

# THE BATTLE FOR SILVER.

The Gold Standard Must Give Way to the Double Standard

## THE PEOPLE'S INTERESTS PARAMOUNT

A Plea for a Return to the Money of the Constitution—An Independent Policy for America.

The following editorial, relative to the recent sale of bonds to a syndicate by which the government lost ten millions of dollars, appeared in a late Weekly Oregonian:

"At the time the bonds were sold the treasury was trembling on the verge of suspension of gold payments. . . . The secretary could not risk making an offer (popular loan) that might not result in a sale. . . . It probably is true that the banks did all they could to create distrust of a popular bond sale. It is their trade to speculate upon the necessities of the government, but the conditions that enabled them to do so were created by neglect of congress. . . . Doubt was thrown upon authority to sell bonds. The speculators (bankers) made the most of this to increase distrust and force the government to make terms with them."

Facts found in the above article clearly illustrate the actual condition of the country, and show that if our present financial policy is continued national bankruptcy must surely and speedily ensue.

In fact, bankruptcy was threatened at the time the bonds were sold, and was only averted by a compromise on the part of the government by which the people were losers to the extent of \$10,000,000. This loss would not be so serious if it had in any degree modified the conditions involving it, but it did not have this effect, and the treasury is still exposed to the same danger that threatened it at the time the bonds were sold.

"The treasury was trembling on the verge of suspension of gold payments" and could only escape insolvency by accepting terms forced upon it by foreign capitalists.

Now so long as we obligate ourselves to pay demands in a kind of money we do not possess nor can not acquire in sufficient quantities, except by purchase from banks owned or controlled by foreign gold mongers, we may expect "necessities" to be forced upon the government, for under the gold standard it is as much the "trade" of banks to create necessities as it is to speculate upon them, and they have unlimited power to do both.

Truly, "banks are more dangerous than standing armies," yet the so-called republican party thinks the "power" of the banks should be increased. I wish to say here that I do not see how any honest man can call himself a republican when it is well known that the leaders of that party have for years abandoned nearly every principle promulgated by the founders of the organization. "Doubt was thrown on authority to sell bonds." This "doubt" was not considered serious by the gentlemen who bought the bonds; they "forced the government to make terms with them," and with a bonus of ten million dollars in their pockets, given to them by a generous nation, (as a token of friendship for relieving the necessities of the treasury) they knew the question of authority could readily be "fixed." Now that a precedent for giving a bonus to bond buyers has been established, I suppose a bonus will be as much a part of the contract as the delivery of the bonds in all future transactions, and if this character of favoritism is continued the ultimate result is clearly apparent. To say that the "conditions" that enabled a syndicate of foreign capitalists to force the government to make terms with them whereby they openly plundered the treasury to the extent of \$10,000,000, was "neglect of congress," is a gross misstatement of facts, and in saying so the Oregonian strives to conceal the ruinous effects of the gold policy, which it is plain to be seen has practically placed the destiny of the nation in the hands of capitalists.

It is well known that the "conditions that enable the banks to speculate upon the necessities of the government," were created by, and are readily traceable to, the reasonable acts of the so-called republican party by the passage of the national bank law and its

twin infancy the act demonetizing silver.

Rank treason and unmitigated scoundrelism mark the trail and stamp with blackest infamy the corrupt dealings of plutocracy who were responsible for these acts, and through whose villainy a condition of serfdom has been forced upon millions of American citizens with the promised heritage of penury and menial servitude for generations yet to come. The so-called republican party is pledged to the gold standard, and claims that a high tariff with import duties payable in gold, would afford relief to the impoverished condition of the people.

This tariff scheme is only a political subterfuge to deceive the people, and would give them no material relief, for suppose the importation of dutiable articles should be of sufficient volume to furnish the treasury with enough gold to meet its obligations, it would only be a change in the method of taxation, and it matters but little to the people whether the money to buy gold is taken from them as interest on bonds, or duties on imports; they must pay the bill.

Why not abolish the "necessity" for a kind of money we have not, nor can not get without giving ten million dollar bonuses to foreign capitalists or levying a tax on every article the people have to buy?

After an existence of over a hundred years, during which time our national prosperity has been phenomenal, our national treasury trembles "on the verge" of bankruptcy, with no possible hope of relief except from those who have been empowered to "speculate upon our necessities;" necessities that have been forced upon us by corrupt legislation. Though the venality of our national legislators the supremacy of gold has been accomplished, and the condition of the people today is characterized by high handed brigandage at their national capital and a denial of their rights by civil tribunals: tribunals they were once want to call "temples of justice," but which have, through the damnable agency of corporate wealth, become dens of infamy, temples of bribery and corruption, judicial fortresses from which hot shot is hurled against the people's rights, and blank cartridges discharged at infamous villainy in high places.

Will the people for once allow common sense to support party partisanship and unite in a demand that our present monetary system be forever abolished?

That no banks of issue except those owned and operated by the government shall be established in the United States.

