

FOLK'S NEW "BOODLERS."

DISCOVERS INIQUITOUS RAILROAD BILL FOR WHICH MOST RESPECTED DEMOCRATS IN MISSOURI VOTED.

The Late Judge J. G. Woerner, Henry J. Spaunhorst and Ex-Secretary of Agriculture Norman J. Colman Cast Ballots in Favor of Measure Which Folk Says "Bears All the Earmarks of Boodling"—Measure Was Non-Partisan and the Men Who Voted for It Are Above Suspicion.

Joseph W. Folk placed some very prominent and honorable Democrats in a bad light in his opening campaign speech at Springfield. In rehashing the old Democratic canard about the adjustment of the state debt by the Republican State Legislature of 1868—copied from the pamphlet printed by James M. Seibert several years ago—he denounced the Republican party for corruption and gave the Democrats who created the debt a certificate of good character.

Mr. Folk perhaps does not know that some well-known Democrats, two of whom are still living in St. Louis, voted for a measure which he says, "certainly bears all the earmarks of boodling." To make this matter plain, the following is taken from Mr. Folk's Springfield speech:

"The Missouri Pacific owed the state \$10,780,000. According to a report of a legislative committee, the road was ample security for the amount, but the same Legislature that adopted this report passed an act relieving the Pacific Railroad from payment of all but \$5,000,000 of the indebtedness, giving \$5,780,000 of the state's assets away for nothing. A report of the committee appointed by the board of directors of the Pacific Railroad, which was filed as an exhibit in the case of Lamb and others against the Pacific Railroad and others, in the United States Circuit Court in St. Louis, is interesting in this connection. The report is as follows:

"Our next move was to engage or employ in our interest persons of such political affiliations, standing and power with the dominant party in the Legislature as would soften down or remove the 'Copperhead' character of our board and enable us to go before the party endorsed by some high in the faith. Through them we were let into the secret of how things are sometimes done, when other methods are ineffectual. It was terribly costly for an ordinary job, but we were going in for the millions, the sum of five million dollars in the price, the state abating six million dollars of its claim. It was obtained through our exertions and appliances at a cost to the company and stockholders of \$57,312.60, already paid, and \$124,865.00 to be paid. The whole aggregating \$192,178.60."

"This certainly bears all the earmarks of boodling."

Folk's "Boodlers." Henry J. Spaunhorst and the late Judge J. G. Woerner of St. Louis, both Democratic members of the State Senate, voted for the bill when it passed that body, March 20, 1868. Other Senators classed as Democrats who voted for it were Messrs Deal, Essex, Morse, Park and Reed.

Ex-Lieutenant-Governor Norman J. Colman of St. Louis, a man so prominent in Democratic circles that he was appointed Secretary of Agriculture by President Cleveland, not only voted for the bill providing for the sale of this railroad, but also voted for the amendment to it under which the railroad effected the compromise with the state which Mr. Folk says "certainly bears all the earmarks of boodling."

An examination of the Senate and House Journals of the Missouri Legislature for the adjourned session of 1868 shows very plainly that if there was any crookedness in the adjustment of the state debts, created by the Democratic party, the Democrats were just as deep in the mud as the Republicans were in the mire. The bill to foreclose the state's lien on the Pacific Railroad (Missouri Pacific) passed the House March 5, 1868, by the following vote: Ayes—Akard, Alexander, Applegate, Baldwin, Beal, Bennett, Blodgett, Bogey, Branscomb, Britton, Brock, Brown of Dallas, Burch of Jasper, Busick, Childress, Cole, Coleman, Cosgrove, Dallmeyer, Downey, Doniphan, Eagle, Ellison, Estep, Ewing, Ferrell, Finkelnburg, Fletcher, Fourn, Fox, Goodson, Griffin, Hackelman, Harper, Hewitt, Hickman, Hoffmeister, Hornbeak, Howard, Jacquith, Jennings, Jerome, Jewett, Kelly, Key, Kidwell, Lawson, Ledergerber, Lyman, McElhinney, McFarland, Mullins of Linn, Orrick, Owens, Payne, Proffor, Pyle, Quinn, Rice, Riggs, Rinkler, Ritchie, Robertson, Roundtree, Scott, Shafer, Smelser, Stafford, Thompson, Van Wagoner, Waide, Weirich, White of Cole, Whittaker, Wilkerson, Mr. Speaker—82.

