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OUR JURY SYSTEM IS DEFECTIVE.

There is no doubt but what our American jury system could be changed and result with a more exact and just justice to all litigants. We have a jury system, the best system in the world, and we should reform the system, that our courts would deal out the most perfect justice attainable.

There is a growing conviction among the people, that the grand jury is a wholly useless appendage to our jury system. It is either an aid in ferreting out criminals, nor a source of economical management. It is in effect a sort of secret inquisitorial tribunal, through which evildoers and jealous persons visit their displeasure upon a neighbor, who may have been so unfortunate as to incur it. In our opinion this is all wrong. There is nothing accomplished through the grand jury that cannot be accomplished through our committing magistrates. In most instances the magistrate is better qualified, from the fact that he always has evidence on both sides of the question at hand, and the management of attorneys pro and con; while the grand jury generally has the evidence of one side only and is guided by the will of the prosecuting attorney. Also, our present rule of requiring a unanimous verdict from a jury both in criminal and civil cases, is oftentimes a hindrance rather than a promoter of justice. The method of selecting jurors too seemingly offers a premium upon ignorance and excludes men of the highest degree of intelligence and information from service thereon. To require unanimity on the part of a jury on all, especially civil cases, it seems to us, is unwise and productive of the opposite of what the law contemplates, justice to litigants. If the principle of arbitration is right and should be promoted, wherein simply a majority of the board of arbiters carries the verdict, certainly a majority, say three-fourths of the trial jury, should carry the verdict as well. We were recently called upon to serve as a juror in a civil case wherein damages and cents only were at issue, and which showed plainly the imperfections of our present method. Within two hours after the case was submitted, eleven of the jury had agreed. The twelfth juror, who was of a contrary opinion, held to his position some nine or ten hours longer, when he united with the eleven in agreement in a verdict. Now this juror understood the case just as well at the end of two hours as he did ten hours later. He held out through a spirit of self will and contrariness rather than to render justice to the litigants. By the stubbornness of this one juror, the court was compelled to pay each juror an additional \$2, making \$24, in all without a scintilla of good being accomplished. Now had a three-fourths majority been sufficient to render the verdict, this additional expense would be saved to the taxpayers, and the chances for equal justice to the litigants not jeopardized.

While it may be proper in the light of the utmost care in protection of the rights of persons accused of criminal offenses whose lives or liberties are at stake to require unanimity in a verdict, a different rule should obtain in civil cases. In such cases if a majority of two-thirds or three-fourths of the jury only was required, we believe that a more even dispensing is justice to litigants would result, besides a saving of from one-fourth to one-third of the expenses of holding courts, over our present system. It is wisdom to make a change when it is demonstrated that one is wrong and foolish in the extreme to continue in wrongdoing.

There is now a consistent endeavor, and which has existed since the election last fall, on the part of nearly every one of the gold standard newspapers, seconded by the less important country sheets, to belittle and traduce Wm. J. Bryan. In nearly every issue of these papers, he is compared facetiously with persons of objectionable notoriety

or than diminishing, factories are being down, men are being laid off, and wages are being reduced. From every quarter comes the same explanation, "lack of demand for goods and low prices." It is urged by the supporters of the Administration that as its policy is not yet put into operation, it is not to be blamed for the unhappy conditions which exist. Under ordinary circumstances such a contention would be reasonable and just, but it is not a valid defence in this case. Never in the history of our country did a political party go before the people with such blare of trumpets and promises of boundless prosperity to immediately follow its triumph as characterized the last Republican campaign. The worst of the conditions which we now witness, were willed, ejected, and even coerced into voting for "McKinley and prosperity" were not told that they would have to wait a year for the prospect to reach them. They received no information that at the end of seven long months after having their wages ground lower and lower, with "short time" for many and "no time" for many more, they would be still anxiously waiting, waiting for "prosperity," "Oh, no!" They were told to elect McKinley, to sweep away the cloud, in which the threat of free silver had enveloped our industries, and the glorious sunshine would burst upon us at once.

They were assured that the millions in operation would continue to run, that more would be opened, and that their wages would be fully maintained (in some cases increased), and that they would have "honest money and a chance to earn it."

Every political party is bound to make good its promises. Perhaps not literally. Some allowance may be made for that enthusiastic exaggeration and exuberant fancy which form so large a proportion of campaign rhetoric. But there must be a substantial fulfillment of promises, and if there be not, the party promising will find a swift and sure condemnation at the hands of those who have been deceived.

In this instance the people have been deceived seven months at least and for how much longer, at this writing, no man can tell.—Herald.

SUGAR AND BOODLE

Senator Lindsey, of Kentucky, estimates at \$41,000,000 a year the net profits which the boodle has just cost the people. According to the best informed authorities, including Mr. H. D. Sawyer, or himself, Senator Lindsey's figures merely suggest the possibility of extortion which the Senator's vote makes possible for this country.

