whether his

The Prince of Peace.

(Concluded from Page One.)

"Yea, though thou lie upon the dust, When they who helped thee flee Die full of hope and manly trust,

Like those who fell in battle here Another hand thy sword shall wield.

Another hand the standard wave,

Till from the trumpets mouth is peal ed The blast of triumph o'er thy grave."

Only those who believe attempt the seemingly impossible and, by attempting, prove that one with God can chase thousand and two can put ten thous and to flight. I can imagine that the early Christians who were carried into the arena to make a spectacle for were entreated by their doubting com panions not to endanger their lives But, kneeling in the center of the arena, they prayed and sang until they were devoured. How helpless they seemed and, measured by every humanule, how hopeless was their cause And yet within a few decades the er which they invoked proved might ler than the legions of the emperor and the faith in which they died was triumphant o'er all that land. It ! said that those who went to mock a their suffrage returned asking them "What is it that can enter to the heart of man and make him die as thee die?" They were greater con querors in their death than they could have been had they purchased life by surrender of their faith.

What would have been the fate he church if the early Christians had had as little faith as many of our other hand, if the Christians of today had the faith of the martyrs, how long would it be before the fulfillment of the prophecy that every knee sha bow and every tongue confess?

Our faith shall be even stronger than

he faith of those who hved two thou sand years ago for we see our religion spreading and suppleating the phil cphies and creeds of the Orient. At the Christian grows older he ap ess with which Christ fills the re quirements of the heart and, grateful for the peace which he enjoys and for the strength which he has receiv ed, he repeats the words of the grea scholar, Sir William Jones:

Before thy mystic altar, heavenly kneel in manhood, as I knelt in

Thus let me kneel, till this dull form decay, And life's last shade be brightened by the ray.'

BRYAN ON THE CONVENTION.

REPUBLICANS ARE RETREATING

in the Next Issue of the Commone -Delegates Ran Over Each Other Getting Away From the Reforms Endorsed by President Roosevelt-Republicana Will Have Many Embarrassing Things to Deal With in the Coming Campaign, Chief Among These Being the Defeat of the Campaign Publicity Resolution-Retreated From the Railroad Question.

Lincoln, Neb., June 20.-Under the caption "In Full Retreat," William J. Bryan, in the next issue of The Com noner, will discuss the Republican

convention as follows:
The Republicans who attended the national convention as spectators and loined in the demonstration in favor of President Roosevelt and Senato aFollette, must have felt indignant as they watched the panic stricken de egates running over each other in their effort to get away from the La-Foliette reforms, some of which had been endorsed by the President him-self. Congressman Cooper, of Wis-consin, representing the LaFollette men, brought in a minority report signed by himself alone. Fifty-two embers of the committee signed the majority report and one signed the mi-

AN EMBARRASSING POSITION. The Republican party will find the one to deal with in the coming cau paign. Mr. Cooper's report containe a declaration in favor of publicity as to campaign funds. It was lost by vote of 880 to 94, more than 9 to 1, and yet the President had been advocating legislation in favor of publicity as to campaign contributions and Sec rows advocating the passage of a pub-licity bill. How fortunate ft was that Secretary Taft's letter was finally dis-covered and published, Senator Burrows, the man to whom the Taft let ter was addressed, was the temporary chairman of the convention, and the convention over which he presided turned down the publicity plank by a vote of nine to en; who will deny that, on this subject, the Republican party is retreating?

Another plank of the LaFoilette

platform authorized the ascertaining of the value of the railroads. This olonk was lost by a vote of 917 to 66, nearly 15 to 1, and yet President Roosevelt has advocated this very pro-position. Here is a retreat on the railroad question:

INJUNCTION PLANK In another column reference is made to the injunction plank. The injuncin another column reference is made to the injunction plank. The injunction plank adopted by the Republican convention is a retreat from the position taken by the President and from the position taken by the President and from the position taken by Secretary Taft in his speeches, although neither of them went as far as they ought to have gone in their effort to prevent what is known as "government by injunction." Here is the third retreat.

