

FARMERS STILL AHEAD

Even Accepting the Bulletin's False Figures the Farmer Could Take the Same Amount of Corn to Market in 1900 as in 1895, Buy the Same Goods and Have \$68.25 Left After Making His Purchases. Bulletin Rebuked by Its Own Figures. The Truth About Linseed Oil. The Farmer Gets the Benefit. The Nerry Attempt of the Bulletin to Keep up a Losing Fight Baffled by its Own Figures. Prosperity Still on Top.

For the past week the Bulletin and a corps of willing assistants have been busy preparing a defense to the Review's article calling into question the truth of the statement of prices published in the Bulletin of Oct. 18. The effort of these collaborators was not to establish a just comparison between the prices of the democratic administration and the present republican administration, but to run through all the gamut of prices for the past five years and to compare the lowest price to be found with the highest possible price to be found, not the prices of today or of any other one day, but the highest prices that could be found. The only fair comparison of prices can be made by contrasting the cost of a number of articles at a given time with the cost of the same articles at another given time. During the past year the clothing business in Denison has been demoralized; there were two stocks of clothing sold much below the regular retail price. It would be just as fair for us to take as a basis for clothing prices the prices at which goods sold at these sales and to declare that these were the prices of clothing in 1900, as it is for the Bulletin and its co-adjutors to take each article separately and search for the highest and the lowest prices and contrast them as the prevailing prices. We are not given to betting, but we are willing to wager the Bulletin any reasonable amount it may wish, the winnings to be devoted to the Denison Library, that it cannot name any one date at which its prices taken collectively were true and correct. The prices given as the present prices are not the present prices; the prices given as former prices are not the prices of any period. Some are 1896 prices, some of 1895, some of 1897 and some of 1898. Wherever the Bulletin and its collaborators were able to find a low price they quoted that figure as a prevailing price. During the time that Mr. Leiter of Chicago tried to corner the wheat market the price of that commodity rose greatly; when his corner collapsed the price of wheat fell rapidly. Would it be fair for us to take either the high or the low price to establish the prevailing price for that year? The Bulletin did not intend to be fair and it was not. It is a fact that nails are cheaper today than they were in 1896. The Bulletin looked at the '96 price, saw that it was higher and passed on to McKinley times to find a price low enough to answer its purposes. It looked at the present price of nails and found it too low to answer so it turned back in the invoices to find the highest possible point and it quotes that. The Bulletin quotes the price of linseed oil; it says that the price was 45 cents in 1896 and is 85 cents now. It adds "DOUBLE FOR THE TRUSTS." At the time linseed oil sold for 45 cents, flax was from 42 to 62 cents per bushel. A farmer could then exchange his bushel of flax for from one to one and a third gallons of oil. Today the price of oil is 85 cents and the price of flax is quoted in the Chicago market of Oct. 31st at \$1.61. The farmer can get nearly two gallons of oil for his bushel of flax. While the price of oil has gone up 90 per cent the price of flax has gone up 150 per cent. Who gets the benefit, the farmer who raises flax or the trust? This is but a specimen of the untruths and half-truths with which the Bulletin's article is filled.

Taking the Bulletin's figures that dimension lumber has risen in price from \$17 to \$22 per thousand or about 30 per cent it is also true that the wages of the lumbermen who work in the pineries from which this lumber is obtained have risen more than 50 percent. Who gets the benefit of this raise, the trusts or the laboring men?

We will admit the adroitness of the Bulletin's article in its attempt to deceive. The article teems with such expressions as these: "they cost you this summer," "you have paid as high as," "they formerly cost you," "three years ago it cost," "four years ago it cost," "in 1896 the price was," "in 1898 the price

was." It will be seen that the Bulletin clearly dodges the issue. It does not institute a comparison between the prices of any two periods but it seeks to compare the highest and lowest prices obtainable at any time and under any conditions.

As to the misprint which the Bulletin claims it made in its article we dare it to produce the copy from which it was set and prove the misprint. We have seen the same article in a number of other democratic papers and everywhere it is printed the same. It is not a misprint unless some one calls them down.

