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## GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP OF NATURAL MONOPOLIES

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GARNETT, KANSAS, APRIL 20, 1900.

For Governor, **A. W. DENNISON.**

#### "PULL DOWN THE FLAG."

The Chicago Times-Herald, the original McKinley paper, speaks as follows:

When we begin to erect tariffs against territories "belonging to the United States," we may as well prepare to pull down the flag—for we cannot square the condition with American principles and American history. The tariff line marks the boundary where republicanism becomes imperialism, for which the Republican party will not stand.

#### AGAINST COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

The third annual Kansas-Missouri collegiate debate took place at Lawrence, last Friday. The question for debate was: Resolved, That the Philippine islands should be retained as a permanent possession of the United States. Missouri had the affirmative and Kansas the negative. The Kansas students won, of course.

#### CURTIS FOR SENATOR.

Congressman Charles Curtis is a candidate for Senator Baker's place and the Burton crowd are having a fit. Curtis seems to have a backer in Cy Leland—says Cy promised to help him. This complicates matters in the Republican ranks, and there seems to be fun ahead.

Senator W. H. Young editor of the Kansas Populist, has discovered an interesting parallel in the history of the nation. Four times has the occupant of the presidential office been a candidate against the man whom he defeated four years before and never yet has the president been successful in the second contest. Senator Young cites each instance. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson in 1800; John Quincy Adams and Andrew Jackson in 1828; Martin Van Buren and William Henry Harrison in 1840, Benjamin Harrison and Grover Cleveland in 1892. Assuming that both Bryan and McKinley will be re-nominated, the same parallel will occur again this year, and it would seem, if the parallel is to remain unbroken, it is Mr. Bryan's time to win.

PORTO RICO is "outside the constitution" in other ways besides the tariff, says the New York World. The barbarous garrote of Spain was used there, a few days ago, on five criminals. In other words, they were slowly choked to death. Twice was McKinley appealed to, to prevent the execution of these criminals in this barbarous manner, but he refused to interfere. This is another indication of the "civilizing" and "Christianizing" influence of the present administration.

THE students of the Kansas City high school are anxious to hold pro-Boer meetings, such as were held by the pupils of Philadelphia, but, the teachers of Kansas City will not allow such meetings to be held, unless ordered by the board of education. The schools of Kansas City, like the schools of other towns we could name, are Republican-imperialistic kindergartens. The children are taught the "beauties" of imperialism, expansion and McHanna Republicanism.

STRIKES everywhere. McKinley prosperity doesn't seem to work just as his friends want it to work.



### JO McDILL'S MUSINGS

#### Whitewash

If I just knew how to get up a corner on whitewash, I would soon have more millions than Frick and Carnegie. There is a most wonderful demand for whitewash. Congress engages in whitewashing; the legislatures whitewash; secret orders, military boards and municipal concerns are all more or less in the whitewashing business, and there is no sign of a rise. So far the supply is fully up to the demand. And such lavish use! Why, it is laid on, in some places, till it cracks and peels off, exposing some of the most hideous malformations of human form, and some of the darkest splotches on human cuticle ever seen, in one nation, since Adam lived in the Garden of Eden. The tax-payer may not know it, but whitewash costs money—lots of money—mileage money, witness-fees money, money for halls and stenographers, and money for junkets. It is bad enough for the tax-payer to have to foot the bill for necessities, but when it comes to luxuries, I either want a halt or a corner on the product.

Republican politicians are not in sympathy with the Boers of South Africa. Resolutions of sympathy for the Boers, in the legislatures of Ohio and Iowa, failed to pass, by a strictly party vote. In congress, resolutions of sympathy are tied up in committees. I am speaking of the leaders. If the truth could be made public, it would be found that the administration and England have a secret understanding, and the machine, in carrying out the wishes of the administration, has zealously suppressed pro-Boer sentiment within the party lines. It is my honest opinion that the man who does not favor the Boers is not a friend of republican institutions. If we say nothing about our friendship for any people who are struggling for liberty, we at least have less reason to love England than any other nation on the face of the earth. True Americans have not forgotten Bunker Hill, the sack of Washington, or England's sympathy for the rebels during the war of the rebellion. The governing power in England has no more love for republics than Russia or Turkey. Acts speak for themselves.

The black guards of the Couer de Alene bullpen corralled an old soldier of the civil war. He, being somewhat saucy, was clubbed with the butt of a rifle. This old soldier wore a G. A. R. button, and was so enraged that he tore the button off his coat and stamped it in the ground.

