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AN "ISHOO" AT LAST.

Old Party Leaders Call Each Other Liars and Crooks. Hearst Stirs Up a Hornet's Nest.

There is a wide difference between the methods of campaign of capitalism and Socialism, and I want every reader of this article to stop and think it over. Capitalism is just now beginning to warm up in its campaign—thirty days before the election. After the election—no matter which wing wins—the dissatisfied will be told that "we'll get 'em next time" and all discussion of politics will cease until just before the next election. Their "policies" will not bear intelligent inspection, hence no intelligent discussion is ever attempted.

On the morning after the election the Socialists will commence their campaign for the next election just where they left off the evening before. They know what they want and are always ready and willing for discussion. The Democrats here thought that all they needed to smash Socialism in Scott county was some new type and a new editor. But, so far, they have not dared to touch on it.

And so it is everywhere. They do not want to set the people to thinking—but to quarrelling. They don't want the people to vote according to their intelligence—but according to their established prejudices.

The "ishoo" in the national campaign has just developed. The Republicans charge that the Democrats are smeared with Standard Oil. The Democrats charge that the Republicans are the real friends of Standard Oil. They are calling each other liars. The evidence so far produced shows very clearly that both are soaked in Standard Oil. And this is the "ishoo" you are expected to pass on next month.

"Shall the people rule?" "I owe my nomination to the people."

These are favorite expressions of Mr. Bryan. The Kicker does not care whether the next president is Taft or Bryan. If I had the selection to make I would say Bryan, for the reason that four years of Taggart-Wetmore-Ryan-Haskell rule would serve to more thoroughly convince the masses that they have nothing to expect from the rule of capitalism—no matter what label it bears. Some people are hard to convince and will not accept the Cleveland administration as "genuine Democracy." Yet the Denver convention glorified Grover and adjourned in commemoration of his death.

"Shall the people rule?" asks Bryan. Well, let's see about that. We know they do not rule under Republicanism. Let's take a peep at the Democratic lay-out. Wm. R. Hearst is a Democrat at heart and his papers supported Bryan in 1896 and 1900 at a tremendous financial loss. In 1904 Hearst refused to support Parker and organized a party of his own along the lines of the Democratic platform of 1896. He named this party the "Independence League," and in 1906 it carried New York against the combined opposition of the Democratic and Republican machines—except for governor. Hughes, a "reform" Republican, was elected governor. All other state officials elected were of the Hearst party. This proves the influence of Hearst among the masses in New York state.

In a recent interview Mr. Hearst said that, last winter, Bryan came to New York and tried to make a dickler with him to the effect that if Hearst would support Bryan for the presidency this year, he (Bryan) would support Hearst in 1912. Of course Bryan says this is "false."

But Hearst sticks to it, and I believe Hearst, for it is just like Bryan to go about the country dickering with the "influentials" for support, and then cry out: "I owe my nomination to the people." In a recent speech in St. Louis Mr. Hearst said:

"Bryan is the king of all pre-digitorators," he shouted. "The man who can make his principles disappear and who can change his policies right in the view of the audience. He is the shell game operator at the country fair, who keeps his waltzers guessing as to which shell conceals his policies. He is the astounding ventriloquist, who throws his voice here, there and everywhere, but who is all the time somewhere else. He is the marvelous contortionist who can twist himself into whatever attitude the public he fancies may favor. He is the wondrous juggler who balances on one hand the arch enemy of union labor, Belmont, and in the other Gompers. He is the

political loose-skin man who reverses himself so that you can not tell which way he is going.

"The Democratic party waited long to be tempted by the power of money, and when it was first tempted it fell. I was born a Democrat. My ancestors came from Virginia, South Carolina and Missouri. My mother and father came from Missouri, and my father was a Democratic senator from California. I had just reached success with my first New York newspaper when Bryan was nominated in 1896.

After deliberating all night, I decided to fight for him because he was the choice of the Democratic party. I fought alone in New York for him, and the business of my newspaper fell off. Advertisers came to me and said that if I did not cease supporting Bryan they would withdraw their support. I told them to do so, as I needed more space to boom the Democratic candidate. The books of my newspaper will show that in the month of October, 1896, the deficit, due to the unpopularity of my fight for Bryan, was \$158,000."

The contributions to the Democratic campaign fund were given short but emphatic attention. The \$300,000 that has been occasioning so much difficulty to explain was used effectively.

