

The Weekly Chronicle.

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UNFAIR AND UNREASONABLE.

The Astoria News says The Dalles CHRONICLE does not understand the fishing situation and has a wrong idea of what is needed for the protection of the salmon industry. THE CHRONICLE is not disposed to waste a single word in denial of the soft impeachment. In good sooth THE CHRONICLE is more disposed to make open, fair confession that the subject is wrapped in insoluble mystery. Here is THE CHRONICLE'S difficulty. Assuming, of course, that the News knows everything worth knowing about the salmon industry and the cause of its marked decline of late years, THE CHRONICLE cannot understand how the wheels up this way, that altogether did not have an aggregate catch of more than two and a half tons a day during the month of July and not more than a thousand pounds a day since the first of August, are to be saddled with the crime of destroying the salmon industry and no reckoning whatever be made of the 800 miles of nets that cover every available inch of space in the lower river between Astoria and the ocean, and catch more salmon in a week than the wheels do in a year. Oh, but "the wheels are situated near the spawning grounds," says the News, "and those fish which run the gauntlet of traps, seines and gillnets are taken by the wheels before they spawn." But the wheels are not situated near the spawning grounds. They are only relatively nearer the spawning grounds than Astoria is, and if it is a crime for the wheels to catch salmon "before they spawn" what is it for the gillnets to do the same thing?

The News says "the trouble with THE CHRONICLE is that the wheels are located near The Dalles and their abolition would effect the people of that community." Quite so. And the trouble with the News is that the gillnets operate near Astoria and cannot be operated here, just as the wheels cannot be operated there, and the Astorians are so selfish that if they had their own way they would not allow a fish to be caught in the upper river. This is a hard saying, but it is entirely justified by the position taken by the News in this controversy. It tells us, in effect, that it is a question between two communities, The Dalles that has a pack of less than 20,000 cases a year and Astoria that packs 400,000 cases, and asks that The Dalles wheels may be abolished on the ground that their insignificant catch is ruining the whole business!

When Astorians get down to some fair and reasonable propositions for preserving the salmon industry they will find the people up this way more than willing to meet them half way; but so long as they insist on the abolition of every species of gear they cannot, themselves, use with advantage, the need expect nothing but war to the knife and the knife to the hilt.

FALSE PROPHET OF 1896.

If the prophecies and predictions made by Mr. Bryan had proven to be true, the gold standard, which has been in operation ever since he uttered them, would have produced the following direful results, to-wit: It would have increased the purchasing power of the gold dollar.—(Madison Square Garden speech.) It would have been as certain to make prices fall as a stone is to fall when it is thrown into the air.—(Newton, Iowa, speech.) It would have increased the debts of the people and lessened their ability to pay them.—(Baltimore speech.) It would have made times harder and harder.—(Same speech.) It would have starved everybody except the money-changers and the money-owners.—(New Haven, Conn., speech.) It would have transferred the

bread which one man earns to another man who had not earned it.—(Hartford, Conn., speech.)

It would have made the rich richer and the poor poorer.—(Newark, Ohio, speech.)

It would have decreased the number who are happy and increased the number who are in distress.—(Same speech.)

It would have destroyed the hope of the toiling masses.—(Minneapolis, Minn., speech.)

It would have destroyed the opportunity to work.—(Same speech.)

It would have increased the number of idle men.—(Same speech.)

It would have decreased the volume of standard money.—(Same speech.)

It would have encouraged the hoarding of money.—(Hornesville, N. Y., speech.)

It would have made it more and more difficult for the farmer to live.—(Madison Square Garden speech.)

It would have injured the wage-earner.—(Same speech.)

It would have made employment less certain.—(Same speech.)

It would have discouraged enterprise.—(Same speech.)

It would have paralyzed industry.—(Same speech.)

It would have lessened the ability of savings banks to collect their assets.—(Same speech.)

It would have increased the danger of depositors losing their deposits in savings banks.—(Madison Square Garden speech.)

It would have compelled depositors in savings banks to withdraw their deposits to pay living expenses.—(Same speech.)

It would have lessened the salaries of those engaged in business occupations and would have lessened the permanency of such salaries.—(Same speech.)

It would have injured those who have permanent investments in railroad stocks and other like enterprises.—(Same speech.)

It would have injured or destroyed the manufacturers of agricultural implements, wagons and buggies.—(Springfield, Ohio, and Flint, Mich., speeches.)

