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# The Centre Democrat.

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## LABOR'S CALL FOR BRYAN.

Labor Leaders Unanimous for Free Silver—Gold would only Intensify Workingmen's Wrongs.

The laboringmen of this country should be intensely interested in the present campaign. They represent the great majority and are the producers of wealth. There is another class who do not labor but speculate on the wealth created, and are the few who control the immense fortunes. This latter class are trying to force the continuance of the present monetary system by the election of McKinley. They embrace the money lenders, bankers, rich corporations, great trusts and syndicates. The laboringman created, originally, the wealth they enjoy. Their interests are not identical. Labor must always struggle from their crushing exactions. To-day the wealthy classes are for gold and dear money. But the following will show where the laboringman's interests are:

### Labor's Attitude to Silver.

The American Federation of Labor, one of the strongest labor organizations in the world, has declared in its national conventions in Chicago (1893), Denver (1894), and New York (1895), for the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the ratio of 16 to 1. The resolution follows:

Resolved, That it is the deliberate judgment of The American Federation of Labor in delegate convention assembled, that Congress should re-enact the law of 1873 which provided for the free and unlimited coinage of both silver and gold at the ratio of 16 to 1, thus restoring the American law of coinage as it was until 1873, when silver was demonetized without debate and without the knowledge of the American people, and that this should be done at once, without waiting for the co-operation of any other nation in the world.

### Gomper's Significant Talk.

Samuel Gomper, president of the American Federation of Labor has said: "The American Federation of Labor has three times declared itself for silver. It is in favor of the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for action by any other nation or nations. These declarations were made at the conventions held by the Federation at Chicago in 1893, Denver in 1894, and in this city in 1895. "How do you stand politically?" Mr. Gomper was then asked. "I am a loyal union man," was the significant reply.

### Bryan May Carry Even Ohio.

John McGrath is organizer for the American Federation of Labor for the Southern District of Ohio. In an interview at Zanesville recently, he said: "I find many 16 to 1 laboringmen. They are thoroughly dissatisfied with the democrats and republicans, and will vote the democratic ticket this fall simply because they regard the situation so changed that now it is the masses against capital. The republican managers will be surprised at the silver sentiment in this state among the working people. It is 16 whom I find for it to 1 against, and if there is no change in the situation, Bryan will come very close to carrying Ohio."

### Bryan Strong in New York.

John Bogert is the New York state organizer for the American Federation of Labor. In a recent letter to Secretary Stover, of the Bryan and Silver League, he wrote: "I believe nine-tenths of the organized workers of this state and three-fifths of the farmers will support Mr. Bryan for the presidency. This opinion is based upon 1. The declaration of the American Federation of Labor in favor of free silver coinage. 2. Personal acquaintance with political sentiments of the labor leaders in the industrial centres of the state, who are practically unanimous in declaring that the time has come for organized labor to assert itself on public questions. There is much prospective benefit to organized labor from support of all the principles involved in Bryan's candidacy."

### The "Anarchists" of 1776.

In a signed communication recently published M. J. Bishop, General Worthy Foreman of the Knights of Labor, wrote as follows, comparing the Bryan "Anarchists" and "Hayseeds" with the revolutionary patriots: "The fearless, honest, upright, 'hayseed' and 'odorous' wageworkers (as our modern critic is pleased to style them) were those who lifted one form of British yoke from the shoulders of Columbia and their latter day prototypes will finish what they so well began. Tory newspapers, misrepresentation and abuse, not even the ever potent gold, will save the treacherous crew. The people have seized the lever and have demanded right of way for the popular reform train, and the man or thing putting any obstacle on the track to retard or wreck its progress will be dealt with in as summary a manner as his Tory progenitors of the past."

### The "Industrial Cannibal."

General Master Workmen Sovereign of the Knights of Labor, in a recent interview, spoke of Mark A. Hanna, head of syndicate of millionaires who paid McKinley's debts in order to make him their tool, and who still hold the notes, as: "HANNA, THE INDUSTRIAL CANNIBAL." He justified this characterization by Hanna's long record as an opponent and oppressor of union labor.

