

THE SITUATION. Of all the muddled conditions of governmental affairs none have been so muddled as the present financial muddle. All the great questions that have heretofore come before the people were questions in which were involved well defined principles in a somewhat concrete or tangible form, the truth or error of which was susceptible of some demonstrable conclusion.

The stringency of the times calls loudly for relief. The debtor class, the farmer and the average man think they see relief in the free coinage of silver. All the alluring and attractive features of the proposition are displayed, and under the circumstances it is not surprising that old party lines are no longer strong enough to restrain the members. It is evident, too, as time goes on and the various phases of the situation are discussed, the people become confused, and that the idea of free silver without any knowledge of the manner in which it is to be used, is losing some of its attractiveness, and the probabilities are that if some sound-headed, conservative men would come forward with a well defined monetary system that would bring relief to the business of the country and at the same time give security to the creditor for his loans and investments, the whole country would flock to their standard.

The Chicago convention manifested too much of the spirit of the reckless and the reckless. The idea that once prevailed that the adoption of free coinage would immediately raise the price of silver, or that a silver dollar would be worth more than its bullion value, is rapidly losing ground. Many who were carried away with the idea that because a silver dollar will buy a dollar's worth of goods under the present system that it would under free coinage are beginning to learn that the system that maintains the parity of the coins of both metals would be destroyed, and that the purchasing power of the silver dollar would go to its bullion value, that being only about one half of its face value, and the credits and incomes of the common people being written in "dollars" they would be the sufferers in that immediate connection. Also, the Democratic platform, does not provide for or declare whether or not the accumulated debts written in gold shall be repudiated and paid in silver. If they are not the free coinage of silver would entail a double hardship upon the people. The credits and incomes of the common people would be paid in silver, while they in return would be obliged to pay their obligations in gold, which would give rise to the opportunity of speculating in gold. This would immediately withdraw gold from the ordinary channels of business, and throw the business of the country upon a silver basis and with the present capacity of the mints it would take several years to replace with silver the volume of currency withdrawn by gold. Then, again, if gold contract debts are repudiated, and payments made in silver, the creditor will be accepting that which will buy but about one-half of that which he loaned. The silver man's argument for justification for that is that the silver dollar of today will buy as much as the gold dollar at the time when it was loaned. But the creditor claims that he should have that which he contracted and is entitled to the benefit of the advantage; but the debtor claims that the difference is due to the discrimination made against silver, and that this discrimination has appreciated the value of gold one-half, and that it takes twice the amount of the product of labor to pay a debt now in gold as it did at the time it was contracted, and that the free coinage of silver and repudiation of gold contracts is morally right and the only relief. The creditor class, on the other hand declare that it is the agitation of cheap money that has caused the stringency and the scarcity of money; that if there had been no agitation, and that if there was not danger of a creditor being paid off in a cheaper money than that which he loaned, money would be seeking investment, and times easy and business active. In a manner all those things are true, but the unfortunate thing about it is, each idea seems to be destructive of the other, and politicians have seized upon the opportunity to make a campaign, and instead of relieving the tension, it is being intensified; the best interest of the country are being sacrificed on the altar of politics, and the financial savior of the people is being crucified upon a cross of gold, all of which, instead of assisting to clear up the subject

in the minds of the people is nauseating in its sickly sentimentality. What the country needs is an equitable adjustment of our money system, and not so much the system as the practice. There is no doubt but the discrimination against our currency, and in favor of gold was the first agitation of money. The practice should be stopped. No country can get along without fiduciary currency, and whenever the practice of discriminating against the fiduciary currency of a country is allowed, it will bring discredit and distrust upon the government and distraction to business. If the would-be statesman, heads of departments and executive offices would display a little more wisdom, discretion and dignity under our present financial system, than the do political craft and cunning, the business of the country would not be in its present distracted condition, and political party lines would remain unchanged.

CAMPAIGN MUD.

The Oregonian and other reputable papers are doing all in their power to injure Mr. Bryan's chances of election by ridiculing his speech at the Chicago convention. The Oregonian says that the speech which won for Mr. Bryan his nomination for the presidency was not a great speech. Without going into the ethics of speechmaking it would seem to the average observer that a speech of sufficient greatness to win for a man the nomination for the presidency of the United States must have about it some elements of greatness, or that there is a lack of greatness in the office sought for in the nomination, the people or the country. It is such reckless statements as these that are causing the decline of the Oregonian's influence among the people. Instead of being a great conservator of the dignity of American institutions, its whole force is directed to belittling and laboring the efforts of the people to dignify themselves and the institutions of the country.