It would have lessened the ability of the masses to buy goods and thereby would have lessened the number of commercial traveling men.—(Indianapolis speech to traveling men.)

It would have made it impossible for husbands and wives to pay off the mortgages on their homes.—(Minneapolis, Minn., speech to ladies.)

It would have made it necessary to advocate the closing up of our public schools.—(Monmouth, Ill., speech.)

It would have made it more profitable to loan money or to hoard it than to invest it in enterprise or property.—(Syracuse, N. Y., speech.)

It would have made dearer money, cheaper property, harder times, more people out of work, more people destitute, more people desperate, more crime.—(Minneapolis speech to ladies.)

It would have lowered the standard of civilization in this country.—(Madison Square Garden speech.)

It would have been writing the future in blood, crushed out by gold.—(Erie, Penn., speech.)

All these prophecies and predictions about the evils that would befall us if the gold standard were adopted have utterly failed.

Mr. Bryan said in a speech delivered at Lincoln, Nebraska, July 7, 1900:

"The fight this year will be to carry out the sentiment of that song we have so often repeated, 'My Country 'tis of Thee.' If we lose, our children and our children's children will not succeed to the spirit of that song, and celebrations of the Fourth of July will pass away, for the spirit of empire will be upon us."

Pass the salt, please.

In one breath the democratic orator will assure his hearers that McKinley has no backbone, that he is a creature controlled by those around him, and with the next breath will accuse him of shaking the republic to pieces in order to erect a throne on the ruins thereof.

Referring to the proposed talk of President McKinley and Governor Roosevelt to working men in Chicago on Labor day, an opposition paper asks: "What will labor say?" We do not know what labor will say, but we know what it might say. It would be something like this: "Do not spend much time in speaking, for it is not necessary. We could hardly find the time to come out today, for we are all at work, at better wages than ever before, and this year we who have been working have not been called upon to divide with the unemployed." The prospects were never so fair. If all wealth comes from labor, then never before was wealth accumulating so rapidly as it is right now, for never before was so vast an army of peace assaulting the strongholds of want or building such majestic fortunes to plenty. Salt Lake Tribune.

The democrats favor a stable government for the Philippines. The sultan of Turkey has a stable government, the czar of Russia has a stable government, China has had a stable government for twenty centuries. Which kind does it favor? Not a single Spanish colony that ever threw off the Spanish yoke ever possessed a stable government within fifty years after declaring independence. The Philippines today would have a peaceable and just government were it not for the encouragement afforded to the insurgents by the hostility here in the states to the efforts of the army to conquer rebellion. But the Bryan platform will simply prolong the struggle till Bryanism and the auties are buried under an avalanche of American votes.

President McKinley, as the constituted representative of a great republic, has lifted the yoke of oppressive imperialism from the shoulders of 850,000 Porto Ricans, from 1,500,000 Cubans, and 10,000,000 Filipinos. He has freed more subject colonists from the tyranny of Spain than Washington delivered from the oppression of Great Britain, yet in view of these facts of history Bryan would have the country believe that it must choose between him and an emperor.

A well-known citizen of The Dalles, while in Astoria last Saturday, saw twenty tons of salmon on the floor of a cannery, the catch for that single cannery of the previous night. He says all the canneries were running on full time and some on over time. And we are asked to believe that it is The Dalles wheels, that did not catch a ton, all told, during the same time, that are ruining the salmon industry.

Mr. Bryan says Towne's withdrawal from the race for vice-president was a manly and patriotic act. History records the "manly and patriotic act" of an Irishman who would not stay where he would not be kept. On the same principle Towne withdrew from a race in which he could hope for neither honor nor success.

The imports and exports of Porto Rico for the month of May, 1900, were each about 100 per cent greater than for the corresponding month of the year 1899. This is the poverty and distress to which the democratic platform said the republicans had doomed the island.

Bryan sees danger in our national prosperity, and those wishing to do him justice must admit that, should his opinions prevail, such a source of danger would be speedily removed.

William J. Bryan has exchanged his lecture called "What I Know About Wheat" for a new one entitled "What I Know About the Republic."

A sharp advance in the price of ice in New York city is looked for in the near future. Tammany has contributed \$2,500,000 to the Bryan campaign fund.

Expression of Thanks.

