

THE CAUCASIAN

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tion to be subjected to an increase in taxation. It is an evidence of lessened ability to pay the taxes now imposed, and an antagonistic party would attempt, and perhaps with some degree of success, to make "howling political capital" against any party or combination of parties that would attempt an increase of taxation under such conditions. The suggestion that such conditions be met by a curtailment of appropriations, except in cases of useless and flagrant extravagance is contrary to the spirit of progress and a flat denial of the presence of prosperity; and a State can ill afford by any act to make such a confession.

An aggravation of the conditions above mentioned consists in the fact that a number of the public institutions feel the need of increased appropriations. Besides this, a great and justly great clamor is going up for a better and longer, and hence a more expensive system of public schools. Then there is a demand for a Reformatory for youthful criminals which cannot be begun for less than twenty-five thousand dollars. It is already stated that the penitentiary will require a larger appropriation than usual on account of the loss of crops from freshets and floods on the farms during the past year. There is an imperative need for a commission to codify the State laws which would involve an expense of many thousands of dollars. These and various other necessary demands requiring the expenditures of money will come before the legislature, which body will find an already overtaxed treasury and a decreased basis for the creation of funds.

The fear of antagonistic party criticism has often prevented the taking of a proper course by the party in power. If such a fear shall prevail in the present legislature, we would not like to promise much from the course it may take. It should always be borne in mind, however, that some cause for criticism can be created from almost any action that a legislature body can take. Suppose the policy of curtailment should prevail, and the annual appropriation to one of the State insane Asylums should be decreased, say, ten thousand dollars. Straightway there goes up from the Democratic press a cry that the party in power cares nothing for the poor, unfortunate people of the State &c., &c. Suppose, on the contrary, that such an appropriation should be increased ten thousand dollars. From the same source there goes up the same cry that the party in power is increasing appropriations—is squandering the people's money and engaging reckless legislation.

The record of the past two years justifies this statement. The Democratic press sought to make capital out of the increase of appropriations, to State educational institutions, but finding that such efforts would prove flat failures, they actually whipped around and approved the very things against which they had launched the strongest criticisms and bitterest invective of which they were capable.

Let the Legislature seek to find what is right and necessary, and then let what is necessary be done. No foolish fear of opposing criticism can cause a moment's uneasiness. The Legislature of two years ago represented a majority of twenty thousand voters. The record and work of that body has been approved this year by a majority of forty thousand voters. Let fairness, justice and courage prevail now, and two years hence the people will again give their approval by an emphatic verdict.

The plain people are taxed about all they can bear. The legislature must reduce expenditures or put increased taxes on foreign corporations doing business in this State and on others who do not pay their fair share of taxes, yet who are the only persons or business who are making handsome profits.

On the first page of THE CAUCASIAN will be found a cartoon taken from the Washington Post. Our readers will remember the three articles which we copied from the Post at the time when Mark Hanna was in Washington conferring with Congressmen and Senators as to the most effective way in which the National Republican committee could use its "influence" to capture the legislature in certain States. Hanna decided to put machinery in motion to capture Kentucky, North Carolina, Washington and South Dakota. This cartoon was published in the Post at the time to illustrate these articles.

The conception of the article is very clever. It represents Hanna sitting on the House end of the capitol, which he has already under control. He reaches his big hand (which has so long been used to crush labor and build up trusts) to grasp in the four States necessary to give him and the monopolies the control of the U. S. Senate. In his arm he holds as his own special property the "White House," which is soon to be occupied by McKinley, who is forced to admit that this picture represents the truth—a shocking and truth!

REPORT HAVING BEEN CIRCULATED to the effect that the policy I have advocated with reference to the election of a Senator, whose record on the finance question is unassailable, will necessitate Democratic support to secure his election, or that I am in any way encouraging, seeking or countenancing the support of Democrats to accomplish that result is absolutely false and without the shadow of foundation in fact.

SLANDER ON THE PEOPLES PARTY. There appeared in the News and Observer this morning, (Wednesday) just as THE CAUCASIAN is going to press, a list of sixteen Populist members of the Legislature (six Senators and ten Representatives) who, it is claimed, will bolt the Peoples Party caucus to support Mr. Pritchard for the Senate. Col. Harry Skinner is reported as authority for this list. We do not believe the list correct, in fact we know it is not correct.

The last document gotten out by the U. S. Department of Agriculture is a great piece of literature. The title is "Insects affecting domestic animals." After enumerating the various kinds of insects that pest the various kinds of domestic animals, it then proceeds to impart to the farmer some wonderful and confidential advice as to how to destroy and get rid of these insects.

It tells the farmer that he can remove these insects in two ways, "the first being by means of mechanical devices or repelling odors, the second by the use of substances fatal to the parasite."

