

FALLACIES EXPOSED.

GOLDBUG SOPHISTRIES AND FALSEHOODS SHOWN UP.

Hammer Test, Payment of Bonds, and Silver Producers Considered and Clearly Explained—None Should Be Imposed Upon.

Goldbug sophistries and falsehoods are difficult to deal with. They multiply like weeds and assume all manner of shapes without any regard to congruity or consistency. They seem absolutely impervious to logical refutation and to survive with renewed vigor every demonstration of their absurdity. Nevertheless, as their continued and emphatic reiteration is liable to mislead, it seems necessary to persevere in exposing their falsity. As there is no method in their presentation, I think it is well to take them up indiscriminately upon the plan of hitting a head wherever I see it. And first here is a little one called—

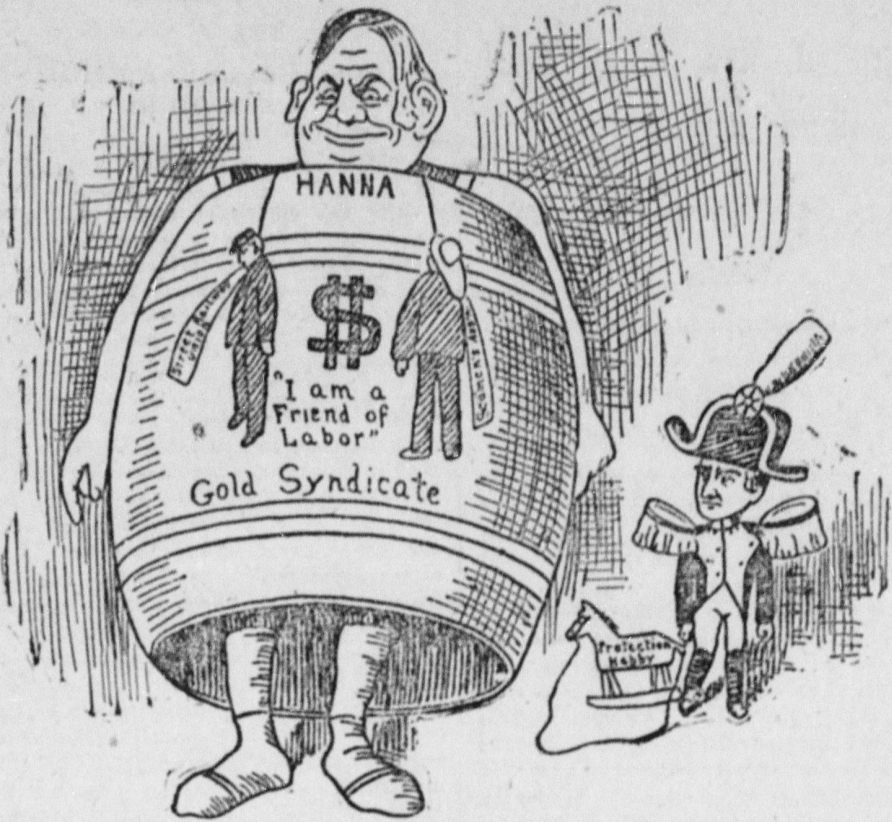
"THE HAMMER TEST."

It is said: "Take a United States gold coin and smash it with a hammer and the bullion mass will be equally valuable with the coin, but submit a silver dollar to the same test and nearly half its value is destroyed." Very true, but why? The defaced gold can be immediately taken to the mint and without cost restored to coin. Give back to silver its coinage privilege and it will stand the test in exactly the same way and for the same reason. If the mint is open you may smash a silver dollar on the anvil until it is shapeless and the remnant bullion will be worth exactly as much as the coin before defacement, for the plain reason that without cost it can be reformed into the stamped and standard coin. No one but a simpleton can be imposed upon by so absurd a proposition as this "hammer test." The next which comes in my way regards—

"THE PAYMENT OF BONDS."