McFarland, McGinnis Mullings of Greene, Orrick, Pond, Proffor, Pyle, Quinn, Requa, Rice, Riggs, Robertson, Rollins Roundtree, Schulenburg, Scott, Shafer, Smelser, Smyth, Stafford, Thompson, Van Wagoner, Waide, Walker, Waters, Weirich, Whittaker, Walbrecht, Wyatt and Mr. Speaker (Harlan)—174.

Noes—Betz, Birch of Scotland, Boon, Cannon, Cartmel, Drum, Hathaway, Howe, Jones, Leaming, Ledergerber, Legg, Linder, Mitchell, Monks, Mullins of Linn, Neville, Owens, Payne, Rinkler, Ryland, Schneider, Steele, Taylor, White of Cole, Zevely—26.

Hits Colman.

The Senate amended this bill by adding a section providing for releasing the state's lien on the road upon the payment by the latter of \$4,500,000. This is what Mr. Folk calls "the earmarks of boodling." The Hon. Norman J. Colman voted for this amendment, which was agreed to by the following vote:

Ayes—Akard, Applegate, Baldwin, Bennett, Betz, Blodgett, Bogey, Branscomb, Britton, Brock, Brown of Dallas, Bulkeley, Burch of Jasper, Busick, Caldwell, Childress, Cole, Colman, Drummond, Doniphan, Eike, Ellison, Eubanks, Ewing, Fletcher, Forgy, Fourth, Fox, Hickman, Hoffmeister, Jennings, Jewett, Jones, Kelley, Kidwell, Kuhl, Lawson, Leaming, Lyman, McElhinney, McFarland, McMillen, Mullings of Greene, Orrick, Owens, Pond, Proffor, Pyle, Quinn, Requa, Robertson, Killins, Ryland, Schulenburg, Scott, Smelser, Smith, Thompson, Van Wagoner, Waide, Walker, Waters, White of Cole, White of Randolph, Wilkinson, Zevely—65.

Noes—Deal, Birch of Scotland, Brown of Daviess, Cannon, Cartmel, Dallmeyer, De Laud, Drum, Eagle, Eppstein, Estep, Ferrell, Finkelnburg, Forgy, Fourn, Fox, Freeman, Goodson, Griffin, Hackelman, Harper, Hathaway, Hewitt, Howard, Howe, Howell, Jacquith, Jerome, Laughlin, Ledergerber, Legg, Linder, McGinnis, Mitchell, Monks, Mullins of Linn, Payne, Rice, Riggs, Roundtree, Schneider, Shafer, Stafford, Steele, Taylor, Weirich, Wyatt, Mr. Speaker (Harlan)—46.

Others classified as Democratic members of the House who voted with the Hon. Norman J. Colman were: Messrs. Deal, Birch of Scotland, Drummond, Eagle, McFarland, Proffor, Scott, Van Wagoner and Cole.

The amended Pacific bill finally passed the Senate March 20, 1868, by the following vote:

Ayes—Boardman, Bonham, Clark, Deal, Ellis, Evans, Essex, Fisher, Graham, Headler, Human, King, Morse, Park, Rea, Reed, Ridgley, Spaunhorst, Townsley, Vinters, Woerner—21.

Noes—Adams, Bruers, Conrad, Dodson, Goebel, Hubbard, Shelton—7.

The bill for the sale of the state's lien against the North Missouri Railroad (Wabash) passed the Senate March 12, 1868, the vote standing:

Ayes—Adams, Boardman, Bonham, Bruers, Cavender, Clark, Deal, Essex, Filler, Fisher, Graham, Harbine, Headler, Hubbard, Human, Morse, Park, Reed, Ridgley, Spaunhorst, Winters, Woerner—23.

Noes—Conrad, Dodson, Ellis, Evans, Etwell, Goebel, Holland, Shelton, Townsley—9.

