

WILL SOON OWN NATION

Standard Oil Company Reinvests \$50,000,000 Yearly.

A GRAVE AND FEARFUL MENACE.

In Four Years the Trust's Holdings of Paying Property Have Increased 55,000 Per Cent—Rockefeller Now Owns Iron Mines, Railroads, Steamers, Copper Mines and Banks.

The Standard Oil company was organized in 1870 with a capital of \$1,000,000. It has just distributed a quarterly dividend in cash and scrip of \$23,000,000. But even if we admit that the last dividend is exceptional the actual returns for nine months show that the Standard Oil profits for the current fiscal year can hardly fall below \$60,000,000. There was a dividend three months ago of \$10,000,000 and one three months before that of \$8,000,000.

The United States government was organized under the constitution in 1789. Its total gross income—not profits—was less than \$52,000,000 as late as 1862, when it was 73 years old. The net profits of the Standard Oil company are greater now than the gross income of the United States government was at more than twice its age.

In the four years 1896, 1897, 1898 and 1899 the profits of the Standard Oil company amounted to \$27,000,000. In the same four years the income of the United States government ran behind its expenses to the amount of \$1,704,307,27. Is not Mr. Rockefeller already a "bigger man" than old Uncle Sam?

The Standard Oil company, which 30 years ago was worth \$1,000,000 at the outside, is worth now, on the basis of the market quotations, about \$55,000,000, an increase of 55,000 per cent. An income producing property it is worth twice that.

In the same length of time the aggregate wealth of the United States has increased from \$30,068,518,507 to about \$100,000,000,000 or about 230 per cent. How long will it take for 55,000 per cent to overtake 230 per cent? Work out the problem and you will know how soon Mr. Rockefeller and his partners will own the United States.

You will not put the date quite early enough, however, for these figures do not show the full extent of the growth of the Rockefeller monopoly. In the first place, the Standard Oil company is making money faster than it ever did before. It is going ahead with accelerated velocity. In the next place, the oil business is altogether too small to furnish opportunities for the investment of all the wealth that is pouring in upon the magnates of the Rockefeller group. They are reaching out for the control of every branch of industry. They employ 35,000 men in Standard Oil alone—a larger army than the United States had before the war with Spain—but that is only a detail.

They own the greatest iron mines in the world, carry their ore to the lakes on their own railroad, and thence to market on their own steamers. They have enormous fleets of freighters on lakes and ocean. They are heavily interested in the great passenger ships of the International Navigation company. They come near to controlling the copper supply of the world. They own coal mines, railroads and gas works all over the country. They have a share in the new salt trust. They have immense interests in street railroads. They are building up colossal banks and controlling the money supply.

With from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 to invest every year in income producing property which makes the revenue still larger the next year, what can keep the Standard Oil company from owning the United States? Nothing but another trust too rich to be bought and too strong to be crushed or legislation to keep the concentration of wealth within bounds. There are no indications of the appearance of the former antidote, and the people will have to get to work without much more delay if they wish to be in time for the latter.

Burden of Militarism.

Militarism, says the Democratic platform, "will impose upon our peace loving people a large standing army and an unnecessary burden of taxation and a constant menace to their liberties." Exactly. If American soldiers continue to shoot American ideas into brown men, they will end by shooting them out of white men.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The Plain Truth.

Dr. Lyman Abbott used the best of English and told a plain truth in a Cleveland interview last week when he said, "Men who combine to raise prices are thieves." There is no use in mincing matters. That's about the moral size of the fellows who compose the trusts.—Kansas City Times.

Our Caesar.

Our Caesar doth begin to take to imperial ways of living. The newly fitted McKinley residence at Canton has a gold trimmed bathtub.—Burlington Journal.

NON OMNIS MORIAR.

In the teeth of the gale that huris me back, In the swirl of the ebb that sucks me down, I—side by side and tack by tack—Threading the night where fanged rocks frown, Ere the last spar fall, shall have somehow crawl'd To that port whence alone no light for me, Where wrecked, if you will, but unappal'd, I shall know I am stronger than my sea!—Arthur J. Stricker in Boston.

The Patriots.

How many senators do bought their seats have "branded" Br'er Pettigrew as a traitor?—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

M'KINLEY AND LINCOLN.

Utterances of the Head Patriot Compared With Those of McKinley.

If there is left a lingering doubt about the Republican party of today having drifted from its moorings, let the doubting Thomses compare the declaration of the Philadelphia platform with the declaration of Abraham Lincoln: M'KINLEY REPUBLICAN. Now, I ask you, in all things, if indulged in, if ratified, if confirmed, if taught to our children and repeated to them, do not tend to rub out the sentiment of liberty in the country and to transform this government into a government of some other form? These arguments that are made, THAT THE INTERIOR RACE ARE TO BE TREATED WITH AS MUCH ALLIANCE AS THEY ARE CAPABLE OF ENJOYING; THAT AS MUCH IS TO BE DONE FOR THEM AS THEIR CONDITION WILL ALLOW; what are these arguments? THEY ARE THE ARGUMENTS THAT KING HAVE MADE FOR enslaving the people in all ages of the world. You will find that ALL THE ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF KING-DRAFT WERE OF THIS CLASS; that they always bestrode the necks of the people, not that they wanted to do it, but because the people were better off for being ridden. TURN IT WHATEVER WAY YOU WILL, WHETHER IT COME FROM THE MOUTH OF A KING, an excuse for enslaving the people of the country, OR FROM THE MOUTH OF MEN OF ONE RACE FOR ENSLAVING THE MEN OF ANOTHER, IT IS ALL THE SAME OLD SERPENT.

