

ARGUS-LEADER EDITORIALS.

The Paper which Pretended For Years to Espouse the Cause of the Producers and Common People, is Now Supporting the Campaign of Mark Hanna and the Eastern Gold Syndicate. Let Honest Men Compare the Former Editorials of the Argus-Leader with its Present Editorial Utterances.

It is true that a few years ago the newspapers educated the people. Today the people are educating the newspapers. We speak not of the smaller newspaper in the country precinct or in the small villages or towns or of those newspapers which are edited and conducted by private individuals but of the great newspapers in the large cities conducted and managed by stock companies and corporations. It is well known that in almost every instance the large newspapers in the larger cities are owned and managed by joint stock companies or corporations and that the editors are simply hired men placed on a salary and instructed and compelled to conduct their papers in line with the policy which best suits the interests of the stockholders. The free and independent newspaper and the one which speaks the honest convictions of its editor as a rule is the smaller newspaper in the smaller cities, towns and villages. The same persons who own and control the stock of the greater newspapers in the larger cities are the same persons who own the stock in the railroad corporations, the coal trust, the beef combine, the wine trust and the one hundred thirty other trusts and combines which control the price of nearly everything that the farmer and the laborer consume. These men dictate absolutely the policy of the larger newspapers. The editor would lose his job on the spot if he dared to express his honest convictions. This accounts for the fact that a great newspaper campaign was started in favor of McKinley and these newspapers have been sent broadcast over the country literally by the millions not because the people subscribe, not because the people want them or want to read them, but because the great boodle campaign managers obtained lists of voters in all the northern and western states and placed these lists in the offices of these great newspapers with instructions to send the papers during the campaign free of charge to the men whose votes they hope thereby to capture. The State of South Dakota has been flooded with more than a hundred thousand copies each week of these papers free of charge. Remember that these papers are paid for by the eastern gold syndicate and the stockholders in the trusts and corporations and that their editorials and news columns are subsidized and controlled in the interest of the eastern gold syndicate. It is understood that 25,000 copies of the Argus-Leader are sent out to voters in the State of South Dakota during the present campaign free of charge. It is understood the bill is paid by the managers of the great gold bug party. They hope in this way to put before the voters pretended facts and an array of argument which will influence their votes. They hope that the false statements and deceptive arguments cannot be detected by the voters and that thereby they will catch the unwary. Do not be deceived. The people will not be mocked. The great mass of them are thoroughly posted and thoroughly aroused. It is a campaign of the syndicates, by the syndicates and for the syndicates against the people. It is no wonder then that thousands of republicans in the State of South Dakota have organized themselves thoroughly in every county in the state and have joined hands with the two other great parties and will assist in breaking the power and hold of the eastern trusts on the throat of the nation. It is the greatest political contest in the history of our people.

THE ARGUS-LEADER ON THE MONEY QUESTION AND THE EASTERN MONEY POWER.

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader, under date of February 13, 1894, appears the following: "The demonetization of silver in India has bankrupted that nation. The government can raise no funds. The industries are suspended. The English merchants in Bombay and Calcutta are sending in vigorous protests, and it is quite likely that the mints will soon again be opened for free silver coinage."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader, under date of February 22, 1894, appears the following:

"The farmers who hanged Secretary Morton in effigy ought to remember that 45 cent wheat is the direct result of republican financial legislation."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of January 6, 1894, appears the following:

"It is to be kept in mind that it was the republican party which demonetized silver twenty years ago. The less it says about bimetalism the more comfortable it will find itself."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of April 5, 1894, appears the following:

"Pickler and Lucas voted for the Bland selignorage bill, but in 1896 we will see both of them going back on that vote by supporting Bill McKinley, or some other gold oligarch for president. Such double headed chameleons expect to fool the people of South Dakota indefinitely, with silver on one end of the string and gold on the other. But they may slip a cog in their calculations. A gold bug president is not wanted in the west and patriotism must be measured in what sort of a presidential nominee our voters support. A handful of silver republican congressmen supporting a veto nominee for president, will not wash in any future campaign and not even Pickler's unbounded egotism can hoodoo the west longer.—Groton Ledger."

"But what difference does their stand on the great questions of statesmanship make so long as they steal thousands for unnecessary ice harbors and useless public buildings and sinecure offices? What does statesmanship amount to without a steel?"