It is said that notwithstanding our bonds are in terms payable in "coin," yet as gold was given for them there is a moral obligation to pay them in gold. The assumption of fact is false, because nearly every Government bond in existence has been obtained by refunding a bond originally purchased with much depreciated legal-tender notes. But I do not wish to insist upon this. I prefer to admit that gold was given for every bond, and then ask what that has to do with determining the coin or currency in which it shall be paid? Is the method of payment to be looked for in the consideration for the bond or in those of its terms which prescribe the method of payment? It must make a lawyer smile to see such a question made a matter of serious consideration. At no time and in no country, and under no legal system was the character of the consideration for an obligation allowed to control or influence, legally or morally, the undertaking of the obligor. What the consideration may have been is immaterial. It may have been the building of a railroad or the furnishing of Government supplies or any one of a hundred things. If it was money, then the amount paid was equally important with the quality. To refer to either one or the other or in any way to the character of the consideration as a guide in considering the obligation of the Government is as contrary to all legal principles and precedents as it is to the teachings of common business sense. One thing is certain, that every bond was purchased for the least consideration at which it could be obtained. If gold was paid, then the purchase was made with just as small an amount of gold as the buyer could induce the Government or its representatives to take. What he paid or how much he paid has nothing to do with the question of what he bought. Let me illustrate by an actual transaction. A year and a half ago the Government wished to sell sixty-two millions of bonds, and a money syndicate was negotiating for the purchase. Pending the negotiation Mr. Cleveland sent a message to Congress, stating that for thirty year bonds, payable in coin (the only kind then authorized by law), the syndicate would require that the rate of interest should be 3 1/2 per cent., but if thirty-year gold bonds could be authorized they would take them at 3 per cent. The consideration in either case to be in gold. The difference, reckoned to the maturity of the bonds, amounted to about fifteen millions of dollars. Congress not being willing to authorize a gold bond, the contract was concluded for coin bonds at 3 1/2 per cent. interest—that is to say, the Government obligated itself to pay to the syndicate fifteen millions of dollars for the privilege of satisfying the bonds in coin, instead of obligating itself to pay in gold alone. Now, I ask, supposing silver to be cheaper than gold, in what kind of coin ought the principal and interest of these bonds to be paid? Can there be any doubt about the answer? When the Government has paid fifteen millions for the option of discharging its obligations in either silver or gold, instead of gold alone, shall it refuse to exercise its option? If any officer of the Government shall under present conditions pay the interest on these bonds in gold, will he not be guilty of a manifest fraud upon the American people from whom the means of payment are to be procured by taxation. And yet these bonds in no way differ from any others, except that in this case by the communication of the President the relation between the consideration of the bond and its obligation is made manifest and indisputable. The man who talks about the honor or credit of the Nation being injured or imperiled by a payment in silver of the obligations of the

SIXTEEN TO ONE.



A fitting comparison between the importance of the Republican boss, and that of his candidate.

Government, which by their terms are made payable in "coin," is either a rank hypocrite or without sufficient intelligence to manage his own business. The honor and credit of a Nation which scrupulously performs its promises, does exactly what it has agreed to do and pays exactly what it has contracted to pay, cannot be tainted or brought in suspicion by the whines of greedy bondholders, echoed by no matter how many of their hirelings. For the third specification I select this in regard to—

"SILVER PRODUCERS."

It is said that free coinage is exclusively or mainly for the benefit of silver mine owners, and the reason given is that they would be allowed to take fifty-three cents worth of silver bullion to the mint and obtain for it a dollar. This is unmitigated nonsense. Free silver coinage opens the mint, not to producers alone, but to everybody, without regard to locality or nationality who holds or chooses to procure silver bullion. The privilege is universal, and every ounce of silver in the world can, at the option of its owner, be brought to the mint and converted into American dollars. When two things are freely exchangeable, one for the other, it is impossible that there should be any difference in market price between them. When with 371 grains of silver anybody can procure an American dollar, no one is going to part with silver at any less price. The bullion value and the coinage value must, therefore (a trivial allowance being made for cost of transportation), be equal in all the markets of the world. Silver producers must always give a dollar's worth of bullion for a coin dollar. It will make no difference to him whether he takes his bullion to the mint or sells it in New York or London market. If he mints it he will receive American dollars, and if he sells it in the market he will receive the equivalent of American dollars. The assertion, therefore, that the mine owners, more than anyone else, can obtain a dollar at the mint for fifty-three cents worth of bullion or any amount of bullion worth in the markets of the world less than one hundred cents is pure fiction.—C. J. Hillier, in Silver Knight.

The Bryan Dollar.