### Sauce for the Goose.

The Union Printers' Silver Club of Chicago has passed the following resolutions: RESOLVED, That we advise working-

men in all branches of industry to refrain from patronizing any firm or corporation that attempts in any way, by the use of the Mexico dollar or the money of any third or fourth rate nation, to cast discredit on the credit money of the United States; and be it further.

RESOLVED, That we advise workingmen to demand of all corporations and business firms who claim gold as the only proper, lawful and honest dollar to pay their employees their wages in gold, and we recommend that all labor organizations be requested to have their wages paid them in that kind of money which the bankers and the bondholders and money lenders say is the only honest dollar—the gold dollar.

### Why Wall Street Trembles.

REV. W. D. P. BLISS, General Laborer Lecturer: "Back of McKinley count the bankers, the manufacturers, the railroad magnates, the established press, the overwhelming majority of the clergy, the unthinking clerking class, the satellites of money in every form, at least \$50,000,000,000, and yet realize that Mr. Bryan may win. Why? Because back of him for every banker will be 100 men who have no money in any bank; for every manufacturer count at least five unprotected and unpurchased employees; for every magnate write fifty employees weary of being mangled to coin dividends; for every capitalist paper write 100 readers who believe that its editorials are dictated by the advertisers; for every pale-faced clerk there are six still paler farmers' wives; for every million count 100 men whose votes are not for sale. Thus reckoned, one can understand why Wall street is beginning to hedge for a defeat."

### Voice of the Labor Press.

The influence and ability of the labor press are undivided. Among such men as Hanna it is feared. Quotations from recent utterances of labor journals of prominence are given below:

KNIGHTS OF LABOR JOURNAL, (official organ of the order)

Bryan is the man of the hour, brought forth by the necessities of the occasion. Bryan's whole course as a politician has been clean, consistent, forceful, manly. There are no dubious utterances of his to explain away; his position upon the chief issues has been long and definitely established, and in their defence he had already won his spurs before his name was dreamed of in connection with the Presidency. All the powers of wealth and the influence it brings are already at work to compass his defeat. Every legal robber in the United States, regardless of his former politics, every man whose interest lies in the continued subjugation of the wage earner and farmer, every sheet which has prospered and grown upon subsidies to be obtained for treachery; all this tremendous force is already moving to prevent the coming triumph of the plain people.

The Whitney-Cleveland Democracy joining hands with the Hanna-Dewey Republicans, all recognize the danger to the continuance of their reign of insolence, intolerance and usurpation, and nothing will be left untried to stay the coming of the devastating flood."

### The Benevolent Gold Bugs.

Knights of Labor Journal—"The deep interest which the gold bug bankers are manifesting in the welfare of the workingmen in these presidential election times is something truly touching. These benevolent financiers are positively paniclestrick over the impending danger to the workingmen from free coinage and an increased volume of money."

### How Mark is Viewed at Home.

Cleveland Citizens (official organ Cleveland Central Labor Union)—At a regular meeting of the Cleveland (O.) Central Labor Union, the Committee on Legislation made the following report:

"To the Republican Trades Unionists of the United States: Realizing that in a few short months the union workingmen of this country will be again asked to cast their ballots for President, we, the delegates of the organized laboring people of Cleveland, appeal to republican wage workers, who have been repeatedly told by their party newspapers and politicians that they must imitate capital and organize if they would enjoy the benefits of a higher tariff, to demand that the Hon. Marcus A. Hanna, the principal manager of William McKinley (who, it is stated, will be a member of the latter's Cabinet in case he is elected), explain his attitude relative to labor organizations:

"1. Ask the Hon. M. A. Hanna if he did not aid in destroying the seaman's unions of the lower lake regions and then contribute to a fund to send A. R. Runney, his scab procurer, on a pleasure trip around the world.

"2. Ask Major McKinley's 'bosom friend,' the Hon. M. A. Hanna, if he has not taken a prominent part in wrecking the mine workers' unions of Pennsylvania.

"3. Ask the Hon. M. A. Hanna if he



HE RECEIVES VANDERBILT'S \$100,000 CHECK. —Brooklyn Citizen.

did not destroy the union of his street railway employes and positively refuse to allow them to organize.

"4. Ask the great President Maker Hanna if he did not say to the striking employes of the Globe Shipyard that \$1.30 per day is sufficient wages for them (when competitors were paying more), but if they would vote for McKinley he would favor paying \$1.50 a day."

