East Oregonian

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1900.

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC TICKET

FOR PRESIDENT,

William J. Bryan.

OF NEBRASKA.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,

Adlai E. Stevenson.

OF ILLINOIS.

FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS,

W. M. PIERCE, of Umatilla.
DELL STUART, of Multnomah.
J. WHITTAKER, of Benton.
E. KRONER, of Multnomah.

The wise and wisdom dispensing Portland Oregonian says: "The upshot of it is that W. J. Bryan is a very cheap fellow. Like many another professional politician, he is able to get him glass eyes, and to profess to see the things he don't see." It is just such argument as this as is used against Bryan and which is assisting in strengthening him with the people—there are so many "cheap people"—all the time. Bryan's enemies can do nothing but heap abuse upon him. Mark Hanna is contributing his share of it just now, but the Oregonian has been at it for several years, but here of late it has increased its "mud slinging" as its fears of his election have increased. The Oregonian has never been able to give credit where credit is due, which does much to offset its recognized ability and destroy its influence.

The salt trust, known as the National Salt company of New Jersey, was incorporated March 20, 1899. Its capital is $12,000,000. This company has a natural monopoly in interior states, while a tariff duty averaging about 50 per cent gives to it an artificial monopoly on the coast. It is also said to have an understanding with the salt union of Great Britain. Under existing conditions this trust is likely to add the full tariff duty to the price of its product, which will amount to between $4,000,000 and $5,000,000 a year, yet Mark Hanna, next to President McKinley in influence in the republican party, says: "There are no trusts." The general belief is the salt trust is controlled by the Standard Oil people and is one of the offsprings of that gigantic monopoly of a wealth created by nature for all men, but capitalized by the few so that the many are forced to contribute out of proportion to the value of service rendered.

The anthracite coal trust is largely under the manipulation of J. P. Morgan, the very rich banker in New York. The coal railroads which are under this man's thumb are: The Reading railroad, capitalized for $77,000,000; the Lehigh valley railroad, $66,000,000; the Erie railroad, $187,000,000; the New York, Susquehanna and Western railroad, $70,000,000; Delaware and Hudson railroad, $80,000,000; Central railroad of New Jersey, $150,000,000; New York, Ontario and Western railroad, $60,000,000—a total capitalization of $690,000,000. On this vast sum dividends are drawn by a handful of people, which to a large extent are manipulated into the pockets of a speculative clique or set of gamblers in Wall street, while the men who toil in the mines are expected to be content with a pittance. Capital—and not "water" or moonshine capital—is entitled to returns only after labor is paid a liberal wage. At present capital or what goes under the name—satisties its greed first and leaves to labor the pleasure of "working for nothing" and boarding itself. Under a government of the people the men should be considered first and the dollar afterwards.

The Salem Journal thinks "the land department of the Oregon state government is gradually but surely being turned into a practical exposition of Henry Georgeism" because in the loaning of the school fund the state is becoming possessed of considerable landed property. The Journal displays its ignorance of Henry Georgeism by its assertion. Georgeism does not stand for state landlordism any more than for individual landlordism. Georgeism would kill landlordism of all kinds and conditions, and make it impossible to loan money on land. Neither would land be capitalized under the single tax or Georgeism. The state would simply have power to take the ever increasing value and the annual rent value of land, due to an increasing population and the presence of all the people upon the land, for the needs of government. The single tax idea embraces the truth, that since land values are solely created by the presence of the whole people upon the land the rental value of it should be taken to meet the expenses of government which is supposed to be conducted for the benefit of all the people. In other words, that which the individual creates or produces belongs to the individual and that what the community creates belongs to and should be taken by the community.

THE PHILIPPINE PROBLEM.

When the American peace commissioners went to Paris they summoned as an expert, competent to advise them concerning the Philippines, Mr. John Foreman. He had lived in the archipelago eleven years and had known its inhabitants well for nearly a quarter of a century. He was familiar with their character, their capacity, their intelligence. He probably had a larger circle of friends and correspondents among the Filipinos than any foreigner living. Professor Worcester, who served on the first Philippine commission and is again a member of the second, has repeatedly recognized Mr. Foreman as an authority on all matters related to the islands and their natives. Certainly there can be no disposition to discredit his testimony of his conclusion that through gross mismanagement America has got herself into a frightful "dilemma" in the Philippines.

Originally he rather favored the idea of American control. But a year of American occupation has led him to change his mind completely. He realizes that we have made a mess of it, and he says so frankly in the September number of the National Review. He calculates that the Americans have "pacified" and hold in undisputed possession only one-five-hundredth part of the archipelago. In fact, "they occupy just as much as they can hold by force of arms." No more. He adds: "The probability of the Americans ever gaining the sympathy and acquiescence of the natives is very remote. Unless the Americans are prepared to maintain a large permanent army in the islands, there seems to be no prospect of their ever being able to administer the interior of the archipelago." His opinion now is that America will do well if she can "extricate herself with honor" and without becoming "the laughing-stock of the world." When it is understood that Mr. Foreman writes with no idea of presidential politics or possibilities in his mind, his views must have weight in the United States. They must be accepted as those of an unbiased and impartial observer.

