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ATHENA PRESS

Published Every Friday Morning
By J. W. SMITH, PROPRIETOR.

F. R. BOYD, EDITOR.

Entered at Athena postoffice as second-class mail matter.

Subscription Rates:
Per year, in advance, \$1.50
Single copies, in wrappers, 5c.

Advertising Rates:
Local reading notices, first insertion, 10c per line. Each subsequent insertion, 5c.

All communications should be addressed to the PRESS, Athena, Oregon.

ATHENA.....AUGUST 21 1896.

FOR PRESIDENT:
WILLIAM J. BRYAN,
OF NEBRASKA.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT:
ARTHUR SEWALL,
OF MAINE.

"No Crown of Thorns,
No Cross of Gold."

WHICH SHALL IT BE?

The danger to our free institutions from the centralization of wealth, and the possibility of the money power gaining control of the reins of government, was one which our early statesmen sought to guard against, and in eloquent terms did they warn the people to beware of this threatening menace to popular government. Washington, Jefferson, Jackson and Webster all raised their voices cautioning the masses against risking too much authority in the hands of the classes. And the martyred president, Abraham Lincoln, whose sympathies were wholly with the common people, and who was nearer to the people than any other man of his time, soon after the close of the war, saw this danger, and he asserted that it caused him more anxiety for the safety of his country than even the rebellion. In a message to the thirty-seventh congress (see pages 309-310 Barrett's Life of Lincoln) he said:

"Monarchy itself is sometimes hinted at as a possible refuge from the power of the people. In my present position I could scarcely be justified were I to omit raising a warning voice against approaching despotism. There is one point to which I ask a brief attention. It is the effort to place capital on an equal footing with, if not above, labor in the structure of the government. Let them beware of surrendering a political power, which they already have, and which if surrendered will certainly be used to close the door of advancement against such as they, and to fix new disabilities and burdens upon them, till all of liberty shall be lost."

Then in a subsequent letter Mr. Lincoln expressed his fears of the encroachment of the money power as follows:

"It has indeed been a trying hour for the republic; but I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country. As a result of the war, corporations have been enthroned and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people, until all the wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the republic is

destroyed. I feel at this moment more anxiety for the safety of my country than ever in the midst of war. May God grant that my suspicions may prove groundless."

Indeed the great Lincoln was almost prophetic in his suspicions. What he feared would result has come to pass. We find at this time our government in the hands of corporations and the money power. In every branch of government, in our state legislatures, in our house of representatives, in the senate and on the bench we find the representatives of corporations predominating. And as President Lincoln said they would do, the money power is endeavoring to "prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people" exploring them to maintain the honesty of the currency and at the same time elect to the highest office in the gift of the people, one who is bound body and soul to administer a government for the classes. Will the people be thus gulled into bartering away their liberty by electing to the presidency the direct representative of the corporations, and aid the money power to tighten the yoke of financial bondage about their necks? Are they ready to surrender their right to rule this nation and turn it over to the classes? Or will they heed the warning of grand, honest old Abe Lincoln and elect to the presidency a man whom the corporations, the trusts, the money brokers abhor?—Times-Mountaineer.

The Boston Herald observes that "it would not be at all surprising if in the next ten years the rate of progress in the south were not more rapid than in any other section of the country." On the contrary, if that were not the case it would afford ample cause for astonishment. During the past ten years the rate of progress in the south has been marvelous. But it was only the beginning of a development which will not reach full fruition within a quarter of a century, though it will increase in volume and velocity with each year. At the conclusion of the war the south was prostrate in destitution and helplessness. For near ten years following the odious carpet-bagger sapped the fruits of her endeavor, and the next decade was devoted to the re-building of her lost resources, but since that she has been moving forward and during the last few years her progress has been unparalleled in any part of the world. The south is especially rich in elements of wealth, and the people have at last learned to utilize the advantages with which generous nature has endowed her. In iron, coal, cotton and various other staple products of the earth and soil she is provided more bountifully than any other section of the common country and the fact that manufacturing enterprises have found their way to these exhaustless sources of supply is the natural consequence of the change of industrial conditions. The iron furnaces of Alabama and the cotton factories of Georgia, Tennessee and other cotton producing states have enjoyed a prosperity during the past three years that has existed in no other quarter, and the determination to further and fuller development is the logical result. But the full measure has not yet been reached. There are other and equally potential agencies of progress in the south which are still unexplored. These are the fertility of the soil for agricultural operations, the vast for-

