

PLAY THE LAST CARD.

TRUST MANAGERS WORK AN OLD SCHEME.

Claim They Are Taking Contracts Subject to Cancellation if Bryan Is Elected—Democrats Meet Monopolies on Their Own Ground.

Washington correspondence: The trusts are playing their last and most dangerous card in the campaign. Nearly every trust in the country is taking contracts subject to cancellation if Bryan is elected. It is not an entirely new scheme, but it is being worked more aggressively and thoroughly than ever before. Employers are shown these orders and threatened with lack of work if McKinley is defeated.

The Democratic voters propose to meet the trusts on their own ground. There is already a widespread movement against buying goods from any trust which attempts to coerce its employees into voting for McKinley. As fast as the trusts send out these notices of "contract void if Bryan is elected," the workmen pass along the word to their comrades and there are now thousands of voters of all parties eager to show their resentment at this high-handed proceeding of the trusts, by not purchasing their goods.

The trust absolutely needs consumers for its products, but there are many trust products which the people can do without until after election, in order to give a lesson. Workmen are not going to be scared this time as they were in '96. They know that their employers will continue to do business as long as they find it profitable, no matter who is elected.

There are two points to be specially noted in relation to this clause which trust concerns are putting to their contracts. In the first place they are sending agents all over the country to place bogus contracts. The orders with the *exco* clause are, in many cases, placed only for campaign purposes. There is no intention of having them filled even if McKinley is elected. Bona fide orders would not be numerous at this time, because there is a depression in all branches of trade. There is not one-fourth the demand for manufactured articles outside the absolute necessities of life, that there was a year and a half ago. Workmen can rest assured that a vote for Bryan will not lessen their chances of immediate or future employment. A vote for McKinley in '96 was followed by a year of the worst industrial depression ever known in this country. Then, too, a number of manufacturing concerns are threatening to close "permanently" if their workmen help to elect Bryan. The cold fact is that no business firm closes down while it is making money. No political campaign is allowed to interfere with the accumulation of profits. But there is a shrewd scheme concealed under this threat of closing. Many manufacturing concerns have produced more goods than they could sell. It would be a distinct business advantage for them to close down for a few weeks just now, so as to work off the surplus. Trusts have put the prices of goods so high that the masses had to consume less, hence the overproduction. The refusal all along the line to pay better wages, meant in the end, that the workman had nothing with which to make himself a profitable consumer.

It will be remembered that in '96 many of the firms that threatened to go out of business if Bryan were elected, actually did make assignments after McKinley was successful. The result would have been the same, no matter who was elected, once a firm became insolvent.

There is a general revolt of wage-workers and consumers against trusts. A stand has to be made sometime if the privilege of a free ballot is to be kept intact. This is the campaign in which the trusts will get their object lesson. It is going to be a severe one, and the refusal to buy trust manufactured goods is likely to be felt long after election.

The coal miners are displaying remarkable fortitude and perseverance. Hanna thought they would jump at a 10 per cent advance in wages and forget that a recognition of their union was essential if the advance was to last beyond election day.

The miners have learned by bitter experience that they have to meet organization with the same instrument. Their union is very feeble compared with the coal and railroad combine, but it is infinitely better than trying to deal with the trust as individuals.

The miners are displaying great fortitude in thus refusing an ante-election bribe. A man has to be hungry to realize the sacrifice involved in turning away from a meal when it is offered. These men, however, are firmly convinced that their condition will become worse and worse unless public opinion and a Democratic President forces the coal trust to do something more for them than carry out Hanna's campaign plans.

Wage workers, and, in fact, all classes, of humane and right-minded citizens, are applying the logic of the miners' situation to their own case. They feel that all the trusts are getting ready to cut wages and lengthen the hours of labor, and put up the price of products.

On this account the miners are receiving much generous assistance. They are fighting a battle against a trust for the whole country. Indications are not wanting that they will hold out for months if necessary, in order to secure some improvement in their conditions which will be permanent.

