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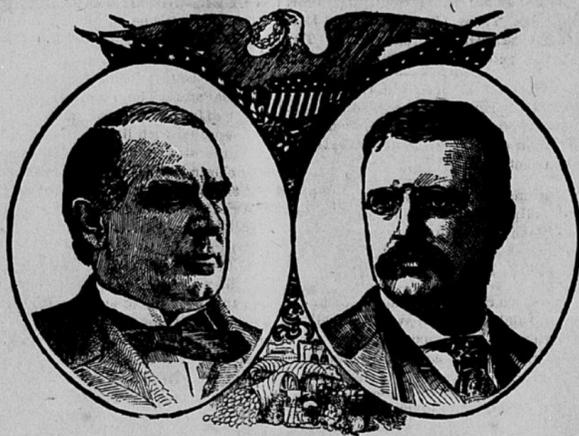
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"If there is any one who believes the gold standard is a good thing or that it must be maintained, I warn him not to cast his vote for me, because I promise him it is not to be maintained in this country longer than I am able to get rid of it."—W. J. Bryan.

THE DANGER OF IMPERIALISM.

Any society is just what its individual members make it. It can be no better than the average of its component parts and it can be no worse. If then there is danger of imperialism it must be because the average American is drifting toward a state where he no longer takes an interest in self-government and where he would gladly give over his rights as an American citizen into the hands of some strong man. The facts all go to prove that the contrary is the case in this country. There never was a time when the people held so zealously to the right of suffrage, never a time when the average citizen took a greater interest in the affairs of government, never a time when they were better informed as to all that relates to matters of public interest.

Imperialism can only come to this country through the consent of the people and this consent will never be given so long as every man is a walking encyclopaedia as to the affairs of state.

The days of the old French "coup d'etat" are past. Modern inventions, the means of rapid transit and communication, the high level of general intelligence, make it impossible for any man or set of men to seize the reins of government as did Napoleon. Not many years ago a Protestant friend told us, with every evidence of seriousness, that the Catholic people of this country were arming and preparing for a revolution. He said that every church was an arsenal and every Catholic a conspirator. He pointed out that there were ten million Catholics in the United States; that they could raise an army of a million men and could terrorize the entire country in a single day. Of course we derided his absurd fears but we added: Suppose this were all true, suppose the Catholics should terrorize the country in a day, what do you suppose would happen to them the second day? Would there not be enough of the sixty million other people left to wipe them off the face of the earth? Would there be a single revolutionist left the third day to tell the tale?

Absolutely absurd as all this seems there were some people who believed it, just as there are some people who see a menace of imperialism in the events of to-day. Some men or men might seize the national capital; might with troops terrorize sections of the country, but we ask in all candor, what would happen to them the second day?

We do not think there is any danger of imperialism, but we must say that the greatest influence tend-

ing in that direction is found in the teachings of such men as Bryan and Tillman and Altgeld.

The aim and purpose of their teachings is to cultivate hatred and distrust among the different classes of our people. They tell the employee that his employer is his enemy and tyrant. They tell the farmer to beware the merchant, and the manufacturer, and would inspire envy and malice in the heart of every man against every other who possessed a dollar more. The result of these teachings carried to their logical conclusion is turmoil and civil strife, a feeling of insecurity and suspicion on the part of all and then and then only might the tired factions turn to some strong man, as the French people turned to Napoleon, to bring order out of confusion by force of arms. This has been the history of the establishment of monarchies throughout the history of time. There is no surer way to bring about "imperialism" than to vote for a party that will bring our present government into discredit both at home and abroad, that will make the conditions of life harder by destroying our industries, that will shake the confidence of the people in the things that are and make them long for any order of things that bring an end to chaos and despair.

The Eagle Got the Fish.

At this junction of the thoroughfare and Island lake on a dead pine more than 100 feet high sat a white headed eagle. In the air a large fishhawk was sailing over the water looking for his dinner 200 or 300 feet below him. What penetrating orbs of vision nature has endowed this bird with! There, he gives his lightninglike shot to the water, seems almost submerged, only to reappear with a four pound pike in his talons. Slowly he rises, going toward the woods, where he hopes to enjoy his well earned meal, but he has reckoned without his host. The king of birds has been watching his every movement and, if found successful, is in readiness to exact that tribute which the stronger always demands and compels from the weak.

Almost quick as thought the eagle is pursuing the hawk, and for a little while a merry chase it is. But the eagle is the master, and the hawk instinctively feels it, as after a sudden, violent swerve, only just to evade the terrible claws of the now enraged eagle, he drops the prize and slowly flies to the other end of the lake.

There is no need for haste now, as the master was after tribute, not the hawk. Payment having been made by relinquishing valuable property, the eagle once more displays his wonderful activity by catching the pike before it strikes the water and then as leisurely to cover to gormandize.—Forest and Stream.

