

and celebrated the day following are reported to have been dismissed from their employment.

PRESS OPINIONS.

SOCIALISM.

Chicago Evening Post (Rep.), June 17.—According to some German commentators, the election is a protest against the new and higher tariff—against “dear bread, usury and dear meat”—but this view is too narrow. The whole course of the imperial government was on trial before the voters, and the result shows that dissatisfaction is steadily and rapidly spreading. A crisis is anticipated by many acute observers, as the government has threatened to check Socialism through restriction of suffrage.

Buffalo Courier (Dem.), June 19.—A few years ago the appearance of Socialism in the United States was viewed lightly, and its missionaries were derided, but in each of several recent years the vote in various States has shown the rapidly increasing strength of the party. As yet it is without representation in Congress, but the growth of Socialism can no longer be regarded with indifference, as it will become a power of which account must be taken if the ratio of its increase is kept up for a few years more.

Chicago Tribune (Rep.), June 19.—In last Tuesday's elections the German Socialists gained 400,000 votes and about 20 seats in the reichstag over the election of 1896. The gain was made in spite of the opposition of the imperial machinery and the emperor's remark that a “socialist was a fellow not worthy the name of German.” . . . In studying the German election returns it should be borne in mind that in the empire socialists stand for different things than they do in this country. The late campaign was made by the German Socialists on the issue of tariff reform on grain and meat and for a reduction of the legal interest rate.

OHIO POLITICS.

Cleveland Recorder (Dem.), June 22.—It should be understood absolutely that Mayor Johnson does not desire the senatorship. He feels that he would not accept the office under any consideration. He regards it as a dead place and one where he could practically do nothing along the lines he is interested in. He may be compelled, from the circumstances which arise, to accept the nomination for governor, but he would prefer not to do that. At any rate, the fight will be made along the line of getting the legislature so that such laws as are required may be passed. If the mayor accepts the nomination for governor, which it is to be hoped that he will not, he will still make his fight on securing the legislature just the same.

Philadelphia City and State (Ind.), June 4.—There is something inspiringly suggestive of an answer to the prayer: “God give us men!” in the sturdy principle and purpose that characterized the fight won last week by Tom L. Johnson, and something correspondingly encouraging in the results of his efforts. . . . Here are qualities of leadership that make for better citizenship and for purer government. It is refreshing to find a leader so unmistakably elevating principle above commercial politics, and honest business methods above ring schemes, in the conduct of public affairs. It will be singular if the better element of both political parties in Ohio shall be found unresponsive to an example whose wholesome influence should be felt in many other States.

THE POSTAL FRAUDS.

Cleveland, O. Waechter und Anzeiger (Dem.), June 23.—That the giant robbery which has been carried on systematically for several years in the postal service could have occurred under the administration of

the party which in 1896 saved the national honor is certainly very strange. We should never have thought such “honest” people capable of a thing like that.

CHAMBERLAIN'S PROTECTION IS-SUE.

Chicago Evening Post (Rep.), June 12.—The duties benefited the British millers and landlords, and this accounts for their vehement but futile opposition to repeal. The consumers paid it, and they do not care to pay taxes on bread in times of peace. They find no prospective compensation in talk about “closer political union,” which they do not understand and which in truth has no meaning. There can be no closer union between the colonies and the mother country. The goal of the former is independence, not loss of identity and freedom.

Liverpool Financial Reformer (free trade), June.—Mr. Chamberlain and men of his kidney, who never admits that the mother country has done well by and to her colonies, has no scruples in trying to ruin our trade and commerce in order that he may make a name as colonial secretary. We do not for one moment believe that he thinks his scheme a sound one. The man never attempts to meet the arguments he himself urged against the various schemes he now proposes. He does not argue, but merely asserts. A man who conscientiously felt that his former opinions were wrong and his present ones right, would try to show the reasons that made him change his attitude. Had Mr. Chamberlain been still president of the board of trade we would have heard nothing of this hare-brained scheme. This is a point that ought not to be overlooked. The colonial secretary is reckoned a clever man; but in ordinary everyday transactions, if we find a man held one opinion yesterday and holds another to-day, without explaining why he changed his views, no one would act upon his opinion without careful and independent examination, for one would say: “He may change again to-morrow.”

OUR COSTLY CRIME.

