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Keokuk, Iowa, October 10, 1908.

Nat Goodwin secured a divorce in eleven minutes. Practice will tell.

If mind is superior over matter the Kansas City Times logically concludes that mental healing should be just the thing for boils.

Twelve Ohio counties have voted "dry." At this rate it will soon be so that there will be no fit place for a Democratic national convention in that state.

Eugene V. Debs is wisely acting as treasurer of his own campaign fund. He knows too well the practical effect of his teachings to entrust it to any of his followers.

Governor Hughes in his speaking tour through Kansas was repeatedly hailed as the successor to President Taft. Several audiences cheered him for presidential candidate in 1912.

A Springfield minister will give a vaudeville performance before his sermon in the hope of increasing his audience. Why not omit the sermon and make the "service" still more attractive?

The policy of the Democrats in the present campaign seems to be: "When in doubt, call the President some names." However, there is some excuse for them. That is their last and only recourse.

Broughton Brandenburg says that Gompers' statements are "stained glass lies." This is a new and formidable political epithet. It goes without saying that a stained glass lie is a lot worse than a plain one.

The Davenport Democrat said in its issue of Thursday: "This is the big day of Keokuk carnival week. Davenport and Rock Island which have just passed the commotion and tribulation, extend sympathy."

Keokuk is happy to say it has pulled through all right and, to be perfectly frank about the matter, rather enjoyed the experience. There are carnivals and carnivals, and much depends upon how they are managed and controlled.

The Waterloo Courier tells of an evangelist who was holding a meeting at Independence. He asked all who wanted to go to heaven to rise. All rose save one man. After the audience was seated, he asked all who wanted to go to hell to rise. No one rose. The evangelist addressed the one man who had remained seated and asked him where he wanted to go anyhow. "Well boss," he replied, "if it makes no difference to you, I don't want to go anywhere. Buchanan county is good enough for me."

Ninety-nine out of every hundred rise just because others rise and they are afraid to appear peculiar. Nobody feels called upon to rise in opposition because the leader of the meeting oversteps his rights in springing any such vote upon his audience. All such

voting is empty of significance and lacks the dignity of straw voting even.

Colonel Goethals states that the Panama canal will be open to business about the beginning of 1915. This leaves only six years in which to deepen the Mississippi river as a condition precedent to availing ourselves of the advantages the big ditch will afford.

In his address before the Traffic club in Chicago, already quoted from in these columns, Chairman Ransdell of the National Waterways Improvement Association referred to what he called "the exultation of congress" and declared that it had been applied with all its force to its policy with regard to waterways. By way of illustration he cited the fact that only one-tenth of the improvements begun on the Ohio river thirty-two years ago have been completed. He also declared that one-tenth of the money that James J. Hill says is necessary to extend and improve the railroads would do wonders for the waterways, including the lakes to the gulf deep waterway, and would avoid freight congestion on the railroads.

A RIDICULOUS WAIL.

Our local Democratic contemporary is out in a long, tearful wail, and what do you suppose it is all about? In a word this: That Mayor Strimbach and Aldermen Talbot and Annable attended the National Waterways convention in Chicago during the past week, to which they were sent by the municipality as its delegates to represent its interests—absolutely went on this important mission—when—when they should have stayed at home and promptly recommended the issuance of saloon licenses to resorts on the levee which had been closed for persistent violation of law! This is the gist of the whole matter. The plain implication is that the interests of four or five individuals whose highest ambition in life is to sell booze are paramount to those of the community in matter of river improvement and waterway development. Simply to state the complaint is to expose its ridiculousness. Because the mayor and two Republican aldermen discharged their duty to the community before investigating the claims of certain would-be bung starters they are charged with "not giving the Democratic members (of the council) and the applicants for licenses a square deal." This frank acknowledgment of community interests between the Democratic members of the council and the applicants for saloon licenses, coming from the source it does, is important in a way.