The same measure known as the Senate Bill No. 490, was called up and passed the House just five days later, the vote being:

Ayes—Akard, Baldwin, Beal, Bennett, Birch of Scotland, Bogey, Branscomb, Brock, Brown of Dallas, Brown of Daviess, Bulkeley, Burch of Jasper, Busick, Caldwell, Childress, Cockerill, Cole, Colman, Cosgrove, Dallmeyer, De Laud, Downey, Drummond, Doniphan, Eagle, Ellison, Estep, Ewing, Finkelnburg, Forgy, Fourn, Fox, Freeman, Goodson, Griffin, Hackelman, Harper, Hewitt, Hickman, Hoffmeister, Harper, Hewitt, Hickman, Hoffmeister, Hornbeak, Howard, Jacquith, Jennings, Jerome, Jewett, Kelly, Key, Kidwell, Lawson, Ledergerber, Lyman, McElhinney, McFarland, Mullins of Linn, Orrick, Owens, Payne, Proffor, Pyle, Quinn, Rice, Riggs, Rinkler, Ritchie, Robertson, Roundtree, Scott, Shafer, Smelser, Stafford, Thompson, Van Wagoner, Waide, Weirich, White of Cole, Whittaker, Wilkerson, Mr. Speaker—82.



FOLK'S REPLY TO DECENT DEMOCRATS. He not only indorses State Ring government, but his campaign is being managed by Jim Seibert and Harry Hawes.

Scott, Shafer, Smelser, Stafford, Thompson, Van Wagoner, Waters, Weirich, White of Cole, Whittaker, Wilkerson, Mr. Speaker—82.

Noes—Alexander, Applegate, Betz, Boon, Britton, Cannon, Cartmel, Drum, Eppstein, Eubanks, Fletcher, Hathaway, Howe, Laughlin, Legg, Linder, McGinnis, Monks, Requa, Schneider, Steele, Taylor, Waide, Walker, White of Randolph, Wyatt, Zevely—27.

Democrats, Too. These records show conclusively that political lines were not drawn in the matter of seeking to adjust the state debt, and the high character of many of the men who voted for these measures and are yet living is a sufficient assurance that they were actuated by honest motives alone.

Ex-Secretary of Agriculture Norman J. Coleman is perhaps the most prominent of the members of the House, now living, who voted for the bill. He has been honored by the state and the nation and by the citizens of St. Louis and is to-day one of the city's most prominent and respected citizens. He has almost reached four score years in his life's journey, and no official act of his ever met with public criticism until Joseph W. Folk declared in a public speech that a measure for which this venerable and respected man voted bore "the earmarks of boodling."

The late Judge J. G. Woerner was the most popular Democrat in St. Louis when he died a few years ago. For many years he held the office of Probate Judge and he was known far and wide as the best Judge of probate law in the state. When Republican votes were counted in St. Louis and the city was strongly Republican, so firm was the confidence of the people in Judge Woerner that he was elected time and again in spite of his outspoken Democracy. He died mourned by all who knew him. No one ever spoke ill of him while he lived. It remained for Joseph W. Folk, mighty boodler hunter, to go in the graveyard and discover that a measure Judge Woerner supported with his vote in the State Senate, nearly forty years ago, bore "all the earmarks of boodling."

Henry J. Spaunhorst is still an honored resident of St. Louis. He served in the Senate with Judge Woerner and voted for the measure which Mr. Folk says "bears all the earmarks of boodling." Mr. Spaunhorst is among the oldest residents of St. Louis and has a wide acquaintance throughout the state. He has the satisfaction of knowing that only one man in Missouri entertains any doubts of his good citizenship. For years the Republicans have insisted that the people of Missouri are more interested in present issues than in transactions that occurred almost half a century ago and at a time when normal conditions in the country did not prevail. But the Democrats have persisted in going back into the past, until now they present the spectacle of the head of their ticket calling into question the honesty of some of the best Democrats and citizens who ever lived in the state of Missouri. As stated, some of these men are yet living and are known as honorable men far and wide quite as much so as a number of Republicans who served and voted in the 1868 Legislature with them. Their high standing and the long years that they lived in the esteem of those who know them is of itself a sufficient denial of the calumny heaped upon them by one Joseph W. Folk, late of Tennessee, and Democratic candidate for Governor of Missouri.

TOLD THE TRUTH.

FOLK ON DOCKERY AND DOCKERY ON FOLK.

