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**THE BUSINESS INTEREST.**

A few days ago the members of the Butte Business Men's association were advised not to allow themselves to be drawn into politics. Why not? Surely if any political party in the coming city election shall pledge itself to the accomplishment of any reform which contemplates a reduction of taxation, better government, cleaner streets, or moral reform affecting business interests, and if the opposing parties shall take opposite ground or dodge the issue, then there can be no harm in the Business Men's association collectively or individually taking an interest in the settlement of the issue.

A political party that has not the courage to pledge itself to moral as well as business reform is not worthy the support of any good citizen, and neither deserves nor will receive the support of the Butte Business Men's association, which is made up of good citizens. With them good government is paramount to merely political considerations, and the party whose platform pledges the best interests in good faith will get their votes. The Monroe doctrine and the ship subsidy bill are not issues upon which the coming aldermanic election will turn. Low taxation, honesty in office, efficient police protection, the impartial enforcement of the law and the protection of the health and morals of the people—these are the issues that interest the business men, and the party which has the decency and courage to come out plainly and pledge all good citizens, including the business men, what they have a right to expect for the protection of the business interests of the city—that party will succeed at the polls as it alone deserves to do, or go down in honorable defeat.

If the Business Men's association is to accomplish anything in the direction of those reforms which it was organized to bring about, its members must act together and take a hand in political affairs. It is the duty of every good citizen to do so, as well as of every organization whose purpose it is to improve business conditions and protect business from the effects of vice.

**FUNSTON'S LAST VICTORY.**

The democrats are cutting a sorry figure in congress these days. Without principle, policy or leadership, they are floundering about in hopeless quest of an issue which will enable them to win public sympathy or get back the offices. They care for nothing else. Their purpose is not to be right, but to be successful. Just now they have discovered a man's nest in the Philippines, Senator Patterson, with the zeal of a new convert and the tactics of a police court lawyer, is seeking to throw discredit on the government's management of military affairs at Manila. So far the Colorado demagogue has met with a series of embarrassing reverses, General Funston in particular turning the tables on him with a ready wit born of honest conviction and practical experience. The democratic scheme of making the Philippines appear as a nation of oppressed and deserving patriots, deceived by Admiral Dewey's promises and ruthlessly butchered by American soldiers after the latter had begun hostilities, has failed miserably in the hands of Patterson. He has aroused disgust towards himself instead of indignation towards the soldiers of the Union. Aguinaldo's troops began the trouble. He proposed to set up a dictatorship and murder the white residents of Manila. He ordered General Luna to be murdered. He robbed and oppressed his own countrymen. He lied about Admiral Dewey, whom he accused of making false promises. Dewey knew him to be a corrupt traitor, whose only supporters were certain democrats in the American congress and the democratic press. Admiral Dewey, Governor Taft, General Hughes and General Funston agree as to the facts in the Philippines. They assert that the rebellion in Luzon has been sustained chiefly by democratic sympathy in this country, and a thousand brave sons of Montana, who followed General Kessler to the war in response to the call of the nation, realize the truth of what General Funston has said during the past week.

Is it any wonder that the young men of the country are refusing to have anything to do with democracy; that they distrust its leadership, abhor its policy and ridicule its lack of principle? On what public issue now before the American people is the democratic party right,

or even plausible? What has it accomplished or sought to accomplish since the first term of Cleveland commenced? It had full power, but what were the results? What democratic paper in Montana will undertake a defense of democracy in state or nation? Does any organ of Clevelandism or Bryanism even assert its preference for either? The sole business of the democratic party at present is to find fault with republicans in the effort to make prosperous and contented men hate one another and distrust the best administered government on earth. For eight years Bryan has been trying to make the people of this country regard republican statesmanship as robbery; the courts and the law as instruments of oppression; the army as a menace to free government abroad and at home. In this last respect Senator Patterson of Colorado has been called upon, and the country has been treated to the spectacle of a United States senator doing his utmost to discredit and disgrace not only the most humane and patriotic soldiers on earth, but to bring into disrepute a hero whose achievements will live in song and story as long as the literature of the nation shall endure.

**AN END OF GAMBLING.**

With the decision just handed down by the supreme court in the nickel-in-the-slot-machine case, the last hope of Montana's professional gamblers goes glimmering. In the palmy days of the territory, when life and gold dust were alike below par and men staked either on the veriest trifle, the spirit of chance pervaded everything. Whether it was his pile of buffalo hides on the levee at Fort Benton or a sack of gold dust in old Virginia City, it was a gamble with the Montana pioneer—something to win more with—and in the precarious existence of the times, what easily came easily went. The gambling spirit was in the atmosphere. One day the adventurous placer miner in Alder gulch washed out a modern miner's monthly salary; the next he never got a color. Small wonder then that he was willing to tempt the fickle dame, and won or lost with equal grace.