Norman E. Mack has been trying to explain this money by saying that it was left over from the last campaign. But this has set all the country laughing at the suggestion that anything could be left over from a campaign that Tom Taggart engineered.

"Shall the people rule?" asks Bryan, but he does not answer the question. Instead, the Bryan party placed Mose Wetmore, vice-president of the infamous Tobacco trust, as treasurer of its finance committee. Gov. Haskell, of Oklahoma, was made treasurer of the national committee proper. And now comes Hearst and ex-Attorney-General Monnett, of Ohio, and show that Haskell is a tool of Standard Oil! When Monnett was attorney-general he brought proceedings to oust Standard Oil from that state. He says Haskell was one of four men who offered him \$500,000 bribe money to drop the case. Monnett is an honest man, refused the money and, consequently, was retired to private life. Had he accepted the bribe he might have become president. It would have been a sure road to the United States senate.

Of course Haskell, like Bryan, says the charge is "false." But it seems that they have the proof. Anyway, Haskell telegraphed Hearst that it was false, and offered to submit the matter to arbitration—Haskell to select all of the arbitrators—and he named them—five corporation newspaper editors, among them the editor of the St. Louis Republic. To the associated press Mr. Hearst made this reply:

"Mr. Haskell's proposition reminds me of the well-known story of the burglar who was caught in the act by the police. When the police burst in upon him they found him in front of a safe which had been blown open, with his tools in his pocket, a dark lantern in one hand and his other hand on the valuables in the safe. The police dragged the burglar to the court-room and the judge said to the culprit: 'Well, what have you to say for yourself?'

The burglar said: 'Look a here, judge, let's arbitrate this case.'

"The court records, the complaint of the ex-attorney-general of Ohio, Mr. Monnett; the affidavit of the present assistant of the present attorney-general of Ohio, Mr. Burnett; the court records of the State of Oklahoma in the Prairie Oil and Gas Company case, accuse Mr. Haskell, and not I.

"Mr. Haskell has had many years in which to sue Mr. Monnett if that gentleman committed a libel in naming C. N. Haskell as one of the men who attempted to bribe him in the Standard Oil case.

"Mr. Haskell's proposition to arbitrate the matter now shows that he has a sense of humor, even if he has not a sense of honor."

There is your Democratic party whose leader asks "shall the people rule?" No sooner was the above answer of Hearst made public than Haskell packed his grip and left Democratic headquarters at Chicago. It is not expected that he will return to serve out his term as treasurer.

But it is an awkward position for "the party of the people" to be in. If he stays away it will be an admission of his guilt. If he returns they will likely prove his guilt. So what is he to do and yet hold his job as governor of Oklahoma?



HERE IS THE ISSUE. TAKE YOUR CHOICE.

HOW IT ALWAYS WORKS.

It matters not how, when nor where one undertakes the struggle for liberty, the same forces oppose—the forces that profit by slavery, by oppression. It was in 1831 that W. L. Garrison started a little paper in Boston called the Liberator. It opposed chattel slavery and, of course, was a "menace" to the then existing order.

Neither the wealthy nor the cultured citizens of Boston took any note of the paper or its publisher. But the South was quick to take alarm, and before the end of the first year the state of Georgia, by legislative enactment, offered \$5,000 for the apprehension of the editor. The governors of Virginia and South Carolina, and Senator Robert Y. Hayne of the latter state, all appealed to Harrison Gray Otis, then mayor of Boston, for his interference. The Liberator had then been published for nine months, but Mayor Otis was obliged to confess that he had never heard of it. He directed the police to "ferret out" a paper published without concealment in the same building with the post office, and within three minutes' walk of the City Hall!

The officers assured him that the office was "an obscure hole," the editor's "only visible auxiliary a Negro boy, and his supporters a very few insignificant persons of all colors."

Yet in that "obscure hole" was born the freedom of a race—although the supporters of the little paper that the mayor had the police to "ferret out" were "a very few insignificant persons of all colors." The result of the police investigation Mayor Otis communicated to the governors of Virginia and South Carolina with the assurance that "the new fanaticism had not made, nor was likely to make, proselytes among the RESPECTABLE CLASSES."