The Review has made two assertions and both of these are proven correct by the Bulletin's own admissions. First, we said that the statements as made in the Bulletin of Oct. 18th were every one false and untrue. The Bulletin confesses that this is true and offers in extenuation that it stole the article, made a misprint and that the prices were a set of old prices anyhow. The Review's second contention was that the farmer could buy more of the necessities of life with his products today than he could in 1896. This also is proven by the Bulletin's own utterances and by the prices, unfair as they are, which it quotes in its own columns. Giving the Bulletin the advantage of every doubt, calling its unfair comparisons true ones, we still find that the proposition made by the Review is true. We propose to discuss the matter of prices from the standard which the Bulletin itself set up. It will be remembered that the false statement of prices in its issue of Oct. 18 repeated again and again that it took more corn to buy such an article now than it did in 1896. The Bulletin no longer follows this line of argument. It has abandoned the corn standard because it knows that on that ground its every statement can be proven false. It must be borne in mind that the Review has not for one moment contended that the general range of prices is not higher than in 1896. The range of prices was so low in 1896 that the democrats urged that it would bring ruin to the country and actually proposed and do still propose to raise the standard of prices by the hysterical hocus-pocus of cutting the dollar in two. Under the republican administration prices are higher. A republican would be the last to deny it. The republican party glories in the fact that by natural processes, by putting into operation the law of supply and demand, it has raised the level of prices, but it also contends that the farmer and the producer and the laborer are the men who have gotten the most advantage out of the raise of prices. In other words, if bolts and piping and lumber have risen, corn has risen more. That if the price of staples has advanced the laborer is still better able to buy not only on account of higher wages but on account of more steady employment. The Bulletin's first proposition was then that the corn produced in this county would not buy as much of the necessities of life today as it would in 1896. This is the proposition to which we hold the Bulletin. This is the proposition which we denied before and which we deny again. This is the proposition which we will prove by the Bulletin's own figures. The Bulletin gives the price of corn in 1896 as 14 1/2 cents and admits that the price is eleven cents higher now. With this as a basis we reprint the Bulletin's figures just as it gives them in its recapitulation of prices. The following is the Bulletin's statement:

RECAPITULATION.

| | Before The Trust Prices, 1900 | Trust Prices, 1900 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 6-in strap and T hinks | 10 | 15 |
| Cook stove | 28.00 | 35.00 |
| Copper wash boiler | 1.75 | 3.00 |
| Linseed oil | 45 | 85 |
| Sisal rope | 68 | 112 |
| Manilla rope | 10 | 18 |
| Bolts, 1/4x14, per 100 | 2.50 | 5.00 |
| Barb wire (galv.) | 2.25 | 4.00 |
| Gal. iron pipe to dealer | 5.00 | 8.00 |
| Wagons | 50.00 | 60.00 |
| Lumber (dimension) | 17.00 | 22.00 |
| Lath | 3.00 | 5.50 |
| Glass, per box | 2.00 | 4.25 |
| Nails | 1.75 | 4.30 |
| L'd pipe fittings, 100 lbs. | 3.50 | 5.55 |

FOR FAMILY NECESSITIES.

| | | |
|-------|------------------|------------------|
| Sugar | 18 lbs. for 1.00 | 14 lbs. for 1.00 |
|-------|------------------|------------------|

Soap.....8 bars for .35.....7 bars for .35
Tobacco, per lb.....40.....50
Tea, per lb.....25.....40
Brooms.....20.....30
Muslin......06......7 to 8c

Now let us figure up the two columns. According to the Bulletin the articles would cost the farmer \$70 bushels of corn in 1896 and but 597 bushels of corn in 1900. The farmer, can today bring to the market the same amount of corn that he paid for the articles even at the Bulletin's figures for "before the trust prices," get every one of the articles mentioned in the Bulletin, sell the rest of his \$70 bushels at a sacrifice of five cents a bushel, for the Bulletin only allows him twenty-five cents, and go home with all his goods and have \$68.25 to jingle in his pockets as his profit in the deal over what it would have been in 1896. Figure this out for yourselves and see if after all the Review is not right in its proposition, that while the general level of all prices has been raised by republican prosperity, the farmer is getting the big end of the deal. Thus all the Bulletin's elaborate argument that the farmer is being robbed collapses utterly before the analysis of cold figures. What do you think of this bunco deal? A man must be insane or wilfully blind who will not acknowledge the absolute truth of these facts.

