

know that the party Mr. Croker leads in New York must be far from an ideal party. But what is rather absurdly called Bryanism, and what might better be called the new democracy, does vaguely represent an effort to raise the American republic to a better standard of life, to remind the people of the idealism from which the republic was born, to curb the dangerous power of organized capital and to make republican institutions square with the principles of liberty and equality, and what is good in the politics of Mr. Bryan will remain. It is Mr. Bryan's personality as a candidate for president which disappears, for the simple reason that the aggression of the monopolies is certain to become more tyrannical and more insolent every day. Materialism is riding mankind in the United States, as in Europe.

The Speaker is mistaken in supposing that Mr. Bryan's personality has been eliminated from democratic politics. It is too closely and permanently identified with the new democracy for that. But the Speaker clearly sees what Bryan bluntly declares, that the issue is plutocracy against democracy—the dollar or the man.

Those plutocratic democrats who wish to reorganize the party, and, dropping "Bryanism," as they call it, go back to traditional democracy, should be warned that the less they say about traditional democracy the better for them. Traditional democracy is pro-slavery democracy. Abraham Lincoln killed it, and William J. Bryan has come forward to bury the corpse. Whitney, Hewitt, Dickinson, and the other McKinleyites, are at perfect liberty to weep over the grave; but in these times of a revived Jeffersonian democracy they will find it no easy job to galvanize the old pro-slavery cadaver. Traditional democracy has given place to democratic democracy.

To Senator Hoar and Senator Mason, who spoke against the president's Philippine policy but voted for it in the innocent belief that they were only voting for McKinley, who might be depended upon to reverse himself, we commend this editorial extract

from the Chicago Tribune, with reference to the same Philippine policy:

On Tuesday last the people of the United States by an unprecedented majority indorsed that policy and practically instructed the president to expedite operations for the suppression of the Tagal rebellion and the organization of a stable government in the islands.

This declaration has peculiar significance because it is made by a paper which, prior to the election, insisted that the only issue before the people was the money question. Thus the campaign of deceit begins to expose itself.

More than once we have had occasion to notice the inevitable drift of the wealthy classes of the south toward the republican party. Nothing has kept them in the democratic party but their political traditions and the fear of negro domination, and this hold is weakening now. On the one hand the democratic party is becoming too democratic to continue its old fight against the rights of negro citizens, and on the other the republican party is becoming too plutocratic to champion those rights any longer. And as the southern whites have settled the race question in their respective states by disfranchising negroes, those among them who are plutocratic in spirit see no further necessity for remaining outside of the party which really represents their plutocratic aspirations. In this view of the relation of the two parties to the southern vote we now find ourselves confirmed with unexpected candor from the white house itself.

Our authority for this statement is a special correspondent of the Chicago Record, whose dispatch of November 9 appeared in the Record of the 10th. He said:

Several distinguished republicans met at the white house yesterday, and while discussing the outcome of the recent campaign the suggestion was made by a prominent southerner, who holds a high position under the present administration, that the time is ripe for some valuable missionary work in behalf of the republican party in the south. The proposition was

advanced that President McKinley now has a golden opportunity to build up a white man's republican party in the south if he will go about it in the right way. It was asserted that in many of the southern states there are men who have become interested in commercial and business enterprises who are progressive as well as ambitious to keep up with the industrial procession. For the last four years the anti-Bryan democrats of the south have been in close communication with members of the republican party, and they have discovered that the lines of demarcation between them are not insurmountable, nor is the association uncongenial. In Maryland, West Virginia and Kentucky there are several thousand influential business men who were forced to oppose Bryanism four years ago who may never return to the democratic party. In North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee and Florida there are many successful business men who at heart sympathize with republican ideas and principles, and it is said would cheerfully affiliate with that party if the race question could be made less prominent.

That item is rich in political substance. It explains why the republicans pigeon-holed Crumpacker's bill to reduce the representation of states that disfranchise negroes. It indicates with extraordinary definiteness the plutocratic purpose of the Hannaized republican party. It furnishes further convincing evidence of the general recognition of the radical issue upon which the nation is dividing—plutocracy against democracy. And it accounts most unmistakably for the attitude of "anti-Bryan democrats" everywhere. There is indeed no insurmountable line of demarcation between such democrats and Hanna republicans. Neither is there anything uncongenial in their association. A more subtle system of slavery than that of ante-bellum days has come among us; it has forced to the front the old anti-slavery issue in a new guise; the republican party is the champion of this system; and every man with the instincts of a slave driver naturally seeks in that party his political companionship. But there is another and hopeful side to the picture. Just as plutocrats of all past party affiliations, south as

well as north, are now drawn toward the republican party, so democrats of all past party affiliations are repelled by its pro-slavery trend. The process of again separating the goats from the sheep in the politics of this country is advancing with gratifying speed.