Mr. Garrison published his paper for many years and was much ridiculed and persecuted by the ruling class, and finally a mob, incited by the "best people," smashed his press and murdered him. Today a monument marks the grave of Garrison, a bronze tablet marks the "obscure hole" where the Liberator was born and a statue of Garrison stands on Commonwealth Avenue, Boston. But what of the memory of those "best people"—Mayor Otis, the governors of Virginia and South Carolina and the legislators of Georgia that offered \$5,000 for Garrison's arrest?

They can kill an agitator, but they have never yet been able to bury the cause he represented along with his body. They have tried it over and over again—from the crucifixion of Christ on down—and the result has always been the same. There is scarcely an active Socialist agitator in the country who has not been in jail, and some have been so harassed that their health gave way and they died.

But Socialism grows!

If you want to see what self-sacrificing patriots the Democrats are you don't have to go outside of Scott county. They won't take anything that is nailed down and riveted Not satisfied with the salaries and fees of office, they own a bank to loan you your own money and establish a newspaper to do your public printing at their own price. Next I reckon they will form a syndicate to build your roads and bridges. Democrats are great when it comes to "special privileges to none"—but themselves.

WHEN TROUBLE BEGINS.

So long as the ruling class is let alone and permitted to make the laws, everything is lovely. So long as the ruling class is looked up to by the producers of wealth and this producing class joyously hands over the surplus, there is "harmony." So long as the newspapers and orators point to the rulers as public benefactors who "develop the country," all is well. So long as we point to the ruling class as pillars of the church and models of honesty, there is no trouble.

Let some "disgruntled agitator" undertake to point out to the toilers that they are not of the ruling class, but only the dopes who foot the bills, then the trouble begins.

None know better than the ruling class that, in numbers, they are insignificant. They can only hope to govern by trickery and deception—by perstuding you that you are "the people," and that "the people" rule.

"There are no classes," they tell you. Yet Mr. Tenant Farmer, or day laborer, when did your banker's family last spend a day with your family? "All are equal before the law," they assure you, yet go back as far as you will and see if you can recall when a capitalist was placed in the Scott county jail!

"Socialists don't make the class struggle," says the Appeal, "they only try to pull it out of society. They are like the boy whose mother told him to quit pulling the cat's tail. 'I ain't pullin' the cat's tail,' replied the boy, 'I'm only holding onto it, and the cat is doin' the pullin'."

When the members of the ruling class commit crimes, they seldom reach the light—and more seldom the grand jury. If a matter happens to be so notorious that an investigation before the grand jury is unavoidable, great care is taken to get only "good men" on the grand jury. And, according to our modern standard, "good men" are only to be found among the propertied class.

If I took the witness stand and undertook to swear away the good name and reputation of a citizen I would be arrested before leaving the court room. But I am not of the ruling class.

LABOR DAY AT SKESTON.

Evidently the Socialists got the best of the Labor Day speaking at Skeston. Week before last the Enterprise contained a long account and scarcely mentioned the Socialists, but put the load peddle on the Democratic and Republican speakers—especially the Democrat.

Last week a string of stuff appeared that sounded like the Lamentations of Milo and signed "A Democrat," explaining that the Democrat spoke first and did not know that political speeches were to be made. Then he devoted his attention to the Socialist "tirades." Oh, yes; the "best people" are beginning to notice us in spots, evidently those "tirades" had medicine in 'em. They always have.

Why not vote for the Bryan-Haskell-Wetmore-Wells-Francis-Cowherd Democracy? It is the genuine article. And then there is W. H. Miller, president of the Southeast Missouri Trust Co., of Cape Girardeau, as presidential elector from this district. Just think of it, Bro. McGuire, how Miller has "come around." In 1896 he was powerfully opposed to Bryan.

IT BEATS THE BAND.

The doings in capitalist politics, beat the band. In a recent issue of the Star and Chronicle Holla Wells, twice elected Mayor of St. Louis on the Democratic ticket, is quoted as saying:

"In 1896 and in 1900, I followed the dictates of my conscience and supported the Republican ticket," said Mayor Wells. "But this year I feel that I am fully justified in giving my entire and vigorous support to the Democratic candidates, which I will do. I will support Mr. Bryan and the entire State Democratic ticket."

Of course I understand the game and am only surprised that there are yet people who seem to be blind as a bat. Here is a man who, in 1896, contributed money to the Republican campaign fund and voted for McKinley, yet, in the spring of 1897 he was nominated mayor of the largest city in the state on the Democratic ticket and elected.