Aldermen Hickey, Tighe, Off, McCormick, Swanson and Seeman, all the Democratic members except Alderman Brown, made it plain at a recent meeting of the city council that they were in favor of re-opening the closed saloons whether the latter intended to obey the law in future or not. Their idea as expressed by their votes was that no control should be exercised over Keokuk saloons and no penalties inflicted for infractions of the law. An ominous silence followed when the Democratic party in Keokuk was asked if it stood for this view—if the Democratic aldermen named above correctly represented the Democratic party and its purposes in Keokuk. Now comes the recognized organ of that party and enters joint complaint on behalf of "the Democratic members and the applicants for licenses," thus saying in effect that their interests and purposes are identical. True, the Democratic organ, in another connection, speaking more deliberately and guardedly, says that "no reputable citizen of Keokuk is in favor of tolerating dives or saloons which are not operated in accordance with the city ordinances;" but this, as everybody will recognize, is simply one way of saying that it does not regard as "reputable citizens" the Democratic aldermen who voted to re-issue licenses to the men whose licenses were revoked for operating their resorts in direct violation of the ordinances in question. It remains to be seen how the aldermen who thus voted appreciate this back-handed lick from their party organ. If the cruel thrust is forgiven it will be, of course, because of the community of interest referred to above. The "Democratic aldermen and the applicants for saloon licenses" stand for the same thing, and neither jointly nor severally can they afford to resent the obliquity their party organ may see fit to heap on them in the advocacy of their cause.

The trouble with the Democratic aldermen and the Democratic organ is that they are bent on exalting the beer keg above everything else. They have set it up as a sort of fetish, and because everybody else in the community will not bow down with them before it they complain they are not treated fairly. They insist that Republican officials in particular shall prostrate themselves with equal willingness and alacrity as themselves. They either forget or else willfully disregard the fact that the beer keg, which is so sacred to them, is an outlaw in Keokuk, made so by its own deliberate choice and conduct. This is true in particular as it is represented by the saloons closed for violation of law. They have no rights under the law which anybody is bound to respect, for they have willfully put themselves outside the protection of law. Nor will the plea obtain that the owners of the buildings have rights which must be consulted in the premises. A permanent injunction will lie against any

building used for saloon purposes when such saloon is conducted contrary to law. Any citizen has it in his power to prevent the use ever again of such a building for saloon purposes. The essential and important fact overlooked by the saloon men, their representatives in the city council and their newspaper organ is that the saloon exists in Keokuk by tolerance, and not by right. When the Democratic organ wails about "rights" and "unfair treatment" it voices an imaginary wrong. So far from helping the cause it represents it simply calls the attention of the community to the effrontery of the liquor interests and invites the public wrath.

PROTECTION IN A NUT-SHELL.

Joseph G. Cannon: The foreigners do not pay any of our taxes. They don't help us keep up our schools and public institutions. Then why should we let them come in and share our profits of trade? I say give the people at home who pay the taxes the inside track on our trade. The Democratic platform wants to tear down the tariff wall, which means that our labor must suffer, also our agricultural and commercial interests. The Republicans propose to adjust the tariff, cut it down where it is now too high, but in doing so we will fully protect our own labor. We have had a protective tariff ever since the days of Lincoln except four years, and you folks know what happened in those four years.

BRYAN'S DANGEROUS FALLACIES.

"Policies of folly and disaster; proposing remedies worse than the disease," and "offering schemes which will not bear sober discussion," is the description which Governor Hughes, of New York, applies to the latest delusions conceived or plagiarized by William J. Bryan, and presented as reasons why he should be allowed to masquerade as a statesman. "We know what we have escaped from their hands in the past," adds Governor Hughes, "and escape from their vagaries is just as essential now as then." That is, in the opinion of New York's able governor, the champion of law enforcement in the Empire state, a man who weighs every word he utters and says just what he believes, it is as essential to the integrity of the nation's interests, of the national credit and standing at home and abroad, to reject at the polls the absurd and dangerous fallacies advanced by Bryan in this campaign as it was to reject his free silver and similar fallacies in 1896 and 1900.

Bryan's scheme for confiscating one per cent of the deposits in national banks, and as a necessary consequence also of state institutions, including savings banks, is fully as dishonest in its conception, and would be as calamitous in its execution as his proposal to scale public and private debts and labor's wages one-half by paying them in fifty-cent dollars would have been, had not the American people rejected Bryan and repudiation at the polls twelve and eight years ago.

