



—Chicago Searchlight.

THE SITUATION WITH THOUSANDS OF WORKING PEOPLE.

WHAT SHALL WE DO?

IDLENESS AND POVERTY MAY BECOME PERMANENT.

Evidence That the Industrial Classes are Awakening to a Realization of the Terrible Situation and the Crime Against Humanity Planned by the Bankers.

Some Startling Statistics.

Notwithstanding all the predictions of better times on the repeal of the Sherman limited coinage law, the situation almost a year after the hated law went out of existence is one of intense alarm as to how the hundreds of thousands, perhaps millions, of unemployed people in the United States are to be kept from perishing during the coming winter.

The tariff doctors promised a revival of prosperity in the settlement of that question; but the trouble is that it is never "settled," and now, with our new modification of the tariff law, the same gaunt specter of want and the same spectacle of unused abundance force themselves to view. And again, in presence of starvation and "overproduction" we are told that the overvaluing tariff question is to be the most prominent topic for political discussion for the next two years and more.

If the people of the United States could rise in their might and declare that the tariff question should be postponed for a quarter of a century, they might not be very unreasonable in making the decree as irrevocable as the laws of the Medes and Persians. Doubtless tariffs have some influence on the prosperity of the people, but it is scarcely possible for any tariff policy advocated by any party or for a compromise of all the policies proposed to be as detrimental to general prosperity as are the constant changes and threats of changes. The people can adapt their industries to permanent conditions, even though not the best, but they are subject to continual surprises, to continual readjustments of intricate relations on account of the unstable industrial conditions which result from artificial changes.

What shall be done to alleviate the misery? What shall be done to provide for cases of destitution? What shall be done to reduce to the lowest possible figure cases of actual want and starvation? Are questions which are now presenting themselves with appalling persistence in every considerable city in the United States.

We hear of "lack of confidence" as the cause of all the trouble. Lack of confidence is itself one of the effects of the original cause, and is inevitable. In what does the world lack confidence? Not in the value of its money; not in the productiveness of its resources; not in the skill of its workers. No, this lack of confidence is in the money value of the products of industry.

The extreme difficulty of avoiding loss at any kind of business or industry on a falling market has been often noted. That this has been the task for the industrial and commercial world since the demonetization of silver in 1873 is apparent from the following showing of the course of the average prices in the English markets of forty-five of the leading products of industry and articles of commerce.

In this computation it has been assumed that the average prices of these articles for the years 1867-77 were normal. Take this normal as 100, and it is easy to designate the rise or fall of these forty-five articles as to this normal. Since prices of a single year are liable to fluctuations from temporary causes, such as variations of crops, speculative activity, excessive railroad building, etc., the calculations have been made for ten-year periods.

1868-73	102	1873-83	90
1869-74	104	1874-84	87
1870-75	101	1875-85	85
1871-76	100	1876-86	82
1872-77	99	1877-87	79
1873-78	97	1878-88	75
1874-79	95	1879-89	72
1875-80	93	1880-90	68
1876-81	91	1881-91	64
1877-82	88	1882-92	60
1878-83	85	1883-93	57

It will thus be seen that in the markets of the world's commercial center, average prices of commodities have been steadily depressed since the demonetization of silver. The

average prices for 1894 cannot, of course, be made up at this time, but it is certain that the average for 1883-94 will show a great decline as those of any other period.

While this decline dates from the demonetization of silver; while it is undeniable; while it is accelerating, and while it is bearing with fearful destructiveness on the property of the poor and upon all who attempt any kind of industry or enterprise, it is yet denied that the demonetization had anything to do with it. Let us see. All commodities are now valued, bought and sold by the gold standard. There is about as much silver money as gold in the world, but since its demonetization it has no part in measuring values of anything, but it itself measured in value by gold. This measured the silver in the silver dollar is worth just about 55 cents. But if, as prior to 1873, silver and gold were jointly the measure of values, would not the unit of value be the mean of the two? To obtain this mean we should have—

Gold 100
Silver 55

155 divided 2 equal 77½

as the value of our standard of values estimated on the present single standard gold basis, a figure which corresponds fairly well with though somewhat above the average prices of products for the last ten years as shown by the above table. This difference is readily accounted for on account of the enforced inactivity and underconsumption which result from the long continued decline of prices and consequent depression. So also it will be found that by striking an average between silver and gold at any time since the demonetization of silver, the result will correspond with, but be somewhat above the average prices of products for the period.

