



FARMER'S PLAIN TALK

Mr. Lobnitz, of East Lake Lillian, Tells Why He Will Vote for Bryan and Lind Now.

HE WAS TOO DISGUSTED TO VOTE IN 1896.

He Fairly Flays Dr. Johnson, Whose Flop to Republicanism Has Induced Him to Take Up His Pen.

MCKINLEY PROSPERITY IS A SHAM TO THE FARMER.

The Mockery of Shouting Prosperity to the Farmers Clearly Proven by Figures From His Expense Account.

To the Editor of the TRIBUNE.

East Lake Lillian, Minn., Oct. 18, 1900.—In the Republican-Gazette of Willmar, one of the newspapers which the republican party now sends me to read for nothing, I see that Dr. Johnson declares himself a republican again, and that is all right so far, but the way he does it does not agree with my stomach. I have never before in my life criticized a man in a newspaper, and I am very sorry that Dr. Johnson should be the man to cause me to make an exception to the rule. The doctor says he noticed that when Cleveland was president we had hard times, and a good many more with the doctor noticed that. At that time the doctor was a farmer, or at least was interested in farming business, and the farmers always feel the burden of hard times first, because they have the heaviest burden to bear. I do not wonder that he felt it, but to claim that Cleveland or the democratic party was to blame is very much out of the way. If the hard times had been in the United States only, there would be some reason in it, but the hard times were in foreign countries also. To obtain relief from this bad condition the doctor says he joined the people's party, and he believed that in time it could solve the question of how to get better times for the majority of the people of this great nation. I believe he was right so far, and I and a good many more with me believe the same yet. But when the doctor says that if the people's party had had leaders made of the right stuff, statesmen instead of office-seekers, at the helm, it would today have been the second party of the state and still have a mission to perform, it makes me actually sick at heart, because I always believed that the doctor was a true and earnest leader in the people's cause. He fought the good combat as long as he was truly in our ranks. Why has he not patience enough to stand by his good principles, which I know he is in possession of. Or was he one of those office-seekers he talks about that spoiled the party? I do not like to offend him, but I must say it looks like it.

If he had been in real earnest he would have continued to fight for what he believed was right, and his reward would have come sooner or later. We, the people, would have brought him to the front and chosen him for our chief leader, but it looks as if he has not constancy enough to receive either the garland of laurel or the crown of a martyr. He has chosen his course, his career as a politician is ended, and our expectations of the doctor have disappeared; but our hope that the people's party yet has a mission to perform has not disappeared.

Next, the doctor says he is no milk-and-water sort of a man. That is right, but he appears to me more like a nut that is hard to crack, but when cracked nothing is found in it. If the doctor believes the time was wasted when he was a populist, he is greatly mistaken. I am sure that in the future the doctor will look back with pride to the time when he stepped up like a man and fought as a hero for the oppressed without expectation or view of getting any reward.

But a clear conscience is also a reward, and I hope he will at least be in possession of that.

Now, one of the reasons the doctor went republican again is that we have prosperity to his satisfaction. Well, that may be true with the doctor, but it reminds me of what a doctor in the old country said when I asked him how he was getting along. "Very poorly," he said; "nothing to do, nobody sick, nothing to earn." That shows that when the majority of the people are sick the doctors prosper, but it does not prove that sick people prosper.

The doctor sees better wages, and I suppose everybody that was a little farsighted knew when the war commenced and a hundred thousand men stepped out of labor's ranks and into the army, another hundred thousand men got employment with equipping the army, and another army of men left for Klondike to dig gold, that that would bring up wages. Lots of farmers knew when the war began that the next summer they'd have to pay a higher price to secure a man, but did that mean prosperity? Then I must admit that war is a blessing to the country; I have always believed that it was a curse.

The values of land are higher. Yes, that is right; but does that raise the price of farmer's produce? It is certain that it does not lower the expenses. The doctor advises the farmers that if their farms do not pay, to sell them, but does that take away the poor conditions of the farmers as a class? It simply helps that man out from the oppressed class. That is not what we wanted. We wanted something done for the farmer class as well as for industry. I understand that the doctor does not use farmer spectacles any more; that is the reason why he thinks the present conditions are all right.

