

THE PLOW BOY.

PEACE ON EARTH AND GOOD WILL TO MEN.

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DIRECT LAW-MAKING.

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM, GREATEST OF REFORMS.

Introduce This System and Strike at the Roots of Party Tyranny, and Stop Extravagance, Cupidity and Political Bribery.

The initiative and referendum form of government which is being agitated from one ocean to the other, and adopted by a great many labor organizations is becoming more and more popular every day, and means that the people shall rule and settle all questions, national, state and county. The U. M. B. Press, of Tacoma, Wash., says, the form of the initiative and referendum, as proposed and formulated by the "Direct Legislation League," as an amendment to the constitution of any state and which might be used, is given as follows:

1. The right to approve or reject proposed state laws shall rest with a majority of the citizens of the state. The right to approve or reject the proposed law of political subdivision of the state, such as county, city, town, township, borough or village, shall rest with the majority of the citizens of such subdivision. The method of such approval or rejection shall be that known as the referendum.

2. The right to propose laws of the state shall (in addition to being exercised by members of the senate and the house of assembly,) rest with any proportion of the citizens of the state, between 5 and 25 per cent, which may be determined by statute law. The right to propose laws of any political subdivision of that state (such as county, city, town, township, borough, or village) shall, (in addition to being exercised by members of its legislative body as at present,) rest with any proportion of its citizens, between 5 and 25 per cent, which may be determined by a law of such political subdivision. The method to be employed in so proposing measures shall be known as the initiative.

The operation of the initiative is mandatory, but regulated by constitutional provisions.

The referendum acts as a constitutional limitation of legislative and executive power; and by virtue of this power proposed legislation by the people's representatives is referred back to them for indorsement or rejection under the operation of legal provisions.

Of all the reforms in our political machinery this surely is the best and foremost in its ameliorating and reforming power. It is an effective means of removing the whole train of social and political evils that burden the people, and would do much to restore to them their long lost rights.

The introduction, then, of the initiative and referendum into our political system would be a great and beneficial reform. It is admitted that it is our duty to obey the laws, but that duty implies another duty embodied in the right to approve or reject the laws that we must obey, both before and after legislation, if necessary, and the ultimate ratification should rest with the clear majority of all the voters of the nation, state or other subdivisions of these.

Introduce this system and strike at the roots of party tyranny, and stop extravagance, cupidity and political robbery and lay an ax of economy to the very roots of scheming corruption.

In 1893 the city of Haverhill, Mass., by a unanimous vote adopted direct legislation through the initiative and referendum; secured by the persistence and take-no-denial attitude of the workingmen, demanding justice and fair play as supreme qualities that should distinguish the legislative and executive power of their public servants. By the adoption of this one principle they secured a common ground in regard to all abuses, monopolies and a common plank upon which all reform parties can stand.

This grand theory of political machinery and of sovereign power in the hands of the people, wherein it has had practical operation, has proven in two hemispheres a most thorough and peaceful revolutionary institution. As regards the initiative, it has been used in our own country since before its existence as a nation.

In Belgium, 1892, through the use of the referendum, the law of suffrage was completely changed for the better. Before that year the suffrage was restricted to 140,000 votes. By the use of the referendum the people forced the enactment of a reformed law increasing it to 1,000,000, an increase of the suffrage to over seven times the previous franchise.

All this was accomplished because a private canvass proved the truth of the fact that the whole people were clamorous for it; and by their uncompromising attitude they dominated the senate, the judiciary, the army, the time-serving legal lights and royalty itself. The sovereign will of the people, interpreted by its vote, overcame every obstacle in a country hereto the scene of riot, bloodshed and tumultuous agitation.

But the existence of this powerful agency does not mean that any and all

measures that seek legislation must be submitted to a vote of the people, but it does mean that the power exists, and that when the people wish to do so they can demand a popular vote on any measure that they consider likely to be hurtful, if it should become statutory. There is no such weapon in the hands of the people against the politicians so peaceful as this one may be made. It includes every reform in the circle of its grasp.

REPUBLICANS WANT A CHANCE

They Will Show the People How to Prosper.

"Give us republican rule for a single decade and we will show the people the beneficence of republican legislation. Every man who wants work will have it. We will restore our merchant marine to the proper place and increase our white, strong armed squadron so they can command the respect of all nations. We will show the people a policy that is American in every fibre."