Bryan's only standing in the political field today is due to the fact that he was beaten in the past when he offered himself as the champion of free silver, a debased currency and national dishonor. When his more recent vagaries, as Governor Hughes politely terms his dark lantern device for getting into the vaults of honest banks to make up the "grat" taken by dishonest bank officials from the institutions in their charge, shall have been rejected, along with the rest of his shell-game policies in November, Bryan will have more occasion for appreciating the common sense of the American people, and thanking them for not allowing him to do the harm he would like to do.

BANKERS IN OPPOSITION.

The proposals for a government guarantee of bank deposits and for postal savings banks are both condemned by the savings bank section of the American Bankers' Association. The resolutions expressing this condemnation were passed at the annual meeting in Denver last week. Myron T. Herrick, formerly governor of Ohio, introduced the resolution on the bank deposit plan, and said that if such a system had been in operation last fall an assessment of \$92,000,000 would have been required to relieve the situation in New York alone. Festus J. Wade of St. Louis said the plan to levy a tax on banks for the purpose of securing a fund to guarantee deposits was an unjust scheme to compel the solvent, conservative bankers to guarantee the depositors of the reckless and unscrupulous bankers. The resolutions say that this plan is economically unsound in principle, confiscatory in form and inimical to the best interests of depositors, stockholders and borrowers; that it is a specious form of paternalism and socialism and that it would tend to encourage speculation and an undue expansion of credit. Of the postal savings bank plan, the committee says that although in its opinion it would result in no great detriment to the present savings banks, yet the previous experience of the United States government in con-

ducting banking institutions, and notably in the Freedmen's Savings and Trust Company, do not encourage the belief that the proposed postal savings system would be managed more wisely or with better results than the existing savings institutions. The figures for 1906 are the latest that are available. During that year the total deposits in savings institutions amounted to \$3,500,000,000; the losses amounted to \$120,000, or three ten-thousandths of one per cent.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY AND LABOR.

Senator Beveridge of Indiana in a recent speech refuted the Democratic claim that the Republican party had done nothing for labor and referred as follows to the legislation which had been enacted by the Republicans: "Organized labor asked that congress pass a law making interstate railroads liable for injuries to their employees. It asked justice; and it got it. The old rule that the laborer must take all the risks of his employment, suffer for the fault of his fellow-laborer for which he was not to blame, has been made obsolete by advancing humanity. So we passed the employers' liability act, which gave to all labor, organized and unorganized, all for which it justly prayed. "Organized labor demanded that congress pass a law forbidding railroads from making their employees work beyond their strength. Never was a demand more righteous. So we passed a law forbidding this practice. "Organized labor demanded that every railroad should be compelled to adopt safety appliances. This demand was reasonable and right. So we passed the safety appliance act. "Organized labor asked that a department of commerce and labor be established. Today that department is one of the most important in our government, and is doing more for labor's welfare than any other single agency in the nation. "Organized labor demanded the eight-hour day for government employees—they have it—a Republican congress and President gave it to them; an eight-hour day for the men employed by government contractors; they have it—a Republican President and congress gave it to them. They demanded a law forbidding railroads to discriminate against union laboring men; they have it—a Republican President and congress passed it, and today no national railroad dares blacklist any laborer because he is a union man. "Each one of these laws is a Republican law; each one was drawn by Republican statesmen; each one urged upon congress by a Republican President."

SOME PENSION FACTS.

The preliminary report of the commissioner of pensions shows that the total number of pensioners on the rolls on June 30, 1908, was 951,687, of whom 628,084 are survivors of the civil war. Widows and orphans, and soldiers who saw service elsewhere than in the civil war make up the remainder of the roll. Death and other causes removed 54,366 names from the roll during the last year; 28,682 were added, and the net loss was 15,684. The number of pensioners from this time forth will doubtless show a large decrease. The report shows that 188,445 widows of soldiers have taken advantage of the law passed at the last session of congress increasing to \$12 a month the pensions to widows. The actual expenditure for the year on account of pensions was \$153,993,086, but on account of legislation increasing the rate to individual pensioners the value of the roll at the close of the year was \$159,495,701, an increase of \$18,644,821 over the previous year. This expenditure is the largest in the history of the pension bureau.

AN IMPRACTICABLE SOLUTION.

