

EVILS OF CONTRACTION.

BLIGHTING EFFECTS OF A DECREASED VOLUME OF MONEY.

It Discourages All Productive Enterprises, Causes Money Hoarding and a Fall in Prices, and Fosters Strife Between Labor and Capital.

While the volume of money is decreasing, even though very slowly, the value of each unit of money is increasing in corresponding ratio, and property is falling in price. Those who have contracted to pay money find that it constantly becomes more difficult to meet their engagements. The margins of securities melt rapidly away, and the confiscation by the creditor of the property on which they are based becomes only a question of time. All productive enterprises are discouraged and stagnate because the cost-producing commodities to-day will not be covered by the prices obtainable for them to-morrow. Exchanges become sluggish, because those who have money will not part with it for either property or services, beyond the requirements of actual current necessities, for the obvious reason that MONEY ALONE IS INCREASING IN VALUE WHILE EVERYTHING ELSE IS DECLINING IN PRICE. This results in the withdrawal of money from the channels of circulation, and its deposit in GREAT HOARDS WHERE IT CAN EXERT NO INFLUENCE ON PRICES, as is evidenced by our experience during the past ten years in particular. This hoarding of money, from the nature of things, must continue and increase not only until the shrinkage of its volume has actually ceased, but until capitalists are entirely satisfied that money LYING IDLE ON SPECIAL DEPOSIT will no longer afford them revenue, and that the lowest level of prices has been reached. It is this hoarding of money when its volume shrinks, which causes a fall in prices greater than would be caused by the direct effect of a decrease in the stock of money. Money in shrinking volume becomes the paramount object of commerce instead of its beneficent instrument. Instead of mobilizing industry, it poisons and dries up its life-currents. It is the fruitful source of political and social disturbance. It foments strife between labor and other forms of capital, while itself hidden away in security gorges on both. It rewards cloistered lenders and fleeces from and bankrupts enterprising borrowers. It circulates freely in the stock exchange, but avoids the labor exchange. It has in all ages been the worst enemy which society has had to contend with.

The great and still continuing fall in prices in this country has proved most disastrous to nearly every industrial enterprise. The bitter experience of the last few years has been an expensive but most thorough teacher. It has taught capitalists neither to invest in nor loan money on such enterprises, and just as thoroughly has it taught business men not to borrow for the purpose of inaugurating or prosecuting them. Of the few business enterprises now being successfully prosecuted, the larger part are based on a monopoly secured either by patents or exceptional conditions. The business man has discovered that the less active and enterprising he is the better he is off. The manufacturer avoids loss by dumping down furnace fires and slowing down machinery.

Securities have already become so impaired through falling prices that loanable capital has fled aghast from the newer and more sparsely settled sections of the country and accumulated in large amounts in the great financial centers where securities are more ample. The personal and property securities of individuals have generally ceased to be available, except at the highest rates of interest, or at ruinously low valuations. Money can be borrowed readily only upon such securities as bonds, which are based upon the unlimited tax-levying power of the Government, or upon the bonds and stocks of first class trunk lines of railroad corporations whose freight and fare rates are practically a tax upon the entire population and resources of the regions which they traverse and supply. The competition among capitalists to loan money on these more ample securities has become very keen, and such securities command money at unprecedentedly low rates. The low and lowering rates of interest, instead of denoting financial strength and industrial prosperity, are a gauge of increasing prostration. Large accumulations of money in financial centers, instead of being caused by the overflow of a healthful circulation, or even a proof of a sufficient circulation, are unmistakable evidence of a congested condition, caused by a decreasing and insufficient circulation. The readiness with which Government bonds, bearing a very low rate of interest, are taken, instead of showing that the credit of the Government is improving, is melancholy evidence of the prostrated condition to which industry and trade have been reduced.

If Capt. Sverdrup's account of the voyage of Nansen's ship, the *Fram*, is correct, there will be no lack of volunteers for service when the *Fram* is ready to start again for the north pole. Capt. Sverdrup says "the principal work was to take regular observations, sleep and eat." There's a program that appeals to the average man. Who wouldn't be willing to spend a few months or more in that sort of an enterprise? Almost anybody in these hard times, even those who at the present moment are actively engaged in heroically saving their country, would jump at a chance to take regular observations, sleep and eat. For, after all, that is about what life amounts to, when you look at it from the latter end and reckon up its value.