Mr. Hovey has testified before the Ways and Means Committee of the House that "we can refine sugar here more cheaply than they do in England." As for look as he testified before the same committee, "I do not see why other free trade in sugar we could not supply a very large part of our country's consumption."

An examination of the labor cost of refining here and in Europe supports him in this. In 1896 it was placed at 42 cents a hundred for Germany, 38 cents for France, 31 cents for England, 22 cents for Cuba and 14 cents for the United States.

Employing only 250,000 men, the trust is voted this enormous subsidy by subservient politicians who consider the political power of trust money rather than the claims of justice or the interests of the people. Making sugar cheaper than it is made in Europe, able to export and sell in Europe at a profit, paying the lowest possible wages to its men, the trust is permitted to prey on the American public not for the sake of the "principal of protection," but solely because it stands in politics for what has been spoken of on the floor of the Senate as "the broad and greasy hand of boodle."—N. Y. World.

WHY?

Who made this nation anyhow? Who built its houses, from its lowest hut to its grandest palace? Who made its settlements, from its smallest village to its mightiest city? Who built its railroads that span with glittering threads of steel this vast continent, and interlock as with fraternal hands the various states of this, the great republic of all time? Who tilled the forest and tamed the virgin soil?

Who drew from nature's store house and transformed to meet the needs of men all that furnishes necessities or comforts, or supplies the luxurious demands of advancing civilization? Did slaveholders do it? Did feudal lords do it? Did speculators do it? Not much. These are the men who told us, neither do they spin. These are the men who gather where they have no stews, who reap where they have not sown, who get while they do not produce, who curse and burden those who toil, and bless them not.

These are the classes who, since history has chronicled the doings of men, have in every land and in every clime, enslaved those who fed and made them all they are.

These are they who have wrecked and ruined the mighty empires and republics of the past whose bleeding bones srew the highways of human progress.

They nine-tenths of our people suffer in this land of boundless resources, because the greed and avarice of a moneyed aristocracy jealous of its power, entrenched behind laws made by themselves, have stolen from God's children their rightful inheritance.

How long are the many to fall like slaves while the few revel in luxuries unearned? How long are those who add nothing to advancing civilization to live like slaves on the proceeds of your toil while you and your families struggle in poverty?

It is time for the common citizen to study up. Offers amass wealth by only a few methods. One is land speculation. One is interest taking. One is by railroad ownership. One is by telephone ownership. One is by owning water works. One is by owning light plants. One is by owning street car lines. One is by owning gas works. One is by monopolizing lines of business which should be open to all.

No individual or corporation should do any of these things. Private individuals and corporations, formerly owned the mail system taxed the people what they pleased for carrying mail. They also owned the public road, and taxed every one who traveled. They owned the school system and none could get an education except the well to do. Part of these systems have been changed to the great advantage of the public. The rest must be changed before justice will reign supreme. We must be entirely free from public debts, and no individual or corporation should have the power to tax the people on the necessities of civilization.—Educator, Vineland, N. J.

McKINLEY IS FASTENED ON THE PEOPLE

McKinley is fastened on the people for two years more probably at \$2,000 a year. There is no end to the tenacious grasp of a politician like this new professor of ethics, pedagogy and erst while English Literature. The people ought to be thankful that the all-wise records did not make him president. He is really not well qualified for assistant teacher of arithmetic at a crossroads schoolhouse. As state superintendent he organized his department until it is probably the most expensive bureau this state has. He fastened the school book trust on the state for years. And for these deeds he is given one of the state university's big salaries for life. What a party on government! How is it done? The American Book Co. puts up liberally for campaign purposes. As a result state offices and legislature of one party or the other are elected. Politicians are appointed for regents. They feel they owe their place to men like McKinley and that they must be taken care of. The big campaign fund, with lots of money for influencing the purchasable voter, ought to make intelligent men think. When we debate education with corrupt parties we are on the road to ruin.—Capital Journal.

McKinley, his Secretary of the Treasury, and other conspicuous leaders of the Republican party, would have the country believe that they are anxious for the restoration of silver, and that the commission sent to Europe are expected to enlist foreign governments in the cause of bimetalism, if possible. They, it is said, are to secure an international conference in the interests of silver. Secretary Gage was present and participated in a banquet in his honor in Maryland a few days since. A resolution was passed which was supposed to have his approval and that of the administration. It declared that "the true interests of our country will be best served by its adherence to the gold standard of value." This is simply saying to the officials of the governments of Europe, pay no attention to our commissioners; they are sent to satisfy the insane and foolish clamor of a portion of our people. "This administration is unalterably opposed to a free coinage of silver in whatever form it may be presented." What shameless hypocrisy! WRR 7167—Cincinnati Enquirer.

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