

COLFAX GAZETTE

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If the Commoner wishes to show off the brilliant achievements of Sheriff Mackay's administration. The Gazette will gladly refer the democratic organ to some of the little tricks perpetrated by Deputy Sheriff Jim Green, just prior to the time the republican administration took charge.

The Seattle Times, a rabid democratic sheet of the yellow journal type, quotes an alleged speech of Charles L. MacKenzie, the "lone democrat from Whitman county," in which the gentleman is made to say that he is in favor of the anti-trust bill as presented in the legislature.

Of course democrats are predicting that the legislation passed will be ineffective, says the Omaha Bee. It was to be expected they would do this, but people who are familiar with the uniform failure of democratic predictions will attach no importance to the latest one.

Who Found Carter? The Commoner has again seen fit to resort to misrepresentations. The democratic sheet would like to cover up the blunders of the incompetent administration of the sheriff's office during the incumbency of J. Brooks Mackay, but unfortunately for that gentleman it is absolutely unable to do so.

There is not one single word of truth in the above quotation from the Commoner. The statement is as absolutely false as anything can be.

About MacKenzie's Vote. The Gazette published an excerpt of the anti-trust bill introduced by the republicans at the present session of the legislature, giving the vote of the members of the lower house on its passage February 19, showing that Representatives Durham and Witter voted for the bill and Representative MacKenzie, "the lone democrat from Whitman county," voted against it, and Representative Dix being absent and not voting.

In its desperate efforts to divert the attention of the voters from the disgraceful record of the republican majority in the legislature, the Gazette last week blundered into another pitfall. Instead of giving Representative MacKenzie credit for the excellent speech which he has been doing in the interest of Whitman county, the Gazette makes the following savage attack upon him:

(Here was quoted the language of The Gazette.) Then again the Commoner said: "Now what are the real facts? The so-called anti-trust bill was introduced and championed by Joe Easterday of Pierce county, the acknowledged leader of the railroad forces in the lower house. It had the backing of the railroad crowd. It did not aim in the slightest degree to affect the railroads or any of the big trusts. It was introduced simply for the purpose of making "campaign" ammunition.

"This bill is a blank cartridge, loaded only with noise. It will not enable us to reach the Standard Oil company or prevent the combination by which railroad freight rates are kept at a figure that grinds down the wheat shipper of eastern Washington; it will not provide against the operation of the beef trust, or the steel trust, but I believe it will have the little dealers who desire to get together in order to keep the price of their little product at a living figure. Nevertheless, the title of this bill implies compliance with the constitutional direction and for that reason I shall vote aye when the roll is called. I am willing to squander a few leaves of the statute books that the republicans may acquire a little campaign thunder."

Representative MacKenzie voted his sentiment on the 19th of February, when he voted against the anti-trust bill, and in his speech on the 24th when the bill was up for reconsideration, he denominated the bill as a "blank cartridge," because, as he said, it would not enable us to reach the Standard Oil company, the great railway merger, the beef trust, or the steel trust. MacKenzie knew when he made that speech that the purpose of the anti-trust bill, then up for consideration, was not to reach and destroy the combinations he had named. He knew that those trusts were not confined in their operations to the state of Washington alone, but were clearly a subject of national legislation.

MacKenzie knew that this anti-trust bill, if it became a law, would destroy all electrical, street and other railway trust operations entirely within the state; that it would destroy the shingle trusts of the state; that it would destroy all gas and electric lighting trusts of this state, and render less advantageous to him the measure which he introduced and fathered, granting to electric light and power companies the use of the public highways for the erection of electrical poles to transmit power by electricity for the operation of electrical railways and for lighting purposes. He knew that it would destroy the flour trust and all other kinds of trusts in the state, even the lumber trust.

MacKenzie said in his speech on the reconsideration of the anti-trust bill, that he would vote aye to give the republicans a little "campaign thunder." The facts are that MacKenzie is such a bitter and vindictive partisan that he would vote against a good measure, if he thought by voting for it he would be helping the republican party. He voted against the anti-trust bill because he believed that if it became a law it would destroy the lumber trust, the electrical street railway trust, the electrical light and power trusts, in which his friends are now interested and in which he expects soon to become interested. He changed his vote on reconsideration for the reason that he knew that the bill would not become a law, and that he was safe in voting for it for purely campaign purposes, so that he could continue to pose as the sainted champion of the rights of the common people.

One of the most pernicious trusts in the state is the lumber trust, and had the anti-trust bill become a law, and had the lumber trust thereby been destroyed, it would have meant a loss to some of MacKenzie's friends of many thousands of dollars annually and a saving to the people. The same rule will more or less rigorously apply to all other trusts in the state. The facts are that MacKenzie never would have voted for the anti-trust bill on reconsideration had there been any danger of its passing. He is against any trust legislation in this state. He stands shoulder to shoulder with the trust magnates of the state and is working hand and glove with them, and against the interests of the common people who elected him.

The little dealers who desire to get together in order to keep the price of their little product at a living figure are of more importance to MacKenzie than the interest of all the people of Whitman county combined. Then again, his own interests in electrical power, etc., must not be overlooked, regardless of the rights of the common people who elected him and whom he is expected to serve. MacKenzie's attitude on the anti-trust bill is the

coarsest piece of political juggling in the annals of legislation in this state, and merits the condemnation of all honest men.

