

THE DEMOCRATIC ALLIES OF MR. CANNON.

Under the above caption the Baltimore Sun quotes Mr. Bryan's rebuke of the Democratic bolters of 1909. One must infer from the Sun's evidence since remarks on this subject that it has seen the error of its own ways in bolting in 1894 and 1908. Its article is as follows:

The Democratic Allies of Mr. Cannon. At a banquet in Lincoln, Neb., in honor of his birthday, Hon. William J. Bryan presented the view of the majority of Democrats respecting the 23 Democratic members of the House of Representatives who aided the Republicans in the House to perpetuate "Cannonism" in the Sixty-first Congress. "These Democrats," said Mr. Bryan, "ought to hear from their constituents."

WHERE GRAFT IS EASY.

Our news items yesterday contained brief mention of an extraordinary statement made by Police Commissioner Bingham, in New York City. We say "extraordinary" because, perhaps, the bribe mentioned is so large; but, when we remember that Judge Roger A. Pryor some years ago testified that he had paid his first year's salary (\$17,000) for his nomination to a judgeship, we should accept Mr. Bingham's story with composure.

OVERMAN SAYS THERE SHOULD BE NO MORE PANICS.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Sun says: "Should Be No More Panics—This is the Opinion of Senator Overman, of North Carolina, in a speech in the Washington, Cor. New York Sun." Senator Lee S. Overman, of North Carolina, discussing the country's condition, says there should not be another panic, in view of the sane and more temperate feeling that is likely to attend the settlement of the great questions before the people. Senator Overman says:

"Business is always more or less disturbed by threatened legislation upon those great questions which directly affect the financial and commercial interests of the country. Within the next six months the tariff question will be settled, and whether it is revised upon just and proper lines in the interest of all the people or in the interest of a few, will be a question of the greatest importance for a time at least will be over."

BRIEF SURVEY OF THE SOUTHERN BUSINESS FIELD.

The Tradesman for this week says: "Practically no changes in hardware trade conditions in the South have been noted in the past week, although manufacturers are somewhat annoyed by the provisions of the new tariff bill. It is not considered as certain by any means, however, that in the final framing of the measure the hardware situation will be materially disturbed. Throughout the South this week the most distressing reports of general conditions have been given and jobbers are unusually well pleased with the situation. Retailers have failed to properly gauge their spring demands and many are already in the market restocking with the present. Low stocks will prevail with retailers. This practice bids fair to continue through this year in the main, although many strong arguments against the practice are being sent out. Crop conditions appear excellent in most localities, and with the few exceptions where floods of soil are reported, the outlook for the season there is bright. Jobbers report an unusually large number of new stores opening throughout the South and this has stimulated trade considerably. In Tennessee set-

on new stores have opened in ten days, buying entire new stocks. In Texas a score of new dealers have begun business since the first of the year, and in all other Southern States except South Carolina a number of new dealers have joined the clan. The vehicle trade, which is joint with hardware in the greater portion of the South, has also been uncommonly good this spring, and jobbers in this line have enjoyed a better trade than they have had for three years. Remarkable as it may seem the vehicle business suffered most about a year before the financial depression of 1907 and began reviving earlier than other lines.

Prices have remained steady this week, no changes being reported in any staples. Leather has shown a weak tone, but the same quotations prevail. The southeast has been good market for fencing wire and other materials this season, the demand exceeding anything known in a number of years.

Few jobbers will venture an opinion on the fall trade situation this early in the season, but general indications point to the fact that the hardware business will continue the present gradual improvement until the maximum is reached again.

The Lumber Trade. Tariff agitation, that disturber of business which always comes at the most inopportune time, has had its effect upon the lumber trade of the South, no uncertainty was the past week, but lumbermen are giving the question all the attention it demands. Buyers have been busy making inquiries, but have brought sparingly, fearing that the present tariff schedule will become a law, and naturally mill men have been unable to force business to any extent. All the mills are working on full time, where the log supply will permit, and all are looking for an excellent spring business.

In hardwood centres business is particularly active, although the better grades are too scarce to allow much activity in shipping. Quartered and plain oak, common red oak, chestnut and some other grades are very low, but the country is reporting very good supply for next month. Popular is bringing excellent prices and all mills are trying to turn out their maximum cut, although extra widths and choice grades are extremely scarce.