It is idle to reply to this that there is now more silver money in existence than ever before, or that there is more money in circulation per capita than in prosperous times, for as the present legal status of the money of this and other countries is defined, none of the money except the gold is anything more than bills of credit; none except the gold can be used as money of final redemption. Therefore, the gold only measures the value of commodities.

The burning question of the present and of the future, until the error of 1873 shall be corrected, the hope for escape from the continued presence of the woes with which humanity is now confronted, the issue before which all others must pale, is the arrest of the downward course of prices with the attendant losses and enforced idleness. Any honest and exhaustive analysis of the situation results only in the prospect that the evil times must become permanent unless the change which brought them about shall be abandoned.—Kansas Farmer.

The Maine Election.

Republicans are crowing like a lot of bantam roosters over the Maine Election. They are claiming all sorts of "majorities" ranging from 30,000 to 37,000. "The Democrats are not in it," and "Populists did not make as much of a showing as they expected," are the reports that were sent out. Now as to the facts.

In 1892 the Republicans polled 62,923; the Democrats 48,044; the Populists 2,381. The highest claims made by Republicans is 68,000 a gain of 5,077 votes. It is true that the Democrats were not in it. Many of them voted the Republican ticket—for "there is no difference between Democrats and Republicans." It is conceded that the Populists polled "about 10,000 to 12,000." Let us take the lowest figure 10,000. This gives an increase of 7,999 votes. A gain nearly double that made by the Republicans.

The Republicans, according to their own figures gained only about eight per cent; while the Populists increased their vote over three hundred per cent. If there is any "glory" in this sort of a showing the Republican shouters are welcome to it. There is certainly good cause for Populist rejoicing.—Chicago Sentinel.

Who Owns the Land?

Millions of people in the United States have no home, and yet we have room for comfortable and commodious homes for millions of people more than we have. It is a pity that our vast

domain was not handled differently from the beginning. Only in recent years has the necessity of saving the land for homes for the people dawned upon American thinkers. Had such been the ruling from the foundation of the Government, every family might have had a home, or the chance of one, and there would still be left a domain large enough for homes for the millions to come in the long future years.

But this was not the policy. Those who have ruled the country have acted upon and encouraged the policy of "Keep all you've got, and get all you can." The result is as you see it. Land enough to make empires has gone into private ownership, and millions are left without homes.

Vanderbilt owns 2,000,000 acres; Mr. Disston, of Pennsylvania, owns 4,000,000; Mr. Murphy, of California, owns an area of land larger than the whole State of Massachusetts; foreign noblemen own 21,000,000 acres in the United States. Lord Scally, of Ireland, owns 90,000 acres of the best farming land of Illinois, which is occupied by tenants, and yields an annual income of \$200,000 to be spent in riotous living in the old world. This does not cover a titling of the great estates; it simply serves as a few samples.

How unfortunate that a policy was ever adopted that permitted the accumulation of these great estates; there must some time be a change of this policy. These lands must furnish homes for the people. But a policy of reform will be much more difficult to inaugurate and accomplish than would have been a policy of prevention in the beginning.

Nationalize the Railroads.

The number of railroad employees killed during the year was 2,727, being greater by 173 than those killed during the previous year. The number of employees injured was 31,729, being greater by 3,462 than the number injured the previous year. The number of passengers killed during the year was 229, being less by seventy-seven than the number killed the previous year, and the number injured was 3,228, being two in excess of the number injured the previous year. Of the total number of deaths to employees on account of railway accidents, 433 were due to coupling and uncoupling cars, 644 to falling from trains and engines, seventy-three to overhead obstructions, 247 to collisions, and 153 to derailments, the remainder being due to causes not so clearly defined. An assignment of casualties to the opportunity offered for accidents shows one employee to have been killed for every 320 men employed, and one to have been injured for every twenty-eight men employed. The most dangerous service is that of trainmen, and for these the statistics show one employee to have been killed for every 115 trainmen, and one employee to have been injured for every ten engaged in this service. A similar comparison shows one passenger to have been killed for each 1,988,154 passengers carried, or for each 47,588,977 passenger miles accomplished, and one passenger injured for each 183,822 passenger miles accomplished, or for each 4,406,650 passenger miles accomplished. Nationalize the railroads.

"Napoleon of Finance."