But where Abraham Lincoln had to be should be held up as an example and an authority on questions of liberty and government? Will any man be treasonous enough to assert that Abraham Lincoln was a statesman to be compared with such men as Hanna, Fairbanks and Elkins, the men who draft the Republican platform of 1900?

No man good enough to govern another man without that other's consent. This is the leading principle of the Republican platform. When the white man governs himself, that is self government; but when he governs himself and also governs another man, that is not self government—it is despotism.—Abraham Lincoln.

IMPERIALISM AND TRUSTS.

They Mean a Consolidation of Wealth For the Common People. Imperialism, militarism and trusts are one. They mean a gigantic consolidation of wealth to the common people when they are united. Imperialism cannot be successful without a standing army. The youth of this country were not intended by man or God to become soldiers at home or in a foreign land. We are not legislating for today, but for the untold millions yet unborn. Democracy of today, leave a record that the generations yet to come will sing our praises as we do that of a Democratic fathers! Legislation for humanity and not for trusts.

The Democratic party has ever stood for low taxation. It believes, as President Arthur said, that taxation in any form is a hardship, and it does not believe that it is either just or right that an individual should be taxed to satisfy private greed or public plunder. The common people view with alarm the present tendency to increase taxation. They cheerfully withstood increased tax upon them by reason of the late war; they bore it as a patriotic duty; they witnessed the supreme court of the United States declaring unconstitutional a tax placed upon home, the most just law ever passed but not a word said against a tax placed upon the producing masses of the United States.—Hon. J. B. Sullivan.

I speak out of foreboding anxiety.

because that is not to be thought of, and our code of morality that would be criminal aggression.—President McKinley.

The National Platform.

This is the ring of victory in the national platform of the Democracy. From first to last it thrills with the spirit of the people, resolved upon maintaining their liberties at any cost, upon the rescue of this glorious republic from the assassin grasp of organized greed and imperialism. It is an echo from the Declaration of Independence which was framed by Thomas Jefferson, the founder of Democracy; it is the voice of the masses raised once more, as under Jefferson and Jackson, in mighty protest against class and monopoly and golden visored tyranny.—New York News.

If there be one principle more deeply written than any other in the mind of every American, it is that we should have nothing to do with conquest.—Thomas Jefferson.

The Considerate Coal Trust.

The amiable and considerate persons who have boosted the price of coal 25 cents a ton preferred to do it during the heated term, when it would shock nobody. People do not care much what the price of coal is when they are sweating in the present weather. By winter they will have become used to the higher rate.—Philadelphia Record.

A Barker and a Bucker.

As McKinley and Roosevelt are the team, it might be described as Hesitation and Haste; or, a Barker and a Bucker.—New York World.

CAMPAIGN OF BRIBERY.

Hannaites Planning to Buy the Coming Election.

The contest of 1896 was on the part of the Republicans chiefly a campaign of intimidation. Large sums of money were spent, but the principal weapon was fear. The workman was made to feel that he must vote the way his employer wanted him to, or he would lose his place. The Republicans had rooms on Broadway and at other points for so called business men's meetings, and woe it was for the clerk or porter who failed to take sufficient time from his lunch to listen to Roosevelt or some other political ranter prove that the country would go to destruction if Bryan should be elected. It was pitiful to observe poor men reluctantly entering these places and glancing about to see if the sleek, well fed employer was on hand to note their arrival and whether they were prompt with the applause which the Republican employer was too much overbalanced with chicken and champagne to take a hand in. Whole factories were compelled to reveal their preferences, with the fact clearly made evident that discharges would follow a vote for Bryan. Indeed some millionaires went so far as to close their establishments shortly before election, telling their employees to come back for work the following week in case McKinley should be elected, but that otherwise the concern would remain closed. It was in a word, "Your living or your vote!"

The people this year are so aroused, so resentful on the subject of industrial slavery and trust dictation and extortion that it seems unlikely that the Republicans will try the same dangerous game of coercion to the extent of four years ago. They are hastening to raise a fund of millions of dollars, and it was published a few days since that the amount at Mr. Hanna's command already reached \$2,500,000. If it touched this point within a day or two after the Republican convention it will in all probability amount to many millions in the course of the summer. While the legitimate expenses of a campaign are great, there can be but one main object in raising the vast sum which the Republicans intend to have at their disposal, and that object is corruption. The voters were scared last time; this time they are to be bought—if possible. It remains to be seen whether the freedom of America can be bribed into surrendering their liberties to the trusts. The News believes that they will spurn the bribe and repudiate the party of tyranny and corruption and elect the Democratic national ticket, with its assurance of protection for all, poor as well as rich, in the enjoyment of their constitutional rights.—New York News.