The above are the words of Senator Frye, of Maine, at a republican banquet given at Bridgeport, Conn.

Shades of the departed! Only give 'em a chance! Only want a single decade now! What nerve the senator has, and he had it with him at that banquet! This may be styled the sublimated gall—armor-plated cheek, minus blow holes!

Only been out of power a little more than two years when they had had thirty years of rule, during which time the republicans came as near sending the country to the devil as it was possible for them to do, and since the democrats took hold the republicans have aided them in every species of vicious legislation suggested.

During the thirty years of republican control the curse of monopolistic rule was fastened upon the country. Trusts and combines have grown up and flourished as never before in the history of any nation; class legislation has been the rule, and so deeply is plutocracy entrenched that even conservative men are free to predict revolution as a means of freeing the people.

The causes that have brought the country to where it is today—chief of which is the present financial policy—originated with the republican party, which was aided and abetted by the democratic party.

The present democratic administration has not deviated one iota from the policy of its republican predecessors, and yet we are now told that if the republicans are given another chance they will bring prosperity to the country.

Why didn't they do it when they had a chance of thirty years' duration? Senator Frye asks for a decade—only wants ten years to undo what it took thirty years to build up. That's too long. Give the populists control of this government and they will cleanse the Augean stables in less than one year, and bring relief to the people inside of sixty days after congress convenes.

The republican party and the democratic party have both been weighed in the balance and found wanting. Democracy is dead and republicanism will soon follow. There will be no more chances for either one of these old parties, as the people are too thoroughly aroused to place any confidence in them. Their records of venality and hypocrisy are so black and damnable that they cannot longer deceive the people.

NOTICE.

THE PEOPLE'S PARTY OF CHICAGO, THROUGH ITS COUNTY AND CITY COMMITTEE, HAS REPUDIATED STATE SOCIALISM BY DIVORCING ITSELF FROM THE NOTORIOUS GANG LED BY ONE TOMMY MORGAN, A LITTLE ENGLISHMAN WHO HAS JONAHED EVERY CAUSE THAT HE HAS ATTEMPTED TO ADVOCATE. THE PEOPLE'S PARTY OF CHICAGO IS NOW WHAT IT SHOULD BE—A STRAIGHTOUT, MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD ORGANIZATION, STANDING SQUARELY ON THE OMAHA PLATFORM.

THERE NEED NOW BE NO FEAR ON THE PART OF POPULISTS THAT CHICAGO WOULD BE A BAD PLACE TO HOLD OUR NATIONAL CONVENTION NEXT YEAR.

Silver Too Heavy.

How the bankers are squinting about silver. They are alarmed at the prospect. That twenty-five million dollars annually stolen from depositors would weigh seven hundred and fifty tons if it was all in silver. Just think of it. If all taken at once would require 12,000 cashiers to carry it, would make a procession eleven miles long. Every man loaded down with over a hundred and twenty pounds of silver. Some of them like as any would get caught, too, carrying such a load as that.—Chicago Express.

Col. Jones, who was ousted from the St. Louis Republic on account of his excessive friendship for the people, is now editor and manager of the Post-Dispatch. But he is getting too friendly to the clod-hoppers again, and the English Tories are determined to turn him out.

Dump your surplus silver at this office, please.

NATIONS BOW TO THEM

ROTHSCHILDS MORE POWERFUL THAN ARMIES AND NAVIES.

The Eleven Barons Work in Concert for Gain—Golden Rules Laid Down by the Founder of the Fortune a Century Ago.

New York correspondence to the Denver Daily Republican, and written from an old party standpoint.—When a Parisian anarchist sent an infernal machine to the head of the French Rothschilds a couple of weeks ago the financial universe trembled the next day, when the cable flashed the news to all quarters of the globe. How intimately the nations of Europe are entwined with the fortunes of the Rothschilds is a question. That the connection is very close, indeed, can be seen by a glance at the history of Europe. One nation may declare war upon the other, but not the most powerful of them all has the courage or hardihood to declare war upon the Rothschilds usury mill. Such is the power of gold when guided by the hereditary genius of this Hebrew family.

In all the European wars of the past century the Rothschilds were a most potent factor. They practically held in their hands the power to give defeat or victory to either side, by withdrawing their support from the one side or the other. War in the past has always meant untold millions to them. "Carnage coins gold for them."