But time has changed Montana. Civilization has brought responsibilities to men with homes and families, who have given hostages to fortune. The early prospector lost his sack of dust, and he alone was the sufferer, if suffer he ever did. He went promptly out with his pan and got him another stake. But the toiler of today cannot afford to treat life with the enthusiastic irresponsibility which characterized the early days. He must work for his daily wage, which is the measure of his ability, depending upon no whim of chance, no turn of the wheel. The certainty of his income enables him to establish the permanency necessary to home life and domestic responsibilities. To the family and the home he owes his first consideration, and for the protection of the men to whom that duty does not appeal, the state of Montana has framed and passed the anti-gambling law.

**PRINCE HENRY'S VISIT.**

Prince Henry of Prussia has gone. His visit began and continued in a manner eminently satisfactory to the country, and its ending has been as pleasant as could be wished. It is true that the distinguished visitor has seen little of the country he came to visit, yet in his rush from city to city he must have gained a general knowledge of the national characteristics which he will treasure as a compensation for the weariness of his journey.

It has been the custom of the press from day to day to dwell particularly upon the features of the trip which were of a distinctively American character. The unique presents given the prince, the crude efforts at speechmaking indulged in by embarrassed officials whose duty it was to formally receive the visitor, the ubiquity of the photographers and the glib familiarity of the cheering crowds—all have been criticised as if they were something of which the American people should be ashamed, yet there is no reason to believe that the royal visitor failed to appreciate his reception or wished it less artless and unaffected.

It is the custom when a distinguished visitor is enjoying the hospitality of a nation to confer upon him an official title suited to his rank in the country from whence he came. Prince Henry was a sailor, and it seems to have been contrary to the practice of the navy to distribute the rank of admiral to visitors. So the Prussian prince was made an LL. D. of Harvard. Aside from this mark of respect everything that was done to make the visitor's stay pleasant was entirely appropriate.

Nevertheless the flying trip of Prince Henry has been a delightful one, and his reception proves that the same warmth of greeting will mark the welcome to his distinguished brother should he choose to visit the United States.

**EX-GOVERNOR ALTGELD.**

The death of John P. Altgeld, ex-governor of Illinois, removes an unique figure from the group of men whom the fluctuating fortunes of politics have made noted. By his action in resisting federal authority in the riots in Chicago in 1894 Governor Altgeld stirred up the whole country, and by pardoning the Chicago anarchists he made himself the most hated man in public life. He was swept into office by the landslide of 1892, and, like most forceful men of emphatic natures who suddenly secure prominence by unusual means, he failed to understand public sentiment and disregarded the wishes of the people of his state. Altgeld was not fitted for the prominent place he occupied, and had

**GENERAL WEYLER'S BLOODY RULE**

[Denver Times.]

Near the close of the civil war every-body looked forward with some trepidation to the time when 1,000,000 men in the fighting ranks would be suddenly thrown into civil life, there to seek peaceful means of livelihood. Speculative writers in Europe, and not a few in the United States, were inclined to view the outlook with alarm and predict dire calamities. And indeed the spectacle was fraught with boundless possibilities of danger. Every avenue of employment was immediately congested, but fortunately the roving and adventurous spirit which had been stimulated by the war headed thousands toward the then little known West, and the building of the Union Pacific proved a ready outlet in that direction. The problem, therefore, of the amazement and delight of observers, speedily settled itself.

Spain since the close of the Spanish war has been confronted with a similar problem, without the ability to solve it. To the already congested ranks of workmen were added the soldiers returning from the colonies, which had either been wrested from the mother country or ceded their independence. Naturally enough they could find nothing to do; quite as naturally their appetite for food remained with them. When times began to pinch, work and food grew scarcer, bread riots broke out in various directions.

They were doubtless fomented by the Carlists and socialists until they reached alarming proportions. Butcher General Weyler, formerly of Cuba, is now in the saddle. He is an intense believer in the efficacy of the mailed fist. Having, like many others, grown rich on the spoils of the colonies, much of which should have gone to strengthen the home government, and having there learned

he not led the forlorn hope of the Illinois democracy by accepting the nomination for governor when Cleveland was a candidate for the third term he would probably never have been heard of. His death was sudden and unexpected and will recall many interesting incidents in public life in which he took a prominent part.

Those feverish patriots who were working themselves into hysterics over the proposed visit of Miss Alice Roosevelt to King Edward's coronation may now resume their normal condition. The president has decided not to allow his daughter to attend the royal exercises, and the "anties" will be obliged to cast about for another mare's nest.