It is strange that such an idea never entered the mind of the farmer before, but as in the case of making an egg stand on end, it can be seen how simple it is. First you catch a flea, put him on a flat stone and mash him with a hammer, alias a mechanical device. If you are tender-hearted you asphyxiate him with a "repelling odor" and then get out of the house as quickly as possible. It might have been supposed that either of these methods would be fatal to the parasite, but this would not appear to be the case always, and the department informs "the stock breeder, poultry raiser and keepers of various animals either for pleasure or profit" that in the case of an unusually hardened insect which may not be amenable to the gentle influence of a mechanical device, they must use some substance that will be surely fatal.

It can thus be seen how carefully and minutely the department has gone over the ground, omitting nothing that would help rid the world of obnoxious insects. To think, too, that farmers and poultry raisers have lived and joyed and sorrowed and married and been given in marriage, and yet they never knew that a flea could be killed by a mechanical device or choked to death by a repellent odor!

The Secretary of Agriculture fails to mention in his list the "goldbug," which is the most pestiferous and dangerous of the insects that disturb and rob the farmer. But still the farmer might use his own ingenuity and discover some "mechanical device" or other fatal substance that would relieve him of at least this fatal insect.

Any request from any source that the State withdraw entirely from the field of higher education is entirely impossible. North Carolina cannot consent to be the only Southern State without a system of public higher institutions. We need more education, and not less and there is need of both State and Church to work for higher education and lower education, though there is no real distinction between the two. Only one denomination in the State has asked that this be done. A section of the Methodist church simply opposes the State's giving free tuition under the law of 1887 to cripples, ministers' sons and teachers. Why they should oppose giving free tuition to a few male teachers at the University and be in favor of giving to all female teachers at Greensboro and contemptible efforts ever made by a malignant party partisanship.

It is unfortunate and unfair that any one should have confounded the State's duty to the public schools with this question. We are not doing our duty to the public schools and no stone should be left unturned to better them. Their improvement is our supreme need, but to stab the University or the State schools to better the public schools is merely folly. Education always goes from above downward. The University is the head of the public schools. It founded them in the past and has always worked and plead for them and it is constantly supplying them

the local Republican boss will wait on him and lay down the law. We must remember that Cleveland and all of his backers and criminal conspirators worked earnestly and desperately for McKinley's election. He will be controlled by the same infamous influences and must travel the same road of spoliation and oppression. Therefore, McKinley's administration cannot bring prosperity, but will inflict upon the country four more years of Clevelandism. The people will grow poorer while the banks, railroads, trusts and monopolies grow larger and more powerful. Public sentiment will begin to grow against him and his party from the day that he steps into Cleveland's shoes.

The State spends \$835,000 for its public schools and \$20,000 for its University. This is the smallest sum given by any Southern State to its University, and we likewise have the shortest public school term. We need a real remedy and plan—not a scheme of destruction. The way in which other States have been successful has been by a system of local taxation in every district supplemented by a State general tax.

This is no time for tearing down. Let us build up. The small tax for the University is borne entirely by property. The man who pays poll tax pays nothing and the average man pays three or four cents only to it. It is not a tax by the man for the few but it is really a tax by the few for the sons of the people enabling them to become men. And the State needs men.

The last annual report of the Railroad Commission shows that 2 1-5 cents is the average passenger rate per mile that the railroads get for the passengers carried. This means that if every passenger paid his fare and paid at the rate of 2 1-5 cents per mile, the railroads would collect exactly the same total amount from the traveling public that they do now. It means that a 2 1-5 cent a mile rate to all passengers alike would enable the railroads to make as much money as they do now, to pay their officers big salaries of from \$10,000 to \$50,000 a year as they do now. This proves that passenger fares should not be reduced not only to 2 1-5 cent a mile, but even lower. Their rates should be reduced in the same ratio that the price of labor and produce has fallen.

The fact that the railroads charge 3 1-2 cents for first-class passenger rates to those who buy tickets shows that a very large number of people ride on free passes. The man who buys his ticket is forced to pay from one to one and a half cents a mile more than he should, in order to pay the railroads for the fare of the man who rides free. When the man who rides free goes to the Legislature he is expected and generally does vote for the railroads and against the interests of the public. Let us stop the free pass infamy and reduce freight and passenger rates.

THE DIVINE RIGHT OF KINGS. The position taken by President Cleveland and Secretary of State Olney that the President is entirely independent of and above Congress in the very important matter of recognizing the independence of a new government, is simply monstrous. The claims of the "divine right of kings," which the Stuarts attempted to set up in England, and which cost one of them his head, was not more dangerous and monstrous.

This attempted usurpation of authority and power by the President is as dangerous to free institutions as the usurpations of authority by the Federal courts in attempting to run the government by injustice. Cleveland is a monarchist. As startling as this latest move against free government is, yet it is simply in keeping with and is indeed a part of the programme which has been developing for the last twenty years. The trend of government under the domination of banks and monopolies is toward monarchy and one man rule. The same powers that control Cleveland elected McKinley. The people must yet struggle if they would regain their waning liberties and prosperity.

