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An Unattractive Fact.

Judge Este, of the United States court, recently rendered a decision that must be of great interest to the people of the United States, and especially so with respect to the laboring element of our citizenship. It is to the effect that since the annexation of the Philippines and the Hawaiian Islands a native of the island of Guam does not need to be naturalized to become a citizen of Hawaii, for the reason that the islands are under the same jurisdiction. On the same theory he would be obliged to rule that a native of either of the islands may become a citizen of Pennsylvania without taking out naturalization papers.

If that be true, and it is supported by reason, the thousands of Asiatics who are born in the Philippine Islands and Hawaii have the right not only to land at any port of entry in the United States, but to claim citizenship, with all the rights and privileges which that relation entails, in any part of the territory of the United States. More than half of the present population of Hawaii are Chinese, either imported or born of parents imported, and every such person would have the same right to come to Pennsylvania as would a citizen, native or naturalized, of New York, New Jersey or any other state in the American Union.

This is a lovely feat to offer to the workmen of this country. The Chinese exclusion act is abrogated, and the millions of Filipinos, no more intelligent and quite as unfit for American citizenship, can force themselves, under the imperial policy of the McKinley administration, into competition in the labor market of every industrial center in the land. How do the iron workers, the coal miners and the other laborers of Pennsylvania like such a prospect? It is certainly not attractive, but it is what is before them, according to the decision of Federal Judge Este. The remedy is to vote against the re-election of McKinley.

"Since but a small proportion of the people can share in the advantages secured by private monopoly, it follows that the remainder of the people are not only excluded from the benefits, but are the helpless victims of every monopoly organized."—W. J. Bryan.

Democrats Not Evasive.

In his speech made Oct. 2 before the Commercial Travelers League in Chicago, Senator Hanna took occasion to throw bouquets at the Republican party and himself incidentally as to the manner in which he thought "every issue brought out by the Democratic party has been thrashed out." This is the most fatuous statement that has fallen from the lips of Mr. Hanna since he took the stump for the purpose of trying to lift the Republican party out of the slough of despond into which the reckless administration of McKinley has plunged it.

Senator Hanna went on to declare that he was anxious to see what the Democrats would bring up next. The Democratic party has nothing to "bring up next." The questions which that party has been insisting upon as the leading issues of the present campaign have nothing of the haphazard about them. They were all duly set forth in the Kansas City platform and have been reiterated time and again on the stump and in the letters which Mr. Richard Olney, Mr. Carl Schurz and other untrammelled minds have seen fit to write. The Republican party cannot point to any avoidance of the true issues of this campaign. Even the money question, which properly speaking is not this fall an issue of first importance, has been kept plainly before the people by Mr. Bryan and other speakers. There has been no attempt to hide it.

This course presents a striking contrast to the conduct of the Republican speakers who have appeared on the hustings this fall. Mr. Hanna himself tried to dispose of the trust issue by his own simple unsupported assurance that there are no trusts. He thought to kill this important question with one breath of wind from his reservoir of oratory, and of course, with over three hundred organized trusts, robbing the people all over the country, and their robbery felt by every one, he utterly failed and became the laughing stock of sensible people. He and his colleagues on the stump have studiously avoided the question of imperialism whenever they have been able to do so, and have failed most ignominiously when compelled to attempt to answer the charges on this head.

Appropriate From One Point.

The appointment of General Frank Reeder as banking commissioner seems entirely appropriate from one point of view. He was dismissed in disgrace from Governor Hastings' cabinet for having joined in a bond given to State Treasurer Haywood to indemnify the latter for illegal payments, made to Quay henchmen, on the padded pay rolls of the legislature. A man of that stamp is just suited to the Quay-Stone administration of the state government. Whether the people of the state will enjoy having him rewarded and put again in high position is another matter. But Quay takes care of his friends, and that is the reason his friends work so strenuously to keep him in power. Keeping men like Attorney General Elkin and General Frank Reeder in fat offices is a necessary part of machine politics in the state of Pennsylvania.—Philadelphia Ledger.

"Even those who justify the general policy of protection will find it difficult to defend a tariff which enables a trust to exact an exorbitant toll from the citizens."—W. J. Bryan.

"If a voter is competent to vote for a member of congress, for state officers and for president, he is competent to choose his representative in the senate."—W. J. Bryan.

Those Oleo Friends.

Attorney General Elkin Makes a Bluff at West Chester. Says Protection is Unthought. The Sale of Oleo Would Have Been Legalized by the Machine But for the Vigilance of the Dairyman.

At West Chester on Monday night, John P. Elkin, attorney general by grace of Mr. Quay, in the course of a stage speech made various offers of a public money in return for affidavits. This is the way chosen by Mr. Elkin to support his apparent contention that the Quay machine does not seek protection to the oleo trust, but gives it protection out of pure benevolence. Nobody connected with the machine, according to Mr. Elkin, has been paid anything to permit the oleo trust to carry on its widespread and ruinous competition with the pure butter of the farmers, says the Philadelphia North American.