"5. Ask the unselfish Hanna if he is not at this moment erecting a mansion for his son and employing scab labor and disregarding the wage rate and eight-hour day of the building trades."

"6. Finally ask Mr. Hanna if destroying workingmen's unions and paying pauper wages for long hours of toil is his interpretation of protection to American labor and prosperity and patriotism."

On motion the resolution was adopted and the secretary instructed to forward it to the Chairman of the National Republican Committee.

### More Numerous Than Crazy.

Columbus (Ohio) Record (John McBride, late president of the American Federation of Labor, Editor.)

It is time Eastern capitalists and Eastern newspapers opened their eyes to the fact that friends of free silver are more numerous than crazy. The Farmers' Alliance, the Knights of Labor, the American Federation of Labor, the Populists, the Republicans of the several heretofore Republican States, a large portion of the Prohibition party and organized labor in general have declared in favor of the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. The army of silver cranks is a large one; and if they can be mustered under one banner there will be such a political revolution this Fall that the gold bugs of the East will find their power to oppress the common people forever gone, and to our mind it cannot be gotten rid of any too soon."

### Hot Shot for Bond Brokers.

Monthly Journal (official organ of the International Association of Machinists)

"Great and startling changes are taking place; history is being made. Party politics are all shaken up; party lines are strained. Fealty to party and advocacy of partisanship are giving place to honesty of purpose and devotion to principle. On the one side is producing labor; on the other side the money power; strongly entrenched in corruption, pulling and straining for supremacy. Never before has the outlook been so cheering. The governmental partnership that is in existence with the powers that be and the favored classes, is about to be broken; the people have come to the realization of the fact that all must have equal recognition before the law; that all must share in the prosperity that thought, brain and muscle have created, and that are entitled to equal liberty and opportunity."

### Free Silver Only a Part.

Labor Advocate organ of the Troy (N. Y.) Central Federation of Labor.

"The issue of 16 to 1 is not the only issue of the campaign. The other plank in the Chicago platform are of greater import than even the money clause. It is the entering wedge of a mammoth reform, which will restore to the people control of the natural and artificial monopolies of the country, now held by individuals and used as an engine of oppression against the people."

To-day the "free" workingmen of America are the actual slaves of the money combination. That is why the money "patriots" of both parties howl down as "Anarchists" and "repudiation" the men and measures that would undertake to free the people, and appeal to the people they have betrayed to "wait until England gives her consent" to change our coinage basis."

### Severely Shaken.

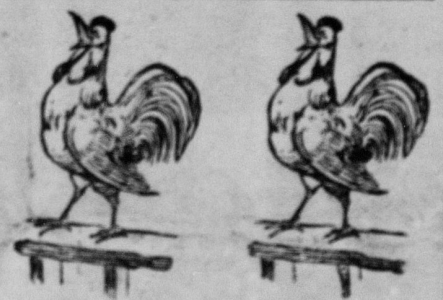
The following is from the Driftwood Pa., Gazette:

"We were locked in the cradle of republicanism, and have always stood by that party—with one or two exceptions—sincerely believing that that party advocated certain policies suitable to the varied commercial interests of the country, and believe so yet, but of late our patience, faith and loyalty have been severely tested and shaken, by the reputable and un-American methods employed by the republican managers, who voted for McKinley."

### FREE SILVER OX ROAST.

One of the largest political demonstrations of this campaign will be held at Millheim, Pa., Thursday, October 15th, 1896. The attractive feature at this gathering will be an ox roast and grand democratic barbecue. It will be a great assemblage of Penns and Brush valleys and all parts of the county. The meeting will be addressed by Col. J. L. Spangler and Hon. Geo. A. Jenks, of Brookville, who is considered the ablest platform orator in this state.

Another meeting will be held in the evening to be addressed by other prominent speakers who will discuss the money question.



GEORGIA and FLORIDA.

### CYCLONE IN GEORGIA.

On Wednesday, an election was held in Georgia, and many republicans predicted the result uncertain, the state doubtful. The returns this Thursday morning, indicate a Democratic majority of 40,000. How is that for doubtful? It is a "corer." It means that it is time for everybody, in doubt, to get aboard the "Democratic band wagon" at once, or they will get left in November.