We have spoken of the unfairness of the Bulletin's prices. It is a fact that the farmer can today buy the bill of goods mentioned in the Bulletin for at least 10 per cent less than is given by that paper as the schedule of prices for today. If the Bulletin's figures were fair and honest figures the balance in favor of the farmer would be much greater still. It is no fairer for the Bulletin to take the lowest price it can find and contrast it with the highest price it can find than it would be for us to take seven cents as the price of corn, because some farmers did actually sell their corn for that price and contrast that price with the highest price that could be found. Corn has sold for more than thirty cents per bushel and every farmer knows it.

We appeal to our readers if we have not been fair in this matter; we have accepted the Bulletin's prices and have proved our proposition from them and we believe there is no fair-minded reader who will not acknowledge that the Review is right and has been right all through this controversy.

It is fair to presume that after a week of search the Bulletin has found about all the articles that it could which are higher now than formerly. It makes no defense of its lying statements about cultivators and plows and rakes and a dozen and one other articles mentioned in its article of October 18 and it may fairly be presumed that it would have defended itself had a defense been possible. To fail to defend is to plead guilty to the charge of willful falsehood as made by the Review. Relative to the prices of sisal and Manilla rope we wish to say that the prices quoted in the Review were given us by one of the leading dealers of Denison and we believe he would be willing to sell the farmers all the rope they want at the Review's prices. Barb wire is selling in Denison to-day for \$3.85 for as good wire as any farmer can use. As to wagons selling for \$52 in 1896, we have the word of more than one dealer that the price of the standard wagon was \$60 in 1896 and that for cash a discount of \$2 was made and that the same rates obtain today. We know nothing about wagons but had presumed that the "Capital" was a standard wagon. Perhaps it is not, we do not know. This must of necessity end the discussion for this campaign. We have reason to believe that the Bulletin's reply was delayed an entire week solely for the purpose that the Review might not have sufficient time to reach all the people with its answer. But be that as it may, out of the Bulletin's own mouth has the truth of the Review's statements been proven, and the Bulletin stands self-confessed. First as a thief stealing others work and brain without giving credit thereof. Second, as one who has deliberately falsified the facts in order to lead the voters astray, and Third, as a paper unfair in its argument and wrong in its conclusions.

Great is Tammany and Croker is its prophet. W. J. BRYAN.

CROKER.

"My advice to democratic voters the country over is to congregate about the polling places on the evening of election, count noses, and then if the election returns for Bryan don't tally with their count, to go into the polling places and throw those fellows in charge of the returns into the street."

BISHOP FOWLER.

"Every prophecy of Bryan has failed. As a believer in history I am an expansionist. To call expansion imperialism is insincere or foolish or both. The only possible emperor is the absolute power above Congress, above the Supreme Court, above the President—76,000,000 people."

GEO. E. ROBERTS.

"It is a mistake to say that free silver is not an issue in this campaign. As long as a great political party stands pledged to it, it must remain an issue. There is only one way to protect the existing monetary system and that is to keep its enemies from power."

W. J. BRYAN, 1896.

"I hereby make the following prophecy: If Wm. McKinley is elected and put in power for the next four years, wages will decrease, hard times will come upon us and over the land, the price of wheat will go down, the price of gold will go up, mortgages will be foreclosed by the money lenders and sharks, the factories and mills will close, we will export no goods but import from foreign lands all the goods we will use. Want and misery will be with us. Remember what I say."

ARCHBISHOP IRELAND.

"I intend to vote for McKinley and Roosevelt. In giving my vote for the candidates of the republican party I am satisfied in my own conscience that I serve the best interests of the country at home and abroad, that I contribute to the maintenance of the country's material prosperity and of peace and good will between its several classes of population, that I aid the country in bringing about the safest and most honorable solutions of the complex problems which confront it as the result of the late war and in retaining for itself the exalted position which it holds at present, commercially and diplomatically before other nations of the world."

SECRETARY LYMAN J. GAGE.

"Imperialism is the wooden horse, concealed in which the opposition hope to enter the city with a free silver captain at their head. Will you surrender the gates to their unrighteous invasion and thus contribute to you own undoing, or will you aid to bar them out? The sixth of November awaits your answer."

SECRETARY ELIHU ROOT.

