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There is No Free Country, Unless the People Rule

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NO. 14.

He Can't Change the Issue.



NOT MONEY ENOUGH.

ALTGELD HITS MONEY POWER IN VITAL SPOT.

They Can't Get Over the Argument That There is Not Enough Money to Keep the People at Work, and Thereby Stimulate Enterprise and Invention.

Do we want the civilization of the Portuguese, for they have the gold standard? The truth is that there are many things which determine the civilization of a nation, the most important of any being climate; and I apprehend that there is no danger of bringing the climate of Mexico to the United States. But these silver-standard nations, compared to their former condition of five years past, are marvelously advanced. In the last five years the exports of Mexico have increased more than 50 per cent. The number of manufactures in Japan and Mexico have more than doubled, and the railroad building in every silver-standard country has been increasing enormously, while in the gold standard countries, instead of an increase of manufactures, there has been, during these five years, a shutting down and closing of them to an extent unknown before in the history of the nation. It is true that on account of the famine in India, the shortage of crops in Europe, and the war between the United States and Spain there has, in the last eighteen months, been an upward tendency in the price of some commodities, but when conditions become normal the same low prices must again prevail. These silver-standard countries, by reason of the increase in their commerce and manufactures, are in need more and more of a greater circulating medium, and consequently it becomes pertinent to inquire whether nations having such need for increase of money can easily yield up any quantity of money they have now for the purpose of bringing it to our mints for coinage into American dollars. When we look into the monetary statistics of those countries, we are struck with the fact that they have entirely too small a circulating medium for their own use to be able to part with any of their money. Mexico has a circulating medium of but \$4.71 per capita, Japan but \$4.09 per capita, the Central American states but \$3.78 per capita, and China but \$2.08 per capita, while the United States have a circulation, according to the statement of the Secretary of the Treasury, of \$24 per capita, and France has a circulating medium of nearly \$40 for each inhabitant. Is it possible that those silver-standard countries with a shortage of circulating medium now would be willing to part with that circulating medium in order to flood the United States with silver? Why, if Mexico should send all her silver here, it would be but a bagatelle. The total circulating medium of Mexico in 1895 was but \$50,000,000, and that is only about one-fourteenth part of the demand caused by the withdrawal of the \$396,000,000 of gold.

JOHN P. ALTGELD.

UNCLE IKE ON THE PEACE JUBILEE.

Yes, I noticed in your sermon on the endin' of the war, That you think that jubilat'ion 'is the proper caper for Our great nation to be cuttin'; and you say that you don't see Why some people are opposin' the Chicago jubilee.

I suppose you meant me, Parson; Deacon Jones says I'm the one, And I'm ready when the shoe fits to set down and put it on; So I'll up an' tell you, Parson, just what's a-killin' Uncle Ike, And just what he thinks about it and what the things that he don't like.

I've been readin' in the papers what they're goin' to have to eat, And when I took up that program I own up that I felt beat; I've been readin' of the papers somethin' over sixty year, And when all that I could master was four words I did feel queer.

But on furrer down the column, writ in plain United States, I found out just what's the matter, and just why the price of plates figgers up to fifteen dollars; it's a furrin fandango, So the program must be furrin—plain American don't go;

And the wine from royal cellars of the European kings, And the dresses made in Paris and the other furrin things Shows that them that runs this country, them that boss in war and peace Are a set of furrin barons living' here just for to lease

Out their lands and other interests to a set of native fools Who are glad to have the honor to be cheap and handy tools For the buildin' up of fortunes that are mostly spent abroad; And I somehow can't help thinkin' that we're on the downward road.

When I read that in this country such a feast was never spread, That the ball-togs of the women fetched from Europe for to shed Royal glory on our nation are the finest ever seen And will make all former frolics common, low and cheap and mean,

And then think of starvin' families of our soldiers out of jobs And the millions of our workmen that this furrin power robs Of their wages; then their claimin' all the credit for the war Sounds a heap like Betsey's husband tellin' how he killed the "bar"

Parson, I believe in eatin' and can always make a hand At the table, but I tremble for the fate of this fair land When our haughty furrin rulers lay Belshazzar in the shade With their feastin', while the people see the wealth that they have made

Bein' squandered jubilat'ion, by a horde that loaf around While the half of them is homeless, ownin' not a foot of ground, And dependin' on the loafers for a beggar's chance to earn Jist enough to keep from starvin', making that their main concern,

'Stid o' standin' up like freemen and demandin' what is theirs And insistin' on their power to conduct their own affairs, 'Stid o' askin' furrin nations what they may and mayn't do In what was a land of freedom 'fore we had this furrin crew.