DOES HE REALLY LOOK AT THINGS DIFFERENTLY NOW?



DEMONEZATION THE CAUSE.

The Fall in the Gold Price of Silver Not Due to Over Production.

Republicans claim that the fall in the gold price of silver is owing to the over-production of silver. Democrats claim that the fall in the gold price of silver is owing to the demonetization of silver; in other words, in the discrimination against it by the Government in closing their mints to silver, thus giving gold the monopoly of the money function, causing it to appreciate since 1873 over 100 per cent. The Democrats can disprove the over-production argument with United States Treasury Department statistics.

When the mints of the United States, France and other Nations, excepting England, were open to silver and gold at ratios varying from 15.50 to 1, to 16 to 1, the unlimited demand for the metal up to 1873 at fixed rates kept the bullion value in the market at figures at no time more than a fraction above or below the mint value. It mattered not how much greater the production of silver over gold, or gold over silver; the bullion ratio varied so slightly that the bimetallic standard was looked upon by economists as being the nearest to a perfect standard that could be devised. France can be taken as the best illustration, owing to the long trial of the double standard there during a period of revolutions and National disasters of a kind to wreck the stanchest of Nations. But France was never wrecked and her industry from panics and financial disturbances for seventy years prior to 1873 is attributed entirely to the maintenance of the bimetallic standard.

A speaker in Madison recently declared that France never maintained the standard of values at a fixed ratio. France did maintain her mint ratio of 15.50 to 1 for seventy years without the least difficulty. In the seventy years at no time did the BULLION VALUE OF SILVER FALL LOWER THAN 16.25 TO 1 AND AT NO TIME GO ABOVE 15.05 TO 1. Was the production of gold and silver during the seventy years equal? According to the Republicans it must have been, or, if not, how could the parity of the two metals have been maintained?

It was maintained by law, by the act which, by establishing the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver, created an unlimited demand at a fixed ratio for products that were bound to be limited. And the fallacy of the over-production argument will be shown by the following figures:

The silver produced between 1792 and 1850, was \$42,931,000 in excess of gold.

The gold produced between 1850 and 1873 was \$1,574,800,000 in excess of silver.

The excess of silver over gold between 1873 and 1892 was \$203,522,000. The excess of gold over silver between 1850 and 1892 was \$1,371,278,000, and between 1792 and 1892 the gold excess was \$228,947,000.

Did the \$203,522,000 excess in the silver production since 1873, and up to 1892 cause the fall in the value of silver as measured by gold, or did the withdrawal of the free coinage privilege do it? If the excess did it, why did not the vastly greater excess of gold for the twenty-three years before 1873 reduce the value of gold? There is but one explanation. That is that the demonetization of silver by the United States and the European countries, thereby taking away from silver the unlimited demand at a fixed ratio, caused the appreciation of gold under the gold monopoly created by law and since maintained at the expense of the debtor Nation, the United States. If the free coinage privilege has nothing to do with the value of silver, how came it about that silver fell eighteen cents an ounce when the mints of India are closed? There is no foundation to the over-production argument. Gold has been hoarded and the American farmers and business men are paying tribute to the money power that demonetized silver in 1873.—Madison (N. J.) Democrat.

THE ONLY HONEST DOLLAR.

It is One Whose Purchasing Power is Staple, Says Candidate Bryan.

The gold standard gives us a rising dollar, and a rising dollar means bondage, distress and misery to those who form the basis of all civilization and who are the strength and bulwark of every Government. If gold is to be our standard and a gold dollar is to be the unit, and we are to be content with its upward flights, then, my friends, I believe we ought to change the die. In the place of that face above which is written "Liberty," let us have a picture of a woman in chains and above it written "bondage." And instead of having on the other side the eagle, the emblem of National freedom, let us put a vulture, that lives upon the devouring of human kind.

They call the gold dollar an honest dollar. They know it is not an honest dollar, and those who love that dollar most love it because it is the most dishonest dollar the world has ever seen, and the more dishonest it becomes the greater their affection for it.

What is an honest dollar? An honest dollar would be a dollar of which the purchasing power would be stable; a dollar which rises in purchasing power as is dishonest as one which falls in purchasing power.

If you think the gold standard is absolutely necessary to the welfare of this country, you make a great mistake if you vote for me, because, if I can help it, the gold standard won't stay in this country for one moment. It shall be driven back to England, where it belongs.