We desire to express our grateful thanks to the many friends for kindness shown us during the illness and death of our son and brother.

MR. AND MRS. H. F. BRUNE AND CHILDREN.

A SENSATIONAL LAW SUIT.

D. C. O'Reilly Sues Columbia Southern Railway for \$130,000. Alleging That the President of the Road and Directors, by Fraudulent Conspiracy, Have Defrauded the Company Out of That Sum.

A suit involving \$130,000 was filed yesterday in the circuit court for Sherman county in which D. C. O'Reilly is plaintiff and the Columbia Southern Railway, a corporation, May Enright, E. E. Lytle, W. H. Moore, A. E. Hammond and C. E. Lytle are the defendants. The complaint is in substance as follows: The plaintiff, on behalf of himself and all such other shareholders of the Columbia Southern Railway Company as are similarly situated, complains of the defendants and alleges that E. E. Lytle has absolute control of the defendant company and that the board of directors are mere dummies that were elected to do his bidding.

Prior to October 11, 1899, the road had been constructed and was in operation from Biggs, Wasco county, to Moro, Sherman county, a distance of twenty-seven miles, and since that time has been extended, at the instance and direction of E. E. Lytle, to Shaniko, about forty-three miles from Moro, the contracts therefor being let to defendant A. E. Hammond, who also procured the right of way. Plaintiff is informed and believes that prior to the awarding of these contracts to Hammond, other and better bids had been made, the lowest bidder being one Archie Mason, but Lytle refused to let the contract to the lowest bidder. Afterward, in pursuance of a fraudulent scheme between Lytle and the other directors, he and his wife conveyed by deed said right of way for the sum of \$130,000, which sum plaintiff alleges, on information and belief, was paid by the defendant company to E. E. Lytle; but whether paid directly to him, or through A. E. Hammond, plaintiff does not know, because he is refused access to the company's books; and he alleges that if the construction of said road had been let to the lowest bidder, it could have been constructed for not to exceed \$5000 to \$6000 per mile. Plaintiff charges that said directors let the contracts to Hammond at the rate of \$9000 per mile, which was at least \$3000 per mile more than was necessary, for the purpose of defrauding plaintiff and other shareholders; that Hammond was only a dummy for Lytle, who was the real beneficiary and who thus received a large sum of money for which the defendant company received no consideration. In pursuance of this fraudulent scheme Lytle, Moore and others in their employ, for the purpose of defrauding the Columbia Southern Company, deeds for the right of way were taken in the name of E. E. Lytle, reciting a consideration that was not in fact paid, and were for lands in many instances that were donated to the company, but they were made in Lytle's name, reciting a large aggregate consideration, which he required the company to pay him, with the knowledge and consent of the other defendants, whom he controlled.

The complaint then proceeds to recite instances of these alleged fraudulent transactions, and alleges that the total consideration for the right of way for the forty-three miles from Moro to Shaniko was only \$4500, and that only a small part of this was paid, whereas it is charged that Lytle required the company to pay him \$130,000 therefor.

Plaintiff further alleges that the road is now operating for a distance of seventy miles; that it traverses a very rich and productive country, and will do a very profitable business; that the capital stock is valuable, and an honest management would pay the stockholders dividends after paying all debts, liabilities, fixed charges and operating expenses; and that the fraudulent acts of defendants were for the purpose of preventing the payment of dividends to plaintiff and other shareholders.

Wherefore plaintiff prays that the defendants be required to account to the defendant company for the moneys wrongfully taken by E. E. Lytle and W. H. Moore and other defendants; that plaintiff have judgment against said defendants for the sum of 130,000, and such further sums as have been wrongfully and fraudulently taken from the defendant company; that the company recover against all or such of defendants as shall be shown to have been cognizant of or participated in or privy to the fraudulent paying out of the \$130,000; that upon the final hearing of the suit a receiver be appointed to take charge of and operate said line of railway so that the decree of the court against the defendants may be enforced.

The plaintiff's attorneys are O'Day & Tarpley, of Portland, who have been examining the facts and the law for several days, which examination resulted in the foregoing complaint.

Horse Lost.

Last Wednesday (Aug. 1st) a dark bay horse, branded "C. M." on left shoulder and a bottle on hip and left side, was lost. Finder will deliver the same to Charlie Mell, near Ninth street cut, who will pay charge. a9-31w

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