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The Cuckoo Republicans

HOW NATURAL it is for the cuckoo Republicans of this city to want to take possession of the old nest and to give to those who built the nest for them the cold shake. How natural for such sterling Republicans as Leroy Armstrong, and Harry Joseph, and Spry and Anderson and Callister and Co., to treat with proper disdain the claims of those who carried the Republican banners to victory years before one of the whole delectable company, save the first one named, had any conception of the American government or the duties of citizenship under it, and when that one was doing what he could, to make the history of the party a reproach and to neutralize its power.

And these cuckoos even now cannot see how they are giving themselves away. One would naturally think that under their claim of devotion to Republican principles their chiefest anxiety would be to get votes for Mr. Taft, but by their acts they advertise that after all their Republicanism has no higher aim than their own personal desires to get some petty offices. But come to think of it, that is the most natural thing in the world, for now for the past four years they have been content to abase themselves before the alien power that sits here and rules this people and doles out favors only to faithful slaves. And how natural for these cringing ones when in the presence of the captain to want to use their belaying pins on the crew.

If a stream cannot rise higher than its source, what will become of young Utah Republicans when they look to these leaders? How perfectly fitted the band is to teach Republican principles and by their personnel to inspire respect for the party of their choice! When one thinks of them it is to laugh. Why, think of it!

Let us imagine the company named above on the stump, say at Provo. Let us suppose the professors of the college there saying to the students: "You ought to study the principles of the political parties, that you may compare them and reach a condition that you may vote intelligently, so our advice is to attend the meetings of all the parties and hear all sides of the political question." Imagine these students all in the audience as the first man named above arises and explains that he can remember when it required nerve to be a Republican where he lived, when the party was founded, that the White Caps, we think, in Indiana, in those days, many a time they assailed Republican speakers with ancient eggs, and that he knows, because he was there. That would naturally take, unless some curious student might ask on which side he was. That might worry him. Then the Hon. Harry Joseph would arise and shine. Harry, of course, could tell all about the weary road up which Republican principles ascended before it gained recognition; could tell the history of the party and the parts played by

Seward and Lincoln and Sumner, and Greeley and Morton, and Blaine and Stevens and Chandler and the other immortals, how they steadied the party while the nation in anguish and fear was passing through a second birth, and draw so vivid a picture of the giants who on field and in forum carved out security for the country and glory to the party that he would doubtless bring down the house. Then Messrs. Spry and Anderson and Callister would in turn arise, and in turn, if honest, would explain, that the early history of the party and its present status are not things which must interest them; but that in Utah, back in 1891, they were called and set aside to be Republicans, and their mission has since been to uphold its flag, and that it is their intention to continue to stick to the principles of the party unless they receive instructions that they have done enough, and that it is time to chop. As we said above, to contemplate the cuckoos is to laugh.

Go and Hear Debs

EUGENE V. DEBS will be here in a few days. He is a candidate for the highest office in all this world. We hope the people generally will go to hear him. Our own opinion of him may be prejudiced. Our private belief is that he is a bad man, an enemy of his country, but poor mortality is liable to errors. We want the people to go and hear him, and to pay close attention to what he says, so that when they go away from the meeting they will be able to judge whether what he advocates is for the good of this country or not. And that they may be prepared to judge accurately, we will state briefly some of the theories which he and his party advocate.

The first is that all that is, is due to labor, and we want this emphasized all along, and then we want people to consider whether labor by itself, undirected by brain, has ever accomplished anything. In our judgment, the very foundation on which he rests is a false one. As well might the ox claim for himself a special honor because he has broken the ground of every new country in the world. It would have been difficult in many places without him, but he did it because first man taught him the discipline necessary and invented the plow for him. His work was merely to haul the plow, he had nothing to do with the foresight which anticipated the planting of the crop and the harvest to follow it. All he did was by brute force, and he did it because he had to. That, perhaps, may be considered a coarse comparison, but it is true. Turn the average man alone in the world, and he would simply be wearing skins, as the man of the stone age wore them, and trusting to what he could get from the fields and from the game that he could catch for a living.

The theory of Mr. Debs is that all the treasures of this world, all the property of this world, having been produced by labor, belong to the people. It is a very winsome theory to men who would like to get something for nothing. And if Mr. Debs is honest, and we are not going to question his honesty today, then when Mr. Edison invented the phonograph and made a fortune through it, with his death that fortune should go to the public, because it is the result of labor perpetuated. In the same way, when an enterprising man goes out, finds a mine, digs from the earth a fortune, he is entitled to that fortune while he lives, but when he dies it belongs to the men who never found mines, who never worked them, who have never done anything. It is the same way everywhere. Mr. Debs' assumption will be that all wealth that has been saved, or that has been bequeathed by fortunate ancestors to their children, belongs to the public because they could not have made a fortune except that they wronged someone else.

We do not care to elaborate on his creed; we

only stated the above few outlines. So we want the people to listen to him, and then to try to think what would follow could his recommendations be carried out, could there be a general division of the earth's property among the earth's people, what would follow.

One more thing he advocates, and that is that the government shall employ all the unemployed, and employ them at union wages. Then try to imagine how any government under the sun could pay employees thus employed, because it is a clear case that if that was the law, in a month four-fifths of the men seeking employment that way would not be worth the powder and shot to blow them to the beyond.

Finally, we ask the people to look at Mr. Debs, hear his expositions, and then to answer their own souls whether, if they had any business they would put it in the hands of a man like him.

The great Austrian physician cured pre-natal deformities. He could not cure Debs; his deformity is in the brain.

A Confusing Campaign

THE POLITICAL campaign is fairly launched, but up to date it has taken no form by which men can begin to estimate the final result. There are so many candidates in the field that it is a question of some anxiety to politicians how the vote for the outside—so to speak—candidates will affect the votes of the two leading candidates. Which will lose most of the prohibition, the socialistic, and the labor votes? We think Mr. Taft will lose more labor votes than Mr. Bryan, for the reason that laboring men who lost their places last autumn and have not been reinstated will naturally vote for a change. The socialistic vote will be about equally divided among men who were formerly Republicans or Democrats. If this proves to be true, that vote will not materially affect the main result. The prohibition will be hardest to determine. In the northern states it will hurt Mr. Taft more than it will Mr. Bryan, but in the south, who knows? There are thousands of voters there who have been dissatisfied with the Democracy for twelve years past, but as between Democrats and Republicans, the previous question was moved with them two-score years ago, and there was no thought save to vote the Democratic ticket. But prohibition has swept in a great wave over state after state, and then very many of the strongest men in that region do not like Mr. Bryan, for they see in what he advocates, the breaking away seriously from their rigid states' rights beliefs. What if they should decide to vote the Prohibition ticket? Or what if five or six of the great states, like North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee, should conclude to give their vote to Tom Watson?

Below all is the unrest that is upon the people, the feeling that neither of the platforms seem up to the unspoken something which the people feel should be forthcoming. That is liable to make voters apathetic on election day unless something can be done to arouse them and kindle their old party pride. The situation has not cleared at all for a month past, and, but two months are left in which to crystallize public sentiment. We can recall no other such campaign in the history of the republic. Of course, we expect underlying forces are at work on both sides, and that the managers of the two great parties have plans of campaign which have not yet materialized, but if they have, can they count on the voters? There was a mighty surprise in 1892. Men who were and had been steadily employed at good wages, and who knew that if there was no change, their places would be secure, by thousands voted for a change. Then what about the leading railroads, with their thousands of employes? Railroads, save a few trunk lines, are