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NOT ENOUGH VOTES. The opinion frequently expressed by the Tribune that while the house can and would pass a free silver coinage bill...

To pass a bill over the president's veto in a senate of eighty-eight members requires fifty-nine votes, so that, if the question had come to this issue in the last congress the free-coinage men would have fallen seven short of the necessary number.

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PLOT AGAINST BLAINE.

IT IS SAID that Harrison is getting desperate in regard to the position of Secretary Blaine. He is bound to know whether the Maine man will be a candidate for the presidency or not.

THEY WILL MAKE the cabinet a mighty warm place for him, in which endeavor the president will not rebuke his friends. In a word, Blaine will be forced to resign or be worried into another period of nervous illness.

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THE DEVIL FISH TARIFF.

THAT DEVIL-FISH tariff is no respecter of persons, places or things. It reaches out and grasps everything in sight. From the moment a man leaves his taxed bed in the morning; puts on his taxed socks, his taxed trousers, his taxed shoes, his taxed coat and vest and hat and eats his taxed breakfast with a taxed knife and fork, from a taxed plate until he puts on his taxed nightshirt to rest from his day's labor, he touches nothing that does not carry a tax.

AMONG THE ways by which he is unknowingly or rather unconsciously taxed is in the matter of transportation of the country. According to the estimates of the New York Commercial Bulletin the simple item of railroad transportation is costing the people of the United States \$350,000,000 annually more than it need cost.

Now freight rates might be lower if it were not for the tariff on railroad capitalization. But it is not in the capital account alone that railroads are affected. They are now, since construction paying from 45 to 60 per cent more for yearly supplies than they need to, owing to the devil fish tariff.

GOVERNOR BOIES is making a telling partisan plea in Iowa. He shows by indisputable facts that the prohibitory law has been a lamentable failure and that republicans are insincere in demanding its enforcement.

THE STATEMENT of the Drovers' Journal that during the months of July and August western range cattlemen marketed 88,400 beefs, as against 29,000 during the same time last year, is full of significance.

IN SPEAKING of trusts the Boston Advertiser sensibly observes: "The Farmers' Cotton trust will not succeed any better than the Farmers' Wheat trust. The farmers will show wisdom by letting all such schemes severely alone, both because the righteous protest which they make against monopolies and combinations from which they so grievously suffer must appear ridiculous if the protestants themselves undertake to do the thing they denounce, and because any such attempts on their part never can succeed in the nature of the case."

THE PUSH, pluck and enterprise of the irrepressible American are evidenced in the fact that the United States have more miles of railroad than all the European countries combined.

A COUNTRY that can throw upon the markets of the world 150,000,000 bushels of wheat and reserve 350,000,000 bushels for home consumption and seed, and whose entire grain crop amounts in a single year to considerably over 3,000,000,000 bushels, can snap its fingers in the face of hard times and keep abreast of the procession of the most prosperous nations.

WANAMAKER'S CHEEK.

A RECENT Washington dispatch says Postmaster General Wanamaker has sent a personally signed letter to the postmaster at each county seat throughout the United States, asking him for the public good, at his own expense, to make a personal visit to each postoffice in his county and make a detailed report upon its condition.

HERE IS A FINE exhibition of cheek for Montana postmasters to look at. With their meagre salary and parsimonious allowance for clerk hire they are asked to spend money in running over their counties to look over the affairs of country postoffices and make a detailed report of what they saw and learned.

WHAT MARKING will you give the postmaster on the following basis: 1 means poor, 2 means fair, 3 means good, 4 excellent, 5 means perfect. The elements entering into the rating are the following: Convenience of location of the office, cleanliness, order, keeping of the accounts, personal attention of the postmaster, improvements in the service made during the last year, growth of the business in the past twelve months.

IF MR. WANAMAKER had requested markings upon the service his department is giving the people of Montana, and the satisfaction the service gives, the figure I would fill the bill every time. But he is asking too much of a man to rate intelligently a postmaster by markings as to his capability, honesty and efficiency in office.

THE JOURNAL'S correspondent evidently means Sanders' place, as by the grace of a bitterly partisan senate, Power will hold a seat in the senate, which does not belong to him, for a full six years' term.

RAINMAKER MELBOURNE made a decided hit at Cheyenne the other day. He found a clear sky and within two hours produced half an inch or more of rain over an area of country fifteen to twenty miles in extent.

IT MAY BE of some interest to those who take pleasure in noting celestial phenomena to learn that Wolf's comet will pass through the Pleiades the 3rd, 4th and 5th of this month.

THE INK experts for the contestants in the Davis will case have evidently mistaken their avocation. Their declarations that the will was written in Nigrosin ink lose all their force in the light of chemical tests which show it was written in old time logwood ink.

GREAT SPECULATION on a ranch near the large falls. Inquire of Bureleigh & Barrett.

YOU CAN FIND everything for the kitchen and dining room at the Bee Hive store.

WATERMELONS at Dunham's only 3 cents per pound.

THERE IS ONLY one place to get bargains in dry goods; that is Conrad's.

WHEN IN GREAT Falls stop at the Milwaukee house.

INSURE your property with Phil Gibson.

OUR DRESS goods are all reduced. Conrad.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL.