The silver dollar under the proposed free coinage act will be as great in purchasing power as the present dollar. We are opposed to a dishonest dollar. Those that charge that the free coinage dollar will not be worth the face value are begging the question. We assert that it will. The ratio produced between silver and gold is now in the proportion of 16 to 1. The quantity of silver to be marketed is sixteen times that of gold. Restore to silver its function as money and its coinage value will be in the same proportion. The commercial value of silver will, by reason of the increased demand, become the same as its coinage value, and will bear the same proportion to the commercial value of gold as the quantity of silver produced bears to the quantity of gold produced. Bryan and the Democratic party are not wedded to a ratio which would prove impracticable. It would be impolitic now to concede the possibility of the bullion value of silver not rising to its coinage value. But in case it does not, we are assured, and we feel confident that such safeguards of legislation will be enacted as will insure the parity of both metals. Of the ability of the Government to insure such a parity there can be no doubt. It is notorious that the present silver dollar, which contains only fifty-three cents worth of silver bullion, is equal in purchasing power to a gold dollar, which contains a hundred cents worth of gold bullion, because of the credit of the Government. To the enactment of such legislation, in case it becomes necessary, as will insure the continuation of this we are unalterably committed.—New York Suburban.

Bedtime in Ancient Days.

The boys and girls of this period would think their lots very hard should they be sent to bed at dark. Yet the majority of grown people, as well as the children, in ancient Rome rarely lighted a candle unless at dawn. In Rome, Athens, Egypt, and other parts of the Mediterranean shore, the bedtime was between seven and nine o'clock in the evening, according to the season. The Turks go to bed early and get up early in silver of the obligations of the

THE SILVER SIDE.

Wall and Lombard streets are bitterly opposed to Bryan—all the more reason why those who earn their own living should support him.

The millionaire speculators who have been bearing stocks in Wall street by working the Treasury reserve apprehensions will find the people gunning for them in the autumn and the guns will all be loaded for bear.

If the people of the United States are so universally in favor of "sound money" and believe in the doctrines of Sherman, Cleveland & Co., why does it cost so much money to make them do what they want to do?

If Hanna, Belmont, Morgan & Co. find it necessary to spend hundreds of millions to make the people of the United States vote according to their desires how much would it require to make them vote against their wishes?

The Dollar of our Daddies is good enough for the American people. Give us plenty of silver and we can at least procure the necessities of life, which is more than the masses now enjoy under the beneficent rule of the gold bugs.

A few years ago we were told that God ordained that gold and silver should be money. If true, the rascals who have been doing so much against one-half of God's money will have a time getting a ticket at the pearly gates!

Why is it necessary for Hanna to expend millions, and why do all corporations and employers of labor exert all the power they have to make the people vote "of their own volition" for the gold standard? For the same reason that the highwayman uses a revolver to make his victim "willingly" deliver up his money.

McKinley and his boss, Hanna, will persist in saying that the tariff is the great issue. But Sherman's speech treats the money question as the issue. McKinley is lost sight of in the campaign. It is Hanna and kind, paternal protection to laboring men, and John Sherman and protection and prosperity to English capital and American millionaires.

The mournful howl of McKinley and others against stirring up class against class is truly pathetic. There is no wonder that the banking combination which is prosecuting a most relentless and cruel war against labor and production and which has produced universal distress would be glad to escape observation, fearing the indignation of the people. We beg pardon for suggesting that "no chief ever felt the halter draw with good opinion of the law."

There can be but one question while English financiers rule this country, and that question is, Shall the United States legislate for the people of this country or must we submit to foreign policies and foreign legislation? If the United States cannot maintain an independent financial policy, we are a dependency of Great Britain, and until that question is settled, there is no other question of the slightest importance. If we trust our finances to Great Britain, we may as well trust everything else to her, because whoever governs the financiers of the country, governs the country.—Silver Knight.

What Demonetization Has Done.

The demonetization of silver has checked our advancement as a Nation, and brought us under tribute to thieves; but if we succeed in securing its recoinage, the wheels of progress will turn again, and the people will arise in their might, "like a young giant refreshed with new wine."—Senator Jones, in Arena.

Humoring Him.

Eminent Specialist—Yes, madam your husband is suffering from temporary aberration, due to overwork.
Wife—Yes, he insists that he is a millionaire.
Eminent Specialist—And wants to pay me \$100 for my advice. We'll have to humor him, you know.—Standard.