Comptroller Eckles has broken loose again, this time in an address before the Michigan State Bankers' Association. "Never," exclaims this young Napoleon of finance, "was the importance of the bank so exemplified as during the distress of 1893. The severest strain of the unwise silver legislation of 1890 fell in the first instance upon the banks of the country causing depletion of deposits and necessitating reductions of loans and discounts to meet demands upon them." They he added: "In depriving the banks of their resources the people took from them the means heretofore available for the purposes of business." According to this the people by cruelly reclaiming their own money so crippled the poor banks that they either had to suspend or shut off accommodations. It did not seem to occur to the great Eckles that if the banks are solely dependent on deposits for means to "accommodate" they are simply accepting other peoples money as a gift and then lending it back to them at a high rate of interest. Just what good is served by such pauper institutions remains to be explained.

When Government savings banks are established, the people will always be able to find their money when they want it, and will not have to be taxed for allowing national banks to rob them. Eckles' argument is like that of the little boy. "Pins" said Master Hopeful, after studying a moment, "have saved the lives of lots of people." "How so?" asked his father. "Why, by their not swallowin' 'em."

Funny Relief.

Funny, how a man can favor the initiative and referendum, then vote men into office who are opposed to it. Funny, how a man can be in favor of Government ownership of railroads, then vote for men into legislative halls who are opposed to it. Funny, how a man can be in favor of absolute freedom, then vote for a system of wage-slavery. Funny, how a man can love his wife, believe his mother to be the best woman that ever lived, then go to the ballot box and vote them idiots. Funny, how a man who has been reduced to poverty and has starvation staring him in the face, can believe that millionaires, corporation lawyers and political shysters who have been instrumental in placing him in his present condition, will give him relief.—The Union.

Center Shots.

The money of the land was cornered, hence the panic.

That Democratic business boom seems to have been sidetracked.

The more wealth the people create the less they gain. Keep voting with the old parties.

An abundance of wheat cannot be cornered. The same is true as regards a country's money.

If telegraphic messages come too high vote them down. Government ownership will do the work.

When the Government is a friend it is a friend indeed. Every banker in the land will shout amen! to this.

The land question, transportation and finance, must all come up for solution and the people should read and be prepared to meet the issue intelligently.

The Republicans of Maine should not forget that there is such a thing as a party becoming so large as to make it impossible to hold together. For verification we refer you to Grover Cleveland & Co.

The conspiracy against silver was a plot against humanity and a blow struck against American industries, more damaging and fatal in effect than any one act of legislation ever passed by our lawmakers.

Hard times and poor crops, hail storms or drought doesn't seriously affect the high salaried official, but the poor chap that pays the taxes catches it every time. No wonder the crop of candidates is always good.

WALTER and Tillman in the Senate would make a team to give "Senatorial courtesy" the jimjams. The sleepy old lady has long needed an awakening and the above mentioned gentlemen are the very persons to do it.

Both Republicans and Democrats are guilty of a legislation which has robbed the country of the necessary amount of money to transact the business essential to prosperity. Either one has had the power to restore silver, but neither one has done so. Both have taken part in the demonetization scheme and are equally guilty of the crime which has been committed.

The idea of a home free from taxation, where the landlord never comes to collect rent, nor the sheriff with an execution, will some day be realized, and when that time comes the people will wonder that the world struggled on for ages before the simplest law of justice was accepted and the fact recognized, that God made the earth for the people who lives here and uses it.

A FEW years since a farmer contracted a debt of \$1,000. At the time of the creation 750 bushels of wheat would have settled the account. Reverses and ill health have prevented liquidation. He has paid in interest on the mortgage 800 bushels of wheat, and if he were to lift the dark cloud from above his head it would require 1,500 bushels of that cereal. As a result of the fall in the price of wheat he would lose 1,000 bushels. He, now states he believes something is wrong.

AFRAID OF THE POPS.

OLD PARTIES IN COLD SHIVERS OVER IMPENDING EVENTS.

The Result if Populists Get Balance of Power—Republicans Can't Get the Senate, and Democrats Can't Hold Their Own—Populists Will Gain.

House May Elect a President.

As a matter of general interest we here reproduce a letter from Washington to the Indianapolis Sentinel on the political outlook. As it is from an old party standpoint, the remarks concerning Populist prospects will not be suspected of partiality to the new party but prove quite encouraging to the struggling hosts of reform. This matter is calculated to stimulate every Populist throughout the land, to renewed endeavors to secure every vote possible at the coming election. On the result hinges immense possibilities. Nothing short of the Presidency itself is the probable prize of the November balloting; '96 may be conquered '94. If the Populists show good gains all along the line and add to their strength in Congress, the chances for securing the balance of power are very flattering. Every friend of reform should strain himself to the utmost now and work as he never worked before. If the fight is kept up earnestly, uncompromisingly and with unflinching determination there is no longer doubt that the reform cause will win. No goldbug candidate can again be elected President of the United States. Against such a man every state west of the Missouri will be arrayed in '96. The South will not support such a candidate and the Central West will be in a revolt. Depend upon it, that sooner or later all sincere friends of free silver coinage will be compelled to turn to the Populist party as the only way out. Stand to your guns, keep up your courage and be encouraged as never before by the possibilities of the greatest victory for the people ever achieved.