Through the yellow pine belt mills are running regularly this week but the movement of lumber is far below the cut. Yards are filling up with a splendid lot of lumber and congestion is threatened at some mills. Orders continue to come in at a fair rate, however, and most lumbermen expect an excellent season next month.

The spring trade has brought a general demand for all grades but temporarily trade has suffered by advice to delay shipment. Buyers in the field, however, admit they will have more favorable instruction a little later and all are looking for far more satisfactory conditions with the coming of April.

Textiles.

In the opinion of several mill men concerned with the general situation in the South, affecting soft and hard yarn mills, unless there is some improvement during the next month or so, it is likely many mills will shut down. In fact, several mills have already closed operations; a few others have decided to shut down part time, and most of the hard yarn mills are now curtailing heavily. So bad is the general situation that it is deemed necessary to apply the most strenuous treatment. Whether this will be a total suspension of operations, remains to be seen, and will be determined largely by the developments of the next few weeks.

It is a prevailing opinion among Southern hard yarn spinners that the Northern association should join with the Southern association, in the effort to restore prices to a living basis.

rejuvenation. The marvelous industrial progress of that section for ten years prior to the panic, which was so disastrously arrested, will begin again upon larger and wider possibilities. Prompting by this spirit of development already begun one people are practically out of debt, and the old conditions under which they suffered and remained poor are forgotten and no longer exist, and with it great industrial resources and advantages for the future greatness cannot be measured or told.

The tide of immigration is beginning to turn in that direction to open up the millions of acres of land lying there awaiting the homesteader. Her magnificent water powers, now cast long, are to be harnessed to give cheap electricity, to give power to thousands of factories to be built to work up her raw material. No section of our country is richer in unopened wells of oil and natural gas, beds of coal and iron, mines of gold and copper and splendid fertilizing potentialities. Her annual crop of 12,000,000 bales of cotton enriches her every year \$600,000,000. She is soon to become one of the greatest fruit and truck producing centres in the world.

THE RALEIGH AFFAIR.

Wilson Times.] Whenever a city gets into the moral straits that seem to afflict Raleigh, it is in a bad way, and yet almost any community will get into such a bad condition unless the people keep constantly on the alert, and well informed as to the actions of their city officials and insist on knowing at all times what is transpiring. The average citizen is so engrossed in his business affairs that he has little time to think of such matters and therefore, if he desires, it may quietly indulge in all sorts of graft at the expense of the taxpayer.

Then upon whom devolves the necessity of keeping the busy business man acquainted with the doings of his city officials, and the details of public matters? Most readily you answer, "the newspaper man should be able to have at his finger's ends all the information necessary, so that he could merely take the words of official reports and should also be in a position to unravel intricate webs and go to the bottom of details in order to ascertain the true facts in every instance. We regard this as every true, and yet if the ordinary business man has so little time to investigate for himself how can the newspaper editor with considerably more work on his hands than the average business man, find time to keep in touch with the thousand and one threads of the commercial, political, social and religious life of the community?"

And yet, if it would keep a careful watch and do its full duty for the public the newspaper man must do all these things and more. For sometimes we have felt there was not one part there in the administration of the city of Raleigh and wondered why the newspapers of that city didn't go down after it and dig it up.

Raleigh is a healthy city and enjoys a large and growing population. It does not, like Wilson own any of its public utilities, and yet its bonded indebtedness is about the size of Wilson's. Without schools and enjoying a huge income from the dispensary and other sources, one of the highest tax rates in the state it must, as soon as the dispensary closes, increase the taxes, and in addition levy a special tax to conduct its public schools.

The cost of running Wilson for 13 months all told, including interest on our bonds is around \$40,000, while Raleigh, without public utilities, is spending more than \$100,000.

The disclosures in the office of Raleigh will probably pave the way for others, and will prove a valuable lesson for the people of Raleigh, but to the other cities of the state as well.