Our opponents tell us that our dollar will be a cheap one. We tell them that they never called the silver dollar a cheap dollar until it was demonetized. We insist that legislation can undo what legislation did. We insist that the opening of our mints will create a demand which the closing of our mints destroyed, and that the demand for silver will raise the price of silver bullion to \$1.25 anywhere in the world.

But you say it will be as hard to get a silver dollar as it is now under the gold standard. You overlook the first principles which must be understood in studying the money question. Gold has gone up because you destroyed its competitor. Restore its competitor and let silver be used on equal terms, and by increasing the volume of standard money you lessen the strain on gold and reduce the purchasing power of an ounce of gold throughout the world.

The silver dollar and gold dollar will be worth the same whether in the form of coin or in the form of melted bullion, but it will be easier to get either when you have the chance to get both than it is now, when you have to fight for one.—W. J. Bryan.

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SILVER NOTES.

Major McKinley says that a dollar will buy more than it ever would. That is our contention. The working man says: "Where am I to get the dollar?"

"Gold is the sovereign of sovereigns" is the quotation prominently displayed by a local financial journal. It is well to remember that this great Republic does not deal with sovereigns.

The United States Constitution forbids any State to "make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts." Mind you, the language is "gold and silver," not "gold or silver."

The single gold standard brings nothing but disaster to the people of this country, if we expect a few all-powerful bankers. There are in this country more than half a million men out of employment in the cities alone.

Mark Hanna's pawn, Major McKinley, said recently that an assemblage of workmen touches his heart. The workmen may well reply that the men who are endeavoring to secure McKinley's election have continually "touched" their pockets.

Mark Hanna has told the people of the United States that the man whom he holds in pawn for \$118,000 is the advance agent of prosperity. But the people want to know whether his policy means prosperity for the producer and laborer or prosperity for the bond clipper and usurer. We say that it means the latter.

Mr. McKinley is seemingly greatly concerned about the country's honor, by which he means that the producers and laborers of the country should pay their debts with twice as much products of labor as was stipulated in the original contract. If Mark Hanna's pawn would consider his own honor and the honor of the country less he would be more respected.

The New York Commercial Advertiser says editorially that every free silverite is in reality nothing more or less than a fifty-three-cent anarchist. The usurers who own the paper in question are two hundred cent anarchists. Consequently the free silver men are not as great anarchists as those who abuse them.

Hon. Alexander H. Stevens, of Georgia, once made the remark that when the people understood the silver question they would be aroused as they never had been since the days of the crusades. In proof of this prophetic remark we only have to call attention to the wonderful assemblages which greet Mr. Bryan everywhere he goes in his Presidential campaigning tour.

Every Nation on the earth which is to-day upon a silver basis has prospered in all of its agricultural and manufacturing departments. Every Nation on the face of the earth which is to-day upon a gold standard has business paralysis in every department of manufacturing and agricultural pursuits. This should be a "straw" to the mind of the uneducated voter as to which way he should vote, for "Ye shall know them by their fruits."

The Result Which Will Follow the Re-monetization of Silver.

The restoration of silver to its constitutional place in the monetary system of the Republic will have no effect more disastrous than the raising of renewed hope in the breasts of the people and the giving of new impetus to all the plans of the producing masses. The actual amount of gold and silver in the world that is available for money is always about the same, at a ratio of 16 to 1. This has always been the case and will always be so, because these metals are strictly limited and are produced in about the same proportion to each other, but always in quantities much below the demand for them. If both metals were finally demonetized in all Nations and driven into the markets as mere commodities, there is no doubt that it would quickly be seen that much less than sixteen ounces of silver would be required to purchase one ounce of gold. With both metals enjoying similar privileges under the law at our mint, the natural ratio is 16 to 1, and any variation would be in favor of silver rather than gold. When we have re-established this ratio, the rest of the civilized world will be forced to follow our lead, because we can get along without them a great deal more readily than they can without us. They will fall over each other to come in as soon as we set them the example.—Senator J. P. Jones, in Arena.

Wanted—Money Good in America.