In one of his recent speeches Governor Hughes of New York mercilessly exposed the impracticability of Bryan's "solution" of the trust problem and the shallowness of the arguments advanced in favor of it by the Democratic candidate. Among other things he said: "In interstate commerce as a means to exterminate trusts he (Bryan) proposes to limit to 50 per cent the production by any one corporation of any one commodity, so that if you owned a patent or made an invention you could not manufacture more than 50 per cent of the demand for that patented article; that if you were just starting in business to put it on the market for the first time you would first have to wait until somebody else produced 50 per cent in order not to violate the law. What form of bureaucracy government would we have to regulate such a complicated scheme? I have more than once asked Mr. Bryan some questions about the scheme, but apparently he has been too busy to answer them."

WAR ON THE WHITE PLAGUE.

The sixth international congress on Tuberculosis, which has just been in session in Washington, brought together from all the world the most famous of the men who have devoted themselves to the study of this subject. Koch, of Germany; Calmette, of France; Bernard Hang, of Denmark; Newshole and Woodhead, of England; Tendeloo, of Holland; Von Unterberger, of St. Petersburg, and many more from all parts of Europe, Asia and all parts of America were present and the keynote of every address was that there is good reason to hope that medical science will continue the rapid progress it has made in recent years towards a complete triumph over the great scourge. The triumph is by no means yet complete, however. Professor Irving Fisher of Yale estimated that consumption kills 138,000 every year in the United States, a total equal to the deaths from typhoid, scarlet fever, diphtheria, appendicitis, meningitis, diabetes, small-pox and cancer all put together. It prefers to attack the most valuable and promising lives in the community, the young adults. According to Professor Fisher the mere money loss is annually greater than the almost incalculable sum of one thousand million dollars. Dr. Woods Hutchinson of New York said that the field in which the decisive battle of our future campaign against tuberculosis must be fought is in early childhood; our heaviest and our most crying need, camps to be used as "preventoria" for the reception and cure of infected children before they have become unmistakably tuberculous. Dr. Von Unterberger, of St. Petersburg, said that numerous autopsies show that nearly every man over thirty has old remains of tuberculous infection. These facts show how comparatively easily the human organism can overcome the tubercle bacillus, and give us the indication for treatment, the strengthening of the organism by hygienic and

diabetic means. We must seek to destroy the tubercle bacillus, but our chief endeavor must be directed toward strengthening the body.

TAFT VERSUS BRYAN.

Governor Hughes made a brief but effective presentation of the superior claims of Judge Taft to the presidency as compared with those of Mr. Bryan in his speech at Youngstown, Ohio. He avoided all denunciation of the Democratic candidate and did not question his motives or his sincerity. Instead he said: "There are a thousand exigencies in the affairs of this great nation which cannot be foreseen or attempted to be controlled by any platform. The sagacity, steadiness of character, firmness and sound judgment of the chief executive must be the security of the nation in many a trying emergency. And it is no injustice to Mr. Bryan's attractive personal qualities, to his effectiveness as an orator, his skill as a party leader, nor is any disparagement of the purity of his motives to say that the man who espoused free silver in 1896, renewed its advocacy in 1900 and later declared his belief in government ownership of railroads cannot be regarded as a safe leader to whom may be confided the great power of the President merely because those doctrines are omitted from his present platform. The country needs a man rock-based in sound conviction and fundamental principle, in whose good judgment in any difficulty all may feel secure and such a man pre-eminently is William H. Taft."

The argument here set forth must inevitably appeal powerfully to intelligent voters, and it is upon this class that Judge Taft relies for support. The point made by Governor Hughes in favor of Judge Taft's candidacy is as strong as any brought forward during the campaign.

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to the judge in person, but held that the letter to the chief justice constituted a breach of professional conduct warranting a suspension from practice for six months. Noting that some political half-breed is writing Democratic screeds for Democratic sheets in Iowa and signing them—"Former Republican," the Des Moines Capital says: "There never was and never will be an X-ray machine powerful enough to find a drop of Republican blood in the anonymous nonentities who always practice this game, but never deceive anybody, in every political campaign. One disadvantage of being a candidate for President, as observed by the Topeka Capital, is that going to church on Sunday seems to be compulsory.