We have always contended a public office is a public trust, and any official who betrays that trust is to be watched is not to be trusted in a public position. The best of us are only human and we all need a check rein for fear we might grab the bit in our teeth and run with it, and when a commercial man who is so pure and unimpeachable that he does not need watching it is high time he was watching himself, for "Pride goeth before a fall," and watch as well as pray; best yet enter into the Bible every man who has a conscience may wisely apply unto himself. But it takes some grit and backbone to open up on an administration in the cold and uneventful days when there is no hot contest on hand as now shakes Raleigh from center to circumference. It is not so hard when the newspaper man feels the people are with him in his efforts to oust those who are evidently incompetent and unworthy of public trust.

But it is the duty of the newspaper at all times to crack it on the head whenever the slightest indication appears among the "public servants" that they are greater than the people, for the time to uproot a disease is in its infancy, before it has spread to the entire body, whether corporate or human.

Readers of the Times will recall some rough roads this editor has had to travel in the stand taken several years ago that the records of the city were public property, and though the court here decided against us we kept banging away until not only the mayor's docket was published daily, but in addition an itemized account of the receipts and disbursements were published monthly in these columns.

It was necessary for us to agree to publish these statements for nothing before we could get the consent of the administration. For sometime upon a roll until the fathers saw it was a wise thing to do and that it was not right for us to do it for nothing, and now they are paying for it.

The wisdom of it all is apparent in the recent disclosures in the city of Raleigh. Suppose the papers of the city had been published every day the fines in the mayor's court and at the end of the month the receipts and disbursements, derived of course includes such items as the chief of police have known to a certainty that the public would have caught on, even if there was collusion among the city's officials?

"BIG MEN" IN WASHINGTON.

No Clays, Websters, Toombs, nor Vances. Alvin Horton, in Charlotte Observer.] One's friends, despising in one eyes, want one to show them the big men. Now one may be undecided as to who these big fellows are, but, if half wise, one knows precisely the

aggregation the newcomers have in mind. Hobson, who sank the Merrimac, and was afterwards killed by the ladies; Nick, who married Alice, and hasn't since had opportunity to legislate a bit; and the quaint old man who was evening dead the day through; Tillman, the pitchforker; Taylor, the fiddler, and Jeff Davis, the low couched rooster from Arkansas, these are the ones whom you must hunt up and shove to your front. In passing, let us mention the names of the big men at the time; Champ Clark, the minority leader, and Seneca Payne, Republican floor leader, though you need not have to do this. Your friends, you know, read the newspapers, the country's educators. Necessarily the opinions of these friends need right much revision. Whereas they now see as through a glass darkly, if they will only tarry in Washington a year or two and watch diligently, they may see that the country is a plenty which, being translated, means that a colony of Lilliputians will burst upon their view.

Simple backwoodsman that I am, I came here supposing everyone of the big bugs was a hero of Hercules' magnitude. I was wrong, however. Capitalists should not hesitate to invest their money in this great section. Not only will splendid returns be given upon the amount so invested but those who come can feel that no hostile legislation will be enacted to discourage and cripple investments. There will be no fight there between capital and labor. The negro question is settled, sectional feeling is no more, and the stranger is welcomed always with open arms.

So far as I know, not one of the crowd the visitors are looking for has such a darker side. They are all, with few exceptions, and certainly, very pleasant fellows. I do not think, however, that anyone who has watched them closely for long will attempt to say that they represent the climax of intellectuality, or have by any means a major part of the other prerequisites of big men. They have kept in the limelight. If editors have roasted them, reporters have played 'em up, so to speak; and you know the country doesn't care for in the least, or read much, a paper's editor with hard sense and as chairman of the Washington correspondent is one of the most powerful men in the government. Rightly manipulated, he is a builder of fame, for others.

To get into the public prints—that's the child's ambition which in the man. The country boy, reading the country paper's glowing story of his Congressman's speech, with copious extracts therefrom, and "applause" freely interspersed, says he's going to talk like that when a man. The man who reads the paper, however, is not so easily deceived. If he suppresses facts on his own accord. To be brutally frank, it must be stated that "it is in the South and West, where, as a rule, you never read of certain incidents, unless a careless editor talks like that to cut out the Associated Press item."