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of January 5, 1894, appears the following:

"The Leola Blade, edited by Lieutenant Governor Herried, makes the following observation: 'The republican party must shake off the tyranny of the money power, take advanced ground on the many great questions of today and again become the distinctive and unquestioned champion of the people upon whom the advancing civilization has fastened the chains of industrial slavery. In 1860 the battle cry was, freedom for the black slaves. Today it must be freedom for the white slaves.'"

"The Madison Outlook very neatly turns it as follows: 'Yes, that would be a good idea, Mr. Herried. But who forged the chains that binds the white slaves? Republicanism aided in breaking the chains which bound the black slaves in 1860, and has for the past thirty years bent all its energies in enslaving the whites. A party that has such a thirty year record as the republican party, does not want regeneration; what it needs is burial.'"

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of September 24th, 1894, appears the following:

"The republicans are strenuously calling for the votes of the common people. The Argus-Leader hereby challenges any one to point out a single piece of republican legislation which has been framed for the benefit of the poor, the toilers, the weak. The modern political system has been built up by the republicans and it is entirely framed in the interests of the rich and what are currently called the better class."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader, under date of January 26, 1895, appears the following:

"There were just 419 head of cattle exported to Germany for food purposes during 1893 while the glorious market-expanding McKinley bill was in force."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader, under date of October 2, 1894, appears the following:

"The great central west, the granary and mine of the land, the section which produces the wealth on which the national prosperity has been built up, has been forced to pay over as a bonus to the sterile east, a large share of the income which rightfully belongs to it. The laws of the nation and the commercial and social structure have been built up to divert the true earnings of the toilers and producers into the pockets of the eastern sharpers. It is not only bad taste, it is the height of folly for the robbers to throw out the cry of dishonesty. If the east can break down the force of the argument for inflation it should do so in a logical way. But it has too much glass in its surroundings to bandy epithets."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of March 27, 1894, appears the following:

"When the Sherman anti-trust law was passed it was pointed out that being one of those familiar laws framed by the friends of culprits, it would not hold water. The recent defeat of the government in its suit against the sugar trust proves the point."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of February 28, 1895, appears the following:

"Frederick Douglas wrote a letter within a week of his death which showed that he was weakening in his allegiance to the party which once contained such men as Lincoln and Grant. There is every reason to believe that had Douglas lived he would have been in revolt against the republican party."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of October 2d, 1894, appears the following:

"A FOOLISH CRY. 'The eastern conventions are saying a good deal about the 'honest dollar.' To read their platforms one would suppose that the western people who advocate the free coinage of silver or any other inflation of the currency were anxious for a

dishonest dollar. This is all wrong. The people of the west, silverites and gold bugs alike, are honest. They want the government to be honest. Their differences are mere matters of theory as to what is honest. The silver men believe that the present system is dishonest and they oppose the gold standard because they believe that it is robbing the debtor and the producer. No one advocates or has advocated injuring the creditors or the manufacturers."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of November 15th, 1894, appears the following:

"It is said that the president will startle the nation with a bold proposition of a comprehensive currency system. Every one admits that since the war the currency of this country has been handled in a haphazard way. The time is coming when the laws governing it must be straightened out and made consistent. And it cannot be done too quickly."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of April 20th, 1895, appears the following:

"The big trust which has raised the price of meat so heavily in this country has not advanced it in England. Will the people ever learn that they must take definite and strenuous action against these monopolies which are sinching the people on their necessities?"

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of November 22, 1894, appears the following:

"There is no question that the New York bankers are acting in a very unpatriotic way touching the new government loan. Instead of parting with a portion of their great hoard of gold and thus aiding the treasury to do the very thing which they have demanded, namely, to keep the gold reserve up to the hundred million limit, they are strenuously holding onto their own stock of the yellow material and drawing from the already slender supply in the treasury enough to buy the bonds. And their unpatriotic and selfish action in this case is more than likely to augment the anger of the people until some very stringent anti-bank legislation will be inevitable."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of March 26, 1895, appears the following:

"The interesting question to the political observer is whether the free silver republicans who are so powerful in the west will desert their party allegiance and throw their strength to the democrats. In other words whether they will sacrifice their party prestige to the success of the principle to which they claim to be devoted. If they do the struggle will be the one long expected, namely, the east on the one side and the united south and west on the other. If that condition shall come to pass there is no question that silver will win."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date March 26, 1895, appears the following:

"The republican party will not declare for free coinage of silver. We shall have a chance to see whether the prominent western republicans who have so loudly predicted ruin to the nation unless silver were restored to its old standing will sacrifice their party principles."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of May 31, 1895, appears the following:

THE RULING FAMILY.