ests of timber and the facilities for international commerce. The harbor advantages of New Orleans and Galveston will sooner or later challenge the consideration of capitalists. As population increases in the south and west the contiguity of these points to the consumers as well as the producers of merchandise will lead to the establishment of great commercial houses in the western and southern cities through which the products may be distributed without the great expense of long hauls by rail from the eastern seaboard. In view of these facts the prediction of the Boston Herald may be relied upon.

That "deadly parallel" now appearing in the goldbug press, under the title of "Silver vs. Gold," and purporting to be a comparison of wages and cost of food, clothing and furniture in Mexico and the United States is indeed a paralyzer. The prices of furniture in the two countries is especially surprising, and why manufacturers will sell a three-piece oak bedroom set for \$30 in the United States when they can get \$200 in Mexico for it, which is equal to \$108 in our money, is a conundrum. Other items in the furniture line are practically on the same ratio. In food products the difference is not so great, although bread is quoted at 3 cents per pound in this country and 12 cents in Mexico. The statement that the average pay for labor in the United States is \$40 per month is another surprise. The term "labor," as used, is presumed to mean unskilled labor, and every one knows that where that class of labor is employed by the month the average of wages is nearer \$10 than \$40.

It is stated that the average pay for labor in Mexico is \$8 per month. This is presumably somewhere near the truth, for in a dispatch in the Sunday Oregonian it is stated that laborers in Mexico are paid 40 cents a day and board or 50 cents a day without board. Either the employers don't feed their "hands" anything, or else the cost of living is greatly exaggerated in that "deadly parallel." For with food products 100 per cent. higher in Mexico than here, it would puzzle the most astute goldbug to board laborers for 10 cents a day. Even in this country where everything is so remarkably reasonable, no one pretends to board men at 10 cents a day. Hence it is an easy matter to see that there is something materially wrong in the parallel business, or in the Oregonian's news service.—La Grande Chronicle.

When a farmer has toiled like a slave for a year, only to find that his produce will not pay his expenses of living, it soothes his feelings and makes him happy and contented to be told that he is an anarchist and a lunatic. And he is particularly happy when he reflects that the persons calling him an anarchist are those who profit by the laws that rob him.

In one of his speeches on his way to New York, Mr. Bryan, to the statement that his "Chicago speech nominated him," replied that it was not, but that "the people had placed him in nomination." There is no question about this. A man that received over two-thirds of the votes of his own party in a convention in which he was hardly known as a probable candidate the day before, without even headquarters; the unanimous nominee of a national silver party,

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without his solicitation, and who received over one thousand out of thirteen hundred votes in the populist convention in the face of an organized opposition, can truly say that he was nominated by the people. If elected he will have no master but the people to serve.

Do not pay any attention to the wild vapors of the enemies of union in the great fight for freedom now going on in this country. Since the forces of reform united at Ellensburg to sweep this state and save it from the rapacity of republican cormorants by whom it has been robbed and looted, the gold bugs are ranting like wild bulls in a China shop. The people are leaving them so rapidly that they are almost insane to see their chances gone for ever for living like Nabobs off the earnings of the people. Drive them to work.—Washington Independent.

The large crowds that have greeted Mr. Bryan at every stop during his journey to New York demonstrate the truth of Mr. Bland's statement, when he said that the plain people of the east are as much in favor of free silver as the voters of the west and south.

W. R. HEARST, proprietor of the San Francisco Examiner and the New York Journal, has entered the journalistic field of Chicago. The Enquirer is the name of the paper and it advocates free silver.

The Democratic Platform.