Demand the restoration of silver, and the dethronement of gold. Once this is done there will be no more bank failures by which the people are annually robbed of millions of dollars, no more panics, no money "stringencies" to paralyze industries; no more "trembling on the verge" of national bankruptcy, no ten million dollar steals, nor issue of interest bearing non-taxable bonds.

If we cannot maintain our foreign trade relations under such conditions let us relinquish those relations and assume the independence exhibited by the nation in its early infancy. Anyone who believes that we, as a nation, cannot establish an independent money system, denies our national independence, and is entitled to sympathy of his race. Let us no longer submit to the tyranny of concentrated wealth. By a united effort let us hurl this tyrant capital from its entrenched throne of power in American politics, and teach it that this is a government by and for the people, and that the American republic will not be ruled and ruined by the despotic power of gold.

In reference to the recent rise in the price of silver the Oregonian said: "Silver has been a highly speculative commodity for the last five years. . . . There is suspicious indications in the recent fluctuation of price and in the flight of rumors in relation to the attitude of various nations towards the projected conference, of an artificial bull movement, of which somebody will take advantage to unload.

Many persons now living can remember how gold was run up and down in this way, for gamblers profits."

The Oregonian also said, "the faction of silver monometalists

who would abandon the world's standard of value and adopt that of Mexico is considerable."

Guarded, as the Oregonian usually is in discussing the money question, it will occasionally let fall a word that reveals the fallacy of its theory, and knocks the "stuff" out of its argument. It claims that gold is "the world's standard of value," and tells us that gold is "run up and down for gamblers profits." This shows that gold is as much a speculative commodity as silver can be, and that the world's standard of value is based upon a commodity that is as subject to fluctuation in price as wheat or cotton.

It is evident that we can never have a standard of value until the "commodity" element is eliminated from our medium of exchange, for, "gamblers" will be able to make a "profit" on gold as long as it remains a commodity.

Our money, of whatever material composed, must have a stationary value and not be subject to fluctuation in price caused by increase or decrease of volume which is now controlled wholly by speculation. Let money have a stationary value not controlled by the operation of supply and demand, as the value of all commodities ever will be.

I would ask if it is consistent with reason to claim that a standard can be based upon any thing the value of which is subject to frequent and extreme fluctuations created by speculation.

There will be no standard of value for any thing so long as our financial policy is dictated by those whose trade is to speculate in the fluctuations of money values.

The Oregonian tries to discredit the rumored willingness of "various nations" to join in an effort to restore silver, and claims that the demand for free coinage comes from the populists and a few silver maniacs in each of the old parties.

I am too much an American to consult the pleasure or ask the advice of any nation on earth as to what our money, or other national policy shall be, but it is useless to try to conceal the fact that the people (not the speculators) the world over are growing weary of paying "gamblers profits" on gold.

In trying to impress upon its readers the idea that the people of Oregon are indifferent as to the free coinage of silver, the Oregonian said relative to Dolph's defeat: "This talk about silver is mostly wind. . . . There were not ten silver fanatics in the legislature."

Here is an effort to show that it was not Dolph's attitude on the silver question that defeated him, while everybody knows it was that and nothing else. No doubt Mr. Dolph also thinks there is a good deal of wind in this talk about silver, and that it exhibits very marked cyclonic tendencies, and has swept at least one plutocratic privateer from the political sea and landed it high and dry upon the shores of private life.

The people are beginning to learn that gold, not tariff, is the disturbing element in the realm of industry, and they are determined to free themselves from the bondage of American slave owners, whose chief occupation is to dictate legislation, speculate on the necessities of the government, and—propagate concubines for titled libertines across the water.

It is well for the Oregonian to sound the alarm, hoist the danger signal and warn the whole piratical fleet that there is danger ahead.

C. W. PAGEET.  
Lewisville, Ore., May 1, 1895.

## SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

Managed by the Polk County Teachers' Association, and devoted to the advancement of the Public Schools.

### REPORTS.

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 33.  
For the month ending April 26, 1895:

Number days attendance	590
" tardies	34
" excused	1
Average number belonging	27
Per cent of attendance	93

Those neither absent nor tardy were: Inez Zumwalt, Una Hannum, Lillie Taylor, Essie Atwater, Freddie and Mildred Clemons, Robbie and Nellie Phillips, Lena and David Reddeopp and Lena Wilson. I would be glad to have more of the patrons visit the school and thus show to the pupils

their interest in the school.  
TRACY STAATS, Teacher.

### BALISTON PUBLIC SCHOOL.

For the month ending April 19, 1895:

Number days attendance	1822
" tardies	137
" excused	13
Average number belonging	82
Per cent of attendance	76
Number on roll of honor	92

Arbor day was observed by the pupils pruning and spading around the trees already planted and cleaning up the grounds.  
W. S. PARKER, Prin.

### PLEASANT VIEW PUBLIC SCHOOL.

For month ending April 26, 1895:

Number days attendance	416
" tardies	39
" excused	23
Average number belonging	23
Per cent of attendance	91
Number visits by patrons	92
" by teachers	7

Those neither absent nor tardy the whole month are: E. J. McDaniel, Earl Parser, Belle, Minnie and Roy Werbs, Rosa and Nora Schroeder, "Cammie Brown and Nora Syron.  
MARY M. PARKER, Teacher.

