...TY KICKER

...PAPER. · PUBLISHER.

...TON, ...L PAPER OF SCOTT COUNTY.

ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER AT BENTON, MO.

WHEN WILL IT COME?

When will the time come when the people will select the candidate to adorn the party ticket? Under existing condition the rank and file of either party have little or nothing to say until after the nominating conventions, and then they are told to support the ticket and "vote 'er straight." When a president, State officer or other high official is to be elected, the men who are after special privileges get together and agree on a man who will best serve their interests. Then metropolitan organs of the special interests begin to boom the selected one and always express grave fears that he may not be willing to make the sacrifice of entering the race. Politicians of the higher order correspond with the local politicians of the counties and in a little while the "favorite son" has men of influence advocating his claims in every county and township. The country editor finds that the "best citizens" are favorable to the "favorite son" and he, too, begins to sing his praises. In Missouri it has been the custom to send the editor the price of a year's subscription in order to stimulate his loyalty to the party. But this record was broken by Governor Dockery, however, who sent to each Democratic editor the price of two years' subscription.

Then the pounding and hammering goes on. So far no one has had anything to do with the selection of the "favorite son" except the fellows after special privileges and their organs, the politicians and the duped editors of country newspapers. The people are indifferent, but the politicians and newspapers are mightily afraid that their choice will resist any effort to have a fat office forced upon him. The hammering and pounding goes on, and finally the "favorite son" agrees that if the people insist he will allow his name to go before the convention—although the people haven't said a word.

By this time opposition appears. A man who has not been so urgently urged by the tax-dodgers, politicians and the press is urged by a few friends and he concludes to enter the field. He concludes to get his name before the people, but finds that he has run up against a "brace game." No newspaper will mention his name except to ridicule him. Politicians question his ability as well as his political standing. He finds himself "up against it." He announces that he (Dave Ball) will go into every county and appeal to the people direct. He makes speeches, prints them in circular form and sends them broadcasts over the State. A change of sentiment begins to appear. The people begin to understand the situation and drift toward the man who is not the candidate of those who seek special privileges. Politicians become alarmed and newspapers howl. Something must be done—and done quick. The State committee is called together, a snap convention is ordered months in advance of the usual time, and in the interest of the first named "favorite son" and nothing is left for the other fellow to do except to withdraw from the race, since he has no time to visit the people as he had intended. Then the gang get together and nominate the corporation candidate by "acclamation" and the voters are told that he is the choice of the "party;" that everybody had a say-so in selecting him, and that they must "vote 'er straight."

But the people are beginning to understand this, and the scheme is becoming hazardous. Twenty-eight thousand Democrats in the State "went fishing" on election day last fall. This is remarkable for a presidential year.

Mr. Bryan is probably the only man nominated as a candidate for president in recent years who was selected by the "rank and file." All others of either party were corporation made.

YES, it is quite proper to contribute to the missionary fund and send our missionaries abroad. Our civilization should encircle the globe. No country should be without our system of train robbing, bank robbing, highway robbing, murder and suicide. Every nation should be taught that its revenue should be derived chiefly from the sale of rum—and that this industry should be encouraged as much for political purposes as for revenue. Our system of divorce is not a bad thing to introduce among the heathens. Then we have the land speculator, the gold brick operators, the pannel workers, the board of trade men, the promoter, the lightening rod agent, the patent right agent, the insurance man and the political preacher. Yes, the proper thing to do is to contribute to the missionary fund. Send all loose change to the KICKER office.

DEATH OF JOHN J. McCANN.

"Died for Principle" is the way the St. Louis Chronicle announced the death of John J. McCann, on Sept. 12, 1901. Mr. McCann was a prominent single tax advocate of St. Louis, and was a terror to tax-dodging corporations of the state. He was a lawyer and real estate agent and few, tax payers of the state are aware that this man suffered imprisonment for them.

Mr. McCann was a member of the St. Louis Single Tax League, which body has done more to relieve the small tax payers of Missouri than all other influences combined. Repeatedly Mr. McCann appeared before the State Board of Equalization and pleaded that corporations bear a just portion of taxation. He made his case so plain that in 1899 he succeeded in increasing the assessed valuation of the St. Louis street railways $12,000,000—to say nothing about the increases in other directions.