It has been some time since any Republican paper has dared to claim that the Philippines will “pay.” The facts are too apparent for even the most exuberant political imagination to overcome. If we could make a profit of ten per cent. on every dollar's worth of goods we sell to the Philippine islands, it would take us more than a thousand years to get back what we have already expended. If we could increase our present trade 100 per cent., and make a profit of ten per cent. on every sale, it would about defray the cost of maintaining there two regiments of American soldiers. Some of our military officers say it will be necessary to maintain there an army of from 30,000 to 50,000 men. An army of 30,000 men, kept there for a single year, would consume the profits on our present exports for 150 years. Besides all this, it is to be remembered that our exports are chiefly for the needs of the army and the camp-followers. If we should cease paying the bills, the market would disappear.

The Philippines invasion is simply an expensive crime.—San Francisco Star.

A REAL DEMOCRAT.

Editorial in Mr. Bryan's Commoner of June 19.

MISCELLANY

STRAYED.

For The Public,
Sunburned dryad of the lanes,
In the city street you stare,
Holding pensively the reins
Of your rustic team, their manes
Tawny as your breeze-blown hair—
Nut-brown hair with sunny stains.
Far your thoughts are from this shock,
Far from all this smoke and din,
To your woolly bleating flock,
To that nook where, doffed your frock,
You do ripple to your chin
Near the bubbled, gurgling rock.
There beneath the beech you dream,
Lie upon the grass so cool,
Watch the honest, faithful team,
Standing mid-leg in the stream,
Lift their noses from the pool,
Where the sky and shallows gleam.
There the sounds of evening come
As the hushing world grows dark;
Night-jars croak, and like a drum,
Heard afar, the beetles hum;
Fireflies bear their fancy spark
Till the night is deeply dumb.
Dryad! brown as forest leaves,
Fragrant is your loaded car,
Melons covered o'er with sheaves.
Buyers crowd; but your heart grieves
For the glades where cow-bells are,
For the swallows in the eaves.

C. E. S. WOOD.

The Chicago Public and the Columbus (O.) Press have been giving prominence to the successful fight recently made by Tom Johnson against a Democratic aspirant for the legislature who voted with the Republicans to give the Cincinnati street car lines a 44-year lease. There were eight of these Democrats who furthered the interests of the corporations, and they were afterwards known as the “eight black sheep” of the Ohio legislature. Johnson notified them that he would do what he could to prevent their ever representing (or misrepresenting) the Democratic party again. He told them that he would oppose their renomination, and if they were renominated would oppose their election. Six of them were discreet enough not to be candidates. One who aspired to a renomination afterwards gave it up, and the eighth attempted to make the race. Mayor Johnson lubricated his automobile and started for the seat of war. He made a canvass of the county, speaking at a number of places and inviting any friend of the corporation candidate

to meet him in debate or ask questions. As a result of his contest the "black sheep," although supported by the local organization, was defeated.

Bravo, Johnson! If we had more Democratic leaders like him the Democratic party would soon be invincible. The election of undemocratic Democrats to office is infinitely worse for the party than defeat. A party can afford to be small if it stands for the right, because then it will grow; but if a party, however large, selects for office men who do the bidding of corporations and then renominates such men after their affiliations are known, that party must, sooner or later, have, as it deserves, the contempt of good citizens. The Republican party is controlled by the corporations; we cannot defeat it by putting the Democratic party under the same control, but we can defeat it by making the Democratic party an honest exponent of honest government.

The Democratic party of Ohio is the stronger for the purging it is receiving. The largest part of Tom Johnson's greatness is to be found in the fact that he has faith in the right, faith in the people and the moral courage to put his faith to the test by his acts. He has won his fight in the city of Cleveland because he has had the courage to fight for the people and to appeal to them. He will ultimately win his fight in Ohio in spite of the slurs and slanders of papers like the Cincinnati Enquirer.

THE REFERENDUM IN OREGON.

It is a year this month since the referendum amendment to the constitution of Oregon was adopted by the overwhelming vote of 11 to 1. Although in operation for so short a time some of the good effects of the new plan have already manifested themselves. Some of these results are as follows:

1. Exploiting schemes have been kept out of the legislature through fear of this veto power of the people.
2. Good measures that had been vigorously attacked by interested corporations were allowed to stand, the people refusing to sign their petitions for a call for a referendum, thus showing the trustworthiness of popular judgment, and incidentally refuting the slander sometimes made that "anyone will sign a petition."

