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Both Democratic and Republican 'dark horses' are being well groomed in readiness for the finishing lap of the Presidential race.

Both Taft and Roosevelt claim that they will be nominated on the first ballot. As the prospects of a split party and two Conventions loom big, they both may tell the truth.

Roosevelt has just swept California by a tremendous majority, estimated at 70,000 over Taft. He has also carried Minnesota and Maryland and says he now has enough Delegates to insure his nomination.

George Edward Adams, sentenced to ten years on McNeil Island for gold thefts, while cashier of the Seattle assay office, has been paroled. After spending two days in Seattle he returned to the Federal Penitentiary, to take up a paid position as bookkeeper—but as a freed man.

The Socialists of Coos have all arrangements made for starting a paper soon in Coquille City. It is to be a permanent one devoted to the cause of Socialism.

Bryan Man of the People.

Portland, May 27.—To the Editor of The Journal.—In 1896, at the Democratic convention at St. Louis W. J. Bryan, the greatest of them all, at one bound leaped into the limelight, instantaneously became the most prominent citizen of the nation.

And then commenced the battle of giants. On one side stood Bryan like a tower of strength. Without money, almost without help, depending solely upon his God given powers and abilities. And the fight he made excelled the fight of Peel for the repeal of the English corn laws, excelled the mighty deeds of Pitt the great commoner of England, who was hurled from power by a rotten monarchy and corrupt plutocracy and forced back into power by the will of the people.

On the other side of the battle of giants was ranged all the forces of bad in the nation. Against this formidable combination this great commoner alone and battled for the common people, and for the good of all.

What will we do with him now? He will be nominated. He will be elected. The country needs him as bad as ever. The parched crops needed rain. He is still the man of the hour.

His only crime is he stands for the common people. People are against him simply because the agents of Wall street, the subsidized press tell them to go against him.

E. TESSEDALE.

CURRENT TOPICS

Solitary Tribune

The types sometimes play such fantastic tricks as almost to take ones breath away, as witness their making me say in your last that Hon. E. Hofer is a product of the "same" high school system while the vogue is toward "Same" as what? I tried to write it, "same" in contrast to modern high school mummery.

Then the types make me accuse Mr. Taft with self "abusement," whereas it ought to have been obvious that I had intended to write "abusement."

Only at considerable intervals of time does the world produce a Jefferson, a Jackson, a Lincoln and a John P. Altgeld, yet each in his turn with apparently divine vision, makes his mark and passes on, to be honored by generations unborn at the time they wrought, as well as generations in endless succession.

Three years prior to his death, under the heading "Death Knell of Privilege," Altgeld wrote: They tell us that back in the '8ties, slavery sat in the White House and made laws in the capitol that courts of justice were its ministers; that senators and legislators were its lackeys; that it controlled the professor in his lecture room, the editor in his sanctum, the preacher in his pulpit; that it swaggered with iron hand all the affairs of society; that every year enlarged its power, every move increased its dominion; that the men and the women who dared to even question the divinity of that institution were ostracized, were persecuted, were vilified—aye were hanged.

But the great clock in the chamber of the Omnipotent never stands still. It ticked away the years as it had once ticked away the centuries. Finally it struck the hour and the world heard the tread of a million armed men, and slavery vanished from America forever. Note the parallel. Today commercialism (money power) rules at the White House and makes laws at the capitol; courts of justice are its ministers; senators and legislators are its lackeys. It controls the preacher in his pulpit, the professor in his lecture room, the editor in his sanctum; it swaggered in the drawing room; it ruled at the club; it dominates with a rod of iron the affairs of society.

Every year enlarges its power, and the men and women protest against the crimes being committed by organized greed in this country—who talk of protecting the American people—are ostracized, are vilified, are hounded and imprisoned. It seems madness to even question the divinity of big business. But, my friends, that great clock is still ticking—still ticking. Soon it will gain strike the hour and the world will see not 1,000,000 but 10,000,000 free men rise up, armed not with muskets, but with free men's ballots, and the sway of commercialism will vanish from America forever.

Altgeld was a great lawyer, a human lawyer, who had a horror of "precedents" which always lie athwart the road to human, common sense every day justice. While occupying the bench it was said of him that, if "legalisms" stood in the way of justice (which is by no means infrequently the case) Judge Altgeld always sought out a way to do justice, law or no law.

Judge Howard Hollister of Cincinnati, one of President Taft's appointees has decided in effect that the great express companies are beyond all legal control. Either that decision or the express companies ought to go. Whichever one it might be that would have to go should have Judge Howard Hollister going with it.

Judge Hollister's decision adds one to many other reasons why the bill of Congressman David Lewis of Maryland, putting an end to the express monopoly ought to pass—Economic League.

Seattle, May 15.—After a stormy session, the Democratic State convention at Walla Walla last week, instructed for Champ Clark for President. An effort was made to stampede the convention for W. J. Bryan, by the Woodrow Wilson people when they could not put their man over; but this was unsuccessful. The result is that the gathering broke up in a rumpus and once more the Democrats of Washington are disaffected. There were several contesting delegations. Both of those from King county were seated, as the easiest way out of the trouble.