You may put it up as safe guessing that whenever a man roars about "Old Glory," he is in heart disloyal to the principles of which the flag is emblematic. The flag used to be an emblem of brotherhood, purity and fidelity. It is the same old flag, but the "roarers" have trailed it in the dust. Of the great men who upheld the principles of the flag, not one roared about it.

Washington, Jefferson, Sumner, and Lincoln had much to say in advocacy of certain principles, but not a speech has come down to us in which the flag was glorified. Watch the flag roarer.

The Dingley tariff collected in duties on Porto Rican imports is to be paid back to the inhabitants of that recent expanse.

The amount is about \$200,000. Congress is very liberal with other people's money. The sugar and tobacco trusts received the benefit of the duties collected. The consumers of sugar and tobacco paid the tax. As the transaction is supposed to stand, the people of Porto Rico are even, the sugar and tobacco trusts are ahead \$200,000, and the consumers are out of pocket to the amount of the tariff. This \$200,000 is yet to be re-distributed, and it is safe to conjecture that the men who make the distribution will

hold onto a fair share of this new form of Republican charity.

In the end, the Porto Ricans will be somewhat behind in dollars and cents, and the Hanna officials will be added to the list of gainers.

Anybody who says that this is not great statesmanship is no friend of benevolent assimilation.

The Republican party is in a peck of trouble. The Republican stomach don't seem to be quite easy as to digestion of the new foreign diet. There will be some vomiting, and possibly a few doses of calomel will have to be administered. Blood-letting will be confined to the Philippines and hypnotism will be freely practiced. Most Republican statesmen are great on hypnotism. It is now certain that Porto Rican products will be taxed on admission into the United States. The trusts have issued their ultimatum: Fifteen per cent. or war. Then there is the labor vote to be reckoned with. Here, hypnotism is the successful line of treatment. No competition with pauper labor. It would be funny if there was not so much tragedy. America is down to pauper labor, but don't know it. Hypnotism will hold the patient in that fine old-world stupor that leaves so many men and women in that condition that they may as well have been born beasts of burden.

A Wall Street financier says that the new Republican gold-standard currency bill will increase the volume of the circulating medium. That depends. There is no compulsion. The national bankers need not issue a dollar they are entitled to issue under the new law. National bankers are after profit. They have never posed as divine agencies, or institutions of charity. Their benevolent assimilation has been without parade or glorification. The banker wants safe loans, at a good rate of interest. Too much money lowers the interest rate. The bankers aim at loaning all the money called for, but, at the same time, they have a keen eye on the price paid for the use of the money. To the banker, it is better to have a thousand out at 8 per cent. than two thousand at 4 per cent. The smaller the volume, the easier it is controlled, and therefore, the easier to command hire. If any man supposes that the new notes authorized will be put in circulation at such rates as will make loaning money unprofitable, that man will surely be disappointed. The bankers are after more millions, and that is all there is to it, except that the Republicans are helping, all they can.

We have been told, times without number, that the large combinations of capital were in the direction of cheapening products, but, in the face of this oft-told story, the prices of products have steadily risen. There is a screw loose. Either combination cannot or will not. If combination can, and will not, then who is benefited? Undoubtedly it is the trust. The

man who believes that the capitalists combined for the purpose of cheapening the price is too green to be abroad where cattle graze. Any man who believes that a few men have a moral right to control the price of any product in general use is too light in the upper story for any place but homes for the weak-minded. The whole truth, in a nut-shell, and nothing but the truth, is that every trust in this land of the millionaire was organized for the purpose of controlling the price and output of every last cent's worth of the product manufactured. It is a devil's lie that any trust has aimed at cheapening the price to the consumer, advancing wages of the employe, or of, in any way, rendering the public a substantial service. The trusts have aimed to create millionaires, and they are being created at a rate that ought to alarm a brass monkey.

It is reported in the Chicago Record that the "rebels" in the island of Luzon are more active now than at any time since the Americans occupied the island, and that American losses are greater for the first two weeks of March than any fortnight since the beginning of the war. The renewed activity of the "rebels" is due to the speech of the silver-tongued senator from Indiana. Why don't the Republican papers abuse Beveridge for prolonging the war and causing the death of so many brave American soldiers? If Hanna would now make a speech, and tell the truth, like Beveridge, the island of Luzon would blaze with hostility to American rule.

Frick and Carnegie have compromised by re-organizing with a capital of \$200,000,000. Carnegie did not want an expose in a court of justice, and Frick only wanted a share of the big profit. Forty million dollars profit for 1900 is now assured.

MARK HANNA is sick. He has the "grip," and is in a pretty serious condition.

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