To see a man with three varieties of patches on his pants, without a nickel in his pocket, with a wife whose next meal must be made from the scrapings of an empty flour barrel, stand on the street corner and talk of a money that is good in Yarrup, is a sight that makes one lose faith in the common sense of the human race. Give us money good in America, good everywhere and for everything; redeemable in labor, redeemable in groceries, in dry goods, redeemable for taxes, for mortgage interest, for debts of all kinds—genuine Uncle Sam money, Star Spangled Banner money, American money—good in the East, good in the West, good in the North, and good in the South.—Nevada Director.

Mosaic floors, laid with small pieces of different colored stones set in regular patterns, were known to the Egyptians 2300 B. C. In Babylon floors of this kind dated from 1100 B. C.

DUE TO WILSON LAW.

A HEAVY INCREASE IN THE COUNTRY'S EXPORT BUSINESS.

Fair and Open Markets a Stimulus to the Export Trade—Under McKinleyism the United States Export Trade Was Instantly Checked.

A good deal of attention has been paid this year, in connection with the gold importations, to our recent very heavy decrease in merchandise imports. But, except in the case of grain, where the season's shipments from the United States have been extraordinary, little attention has been paid to the other factor of the country's increased exports. Yet in this regard the record is equally remarkable. One of the long familiar arguments for low tariffs or free trade has been the stimulation which our export trade in manufactures would receive from such fair and open markets. The Bureau of Statistics has just compiled the figures of our exports of manufactured goods during the fiscal year ending June 30, and the figures are printed in the New York Journal of Commerce. The comparison with previous years is so remarkable that we reprint here the entire table:

Year.	Exports of manufactures—Value.	P. c. of total.	Total exports.
1880.....	\$102,856,015	12.45	\$823,946,356
1885.....	147,187,627	20.25	728,692,949
1890.....	151,102,376	17.87	845,323,828
1891.....	168,927,815	19.37	872,279,283
1892.....	158,510,937	15.61	1,015,732,911
1893.....	158,023,118	19.02	831,039,785
1894.....	183,728,808	21.14	869,234,397
1895.....	187,923,748	23.14	799,392,539
1896.....	228,489,895	26.47	862,619,229

Two very interesting facts will be observed in connection with these figures. In the first place, the McKinley tariff law, which went into operation half-way through the fiscal year 1891, put an instantaneous check on the export trade in manufactures. The annual total dropped immediately \$10,000,000, and there continued, even during the year of trade activity, 1892, and until the fiscal year 1894. It was towards the close of this year that the Wilson act became a law. Increase in exported manufactures was very considerable, even in 1894; it held its own throughout the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, during the greater part of which the manufacturers were hampered by serious currency disturbances. But it was in the fiscal year 1895 that the manufacturing export business really began to reap the benefit of the lower tariff. Although 1895 had provided the highest record up to date, 1896 showed the enormous gain, within the year, of \$44,894,150. Returns already at hand for July and August show that the increase is continuing at a rapid rate during the current fiscal year. The bureau estimates, on the basis of returns already in hand, a total merchandise export record, for the year ending June 30, 1897, of no less than \$250,000,000.

The reason, both for the contraction under the McKinley act and for the large expansion under the Wilson law, is plain enough to all who know the part played in domestic manufacture by imported raw material. The increase in our exports is perhaps the most encouraging feature in the commercial outlook; it bears its own comment on tariff legislation.—New York Post.

Where Does the Wage Earner Come In?

A tariff is a tax, and when a duty is added to the cost of any article its price is increased by the amount of the tax. This is self-evident. Importers are not philanthropists nor are merchants eleemosynary agents. If the tariff were not a tax it would neither yield revenue nor afford protection. To increase the cost of living for the benefit of manufacturers or miners, without at the same time providing for an increase of the wages that pay the expense of living, is to wrong the workman.

And yet when the McKinley tariff was under consideration in the House, ostensibly in the interest of labor, the majority refused to consider and peremptorily voted down a motion providing that the increase of duties in any schedule should be contingent upon a corresponding increase in the rate of wages paid in the particular industry protected, and that where this advance in wages was not made the old rate of duty should prevail.

The result was that the manufacturers got their bounties, but wages remained unchanged. Mr. McKinley will remember that he was challenged in vain in the campaign following the going into effect of his tariff law, for a single instance of an advance of wages due to the increased duties. And this failure unquestionably had much to do with the million majority recorded against the party of high protection in the elections of 1890.

McKinley's Belief.