In 1900, while serving as a Democratic mayor of St. Louis, he again supported the Republican ticket, and in the following spring he was again nominated at the head of the Democratic city ticket and again elected mayor.

"But this year," he says "I feel that I am fully justified in giving my entire and vigorous support to the Democratic candidates, which I will do."

Who has "come around"—Mayor Wells, or Bryan and the Democratic party? I would ask the Cash-Book man to explain, but he has again crawled in his hole.

GET MIXED SOMETIMES.

I read the two Bloomfield papers just for the fun of it. The Vindicator is labelled Democratic and the Courier is labelled Republican. Both are printed in the same shop and from the same type.

Occasionally they get their slush mixed and a "Democratic" editorial appears in the Republican paper, and vice versa. Last week one of these humorous oversights occurred and the following appeared in the Republican sheet:

"Judge C. C. Bland, Democratic candidate for judge of the St. Louis court of appeals, was a visitor here this week. Judge Bland is a brother of the late Silver Dick Bland, who was during his life time the most popular official in the state. Judge Bland is a jurist of marked ability and SHOULD BE RE-ELECTED."

Of course local Republicans will get after the editor for endorsing a Democrat, and they who understand will regard it as a huge joke, but when it comes to explaining it to the fellows at the forks of the creek, it will not be so easy. Some day these fellows, too, may get onto the game.

I had always been taught that the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the ballot were the bulwark of our liberties, but the Democrats have knocked a hole in my education by declaring that our liberties depend on federal judges in whose selection we have no voice. "The courts of justice are the bulwark of our liberties," says the Democratic platform. I confess that this part of the Democratic platform is plain and ought not to be misunderstood. As a guardian of my liberties I would as soon risk a king or czar as a federal judge. And since national conventions deal only with national affairs, they could only have had reference only to federal judges appointed by corporations through the president.

HASKELL QUITS.

Gov. Haskell, of Oklahoma, has resigned as treasurer of the National Democratic Committee. This, it seems to me, is a confession of his guilt of the charges made against him. The various accusations were made by W. R. Hearst, Attorney-General Monnett, President Roosevelt and the Attorney-General of Oklahoma—also a Democrat. The charges are:

"That Haskell was a party to the \$500,000 bribe offered by Standard Oil to Frank S. Monnett, who, as attorney-general of Ohio, was prosecuting the Rockefeller corporation.

"That Haskell's connection with the Prairie Oil and Gas Company, a Standard subsidiary, led him last July to exercise his power as governor and to stop the prosecution of the Prairie Oil and Gas Company in the Oklahoma pipe line case.

"That Haskell was one of the organizers of the Federal Steel Company.

"That Haskell has been a bitter enemy of organized labor, and that in 1905 he was one of the charter members of the Citizens' Alliance of Muskogee, which was formed to fight organized labor.

"That Haskell prostituted the State University of Oklahoma to politics.

"That Haskell's name has appeared in various suits brought by the government to keep certain of the Creek Indians from having their lands fraudulently taken.

"That Haskell was in 1894 the promoter in Wall Street of the ill-fated Detroit and Lima Northern, the Lima Northern and the subsequent companies under which these properties were known during a course of five bankruptcies.

Now, if Haskell is guilty of any or all of these charges, what sort of a Democrat is he? I guess you would call him a top-notch one, for he was a close friend of Bryan, was made chairman of the committee on resolutions and platform at Denver, is the author of Bryan's famous "guaranteed bank deposits" plank, and was put in charge of the Democratic cashbox at Chicago. His resignation is equivalent to a confession of guilt. No innocent man would retire under fire. The report is that he was requested to resign by Bryan.

But why should Haskell be kicked out because he is accused of being a tool of the trusts and Wetmore, vice-president of the Tobacco trust, retained at Democratic headquarters?

A BUSINESS PROPOSITION. The county officers ought to do—and I presume do do—a good business with their new organ. Not only have they a led-pipe pinch on the people's public printing, but they have "persuasive" power not common among other newspaper men.

To begin with, they have associated with them all of the big business interest of the county. Big business, in plain English, is little else than a big graft under capitalism. The big business men are the ones who have business at the court house and in court. Therefore it is a good business proposition to have associated with them the men whom the people have entrusted with power.

Look over any circuit, probate or county court docket and you will see the extent big business is interested in the doings of these courts. A business man who refused to patronize the paper owned by the officials might find it rough shelling if he got into court—especially if his opponent happened to have stock in the new paper and was a business partner of the powers that be.