NEGROES TO GUARD CRONJE.

Bermuda's Dangerous Colored Troops to Be Sent to St. Helena.

The anxiety experienced by the inhabitants on account of the alarming attitude of the soldiers of the colored regiment—the First West India—stationed at Hamilton, Bermuda, has been to some extent allayed by the precautions which have been taken by order of the governor.

The soldiers have been forbidden to enter the limits of the town or, in fact, to leave Prospect camp at all after dark, says the New York Press. A hundred men have been told off for picket duty, and these patrol the streets of Hamilton and all the roads leading from the camp either into the town or to the country. The people, however, still are afraid to trust themselves abroad after sunset, and the native colored men especially are much alarmed lest the soldiers should break out and resume the outrageous behavior which was fast making of the colony's defenders its greatest nuisance and terror.

The trouble seems to have originated in the scarcity of officers, many of whom are away on special service elsewhere. Two companies of the First West India regiment will be sent to the island of St. Helena to assist in guarding General Cronje and his fellow prisoners. The Bermudans very cordially wish that the whole regiment would depart.

FARMER BROWN AT SCHOOL.

ABOUT TRAVELING MEN.

Iowa Commercial Men's Organization Flourishing and Their Membership Increasing as Never Before—Praising in Mr. Bryan's State.

Seventh Lesson.
"I think this evening we will inquire a little into the condition of the commercial travelers," said John as his father took his accustomed position in the easy chair after supper, and the son seated himself at the table with a pile of papers and books before him. "Before we begin the lesson," said his father with a smile, "I want to ask you a few questions."
"Certainly, father, I shall be glad to answer them if I can."

Farmer Brown Asks a Question.
"Then tell me," continued his father, "what is meant by the Democrats by claiming that imperialism is the 'paramount issue' this fall?"

"I have no doubt, father, but that it is an attempt on the part of the managers of the Bryan Democracy to deceive the people. And I believe it for this reason: You know, father, that prior to the adoption of the platform by the convention at Kansas City Mr. Bryan, from his home in Lincoln, sent a telegram to Captain LeSeur, editor of the Kansas City Times, stating that he would under no conditions accept a nomination for the presidency if the platform failed to explicitly declare for the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. Now you know that Bryan owned that convention and it did his bidding, but in order to try to wheedle some of the gold Democrats who had left the party four years ago into voting for the ticket and for the additional purpose of trying to capture the German vote, the managers of the convention induced Bryan to permit the statement in the platform that imperialism was the paramount issue. Bryan had got what he wanted in a specific declaration for 16 to 1, and so he could afford to laugh in his sleeve while the other chaps were trying to smooth the rough edges of this declaration with a file labelled 'paramount issue.'"

Silver Not a "Suspended Issue."

"That Mr. Bryan stands by 16 to 1 and doesn't consider it a 'suspended issue,' as Editor Murphy of the Dubuque Telegraph calls it, is plain from his letter to the editor of the Clinton, Ia., Age, written on July 20th," continued John. "In this letter he said: 'I am sure that before the campaign is over all of our Democrats will realize that the platform is much stronger as it is than it would have been if we had attempted to dodge the silver question.'"

"No, no, father, if by any misfortune Bryan should happen to be elected there can be no question, as Mr. Grosvenor says, but that he would call an extra session of congress, as he promised, and if there is a free silver majority in both houses, as is almost certain in case of his election, he will insist upon the passage of a law repealing the gold standard and enacting free silver legislation. There can be no doubt of this, for if Bryan is elected he will have to carry enough of the states that elect senators this winter to give the senate a free silver majority, and the house would also be in favor of such legislation. I know it is claimed by some that the senate will still remain in favor of sound money, even in case of Bryan's election, but if I had the time to go over the membership of the senate and point out to you the senators whose terms expire in 1901, and show you the states they come from you would not hesitate to say that my statement is correct. So you may put it down as certain that with Bryan elected president and backed by a Democratic house and senate, free silver would at once become the paramount issue with him, and commercial depression and hard times, harder than they were in 1896, would become 'paramount' with the people."

A "Pair-a-Mounty-Shoes."

"I heard a couple of young laboring men discussing this question the other day," continued John as his father remained silent. "They were working on a sewer, and though they got the terms used by the Democratic orators somewhat mixed, yet the conclusions they reached were correct. One of them was a Swede and the other was an Irishman. They had heard a Democratic speaker talk about 'paramount issues' and the Swede said to the Irishman: 'Ay tank Ay not know what politics men mean when he talk about 'pair-a-mounty-shoes.' What is it?'"

"O! wor not sure O! rightly know," replied the Irishman, "but O! believe it is the sort ay shoes ye wear when ye's on th' tramp lukin fer a job."
"Ay tank so, an' Ay ban not mooch wantin' shoes lake such. Ay not ban tramp. Ay got a job an' Ay ban goin' stay by it."