This brought down upon him the wrath of greedy corporations. He was a deciple of Henry George and held that a municipality had no right to tax him for the right to earn an honest living. In St. Louis a license of $25 is required to do a real estate business. This Mr. McCann refused to pay on the grounds that it was unjust and against the Bill of Rights guaranteed in the Missouri Constitution: "The enjoyment of the gains of his own industry." The case was taken to the supreme court and, of course, the "established custom" prevailed. McCann lost.

Just prior to the meeting of the State Board of Equalization in 1900 McCann was quite active in preparing evidence for a further increase in the assessment of corporate property and made several trips to Jefferson City. The corporations dreaded him, and on the day (July 17, 1900) that the board met and the corporation representatives were making their way to Jefferson City to beat down the assessments, Mr. McCann was arrested and sent to the workhouse for six month for the non-payment of his fine. Dozens of friends offered to pay his fine for him, but he refused to let them, claiming that to pay the fine would be an admission that the tax was just.

The capitalistic morning papers of St. Louis said little or nothing about it, but the Post-Dispatch took the matter up and large crowds began to visit the workhouse and congratulate Mr. McCann on the noble stand he was taking. From all over the country came letters of encouragement and approval until he could scarcely handle his mail. Because of this popularity the superintendent of the workhouse assigned him to no duties and allowed him to entertain visitors as they arrived. Many letters were also sent the Post-Dispatch, of which the following is a sample:

"Is this the John J. McCann who was put in the workhouse for six months because he refused to pay to the city $25 to exercise his God-given right to earn his living in a harmless occupation, the real estate business? Is this the John J. McCann who, through his efforts, increased the St. Louis street railway assessments over $12,000,000 last year, which put over $158,000 additional revenues in the city treasury? Is this the man who increased the assessment of the Laclede Gas Co., in our city over $500,000 at one jump, putting $10,250 in the treasuries of the state, city and school board? Is this the John J. McCann who, through his efforts, increased the assessment of down town realty last spring over $500,000, when it should have been over $5,000,000, putting over $9,750 additional revenues into the treasuries of the state, city and school board?"

Seeing the turn affairs had taken, a pardon was offered, but Mr. McCann refused it on the same ground that he refused to pay his fine or allow his friends to do it. He insisted that it was unjust as well as unconstitutional to tax a man for the right to earn a living—and he was right. Finally the authorities just turned him out. But he became ill during his confinement and never recovered.

Shortly after his release the writer visited Mr. McCann at his office in St. Louis, and, in reply to a question he said: "Certainly, the authorities were taken back, for what they had intended as a punishment turned out to be seventeen days of ovations and receptions. My letter mail was so large that I could not think of answering, but I have all the letters and expect to answer every one in time."

When asked if he attached any significance to the fact that he was incarcerated on the same day the Board of Equalization met, he replied: "Well, I have thought of that, but concluded that perhaps it was a mere coincidence."

Mr. McCann was a member of the Catholic church, and services were conducted by Father Ziegler. He was unmarried, but the Chronicle says "the children of the neighborhood were regarded by him as his charges and they stood on the sidewalk and silently watched the body borne from the house. Many of them wept bitterly."

The KICKER to 1903, only $1.00.

FLUNKEYISM!

Either the Democratic politicians and newspapers of the country maliciously slandered and villified President McKinley during these many years, or else they all "slopped over" in their attempt at "flunkeyism." While in congress he was the target of every Democratic politician and newspaper. After his elevation to the presidency no man was more criticised and none less absurd by his political opponents. When he fell the unfortunate victim of an assassins' bullet, all this villification and abuse turned into praise and admiration. Prior to his assassination no words of condemnation sufficiently strong could be found. Immediately afterward it was even more difficult to find words of commendation and admiration.

What is the "common herd" to think of such antics? Are they to believe that "politics" is only a magic lantern show where the scene can be shifted by the turn of a crank? Are they to believe that opposing political leaders fight only sham battles for the jobs and that behind the screens all is the same? If so, then they are asked to believe nothing more than is apparent to every observing citizen.