The Republican campaign press bureau is trying to make the workingmen believe that President McKinley is a union man.

In 1899 President McKinley was to

THE M'KINLEY MINSTRELS.



"Uncle Mark, when I'm elected I have made up my mind that I will—" "Excuse me, William, if you are elected I will make up your mind." The company will now give their Lightning Drill, to the tune of "We'll Drive the Common People Off the Earth."—New York Journal.

porarily made an honorary member of the Bricklayers' Union, on the occasion of its placing the corner stone of the Federal building in Chicago.

The Republicans are sending out an elaborate story of the ceremony. It is proving a boomerang. Union labor is pointing to the President's approval of martial law in Idaho and his neglect to have his Congress pass any labor legislation. The mention of the Bricklayer incident has set the whole labor press to analyzing President McKinley's non-union attitude toward labor.

Hanna the Whole Thing.

Mr. Bryan called attention to the peculiar significance of Mark Hanna's attitude in public life when he declined Hanna's challenge to a joint debate on imperialism by stating that while he, the Democratic candidate for the Presidency, would be willing to meet Mr. McKinley, the Republican candidate, in such a debate, he could not consistently debate with one whose responsibility is less than his own.

"If the Republican committee will certify," said Mr. Bryan, "that Mr. Hanna is to be President in case of Republican success, I shall willingly meet him in joint debate." This is a fair and legitimately dignified position for the Democratic standard-bearer to take. It must be so recognized by all fair-minded persons, just as would a refusal on the part of Mr. McKinley to enter into a joint debate with Chairman Jones of the Democratic National Committee, who occupies the official position in the one party's campaign organization filled by Mr. Hanna in that of the other.

Senator Hanna, however, differs from Senator Jones in that he arrogantly stands before the American people as the creator and master of the man whom the American people elected to the Presidency of the United States, and as the real power in American government if Mr. McKinley shall be again elected. It was the most natural thing in the world for Senator Hanna to challenge Mr. Bryan to a joint debate. To the mind of the boddle boss of the Republican party and its puppet President, the fight of 1900 is a fight between Hanna and Bryan. Mr. McKinley is a mere figurehead in that fight, manipulated by Hanna and subject to Hanna's orders. It is Hanna, therefore, who steps into the arena as the Republican champion in the battle of 1900, challenging the Democratic champion to combat, entirely ignoring the political fact that Mr. McKinley is the leader of the Republican hosts.

Mr. Bryan has done well to direct public attention to this usurpation by Hanna of rights that properly belong only to Mr. McKinley as Mr. Bryan's antagonist. The trust instrument in public life should pull himself together. He has for the moment forgotten and abandoned the role in which he was cast by the trusts for the fooling of the American people. He has come out in his true character of McKinley's boss—the real President—and is kicking the Republican fat in the fire.—St. Louis Republic.

Democracy and Labor.

In his great speech at Elmira, N. Y., Hon. David B. Hill said:

"I call the attention of the workingman to the fact that for the first time in the history of the country, one of the great political parties, to-wit, the Democratic party, had adopted a plank in its national platform favoring the establishment of a Department of Labor in the cabinet of the President. If this proposition shall meet the approval of the American people by the election of the Democratic candidate, a Department of Labor will be established, which will aid materially in advancing the interests of workingmen and adding to the importance and dignity of labor."

The plant in the Democratic platform which Mr. Hill refers to is as follows:

"We are opposed to government by injunction; we denounce the blacklist, and favor arbitration as means of settling disputes between corporations and their employees.

"In the interest of American labor and the upbuilding of the workingman

as the corner stone of the prosperity of our country, we recommend that Congress create a Department of Labor, in charge of a secretary with a seat in the cabinet, believing that the elevation of the American laborer will bring with it increased production and increased prosperity to our country at home and to our commerce abroad."