The President has advocated the income tax as a means of preventing swollen fortunes and of equalizing the burdens of government. The Republican platform is silent on the subject. Was the President right in the position he took? If so then the convention was wrong in not endorsing him. Will the Republican votera follow the President in this just demand or will they follow the Republican organization retreating from it?

The President advocated an inheritance tax but the Republican conventions and inheritance tax but the Republican convention was successful to the resident advocated an inheritance tax but the Republican conventions are the resident advocated an inheritance tax but the Republican conventions are the resident advocated an inheritance tax but the Republican conventions are the resident advocated an inheritance tax but the Republican conventions are the resident advocated an inheritance tax but the Republican conventions are the resident advocated an inheritance tax but the Republican conventions are the resident and the resident

ion is silent on that subject. Was the President ahead of the Republica party is advocating this reform or he the Republican party receded from the President's position? Did the President give a faise alarm on this ques

THE PRESIDENT'S PARTY BEATS A RETREAT ON HIS PROPOSI

WEALTH EXISTED. In the President's message to Con-gress last spring he presented an in-dictment against the conspiracy form ed among the great lawbreakers prevent the enforcement of the laws and to evade the punishment provided y law. The platform adopted by the tepublican convention contains no i imation of danger. If there are any conspiracies, the convention did not it had not heard of them; if there are any dangers, they are unconsc them. Was the President mistaker when he issued his defiance, or are the Republican managers deceived when they think an aroused public will calmly contemplate the encroach-ments of predatory wealth? This is her six

POPULAR ELECTION OF SENA-

The convention by vote of 866 to 114 more than seven to one down the plank in favor of the popu-lar election of United States Senators. t is tree that the President and Secretary Taft have never advocated the seem to take the Hamiltonian rather than the Jeffersonian view, but the most popular reform in the United States to-day is the reform that has for its object the election of United States Senators by direct vote. It has five times been endorsed by the National House of Representativesthree times when the House of Renresentatives was Republican. It has been endorsed by nearly two-thirds of the States of the Union and there is probably not a State in the Union which it would not be endorsed at a copular election and yet in spite of the record made in the houses and by the various States, this reform is relected by a 7 to 1 vote in a Republican SEVEN PROPOSITIONS TURNED

Here are seven propositions upon which the Republican party, in national convention assembled, has retreated from the position taken by that par ty in Congress or from the position taken by the President. What have Roosevelt Republicans to say? The President has awakened a spirit of reform within his party, he has at least revealed to the world that there are reformers in the Republican party. standpat convention? Millions of Republicans have enlisted at the President's call to arms and are ready to march forward; will they furl their banners and turn back merely because the President acquiesces in the sound

THE GOOD AND THE BAD OF THE PRESIDENT'S POLICIES.

B. Fleming, in the Arena.] That good has come out of the ad ministration of President Roosevelt is evident from the popular approval ac-

The public declaration of the pres ident that under no circumstances would be accept a third term, mark ed the b ginning of this approval. His friendly offices in the settlement of the Russo-Japanese war made him

a world figure, and gave him more prestige at home than all of his "big performances in connection rith our army and navy. The steps taken to preserve the pub

lic lands and mineral wealth from private despoliation has met with univer

His public utterances against plutothe Nebraskan Will Discuss the Do-cratic domination and the menace of foreigners. Yet the president and his ince of the Republican Convention predatory wealth have also opened the cabinet stand with "the standpatters" hearts of the people to him. The official investigations set of

foot and consequent exposure of the high erimes and misdemeanors of some of our "captains of industry" and a few of our public men, have als commerded the president to the mass es. The efforts of the president to secure some sort of control of the rail-

The fact that President Roosevelt was not pledged by the platform on which he was elected to any of these reforms has made his course of confuct a happy surprise to the country. and this has probably accorded to him a larger measure of praise than would otherwise have been meted out.