As a citizen Mr. McKinley was without a blemish. He was devoted to his home, his family and his friends. In his private life he was clean and honorable. But it is difficult to understand how it is possible for any believer in the principles of the Kansas City platform to applaud his public record—and be honest about it.

But the "flunkeys" got little for their pains. From the very first the capitalistic press charged the assassination of the president up to "Bryanism." Here is what the Globe-Democrat had to say on the morning of September 16, concerning the believers in the Kansas City platform:

"All have attempted to show that the president of the United States was a despot who was oppressing the people, and who was aiming to set up an authority which would depend upon the caprices of the trusts and the desires of the European money changers and not on the popular will. These inciters of disturbance are singing a different tune at this moment. They see some of the consequences of their malicious howlings against the government and the president, and have been frightened into silence. Just now they are even calling for summary vengeance on the feather-headed miscreants whom they set up. The yellow press of the entire country has dropped all its ravings about "empire" and "despots," and is posing as the advocate of stability and morality. These marplots are as vicious as were the malcontents at whom the federalists directed their alien and sedition laws a century ago."

It might be well here to ask the Globe-Democrat to tell us who did the "malicious howling" in Kentucky which caused the assassination of Gov. Goebel? Is not Gov. Taylor, the arch conspirator, now a fugitive from justice, and under the protecting wing of a Republican governor? Did not the Republican national convention, held at Philadelphia in 1900, tender to this arch conspirator an ovation when he entered the convention hall?

"Bryanism" is not responsible for the tendency toward anarchy in this country. It is organized greed, its hired scribblers and its subservient public officials that causes it—to which "Bryanism" is directly opposed.

WHEN you run a defender of the Missouri state administration into the "last ditch," he will then stand pat on the assertion that Missourians cannot complain of taxation as compared with other states. Ask him for figures and he can't produce any. All he knows about it is what he has read in administration organs. Tell him that for the purpose of taxation the recognized rule in Republican Illinois is one-fifth of the cash value and he will appear surprised. Tell him that in Republican Illinois the State Board of Equalization increased assessments (chiefly against Chicago corporations), $113,075,036.00 this year, he will not likely refer to the Missouri franchise tax law, for which much credit is claimed because of a raise of less than $10,000,000.

MAYOR TOM L. JOHNSON, of Cleveland, Ohio, saw to it that Mark Hanna's "Little Consolidated Street Railway System" in that city was increased in valuation for the purpose of taxation from one-half million to six and one-half millions. Tom Johnson is an Ohio Democrat. In Missouri the total increase of all the steam railroad property in the state was less than the increase on Mark Hanna's little street railroad. In this state the assessing was done by Missouri Democrats. See the difference?

SOMETHING must be wrong with Ben Adams. He hasn't given the McKinley administration credit for the present high price of corn. Nor has Brother Tromly gotten deep enough into the recent supreme court's decision to ascertain whether it is beer or the constitution that follows the flag.

CONVICT LABOR.

Who will explain why it is that little or no mention is made of the fact that the people of Kansas have a binder twine factory of their own? Is it because the politicians and the capitalistic newspapers and their cross-roads echoes fear that the people will learn something about the practical workings of a plant established and owned by the people of a great state to protect themselves against the greed of a binder twine trust?

Yes, the people of Kansas have a binder twine plant in their state penitentiary, operated by convicts, and the result is that the people of Kansas are not at the mercy of the trust and save hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. Perhaps the reason no mention of this is made in the capitalistic organs is because neither the Democrats nor Republicans can claim credit for the introduction of this great blessing to Kansas farmers. The Populists did it during their administration.

But why would it not be a good idea to put the convicts of the different states to work in competition with trust made goods? Why could not Missouri manufacture shoes and harness; Illinois binders and farm machinery; Iowa wagons and buggies; Arkansas cloth and wearing apparel, and so on until all trust made goods could be furnished the people by their own plants?

But here the Republic, the Globe-Democrat and other capitalistic organs and orators would set up a howl. "You'd come in competition with honest labor." These same organs and orators don't say a word about the convicts at Jefferson City being hired to the shoe and leather trust, who have factories at our state prison, at twenty-five cents a day! Oh, no; that is not coming in competition with honest labor!