Parson, I believe this frolic got up by this furrin crowd Ain't to celebrate the freedom that they talked about so loud; But to jubilate their gittin' wider fields for them to rule; And to make the job more certain git up doin's for to fool

People into half-believin' that we ort to own the moon, Parson, if they're in for freedom they should sing another tune; If they're in for freein' Cubans let them up and show their hand Givin' freedom to the tollers in our own dear, blood-bought land.

—George McA. Miller in Democratic Magazine for October, Chicago, October 15, 1898.

GOVERNMENT BANKS,

TOGETHER WITH FREE COINAGE OF SILVER,

Would Quickly Rid Us of Wall Street Rule, Low Prices for Farm Products, Idle People and Hard Times.

The single gold standard must go. It is the real cause of all our woes, of all our wants, of all our misery and of all our poverty. As we are today we have the worst currency laws of any civilized nation on the globe. As these laws now stand on the statute books, they are mere financial playthings for the bankers, the money lenders and the Wall street syndicates, and they play battle-door and shuttlecock with the financial treasures of the nation while poverty stalks through the land.

If we had the free coinage of gold and silver and all the paper currency issued by the government, and banks established by the government for the use of the people, we would soon be rid of Wall street gambling, low prices for all the farmer has to sell, idle people and hard times. The hundred millions of silver our mines would then produce would be converted into money for the use of our own people in place of being sold, as at present, to London Jews to speculate with in Asiatic countries. Our silver product would be worth twice its present value in the world's markets, and all our products would rise with it as they have fallen in price with silver's demonization and fall in price.

Government banks would relieve the treasury of the millions of money stored in the vaults and taken out of circulation, which helps to beat down prices and cripple business. The taxes collected by the government would be placed in its bank on deposit and be kept in circulation, as the deposits of the people are kept in circulation. The officers of the banks would be paid as other officers in its employ are paid, and no stockholders to divide interest among, which is wrung from the business-doing people under the present private corporation banking system. The government banks would insure safety to the depositors, who are now at the mercy of thieves, who rob them frequently.

There could no financial panics occur under a system of government banking. No money would be loaned on doubtful security, or to "finance" speculative enterprises, and the volume of currency would keep pace with the demands of legitimate business, always enough to meet that demand, gauged by the security offered to warrant the payment of loans at maturity. The millions, aye, hundreds of millions of interest that go into the bankers' till would be left in the pockets of the people, the government charging only sufficient to defray the expense of conducting the business, which would be about one-half of one per cent.

Our modern silk-hatted gentry, who collect interest from the toiling public, and watch every man's financial condition, order him how to vote and chaperon him in every election campaign, would soon be out of a job and would have to seek some other employment or starve.

With government banks in place of our present system of private banks, called "national banks," the people would save nearly all the interest they now are robbed of in the course of business; the corners that are now run on money would be prevented, and no more rot would fill the daily papers about "sound money" and the "dangerous greenback," that one "weak point in our finances." The bankers' associations, which meet at short intervals between to discuss money and tell their audience and the newspapers that a half dozen "financiers" with a machine called a bank can issue far better and "sounder" paper currency than the government, would soon be a thing of the past.

We would get rid of the nauseating rot which these gentlemen utter over their wine and cigars. The money question of this country will never be settled until it is taken out of the hands of these gentlemen who have become the bunco steers of the nation. They now have a bill in the house which is the grandest and most audacious bunco bank bill ever concocted. It proposes to take charge of the business of the country and direct everything, both government and people. This bill which the bankers have foisted on to the Republican party and made sponsor for it, is the most infamous ever devised by the plunderers of modern business.

E. E. EWING.

MONKEYS AND MEN.

Human Follies Which the Animals Are Not Guilty Of.

Go to the monkey, thou voter! Consider his ways and be wise. Do the monkeys pay ground-rent to

the descendants of the first old ape who discovered the valley where the monkeys live?

Do they hire the trees from the chimpanzee who first found the forest?

Do they buy the coconuts from the great-great-grandchildren of the gorilla who invented a way to crack them?