If Andrew Carnegie fell so easy for a Pittsburg type of beauty there would have been no holding him in Baltimore.

The per capita production of wealth of Alaska for the last year was \$1,000. This exceeds that of any part of the United States.

Carefully compiled statistics show that the output of the far North was \$60,000,000. Considering that the territory was bought for \$200,000 it can be seen that it was a fine investment. There are approximately 60,000 people in Alaska, whites and natives.

The Grants Pass Courier says in a recent issue: Failing to get jobs, three miners at Galice, John Carlson, George Colvin and Oscar Shattuck, went to digging on their own account and uncovered a lead of free gold quartz which has netted them about \$900 in 5 days. They sent the bullion to Grants Pass today by County Commissioner C. L. Barlow, and the metal is at the First National bank. The lucky trio are still taking out the rich quartz and say that they believe they are at least good for \$10,000.

Denmark Loses King. Copenhagen, May 15.—Prince Christian was proclaimed king of Denmark from the balcony of the Palace at 3 o'clock this afternoon in the presence of the huge throng of people who gathered in front of the royal residence.

Hamburg, May 15.—King Frederick VIII of Denmark who arrived here Monday died last night. The king was traveling incognito on his return from a long trip south. He was convalescing from inflammation of the lungs. With the queen, the royal party had quarters in the Hamburgerhof Hotel. At ten o'clock last night, the King left the hotel unaccompanied for his usual stroll before retiring. He had gone only a short distance when he was overcome in the street by a sudden attack of apoplexy. He fell unconscious to the pavement and died instantly. Not being recognized as a person of great prominence, his body was rushed to the nearest hospital in an auto. When members of the suite became alarmed over his failure to return, search was instituted and the body was found in the hospital and was brought back to the hotel. The king was regarded by physicians as completely restored to health by his trip south. Yesterday he felt unusually well during the day and expected joy over his expected return to Copenhagen today. He remarked he was refreshed and completely restored to health.

Pictures in School. Orange, N. Y., May 11.—Thomas A. Edison expects to spend \$3,000,000 and devote eight years to the work of perfecting a repertory of educational films that will meet the requirements he has set to make the moving picture useful in the school room. The inventor says he is sure the boys who hate school and who could not learn from their books could not help being interested and learn from motion picture screens. Edison intends to send agents to all corners of the earth gathering material for his films. When his task is finished the pupils of the future will have opportunities of becoming acquainted with the activities of the world.

Card of Thanks.

We desire to thank our friends, and all those who, in any way, contributed to the comfort and welfare of our father in the closing days of his life. Such deeds shall be ever held in grateful remembrance. HUGH, MELVIN and WILL JOHNSON & FAMILY.

1321, Roseburg 216, List No. 05025.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

United States Land Office, Roseburg, Oregon, April 29, 1912. Notice is hereby given that the Northern Pacific Railway Company, whose post office address is St. Paul, Minnesota, has this 29th day of April, 1912 filed in this office its application to select under the provisions of the Act of Congress, approved July 1, 1898 (30 Stat. 597, 609), as extended by Act of Congress approved May 17, 1906, Lot 1, Section 21, and Lot 4, Section 25 Township 30 South, Range 15 West, W. M.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the lands described, or desiring to object because of the mineral character of the land, or for any other reason to the disposal of applicant, should file their affidavits of protest in this office, on or before the 15th day of June 1912.

BEN. F. JONES, Register

Devoted to the Interest of Socialism

The articles appearing under this caption are edited by the Socialist party of Curry county, to whom the space has been sold, with the understanding that personalities be avoided and that the editor of this paper waives all responsibility therein.

What do we Socialists want to do? First, we want to socialize the machinery of production and distribution. This includes railroads, telegraphs, mills, factories, mines and land enough to break the force of unemployment and landlordism.

What do we mean by socializing these things? Making them public or collective property. You can understand the relationship of socialized property by thinking of the schools, public roads, courthouses, parks, postoffices and other things that have already been socialized.

Socialized property is not divided and cannot be divided; therefore the talk of Socialism wanting to divide things up is nonsense.

When things are socialized they are conducted for service rather than profit; it is so with schools, roads and the mail; it will be so with manufactories and transportation when they are socialized; therefore Socialism will destroy profit interest and rent.

But Socialism does not propose to socialize all things, only the large tools that are socially used; therefore the claim that it is against private property is false; indeed its chief aim is to make it possible for all people to have private property, the private property that they need for their comfort, welfare and happiness.

Socialism proposes to give woman the ballot and absolute equality with man before the law; therefore, it would not make woman property and could not promote "community of woman" such as exists today in lawdy houses, or free love, as it is falsely charged with doing.