The Democratic party, whether wholly right or wholly wrong in its notions of public policy and the administration of public affairs, at present represents the majority of the American people and among them are men, and there are many of them, who have no superiors in any party or representative body on earth. The Democratic convention at Chicago was an assembly of men, of whom, in point of intelligence and scholarship, any country might well feel proud, and to say that these men were moved to enthusiasm by a speech that was not great is a coarse reflection upon American intelligence, character and scholarship. Such remarks seem to pass lightly, but constant chaffing is irritating. It is this persistent reflection upon the people that is causing a schism between classes, or rather dividing the people into the classes and the masses. From force of habit, probably actuated by immediate material interests, the Oregonian is unconsciously arraying the fortunate classes against the unfortunate masses. The force and logic of its argument seems to be for the purpose of showing that the people are incompetent, and by its arrogant and presumptive utterances, no matter how true the principle may be, the great mass of the people feels that whatever it advocates must be, as a matter of course, their common enemy.

It is contrary to the common principles that actuated the people to the establishment of the institutions of freedom in this country, and their perpetuation ever since, to move under the dictation of arrogant and imperative suggestions or demands. They institutions and government of this country were inspired of just such a spirit. The spirit and principle of American freedom instinctively and impulsively repels anything like dictation or reflection upon the character and stability of the people. Every party that has come into power, has done so by getting into close sympathy with the people, and have remained in control so long as it has protected, or was able to make believe that it was protecting the interests of the people. Therein lies the logic of Mr. Bryan's speech at the Chicago convention, and out of it came the enthusiasm that gave him the nomination. Let us examine some of the logic of Mr. Bryan's remarks. Mr. Hill, who had just preceded him, opposed the free coinage of silver for the reason that it would injure the business man, and Mr. Bryan seems to have seized upon the opportunity and occasion to show that Mr. Hill was right from the point of view which he saw the business man, and from his conception of business, but that his conception of business and business man was too limited in its application; that the lawyer of a prominent western town was just as much a business man as a corporation counsel; that a doctor, who is a graduate of a college, is as much a business man as some cross-road

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An Analysis of the Conditions which are Responsible for it.

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The present malady of diminution of the vital powers, under physical fatigue and mental exhaustion, are today engaging the careful attention of the most eminent pathologists. Their prevalence is ascribed to poisoning through alcoholic drinks, contaminated water, the vitiated atmosphere of towns, the continuous jar and rattle of rail-road trains, the flashing of electric lights, the clangor of street cars, the jingling of telephone bells, the vertigo-producing effects of lofty buildings and swift elevators, the perpetual noises and shifting sights of city streets, all the constant activities, the simplest of which involve an effort of the nervous system and a wearing of it.

A German author in a recently published work calls attention to these marvellous "nervous" diseases that beset the end of the century and points out that the enormous increase in nervous expenditure has not and can not have a corresponding increase of supply in the food we eat. Even if we had the choicest food in the greatest abundance it could do nothing toward helping us, for we could be incapable of digesting it. Our stomachs can not keep pace with the brain and nervous system. The latter demands much more than the former are able to furnish and as the inevitable consequence then comes disaster. The strongest men keep on getting weaker, fall by the way. Manifold has become fatigued and exhausted and this fatigue and exhaustion make themselves manifest in such nervous disorders, including such as "railway spine," the increase of heart disease, the prevalence of precocious dental decay and badness, of nearsightedness and the prevalence of premature old age. To counteract the nervous strain on the nerves and to replenish the wear and tear on the brain caused by every line we read or write, every face we see, every conversation we enter, every scene we perceive, every noise we hear, every impression we receive is precisely the province of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. They are designed to fill the void in the nourishment of the nerves and brain that no amount of food can fill. In a concentrated form is infinitely richer food for the blood, and the blood is the life of the nerves, than in vast quantities of beef and bread.

It is generally agreed that a man's physical condition is dependent upon the great degree, upon the nature of his employment, and upon the nature of his occupation. A man whose occupation necessitates a constant use of the brain, without any opportunity for physical exercise, are generally nervous. While men employed at manual labor requiring an exercise of the brain function, are almost universally possessed of sound nervous systems, not easily disturbed by exciting events.