During the first two years of McKinley's administration 35,000 commercial travelers were discharged and 25,000 had their wages reduced. By this action the trusts were able to save millions and consequently the cost of their products was lowered. But instead of reducing the price of their goods to the consumer they raised it from 40 to 100 per cent.

HANNA, BLISS & CO.

Fat Frying, Booodle Bolling Firm Recently Organized. Any list of new enterprises incident to "prosperity" would be sadly incomplete, if it did not include the just organized vast "fat frying" and booodle bolling firm of Hanna, Bliss & Co., says the New York World.

The Poor Man Pays.

The demand in the Democratic platform for the repeal of the war taxes echoes the earnest wish of every poor man, of every person of limited means, throughout the United States. The great corporations fostered by the Republican party don't care about repeal, as they have managed to shift the burden over on their patrons—the poor man who sends a message by telegraph, for instance, having to pay the tax in addition to the regular charge. For this reason, as their friends the trusts don't suffer, the Republican managers have put off dealing with the war taxes until after election, and should McKinley be re-elected the burden will no doubt be continued in order to furnish funds for the new military empire which is to take the place of the American republic under Republican auspices.—New York News.

Philadelphia, 1776; Kansas City, 1900.

We hold these truths to be self evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.—Declaration of Independence.

Not Worth Bloodshed.

There is no territorial aggrandizement which is worth the price of blood. Our triumph should be by growth and organic expansion in obedience to "pre-established harmony," recognizing always the will of those who are to become our fellow citizens.—Charles Sumner.

People Make Good.

The sugar trust is "taking it out" of the people now so that when the fryers of "campaign fat" shall call upon it to yield some of its accumulated richness it will be enabled to meet the demand without risk of attenuation. The trust is a liberal contributor of the people's money to campaign funds.—Philadelphia Record.

The Paramount Issue.

The burning issue of imperialism, growing out of the Spanish war, involves the very existence of the republic and the destruction of our free institutions. We regard it as the paramount issue of the campaign.—From the Democratic Platform.

IN SATAN'S OWN STYLE.

How His Satanic Majesty Would Run a Newspaper.

WOULD BLOW BOTH HOT AND COLD.

Talk People's Money, but Place Them at the Mercy of National Banks. Would Declare For Free Cuba and Then Make the Cubans Slaves. Would Bow Down to Mark Hanna.

The editor of the Atchison Champion concluded he would have his paper run for a week as the devil would run it and wrote to various prominent men over the state for their opinions as to how they thought his satanic majesty would handle the job. Among those who answered was ex-Governor John P. St. John of Kansas, who said: "I have received yours of the 20th ult. asking me to give my opinion as to how the devil would run a newspaper, and in reply therefore I desire first to congratulate your excellent judgment in selecting me to answer that question, for my familiarity with his satanic majesty enables me to impart to you a lot of information that the ordinary pious man knows but little about.

"The first thing the devil would do would be to write a salutory. He would give it an intense religious tone. He would shout for Old Glory and scream for liberty, and pitch into the Mormons; would not say a word about the slaves and our government salaried sultan. He would openly favor bimetalism and secretly work to put the government on a single gold standard.

"He would talk long and loud about the 'people's money,' but place them at the mercy of the national banks to get it. He would declare that Cubans were and of right ought to be free, and then refuse them their freedom.

"He would denounce fraud and then send word to the canners of rotten beef to clean up and get ready to be whitewashed. He would stand quietly by and without even a protest see the organized trusts rob the people of hundreds of millions annually and call it prosperity. He would advocate the levying of a high tariff tax on the poor man's food and clothing and tell him it was protection. He would be as quiet as a graveyard while we were burning negroes at the stake and punching their eyes out with red hot iron here in our own country, but would make his columns speak in thunder tones in favor of sending our soldiers 8,000 miles away from home to shoot our civilization and Milwaukee beer into the Philippines. In a desperate, frenzied effort of powerful monarchy which has been a robber and oppressor of weak nations to crush by brute force a brave people in South Africa who are struggling as their forefathers struggled four generations ago for the right of self government the devil would be on the side of monarchy and gloat the downfall of the republic.

"He would take the position in his newspaper that by the providence of God Porto Rico was the property of the United States and that her people were our people and by this same divine Providence and by cry of 'benevolent assimilation' to impress upon the Porto Ricans the lesson that would put a 15 per cent tariff on the product of their labor. He would indulge in long prayers for temperance and editorially wink at the Klondike jointists to close up during the dull season, but throw their doors wide open again just before the veterans' next pay day. He would send for McKinley and bitterly denounce Bryan, and finally his satanic majesty would make a will in which he would provide that in case of his death or removal from the United States his newspaper should be turned over to Mark Hanna."

A republic can have no subjects. If the Filipino is to be a subject, our form of government must be changed. An imperial policy nullifies every principle set forth in the Declaration of Independence.—W. J. Bryan.

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