"It appears to be conceded by financial men that the Rothschilds can change a country's balance of trade at will. When gold was flowing out of this country in a great stream they contracted with the government to stop it. Immediately the tide turned the other way. American securities began to be sold in great blocks on the foreign market, all prices rose here, business began to expand, the rise in the value of the properties listed on the New York Stock Exchange rose in one month fully three hundred millions, wheat jumped, thousands of more men were employed, and the whole face of the commercial world changed from gloom to smiles. All financial writers agree that this was the work of the Rothschild's syndicate. But if these few men, this one great family of bankers, can thus restore prosperity at will it must be that they can destroy it with equal ease. So far as happiness, wealth and even health and life go, therefore, the head of this house holds in his hands to a large extent the destinies of the two continents."

"Aside from the question of money and investment also, this great banking house is ruling the course of the nations. It is well known that it was through them that the great continental nations have been enabled to acquire the vast armaments which they now hold. The tremendous loans upon which these armies and navies and fortresses and cannon have been built up were supplied by the Rothschilds. But when the triple-alliance and the French-Russian partnership have been aching for the combat for years, there has been a great power holding their hands. Their financial backers do not dare to let general European war begin, for it is more than likely to end in general bankruptcy and the loss to them of a great share of their advances. They have therefore been able to prevent the outbreak and thus to maintain the peace of the world. In olden times it was the bankers who promoted the wars in order to compel their governments to borrow huge sums at usurious interest. That was when the bankers of each nation confined their operations to the limits of their own countries and when the total expense of the combat would ruin the nations. Now their policy is to maintain peace with heavy armaments and thus establish their securities while continually increasing their investments."

"Today the Rothschilds and their connections form the greatest power in the world. Is it for the public good? If not, how can the hold be broken? These are the questions which will command the earnest attention of the social philosophers for the next generation."

MCKINLEY AND MONOPOLISTS.

The Argus-Leader is today striving frantically to assist the eastern syndicates and interests in compassing the election of McKinley. If you will read the St. Louis platform from top to bottom you will fail to find one single reference to the dangerous power of the trusts. Either the men who controlled that convention were not thinking of this dangerous element in our country and so forgot it in their platform or they were afraid to say anything about it lest the eastern syndicates and trusts might fear that they were in earnest and thus refuse to support their ticket and platform. In either event it is not only a sad but a dangerous sign to see a great political party in the midst of such conditions as surround us today fail to promise the people relief from the trusts and syndicates which control and fix the price of things which the people purchase daily to meet their necessities. There is scarcely an article which is consumed by the producers in the west and south or by the laborers in the east that is not controlled by a trust in one form or another, and now to see the Argus-Leader, which denounced McKinley as the representative of the monopolists of the east, supporting him, is enough to make the readers of that paper pause and reflect."

Read below what the Argus-Leader said of McKinley and McKinleyism:

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date February 28, 1894, appears the following:

THE MCKINLEY WAY.

"New York World: It will be noticed that the manufacturers who reduce the pay of their employes on account of the Wilson bill always forget to reduce the prices of their product. This is the McKinley idea of protection to American labor."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of April 9, 1894, appears the following:

"The McKinley boom for the republican candidate for president in 1896, is all a racket. Not so fast, gentlemen, '96 is a long ways off and that boom is very liable to explode before it materializes. It rather seems as if the east had a monopoly of this president business long enough and that it's about time for the west to take a hand. There'll be a western man nominated for president on two or three tickets in '96 or there'll be a terrible commotion in nominating convention."

"Yes, the west and south, the producing sections, will insist on a representative who is thoroughly identified with their interests. The democrats and the populists will each nominate a western man. But why should the republicans? All of their party principles look to the building up of the east and bringing of the west into subservience to eastern capital. Why then should they not nominate McKinley who is par excellence the standard bearer of the monopolies?"

