

John. They are little, sour apples—tell tales on you; say you don't play fair; shoot a little close, and they cut off the tail of your horse Prestige.

What do you say? It's a gold brick Chamberlain and Milner sold you, John; and you ain't done payin'. I don't want the Boers for gold. I want 'em fer '76 grit, which you're not needin'. I want 'em fer seed to sow in my republican party where the growth has run out.

If you want boot, I'll go you that. I've a married men's club in Kansas who vow not to kiss their wives; and another club formin' to take their job. I'll go you both clubs and the supreme court—all three—fer the deal!

What do you say?

UNCLE SAM.

HOW MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES WORK IN CLEVELAND.

From the Cleveland Plaindealer of May 29.

Clerks and others now employed in the city hall are working as few of their predecessors have worked. They want to hold their jobs, and they know, they have a notion, there is only one way to do it—that is work.

The emphatic declaration of Mayor Johnson that municipal employees would not only have to do what was laid out for them to do, but do it at once, was without precedent in the municipal building, and almost revolutionary.

At a private meeting with his directors the other day the mayor said: "Gentlemen, I am determined that the affairs of the city, while I am mayor, shall be conducted just as though this were a private corporation and I its president. While I do not intend to interfere with directors in the selection and conduct of subordinates, I do insist that every man shall do his work and do it right. I depend on the directors to assist me in managing the affairs of the city economically and well.

"By economy I do not mean that any man should be paid less than he is worth or that there should be any ridiculous pruning of expenses. We want the best for the money, whether it is labor or material, and what is best for the city. There must be no extravagance, and no favors shown, and if any director finds that any man in his department is incompetent, careless or shirking his duties, I expect the director to dismiss him.

"I will hold each director strictly responsible for the proper management of his department, and I say

to you frankly, gentlemen, no sentiment will swerve me."

If anyone imagines that the directors listened to this talk and then went back to their roll tops and their Havanas and forgot all about it, he should "hang around the hall" a few days.

When any order is issued from the mayor's office to the head of any department the director, or some subordinate to whom he transmits it, starts right off on a run to execute it. There's no stopping to chatter with anyone on the way, and there's no putting off until to-morrow.

That "git up and dust" spirit that the mayor has injected into all the city hall employes is made more effective by the fact they feel the absolute certainty that no amount of political pull will save them if they are found derelict.

STRIKES AND MONOPOLIES.

In nine cases out of ten strikes are foredoomed to failure anyway. The plan of protecting the interests of labor by organization is weak in one vital point—the organizers cannot secure a complete monopoly of the product they have to sell—namely, labor. They are like a trust which is organized without controlling some natural monopoly. Such a trust will inevitably go to pieces, just as a labor organization which can only imperfectly control the supply of men competent to do the work required will go to pieces when its strength is tested. The trust will try to maintain its artificial monopoly by buying up competitors, but this course only encourages new competitors to arise, and the end is inevitable, unless the trust can secure some special privilege through legislation or by corrupt alliance with railroads. The labor organization will try to maintain its monopoly by enrolling all who wish to work in its trade and submitting them to its rules, but there will always be bidders for places outside of its membership. In critical moments the labor union tries to protect its members against destructive competition by violence. Then public sympathy is alienated and the militia called out. The trust in like case has been known to resort to violence, too, by blowing up rival refineries, for instance, or committing wholesale bribery. But these methods do not in the end profit the trust any more than rioting profits the striker. Neither money trust nor labor trust can compete unless founded upon control of some natural or legal monopoly,

and there cannot be a natural monopoly of men, and the labor unions have not enough influence in congress to secure legislation which would give them a legal monopoly.

Instead of striving after the unattainable, the labor organizations would better turn their attention to constructive politics and work for the destruction of all artificial monopolies founded upon legislation and the transfer to public ownership of all natural monopolies. Then they could meet employers upon a more nearly equal footing. Some people talk now of the power of the organized workers in the employ of the United States Steel corporation, or steel trust, being greater than that of the corporation, and we are asked to pause and wonder at the thought of what should happen if all those brawny workers should refuse to go on making steel for Mr. Schwab and go to making it for their own profit. That is the sort of utterance on labor questions that is very popular with writers and speakers who wish to flatter workingmen, while at the same time doing the service of their employers. It ignores the fact that the steel trust controls the mines and railroads. If we can conceive of the workmen by a system of cooperation raising the capital to erect mills, equip them with machinery and build steamboats, we would find them stopped at that point. They could not get iron, for the trust controls the supply—mines being a natural monopoly. They could get no railway transportation, for the trust controls the railroads—a natural monopoly buttressed by special legislative privilege. How would the trust come out in such a contest? As no organization can control the supply of men it would in time import enough labor to resume operations, while the best efforts of its former workmen would be impotent to overcome its monopoly of the source of production or means of transportation.—Willis J. Abbot, in Chicago Daily News of May 18.

THE DEMOCRATIC DEMOCRACY OF OHIO.

Following is the platform of the democratic party of Cuyahoga county, O., the county in which Cleveland is situated. It was adopted by the regular county convention on Saturday, May 25, 1901, under the leadership of Tom L. Johnson, and is to form the basis of the platform demands of Johnson's supporters in the coming state convention at Columbus.

We, the democrats of Cuyahoga county, in convention assembled, declare our allegiance to the time-honored principles of the party.