

# People's Voice.

WM. STRYKER, Editor and Proprietor.

ISSUED every Thursday and entered for transmission by mail at second class rates

\$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

Thursday, June 28, 1900.

## OUR TICKET.

For President—W. J. BRYAN  
For Vice President—CHAS. A. TOWNE.

### The Supreme Court and the Proposed Constitutional Amendment.

An examination of the decisions of the supreme court of Kansas shows one astonishing fact. The large number of cases in which judgment has been given by a jury in the district court against railroad companies for damage, either loss of life or limb or property, and how regularly those decisions are overruled and sent back for a new trial. In almost every instance the court nullifies the work of the lower court and of the jury, and decides in favor of the corporation, usually on some technicality, and apparently for no other reason than because it can. After a case has gone back and forth several times between the district and the supreme court, a process which costs the corporation very little and the plaintiff very much, a compromise for a small sum of what is justly due, is accepted, and in this way the supreme court has served the main purpose for which it seems to have been created. The people support the court by taxation and the court saves to the corporations annually many hundreds of thousands of dollars justly due to persons whom they have wronged. The further removed a judge is from the people whose case he tries, the more liable he is to be influenced by the blandishments and many subtle agencies brought to bear upon him by wealth and position, and the less by the rights of the people—by simple justice and humanity. In the minds of some there is a feeling that the supreme court is infallible, or nearly so, a feeling closely akin to that of the unthinking citizen of a monarchy, that the king can do no wrong. It is today the most powerful agency by which the strong oppress the weak. It seeks to perpetuate ancient custom and observe technicalities rather than deal out simple justice. In the rich man's court, rarely hearing a case in which a corporation is not a party and usually to the detriment of the poor man so unfortunate as to have his case taken before it. It is one of the things that have been inherited from absolutism and many technical ideas of government only recently universal and has been changed less of all. It must be very materially modified and shorn of some of its power before government of and for and by the people in fact, is possible. It is organized and its work assigned by our constitution on the supposition that the education, the prejudice, the passions of the people of any locality are such that justice cannot be done without the far-removal in time and place of cases involving large sums of money. Instead of increasing their number from three to seven as proposed in the constitutional amendment to be voted upon this fall better make it impossible to appeal the class of cases mentioned in the first of this article and some other classes. The work would then be reduced by more than one-half. No increase would be necessary and justice would be more speedily rendered and the work of the lower courts would be decreased rather than increased.

Should the Republican party control the next legislature J. R. Burton will go to the senate. A man whose unpaid notes are not worth ten cents on the dollar, a man without convictions or character or visible means of support, who once was repudiated by his own party because he was a moral leper, pushed to the front by the millionaires because they hope to get back money loaned him and by the fixers of the party because he has no conscience, and will do the bidding of the bosses. Such is the Republican choice for the senate of the United States to represent the state of Kansas. We wish to ask of honest, conscientious Republicans, what do you think of this dose the bosses have fixed up for you?

The plans so carefully laid to boom and nominate Teddie have all worked out as planned by Hanna and the other managers. The show of opposition was simply for effect; but it will avail nothing. It has become an unwritten law to renominate a president, but none except Jackson, Lincoln and Grant (war heroes) have ever been re-elected since the days of the revolutionary heroes. The effort to re-elect McKinley on the strength of canned beef, Cuban frauds and murdered Filipinos will not win even with the Rough Riders to help to lead the voters.

The charitably disposed of this country who wish to relieve famine victims in India are authoritatively advised not to send foodstuffs, but to send bankers' drafts. There is plenty of native grain in India, they are told; the real trouble being that the suffering people are too poor to buy. So it seems that it is not a famine at all. It is a manifestation of poverty. There is no dearth, but indigence. The masses get so small a share of what they produce that they suffer from want in the midst of plenty of their own making.—The Public.

### Roten at the Start.

It is entirely logical that continued probing of the Havana postal scandal should develop an additional indication of corruption, pointing to a system by means of which certain persons on the pay roll of the postoffice in Washington also drew salaries in the Porto Rican service.

