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STATE ISSUES.

Will some one be kind enough to tell us what became of the cash school fund?

Whenever a heretofore democratic state or county becomes doubtful, the wall of despair is Mark Hanna's money.

Is there any other set of human beings on God's green sod that would pay 6 per cent a year on cash and lands given to the public schools.

If the fact that government bonds on hand were about to run out justified selling them, wouldn't the fact that the government would have traded 30 year 4 per cents for those expiring, have justified that trade?

If our loss \$1,650,000 had been converted into thirty year four per cent bonds we would have drawn over \$150,000 in interest therefrom and would still have that \$1,650,000 only it would be worth \$1,850,000.

It took good financing to beat the Missouri School Fund out of \$250,000.

By the way that \$250,000 is just the sum democratic papers say Mark Hanna is going to spend in Missouri this year. Wonder if Mark got that money and is now going to pay it back?

The most interesting thing about the school fund swindle is that every good, honest democrat who investigates it thoroughly becomes converted.

Once in every 16-2-3 years what is left of those bonds opens its mouth and swallows itself.

Wonder why that "confidential agent" in the bond deal didn't sell Mr. Shannon a gold brick.

Why was 2 per cent more paid for Missouri bonds bearing the same rate of interest with only a short time to run, than the new issue could be had for with a much longer time to run.

But the State House ring wish that little word why was eliminated from the English language.

It is now evident that not only the selling of those government bonds but the buying of those State bonds was a private speculation. Now who got the rake-off?

The tax-payers of Missouri have been robbed of \$1,500,000 in a little over 25 years, and the school fund of nearly \$200,000.

What can we do with a thing drawing interest from our bank account, yet we can not sell it neither can we legally get rid of it?

This year the democratic minority will have a chance to do something by way of investigation.

In every state in the Union there is only a penalty for not paying taxes but Missouri is more progressive. We poor Missourians pay a penalty if we don't pay our taxes and one if we do.

The good people of Missouri have at last been shown. Watch them on the 6th.

The population of Missouri since 1884 has increased 27 per cent. Our assessed valuation for tax purposes 43 per cent. The expenses of the different departments of the state government has increased 250 per cent.

A business administration, according to recent developments, means to have the balance coming to the individual account.

Don't forget we want to cast our votes on those books!

Wonder how long it would take to count the cash at Jefferson City?

OUR COUNTY SCHOOL FUND.

Suppose that Judge White, Judge Oliver and Judge Ellis should call in all the loans of our county school fund that are now loaned out bringing in an annual interest of 6 or 7 per cent and should spend the money for other current expenses of the county and put "certificates of indebtedness," written on "good parchment paper" bearing the seal of the court, in the vaults of the Union Savings Bank and then levy a tax of 6 or 7 per cent on all taxpayers of the county, on the amount of the said certificates of indebtedness and make us pay it, would we Republicans and Democrats, say that our Honorable county court had done right? No, by St. Patrick and all the thistles of the Emerald Isle, No.

Then suppose that Alexander Mudd or some other big hearted philanthropist should give to the county school fund \$6,000 to be held in trust by our county court, and loaned out at 6 per cent, the interest to go for the education of the school children of the county. And suppose (if you can) that our county court should spend that money for the current expenses of the county and saddle on us taxpayers "certificates of indebtedness" to the amount of \$6,000 with an annual tax of 6 per cent on \$6,000, or \$360 each year, wouldn't we all howl? Wouldn't our Democratic brethren swear by all the Saints in the calendar and all the signs of the Zodiac that they had done wrong? Can not most of us see the difference between receiving \$360 a year and paying a tax of \$360?

The managers of the State School Fund have done all these things and they tell us it is "fine financing"! Governor Stephens ("the sapient son of sainted sires") says this kind of a deal is a great thing when you once understand it. The St. Louis Republic says "the same fine breed" of Democrats, Dockery, Cook, et. al. will continue this business like administration of Governor Stephens! Democrats, if you want to rebuke this whole nefarious business, and yet can't vote the Republican ticket, why, hunt squirrels on election day. Shoot quail, ruffed grouse, ducks, geese, snipe or any old thing. Fish, pitch horse shoes, "shoot craps" at one cent "antie," or play seven up and we'll do the rest. Anything will beat voting a 6 per cent tax out of all our pockets.

POOL'S SPEECH.

Bad Grammar, Worse Logic, But An Honest Confession of Sins Committed.