"Is the party which is governing, and avows its intention to still govern 10,000,000 of black citizens in the south without their consent, whether by law, fraud or force, really disturbed about imperialism and the Declaration of Independence?"

WHO'S WHO IN CHINA.

THE MEN OF THE HOUR IN NATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Rapid Rise to Power of Prince Tuan and Jung Lu—Prince Ching a Noted Trimmer—Chang Chih Tung's Attitude Toward Foreigners.

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CHINA'S men of mark find themselves in a crisis "between the devil and the deep sea." Should they dare defy the will of the emperor he may take their heads off, and should they dare defy the will of the people the emperor may take their heads off for that. The emperor pleases to, and his people last, which is when he has to. Not a very easy job to keep on the right side of a potentate who has two right sides, so to speak.

The world has been for weeks finding out just how certain great Chinamen stand in the Boxer, reactionary and profane reform muddle. Plainly, Li Hung Chang and the rest of the viceroys waited to see "how the cat would jump." Of the three peace commissioners first appointed by the throne Li Hung Chang is the best known to the world, and he is very extensively known as a crafty individual who takes good care of himself. Prince Ching is known to foreigners in Peking as a notorious trimmer and just as likely to be butchering foreigners as protecting them if he had anything to make by it. As for Jung Lu, the first thing the representatives of the powers must do is to find out whether or not his hands are now red with innocent blood.

The two new commissioners, Chang Chih Tung and Liu Kun Yi, have shown themselves able and progressive leaders, but they are Chinese to the core, old and conservative. Li Hung Chang is also Chinese, and Prince Ching and Jung Lu are Manchooks. Against this board of doubtful composition anyway is Prince Tuan, the clever Manchook, whom the throne must hope to make the scapegoat for the performances of June and July.

Prince Tuan is, of course, one of the imperial family. He is first cousin to the Emperor Kwangsu, about ten years his senior, and bears the same relation to the empress dowager that the emperor does—that is, she is the aunt of both by marriage, having been the wife of their common uncle, Hsien-fung, who died in 1861. There is a reason purely personal to the empress dowager why Kwangsu and not Tuan was selected in 1875 to succeed to the vacant throne. Kwangsu's mother was the sister of the empress dowager, who was scheming to retain her position as regent. Kwangsu was an infant of 2 years, with a weak man for father, while Tuan was then 12, with a very able father living. Tuan's power in the capital intrigues may be inferred from the fact that a year ago his son was chosen heir apparent by the imperial clan.

Should Tuan be loaded with ignominy it will be very easy after the Chinese fashion to dispose of the heir apparent and thus save the throne from disgrace, but all of this will be but "the blood of martyrs" in the eyes of the reactionary element, which must be large and powerful, since the best men of the Middle Kingdom hesitated to come out squarely and denounce the doings of the Boxers.

Tuan's rise to favor at court has been rapid. In 1893 he was presented to the emperor and was several times chosen to represent the Son of Heaven in the annual sacrifices at the tombs of the imperial ancestors. Next he was appointed commander of the Bordered White Banner corps, advanced one rank in the order of princes, with the special title of Prince Tuan. During the war with Japan he was chief of the Peking field force, a position formerly held by the emperor's father. Both the emperor and the empress dowager showered favors upon Tuan. He held military commands and was president of the society out of which grew the Boxers. He is not the reigning spirit of the Boxers, but by reason of his power at court has manipulated them through co-operation with their real chieftain, one Nui, a man of the people and the head of one of the greatest political uprisings China has seen for a generation, the end of which is not yet. Tuan has cleverly turned the growing hatred of the people for the Manchook rulers into hatred of European foreigners, and now if the Manchook rulers sacrifice Tuan the Boxer will have another congenial job on hand.

The Manchook element is represented in the board of peace commissioners by Jung Lu, who is called by well posted foreigners "as violent and reactionary as Tuan." He has been viceroy of Pechili and therefore subservient to the court and in four years has risen from an obscure military command in the provinces to the most important viceroyship and the highest military command in the empire. His chief service to the throne which has thus favored him has been the crushing out of the reform party in 1898. It is said that in order to keep "face" the empress dowager once ordered Jung Lu banished from the kingdom for ten years, but he kept right on holding big offices and drawing big revenues. Jung Lu held a seat in the tsung-li-yamen, and it was reported in one of the characteristic Shanghai dispatches that he expressed a "wish" to protect the legations and restrain Tuan's violence. Perhaps that

wish will be a saving clause in the effort to be looked into by the powers when they come to sit upon the Chinese case.