And what is being done at Jefferson City is being done at every other state penitentiary, and it would seem better to have these convicts labor for all the people than for any particular corporation.

THE state administration (Cleveland) Democrats are busily engaged, just now, denying that they had anything to do with the bringing out of Judge Fox as a possible candidate for supreme judge of Missouri. Whether they did or not the KICKER is not in a position to say, but the Charleston Enterprise makes some pointed and direct charges to that effect, and their denial will not likely change the opinion of any citizen who is familiar with the methods of the State House Ring. Even if the proof were positive they could not afford to admit it—and it matters little whether they did or didn't. The people are "on."

SENATOR VEST says he is still a bimetalist. If this is so, how could he support either Hill, Olney or Gorman, who are not only gold standard advocates, but two of them, at least, are in favor of a protective tariff?—Ironton Register.

Oh, that's easy! Didn't our state administration endorse Rolla Wells for mayor of St. Louis? Are not quite all of the appointees of the state administration of the Cleveland stripe? And yet you ask "how could he?" You "aint on."

EMMA GOLDMAN was arrested and jailed because Czolgosz said it was while listening to one of her speeches he resolved to kill the president. Why were not the incendiary newspapers and paid "attorneys" of the Louisville & Nashville railroad arrested and imprisoned when Gov. Goebel was assassinated? It's a poor rule that works only one way.

THE awfulness of the Kentucky tragedy is only overshadowed by the effort made to relieve the Republican party of responsibility. They went so far as to intimate that Jack Chinn, of the Democratic State Committee, shot Gov. Goebel.

THERE seems to be something wrong with the present brand of Christianity abroad in the land. Sin and crime is rapidly on the increase. Perhaps it is too heavily tainted with the Carnegie and Rockefeller millions.

LET the time-servers, the demagogues, the compromisers—to whom nothing is right, and nothing is wrong—let them all go their ways. Any cause which can lay hold of a great truth is stronger without them.

NOTHING is wrong in this enlightened age, if it pays. Money is the moral, legal and religious standard of the present age. If it pays, its all right.

YES, Dockery, Seibert, Phelps, Butler, Cronin, Cook, Kinney, Crowe, Hawes, Francis, Wells, Allen & Co., are all Democrats. So is Grover Cleveland.

WHILE the World's Fair may prove a "snap" for the fellows who managed to get themselves chosen as managers, it must not be forgotten that tax payers have, through their representatives, agreed to foot the bill.

WHAT Missouri needs is less law and more justice.

To Buyers

AND CONSUMERS OF ALL NECESSITIES AND LUXURIES.

We think it to your interest as much as to ours that before purchasing anything you may anticipate buying, call and see our

Big Assortment Store

And get our prices. We sell everything from a paper of pins to a saw mill, hay presses and threshing machines not excepted.

Our stock of merchandise is up-to-date in every respect. It is the largest, best and most carefully selected in Southeast Missouri. We have no goods or special leaders to quote below cost, as some unscrupulous merchants do for the purpose of inducing you into our store with the hope of swindling or over charging you on other goods you may purchase. Our Motto: Is fair dealing, best goods for least money. Legitimate profit on everything we sell; not sell you one article below cost and charge you two prices for something else you may buy.

Our store is located in Oran three doors east of the depot on southside of the street. All branches of business are fairly represented in our little town which makes it undoubtedly the best selling or purchasing market in Scott or adjoining counties.

THE SCOTT COUNTY BARGAIN STORE,

ORAN, MO.

Hinkle & Dirnberger, Proprietors.

WORKING ON SUNDAY.

Judge Riley's charge to the grand jury was very sweeping. He called attention to almost every law defining misdemeanors as well as felonies. He dwelt upon the Sunday law (working on that day), selling liquor without license, etc. No doubt there will be many indictments found.—Southeast Missourian, Sept. 21.

Judge Riley was right when he dwelt upon the violations of the Sunday law, or any other law, yet it is a little strange that they who violate the law by the wholesale go unpunished, while they who violate the law in a small way are often fined or imprisoned.