Mr. Foreman notes that the Americans hold Manila, the principal ports, the Pasig river, and the Lake of Bay, with the villages around it. The total area of the archipelago is computed at 52,500 square miles, of which the Americans barely occupy one five-hundredth part in places inaccessible by water. Small detachments are stationed here and there, but the troops so employed do not dominate a radius larger than the range of their muskets. They are constantly watched by armed natives, and troopers who have ventured alone a mile outside the village have seldom returned alive. On the 4th of last month a report reached Washington that an entire party of engineers, under a lieutenant, fell into the hands of the natives, those who were not killed having been taken prisoners.

The tenacious opposition of the natives has prevented the establishment of civil government throughout the islands. When troops were sent up country from their military center in Panay Island in order to establish advance posts, they were obliged to hasten back to defend what they already held. The once flourishing island of Negros (the largest sugar-producing district) is gradually becoming a waste, and the local military government there exercises merely nominal authority. In some districts the Americans appointed native local presidents, but the system proved to be impracticable, because these functionaries were invariably assassinated.

The United States government, Mr. Foreman believes, entered upon this conquest under a misconception of many points. They miscalculated in supposing that a people so far advanced in civilization would peacefully submit to the conditions thrust upon them. The conduct of the boisterous, undisciplined individuals who formed a large percentage of the first volunteer contingents sent to Manila has had an ineffaceably demoralizing effect on the proletariat; and has inspired a feeling of horror and loathful contempt in the affluent and educated classes who guide Philippine public opinion. From the outset it was a mistake to treat the Christian Philippine population like savages ignorant of Western civilization, considering that there are thousands of Filipinos mentally equal to the invading forces, and comparable, in intellectual training, with the average middle class of Europeans.

The Filipino has a positive repugnance for inebriety, and a contempt for the inebriate. Family attachment is, perhaps, more intense and more extended than in Europe, and the violation of a native's home or any other relation's is, with him, unpardonable. And although he may not practice all the higher forms of social refinement himself, he not only admires them in others, but, imperceptibly to himself, is influenced and subdued by them.

Mr. Foreman confirms the statements of every observer in the Philippines, that the fundamental cause of the rebellion was monastic interference in the civil government, and that the chief reform for which the natives shed their blood was the expulsion of the friars. Spanish priests were driven out of every provincial parish, and many of them returned to the peninsula, while others are still hovering about in the neighboring colonies of Hong Kong, Macao, and Singapore, awaiting events. During the brief session of the Philippine congress at Malolos, the Deputy Tomas del Rosario introduced and carried his bill for church disestablishment, not with any irreligious sentiment, but because the whole community recognized that their tardy development in the past was due to retrogressive ecclesiastic tutelage. The earnest desire of the Filipinos is to appoint exclusively secular clergy to the incumbencies. Yet, strange to say, one of the first important acts of the American authorities in Manila was to favor the return of the monks to the islands, and there is still a movement on foot to restore to them their former status and the possession of lands to which they cannot show a good title. The Filipinos fail to see how the restoration of the source of all their past miseries can possibly harmonize with professed benevolent intention towards them. Such open defiance of their legitimate aspirations is not likely to lead to peace in the present generation.

The whole system of government sought to be established by the Americans "clashes everywhere with the instincts, ideas, traditions and aspirations of the Filipinos." Senor Felipe Agoncillo, with whom Mr. Foreman had been acquainted fifteen years and who was the high commissioner of the titular Filipino republic, assured him that there is not an educatetd Filipino who will be really satisfied with any settlement short of absolute independence—"independence or death or perpetual warfare." The struggle might last for a generation if America unanimously chose to utilise her energy and resources to maintain it, but a standing army of 50,000 men would be necessary for permanent occupation—the volunteer corps would have to give way to a regular army.

The picture drawn by Mr. Foreman is realistic enough to draw perspiration even from the pores of a Hanna.

POLITICAL NOTES.

W. Bourke Cochran, of New York, in opening his Western campaign itinerary in Chicago Saturday night, spoke to an audience that crowded the Coliseum, built to seat 12,000 persons. The speech was made under the auspices of the anti-imperialist league, and attracted thousands who were unable to enter the auditorium.

William J. Bryan will travel from Chicago to Indianapolis to the meeting of the national association of democratic clubs October 3 and 4 in the special train that will carry Cook county's delegation.

Ex-Governor Stone, of Missouri, says the contest between McKinley and Bryan in Illinois and Indiana will be so close as to require the best efforts of both parties.

Mary Ellen Lease, of Kansas populist fame, is speaking for McKinley being engaged by the republican national committee. It is said she is receiving "big money" for her work. She controls and influences one vote, that of Mr. Lease who "sticks to home."

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