Hon. W. S. U'Ren, a member of the legislature of Oregon, in a late letter to Eltweed Pomeroy, President of

the National Direct Legislation League, says:

The first effect of the referendum in Oregon is the comparative absence of charges of corruption and partisanship in the legislature. The newspapers have generally spoken well of the last assembly or said nothing, while for the previous ten years at least, the rule has been that some bitter things were printed about the want of honor and intelligence among the legislators. Altogether the last session of the last assembly was the best for many years, and we credit a good deal of this to the direct legislation amendment.

After speaking of the failure of certain parties to secure the referendum on several laws, Mr. U'Ren continues:

We may logically deduce from this experience that the referendum is not easily invoked, even though only five per cent. of the voters are required; that a law must be very unpopular if the people will not permit it to be tried, when there is no reasonable ground to believe it was corruptly passed; that if the people have any good reason to suspect that the referendum is sought from selfish motives or for personal profit they will not sign the petition in such a case. So far the results have been very satisfactory.

Referring to the same subject about which Mr. U'Ren has just been quoted, "The Oregonian," of Portland, has the following in a late editorial:

The result may be accepted everywhere as it is in Oregon, as a fresh testimonial to the wisdom and safety of popular government.

The referendum stands accordingly as a safeguard in the people's hands against pernicious acts of an unworthy legislature and a conniving governor. Any hope of using it as an instrument of improper purposes must be infinitesimal, after the late severe test, in which powerful interests conspicuously failed in their attempt to invoke the plebiscite by widely circulated and strenuously urged petitions.

The amendment is the stronger for its trial, and while it is likely to remain a dead letter except in its operation as a potential check on legislative misconduct, it may yet have a day of abundant triumph in actual employment to defeat a pernicious law.

JAS. P. CADMAN.

Chicago, June 13, 1903.

THE PARABLE OF PEOPLES.

For The Public.

Behold, in the Land of "The Free" there once dwelt a man named Al Peoples, whose natural sight was abated through his habit of never looking far beyond his stomach.

In those days there were in the land a few men with large pockets in their togas, who told Al what to do, and often joshed about things out of sight to him. They put him wise that the Creator had fixed everything O. K. and intended him not to see farther. And when uneasiness came over Peoples they would daily get out large

sheets of papyri, with many big red letters thereon, proving how wrong and foolish it would be for anyone to try and see into to-morrow or want to change the way the "Lord had made things." And if Al persisted, they called him "anarchist," "socialist," "single taxer," and "disturber of (their) peace," which names so struck terror to his heart that he would retire within his shell. They further gave him their colored goggles to look through, and thus did he see things as they wished.

And it came to pass one day, while Al was upholding the "Dignity of Labor" (literal dignity, there being no levity in it), he was held up by a licensed and respectable robber named Water (Monopoly), for whom he coughed up a little. The next day Gas, the brother of Water, relieved him of more of his "root of all," and each day their brother Street Car would catch him "gwine and comin'."

When Al or his wife or children did overtime enough so they thought he could buy a little stuffing or cover, the other brothers who lived elsewhere—Patent, Tariff and Special Legal Privilege, would touch him for their share at the store where he bought, as they fixed the prices on goods.

Having a strong imagination, Al could see the "great prosperity" and "full dinner pail" all about him, and he was withal quite cheerful. These evidently respectable robbers were doing a lawful and recognized standard business that only took a part of what he made, and he thought it necessary to the good of the community.

On the first of each month, however, old Father Monopoly, whose front name was Land, would come to Al, finding that the boys had only taken one-quarter of what he made. Al and his family using another quarter, saving one-half, which Father Land Monopoly appropriated.

Now in the course of time it came to pass that some of Al's neighbors got to reading exciting literature, or had lovely pipe dreams, and they said one to another: "We can spout gas, carry our own water, and ride in some home-made cassettes; and as for Tariff, Privilege and Patent—what good are they? We will do without them, thus saving one-fourth of what we produce."

The move was carried with a whoop; the place became so popular that people flocked there to roost, the demand for lots arose, and old Father Land Monopoly prepared to cut some real cream cheese, for he would now take three-fourths instead of one-half of