But Socialism does propose something more than the socialization of the means of production and distribution. It proposes also the democratic control of them. This means an extension of popular rule both in politics and industry. It includes the initiative, referendum and recall. It includes the power of the worker to employ himself, fix the hours and conditions of labor, and select his own foremen. Under such conditions there could not be the bossism or bureaucracy that exists today, and the claim that Socialism favors these things falls to the ground.

It means also that Socialism is not a cut and dried thing that we are trying to force down your throat, but is rather merely a proposition to put all power into the hands of the people and trust them to do what they may think is right.

It means that the talk of Socialism destroying religion or the home is necessarily nonsense, seeing that it cannot override the will and wishes of the whole people.

But certain things will follow the socialization of the big tools of production and distribution. The people will be able to employ themselves, and to retain their full social product. Landlordism and profit-taking will pass. As all will always have jobs and get all they produce poverty will end. As poverty ends ignorance will go and nine-tenths of the quarrels and crimes, nine tenths of the prostitution and practically all the wars, that disgrace modern civilization will disappear.

Remember, however, that Socialism is not a scheme that a few have devised; it is not all due to agitation. It has evolved out of conditions growing out from the development of machinery, and follows in logic that which has gone before; therefore, it is not going to be ended by either schemes abuse or trickery.

It is simply a new awakening of the workers of the world; looking toward a higher and juster civilization and an end of mastery and exploitation.

This earth is like a big bombshell. The high cost of living is the fuse. The fuse has burned nearly to the shell. Something is going to happen. Either the fire will be put out and all will be well, or the fire will not be put out and all will be hell. The French revolution was caused by the high cost of living. And a woful woman, walking the streets of Paris beating a drum and crying "bread" was the spark that set off the shell.

No one wants an explosion in this country. But I shall venture to say

that we are taking no great pains to prevent one. The most we are doing is to blame Mr. Morgan, Mr. Rockefeller and Mr. Armour. We believe they have the power to prevent an explosion, but refuse to use it. May I suggest that none of these gentlemen or all others like them have such power? They are as helpless as any similar number of men who could be found in the street. We, the people, alone have the power to prevent the explosion. We simply do not know how to use our own strength.

We should make haste to learn. The extreme gravity of the present situation calls out loudly against delay. If there is a happy land upon the face of the earth, the maps do not show it. This the fifth year of hard times in America, and no one knows how much longer they will last. Times are hard in England, hard in France, hard in Germany and hard in Austria. In all of those places, the rain has fallen the sun has shone, men have worked the earth has yielded but still it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep alive. Every where the cost of living is not only high, but becoming higher. Work is hard to get, but it is no harder to get than food.

I was told at the Bowery Mission in New York that within a radius of half a mile from the mission were 50,000 idle men who could find no work, 10,000 of whom were absolutely homeless. Nobody knows how many idle men there are in the country, though in Europe they keep track of such facts. Some estimates place the number of unemployed men and women as high as 5,500,000 but they are only estimates. All we know is that the number must run into millions. Yet, in the face of such conditions, the cost of living goes steadily up.

Helping the Agitation.

Bishop Vaughan of New York preached a sermon against Socialism and the New York World printed it. It raised a commotion among its readers and resulted in a tremendous agitation for Socialism. Commenting editorially on the matter the World says:

Lack of space has prevented the publication of more than a representative part of the volume of correspondence brought out by the sermons. But the letters given suffice to show the deep interest in and remarkable knowledge of Socialism possessed by the writers, equally by those advocating and those antagonistic to it. The World's correspondents discuss Socialism intelligently in both its political and religious aspects, as it affects marriage and the family man's relation to his fellowmen and the state, etc, and disclose an acquaintance with its literature and understanding of its doctrines which will perhaps appear surprising. One thing made clear by the correspondence is that a considerable element of the public is doing a good deal of serious thinking about Socialism. It is undergoing an investigation and study which may help explain the increasing prominence of the socialist vote in election returns.

The more sermons the bishops preach against Socialism, the better it will be for Socialism. Do it some more, Bishop.

Pass One.

The rich man was more than indignant. "Don't you try to stop me he said to Saint Peter, 'I've got the pass.' 'Let's have a look,' said the venerable gatekeeper as he laid down his list of privileged entrants upon a near by cloudbank. Rapidly he ran through the lines of the scroll. 'H'm so you're Mr. Chinkley are you?' 'That's who I am' the rich man inflated his chest as much as possible. 'And you gave this magnificent orphan asylum to the children of the men who were killed in your factory?' 'That's me—yes I did just that.' 'And where did you get the money for the erection of this asylum?' 'Why from the factory of course.' 'And did you spend it all on this asylum?' 'All? I should say not. What do you take for? A Boob? I just spent a small part of it that way, the rest—' 'Don't bother explaining,' said the Saint. I see it all. You made money by killing men in your factory and with a part of that money you built an orphan asylum for their children. You don't belong here Mr. Chinkley; you're due about two hundred and fifty six million miles straight down.—The Masees.

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