Enemies of Six Months Ago Are Working Together To-Day—Leaf From the Record.

The people of Missouri have heard a great deal about the State Ring within the Democratic party. We do not ask Missourians to accept the charges made by Republicans about this ring, or even to take the word of a single, or a host of, Republicans that such a ring exists. We present herewith the statement of Joseph W. Folk, Democratic candidate for Governor, who, on March 16 last, at Thayer, Mo., said, among other things:

"The time has come for the people to smash that ring, which has grown arrogant by long lease of power. . . . The issues are made; one the cure of corruption that has existed in official life; the other, political freedom from a tyrannical and oppressive machine."

This statement was made by Mr. Folk in reply to an attack on him by Governor Dockery and included the Governor and his political associates as part of the state ring. Within a week, Governor Dockery, Jim Seibert, Sam B. Cook, and other leading lights of the state ring were at Democratic headquarters in consultation with Congressman Vandiver and Harry Hawes, personal managers for Mr. Folk, discussing plans for Folk's election and the continuation of the reign of the old machine. It will not be denied by Governor Dockery, or by Mr. Folk that they are working together to-day; Mr. Folk will not deny that Governor Dockery, Sam B. Cook, Harry Hawes and Jim Seibert are a part of that state ring which he denounced at Thayer on March 16, and none of them will deny that Mr. Folk and these machine men are now working for the same end—the election of Joseph W. Folk.

IS FOLK TRYING TO SMASH THE MACHINE TO-DAY? WHY HAS HE ABANDONED HIS FIGHT ON THE RING?

That Democrats, as well as Republicans, may know precisely what the machine thought of Folk and what Folk thought of the machine some six months ago, we print their respective statements:

On Wednesday, March 16, 1904, at Jefferson City, Governor Dockery made public the following arraignment of Circuit Attorney Folk:

"In his speech at Lancaster, Monday, Mr. Joseph W. Folk attributed the result in the St. Louis primaries to police interference, and charges that I must either confess the responsibility or acknowledge incompetency."

"From the opening of this campaign my purpose has been to avoid any possible action which might be construed as hurtful to any candidate aspiring for the nomination for Governor. "No one knows better than Mr. Folk that there is no foundation for the claim that he lost the support of St. Louis in his candidacy for Governor because of what he terms 'police interference.' "It is well known in St. Louis that the only votes Mr. Folk will receive from that city were secured as a recognition of Mr. Tony Stuver, a well-

known brewer, and not by reason of any personal following of Mr. Folk. If everything that is charged concerning improper conduct incident to the primaries in that city were true, it would not have changed the result in the selection of delegates to the state nominating convention.

"If there has been violation of law or disregard of official duty in connection with the recent primaries in St. Louis, every effort will be made by this office to bring the offenders to justice. "Mr. Folk must have known when he made this attack on me that I had taken every possible precaution to insure an absolutely fair primary.

Says Folk Was Disloyal. "The plain fact remains that Mr. Folk's defeat in St. Louis primaries was not due to any regrettable trouble in two or three of the wards of that city, but is the result of Mr. Folk's failure to do faithfully and loyally with his party obligations.

"It is true, an overwhelming majority of the Democrats of St. Louis were against Mr. Folk in last Saturday's primaries; and this condition would have prevailed in any county in this state under similar conditions. "Mr. Folk sought election as the Democratic nominee in 1900 for the position of Circuit Attorney. Two years after his election efforts were being made by the political enemies of his party to secure control of this state. A vicious attack was being made on the Democratic management of state affairs. Reckless and libelous charges were being made against the integrity of the Democratic administration.

"Mr. Folk, among other Democrats, was requested to lend his assistance to the support of the Democratic cause. I personally besought his support for our party and other Democrats interested in party success did likewise.

"At no time during the campaign did Mr. Folk lend the slightest aid to his party. "It will not do for him to hide behind his professed hostility to Mr. Butler, with whom he had been a joint candidate in the previous election, and whom he had, with apparent loyalty, supported when himself a candidate.

Campaign in St. Louis. "I urged, as other Democrats had done, that Mr. Folk take part in that campaign. It was not important that he should make a speech in Mr. Butler's district. There were two other districts in the city of St. Louis, in which Mr. Butler was not a candidate; and Democrats out in the state had invited to him to fill appointments to speak in behalf of the state ticket.