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader, under date of April 17, 1894, appears the following:

"Senator Pfeffer cannot forget that he was once a good republican—hence his very sensible opposition to the Wilson tariff bill. Wilsonism and gold monometalism will ruin the country. McKinleyism and bi-metalism will give us permanent prosperity."—Press and Dakotan.

"McKinleyism and Shermanism and Reedism have brought the nation to the verge of bankruptcy. The whole policy of the nation must be changed. The safety of the nation lies in rigid economy and in compelling every interest to stand upon its own base, unsupported and unhindered by public taxes."—(Argus-Leader.)

TARIFF AND MCKINLEY.

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader, under date of April 26, 1894, appears the following:

"The address of ex-President Harrison before the Indiana republicans did him meagre credit. To say that the bitter financial panic of the last year is to be attributed solely to the attempt of the democrats to return to a revenue tariff is a reflection both upon the insight of his hearers and his own honesty. Mr. Harrison knows better, or if he does not his ability to grasp public questions and to trace cause and effect has been greatly overestimated. This roaring about the tariff will do very well for a pettifogger who makes no pretensions, but it is not becoming in a man who has occupied the exalted positions to which Mr. Harrison has been called."

BRYAN.

The Argus-Leader perhaps did not foresee that the champion of the west and the one it so much admired and applauded would be nominated for the presidency. No one expected at

the time the Argus-Leader joined hands with the eastern syndicates and trusts that the champion of the west and the one the Argus-Leader had so applauded and praised, would be rallied around as the logical candidate and as the true man to whom the interests of the great masses of the people would be entrusted. It is more than probable that if such an event could have been foreseen the great switch of the Argus-Leader might not have occurred, for it would then have foreseen that the people were aroused and that it had deserted its party in the very hour of a victory. Read what it said in its editorial columns only a few months ago in regard to the great standard bearer of the people who are striving to restore both silver and gold to their ancient position.

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of September 27, 1894, appears the following:

"William Jennings Bryan, the young Napoleon of western democracy, appears to have things pretty much his own way in Nebraska. He will be an honor to the United States senate."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of September 28th, 1894, appears the following:

"The fusion of the democrats and populists in Nebraska and the fight the Omaha Bee is making on the head of the republican ticket, make it almost certain that the republicans will lose that state this year. W. J. Bryan will be a credit to the west in the United States senate."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of January 5th, 1895, appears the following:

"Congressman Bryan received a large majority of the votes cast for popular choice for United States senator in Nebraska, but John M. Thurston, the corporation lawyer, was elected by the legislature. Were the people of Nebraska to choose between these two men there is no doubt that Mr. Bryan would be sent to Washington. But the people of Nebraska were not consulted."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of January 3, 1895, appears the following:

"John M. Thurston will be the next senator from Nebraska. He has for years drawn a \$15,000 salary from the Union Pacific as its attorney, and for this reason no doubt is supposed to be peculiarly fitted to represent the agricultural state of Nebraska. Gen. Thurston is very bright—he has to be to convince the people that he is sincere when he says he is a friend of the farmer. Gen. Thurston is bright, eloquent, able, ambitious and cultured. But he will not feel especially discomfited in case he should ride to Washington on a pass. Like the widow in the song, he has been there several times before."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of November 8, 1894, appears the following:

"The most unfortunate single incident of the landslide is the defeat of Mr. Bryan of Nebraska. The brilliant young orator appeared to have a rosy future as a western statesman. But while Mr. Bryan may be temporarily turned down, his great ability and wide popularity are likely to bring him to the front again in the near future."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of November 10, 1894, appears the following:

"Congressman Bryan will be of necessity retired from public life next March. But his brilliance will continue to shine through the columns of the Omaha World-Herald."

STATE ADMINISTRATION.

It seems almost impossible that a newspaper which has through its editorial columns written so clearly the disgraceful record of our state administration during the past two or three years should now be found through its editorial columns striving night and day to return to power the same gang who looted the treasury, who robbed the state of the interest on its school funds, whose state officers, according to the Argus-Leader's own statement, have each of them except two brought deep humiliation and disgrace upon our people, and whose whole record is one to make a South Dakotan blush for shame. Read what the Argus-Leader has said in its editorial columns on the state administration and when you go into your booth to mark your ballot stop a moment to consult your conscience and see whether or not you can assist in this disgraceful scheme:

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of February 4, 1895, appears the following:

"When the tax-payers of South Dakota put up \$1 per capita to make up republican stealings they can console themselves that the last republican platform 'congratulates' the people of the state upon the excellent financial administration which they have given us."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of March 28, 1894, appears the following:

"There is quite a revolt in republican

papers of South Dakota over it in which the bosses are fixing up the approaching state convention—Scotland Citizen.