What the wealth of this family is can only be roughly estimated. It may be \$1,000,000,000 and it may be \$3,000,000,000; it is somewhere between these figures, for all the gold in the world only amounts to about \$3,800,000,000. There are eleven barons, each of them among the richest men in Europe, and with their respective fortunes so fixed that they can be used as a unit if need be.

All this wealth sprang from the genius of a son of a poor dealer in furniture and cheap bric-a-brac at Frankfurt. This genius was named Mayer Anselm, and over his pawn shop hung a red shield instead of the usual three balls. In German the red shield is called "Rothschild," and thus Rothschild came to be known as the name of Mayer Anselm, who was the founder of a fortune which has no equal in contemporary history. In a small way this man started a banking business. It was a little concern, and for the first few years he had a hard struggle to keep it from going to the wall.

From the first he mapped out certain rules which he absolutely adhered to, and which are just as potent in the management of the numerous banks today as they were then; and for that matter they will probably be in force a dozen generations from now, if this combine of gold owners and usurers is not destroyed in the meantime. One of them is: "A man will not tell what he has not heard." Another is: "Gold never repeats what it sees." Absolute secrecy in all dealings is the rule of the house. Let a clerk in any of the banks be discovered in talking about the most trivial thing connected with the affairs of the business, and he is at once discharged. As far as possible the Rothschilds employ clerks from the same family generation after generation. The great grandson of a present clerk may be keeping the same accounts a hundred years hence that his forefather is working over today. In time capacity for saying nothing becomes hereditary.

The Rothschilds employ a skillful professor of finance to instruct their growing sons. Finance with them is everything. A few Americans have studied under this genius. Henry F. Gillig, the founder of the American Exchange in London, was one of these, but he did not follow his teachings strictly, for after building up a great fortune in London without having a cent of original capital, he failed seven years ago for \$6,000,000, leaving hundreds of touring Americans stranded in all parts of the globe.

At the time of the Napoleon invasion the great "Redshield" had built up a local reputation as a financier, and had already established his son, Nathan Mayer Anselm, in London, for these were unsettled times, and the prudence of the man discovered the necessity of having a place to fly to if occasion required.

When the news of Napoleon's coming reached Frankfurt, the elector of Hesse placed 15,000,000 francs in the custody of the elder Rothschild for safe keeping. This sum was sent to his son Nathan in England. Napoleon heard of it and tried in every way to induce the banker to give it up.

A commission went to his establishment and minutely examined the vault and the books. Menaces and intimidations were in vain, however, in persuading Rothschild to divulge the whereabouts of the treasure, and the commission undertook to play upon his religious scruples by demanding an oath. He refused to take it, and there was talk of putting him under arrest. Napoleon did not quite care to venture such an act of violence, and an effort was made to win the old man by the promise of gain. They proposed to him

to leave him half of the treasure if he would deliver the other half to the French officials. They promised him a receipt in full, accompanied by a certificate proving that he had yielded only to force and that he was blameless for the seizure of the entire amount. But the banker had already decided that all trusts were sacred, and refused.

In 1814 the elector returned to Frankfurt and the 15,000,000 francs were paid back to him. The terms of the deposit gave the Rothschilds the interest on the money while it was in their custody and this considerable sum was in reality the cornerstone of the family's fortune.

Wealthy marriages has also been part of the creed of the family. In 1806 the son who had settled in London married the daughter of a rich banker, Levi Barne Cohen.

This Nathan Rothschild was on the battlefield of Waterloo and by a wonderfully quick trip reached London before the real news had been received by the government. He was on the staff of Wellington, and the minute he saw the defeat of Napoleon was certain he rode at breakneck speed to Ostend, crossed the channel at the risk of his life, and was on the stock exchange next morning. At that time England only knew of the first part of the battle, when it seemed that Napoleon was again destined to conquer. Rothschild's gloomy air and the adroit rumors put in circulation argued the worst for England. The prices of securities fell at a terrific rate. At the proper time Rothschild put his agents at work buying everything in sight. Later came the news of Wellington's victory. Rothschild is said to have cleared \$6,000,000 by this shady trick.

Bismarck has been forced to bow to the moneyed power of this family. In 1866 the Prussian government demanded an indemnity of \$25,000,000 from the city of Frankfurt. The Rothschilds sent word to Bismarck that if any attempt was made to enforce the levy, they would break every bank in Berlin. This was no idle threat, as Bismarck well knew, and he succumbed to the inevitable.