Florida and Georgia did nobly. Yes indeed.

### FLORIDA IN LINE.

On Tuesday an election was held in Florida. For some time republicans called it a doubtful state. That was settled effectually by a majority of about 30,000 which is liable to increase. Florida is in line, and will be in November.

### HEAR GEO. A. JENKS.

Next Wednesday evening 14th, this community will have the opportunity to hear the Hon. Geo. A. Jenks, of Brookville, discuss the money question in the Court House. Mr. Jenks, without doubt, is one of our ablest attorneys and platform orators in this state. He will be worth hearing, and no doubt the building will be packed to its utmost capacity on this occasion. Mr. Jenks will speak at Millheim on Thursday.

The Junior Bryan and Sewall Club will turn out in full uniform on that occasion.

### Another Fire at Nittany.

The large barn on the farm of George Piper, on the turnpike about two miles above Furst's mill, Clinton county, was totally destroyed by fire last Thursday night together with all the contents. The loss is estimated at \$2,000 and is fully covered by insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown but it is believed to be incendiary.

With the barn was burned a large tobacco shed, which was filled with hay. The season's crops and all the implements were also consumed.

### Good Business.

The miners about Snow Shoe have occasion to rejoice, there is plenty of work and the mines are being operated night and day. More work is being done in that vicinity than for a long time. It is to be hoped that such times will continue. The miners need it.

## RESULT OF BRYAN'S ELECTION.

"Coin" Harvey Tells How Remonetization would Bring Prosperity to the American People.

In preparing an article upon current issues I have devoted my attention to answers to the following questions:

- "What will happen if a free silver president and congress are elected?"
- "Will there be a panic?"
- "Will silver begin to appreciate at once?"
- "What will it be worth by the time Congress can pass a free silver bill?"
- "What is your reply to the 50-cent dollar cry?"

Preliminary to answering these questions I will briefly state what bimetallicism is. Bimetallicism is the right to use either gold or silver as primary money. One is in competition with the other. Under such a law, if our trade relations or the laws of other nations take our gold away, then we have silver. If silver is taken away, we have gold. And as either answers the purpose of primary money, no serious injury occurs.

The vital principle in bimetallicism is the right to use either metal. If production grows less on one, we have the other. If one is cornered, we use the other. The two together furnish a more staple supply of money than either alone can furnish. With only one of them for money, the contraction and expansion of the world's supply, alternating as it will, makes an uncertain and unstable supply.

Of the two metals, dollar for dollar, sixteen parts of silver to one part of gold, silver is the more useful of the two, is applied to the more uses, and is the more serviceable to mankind of the two metals. The two metals are alike in this: Neither will corrode or rust, both are orderless and stainless and possess substantially the same chemical properties.

Under free coinage both metals, silver and gold, are in competition with each other to supply the demand for money. So long as pork and mutton are in competition with beef for meat, beef cannot rise unduly in value and threaten the health of the nation. And gold could not, as it is doing now, threaten the credit of this nation if silver were in competition with it as money.

Under such a law (bimetallicism) the option was given to the debtor to pay in money made from either metal. This caused the demand to be shifted by the debtor to the cheaper or more plentiful metal, if either was, and with the demand thus regulated, a commercial parity was maintained at the legal ratio on which the two metals were coined into money for the demand to operate.

If silver became the cheaper, the demand was shifted to it, and at the same time withdrawn from gold, thus increasing the price of silver and lowering the value of gold.

If gold became the cheaper, the debtor (government or individual) shifted the demand to gold, thus increasing its value and at the same time lowering the value of silver by withdrawing the demand from it. Thus the two metals were kept constantly in competition with each other, to supply the demand for money, and the demand being regulated by the debtor, a commercial parity was maintained at the legal ratio at which the two metals were coined into money.

To understand how the shifting of the demand maintained the commercial parity one must consider the supply of the two metals. All the gold in the world, at the present time, available for use as money, is \$4,000,000,000. There is 19,258 ounces of gold in a solid cast cubic foot of gold. By taking the value of an ounce of gold, as expressed in dollars, any one can make the calculation and find that all the gold in the world available for use as money at the present time will go in a cube of twenty-two feet. It will go in the bank vaults of a single one of your leading banks in San Francisco. By a similar calculation it will be found that all the silver in the world available for use as money (\$4,000,000,000) will go in the space of sixty-six feet each way. It will go in the bank vaults of your city and leave none for the balance of the world.