Mr. McKinley devoutly believes that it is the Government's business to interfere in the private business affairs of the people; that Congress should legislate in such a manner as to put money in the pockets of certain interests, trusting to them to distribute a portion of it among their employees, and that wherever a languishing or a greedy interest may appear it is not only right but proper that the Government, exercising the power of taxation in its behalf, should do what is possible to sustain it at the expense of the whole people.

A Prediction Verified.

Hicks—Do you believe in presentiments?
Wicks—Yes; something told me only a little while ago that I was going to meet a bore.—Somerville Journal.

NOT A FAILURE.

The Wilson Law Yields a Large Revenue and Protects Workmen.

Mr. McKinley persists in saying that the Wilson tariff law is a failure and must be replaced with one constructed on the "principle" of his bill of 1890.

Wherein is it a failure? It yields, considering the depressed condition of trade, all the revenue that was expected from it. The shortage comes from the nullification of the income tax, which would have produced \$30,000,000, while last year's deficiency was only \$26,000,000. But with the big hole knocked in it by tax dodging plutocrats the law yielded in the past bad trade year \$160,000,000. This is \$29,000,000 more than the McKinley law produced in its last year, and within \$17,000,000 of that law's yield in 1892.

As more revenue is necessary, owing to the extravagances of a second Billion-Dollar Republican Congress, new taxes should be levied on wealth in some form to remedy the inequalities of taxation and quiet, in some measure, the just discontent of the people.

The Wilson law does not fail to give labor all the protection that it needs. The average rate of duty last year was 41.75. The average in 1884, under the Republican commission tariff, was 41.61—a trifle lower. The World has shown that in the leading industries the duties actually exceed the total labor cost in the articles "protected." Here is an even more striking example:

In the United States.....	\$2.24
In Belgium.....	1.584
The duty levied on the month's product of the Belgian furnace was:	
Under the McKinley law.....	\$2.927
Under the Wilson law.....	2.155

Here, it will be observed, the duties collected on a month's product of a glass furnace largely exceed the total wages paid in Belgium, and under the McKinley law exceeded the total wages paid here.

Example of Free Trade.

The results of the six months' application of the free trade law which went into operation in New South Wales for the first time last fall have proven the utter fallacy of protection in countries old and new.

During the discussion of the measure predictions as to the evils which it would inflict on the colony were made from day to day. These predictions were based on arguments similar to those which are heard from McKinley whenever he addresses a delegation at Canton. It was declared that wheat growing would be abandoned. Protection of the home market became a campaign cry. That bugaboo—"a most damaging foreign competition in our home market"—was trotted forth as persistently as it is trotted forth by the Chinese statesmen to-day.

The present condition of the colony shows the value of the predictions. The area of wheat planting has been much larger this year than ever before. Farmers are leaving the protectionist colony of Victoria for the free trade colony of New South Wales because of the greater inducements to farming which the latter offers since free trade became an established fact. Trade has vastly improved in every particular.

How could it be otherwise? Farming, commerce and manufacture must flourish or languish together except one be taxed for the benefit of the other.

How has free trade affected labor in the colony? The question may be answered by the statement that wages are uniformly higher to-day and that hours of labor are shorter to-day than they are in any country in the world, not excepting the United States.—St. Louis Republic.

Plutocracy's Challenge.

The nominations at St. Louis were a triumph for plutocracy, monopoly and greed. Major McKinley is the chosen apostle of these forces, their peculiar representative and advocate.

The doctrine of excessive "protectionism" which bears his name, and which he insists is the one vital issue of this year's campaign, is their doctrine. Its application in practice means the enrichment of all the horde of monopolists, bounty-grabbers, trust speculators and other oppressors of the people.

It was Major McKinley himself who, as Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, permitted these people to invade the Capitol and write into the law all the license they wanted to levy unearned tribute upon the people. If he is elected President he is pledged up to the eyes not only to approve any bill for their benefit which they may persuade Congress to pass, but to use all the influence of the executive office to secure the passage of laws permitting them to tax the people at will and pocket the proceeds.

And for Vice-President they secured the nomination of one of themselves. Mr. Hobart is not only the attorney of illegal monopolistic combinations in defiance of plain statutory law, but is himself the President of one, the highly paid agent of another and a member of still other conspiracies in restraint of trade and in oppression of the people.

Jo Freshen Boiled Water.

Cold boiled water tastes flat because it has been deprived of air. To restore all your water quickly from one jug to another.