Bern Alphonse de Rothschild, to whom the infernal machine was recently sent, is the head of the Paris bank. He has, like all the Jew usurers, strong ideas on the labor question, and has made many enemies in consequence. Three years ago he expressed these views on the labor problem:

"I do not believe in the so-called labor movement. I am confident that the workingmen are satisfied with their condition and have neither cause nor desire to complain. They are, I am convinced, indifferent to progress. To be sure, some agitators make plenty of noise, but that amounts to nothing; they do not influence the honest and reasonable workingman."

"In considering the so-called labor movement it is necessary, however, to distinguish sharply good from bad workmen. Only the idle good-for-nothings desire the eight-hour day. Serious men, fathers of families, work as long as they think necessary for their own and their children's needs. There is much loose talking nowadays about the danger of so much capital in the hands of a few men. This is all rubbish. Some men are richer; others are poorer. It is the money which circulates which fructifies."

"Frighten and threaten capital and it vanishes (because we can make it vanish, see) Capital is like water. Grasp it violently and it slips through your fingers; treat it gently, dig a canal (bonds) in which to lead it and it runs wherever you will. Capital is a country's fortune. It represents the energy, intelligence, thrift and labor of the people. Capital is labor. Apart from unhappy exceptions, which seem to be unavoidable, each shares in the people's capital according to his intelligence, energy and work accomplished (and interest absorbs it all if you know how to work the scheme—and the Rothschilds do). If a workman be discontented with his share he may strike (and get shot down by the military, as they did at Homestead and Pullman)."

"It is unjust to compare a man with capital and intelligence, organizing faculties, invention and knowledge with any gross, brutal workman, who applies to his work only the intelligent work of his hands."

These views were not pleasant to the excitable masses of Paris. Perhaps the infernal machine was an echo of them.

Of the eleven barons, Nathaniel, Alfred and Leopold are located in London; Alphonse, Gustav, Edward, Adolph and James in Paris; Nathaniel in Vienna and William in Frankfurt. The New York Belmonts are the agents in the United States.

Some idea of their riches can be had from the fact that since 1815 they have raised for Great Britain alone more than \$1,000,000,000; for Austria, \$250,000,000; for Prussia, \$200,000,000; for France, \$400,000,000; for Italy, nearly \$300,000,000; for Russia, \$125,000,000; for Brazil, from \$80,000,000 to \$70,000,000; and they took through the Belmont syndicate \$150,000,000 of the issues of United States bonds issued by Cleveland and Carlisle.

To be plain, the Rothschilds gold octopus is today ruler of the universe and their gold commands the armies and navies of the world.

THE PARENT OF PLUTOCRACY. THE MOTHER OF MONOPOLIES.

THE DEVIL-DAM FROM WHOSE DIRTY DUGS DEMONIZING DEMAGOGUES DRAW DEVILISH DESIGNS!



PUBLIC OWNERSHIP.

A POPULAR OBJECTION VERY CLEARLY ANSWERED.

Would Have a Tendency to Take Politics Out of the Public Civil Service Rather Than to Increase Partisan Power of the Officeholders.

The movement for public control and ownership of natural monopolies seems to be gathering force everywhere. Whether representatives of radical or conservative thought be in power they seem to be forced, almost as of necessity, into a further and further extension of the power of government over matters heretofore left largely to the management of individuals. This tendency receives a fresh illustration in proposals just made by the new Conservative government in England, through its colonial secretary, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain.

With the advent of the Conservative party to power in England one might naturally look for a sharp reaction from the alleged socialistic tendencies of the long Liberal reign. We might expect immediate cessation of efforts to carry out the principles of the factory acts, a quiet slumbering of the eight-hour movement, and, above all, no further demands for the application of the principles of public ownership to the transportation, lighting, and kindred monopolies. But lo! here comes Chamberlain, colonial secretary of an alleged reactionary government, in a speech which is described as the "one speech of the week, that will be remembered," asking the imperial government of England to go into the business of railroad building in tropical Africa, for the development of English colonial interests located there. "If railways are needed in tropical Africa they should be built under colonial or imperial administration rather than be handed over to private speculators," the secretary is reported as saying. He further declared that many of the British colonies are in the condition of undeveloped estates, which could be developed only "by a judicious investment of imperial money."

