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What Si Hawkins has to say

Now that the smoke has cleared, so to speak, what do you think of the political outlook," inquired Mrs. Si Hawkins, interrupting her husband in his perusal of the platform adopted at the Democratic convention at Baltimore.

"I have just been thinking of how the old issues are passing away," replied Si. "What has become of Bryan's scream about free silver, and latter his verbal eruptions concerning the dangers of imperialism. Even the old yelp against the octopus 'Wall Street' has been reduced to little more than a whisper. You remember how they used to swat the railroads, and how all the

sufferings of the plain common people was charged up to exorbitant freight rates, and all that sort of thing. There hasn't been a political platform of either of the big parties for a dozen years past until this year, that hasn't laid the stuffin' out of the railroads. But at Chicago the Republicans passed over the subject with hardly a mention, and there is considerable less violence than usual against the railroads in the platform that Bryan wrote for the Democrats this year."

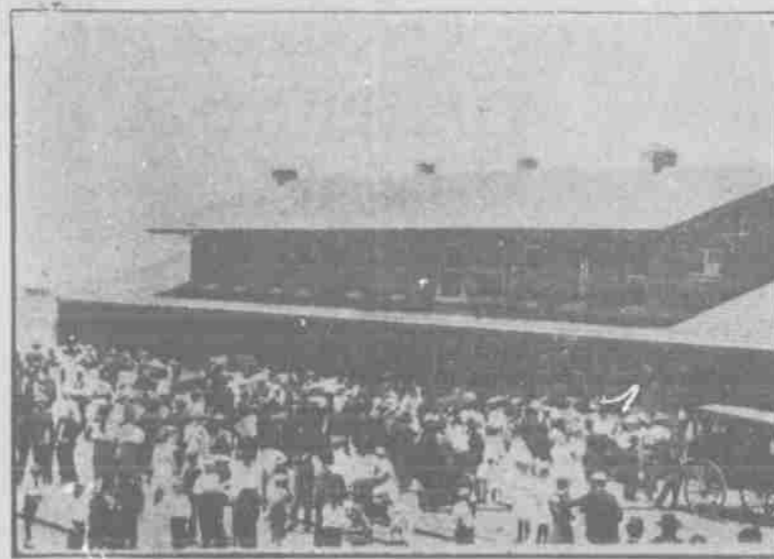
"What's the reason for this?" inquired Mrs. Hawkins. "Are the railroads behaving better than they used to, or have the politicians discovered that they have been a little too hard on

the railroads?"

"I might answer in the affirmative to both of them interrogations, Mrs. Si," said Mr Hawkins. "The people are discovering that the railroads are not nearly as bad as they are painted and the railroads are taking the public a little more into their confidence. I agree with Elbert Hubbard, that a man that knocks on the railroads belongs to the lobster class. When the railroads make money, we all prosper. When the shops shut down and operation of trains slack, we are all up against it, and the bread line forms. When any big calamity happens, like the recent Mississippi river floods, everybody looks to the government for relief. And why should the government make war on the railroads, who are now giving work to millions. When government officials become business baiters, the roar of the mob demanding work or bread will be heard. Business in this country gives work and wage to everybody that wants to work. It seems to be good common sense to let business alone."

The agitators clamor against the railroads, and insist on laws regulating rates and limiting profits, and all that sort of thing, and the railroads go ahead and attend to their business as best they can, despite the back-set foolish laws give them; the people receive no material benefit from the laws, and the only effect is a deterioration in service, perhaps, or the failure of the railroads to build needed new extensions, for the reason that Capital is timid, and withholds money from anything that is under the ban of the lawmakers."

"What are we going to do about it?" inquired Mrs. Si. "We will have to wait until everybody is satisfied to let the railroads have a fair return on



A PORTION OF THE PASSENGER DEPOT

their investment, then service will improve, and everybody, including the railroads, will be satisfied."

Lorimer Ousted

By a vote of 55 to 28 the United States Senate last Saturday ousted Senator Lorimer of Illinois. His election was declared to have been invalid as it was charged that he was the recipient of votes obtained by corrupt methods and practices.

Lorimer made an eloquent plea of self-defense but without avail. In his speech he bitterly attacked President Taft and Ex-Presi-

dent Roosevelt, charging them with insincerity.

The Lorimer case has been one of long standing and bitterly contested. Senator Luke Lea of Tennessee led the forces of attack. Senator Lea is the youngest member of the senate.

Clifton Oliver, a knight of the "drum sticks" and the "printer's stick" is helping in the News office this week. Cliff can make good at almost anything from courting a girl to getting out a special edition paper.

Mrs. Cally Benton left Monday for Reeves, Tennessee.

License Issued

County Clerk Awalt issued license this week to William Burdette and Miss Alpha Jane Mitchell, both of Ard, N. M. Miss Mitchell is but 16 years of age.

Mrs. Blumeline left Wednesday for an extended visit to her parents in Kentucky.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

With the growth of communities and increased activities of our population, the personal touch of friends is apt to be lost. You meet congenial people, form pleasant acquaintanceships, make friends that become dear to you. But the restless spirit of the age causes separations, and meetings become less frequent. You grow away from those to whom your inclination is to hold fast.

However, with our modern telephone facilities, "out of sight, out of mind," should not be true. The use of the long distance telephone keeps the fires of friendship burning brightly. Distance doesn't prevent a social call—a friendly chat—extending congratulations—expressing words of sympathy—in fact, saying to a friend just what you would say if you called in person at his home. Letters are apt to be more or less formal, while the telephone preserves that intimate touch of friendship so likely to be lost otherwise.

There is not the slightest necessity for letting friendships grow cold through neglect while you have the long distance telephone. By the way, are you getting out of your telephone all the comfort and convenience there is in it?

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