Do they allow two or three monkeys to form a corporation and obtain control of all the paths that lead through the woods?

Do they permit some smart young monkey, with superior business ability, to claim all the springs of water in the forest as his own, because of some alleged bargain made by their ancestors 500 years ago?

Do they allow a small gang of monkey lawyers to so tangle up their conceptions of ownership that a few will obtain possession of everything?

Do they appoint a few monkeys to govern them and then allow those appointed monkeys to rob the tribe and mismanage all its affairs?

Do they build up a monkey city and then hand over the land, and the paths, and the trees, and the springs, and the fruits to a few monkeys who sat on a log and chattered while all the work was going on?

No, my friend, monkeys have a wiser system of municipal government than that.

Although Kipling speaks of them in his jungle-book as "the people who have no law," yet they have laws enough to prevent the private ownership of public franchises.

If Prof. Garner, who claims to have learned 40 words of the monkey language, were to escort some reflective chimpanzee around one of our cities, the professor would find it rather difficult to explain some of the manners and customs of a civilized world.

The chimpanzee would be amazed to see a \$500,000 house, with 40 rooms, contain only a millionaire and his wife and ten servants, while a \$10,000 tenement, with 20 rooms, contained 40 people and no servants.

He would be still further astounded to see the warehouse district, where an abundance of everything was stored, close to the slum district, where the people lacked the barest necessities of life.

He would be shocked to see an entire street railway system, with hundreds of miles of tracks, thousands of cars and employes, and carrying millions of passengers every year, absolutely owned and controlled by three or four men who never built a car or drove a spike.

But when the professor would explain to him that nine-tenths of the people in the city were quite content to endure such evils, and, in fact, grew quite angry with any one who proposed to remove them, the chimpanzee would say: "Take me back to the forest, and may the Good Spirit deliver us from civilization!"—Rev. Herbert N. Casson.

Gold Up and Prices Down.

Mr. Sauerbeck's index number of the prices of commodities for August shows that the downward movement which set in after May still continues. The figure for last month was 64, against 65.4 in May—the highest attained this year. The following table shows the index number for each month of the present year in comparison with the annual averages since 1890:

Average of 1891..72	January, 1898..62.8
Average of 1892..68	February, 1898.....63.4
Average of 1893..68	March, 1898.....63.0
Average of 1894..63	April, 1898.....65.5
Average of 1895..62	May, 1898.....66.4
Average of 1896..61	June, 1898.....64.7
Average of 1897..62	July, 1898.....64.3
	August, 1898..64.0

The main single factor in the decline since May, as in the previous rise, was the price of wheat. At the end of May the "Gazette" average of English wheat was 47s. 9d. per quarter. It has since dropped to 30s. 7d. Movements upward or downward in the prices of other commodities were not very important last month. On a comparison of the averages of the two great groups of food products and raw manufacturing materials it appears that whilst the average number of the former is nearly 1 per cent higher than at the close of last year, that of the latter is fully 4 per cent higher.—Manchester (England) Guardian.

Credit Money.

There are in existence \$346,000,000 of credit money, called United States notes, the existence of every dollar of which is due to the fact that we have not enough circulating medium with out those notes. Every dollar of those notes could be retired by the substitution of the silver dollar or the silver certificate, and, thus there would be a demand which the government could create for \$346,000,000 more of silver. I am free to say that if the law providing for the free coinage of silver were passed today, under President McKinley's administration, with the secretary of the treasury discriminating against silver, as he has in the past, this government could not establish the parity of the metals. But under an administration that would use the powers of the government for the purpose of establishing the parity of the metals, I have no doubt of the ability of this nation to establish that parity.

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BAPTIST—M. E. Weaver, pastor. Regular services, Second and Fourth Sundays at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.; Sunday school, 10 a. m.; prayer meeting, Wednesday, 8 p. m. All invited.

LODGES.

Phoenix Lodge No. 88, A. F. & A. M.—Simcoe Walmsley, W. M.; J. C. Trichel Jr., Sec. Meets First and Third Wednesdays at 7 p. m.

Castle Hall No. 89, Knights of Pythias.—U. P. Breazeale, C. C.; Adolph L'Herisson, K. of R. & S. Meets Second and Fourth Thursdays at 8 p. m.

COURTS.

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CIVIL TERM.
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CIRCUIT COURT.
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