But, in a proposition like this, where do you hayseeds come in?

For a time Senator Foraker, of Ohio, fought the Roosevelt-Taft combine and only two weeks ago to the press announced that "harmony" prevailed and cartoons showing Taft and Foraker on the same platform appeared. Evidently it was agreed that Foraker was to be returned as senator from Ohio in exchange for his support of Taft. But last week Foraker was caught "with the goods on him" and was shown to be a tool of Standard Oil. Now the Taft managers try to disown Foraker. Funny, isn't it?

When, in 1894, that Chicago corporation judge sent Eugene Debs to jail for six months for violating judge-made law, he did not dream that in 1908 the same Debs would be campaigning the nation in a special train paid for by the working class. Times do change.

Uncover a "prominent statesman" anywhere and you have an arch rascal—a tool of a corporation.

THE NIGHT RIDERS.

The Kicker regrets to learn of the spread of the Night Rider method of adjusting present industrial evils. Generally speaking, the Night Riders are made up of the most substantial farmers of a community who feel that law and government has failed to give them justice. Consequently they seek to correct their grievances in their own crude way.

Behind the forces that exploit the farmer is the United States government, the state governments and the county governments. Against such tremendous odds the little groups of farmers cannot hope to win.

The thing for the farmers to do is to organize industrially and politically and get control of the powers of government that are now being used against them. Then they can dislodge their enemies—the commercial pirates of the nation. Any other method is sure to prove disastrous in the end.

If all the farmers and workers went to the polls next month and voted as farmers and workers, and not as Democrats and Republicans, the trick could be turned in a day.

Night Riders are reported to be operating in Northern Arkansas and in the border counties of Missouri.

THE PESKY SOCIALISTS.

The Republican is reliably informed that word has been sent out to the effect that N. B. Wilkinson of Willow Springs, Socialist candidate for congress in the Fourteenth district must be pulled from the race. The report is that Wilkinson seems to be cutting too much of a figure for the comfort of Mr. Russell and therefore the Democrats will have to get Wilkinson out of the running and control the Socialist vote if such a thing is possible. Just what method is to be used to accomplish this undertaking has not been fully decided upon, but it won't be long, it is said, till Wilkinson will have to either accept or regard a pretty liberal offer.—Cape Girardeau Republican.

The Kicker hereby authorizes the Cape paper to say its reliable informant that there is no way to get Wilkinson out of the running. I am not personally acquainted with Mr. Wilkinson, but I do know that Socialists are not in politics for revenue, but from principle and conviction.

It is true that Mr. Wilkinson is a lawyer, and we all know that the lawyer who rejects "a pretty liberal offer" is a freak, but the lawyer who denounces himself a Socialist is also a freak, and you may say for the Kicker that Mr. Wilkinson will be in the running at the finish.

For many years Mart Clardy served the people in the congressional district just north of us in congress. Being a Democrat of course he opposed corporations. As soon as the people kicked him out the Missouri Pacific railroad made him its chief attorney. Jim Seibert also served the people at Jefferson City for a long time. He, too, is one of those trust-busting, corporation smashing Democrats. When the people kicked him out the Missouri Pacific had no peg to hang him on. Jim wasn't a lawyer, and he was too old to work as a trainman or section hand. So a new job was created and Jim was made "tax commissioner." Funny how the railroads take care of their enemies!

If the "old guard" succeeds in carrying the state next month, ex-Lieut.-Gov. John A. Lee should come back and try for the United States senate. He seemed to be the only one of the gang afflicted with a conscience. He confessed, resigned and left the state. The rest of the bunch escaped the penitentiary because of their ownership of the machinery of government and the courts, and today they are out asking the people to restore them to power. Will the people do it? Hardly.

Yes, sir; these "higher-up" people are great when it comes to "loyalty to the party." Four years ago, while Brewer Busch was serving the Democrats of St. Louis as committeeman from his ward he contributed \$15,000 to Tom Niedringhaus, then chairman of the state Republican committee. Brewer Lemp is also good at placing his money on first and second choice.

Why is it that the old party politicians never come to me and try to influence my vote? Is it because they think I cannot be influenced? If so, then should you not regard it as an insult when they come to you?

"Haskell defies Hearst to swear to facts," says the Farmington Times. Does Haskell expect a fellow to swear to anything else?