At Judge Riley's home, in New Madrid, steamboats land on Sundays to deliver and receive freight. A burley mate drives a gang of roustabouts up and down the gang-plank. His language is often offensive. These roust-abouts carry heavy burdens and are kept in a constant trot. All this occurs in the county of New Madrid and State of Missouri, "against the peace and dignity of the State." Is this not violating the Sunday law quite as much as if a man should retreat to his back yard and chop wood enough to cook his noon meal? If so, then why are the steamboatmen not punished?

In the same town and in many other towns and cities telegraph and railroad men are compelled to work all day on Sundays or lose their jobs. Beer trains, or so-called excursion trains, are run on Sundays and intoxicating drinks are sold all along the line with as much impunity as liquor is sold on Sundays at Jefferson City, from whence all our so-called "law" emanates. The beer train not only sells without State and county license, but sell on Sunday! Let a cross-roads individual attempt this and he will be severely handled.

But it is so in all things. There is no law which corporations are bound to respect; nor have the people any rights for which the corporations have any regard—in this "land of the free and home of the brave."

OUR "PURE FOOD" LAW.

If there is anything the people of Missouri have reason to be ashamed of it is the so-called "pure food" law, saddled upon our people by a Democratic administration under the dopy influence of the baking powder trust.

On any day, in Missouri, you can go to any town and buy coffee that has had all but the last traces of strength extracted from it; coffee that is mixed with our own cornfield peas and beans; coffee that from an entire car-load a good cup of coffee could not be made. This is not in violation of the Missouri "pure food" law.

In Missouri you can buy sugar adulterated with sand; flour adulterated with corn meal; coffee adulterated with beans; sausage made from dog meat and horse flesh; canned goods put up before the revolution; cove oysters with three oysters in the can and the remainder slop water; cans labelled "fresh salmon" filled with "mud-jacks;" "apple cider" made from acids and rotten wood; "sorghum molasses," "pure candy," "pure jellies," etc., made from the offalls of the glucose factory. Yes, these things and many more are for sale in every Missouri town and the people have no protection against injurious adulteration nor substitution. But when it comes to baking powders, then it is different. The law—that "pure food" law—prohibits the sale of all powders except the trust made article. And the people "pay the freight" and continue to vote for men who howl down the trust and combinations just before elections and serve them afterward.

Notice to Tax Payers.

Owing to the extra collection of taxes this year, including three drainage districts and poll tax, you are requested to come in early and make settlement. The law requires that the books must be closed Dec. 31, and a delay until the latter part of the year may place a great many on the delinquent list, as it is impossible to do all this work in a few days.

R. L. HARRISON, Collector.

It Works Like a Charm,

Leedy's Cash Plan Does!

He says that everybody knows that Goods can be sold cheaper for Cash than for Credit. Therefore he has decided to sell strictly for cash and thus give his customers the advantage of low prices. He has put aside his credit books and will make no distinction.

Everybody Must Pay Cash!

And to ask for credit will be useless. No matter how good your standing is financially, it does not help me in my business—but your cash will. In order to get your cash I will offer inducements in the way of Low Prices that no credit house can afford—a cut on regular prices of from 10 to 20 per cent:

Regular $3.50 shoes go for.....$3.00
" 2.50 " " 2.25
" 1.50 " " 1.25
All best calicoes go for 5c per yard
Good calicoes go at 4 cents.
Best granulated sugar, 18 lbs..$1.00
O. K. coffee, 8 lbs for..... 1.00

Arbuckles coffee, per package.... 11c
Regular $3.00 men's hats go at $2.50
" 2.25 " " " 2.00
7 bars of Lenox soap for..... 25c
7 bars of Big Deal soap for..... 25c
12 bars good soap for..... 25c
Irish potatoes per bushel.....$1.00

And so it goes all along the line of merchandise.

We have not marked down a few articles as a "bait" with the intention of making it up on other things. The reduction is reasonable and uniform, and applies to the entire stock.

Will Pay Cash for Country Produce.

Trade with us and save Money.

C. A. Leedy, - Benton, Mo.