There are many other Manchook leaders who have been confederates of Tuan and whose antipathy to foreigners and reform has led them to vote the death penalty to reformers. They are in the background now, but the fact remains that power, honors and money are still their portion. Prince Ching stands out, at least according to Shanghai dispatches, as a Manchook in whom there is no guile. But those same dispatches said that he had killed Prince Tuan in battle and also that he had been slain himself. Somebody had to pose as friendly to the foreigners in order to save "face" for the throne, and it could better be Ching than any one else, for he was known in Peking as an amiable sort of a fellow of whom any little thing and no big thing might be expected. As president of the tsung-li-yamen he had no influence whatever, although it is said he tried to restrain the violence of the reactionary faction. As the tsung-li-yamen is only a sort of a diplomatic bunko bureau intended to keep up the bluff of intercourse between the dragon throne and foreign powers and Ching's reputation rests almost solely upon his record there it remains to be seen what substance there is to the hope raised by his appointment upon the board.

It is significant that three out of five of the peace plenipotentiaries first named by China, Li Hung Chang, Prince Ching and Jung Lu, were called to the counsels of the empress dowager when in 1898 she deposed Kwangsu and began the violent reactionary crusade which led to the present crisis. All three were chosen because of their known reactionary sentiments, but Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang, being too politic to go the whole length in the antiforeign crusade, were finally superseded by Tuan and the truculent and cruel General Tung Fuhshang.

The court party led by Tuan began to exterminate the hated European foreigners, and in all China only two men of real influence and power held aloof. These were the two Chinese viceroys in the board of commissioners, Chang Chih Tung of Hupei and Hunan, or "the two Hus," and Liu Kun Yi of Chekiang and Kiangsi, "the two Ki-angs." The provinces of these officials lie in the Yang-tse valley, England's sphere of influence. Whatever Mr. Chih Tung may say or do just now to smooth over the troubles of China the man underneath his mask speaks through a book which he published three years ago for the edification of faithful Celestials. The keynote of the book is that China should control the destinies of Europe and Asia, and an indispensable means to that end is a powerful army. An army, he says, "is to the states what the breath is to the body." A powerful army would make the world fear China. Evidently the immense importation of foreign arms into China the past year or two has not been haphazard, but the farsighted policy of her leading men. With a strong army Chih Tung says the empire could defy the treaty powers, regulate her own tariffs and try foreigners in her own courts.

Chih Tung is also an advocate of western learning, but it must come as a superstructure upon the base established by Confucius. He is tolerant of religions on the ground that all, including Christianity, are doomed to fall before Confucianism, and it isn't worth while to persecute converts. Aside from Chih Tung's prejudices as a faithful Chinese for the old order of thought and worship he never has forgiven and never will forgive the foreigners for the introduction of opium into China. He is now very old, he is loyal to the dynasty and loyal to his race and, being without strong military power to oppose the court, is as likely to fall in with an antiforeign crusade as to take the other course.

Liu Kun Yi, the colleague of Chih Tung in the Yang-tse valley and a Chinaman whom the foreigners also respect, is much younger than Tung, yet he is past threescore. Old age is honorable in China, and the elders rule in



CHANG CHIH TUNG.

(Viceroy and peace commissioner.)

all councils from the village to the imperial court. Liu is a military man and has 20,000 well armed and drilled troops in his borders. He also has a navy on the Yang-tse.

Both of these central viceroys have got on very well with the English there, but there is no denying the fact that this has been due to fear of force. They remember the opium war and "lie low." But when the hour comes that loyalty to the foreigner is rebellion against the throne and treachery to the people there may be a different story to tell about China's grand old men.

GEORGE L. KILMER.

He Was One.

Noah Tall—What's the matter? You look mad.

E. Z. Mark—I am mad. I bought a pet monkey for my boy yesterday, and the beast died this morning. The dealer simply swindled me.

Noah Tall—Ha! You should have consulted somebody before buying it. Next time you want a monkey send for me.—Philadelphia Press.