In his series of challenges Mr. Quay's attorney general demands only that proof shall be furnished him that bribes have been given members of the machine and officers of the state. He does not deny that protection has been extended by the machine to the oleo trust, nor does he ask that proof of its guilt as the guardian and promoter of the trust's trade shall be supplied. Mr. Elkin is too faithful to the machine, too regardful of the interests of the oleo trust, to go that far. He is aware that every man who reads the newspapers is in possession of such proof. That the trust is protected, its presence on the Pennsylvania market demonstrates. What power other than the machine could give it protection?

Drugging in the common interest of the machine and the oleo trust is Mr. Elkin's trade. At the legislative session of 1897 he figured prominently as one of a band of conspirators who attempted to give the oleo trust a legal footing in Pennsylvania. The brewers and the corporations at the time were making a fight against having their taxes raised. Naturally the machine was worried by the prospect of having to do anything to annoy such good contributors as the brewers and corporations. Mr. Elkin thought he saw a way out of the difficulty—a way that would not only spare the brewers and corporations, but at the same time do the oleo trust a service which it would never forget. In pursuance of this conspiracy William T. Marshall, member of the assembly from Lehigh county, chairman of the appropriations committee, introduced a bill providing for a tax of one cent a pound on oleo.

To tax an article is to legalize its sale. Fortunately for the dairy interests of the state this conspiracy designed to kill three birds with but one stone—relief for the alarmed brewers and corporations and a legal status for the swindling product of the oleo trust—was detected and defeated by an organization of anti-Quay members of the legislature known as the Seventy-Six.

Mr. Elkin will doubtless be willing to offer more stage money for affidavits to prove that in this crafty plot against the welfare of the farmers and in the interest of the oleo trust he was animated by mercenary motives. He did what he did, of course, for the same reward that the Quay machine receives for allowing the illegal sale of 16,000,000 pounds of oleo in Pennsylvania annually—the approval of its own unselfish conscience. As a patriot worker for the public good where the oleo trust is concerned, Mr. Elkin is strictly in line with the machine.

"No defense can be made of an industrial system in which one or a few men control for their own profit the output or price of any article of merchandise."—W. J. Bryan.

Roosevelt's Inconsistency.

Says an editorial in the Baltimore Sun: Unbridled strenuosity is beginning to get the better of the ostensible governor of New York state. It is bucking too hard for him to stay in the saddle facing one direction for any number of consecutive moments, and worst of all for him is that in some of his numerous literary outpourings he has made declarations quite contrary to those he is uttering now upon the stump. The days of his public life have been spent in waging a contest between the pen and the sword, and he is doubtless discovering the truth of the axiom, since the story of the abject surrender of 10,000 terrified Spaniards on San Juan Hill, which he ascended alone and empty handed, is fading in the public mind. But the weight of the pen still prevails, and some of his voluminous magazine contributions are coming home to remind him that he who writes an opinion ought to uphold it. But one of the most humiliating recollections to the ostensible governor of New York must be that portion of his talk with Prof. David Starr Jordan, of Leland Stanford university, in which he said: "I wish to God we were off the Philippines and had them off our hands, and many other Republicans are thinking the same." And why does he favor their retention now? Nothing has occurred since then to cause a reversal of his views, unless it is his nomination at Philadelphia, and if that is it, he doubtless changed his front with the same reluctance as he accepted the second place nomination. So it can well be assumed that Roosevelt's honest opinions were expressed when he was unhampered by orders from the "duty and destiny" managers.

Mr. Hanna's "full dinner pail cry" does not seem to be awakening enthusiasm in the anthracite coal region.

Senator Hanna, if he is wise, will let others do the talking and will return to the pleasant task of squeezing money out of other people, which has been his occupation through life.

"A private monopoly has always been an outlaw."—W. J. Bryan.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Japan Handicapped in its Tea Trade.

The Japan tea trade is under a great disadvantage, compared with the China trade. In China the tea is burned, cured and packed in the garden and when it reaches the port it is ready for shipment. In Japan, on the contrary, the tea is brought down the river like so much hay, and the merchants have to do the burning, curing and packing themselves. Land is expensive, yet large premises are required; hundreds of coolies must be employed to watch the tea while it is burning, and within the last three years packing materials—wood—lead and charcoal—have risen in price. In China these items do not interest the merchant.

Coal Scarcity in Russia, Feared to Be Used.

The question of the scarcity of fuel in Russia has long occupied the attention of scientists. Coal is found only in small quantities, while wood is by no means sufficiently abundant to warrant consumption. It is proposed to surmount the difficulty by turning the enormous quantities of peat to account. In many districts the turf almost represents the staple fuel. Its calorific power is said to be double that of wood. The turf is compressed into small briquettes and sent to the market. It is estimated that the cost of manufacturing it for commercial purposes compares very favorably with the price of coal.

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