Don't loan anything; you know yourself how careless you are in paying back anything you borrow.

HIGH TARIFF LIES.

REPUBLICAN STATEMENTS ABOUT BUTTER AND EGGS DISPROVED.

Under the Wilson Law Imports of Butter Have Decreased, White the Exports Have Increased—Decrease in the Imports of Eggs.

The Chicago Inter Ocean publishes an article introduced by startling headlines in which it is asserted that "the tariff issue leads," that "Western farmers are awakening to its great importance," and that "they realize fully the losses they have sustained under the Wilson law." Attention is directed to the remarks of C. W. Mott, of St. Paul, General Immigration Agent of the Northern Pacific Railroad, about butter and apples. "The duty on butter," he says, "was decreased two cents a pound by the Wilson law, and the consequence is that Michigan farmers who send butter to Boston are shipping one-third less than when the McKinley law was in effect. The rest comes from Canada." But Mr. Mott and the Inter Ocean must know, or ought to know, that the imports of butter, always small, have been decreased under the new tariff. Here are the official figures, for both imports and exports, in pounds, down to June 30 last:

Year	Imports	Exports
1891	380,724	15,187,114
1892	114,187	15,047,246
1893	78,421	8,520,107
1894	144,346	11,812,092
1895	72,148	5,598,812
1896	52,067	19,378,915

The imports have fallen from an average of about 178,000 pounds per annum during the McKinley years to 72,148 pounds in 1895 and only 52,067 pounds in 1896. Where are the signs of that "flood" and of those great imports from Canada? Why, we exported to Canada in the year just closed 676,341 pounds of butter, or thirteen times the quantity that was imported from all foreign countries!

And our exports have been increased to nearly 21,000,000 pounds, valued at \$2,937,293. We have seen in high tariff journals similar lies about eggs, the imports of which, it was said, had been increased enormously, owing to a reduction of the duty from five to three cents per dozen. But here are the official figures showing the imports of eggs, in dozens:

Year	Imports
1891	8,233,043
1892	4,188,492
1893	3,358,011
1894	1,791,439
1895	2,705,922
1896	947,128

Where is the proof about that "flood"? Was not the annual average more than 4,000,000 during the McKinley years, and have not imports fallen to 947,128 under the present tariff?—New York Times.

Steel Tariff Truths.

When the Congressional Committee investigated the causes leading to the great Homestead strike they found that the actual labor cost paid by the Carnegie company for making a ton of steel billets or blooms (ingots) ranged from \$1.65 to \$1.95, and its actual protection on those in question under the McKinley law was \$20.16.

The lowest protection under the Wilson law on steel ingots is three mills per pound, or \$6.72 per ton, and the highest \$60.48 per ton, according to value.

In 1880 the Bessemer and open-hearth men reported products of 983,039 tons, valued at \$55,805,210, at a total labor cost of \$4,930,349, or \$5 per ton. The report for 1890 has not yet been published, and probably never will be.—Mr. Porter made pretty sure of that—but we know that the labor cost per ton has been "enormously" reduced, because wages have been reduced, but the reduction in wages cannot be attributed to free trade or even a low tariff on steel ingots so long as the labor cost in producing a ton of them is less than the \$1.65 and \$1.95 quoted to the Congressional Committee, and the protective tariff under the present law is not less than \$6.72 and as high as \$60.48. The tariff duty on steel ingots is much higher than the entire amount paid American labor for producing a ton. It will thus be seen that even if foreign labor was paid nothing for making steel ingots the tariff tax under the present law would not permit them to undersell the ingots made in this country. The people cannot be fooled by such balderdash in this campaign. The new steel pool formed two weeks ago to control the price of open-hearth steel will do more damage to steel consumers and American labor than would absolute free trade in steel.

Democratic Party the Country's Hope.

I am one of those who believe that the Democratic party was not born to die except with the death of Republican Government. It is inherent to our constitutional system, and essential to the wholesome existence of that system. That it has, on important occasions, failed of its duty to the State and fallen short of the requirements of the hour, merely proves that its leaders were unequal, not that the principle of its being was at fault. In spite of the mistakes of its leaders, and in spite of grievous perversity and misadventure, the party has survived disasters enough to destroy half a dozen parties. As long as free institutions built upon recorded law need a firm, enlightened defender—a defender alike against the encroachments of organized rapacity and the excesses of popular sentiment—the Democratic party, as directed and inspired by Jefferson, will stand between those institutions and every assailant.—Henry Wattersen.