THEY GIVE IT UP. The Democratic tom-tom beaters have given up the fight against Brown, the enrolling clerk of the last General Assembly. They tried to prove that he was guilty of fraud in connection with the fraudulent Assignment Act, and so far as the jury and solicitor of the lower court were concerned, they did prove it! But the Supreme Court ordered that a new trial be granted, and this was just what the tom-tom beaters were afraid to risk. They NOW PROSSED the case this week, and thus end one of the most unreasonable and contemptible efforts ever made by a malignant party partisanship.

IT PAINS US TO HEAR MEN in whose honesty and sincerity we would like to believe, talk about international bimetalism. Certain Republican bi-metalists are now professing to believe that free silver and currency reform can come with the consent of foreign nations. How! That will depend on the permission and consent of England and Wall Street. Mr. Gladstone settled that point when he declared "that the nations of the world owed England some \$10,000,000,000, that while the gold standard doubled the interest on these securities, it was hardly possible that England would cut that in-

come one-half by consenting to bimetalism." Any man who has not enough sense to know this or enough honesty to admit it, is not a fit kind of man to represent the people in Congress or any other legislative capacity.

This "international" humbuggery is simply dodging for the purpose of delay, hoping to sidetrack the financial question. WILD REPORTS ALREADY BEGUN. The mouthy and muddling Demmy papers have already begun to disseminate wild and inexpressible foolish and false reports. A late sample is a cock and bull canard stating that a great fight was going on over the speakership; that Congressman Skinner was booming Hileman and that Senator Butler was advocating Schulken, and that a thunderous row was in progress. As a matter of fact neither Butler nor Skinner took any part in any contest as to the speakership. In truth there was no contest and never had been. Mr. Schulken was never in any sense a candidate for the position of his own volition. Some friends had suggested that he would make an able officer, and these suggestions are the only basis for the "democratic made" row. Mr. Schulken took occasion to say in caucus that he had never been a candidate and did not want the place, although it was all honor to any one who might get it.

WE NOTICE THAT THE Charlotte Observer states editorially that Senator Butler favors the election of a Democrat to the Senate, and further says that it has this information on the "highest authority." The statement is wholly untrue. We call upon the Observer to make the correction and to give its "highest authority." THE CAUCASIAN and Senator Butler favor the election of a Populist, or a silver Republican whose loyalty and devotion to the cause of financial reform cannot be questioned.

Mark Hanna in his desperate efforts to capture the U. S. Senate, made an effort to defeat the will of the people in Utah and get a McKinley-Sherman Senator from that State. There was not the least hope of tampering with the present legislature of that State, so he went into the courts and tried to have the last election declared void, which would have made the legislature elected two years ago hold over and elect a Senator. But the courts have sustained the new Utah election law, so Hanna will have to look elsewhere to get a monopoly Senator.

The Progressive Farmer, commenting on Senator Pritchard's card in the Charlotte Observer in which he attempted to make some denials, says: "But Pritchard has pursued a course recently that does not entitle his denials to much consideration among people who cannot be humbugged."

The article that appeared in THE CAUCASIAN recently which referred to Tom Watson as a variegated kind of fool was written by the associate editor. Senator Butler has written to us expressing disapproval of the language used. If Senator Butler replies to Watson it will be over his own signature. In fact he will hereafter put his signature or initials to everything that he writes hereafter.

A genuine and true Populist is a man who believes that a demolition of oppressive systems and the prosperity and happiness of the people depend on the enactment of the Peoples Party demands into laws. Therefore a genuine and true Populist cannot consent to be a party to any action that does not look to the growth and upbuilding of the Peoples Party, and to the securing of power that will enable it to further its demands.

Hard times are here. The wave of prosperity has not struck us. This is evidenced by the fact that there is an average of about thirty applicants for every position which can be given directly and indirectly by the Legislature. When a people are prosperous, minor positions are not regarded as worth chasing by many men.

THE PERSONNEL OF THE Legislature warrants the assertion that some good work will be done, despite the tough problems that will present themselves. Now for a record that will more than justify the opinion and confidence of the people as expressed at the last election. Don't let any foreign corporation do business in this State unless they are willing to abide by the decisions of our State courts.

Don't send any man to the Senate who puts the tariff humbuggery above financial and corporation reform. Don't send to the State any man who will help the old parties to fight more sham battles over the tariff. Don't let the State be further plundered and leached by gold notes and mortgages. Reduce freight and passenger rates down to the gold standard level. Down with the infamous lease of the North Carolina Railroad.

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Nashville Cure is a new... ingredient... require a... manure. The best Fertilizer contain a high percent of Potash.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best... Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

LOWER RATES AND FARES—THE SENATORSHIP. BY W. J. PERRE. The legislature, as suggested by THE CAUCASIAN, can now enter upon the reduction of railroad rates and fares. Two cents a mile for second class and two and a half cents for first-class passengers, and a proportionate increase of freight rates, will make a good start, and will doubtless benefit both the railroads and the people.

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AGENTS WANTED. Within the next few weeks we are desirous of securing a good business man in every county in Eastern North Carolina to manage and supervise the sale of the Ordway Portable Spring Bed.

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