The carpetbag place-seekers, who are the loudest howlers for imperialism and the most vigorous wavers of Old Glory when imperialism is assailed by consistent Americans, seem to have gone into the imperialist business exclusively "for the stuff." The methods in vogue in the Havana postal service are now shown to have been the methods of spoilsmen pure and simple. The later developments of similar methods having prevailed in Porto Rico shows that the carpetbag spirit has obtained there to an equal extent. General Otis himself is on record as charging widespread corruption among American civil officials in the Philippines.

These recent developments will go far to convince the American people of the basic rottenness of the new American doctrine of conquest, loot and booty. The holding of the Philippines is dictated by the syndicates. The infamous tariff taxation of Porto Rico was dictated by the syndicates. The breaking of our solemn pledge for the independence of Cuba is dictated by the syndicates. The organization of our "colonial" service is dictated by the syndicates and controlled by the carpetbaggers.

It will be well for the American people to think soberly about these developments. They are contrary to anything heretofore known in our national history, and infinitely humiliating to our national pride. Are we willing that they should continue? If we are not, we should remove from power the political party which is owned body and soul by syndicates and carpetbaggers, and committed irrevocably to imperialism and the corruption inevitable to imperialism.

### A Congress of False Pretences.

The most characteristic feature of the Congress that has just adjourned was its insincerity. The session of Congress that immediately succeeds a presidential campaign is always marked by more or less hypocrisy, but it is seldom made so manifest.

It is nearly thirty years since the party in control of the executive at such a time has also controlled both branches of the national legislature. Ordinarily a party that "wants to make a record" without having anything accomplished can do so easily and agreeably by passing a popular measure and letting the other party in control of another branch take the responsibility of beating it. But this time the Republican party, controlling both houses and the president, has had to bear the whole responsibility for everything done and left undone, and it has not found the situation pleasant. For instance, the party professed to be in favor of the Nicaragua canal bill. The house passed the bill by an enormous majority. That would have been a useful thing to refer to on the stump if the senate had been Democratic. Unfortunately the senate was Republican, and as the party managers did not intend to allow the canal to be built, they had to let one of their houses destroy all the political capital the other had amassed.

Again, the Republican party negotiated a treaty the country would not tolerate, turning the canal, when completed, over to the British fleet. The Republican senate was afraid to ratify it, and unwilling to vote it down; so it was simply tucked away in a corner in the hope that the people would forget it until after election, when it could be brought up and put into effect.

The Republican house professed to be opposed to trusts, and passed a bill for their repression. But as the party did not want any anti-trust legislation, it had to resort again to the humiliating device of having the senate undo what the house had done.

On the other hand, the senate professed to be the ferocious enemy of one particular trust, the armor plate combination, of which the house was the defender. The senate kept up its professions of virtue until the end of the session, and then surrendered everything the trust wanted.

Of course it was impossible to keep the mask of hypocrisy always in place in a matter so deeply affecting Republican interests as the trust question. When Congress adjourned Senator Depey said to the Journal:

"In my opinion there have been no failures scored by this Congress; it has achieved nothing but the highest results for the best good of the whole people."

In failing to pass the bill to prohibit trusts, it saved employment to the million people who would by its operation have been thrown out of work, and it saved to American commerce an almost incalculable amount upon our annual exportations to Europe.

That was candid—as much so as the remark of Senator Hanna during the debate on the armor plate question:

"It is complained that upon application the manufacturers of armor plate refused to show their books and papers and to give the cost, and they did perfectly right in not disclosing those

### "Wilful Waste"

#### Makes Woeful Want."

It is as wasteful not to secure what you need and might have as it is to squander what you already possess. Health is a priceless possession. You can secure it and keep it by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla which purifies the blood, cures disease, and invigorates the whole system.



facts. That is their business, and if they choose not to give the information to the public, that is their business also."

And so Mr. Hanna and his associates calmly vote to give \$17,000,000, more or less, to a combination that says that the cost of the article it is selling to the public is none of the public's business.