The doctor does not see the millionaires of the east, how they are using this rich country and trying all kinds of tricks to squeeze every cent out of the working and producing classes; how trusts, monopolies and combinations flourish in the shade of McKinley's high tariff tree. They are using the western states, and the eastern and the Romans in the olden times used their conquered states, as a spring from which they could draw for the benefit of the conqueror. Now, it looks to me that the money power has conquered this country, and that we are free states only in name. I am surprised that the people as a whole will run after one wind-bag today and another tomorrow. One will tell them that he knows remedies for all these evils in the country, and the next day he will tell them

what fools they are for doing just what he told them to do. An old saying is, Don't believe in the wolf because he has a sheepskin on; he will sooner or later throw it off and turn wolf again. Now, about the outdoor politics, if I may take the liberty to express it in that way, we do not care very much for that. It seems to me that there is little glory for the American flag in the Philippine war. They are using it more as an outdoor amusement and want all people to participate, and by the way, to forget their home troubles, but the game is too small and when the chase is over there will be nothing left to divide among the hunters. That old political trick will not work this time.

"If we do have some more taxes, what do we common people care?" the doctor says. No, I admit that the taxes in this county never have oppressed me, although I have to pay from \$40 to \$50 every year. But let us see what I had to pay to the trusts the last year. I will use my average expense in round numbers:

Table with 2 columns: Old price, New price. Items include Hardware and glass, Machinery and tools, Twine and rope, etc.

Now, the above is a very moderate estimate, and still it increased my expenses by \$164—four times what I pay in taxes. It goes into the pockets of the trusts. That is more than I pay in interest on my real estate and bank loan together. Such a little drain is nothing for the doctor since he has forgotten it, or perhaps he never stops to figure these things over. But, brother farmers, and all kinds of workmen, think over the fact that you need all these necessities to live, and the republican party declares that we must have it that way, because that is progress. We all know that is an infernal falsehood, and we are going to stand together and shake off this tyrannical yoke, and vote for Bryan and Lind.

Why is it, Mr. Doctor, that W. J. Bryan will make so poor a subject for president now? Before, you said he was the very man we ought to stick to. Four years ago we had only that one question, "Free silver, 16 to 1, hurrah for Bryan!"—more of a war-cry than anything else. I was astonished that you could believe there was salvation for the nation in that. I, for one, did not believe there was any reason in it, and I have very good reasons why, but have not time to explain, neither is there any use of an explanation at this time. That question today is in the background. If the doctor had then told the people the foolishness of the idea, I would have admired his judgment. But, instead of that, he was one of those "voting cattle" (I beg your pardon, doctor; I use your own expression), but I, for my part, was not one of them. I did not vote at all. I was mad but powerless, and so I stayed at home.

But today we have another monster to fight, that big-headed trust bull, which the republicans declare is a necessity, and a sign of progress. But the ignorant fools of the opposition do not understand their own benefits, nor are they ripe to receive such great favors yet, for they are going

to fight it. First, by trying to dehorn it by getting competition from foreign countries. Free trade in their lines will bring them to time. If we can't get free trade we will have to kill the bull. We will make laws that will stop the trusts. That, I am afraid, will be hard to do, because it may come in conflict with the United States laws. But something must be done, and Bryan has promised to help, and that is the main reason why we this year will vote for Bryan. If he cannot, or will not, stand to his promises, time will show it. The doctor has not judgment enough to decide that today.

When the doctor says that John Lind is an able and earnest man, he only states what almost every republican believes, and what we all know. But when the doctor criticizes John Lind's actions, it seems to me the doctor is out of the way. His repetition of last year's politics was unnecessary, because everybody knows it, and we all can judge for ourselves. The doctor's illustration of the mince-meat-fed donkey is very funny. I did not know anything about that at all, but as the doctor says so, I suppose it must be true. I suppose he has been chopped up, fed to the donkey and digested, as I understand he talks from experience. But if he had said that the cross of animals he mentions had brought forth a strong and stout demo-pop mule to kick and kill the trust monster, we would have cried, "Hurrah for the doctor! he's all right!"