Here is the Letter:

Washington special to the Indianapolis Sentinel: It is not improbable the election next November will settle the Presidential contest. The Republican National and Congressional Committees are now at work on that line. The recent bolt of Senator Jones of Nevada to the "Pops" has given the Republicans more active in the coming campaign to capture the majority of the State Congressional delegations. In the Jones bolt they see the loss of the silver states and the Republican electors in 1896—a loss that will go to the Populists and give that party the balance of power and throw the election of President into the House. They believe that neither the Republicans nor the Democrats get a clear majority of the electoral college. In that event the House will elect the President and the Senate the Vice-President. The Vice-President of the Senate, and each Senator having one vote. But when the House selects the President members lose their individuality.

Each state is entitled to one vote. At present there are forty-seven states and twenty-three states would elect but as Congress has provided for the admission of Utah, New Mexico and Arizona, forty-seven states will participate in the next Presidential election. Twenty-four will be a majority then. In voting by states for President the representatives of each state decides how the vote of the state shall be cast.

Before the third party developed strength enough to carry states a majority of the state delegations in Congress was never contended for, for the purpose of saving the Presidency, the Republicans would not be very anxious to obtain control of the majority of the Senate. This was the result of the election of the Senate, and each Senator having one vote. But when the House selects the President members lose their individuality.

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Where Republican Hopes Lie.

The Republicans are certain of electing a majority of Representatives in fifteen States—Maine, Oregon and Vermont (already elected), New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and Washington. They have a strong pull in New Jersey where the Democrats are in a connection there are now three Democrats in one Republican in Congress, but the Populists will gain one, which would tie the vote of that state. In New York the Democrats have the best of it on the reapportionment, but it will take a tidal wave to lose the delegation to the Democrats. However the Republicans will make a strong fight to carry New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Orders have been sent out to the Indiana committee that at least seven Representatives of the next House must be Republicans—a majority of the delegation. In both Indiana and Illinois the Republicans will make a tremendous effort to elect a majority of the Representatives to Congress.

Indiana Democrats who are dissatisfied with their representatives because "so and so" got the village postoffice and "so and so" did not, by voting for the Republican candidate for Congress to get "even," may find out two years hence that they voted to put Tom Rice of New Jersey in the White House.

If the Republicans should carry the majority of the members of New York, Connecticut, Maryland, Illinois and New Jersey they would need four more states to give them a majority in the House if the election of President were decided there. They would have the States, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Montana, Idaho, California and Nevada to draw from. Montana and Idaho are the only states now represented by Republicans, California has a majority of Democrats, New Mexico, Arizona and Utah are represented by Democratic delegates and Wyoming's only representative in Congress is a Democrat. Colorado is solid Populist, Kansas and Nebraska are controlled by Populists, and Minnesota is tied, each of the three parties having two representatives.

But even if the Republicans do not carry a majority of the state delegations, but elect a majority of the House it will not be long before they get both. Tom Rice would not hesitate to do this by inserting Democrats in the states with delegations nearly equally divided.

Pop Hope for the Senate.

It looks very much now as if the Senate

from next March would be controlled by the Populists—through balance of power.

The Republicans give up all hopes of gaining control of the Senate. Before Jones left the party they expected to come near controlling it. With Jones the Populists have four votes now to the Republicans thirty-seven. The Democrats forty-one with three vacancies. The Republicans will have to hold all they now have and gain seven more seats to control the Senate.

Of the thirty Senators whose terms expire next March sixteen republicans and fourteen are Democrats. The outgoing Republican are: Carey, Wyoming; Chandler, New Hampshire; Cram, Illinois; Dixon, Arkansas; Dolph, Oregon; Frye, Maine; Higgins, Delaware; Hoar, Massachusetts; Mansfield, New York; McMillan, Michigan; Pettigrew, South Dakota; Power, Montana; Shoup, Idaho; Washburn, Minnesota; Wilson, Iowa, and Wolcott, Colorado.