"But the bosses will crack the fall and the voters will jump into thank God for the privilege lashed."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of February 1894, appears the following:

"The Yankton Press, taking from the larger republican papers 'idleness and destitution' are on the increase, and that 'our working people are reduced to the alternative of pauper or starvation.' The Press then properly is returning. It belle news dispatches which record dest but does not believe them when it that the factories are re-opening calamities of the most calamitous commend us these days to the organs, which apparently would the country go to the demerit wows in order to bring some t advantage to the republican party. has the party of patriotism been ch by circumstances into the party of de tion."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of January 14th, 1894, appears the following:

"RUTH'S PART IN IT.

"And now comes the news that Ma H. Ruth, ex-commissioner of school is was in cahoots with Taylor and he him to rob the state to the tune of \$90,000. The last appropriation was due Nov 15th and amounted to \$97,000. Vouchers were made out on November 15th and the vouchers were not until Decem 27, in direct and almost insolvent violation of law, and when he sent them to counties they did not have time to them cashed before Taylor disor Ruth did this same sort of w last summer and the governor v him to do it. The people objecte ously and often and the governor f requested Ruth to comply with the la The commissioner insolently asked t governor to 'mind his own business' as the governor shut up like a clam, althoug it was his plain duty to bring the commi sioner to book within twenty-four hour The commissioner paid no attention unt Minnehaha county brought suit."

"The governor having had this exper ence with the commissioner should hav taken the bull by the horns and force Ruth to forward the vouchers promptl to the counties. But he didn't. He sim ply waited. He was busy no doubt writ ing up in his message the excellences of the treasurer and the commissioner. The result is that the schools of the state have been robbed of \$90,000. The governor is now probably sorry that he allowed Ruth to break the law, just as Myers is sorry that he didn't force the commissioner by Taylor. And the people are getting mighty sorry that they haven't put their money into the hands of honest men and their administration into the hands of people who would know a hawk from a hand saw when the wind is favorable. "This whole business reeks with incompetency, insolence of law, and business dishonesty, and the people, robbed, disgraced and betrayed, are getting m ugly about it. It will be curious to h ow long their indignation will last."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of October 17, 1894, appears the following:

"What has the republican party done for South Dakota except to heap up its debt, permit railroads to grind down the people, raise the taxes and multiply sinecures?"

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader under date of February 20, 1894, appears the following:

THE STATE AND TRUSTS.

"Centreville Chronicle-Index: The appalling possibilities of the trust system are such as should arouse every citizen for its overthrow. The proper place to commence the work of demolishing this huge menace to our prosperity, and to our liberty itself, is in the state legislatures, the time, now."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader, under date of January 18, 1895, appears the following:

"This is what Governor Sheldon in his message said of the retiring state treasurer: 'W. W. Taylor, our efficient and faithful outgoing treasurer, is entitled to the thanks of the people for the zeal and energy which he has at all times displayed in the management of his office, and it is a matter of pride to him, as to the state officers with whom he has been associated for the past two years, that he leaves the public service carrying with him the unbounded respect of those who have known his business methods.'"

"At the very hour when these eloquent words of commendation were being read to the legislators assembled, 'our efficient and faithful outgoing treasurer' was sailing over the bounding main with \$350,000 of South Dakota's money in his inside pocket. It is the governor's turn to treat."

In the editorial columns of the Argus-Leader, under date of January 28, 1895, appears the following:

"An overwhelming majority of the old soldiers of the union know upon which party to depend for the recognition of their patriotic sacrifice and valorous service in crushing the rebellion, and the republicans of South Dakota only need assure them of the same justice and liberality in their behalf that has been declared heretofore, and which has been so industriously promoted by South Dakota's representatives of that party in congress.—From Republican platform adopted at Yankton, August 28, 1894."

"Of the 15 old soldiers who were candidates for positions at Pierre, all but two or three were turned down, in spite of the