Considering his obligations to the

nsurance and other trusts for campaign contributions, and the powerful nfluences brought to bear upon him in the interests of the big corporations. he president has done so much better than the public had a right to expect that his star shines with the greater brilliancy.

The good that has come from his speeches and messages is the more far-reaching because if its source. That which in a democratic president would have been denounced as anarchistic is patrictic in a republican president; and much that has been sneered at as Bryanism" has thus been made res-

The good of the president's policies has made his name a household word, and given him a hold upon the country which must be reckoned with in the future, for the president will finfull vigor of his manhood, and he is

not without ambition.

And yet the president's policies are by no means faultiess and it is a question whether the bad in them does not outweigh the good. That Mr. Roosevelt's sgoism has made him blind to the reserved rights of the states, and oblivious of the bargiers which the constitution has raiser branches of government, is well known to every thoughtful, unprejudiced mind. However well-intentioned these obbliquities the danger to which the precedents thus set will expose the resublic in the fater.

expose the republic in the future are one the less serious.

The course of the administration is marked with extraordinary inconsis-tences. How can the president's sin-cerity in his reform declarations be iciled with a number of his offi-

Why did he retain in his cabinet, Mr. Knox, the attorney for the trusts, appointed attorney general at the in-stance of the trusts? Why did he make Mr. Morton, a railroad magnate of malodorous re-pute, a member of his cabinet, and de-fend this self-confeased violator of the

Why did he appoint, and why does Why did he appoint, and why does he keep in his cabinet, Mr. Root, a notorious attorney of the very trusts the president is denouncing?

Why does the president affiliate with the Addickses and the Spooners et id omns genus, while he turns his back on men like Governor Cummins and Senator LaFollette?

And why did he go to the assistance of the "Quay" republicans, as against the "Lincoln" republicans in Pennsyl-Mr. Knox, the favorite candidate of

A review of the significant facts to prove that the so-called war e president upon the predatory rations 's not intended to be heof the pre

tioned many others might be cited which create a suspicion, that after all this warfare is largely a "play to the galleries" or a species of "four-flush-ing" if not a sham.

in spite of this solemn declaration ces be a caudidate in 1908, interviews are being given out to the effect that the president will rue his pledge as to a third term if he can break the solid south by carrying one northern state, and Mr. John Temple Graves does not hesitate to pledge to him the state of Georgia. Doubtless some other seeker after notoriety or p office will be equally ready to pledge him the state of Texas.

The so-called "merger suit," so often boasted of, seems to be a case against rather than in favor of the administration. The decree of the supreme court in that case upholds the riminal as well as the civil clauses of the Sherman anti-trust act, but in stead of following up the civil with criminal action against the law break ers, Attorney General Knox hastened to Wall Street to assure the trust magnates that the administration was not going to "run amuck;" and thereupon the raliroads concerned immediately proceeded to organize another merger under a different name, which new trust has openly continued the same violations of law denounced by

the court. The president's singular change of front on the question of the control of rates when the amendment to the the senate has never been explained the president, emasculated the original act of what the president had previously insisted was the vital point con cerned; and thus the matter of rates is by legislative act made a judicial instead of an administrative or legislative act.

When Mr. Harriman was caught by the inter-state commerce commiss "with the goods on him" and the country had every right to expect criminal action against that bold finan-cial buccaneer, the Associated Press was quick to publish the news that at a cabinet meeting it had been con cluded that no criminal measure would be resorted to in the case, and Mr. Harriman has since boldly protion and public despoliation.

It is true that civil suits are being brought and that some of the trusts are being "fined" but what trust has been made to halt in its unlawful ca-The fines imposed have no terror for the trusts for the reason that these law breakers, by raising the prices of their product, and railroads rates, are shift the fine upon the public which is thus made to pay the penalty for the crimes others commit, and o which they complain. Could there be worse travesty upon justice than

Thus it is that in spite of all the hue and cry raised against the trusts the mergers continue, the consolida tions go on, the trusts still ply their nefarious trades, prices soar, and the eople, instead of finding relief, are leeced worse than ever.