A proclamation has been issued in the Philippines calling upon natives to resist the authority of the United States, and giving the cheering intelligence that "a democratic army is besieging Washington and Russia is ready to bombard Chicago." It is plain that Bryan's Commemorative is taken as authority by Philippine proclamation writers.

Prince Henry merely peeped into the doorway of the big treasure house where Europe secures its food. Had he taken a spin west of the Mississippi he would have taken away with him a better knowledge of the real resources of the United States.

Foreign nations that are jealous of Germany unite in saying that the visit of Prince Henry was a political failure. Well, it was not a political visit, but wasn't it a tremendous success otherwise?

The Inter Mountain sends a thousand papers to Eastern Montana every night. It is the morning paper for all the live cities down the Yellowstone, as well as for the whole of Madison county.

It is little short of ludicrous to watch the force of men the Butte democratic government is employing on the eve of election to prospect for the long-lost paving stones.

**Singular Omission.**

[Chicago Record-Herald.]

Everybody but the gentleman who brushes the prince's clothes has had his picture in the papers.

**It Is Fighting for Its Life.**

[Chicago Tribune.]

Considering how young an industry that of beet sugar is it is wonderful what a hold it has on the house.

**Worthy of Remembrance.**

[Louisville Post.]

When Indian Territory becomes a state it will be called the state of Jefferson, in honor of the first great democratic expansionist.

**Tillman Is Proud, Too.**

[Washington Star.]

South Carolina is a state whose pride is a matter of general knowledge. There is much conjecture as to how long Mr. Tillman will be permitted to assume that he is the representative South Carolinian.

**Another Undecorated Hero.**

[Washington Post.]

There will be no gold lace, pensions or lecture engagements for the New York boy who strapped his invalid father upon his back and rescued him from a burning tenement house. Unofficial heroism does not pay dividends.

**The Importation of Steel.**

[From the Chicago Tribune.]

The interesting feature of the industrial situation in this country still is the insatiable demand for steel. This demand is so great that for the time being it has reversed the course of trade. The United States is ceasing to send that metal to Europe, and is importing it from there. These importations are taking place in spite of the high duty. There is no other way for the independent finishing mills to get the steel they need.

bloodthirsty and lawless methods, he is now putting them into practice in Spain with the most sanguinary results.

There is no pretense of following either legal or humane efforts. The moment a strike leader or suspect is arrested he is shot or garroted without trial or ceremony. This bloody course is striking terror to the hearts of the weak-kneed in the capital, but it is arousing a spirit of bitter vengeance in other parts of the kingdom.

An explosion is due almost any time in Spain. It is not likely that any modern people, no matter how far they may have degenerated, will long submit to such a brutal rule or countenance such barbarities as even yet shock us in the reading of them in the French revolution.

**Double Calamity.**

[Memphis Scimitar.]

Columbus, Ga., experienced yesterday the paradox of having its water supply cut off by a flood.

**Enlarge His Capacity.**

[Dallas News.]

You cannot broaden the mind of a statesman by opening a pair of glove-stretchers in his mouth.

**Too Strong to Bend.**

[Kansas City Journal.]

When any politician or anyone else speaks of the American press being "manipulated" in any special interest he is talking rank nonsense. It may be possible to manipulate a few newspapers, but there is no special interest on earth big enough to dictate the policy of the American press.

**PERSONAL.**

Rev. Sheriff Pearson of Portland, Me., says that when he was elected there were 271 open saloons in the city, and that now he'll give \$100 to the man who can show him an open saloon there or anywhere in the county.

Rev. Dr. David Gregg, pastor of the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian church, Brooklyn, has distinguished himself by cutting down his salary \$200 a year because the treasurer's report showed a deficit for last year. Still Dr. Gregg will get \$8,000 a year, and he has an assistant pastor.

Capt. William Driver, a Salem, Mass., skipper, is credited with the bestowal of the name "Old Glory" to the Stars and Stripes. It was in 1851, and the flag to which he gave the name was carried by the brig Charles Doggett all around the world, and is now on exhibition at the Essex institute, Salem.

So great was the demand upon members of congress for tickets of admission to the McKinley memorial services that the members themselves were paying \$25 each for the coveted pasteboards. Congressman Sibley promised five of his constituents that he would get them tickets, and it cost him just \$125 to keep his word.

Some consternation has been caused in certain circles in New York by the action of Police Magistrate Pool, who refused to recognize a Dakota divorce granted to William C. Haskins, a well-to-do mining engineer, and ordered him to pay a weekly sum for the support of his wife. The divorce was granted five years ago without the wife's knowledge. If the case is appealed, as threatened, some interesting points may be raised.