So the people flock in to see, in addition to their own Representatives, the little bunch herebefore mentioned. Hobson does them the favor to post in the galleries notices that he will speak in a plenary in behalf of more and better battleships. After the applause shall have died away, one infers that he may be seen in the corridors to receive osculatory and other expressions of approval. He talks like that, and many pointing his way and feels that he's done enough by catching Alice; while Jeff, trust buster, and simplest man of the herd at home, stinks out of his new automobile to ride away, "as big as any man, sir."

And here, I am compelled to observe, a good deal does depend on the galleries, after all. They constitute the public. The accuracy of the country's discernment you may see daily in the galleries of the House, where big men only the sensationalists, those who make no distinction between popularity and fame. So perverted is the public's taste that it can't relish the slow ways of the fausers; and (too many an example) in the galleries of the Senate, where big men only the dramatical utterances, a fervor to fix in the national life a freak to be eventually deplored.

Usually, among the theatres, it is left to the peanut galleries to perpetrate abuse; for those in the costly boxes, rather than enjoy. The seats black, new-boy, common-laborer and boys, all recognize the fine parts all right, as any human will; but, if perchance they see, too, those things for which the animal in the child is the demonstration by those high through may be somebody to open another show-house for the basely vulgar.

You see the trend. "Is a question whether this thing called fame is worth any struggle and sleepless nights. Isn't it too much the approbation of folk whose opinions are not worth a hill of beans? Isn't it merely notoriety acquired by men who read the galleries aright?"

But big men,—they are here, to be sure. You may be more interested in my telling you that Cy Salloway, of New Hampshire, is the tallest man; that Ollie James, of Kentucky, is the heaviest man; that Tom Herlin, of Alabama, is the heaviest man; and that John L. Burnett, also of Alabama, is the shortest man, he being so thick that his arms, if he drops them by his side, stick straight out—

one may be more interested in particular than these. I say, "that in my opinion as to who the really big men are, I shall therefore, give not a list but some samples. Champ Clark, Seneca Payne, Judge DeArmond, Tawney and Dalsell, these are among the giants in the House these days; while Culbreton, who is Aldrich are among the real heavyweights in the Senate. These are selected by reason of their prominence alone; for there are men here at both ends of the Capitol who might be classed as alps of the proverbial transcendent point, but who, in the prevailing conditions, deem it wise to keep well in the background. He who is made popular because, after introducing some other man's measure, he spoke that man's ideal, while the man was working for votes not to be won by any eloquence or who in the scramble for good committee assignments distinguished places, this fellow, you will observe, may not be a heavyweight at all.

Distinction in congressional circles is rarely evidence of statesmanship. It is rather proof that the elevated holds views similar to those of the holder. Nor is this getting it stronger. It is a proper that those who dominate in the party in power should painstaking to secure the most useful

sort of tools. is told of a much-talked-of man here that while making a campaign for the governorship of his State, he requested his opponent, before a large audience, to give him a little of the cough syrup which the opponent always carried in his handbag. A bottle, from which both had imbibed before, was handed to the man to care his sore throat. He turned it up and spatward. It was whisky! Pleased at the candidate's Christianity, the crowd dispersed his opponent and sent to Washington the most pronounced freak in the history of the Union. Politicians' tricks— you heard of them. Indeed, you see them here, although on a much less primitive scale than back home. Like most of the theories which lawyers unfold to juries, and which are just as impossible, and not half so plausible, as some of Edgar Allen Poe's plots, they are a sad revelation as to the public's simplicity.

Of these big men Champ Clark is far the most commanding. Of large build, stern, earnest face with a magnificent presence, witty, clear headed, eloquent but without any of the bubbles which usually congregate in an eloquent man's head, Mr. Clark is remembered with a good deal of admiration by all who have watched him for long. In debate he is never worried; his argument is clear, and his repartee unexcelled in the present personnel of the House. As a general, he will be followed, or there will be considerable explaining.

Judge DeArmond is a man of rare ability, but his presence is against him. His deeds will be remembered; the doing of them never. Seneca Payne, a large man, with all his corpulence in front, moves slowly but dangerously. His influence is great, because he is Republican leader, with hard sense, and as chairman of the appropriations committee is making a mark.