The average farmer is a good reader and he is also a good thinker, but he is very apt when reading about the great combinations of capital which are coming to play such an important part in the industrial and commercial world, to think that he himself is paleing into somewhat of an insignificant position. In this assumption, however, he is far from the fact. There never was a time in the history of this country when the agricultural class occupied as prominent a position in relation to the business world as it holds today. The business world was never more dependent upon the country than now, and that dependence increases yearly. The republican prosperity of recent years has been good for the farmer, the stock raiser, the laborer—in fact every producer—as well as for the capitalist. The community of interest principal has obtained among the producers and the laborers during the past few years as successfully as it has among the corporations. This does not make either side absolutely vulnerable from the attacks of the other, however. Both capital and labor are constantly looking for the long end of the sack.

Are the Chicago stockyards and abattoirs losing cast as the great show place of the Windy City? Have the lightning processes by which pigs are turned into sausage and breakfast bacon and steers into corned beef and chuck steak ceased to be the chief charm with which Chicagoans delight to beguile their visitors? This we fear since the committee having in charge the entertainment of Crown Prince Maha of Siam took the royal guest first to Dr. Harper's big educational works instead of to the cattle pens and slaughter houses.

A Missouri banker, being tried for forgery, gave the following explanation of his action: "I have scriptomania, your honor. I pick up a piece of paper and take a pencil out of my pocket and begin to write on it. I never notice what I write and usually throw away what I have written without looking at it. That was the way I wrote the \$500 check." This is a new scientific name for a rather common disease, and the bacteriologists should lose no time in discovering an anti-toxin for it.

Effect of Open River.

Wilson Creek Chief. The improving of the Columbia River means more to the people of Eastern Washington and Oregon and Western Idaho than many of them are wont to observe. Aside from the direct benefit of having a waterway for the transportation of freight it will mean a great reduction in freight rates. The Baker City Herald, of Baker City, Or., has taken the trouble to look up the freight rates between points affected by an open river and points on the river above the obstructions. Arlington, Or., is located on the Columbia in Gilliam County and 54 miles from The Dalles. The Dalles has an open river and is 88 miles from Portland. The rate on wheat from Arlington to The Dalles is 1 1/2 cents per hundred, while from The Dalles to Portland, almost twice the distance, the rate on the same product is only 7/8 cents per hundred weight. The four class rates are: Arlington to The Dalles, first class, 53 cents; second class, 48 1/2 cents; third class, 42 cents; and fourth class, 39 cents. From The Dalles to Portland, first class, 25 cents; second class, 20 cents; third class, 18 cents; fourth class, 15 cents. This shows that 150 per cent more per mile is charged from Arlington to The Dalles than from The Dalles to Portland. The competition of river freights has operated to put these rates in effect between The Dalles and Portland. And with the obstructions removed from the river, the same force will operate to reduce the carrying rate from Lewiston, Idaho, and from Brewster or even Kettle Falls in Washington.

The grain of Eastern Washington must find an outlet to tidewater and if it can be hauled to Portland and more cheaply than to Seattle it should be marketed there. But the fact is it cannot be, except from a small portion of the grain growing section of Eastern Washington. The natural consequence will be a reduction of rates to Seattle to a point at least equal to that made to Portland, and doubtless less. The change would probably not affect the number of bushels of wheat received at Seattle, but large areas of wheat land that are now untitled will be speedily opened to wheat growing.

Too much stress cannot be laid on the opening of the Columbia River to navigation, for there is one thing that would open so much new territory to the settler or add to the profits of those already here as a water route to the seaboard.

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Melody in College Yells.

It is highly gratifying to learn that the lately segregated feminine collegians of Chicago university have invented and put in practice a musical cheer or college yell set to music. Whether this is the result of the segregation we are not prepared to say. It was said that the girls were separated from the boys because the former were beating the latter at their studies. At any rate, the girls appear to have made their segregation simultaneous with a new demonstration of their leadership.

Interest in the college yell set to music, however, is not confined to the classic shades of Dr. Harper's university. The nonscholastic public, which has at times been brought alarmingly near the verge of nervous prostration and mental collapse by the inharmonious, cacophonous and vociferous college yell, will hail with delight the dulcet toned innovation of the charming and progressive Chicago university girls, though they are not the first to start the reform, the girls of Wellesley having previously adopted a musical cheer.

The development of the harmonious college yell will be awaited with interest, all the more impatiently because of the hope that it will displace the other. The words do not matter so long as the music is all right. Let the college yell set to music have its vogue without delay—that is, if it is necessary for us to have any college yell at all.

It is stated that the new ameer of Afghanistan has replied to a letter from the Russian government asking for closer commercial relations that he must be addressed through the India government. This is interesting not only in showing that the prestige of Great Britain in Afghanistan has not been impaired by the death of Abdur Rahman, but that Russia is at the same time she has successfully employed in Persia.

The Chicago Housewives' association announces that it will issue certificates of fitness after examination to serving maids. Now let the Servant Girls' Protective union announce that after due examination it will certify to the fitness of housewives, and everything will be perfectly lovely.

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