NOT A WORD AGAINST TRUSTS.

Republicans Failed to Condemn Monopolies.

The American people, irrespective of party, believe that if they are poor in midst of plenty it is because they are robbed of the products of their labor. Chief among the agencies which rob them are the great trusts and monopolies which control the manufacture of nearly all the commodities consumed by the masses. The question of breaking down these combines which oppress the people are of the foremost issues of the day. Relief from trust exactions, and the abolition of the power of monopolies to make fortunes out of the poor, is earnestly demanded by practically every American citizen.

Yet the platform of the Republican National Convention is absolutely silent on the subject of trusts. Not one word of condemnation for those conspiracies against the people was inserted in the declaration of principles given to the country, nor did one of the many speakers who addressed the convention refer to the dangerous combinations which are sapping the Nation's prosperity. There were plenty of wild charges against the Democratic party, and plenty of hunch-bone promises of high-taxation prosperity, but no one dared to denounce the robber monopolies.

Why this strange silence? Why did the organization of the office-seekers which calls itself the party of the people say nothing against the trusts, those enemies of the people? The answer is easy. It was because the trusts live and thrive by reason of high protection. Because the delegates at St. Louis were the agents of the trusts and monopolists and did not dare to lift their voices against their masters. Nearly every trust in the United States has its origin in protection. The trusts contribute to Republican campaign funds for the sake of buying more favors from Congress. The party of McKinley is the party of monopolists, and nothing more. Every man who is tired of being robbed by trusts should this year vote against their candidate.

Folly of Protectionism.

The Italian statistician Luigi Bodio, in a letter to the Cobden Club, makes a striking exposition of the folly of the protectionist and paternalistic policy of Continental Europe during the past twenty years. Great sums have been spent by the State on railroads and other means of international commerce, and yet tariff laws have been framed ingeniously to make international commerce impossible or unprofitable. The real advantage of the European manufacturer and agriculturist over his competitors in America and in the Orient is in the abundance of capital at a low rate of interest. But this advantage the Governments of Italy and France have deliberately thrown away. By their system of vast and increasing State expenditures, they have so increased taxation as to more than make up for the lower rates of interest they have to pay. What does it profit the French farmer to be able to borrow money at 3 per cent. as compared with the 6 or 7 which his American competitor has to pay, if his taxes are made three or four times what they used to be, and what they should be, by lavish public outlay? This, as Signor Bodio affirms, is one of the worst forms of socialism, and prevents industry and agriculture from profiting as they might by abundant capital and reduced taxes.—New York Post.

Home Market Argument.

In one of his platitudinous speeches, Major McKinley declared that "what we want is to protect the splendid home market to our own American producers." The Republican party has been protecting the "splendid home market" now for thirty years, and the position of the farmer to-day is worse than it has been in all that time. Nor has the depression in the industry come without warning. It has pinched harder year by year for twenty years, till now, with corn at about 18 cents a bushel, the climax has been reached.

One need not go farther than Missouri to ascertain the exact condition of the farmer. When parents of the farming class are forced to deprive their children of the education which had been planned, because of the depression of the times, what folly is it to talk of preserving the "splendid home market."

Mr. McKinley speaks again of "a most damaging foreign competition in our home market." In what agricultural products has this damaging foreign competition been noted? Is it in cotton? Is it in cattle, in wheat? Are not all these exported? The truth of the matter is that the policy of protection has evoked retaliatory measures on the part of countries like Germany and France, which, by their prohibitory tariffs, have prevented our sales of agricultural products and thus caused a glut in the home market. McKinleyism means the final destruction of the agricultural industry.—St. Louis Republic.

Why Freighters Are High.

Prices of staple farm products are low, and farmers complain that the railroad freighters eat up all the profits on their crops. But the railroads have to pay the trust's price of \$23 per ton for steel rails, while the same rails are sold to Japan and Canada for less than \$22. The additional \$7 comes out of the farmers' pockets. Is it any wonder that freighters are high?

AMERICA'S DEEPEST LAKE.

Curious Facts About a Body of Water in Oregon.