**No Addition to Sultan's Burden.**

[Chicago Record-Herald.]

Turkey is to be held responsible for the kidnapping of Miss Stone. Turkey is already held responsible for so many things that one more or less will not make much difference.

**PORTO RICO AS AN EXAMPLE**

(Boston Herald.)

It has been said by some of those who have done everything in their power to check the giving of any relief to Cuba that a reduction of the duty on Cuban sugar would not be of any benefit to the Cubans, but would be simply a gift to the sugar importers of New York, and it is even hinted that the American Sugar Refining company would receive the most profit from any such change. Fortunately, we have in the case of Porto Rico absolute proof on this point. The duty collected on Porto Rican sugar before we had free trade with that island was 15 per cent of the Dingley rates, equal to about 252 cent per pound on 96-degree test centrifugal sugar, and 216 cent on 88-degree test centrifugal sugar.

The last shipment on which duty was paid was made July 18—4,600 bags of 96-degree centrifugal sugar, that sold in New York for 4 5/32 cents per pound. The free on board value of this sugar at Porto Rico was 2.73 cents per pound. The difference between these two prices was made up by the duty, the freight from Porto Rico to New York and the insurance.

On July 26, eight days later, 10,000 bags of Porto Rican centrifugal sugar, 96-degree test, were sold at New York for identically the same price as that of the shipment of July 18—4 5/32 cents per pound; but the free on board value of this sugar at Porto Rico had increased to 2.98 cents per pound, or by just the amount of the 15 per cent duty which had been abolished.

**MONTANA CURRENT NOTES.**

**Three Times and Out.**

Bozeman.—Three fires have occurred here within the week. An incendiary is believed to be at work.

**New Block Finished.**

Billings.—The new Belknap block is now completed. The lodge room has been leased by the Elks.

**Grand-Army Meet.**

Helena.—The annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held here April 24 and 25.

**Exciting Runaway.**

Great Falls.—In a runaway accident yesterday John Dodge was badly hurt and one of his horses killed.

**Aldermanic Election.**

Livingston.—The city election to elect an alderman from each ward for a term of two years will be held on April 7.

**Good for Livestock.**

Big Timber.—This has been an easy winter on live stock. Cattle and sheep are fattening and horses are in fine condition.

**Robbed a Shack.**

Great Falls.—The shack of Albert Foidesick, in the West Side, was burglarized yesterday afternoon, \$4.35 and a watch being taken.

**Long Henry's Slayer.**

Glasgow.—Ed Shuwell, charged with the murder of "Long Henry" Thompson, has pleaded not guilty. He is at liberty under \$10,000 bonds.

**County Repairs.**

Fort Benton.—The county commissioners have ordered a general cleaning up of the courthouse, for the present, repairs to follow later.

**Sick of Smallpox.**

Helena.—Joseph R. Dayton of Billings, who came here ten days ago, was taken to the detention hospital yesterday, afflicted with smallpox.

**Temperance Lectures.**

Deer Lodge.—Capt. W. C. Dutton, temperance lecturer, has been holding a series of enthusiastic temperance meetings here this week.

**Vadnais in Trouble.**

Blackfoot.—Richard Vadnais is up before the customs officials for smuggling, and is also charged with trading without a permit on the reservation.

**Residence Up in Smoke.**

Stockett.—The residence of Andrew Bubush was burned to the ground yesterday morning. The fire started from the flue of the kitchen stove. Insurance, \$400.

**Twain in Trouble.**

Missoula.—Cyr Parents and his wife have been found guilty of an attempt to extort money from William Graham at their home. They were fined \$75 each and costs.

**More School Money.**

Helena.—The citizens of Missoula have agreed to take the second mortgage bonds for \$40,000 issued by the state for the purpose of raising money to build an addition to the state university.

**McKinley Fund.**

Helena.—Judge Frank P. Sterling, secretary of the Montana auxiliary of the McKinley Memorial association, has now \$1,450 in his possession. C. R. Stranhan of Boulder has just remitted \$127.20.

**Lime Rock Company.**

Helena.—The Maiden Lime Rock company of Butte filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state yesterday. William Bennett, James R. Thompson and Arthur Smith are the incorporators. Its capital stock is \$5,000.

**Pardon Granted.**

Helena.—The state board of pardons yesterday approved the pardon of William L. Hall, convicted of assault with intent to kill Dunc McLeod at Belt, in April, 1895. He was sentenced for 12 years, and, with good time, would have been released July 27 next.



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