Now, the last and, in the doctor's eyes, not the least charge against the Lind administration, namely, the blunder, if we can call it that, of the manager of the Stillwater twine factory, is simply a result of trust manipulation. They could not get the state factory to combine with them, so they started the rumor that twine would go up to 20 and 25 cents a pound before harvest. The manager, anxious to secure sisal enough so he could meet the demand for twine, bought a lot of sisal and paid so much for it that he could not sell the twine for the price that the private companies sold their twine at near harvest. That was where the trouble came in. Well, all the farmers were exposed to the same scheme. Nine out of ten farmers believed the story that twine would be very high, and secured their twine nearly six months before they could use it, consequently they paid from one-fourth to one-third more than they could have purchased it for at harvest time.

For my part I did not for a moment believe in their generosity, because I thought they would not be so anxious to get the twine sold in the winter if they thought they could make a fortune by keeping it a few months. Instead of paying 14 or 15 cents, as most farmers did, I paid only 11 cents. Thus we see plain enough the result of the trust operations. They are robbing the farmers and trying to bring the state twine factory into disrepute. And it looks as though they are trying to rob our earnest governor of the honor that is his due. Anybody who likes to be robbed, and thinks he cannot keep up his dignity unless he kisses the hands of trust protectors, may do so—I will not.

Well, I think I must stop. People will get tired. I am, yours truly, H. ANDR. LOBNITZ.

One carload of feed just in at Sundberg's. Also good flour. 37td

A Bryan and Lind club has been organized at Sunburgh, with a membership of 33.



HON. JOHN LIND. Will Speak at Willmar Tuesday Evening, October 30th.

LIND WILL SWEEP THE STATE

His Majority Will Not be Less Than Forty Thousand, from Present Indications.

MAY ECLIPSE THE SECOND RUN OF THE LITTLE NORWEGIAN.

John Lind has Made the Best Governor Minnesota Ever Had, and All People, Regardless of Party, Creed and of Nationality,

WILL VOTE TO HOLD UP HIS HANDS.

The Gang in This County That Has Been Chasing Around Lying About the Governor, Will be Buried With Van Sant.

At this writing there appears not the slightest doubt that John Lind will be re-elected with a majority that will be a fitting reward for the good work he has faithfully done during the past two years. From every nook and corner of the state, from Winona to Kittson and from Rock to Cook, advices are such as lead us to believe that his majority will be increased everywhere.

Even the First district, which was the only district in the state that was carried by Eustis, will very likely turn in a majority for Lind. The big corporations are against him, the banks are against him, the daily press is against him, the old political ringsters and their country echoes are against him, and the discharged state employes are against him, but the great mass of farmers, laborers, and business men whose interests he has served so faithfully, without fear or favor, will roll up a vote for him that has never been equalled in the history of the state, unless it was the majority of Knute Nelson in his second run. Unlike the Little Norwegian, however, Lind will serve out his second term and not use his large majority simply to advance himself. Mark Hanna and his local sub-bosses have poured out money without stint; every old political ringster whose services are for sale, either for cash or for the promise of appointment, has been enlisted to fight Lind by fair means or foul, and spellbinders will paid for their services swarm over the state doing nefarious work in unjustly criticizing Lind's work. But the people of Minnesota love fair play, and they will vote to sustain the governor in his great fight. All the unjust abuse and downright lying that the opposition are using will have just the opposite effect from what they imagine. A reelection has set in that not only will insure Lind's re-election but that promises to elect most of the state ticket.

The railroads and elevator kings are now centering their fire on the railroad and warehouse commissioners, hoping to be able to cripple Governor Lind's second administration by the election of Miller and Mills, thus taking the grain and railroad departments out of his control, but people everywhere are alive to the necessity of electing Ringdahl, Knox and Owen, and there can be but little doubt of their election.

In this county the old courthouse gang has been making a particularly vicious fight on Lind. They were obliged to do this in order to secure the good will of the faction whose particular pet candidate Van Sant is. But by so doing the nominees on the gang ticket have made the most serious political mistake of their lives, next to their alliance with the blind-pig element. Even people who do not entirely agree with Lind in everything will not consent to see him unjustly accused of wrongdoing. They know he has done what he honestly thought was right and for the best interests of the great state he is serving, and they have a right to suspect the motives of any politician who unjustly attacks him. As a rule the Lind republicans in Kandiyohi county will be found this year voting the people's county ticket straight. The same motive that leads them to vote for Lind in the interests of a good state government will induce them to vote for the clean set of candidates nominated directly by the people's organization of Kandiyohi county, as by so doing they will break the backbone of the whisky ring of Willmar that tries to dominate county as well as village politics.