The Porto Rico matter gave occasion for another exhibition of Republican insincerity. When Congress met it was to listen to exhortations from the president to do our "plain duty" by giving the Porto Ricans free access to our markets. "Plain duty" meant nothing to Mr. McKinley. It sounded well and seemed safe. But his recommendation immediately brought a swarm of buzzing, stinging protected interests about his ears. He promptly retreated, and took his party in Congress with him. That the change of programme was due to this cause and no other was notorious. The protectionists, led by their organ in New York, boasted of their victory, and taunted the wretched Porto Ricans with their helplessness and their lack of votes. In the Republican leaders in Congress, congenitally incapable of a sincere statement of anything with politics in it, had the assurance to put in the preamble of their bill the assertion that it was passed for the benefit of the Porto Ricans themselves, who had money to pay crooked taxes, but could not pay straight ones.

We needed a cable across the Pacific. Of course, to statesmen such as those who control the Republican party at Washington, that could mean only one thing—subsidies to a corporation. But there is a popular prejudice against subsidies, even when it is not known for certain that the pockets of the statesmen who are voting for them are filled with the stock of the corporations they are subsidizing. So Congress, just before a presidential election, had to be cautious. The house passed a bill providing for a cable to be laid chiefly with government money and owned by a corporation. The senate amended it to make the government own the cable after paying for it. The matter then went over until after election, when the cable will doubtless be given to the corporation.

The Republicans in Congress were hungry for ship subsidies. They could hardly keep their hands off that gigantic job, even with the spectre of November before them. But here, too, they remained on the familiar ground of pretence. They got their subsidy bill in position to put through next winter, and then passed the word to keep quiet about it until after election.

So of the army. The provisional army law expires next year, and a permanent measure should have been passed at this session to take its place. The Republican party intends to have a great standing army, and it shows that nothing of the sort is wanted by the people. Consequently it passed no army reorganization bill at this session—that was another thing that could be handled better after election.

Nor would the party put its Philippine policy in the form of a statute. It would not frankly expose its programme to criticism. It preferred an indefinite regime of executive orders, which might be un-American and might cost a few lives, but would lend itself to elastic representations on the stump.

This Congress has been frank in only one thing—its repudiation of its party promises on the financial question and its undisguised subservience to aggregated capital.—New York Journal.

So far as we can see with "our dim, earthly vision," the man who labors for others and to try to make conditions better for those who are to come after him, is having his labor for his pains. Individuals are sometimes grateful for benefits; the community never is. He who works for the emancipation of labor is bound to abandon his thankless task in disgust, if he expects either reward or appreciation from those he is striving to benefit. But if he labors in the hope or expectation of such recompense, he is unworthy to be a teacher or a leader. His work is on the spiritual plane, and work on that plane cannot be paid for with material things. The promise is not that he that soweth to the spirit shall reap houses or lands, gold or gems, but "life everlasting." The greatest teacher who ever lived had not where to lay his head. The more a man amasses of the things that canker and corrode and perish with the using, the less fit is he to lead the poor out of the wilderness. The possession of great wealth is not

now a crime, nor is it disreputable; nor is the possessor of it usually the best sort of a missionary to send out to convince men that there are higher kinds of success than money-making. It has never yet been deemed wise to utilize Satan in casting out devils. The only way a man of wealth can qualify himself for the service of mankind is by obeying the injunction "sell that thou hast and give to the poor."—Kansas Populist.

### A Paying Business and Why it Pays.

Reports of the state banks of the state for the past year show that twenty five per cent of them made thirty to thirty-four per cent; forty per cent made twenty to thirty per cent; twenty-five per cent made ten to twenty per cent. This is above all expense and upon the paid up capital. With a sound, sensible financial system three-fourths of the banks would go out of the business and the remaining ones would not make any such enormous profits. Nearly all of the many hundreds of thousands of dollars of their profit is a useless tax upon the productive industries of the state and the worst feature of the whole matter, is the fact that they are placed in position not only to levy tribute upon all branches of industry, but to dictate politically and otherwise what those who are under their control must do. Examine any bank and it will be found that the loans and discounts are several times as great as the capital or in other words, that the banks are loaning from four to forty times their capital, usually from four to ten times their capital. Their loans are their deposits on their debts. A larger volume of government money, metal or greenbacks, would obviate the need of so much borrowing and make these tremendous profits impossible. Were it not that the bankers control the government, such condition would not exist. No other business in the state the past year or ever, made one-half the profits made by the banks, and no bank honestly and carefully managed ever failed. It was mismanagement of such a character as should have sent some of those connected with the failed Wellington banks to the penitentiary, that caused the failures.