In deciding to begin the campaign of 1904 now, and to keep up the work throughout the coming four years, the democratic national committee has done much to inspire public confidence. There is hard work and delicate work to be done. Not only are the McKinley elements of the republican party to be fought and the democratic elements of that party to be awakened, but the plutocratic and Bourbon elements of the democratic party, encouraged by Bryan's second defeat, are to be headed off in their efforts to recapture the organization. In this work the committee will get many rebuffs and but cold comfort at the most from the democratic press of cities. It must make sentiment through the country by means of a literary bureau; and to make that efficient every energy should be devoted to its maintenance. Important as local organization is, this is even more important if a choice must be made.

Having consented, under the pressure of a tremendous strike, to make an increase of ten per cent. in wages in the anthracite coal fields, the monopolists of that region are recouping by adding 50 cents a ton to the wholesale price of coal. According to the estimate of the Philadelphia Record, this will more than cover the advance in wages. So it is not the coal field monopolists, but the already overburdened coal consumer, whom the anthracite strikers overcame. What they have gained, and more than they have gained, the consumer loses. The monopolist alone comes out ahead. All of which goes to show that so long as monopoly is maintained by law, labor conflicts are in

effect not between laborers and monopolists, but between some laborers and other laborers.

It cannot be disputed that one of the marked effects of the election has been a further boom in McKinley prosperity. Standard Oil trust certificates have gone up with a leap. Railway shares have passed the highest point since 1885. The ice trust has secured control of 90 per cent. of the ice business on the Atlantic seaboard. A steel billet pool has been formed which conspires to raise prices to \$20 a ton. A rice trust has been incorporated. The salt trust has marked up the price of common salt from \$1.10 to \$2.50 per hundred pounds. The meat trust has put a cent a pound upon the commodity it controls, which raises the price to consumers from two to three cents or more. John D. Rockefeller is forming a trust to master the Texas cattle business. And the New York stock exchange has been in hysterics over the largest aggregate of gambling transactions in its history. But business in general, the legitimate trading of the country as distinguished from stock exchange gambling and the arbitrary decrees of trusts, has remained quiet; while wages have not gone up, though the steel trust at its plant at Mingo Junction, O., and a plow factory at Racine, Wis., are reported to have made a reduction. Of such is the prosperity of McKinley.

It is probable that the extraordinary trading on the stock exchanges consists in the unloading by trust magnates of their trust holdings upon innocent lambs. This probability is confirmed by reports that the public is greedily buying "industrials." Having raised a general expectation that McKinley's election would boom business, the manipulators of trust stocks are letting go of them at high prices to a gullible public, with the intention of buying them back later on at lower prices. Much piteous bleating may be expected in due time.

John J. Lentz, the eloquent Ohio congressman who fought the imperial administration so hard in the house as to draw its especial attention to his district when he came up for reelection last week, appears upon the face of the returns to have been defeated by eight votes. Mr. Lentz claims that this result was procured by corrupt means, in which Hanna, Dick and McKinley participated; and he announces his purpose of subjecting all three to a rigid cross-examination in the contest he intends to make. Though refusing at this stage to discuss the matter, he declares that while he has no personal desire to retain his seat in congress he does feel that the people of the United States should learn something of the wholesale bribery that was carried on in his district. A contested election case from Lentz's district, in which Hanna, Dick and McKinley were compelled to tell what they know about the distribution of campaign funds, would certainly lack none of the elements of general interest.

The proceedings of the Cuban constitutional convention will bear close watching. The convention is composed of 31 delegates. A majority, therefore, would be only 16; and 16 men are not a large number to influence. Should this majority lend itself to the schemes of the American syndicates that direct the policies of the administration at Washington, the people of Cuba could be sold, assigned, transferred and delivered, bound hand and foot, by a constitution not of their own adoption. True, they have elected the delegates. But the delegates may decide not to submit the constitution they frame to approval by the people. And this is the decision they are in danger of making. It is not for his health that the secretary of war, Mr. Root, has gone to Cuba. Neither is it exclusively to fish for fish, although he has taken fishing tackle with him. He may have man tackle also in his baggage. If the Cuban people understand the situation they will demand