One of the most interesting political battles ever fought in Kandiyohi county is on, and every good citizen will line up and do his duty as he sees it. Martin Rigg of Glenwood, has leased the Glarum Hotel here, and expects to take charge of the property about Nov. 1. Mr. Glarum and family will move onto their farm south-east of the village. They have worked hard for a great many years in building up a successful hotel business and are entitled to a much-needed rest. The Foresters lodge is planning for a Thanksgiving ball.

Relieved of Their Cash.

This is the season of the year when hold-ups are a common occurrence. On the night of the Republican rally, two young men whose homes are in Iowa, and who gave their names as H. C. Smith and Albert Shekel, were relieved of some over fifty dollars. The hold-up took place in the west end of the village during the parade, the assailants being masked to conceal their identity. The affair had been carefully planned the robbers having learned during the day that their victims were possessed of money which they had earned in the west during the harvest season. There were three of them when the assault was made, and it is presumed that one of them was the "spotter" who had worked himself into the good grace of the victims during their short stay here, as he had left them only a short time before the hold-up.

To ensure their own safety the highwayman escorted the unfortunates to the railroad yards, where they locked them up in a box car. After making a threat that their lives would be in danger should they make an alarm for help, they beat a hasty retreat. It was some time before the badly frightened boys made any attempt to call for help. They were finally released by some railroad men, and the matter was reported to the police. No clue to the robbers however was found.

We understand that A. R. Anlauf and L. G. Nelson have leased the Pipestone opera house and will take possession shortly.

OBITUARY.

Last Friday afternoon at 3:15 Andrew J. Berg passed away to his eternal rest. The demise occurred at the home of his sister, Miss Mattie Johnson, with whom the family have been residing since their return from Utah, where Mr. Berg had gone for his health. Deceased was 37 years of age. The nature of the illness for which deceased had sought relief in vain is well known to our people. Consumption had fastened its strong grip on him, and he returned to Willmar patiently await the end, which came in about three weeks after his arrival. He died peacefully, in the Christian faith, surrounded by his family and relatives.

Deceased was a native of Norway, his birthplace being Vestra Thorten. He came to this country twenty years ago. He has resided in Willmar nineteen years, seventeen of which he has spent in the tailoring business. He leaves a wife and one son to mourn his departure. Other relatives are his two sisters, Mrs. Charles Dahlheim and Miss Mattie Johnson, his brother Peter J., all of Willmar; also a brother living in Norway.

The funeral took place on Sunday at 3 p. m., from the Free Lutheran church, Rev. E. E. Gynild officiating.

Willmar has lost an old citizen in the death of Michael Neuberger, whose demise occurred Monday morning at 7 o'clock, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Herman Yonkey. Death resulted from stomach troubles, after an illness of only three days. He was 61 years of age. Deceased was one of the early settlers of the village, having resided here since 1879. His native home was Germany. Out of a large family of children, a sister living in Louisville, Ky., is the sole survivor. Three daughters and five sons are left to mourn their father's departure, three of the children being residents of Willmar—Cornelius S., Joseph and Mrs. Herman Yonkey.

The funeral took place this morning at 10 o'clock from the Catholic church, Rev. Father Malloy officiating.

Merchant Retires.

S. B. Qvale has retired from the mercantile firm of Roise & Qvale. His successor is Albert C. Johnson, and the new firm will carry on the business under the name of Roise & Co.

Mr. Qvale has during his association with the firm helped largely in building up a successful business, and will be missed from the ranks of those connected with that popular establishment. We have not heard yet what Mr. Qvale's intentions are for the future, but bespeak for him success in whatever he may decide to undertake. Here is hoping that "The Big Store" may continue its big business under the new management, as we are sure it will do with that pioneer merchant, Mr. Roise, at the helm, and so popular a young man as Mr. Johnson to assist toward that end.

County Auditor Johnson received the official state ballots this week. The shipment contained 7,500 ballots. The county ballots are in the hands of the printer and will be finished so as to be ready for distribution by Nov. 1.

Will They Take the Bait?