"The Republican press of St. Louis had all this time said that Mr. Folk would not speak for the Democratic candidates. And he did not.

"Suppose a Democrat in any county of the state, who had been honored by his party, when called upon in a party crisis to render an honorable and reasonable party service, had refused to do so, what would have been his fate? . . . . .

"For the first time in thirty years, we are confronted in this state with the spectacle of an ambitious politician endeavoring to elevate himself to the position of chief executive by unfairly and unjustly assailing the administration of his party. . . . .

"It is true, as Mr. Folk charges, that a member of the Election Board of St. Louis is an active supporter of one of his opponents, but it is also true, as Mr. Folk well knows, that the other

Democratic member of this board is his active supporter. "My invariable rule has been to recognize the right of my appointees to exercise their own personal preferences in the support of candidates for party nominations. . . . .

Folk's Reply. Circuit Attorney Folk, in reply to Governor Dockery, made the following statement at Thayer, Mo., March 16, 1904:

"I am glad that Governor Dockery has at last decided to come out and fight in the open. That he has been working with the Hawes-Butler combination has been evident to all who have been watching the political conditions for the last two months.

"Despite his assertions of neutrality, the attitude of the appointees of the state administration has shown more plainly than words could what the position of the Governor was. As long ago as last summer, in a speech at Lone Jack, Governor Dockery defined his attitude in the boodle issue by explaining for the corruption that had been going on by saying that it had not cost the people anything.

"He might just as well have winked at a man whose daughter had been assaulted and have told him not to complain because some of his money had been stolen.

"The political situation in Kansas City and St. Louis should alarm every patriotic citizen. The serfs of Russia have more political freedom than the anti-machine Democrats of St. Louis and Kansas City.

"The thuggery and brutality with which the machine thought to beat the anti-machine Democrats into submission in St. Louis last Saturday would not tolerate it in the most despot government on earth. As the police seem to have tolerated these outrages and as the police are under the control of a board appointed by the Governor, the people of St. Louis have no remedy by their ballots except in common with the people of the entire state. They can only look to the Governor to correct the things that have dishonored and oppressed them.

Responsibility. "Unless he is held responsible for the conduct of the police departments in Kansas City and St. Louis, there is no one responsible. That is what I meant when I said that the Governor must confess responsibility or acknowledge incompetency.

"It is not a question of how many votes any individual received or did not receive in St. Louis, but it goes back to the right of a free people to exercise their franchise without interference.

"One would naturally expect that the Governor of the state would deplore the brutality and ruffianism that characterized the St. Louis primaries Saturday, but he seems so bound to the influence that carried on these outrages that he lies in the face of decency, and personally indorses all that took place.

"It might have been well enough for him to say that I should have been defeated because I did not vote for Jim Butler, but that certainly is no excuse for beating and slugging citizens who were entitled to vote at that primary.

"The riot and disorder in St. Louis Saturday are disgrace enough without having the additional humiliation of the chief executive of the state indirectly sanctioning it.

"The Governor seeks to justify the operations of the St. Louis Indians by saying that I did not do any campaigning in 1902 for the party. I saw Governor Dockery twice in that campaign. The first time the question of making speeches on the ticket was not discussed. The next time I saw the Governor was a few days before the election. He asked me to give an interview showing that I was not opposed to the ticket. . . . .

Against the Ring. Mr. Folk's statement concludes as follows:

"The time has come for the people to smash that ring which has grown arrogant by long lease of power. Ought not a ring that uses brutal methods, that seeks to ride over the people roughshod, that tries to thug and slug the people into submission, to be smashed by the manhood of the Democratic party?"

"There are two great issues before the people of Missouri to-day: One the cure of corruption that has existed in official life; the other, political freedom from a tyrannical and oppressive machine.

"I have made no attack upon the Democratic party. I have assailed corrupt men in the party and shall continue to attack them. If there is wrong within the party I think the party is fully competent to correct it wrong, and I believe we should do our own housecleaning and not wait for the Republicans to clean us out. "The issues are made. I take it and beat it into their faces. The one has been compromised. It is a fight on.