Over in the Senate, Culbreton, leader of the minority, tall, classical all over, and Hale, majority leader, also of great ability, who talks like a backwoods schoolmaster, pedantically, slowly, and who to the common herd appears much as did Miss Ophelia to Topsy in "Uncle Tom's Cabin"—so nice he'd touch a toad just as soon as a common's hand—these two wield, supposedly, all the power. But there's Aldrich. He is medium sized and looks harmless enough. No trills of the statesman are hanging to him. Like a gray fox he relies on cunning. He is the strong right arm of the Senate.

To put it broadly, there are just two kinds of big men in the country, stays well between the extremes, earnest, but not cranky, and who does things whenever he can, whether the bugle is blowing or not; the other, strong, passionate man, with a tiger in his breast, easily tempted by carnal things, capable of force hate and fiercer love, who wallows in the depths and then rises to the heights, his message laden with the heart-cries of the lowly, the exultation of the victor, the tenderness of the lover, the sweetness of the pure. The former we must look to for deeds. The latter we must look to for a readjustment of our warped inwardness into that state for which it cries. He is the genius.

As things are here to-day and promise to be for an indefinite number of to-morrows, the country should be apprised that from the crop of big men in Washington will be gathered no Clays, Websters, Toombs, nor Vances. The day when the statesman could hope to be appreciated at his true worth has long been passed.

This is a slap, not at the brains of the age, so much as at the training of the age. We need Washington correspondents who will undecorated the people; and we need somebody or somebody to "ring out the false and ring in the true" so that the really big man can pass the shallow-minded trickster and come into his own.

Mr. A. B. Williams, of Rennett, is spending the day in town.

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THE SANATORIUM IN WESTERN CUMBERLAND.

Some Interesting Facts.

The Sanford Express of March 26th says: "Dr. M. E. Street, of Glendon, spent a few hours here Monday while on his way to Montrose, where, on Wednesday he attended a meeting of the board of directors of the State Sanatorium for Tuberculosis. Dr. Street informs 'The Express' that an annual appropriation of \$2,500, in addition to the present annual appropriation of \$5,000, was made by the late Legislature for the maintenance of the institution. An appropriation of \$15,000 was made for permanent improvements this year and a like sum for the same purpose next year. An appropriation of \$1,000 was made to beautify the grounds. Dr. Street says a number of new buildings will be constructed so as to increase the capacity of the institution to about 125 patients. Water works and a sewerage system will be put in so as to keep the Sanatorium and grounds in a thoroughly sanitary condition. A farm and dairy will also be established and run in connection with the institution so as to furnish the patients with milk, butter, eggs, chickens and other things raised on a farm at a minimum cost. The patients are treated at actual cost. There are now about a dozen patients in the institution. A number have been discharged cured. The open air treatment is given with splendid results. Dr. Street thinks the educational feature of this institution will accomplish great good among the people. The patients are not only treated for the disease, but they are instructed how to ward off and protect themselves and others against it. When they return to their homes they will impart the information gained to their families and neighbors and the result is the entire community will be benefited by it and tuberculosis will be on the decrease instead of the increase. Great things are looked for from this Sanatorium."

Senator Nimocks and the Moore County Stock Law. Mr. Editor: For the information of citizens of Cumberland residing near the Moore county line who have enquired as to the status of the stock law recently passed for Moore county, I desire to say through your columns that my understanding is, the law goes into effect April 1st 1909. The act does not require a line fence to be built by either county, but provides that the county line shall be the fence. I endeavored earnestly, but without success, to amend the act in the Senate by requiring Moore county to build a good and sufficient fence. I thought it only fair and just to adjoining counties without a stock law, that Moore should be required to build a fence, but my amendment was opposed by both Senators Dockery and Peels and by Representative McDonald, who represented Moore county in the Legislature, and it failed of adoption by one majority on the first vote, and having secured a reconsideration, with a larger vote, again failed by a majority. I requested a number of our leading citizens who were in Raleigh to see Mr. McDonald, author of the bill, to secure his consent to such an amendment, but without success.

Having taken the position while in the Legislature that the question of a stock law for our county should be decided by the people, under the general law, rather than by special legislative act, I felt that consistency and good faith required that I should do my best to require Moore county to build a line fence where her boundry touches Cumberland county. My efforts, however, proved unavailing, as stated.

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