You thus have in this way plainly before you in the way of an object lesson the supply of the two metals of the world at the present time on which the demand, under a bimetallic law, would operate. Under this bimetallic law prior to 1873, the shifting of the demand by the debtor regulated the commercial parity of the two metals substantially at a parity with the legal ratio. When I say commercial parity at the legal ratio I have reference to a silver dollar weighing from fifteen to sixteen times as much as the gold dollar.

When the small supply of the two metals is thus considered it is not difficult to see the powerful effect produced by the shifting demand from one to the other. The most humble citizen is familiar with the law of trade known as "supply and demand." It was to this law that the science of bimetallicism was adjusted,

and it was wrought out of the unselfish wisdom of our forefathers, who were studying the common good.

From 1792 the date of our first coinage law, to 1850 the world's production was \$2 of silver to one of gold. In other words, it was thirty-two ounces of silver to one ounce of gold—a tremendous overproduction of silver. From 1850 to 1873 conditions were more than reversed, and during that period the world's production of the two metals was \$3 of gold to \$1 of silver.

And yet, notwithstanding this violent fluctuation in the world's production, relatively, of the two metals, the supply was so small and the demand, as exerted by the debtor under the bimetallic option, so great that the commercial parity of the two metals, at the legal ratio on which the demand was exerted, was not affected. There were slight fluctuations within 3 per cent as the demand was shifted from one to the other, or affected by the French ratio of 15 1/2 to 1, but this slight fluctuation was only an evidence of the elasticity which the bimetallic system gave to a financial system.

From 1873 to the present time the world's production of the two metals has been about \$1 of silver to \$1 of gold. From 1873 to 1888 the world's production of silver was 80 cents to \$1 of gold. And yet, notwithstanding this even supply in the world's production of the two metals, and for most of that period an underproduction of silver, the two metals have parted company from the legal ratio—50 per cent. The reason is that the law of 1873 destroyed the principles of bimetallicism. It closed the mints as to silver and took away from the debtor the option to pay in either metal. The demand that had, therefore, existed on both metals, and automatically regulated by the debtor, was thereafter shifted to one metal only.

The Bland-Allison act of 1878 restored the legal tender character of the silver dollar, but provided that it was the legal tender "except where otherwise provided in the contract." This was an adroit law to transfer the law of 1873 into the written contracts (notes, bonds and mortgages) to be thereafter executed, and to take advantage of the constitutional provisions against the impairment of contracts.

Under bimetallicism the Government dictated what was legal tender money. Under the act of 1878 the Government delegated to the individual the right to say what was legal tender money. Under the law prior to 1873, the debtor had the option as to which of the two monies he would pay in, and shifted the demand to the cheaper metal if either was, and automatically maintained a commercial parity between the two metals. Under the law of 1878, the option was transferred to the creditor, who would naturally select the dearer metal, and the dealer: it got the more apt he would be to demand it.

By the act of 1873 and subsequent legislation, silver has been reduced to the position of token money, redeemable in gold. At the present time this is the admitted position of silver to gold (see Senator Foraker's recent speech at Columbus, Ohio.) With silver as representative money, the issuance of any quantity of it, no matter how large, can furnish no relief.

When our representative money is in volume so large as to shake confidence in the ability of the Government to redeem it in the established primary money, we have an unsound financial system and a general lack of confidence therein. What we need is to reconstruct the foundation of our financial system—primary money.

Now to the questions: The first is, "What will happen if a free-silver President and Congress are elected?"

My answer is based upon the presumption that there will be no attempt to count them out. That they will be permitted peacefully to assemble and enact law.

First—If Mr. Cleveland makes up his mind to say "I told you so," there will be interminable confusion. He will let the Wall Street gamblers raid the Treasury, and a general financial and business confusion will exist until Bryan gets at the helm. It is not likely, however, that the business interests of the country will permit him to fly in the face of a policy proclaimed by the people.

Second—Silver will begin to advance the day after it is known that a silver President and Congress are elected.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2.