James Kelly Pool, of Centralia, Mo., editor of the Centralia Courier, spoke at the court house in this city Tuesday night. He was preceded by a political diatribe rendered by Miss Woodruff of Mineola. The Democratic Central Committee we suppose, billed Miss Woodruff with Mr. Pool to attract a crowd, and the scheme worked fairly well. The party is surely in a bad way when it has to call for the women to enter the arena of the political speaker to argue their cause for them. We wonder if they will let Miss Woodruff vote on election day! We knew that the democratic party platform stood for divers and sundry things but we were not aware that it stood for woman's suffrage. We mention this, not to criticize their platform adversely, but rather to commend them for having in it something better than Bryanism, although it is not paramount. This brings us to Pool's speech. Article XI—Sec. 9. State Constitution says: "The proceeds of the sales of any lands or other property, which now belong or may hereafter belong to said school fund, shall be invested in the bonds of the State of Missouri, or of the United States." Every dollar of State school fund (save less than \$1,000 now in the state treasury) has been used for some other purposes and a certificate of indebtedness, on which we are taxed 6 per cent, put in the place of the fund. Is not this a violation of the above article of the constitution? These certificates Mr. Pool knows are not bonds, as they can not be bought or sold. As they are not bonds they can not be paid legally. The democratic state platform does not

call them a debt and does not include them as a debt. Yet we are taxed to pay interest on them.

In the last Legislature the Republicans introduced a bill in the House to have these certificates of indebtedness acknowledged by law as a state debt, so they could legally be paid, but the democratic members tabled the bill. The democratic party is now on record, first, in the legislature as refusing to call the certificates a debt, and second, in their state platform.

Mr. Pool went after the trusts with a sharp stick but he failed to tell of the Ice Trust Jones' Cotton Ball Trust, the St. Louis Transit Trust, etc. Mr. Pool did not say that his own party prior to the war, saddled the railroad bonds on to the state, then plunged the state into civil war, which ruined the railroads to the extent that they could not be sold for half they were bonded for. Mr. Pool has a rare faculty for forgetting the sins of his own party in those awful days of civil war, but he can recount, with apparent satisfaction, the alleged sins of the republican party who guided the state in the troublesome days right after the war.

Mr. Pool's grammar, or mother tongue, was very much at fault, according to the criticism of our school girls, who noted many glaring blunders in his speech.

Thomas Collier, an uncle of Charley Crump, and Arthur Ruggles, cousin, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Crump last Wednesday and Thursday. Mr. Collier was on his way to his home at Garrison, Ky., and Mr. Ruggles was going to his home at Portsmouth, Ohio.

It is time to show up each fund for itself.

WHY WE SHOULD HAVE A CHANGE IN MISSOURI.

Your attention is called to the importance of the general election to be held in this county on Tuesday, Nov. 6, 1900. In 1896 there was a general depression and stagnation of business throughout the United States. The same year the Republican party nominated for President Wm. McKinley, and by its platform promised the people prosperity, a good protective tariff bill, sound money and good government. Upon these issues Wm McKinley was elected. Nearly four years have passed and we can safely say that every promise has been faithfully performed. Since 1896, however, new issues have been sprung, they being largely the after results of the Spanish war, but they are simply issues for which the President is not responsible and are to be handled and dealt with by Congress and Congress alone. Therefore we believe that the people will unquestionably ratify and endorse the present prosperous and successful administration of President McKinley, being fully satisfied, content with following the old adage: "Let well enough alone."

But with the citizens of Missouri a very serious issue is at hand and we must face it or fight it, as becomes our duty as law-abiding citizens and tax-payers of this State. We cannot shirk it. For 28 years the democratic party has been in absolute control of this state, and during its control it has totally disregarded the wishes of the people and mismanaged the affairs of the state. Instead of obeying the Constitution and complying with the laws, it has built up and erected a "Dynasty" controlled and manipulated by the so-called Rail Road lobby, in this state, equal if not more powerful and offensive than the "Dynasties" of Europe, in the oppression of our citizens.

The State Constitution and statute laws provide for a levy of 15c on the \$100 valuation to pay the general expenses of the state and 10c for the payment of bond debt of the state. Instead of complying with the law it has taken the whole amount of this tax levy to pay its extravagant expenses created by it, and in order to cover its rascality to make the people believe it was complying with law and constitution. In reducing the state debt it has been taking the money from the permanent school and seminary fund of this state to pay the interest and bonded debt. Until

now, not a vestige of the permanent school and seminary fund remains, and while boasting of having the largest fund of any state in the Union, it has in reality none. It has increased the values of real estate and personal property in the state, and at same time reducing the valuation of railroad property. It has persistently refused to assess and tax railroad bridges across the Missouri river, which are separate and distinct corporations and which have cost from \$500,000 to \$2,000,000 each, claiming they are a part of the road beds, thus depriving the counties, cities and states of a large revenue. It has refused to tax franchises of corporations or to pass laws by which the same could be taxed. It has created the largest trust in Missouri—the St. Louis Transit Company of St. Louis—which has exclusive control of the street railways in St. Louis. It has fastened upon the people of St. Louis and Kansas City a police bill, not for the protection, but simply and solely for political purposes. It has also passed the Nesbit Bill, which applies to the city of St. Louis and Kansas City, thereby placing under the absolute control of the Democratic ring, all elections to be held in those cities.