The platform which has been heralded to the people of these United States by the democratic party in convention assembled, on which it is predicted the brilliant Bryan will be swept to victory by a tidal wave is as follows:
We, the democrats of the United States, in national convention assembled, do reaffirm our allegiance to these great essential principles of justice and liberty upon which our institutions are founded, and which the democratic party has maintained from Jefferson's time to our own—freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of conscience, the preservation of personal rights, the equality of all citizens before the law, and the faithful observance of constitutional limitations. Recognizing that the money question is paramount to all others at this time, we invite attention to the fact that the federal constitution names silver and gold together as the money metals of the United States, and that the first coinage law passed by congress under the constitution made the silver dollar the unit of value and admitted gold to free coinage, at a ratio measured by the silver dollar unit.

We declare that the act of 1873 demonetizing silver without the knowledge or approval of the American people has resulted in the appreciation of gold and a corresponding fall in the price of commodities produced by the people; a heavy increase in the burden of taxation, and of all debts, public and private; the enrichment of the money-lending classes at home and abroad; paralysis of industries and impoverishment of the people. We are unalterably opposed to the single gold standard, which has locked fast the prosperity of an industrious people in the paralysis of hard times. Gold monometallism is a British policy, founded upon British greed for gold.

power, and its general adoption has brought other nations into financial servitude to London. It is not only un-American, but anti-American, and it can be fastened upon the United States only by the stifling of that indomitable spirit and love of liberty which proclaimed our political independence in 1776 and won it in the war of the Revolution.

We demand the immediate restoration of the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation. We demand that the standard silver dollar shall be a full legal tender, equally with gold, for all debts, public and private, and we favor such legislation as will prevent the demonetization of any kind of legal tender money by private contract. We are opposed to the policy and practice of surrendering to holders of obligations of the United States any option reserved by law to the government of redeeming such obligations in either silver coin or gold coin.

We are opposed to the issuing of interest bearing bonds of the United States in time of peace, and condemn trafficking with banking syndicates which, in exchange for bonds at an enormous profit to themselves, supply the federal treasury with gold to maintain a policy of gold monometallism.

Congress alone has power to coin and issue money and President Jackson declared that this power could not be delegated to corporations or individuals. We therefore demand that the power to issue notes be taken from the banks and that all paper shall be issued directly by the treasury department. We hold that tariff duties should be levied solely for the purpose of revenue and that taxation should be limited by the needs of the government, honestly and economically administered. We denounce as disturbing to business the republican threat to restore the McKinley law, which has twice been condemned by the people in national elections, and which, enacted under the false plea of protection to home industry, proved a prolific breeder of trusts and monopolies, enriching the few at the expense of the many, restricted trade and deprived the producers of the great American staples of access to their natural markets. Until the money question is settled, we are opposed to any agitation for further changes in our tariff laws except such as are necessary to make the deficit in revenue, caused by the adverse decision of the supreme court as to the income tax.

There would have been no deficit in the federal revenue during the last two years but for the annulment by the supreme court of the income tax law, placed upon the statute books by a democratic congress. The obstruction to an income tax, which the supreme court discovered in the constitution after it had laid hidden for a hundred years, must be removed, to the end that accumulated wealth may be made to bear its just share of the burden of the government. We therefore, favor an amendment to the federal constitution that will permit the levy of an income tax. We hold that the efficient way of protecting American labor is to prevent the importation of foreign pauper labor to compete with the home market, and that the value of the home market to our American farmers and artisans is greatly reduced by a vicious monetary system which depresses the prices of their product below the cost of production, and thus deprives them of the means of satisfying their needs. We denounce the profligate waste of the money wrung from the people by oppressive taxation and lavish appropriations of recent republican congresses, which have kept taxes high, while the laborer that pays them is unemployed, and products of the people are depressed in price until they no longer repay the cost of production. We demand a return to that simplicity and economy which best befits a democratic government, and a reduction in the number of useless offices, the salaries of which drain the substance of the people. Confiding in the justice of our cause and the necessity of its success at the polls, we submit the foregoing declaration of principles and purposes to the considerate judgment of the American people. We invite the support of all citizens who approve them and who desire to have them made effective through legislation for the relief of the people and the restoration of the country's prosperity.

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