### DALLAS PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Seventh month:

Number days attendance	4621
" tardies	313
" excused	30
Average number belonging	259
Per cent of attendance	275
Number excused corporal punishment	04
Number neither absent nor tardy	131
Number visits by patrons	40
" by teachers	19

Work of the year ending fairly well. There will be a class of fifteen graduates this year.  
W. I. REYNOLDS, Prin.

### OAK VIEW PUBLIC SCHOOL.

Number days taught	26
Number days attendance	410
" tardies	3
" excused	27
Average number belonging	24
Average daily attendance	20
Excuses for tardies	5
Per cent of attendance	84
Number visits by patrons	1
" by others	14

O. D. IRELAND, Teacher.

### THE POLK COUNTY PRESS.

News Items and Editorial Expressions.

(Humor.)

The familiar face of Berry Wester is seen on our streets again. He has come down to look after his tile and brick yard and will soon have things moving in a business way.—Ballston Cor.

Sheriff Plummer is now away in Eastern Oregon after R. M. Harris a fugitive from justice. He formerly lived on the Livermore place, near Smithfield, and an indictment has been standing against him for months.

Twelve thousand feet of lumber for the railroad is being delivered here from Montgomery mill, near Falls City. Yesterday three two-horse teams brought in about 1,700 feet each.

M. C. Starr, of Salem, has been here two weeks waiting on his brother, Rev. S. A. Starr, who is now convalescent.

There were nine offers to furnish wood for the public school, the lowest being by Fred Forsell at 92 cents a tier, and he got the contract.

The Dallas public school will close Friday May 17th with graduating exercises at the city hall. There will be fourteen graduates as follows: Vernie Compton, Nellie Muscott, Lester Smith, Della Oxley, Vesta Southwick, Eloise Phillips, Dena Risser, Hattie Reynolds, Lena Spouffer, Mary Muscott, Bertha Blessing, Stella Headley, Julia Loggan and Nanette Wilson.

The Baptist church is once more coming to the front under the successful management of Rev. Swackhammer. The membership have been greatly revived, some have been added and John Andrews has been made a deacon. The minister is an earnest and forcible speaker, draws large and appreciative audiences and will probably occupy that pulpit every Sabbath evening this summer.

For several years there has been out stealing in and around Dallas and the final outcome is sure to be somebody in jail for it. At midnight of Tuesday some grain purloining rascal helped himself to a wheel barrow load of W. C. Brown's oats.

(Transcript.)  
"Butler" is the name of a new postoffice at Grand Ronde. It is named in honor of Hon. N. L. Butler.

# CASTORIA

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## MOTHERS, Do You KNOW

that Peppermint, Balaam's Drops, Gulliver's Cardiac, many so-called soothing syrups, and most remedies for children are composed of opium or morphine?

**Do You Know** that opium and morphine are stupefying narcotic poisons?

**Do You Know** that in most countries druggists are not permitted to dispense without labeling them poisons?

**Do You Know** that you should not permit any medicine to be given your child unless you or your physician know of what it is composed?

**Do You Know** that Castoria is a purely vegetable preparation, and that a list of its ingredients is published with every bottle?

**Do You Know** that Castoria is the prescription of the famous Dr. Samuel Fitcher. That it has been in use for nearly thirty years, and that more Castoria is now sold than of all other remedies for children combined?

**Do You Know** that the Patent Office Department of the United States, and of other countries, have issued exclusive right to Dr. Fitcher and his assigns to use the word "Castoria" and its formula, and that to imitate them is a state prison offense?

**Do You Know** that one of the reasons for granting this government protection was because Castoria had been proved to be absolutely harmless?

**Do You Know** that 35 average doses of Castoria are furnished for 25 cents, or one cent a dose?

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INDEPENDENCE, OREGON.

Town has been full of all kinds of "cattle" during the week—not that kind that are impounded for roaming the streets at night, however.

Chet Good and John Daly went fishing one day this week and caught 3; that is the former got 3 and the latter 2 and they made 32 out of it. Fishing is slow business this spring.

Henry Brown came over from Salem last week and is now installed as the high boss of the Hotel Holman.

"Capt. Webb" is good. We had one of those things at Dallas a couple of years ago and his name was Stewart. He was a photographer, an actor, an electrician and all around handy man. But he has wound the "Webb" around himself and gone to tumbling over the Oregon City Falls in a barrel. What a lot of suckers are to be caught in this cold world of ours.

Charley Campbell writes his folks from Newport that he is off for a trip to South America.

Yesterday W. P. Ireland was named as executor of the estate of Cordelia Staats, deceased, by County Judge Burch.

Some time since a man in the north end of the county married a woman in Linn county, who it is claimed was a county charge in Linn. The matrimonial sea became ruffled, the couple agreed to disagree, and last Friday Commissioner Byerly came to the county seat to see about making arrangements to get the woman back to her old home, as this was considered cheaper than keeping her as a county charge. The arrangements were made.

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