In its platform of 1900 it advocated "Home rule and consent of the governed" for the "little brown Filipinos" and deny the right of self government to the citizens of St. Louis and Kansas City. It has endorsed the present administration of Lon Stephens while its candidate, Mr. Dockery, admits its uncalled for extravagance. It declares for a free and fair ballot and by law seeks and does control the entire election machinery in St. Louis and Kansas City. It takes credit and claims to have reduced the state debt to \$2,500,000 and yet admits that they squandered the money raised for that purpose and robbed the school fund of \$1,300,000 in order to pay the same. It boasts of creating the largest school fund of any state in the Union, and at the same time admits that it took these funds to pay the state debt and in place of any interest-bearing funds will have state scrip on which the tax-payers are paying 5 and 6 per cent interest. It howls and rages against trusts and yet created by law the Street Car Trust of St. Louis. It congratulates the tax-payers on the low rate of taxes, which it quietly and securely increases the valuation of their taxable property. It openly pretends to fight the railroad lobby and then sends the "king of the lobby" as a delegate-at-large to its National Convention.

The above is a sample of the grievances with which the citizens of the state have had to contend, and clearly show the insincerity and inconsistency of the democratic party in this state. We therefore appeal to you all, regardless of party, for redress. Is it not time for Missouri to change her administration? Won't a change be beneficial to the State? We beg you to calmly and carefully think over and consider the question with an unbiased mind and free from partisan bias, and then, on Nov. 6, 1900, vote for a change. Vote for Joe Flory and the entire Republican State ticket, and vote for a change in the Legislature and in your county administration, thereby repudiating the bosses and lobby who have been in power so long.

Montgomery Prohibitionists.

The Prohibitionists of this county filed their petition with the County Clerk, and so will be on the official ticket. They will conduct an active campaign until the election, having songs and speaking at the following points, viz: Friday, October 27th, at 8:00 p. m., Wellsville; Saturday, October 27, 1:30 p. m. Middletown; at 4:00 p. m. Gamma; at 7:30 p. m. Two Hills. On Monday night they will be at Jonesburg, on Tuesday night at Price's Branch, and on Friday, their "Flying Column," in which will be C. E. Stokes, their candidate for governor, will be at Jonesburg at 9:00 a. m.; High Hill at 11 a. m.; New Florence at 2:00 p. m. and at Montgomery City at 8:00 p. m. On Saturday they will be at Mineola at 1:30 p. m., and at Danville at night. On Monday night before the election they will hold a rally at Wellsville. The Gamma Quartette will be at most of these meetings. The leaders of the party expect to double their vote in this county, and to poll the largest vote in the history of the party in the state and nation.

Champ Clark's Opponent.

D. S. Flagg, of Pike county, the Republican congressional nominee against Champ Clark in the Ninth district, is making a vigorous and vote-winning canvass. Big audiences are greeting him at every point, and even the friends who expected most of him are agreeable surprised at the strength and eloquence of his presentation of the issues of the campaign, plain business man as he only claims to be. Their standard bearer was wisely chosen by the Republicans of the Ninth district.—Kansas City Journal.

Harry H. Hawes, a noted Democratic politician of St. Louis, made a speech at the court house in this place last Saturday night and in the course of his remarks said: "We have a club in St. Louis called the Jefferson club. You probably know by reading the papers that I am president. It is 3,500 strong, the largest club ever formed in Missouri. It is organized for the purpose of wresting the city from the Republicans and we are going to do it on the sixth of November if we have to steal it."—Canton, Mo., News.

PROF. FRICK SPEAKS.

Prof. J. H. Frick and family, of Warrenton, visited H. J. Lanton and family of McKittick last Saturday and Sunday. Saturday night the Professor made a very interesting speech to the republican club, giving the club some good, strong points and encouraging the members for the coming election. The speaking was well attended and the best of attention given to the speaker. Prof. Frick is a strong republican and enjoys speaking for the interest of his country, its flag and its honor, at home and abroad.

Robbers in Town.

Last Wednesday night robbers broke into Hiram Barnes' saloon and played a free hand with Hiram's choice drinks, fine cigars and six-shooters. The robbers were evidently a choice lot of doves as they did not take everything in sight but made a careful selection of stimulants and silver mounted revolvers. They were very much remiss in their courtesies to the night watch as they failed to notify him of either their arrival in town or their departure. Neither did they mention to anyone their rejuvenating refreshments but left an open window to tell the story of their "hot time in the old town."

H. W. Sheets, who formerly resided in this city but for the past few years has been located in Boulder, Colorado, is here this week to attend to some legal business. Mr. Sheets will be remembered as Deputy Sheriff under Sheriff Bud Grennan several years ago.

Sheriff R. S. McCall went over to Troy last Wednesday to sell some land as trustee.