None of the remedles invoked by the administration have been effec tive for the reason that they do no go to the bottom of the evil. The axe is not laid at the root of the tree The spoils of the trusts are built up

y special privileges of which the tar iff was the beginning. By thus shut ting off foreign competition, the combines are able to charge the people of the United States more than they charge for the same kind of goods to and stave off all revision of the rol ber tariff,

Still more to blame is the presiden quired of him by his oath of office Under the common law it is within the power of the president's attorne; general and district attorneys to dissolve every trust engaged in inter state commerce, and under the inter state commerce and Sherman acts t clothe with strines and put behind prison bars every trust magnate. One example of this kind would do more to protect the public from the menac of predatory wealth than all the fin that could be heaped upon the offend ers. If the president is really sincere in his war upon plutocracy, why doe he not thus enforce the law?

In view of these derelictions the question naturally arises, why is the president so popular? The reason is ot hard to find.

There is a growing fear of the trusts by the people, and they are ready to hail as a Moses any high official who seems to be their friend as agains heir enemy. They ifl realize the mag nitude of the danger which confronts them, and still less do they compre hend what is necessary for their re-Science and invention, in the las

nalf century; have worked a revolution in transportation, in agriculture, in printing, in manufacture. The trans tion from primitive to modern meth ods,, accompanied by a multiplication of man's labor power ten, a hundred and in some instances a thousand fold, has raised the percapita wealth from \$307 in 1850 to \$1,300 in 1900, which, if equally distributed, would give five thousand dollars to each family in the United States. This has been done n spite of the vast sums squandered by our idle rich abroad, and over and above the billions destroyed in our civil war, and the cost of that war, But our vast wealth of one hundred billions of dollars is mostly concentrated in the hands of a few. It requires all the labor of all the people for one year to add to our wealth the fortune held by John D. Rockefeller. for one year to add to our weath the fortune held by John D. Rockefeiler. Mr. Rockefeiler owns at least one-fortieth of the total wealth of the United States, and the "Standard Oil group," of which he is the head and center, owns about one-tenth of that wealth. The wealth of this octupus has increased five thousand per cent, while the total wealth of the nation has increased only two hundred and fifty per cent. How long will it take five thousand percent to overtake two hundred and fifty per cent. hundred and fifty per cent? How long will it be before the Rockefellers, Ry-ans, Hills, Harrimans, etc., own the United States?

It is estimated that already three tenths of one per cent of the popula-tion own seventy per cent of the to Wealth is power and sits enthros

wealth is power and sits enthron-ed in our city council, legislative and congressional halls, and even in the judges' seats. It makes, interprets and executes the laws. The power to and executes the laws. The power to despoil the people through franchises and by means of gigantic combinations increases every hour. Stock jobbing and stock watering goes on with haste, and railroads are consolidated, and gas and street car and electric franchises are multiplying and the earnings of future generations are being mortgaged, and the millionaires are made "immune" from punishment. The rich and nowarial have seized

the boss stands the mil aire and the corporation. Hundreds of ularity. work in the factories, mills and mines, with long hours and small pay, and the future fathers, mothers, and citizens

tion that the water now extant in the issues of the capital stock of the cor future fathers, mothers, and citizens are being dwarfed in body, mind and soul. Graft is rampant not only in the insurance companies whose wards are the widows and the orphans, but in constitute a mortgage upon the property and the country and the countr public places, and corruption reigns in political conventions and at the polis. It is facts like these that are putting the people in fear of the future and compelling them to look for a Moses and making them ready to hall as a redeemer the first president they have had in fifty years who has shown any disposition to stand by them as any disposition to stand by them as policy or lose his popularity.

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