Crater Lake, in Oregon, is the deepest body of fresh water in America. Only one lake in the world is deeper, namely, Balkal, which exceeds it in depth by about 400 feet. Until recently it was asserted that Crater Lake was bottomless, but soundings have proved that its greatest depth is 2,900 feet. It is five miles in diameter, nearly circular and occupies the crater of an extinct volcano.

No fish has ever been known to exist in Crater Lake. Not long ago a request that it be stocked with trout was sent to Washington by the Mazamas, who are a club of mountain climbers, having headquarters at Portland. Mazama is the Indian name for mountain goat. The climbers are anxious to angle in the extinct crater, and the Government experts are going to find out whether or not such a thing is practicable. It is easy enough to put trout in the water, but that would be of no use unless there is food for them there. Trials will be made by an expedition, for the purpose of ascertaining how much food there is, and whether or not it is of a suitable kind for speckled beauties to browse upon.

This will be accomplished by towing small nets of gauze along the surface of the water. The water will flow through the gauze, which will catch all the animalculae that come in its way. The quantity of the latter secured in a given number of minutes or hours will be an accurate measure of the amount of fish food present. They will be bottled and preserved in formaline for subsequent examination by a specialist, who will determine the species represented. Chiefly they will be little shrimps and other small crustaceans, and there will be some insects also. It will be necessary to make the towsings at different hours of the day, because some crustaceans swim near the surface only in the morning, others at midday, and others yet in the evening. Shady areas as well as sunny ones must be sought for various species.

A most interesting series of experiments will be made for the purpose of ascertaining the temperature of the water at various depths. No temperature observations have ever been taken in fresh water nearly so far down. With this end in view, an equipment of self-registering thermometers and supplementary apparatus will be taken and will be let down by means of sounding lines. There are very few places in the lake where the depth is less than 1,000 feet, though it shoals off somewhat in the southwest part. One line of soundings registered over 1,500 feet for a distance of two miles. These depths are unapproached by any other lake in the Western hemisphere.

No wonder, then, that Crater Lake was supposed to be bottomless. However, the truth is that all lakes over 150 feet possess a similar reputation. Any body of water that is deeper than the length of the longest feeding line is sure to lack a bottom in the popular belief. A first rate example of this sort of delusion is afforded by Papete Lake in Idaho. It was formerly imagined to be bottomless, and later its depth was officially stated to be 2,000 feet. There are no data on which to base a guess as to the bottom temperature of Crater Lake, but the supposition is that it will be very little above freezing. The temperature of the ocean depths remains at about forty degrees Fahrenheit, all the year round, even in the tropics. Nevertheless, some volcanic heat may yet remain to warm the waters of Crater Lake.

Bird That Shaves Itself.

The lammergeyer, or bearded vulture, found throughout the whole mountain chains of the Old World, actually shaves himself. The expert barber who has for his customers crusty millionaires could not ply the keen-edged razor to the stubby beard of his particular patron more deftly than the monarch of the mountain tops prunes his own bristly beard. The head of the vulture is clothed with feathers, and from the sides of the under mandible proceeds a row of black bristles. From this peculiar projection of feathers the bird derives its name. A layer of similar bristles begins at the eye and covers the nostrils, forming a fleecy mustache.

With his strong and sharp claws, which act as the razor, he begins to trim his fibrous whiskers with great care and dexterity. He does this with great regularity and soon the downy beard and mustache give way to a full growth of bristly feathers.—New York Journal.

Russian Babies.

As described by a recent traveler, Russian babies as seen in the homes of the Russian peasants in Siberia, are very unattractive specimens of humanity. "I looked curiously at one little bundle," says the traveler, "which was laid upon a shelf. Another hung from the wall on a peg, while a third was slung over one of the supporting rafters and was being swung to and fro by the mother, who had a cord loop over her foot. 'Why,' cried I in surprise, 'that's a child!' 'Of course it is,' replied the woman; 'what else should it be? Having learned so much in so short a time I had an irresistible desire to inspect the contents of the swinging bundle. I looked, but turned away in disgust, for the child was as dirty as a pig. I asked why the baby was not washed. It may have been impertinent. 'Washed!' shrieked the mother, apparently horrified. 'Washed! washed—wash a baby? Why, you'd kill it!'

A cargo of coal was recently received at San Francisco from Tonkin, China, Pacific freights being cheap enough to make the venture profitable.