"The Swede was right, father; entirely right. The boys who have got jobs are going to let the Democratic 'paramount issues' severely alone."

Farmer Brown looked at his son admiringly and said: "John, I always believed you were cut out for a lawyer. If you keep on you will send me home a shouting Republican."

"That's just what I am trying to accomplish, father," replied John with a smile.

About Traveling Men.

"But about the traveling men," John added. "I obtained some information in regard to them today, which I want to talk about. You know the Bryanites

are claiming that the trusts are working such a l... upon this worthy class of our citizens. They claim that thousands of the boys have been thrown out of employment solely because of them, and they say that while the traveling men were nearly solid for McKinley four years ago, the majority of them will vote for Bryan this year. I went to the headquarters of the Iowa State Traveling Men's association in the big new Crocker block today and had a long interview with Mr. F. E. Haley, the secretary and general manager of that association. You understand, father, it is an accident association, whose membership is confined solely to traveling men. It has today a membership of near 12,000 scattered all over the United States. To become a member a person must be a traveling man at the time his application is accepted, but if he should quit the road at any time after and wish to continue his membership he can do so by notifying the secretary of his desires. For this reason the secretary must know whenever any of the members leave the road. I asked Mr. Haley if it was true, as had been claimed, that thousands of traveling men had lost their positions on account of the trusts, or for any other cause. He replied that any statement of that sort was not true so far as the members of the Iowa State Traveling Men's association were concerned. His words, as I remember them, were: 'If you were to give me a check for \$10,000 I could not put my hand on a single traveling man who has lost his job solely on account of the trusts.'

Traveling Men's Association Flourishing.

"I asked him how the association was flourishing, and he replied: 'All traveling men's associations are doing finely. Our association, I may say, was never in better shape. Whenever we have an assessment our members pay more promptly than ever before, and we are growing rapidly. We will show a net increase this year of over 1,000 members. Last year our gain was 954, and this year's record will be even better. Our gain last year was 300 more than the net gain for the five years preceding, and I think this will show you that the traveling men are surely enjoying some share of the general prosperity that has come to the country.'"

"I am certain Mr. Haley was not talking for effect, nor did he know for what purpose I wanted the information. He was simply answering my questions, as he would have done had any one else asked the same thing. As I said before, Mr. Haley would know if any of the traveling men belonging to the association were laid off, for in case of their leaving the road they are required to report to the association."

"Well, I must confess that you have made a pretty strong case as regards the members of the association you have referred to," said Farmer Brown, "but may it not be true that in other localities the conditions are not so favorable?"

Nebraska Traveling Men.

"As I stated before, father, the members of the Iowa State Traveling Men's association are not confined to Iowa. It is not required that they all travel in this state, but there are members of the association as far east as New York and the other eastern states; but I have here some statistics that I have gathered from newspaper accounts of the condition of traveling men in Nebraska, Mr. Bryan's state.

"A short time ago the managers of forty-five of the leading jobbing houses in that city were interviewed on this subject, and from their statements it was learned that the number of traveling men employed by them had been increased fully 50 per cent over the number they employed in 1896. The increase in the number employed by the jobbers of groceries ranged from 15 to 75 per cent; lumber jobbers, from 20 to 100 per cent; iron works, number of traveling men more than doubled; wholesale dry goods, in some cases number more than trebled; wholesale druggs, 75 per cent increase."

"Well, John, I do not doubt but that you could quote figures to me all night, but you have surely proved your work tonight, and a few more lessons and I will give up."

"All right, father, then we will consider our school dismissed for tonight."
JULIAN W. RICHARDS.

CHAIRMAN WEAVER TALKS.

He Calls Attention to the Danger From "Stay-at-Home" Votes.

Chairman Weaver, in the course of an interview a few days since on the danger from the stay-at-homes on election day, gave some very pertinent figures. He said it was Republican apathy and not Democratic arguments that was the cause for alarm this year. He said if the Democrats had polled as full a vote in the several congressional districts in 1898 as they did in 1896 they would have elected six congressmen.

In 1899, as compared with 1898, the Republicans made a net gain of 6,997 in the state and the Democrats 5,503. The Republican gains, however, were mostly confined to the stronger Republican districts in the western and northwestern parts of the state. In the territory including the first six districts the Republicans lost 417 votes last year as compared with 1898, while the Democrats in the same territory made a net gain of 3,304 votes. The Democrats reduced their stay-at-home vote in the Second district from 15 per cent to four. In all the other districts in these parts of the state they have gains, with the exception of the Sixth district, where they showed a loss over the vote in the hotly contested congressional election in 1898, so that today in the Sixth district their stay-at-home vote numbers 22 to the precinct, while that of the Republicans is 16.