The fact cannot be too often or too forcibly placed before the public that the Standard Oil company, the Western Union Telegraph company, each of the great express companies, The Federal Steel company and many other large concerns are making this year, 100 per cent, upon their investments besides a great increase in the value of their capital stock due to this tremendous earning power. It is only a question of a few years until these enormous concerns already overgrown, will be able at this rate to gather into their insatiable maw the whole of the country's product. They can now regulate prices of all ordinary products, prices of transportation, and communication, bring on panics, increase or decrease the volume of money, make labor plenty or scarce, in fact, be the masters of the destiny of the industries, the wealth and the welfare of the people. Every year the possibility of more complete control of every department of government and every avenue of preferment and every shadow of power or influence by these few enormous concerns grows greater and the power of the individual voter grows less, and this must continue so long as present tendencies continue. What shall the end be?

### Before and After.

Young Mrs. Eyles—Men are so different after marriage!  
Miss Singleton—So I've heard; but why do you say it now?  
"Why, at my request Charles willingly gave up going to the war; but if you'll believe it, he shows no inclination to give up his club for my sake."—Boston Transcript.

### Under Two Flags.

He was a soldier of fortune and a prisoner of war.  
"Come," they said, "sign the parole!" But he only shook his head.  
"Never!" he said, proudly, "but I've no objections to signing the pay roll."  
No, he wasn't in the war business for sanitary reasons.—N. Y. Journal.

### A Yankee Pig.

First Spanish Citizen—Carrumbal! These Yankee pigs are insufferable.  
Second Spanish Citizen—Of course. But what is your complaint?  
"I offered to let one kick me for a peso, and he kicked me and refused to pay."—Omaha World-Herald.

### A Bad Case.

Illbernatting Hawkins—What's der matter, Bill? Yer restless!  
Wobbling William—Yes; I don't sleep good! I must have insomnia; I wake up every two or three days!

### Very Thick.

They were talking about the New York fogs, and some one stated that his ferry boat had stopped every few yards on its way to the city, the fog being so thick that it was impossible to see ahead.

"Oh, that's nothing!" said another man who was of the company. "Coming down from New Dorp the fog is sometimes so thick that the engineer has to get out and lead the engine."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

### His First Bee-Sting.

David Henry, aged three, not being acquainted with the peculiarities of the insect, took a half-frozen bee into his hand one day recently, and soon thereafter was wailing vigorously. His mother rushed to the door.  
"Oh, the poor child has been stung by a bee!" she exclaimed.  
"T-t-tain't a b-b-bee-e-e," sobbed the victim; "it's a b-b-bee-r-r-r!"—Judge.

# Silk foulards!

SATURDAY, JUNE 30TH.

We will close our June business by offering our Silk Foulard Dress Patterns at a Big Reduction for Saturday only.

- 6 Dress Patterns, Foulard Silks, former prices 85c and \$1.00, sale price, per yard - - - 65c
- 3 Dress Patterns, Foulard Silks, former price 50c, sale price, per yard 42c
- 1 Pattern Silk Grenadine, former price \$1.00, sale price, per yard - 65c
- 1 Pattern Silk Grenadine, former price 75c, sale price, per yard - 49c

Shirt Waist Sale closes Saturday night, June 30. Don't miss this sale.

Come and see us.

Respectfully,

# RICHARDSON & CO.

WELLINGTON KANSAS.

Trade at Spruance's. It pays.

We are showing the largest and best selected stock we have ever sold them before for the same quality.

# UNDERWEAR

Our assortment and prices are attracting lots of buyers and, and our prices can't be beaten. Special values at 25c and 50c per garment.

## Negligee and Silk Front Shirts

We have never shown such good values and patterns. From 50c to \$1.25.

# CLOTHING

A good all wool suit for \$5.00, \$5.50, \$6.00. A good boy's wool suit for \$1.50 and the largest line of suits from 14 years to 20 years that was ever shown in Wellington, and at such Low Prices that you will buy them when you see them.

Bring in the boys and we will fit them with good clothing at a Low Price.

# CLEM SPRUANCE