Dixon and Wilson's successors have already been elected. Legislatures favorable to Dolph and Frye have been elected and it is a hard question that successor to Chandler, Hoar, McMillan and Washburn will be Republicans. Wyoming is doubtful, but besides a vacancy there is a vacancy to be filled and a relation between the Democrats and Populists will be made. The same condition exists in Montana. There are strong probabilities that Bryan, the free silver Democrat, will defeat Mansfield, the Populist, and elect a Populist. Idaho will probably elect a Populist, as it is understood that Jones, of Nevada, will look after Idaho and besides a vacancy Cullum has not an even chance. There are two Republicans who hold their seats through appointment of Governor and who will vacate them as soon as the Legislature of their states meet next winter—they are Perkins of California and Patton of Michigan. A Republican is certain to come in the place of Patton, but it is not at all certain that Perkins or another Republican will be returned from California. Of the three vacancies to be filled by the Legislatures of Montana, Wyoming and Washington, the Republicans are certain to win the one in Washington.

Little Hope for the Republicans.

Of the fourteen outgoing Democratic Caesars of Louisiana and Louisiana of Kentucky have already been chosen to be their own successors. Democratic successors to Hutton of Virginia and McLain of Mississippi have already been elected. Berry of Arkansas, Butler of South Carolina, Camden of West Virginia, Cose of Tennessee, and the Democratic Whip of Georgia are certain to be succeeded by Democrats. Martin of Kansas and McPherson are the only two Democrats who will not be succeeded by a Populist and McPherson will probably be succeeded by a Populist and McPherson will probably be succeeded by a Populist and McPherson will probably be succeeded by a Populist.

While it is possible for the Democrats to hold the Senate it is not possible for the Republicans to do so.

Among Our Exchanges.

The Democrats can break no more pledges until they make some more.—Protest, Cullinan, Ala.

CAMPAIGN contributions by trust and combines are mortgages on party leaders.—Record, Avon, Mo.

You have dreamed "losing your vote" until you have about lost your homes and your liberties. Now, wake up.—Ohio Populist.

On the silver question the Republican party is staggering around like a blind dog in a meat house.—Courier, Council Grove, Kas.

The Democratic papers are trying to prove that McKinleyism is responsible for the widespread depression among Democrats.—Populace, Macon, Mo.

If Democratic promises to the People were on a party with Democratic performances for the plutocrats there would be no lack of prosperity in this country.—Exchange.

CORPORATIONS will fail because they have no soul, no sympathy for those who have souls. Mankind and civilization cannot grow in the cold atmosphere of business only.—Exchange.

The creditor class may go on doubling up the obligations of the creditor, by increasing the value of the dollar, until no debts will be paid at all. Then there will be a slump.—Farmers' Voice.

MEMBERS of the old parties object to joining the Populists, but they have no scruples about stealing the Populist planks on silver, the income tax and Government ownership of railroads.—Tribune, Butte, Mont.

The country has five cents in gold with which to redeem each dollar that is redeemable. If Lombard and Wall Streets succeed in shipping this five cents abroad, then what? Go to thinking!—Advancing Nation.

SINGLE taxers are very sensibly joining the People's party all over the country. Keep on. It won't be long before all those who work and think without the aid of dollars will be under one banner at the polls.—Knights of Labor Journal.

The railroads and other corporations of Illinois who own more than half the wealth of the state, pay less than one-eighth of the taxes, and just to the extent of dodging their just share, the poor devil of a farmer has to hump himself to pay his own and theirs too.—EX.

POLICE are after anarchists in Chicago for making bombs. Correct. But why not arrest the Government for making bombs and other instruments for destroying human life? Is it any less a crime to make bombs to kill thousands than to make them to kill a dozen?—Herald, Fredonia, Kas.

THERE was a very large gathering of Populists, at least 20,000 strong, at Indian Falls, New York, last week to hear Senator Peffer, General Coxe and J. E. Dean. It was the largest meeting of the kind ever held in the east, and shows how Populism is spreading.—National Watchman.

FIGHTING monopolists 364 days in the year and then going to the polls on the 365th day and voting the same ticket they do is what a majority of the people of this country have been doing for years. Thus in the reason the fool-killer has got far behind with his work.—Populist, Columbus, Ohio.

THE 16 to 1 adopted by the Democratic State Convention at Dallas was sixteen drinks of liquor to one of water. And if all accounts be only half true this ratio destroyed the party, the equilibrium, the harmony as well as the honesty and common sense of that body and turned it into a howling mob.—Truth, Corsicana, Texas.