A striking illustration of this principle is found in the case of Professor George E. Coleman, who is a professor of piano, and who was until recently a member of the faculty of the University of California. Professor Coleman lives at 1330 Buchanan Street, San Francisco. He is well known here, and is a member of some of the most popular music halls in the city. Mr. Coleman is not a man of strong frame, and he has been afflicted for several years with a nervous condition of the brain, which has rendered him almost incapable of performing his duties. He has had to play continuously for several hours during every evening for five

town, as is the physician of some nabob's family; that the farmer, who toils from morning till night, from winter till summer, is as much a business man as the man who bets upon the price of wheat in some stock exchange; that the miners who toil under ground are as much business men as the men who gather in the conference room of some bank to discuss how to manipulate affairs to increase the earning capacity of their money. There is really no difference between the logic of Mr. Hill's speech and the logic of Mr. Bryan's, each considered from their respective points of interest. Mr. Hill was pleading for the business man he knows, and as he knows him, and Mr. Bryan was pleading for the business man he knows and as he knows him. Mr. Bryan being an impulsive man, of great force of character and fluency of speech, and being deeply impressed with the truth of his convictions, expressed them in a dramatic and impressive manner. The majority of the delegates being from sections and representing the kind of business man Mr. Bryan had so dramatically described, it was only the logic of the event that the convention went over to him. Mr. Bryan's speech won for him the nomination; if it was not a great speech, then it must have been a stupid convention. There were two elements there, each representing distinctly different interests, both had an opportunity to use all the art of speech and oratory and they did it. One of them won and he is entitled to the credit of it. It was the captivating speech of the Democratic convention; men of national reputation were there, and all attempts at belittling the speech that came with the most telling effect is a reflection upon American character, intelligence and scholarship, that is resented by the average individual, regardless of party. It is not surprising that a spirit of distrust and discredit pervades the masses of the people, when reputable journals that should be the conservators of national dignity, belittle the fact that of which all Americans feel proud. An art of which all nations have boasted; of which people are prouder than any other.

A FALSE ASSUMPTION. It is assumed by most people when discussing the monetary question, that the desired money is the best money, and that conditions exist in the money market which justify the issuance of paper money of the kind. This is true viewed only from the money point of view, and is the ground taken by

is destroyed. No one questions the soundness of the currency; no discrimination is made and it makes no difference to the creditor what kind of currency a debtor pays him. There are no gold bugs; no free silver craze; no financial schools, simply dignity. The fundamental principles of the financial system of the United States, Great Britain, France and Germany are the same, but the practices are different. The United States is the only one of the four that permits private financiers to discriminate against the currency of the country.

The fact that our currency is interchangeable with gold does not enervate or mitigate the evil of discriminating against the currency. The practice begets distrust; distrust intensifies the practice, and the intensified practice and distrust produces a stringency that causes a demand for cheaper money. The demand for a cheaper money intensifies the stringency, and the stringency intensifies the demand. Thus the situation has become so strained as to burst asunder old party lines and create new ones, neither of which, however, show any plan for the adjustment of the difficulty. Each is destructive of the other; both are wrong. Both are using the most attractive and alluring features of their sides of the question. Each is fighting the other with the desperation of despair because the policy of each is destructive of the other.

What is needed is a policy that will restore confidence for the security of money for those who have it, and activity to business. Neither party has announced what its policy will be; and the people are at sea as to what is likely to be the outcome. The Democrats have declared for free coinage of silver but have left the people to conjecture what policy it will pursue in the use of it. The Republicans have declared for a gold standard, but left the people to conjecture what policy they will pursue to relieve the stringency.

Whether we have a single gold standard, or the free coinage of silver, it is less important than the practices and policies pursued under either. Either probably would do, properly managed. The most interesting thing to the people just now would be a little information on how either party propose to manage and adjust matters.

If Great Britain can do a business of five times that of the United States, upon a gold basis and accumulate a surplus in the treasury it would seem that the United States might do so if properly conducted. The secret of Great Britain's success upon a gold basis, lies in the fact that she maintains the dignity of her decrees, and does not allow any distrust or discredit to be brought upon her currency by discrimination, hence there is no sear, no hoarding, no hard times.

Many suppose that the odors of flowers come from the sweet secretions that the honey bee so fondly cherishes. This is true to some extent and especially in flowers that have no petals and are yet sweet. But in a large number of instances the petals furnish the grateful fragrance. The rose and the carnation are familiar instances. There are not much sweetness to the rose petals have fallen. Honeysuckle fragrance proceeds the nectar.

Much is heard these days about sound money, and in most instances it is but the meaningless mouthings of political platitudes.

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