THE FACT that the public schools of Great Falls will open next Monday for another year's work will remind the observer of educational matters that they form the bulwark and fundamental feature of our government by the people, for the people. That this sentiment is being entertained by men of all creeds and religious beliefs is evidenced by the fact that the Roman Catholic parish school at Faribault, Minnesota, has been merged into the common school system.

AND THE WORK of parents should not end at the simple encouragement given their own offspring. The teacher of a public school has a great work upon his hands as well as a great responsibility upon his shoulders. The problem of assimilating a steadily increasing volume of illiterate European pupils depends for its solution, not only upon our system of popular education but upon the aid and encouragement given instructors by patrons of the public school.

AGAIN UNRESTRICTED popular education is a powerful factor in the settlement of all industrial questions. When, as the Faribault parish priest says: "Children receive in their civic training a perfect preparation for the duties and responsibilities of American citizenship" labor imbued with and dominated by intelligence leading to its just dues. The common school must solve all the questions which now produce irritating friction between the employer and employe.

ET TU BRUTE.

UNDER THE ABOVE caption the Montana Mining Review takes the Inter Mountain to task for announcing the opening of the republican campaign in Ohio under the head lines: "Major McKinley speaks for American Labor and an honest dollar."

THE REVIEW has not closely watched the turnings and twistings of the republican press of the state, lately, upon the coinage of silver or it would have spared itself the trouble of its lecture. It would have noticed that the republican papers of Montana are preparing to make a grand flop on the silver question if it be found necessary to do so to keep in accord with its party in the east.

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RESULTS OF OVERSTOCKING.

THE PARTISAN advocates of the McKinley tariff "point with pride" to the comparative cheapness of certain family staples and contend it is owing to operation of the McKinley tariff. People will not be fooled by such sense. It is true that prices for certain lines of dry goods and clothing are on a temporary basis as plain as a pike post. They are due to overproduction and overproduction. In the wool and woolen manufacturing trade, overstocking is so great that forced sales have to be made in order to move surplus. The iron business has been depressed by reason of overproduction. The boot and shoe market suffered from the same cause.

THE FACT is, as the Minneapolis Journal—good republican authority—"the McKinley tariff does increase the cost of many lines of goods, by overstocking last year by heavy importations to avoid the higher duties on manufactures, and the big drop in over production in these lines, has kept prices down in these lines. This reduction of affairs is openly deplored by intended special beneficiaries of the McKinley tariff act. They are disappointed. Here is one of the leading republican journals in the west which has the candor and courage to declare that the reasonable prices of certain lines of goods are due to overstocking and overimportations, and second, the McKinley tariff does increase the price of certain goods. Are there Montana republican journals that are as truthful and frank as the one quoted?

DEMOCRATIC CLUBS.

THE ENSUING political campaign will essentially one of education. It will be the grandest ever conducted in the history of party organizations. Never before have the people been so thoroughly aroused to the importance of seeking knowledge for themselves as they are today. Heretofore they have permitted themselves to be cajoled, hoodwinked and deceived by their party organization leaders. They have gone to polls and voted at the dictation of demagogues and strikers. They witness the results of their indifference in the shape of tariff taxation, in depression in business, in an extravagant administration of government and in a bankrupt national treasury. Now they propose to halt and devote a portion of their time to the study of the economic questions of the day.

IN ORDER to further this desire on the part of the people and to aid in combatting the sophistries of demagogues and strikers, the democrats of Montana have resolved to organize and maintain clubs in every town and every city in the state. It is expected these clubs will devote themselves to the education of masses in the leading questions of the time, and that they will constitute a nucleus around which the state will gather. Pure truths will be disseminated and taught, leaving the masses to their own inferences and conclusions.

DEMOCRATS everywhere are enjoying act promptly in organizing clubs. The enemy is already exulting over the prospect of an easy victory in the approaching contest. He does not rely so much upon argument, clear-cut facts and figures as he does upon hoodlumism. republican corruption fund will be enormous and the whole force of federal office-holders will be employed in distributing it where it will do the most good. The "fat fryers" are already at work. The manufacturers and beneficiaries of the McKinley tariff are being fried for all that can be got out of them. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are being thrown into Ohio by McKinley and if he win the same will put up liberally to carry Montana next year for the republican party. Democrats must be up and at work. They must meet the onslaught of hoodlumism that will be hurled against them. It is the time to organize for the formation of clubs everywhere, democrats!

SOME one has figured out that Ohio wool growers will get \$1,300,000 for their wool this year than they would have gotten at the prices ruling when the McKinley bill passed. That gentleman will find it a tough job to convince the farmers of his state that they are benefited by his tariff.

SENATOR ALLISON, of Iowa, is a man of energetic and lively presidential ambitions in his bonnet. If the democrats can state he will come to the front as a man who can save it for the republican party next year. He expresses the belief that it will be a free-for-all race for the presidential nomination, and that Blaine is not in it to the exclusion of other aspirants.

THE ST. PAUL globe thinks "Mr. Wanmaker's business instinct crops out when he asks every postmaster at a county seat to run over the county at his own expense, and make a report of the condition of each office, as well as find how many merchants buy of the big store Philadelphia."