This demand of the Conservative English secretary contains the very meat and kernel of the demand for public ownership of natural monopolies in this country. An extension of the power of the whole people through government, when necessary to bring about results demanded by the public good. Under such a demand may be included the movement in the United States for government railroads, a postal telegraph, and municipal ownership of gas, water and electric-light works and street railroads.

On another page Mr. Edward Rosewater, of the Omaha Bee, who has made a careful study of the results of public ownership of natural monopolies in England and other European countries, answers what seems to us to be one of the main popular objections to the rapidly growing movement for public ownership of national monopolies—the possible danger of increasing power of the office-holding class. Mr. Rosewater is arguing for a postal telegraph, and says:

"One great objection against the postal telegraph in this country is that it would bring into operation more political offices. I regard this as one of the most important and beneficial features of the whole affair. It would be an entering wedge for the greatest possible success of the civil service. It would bring into the postal service from 25,000 to 30,000 skilled operatives whose services could not be dispensed with. These would naturally be divided into various politics, as every other class of citizens, whose trustworthiness and value would be increased by the knowledge that they could not be displaced by any political partisan. This has been the experience in Great Britain and it would be the same here. Once get the postal service under government control and the civil service act, and you would soon be able to place all departments of the government under the same system, and a large share of the public nuisance incident to office holding would be done away with, leaving the officers free to inquire into and

learn their duties to their office and to the public."

We are inclined to agree with Mr. Rosewater that this increase of so-called office-holders resulting from increased public ownership of natural monopolies would, as he intimates tend to take politics out of the public civil service, rather than to increase the partisan power of the office-holding class. As the railroads, telegraph, lighting, and other monopolies came under public control the people would naturally see more and more clearly the necessity of having skilled men in charge instead of mere partisans. They would demand that a man's "politics" be the last thing to be considered in deciding his fitness for the position of engineer on the public railroad or manager of the public lighting plant. Thus, might we not conclude that the ownership would result in educating the public to demand that all departments of government should be brought under more strict civil-service-reform rules?—The Voice.

ARE WE FISHWORMS?

What Has Become of Our National Backbone?

"There can be no doubt about it that if the United States were to adopt a silver basis tomorrow British trade would be ruined before the year is out. Every American industry would be protected, not only at home but in every other market. Of course the states would suffer to a certain extent through having to pay their obligations abroad in gold, but the loss in exchange under this head would be a mere drop in the bucket compared with the profits to be reaped from the markets of South America and Asia, to say nothing of Europe. The marvel is that the United States has not long ago seized the opportunity; but for the necessity in the way of commercial success and prosperity, undoubtedly it would have been done long ago."

The above is from the London Financial News, one of the highest financial authorities in the world.

Does it not seem strange—remarkably strange—that in the light of these frequent admissions on the part of British journals and statesmen as to the advantages that accrue to Great Britain by reason of our financial policy, saying nothing of the object lessons constantly presented to us here at home, that we will go on year after year on lines of policy that are so injurious to our own interests and of such great advantage to our English neighbors?

Why will not the American people arise? Have we become a nation of chumps? Has statesmanship in this country gone to seed? Are patriotism and national pride dying out? Have we none of the spirit that animated our forefathers?—What has become of our national backbone?

English statesmanship and the voracious greed of her financiers has, after a third of a century of intrigue and cunning designs, succeeded, through the most damnable conspiracy ever sprung upon a free people, in reducing the American republic to what is practically a British dependency—by artifice and cunning scheming have our people been reduced to a condition infinitely worse than that against which our forefathers rebelled—accomplished through intrigues with our modern Benedict Arnolds what she failed to accomplish by force of arms on two several occasions, bringing us prostrate at the feet of British greed and avarice.

How much longer will our patience endure? When will the American people arouse and shake off this accursed yoke of oppression? Oh, for men—strong men, men of hearts, of courage—who dare to think and to act, and who are not given over wholly to the god of mammon.

May the God of nations arouse our people to a sense of the wrongs inflicted upon them, of a sense of the degradation to which we are descending by reason of the poverty and distress of the masses, and prompt them to exercise an intelligent use of the power of the ballot placed in their hands, that greater dangers may be averted.

Hang the bank officers who stole \$25,000,000 last year from depositors.