On this subject, William J. Bryan recently said in one of his public addresses:

"But the laboring man is even more interested in the proposition to establish a labor bureau with a cabinet officer at its head. Such a bureau would keep the executive in constant touch with the wage earners of the country, and open the way to the redress of their present and future grievances. If labor is given a place in the President's official household, the man selected will necessarily be a worthy and trusted representative of the people for whom he speaks, and his presence at cabinet meetings will give for those who toil for their daily bread assurance that their interests will be properly guarded."

Victims of the Trust.

To-day I went to Banning. It was the old story of keen want. Men haggard, unkempt, grimy; women wan and pale, with anxious grief and worry; children thin, worn of feature, emaciated of limb; foodless, hungry, starved children these! Here is a story of the Banning district. It is all true. There was in this hovel a miner, his wife and little children. The little ones were actually dying of hunger—starving! They were worn almost to transparency. I stopped and gave them a dollar. The man all but broke down. It was the first money he had seen in three months. I say some meat of queer sort in the one room. "What is that meat?" I asked. The man looked disconcerted and abashed. He said nothing; the woman, with a baby at her breast, began to weep silently. What was it? Dog's meat? This is as true as we live; their supper was the flesh of a dog.—The Verdict.

More and More Muddled.

The contortions of Hanna in the effort to extricate himself from a bad position are amusing. He denies having said certain things in alleged interviews, but the fun begins when he attempts to explain just what he did say. Hanna's revised logic finally shifts itself down to the proposition that there are no trusts, because the Sherman law and statutes in several States prevent the existence of illegal trusts. In other words, there are no trusts, because there are some legal ones. As is usually the case with orators who do not weigh their words, Hanna gets more and more muddled the more he "explains."—Boston Globe.

Again Swings to Bryan.

The vote of New York State is cast alternately for the candidate of the two great parties, with the regularity of the swing of a pendulum. That history records it:

To Seymour over Grant in 1868.
To Grant over Greeley in 1872.
To Tilden over Hayes in 1876.
To Garfield over Hancock in 1880.
To Cleveland over Blaine in 1884.
To Harrison over Cleveland in 1888.
To Cleveland over Harrison in 1892.
To McKinley over Bryan in 1896.

IN THE SOUP.



Philadelphia Times.

RUIN FOLLOWS STRIKE.

Bare Necessities of Life Seem Luxuries in Coal Region.

A special from Hazleton, Pa., says that want and ruin have followed in the wake of the strike in the anthracite region. Families who lived in comfort while the mines were in operation now feel the pinch of starvation and the bare necessities of existence seem like luxuries; business men, upon whom prosperity had smiled, have been brought to the verge of bankruptcy; thriving towns have become stagnant, casual travelers have forsaken them, and newspaper correspondents and labor leaders constitute the most important element in the floating population.

The production of coal constitutes the sole industry of the section. There is no farming in the neighborhood of the collieries. The land is rocky and barren. It has been stripped of timber, and stunted pines, oaks and underbrush straggle over hill and dale. Vast breakers are scattered about, each one supporting a settlement of miners, with shabby, rectangular cottages. Enormous culm banks show how great the underground work has been. There are miles of subterranean passages in mines that have been in operation for half a century, and in which the supply is expected to last for three centuries to come.

When President Mitchell's order for a strike went into effect every mine in the Lackawanna and Wyoming valleys came to a sudden stop and work was suspended in many parts of the Schuylkill and Lehigh districts, leaving only the comparatively small Panther Creek section in full operation.

Since then the missionary efforts of organizers of the United Mine Workers have resulted in the closing of the majority of the remaining collieries, the neighborhood of Tamaqua alone escaping. Strikers who had some little money on hand for an emergency have cut their living expenses down to a minimum, buying nothing but food, and little of that.

Merchants who had large orders outstanding when the strike began promptly canceled them, refusing to make purchases until the trouble ended. Commercial travelers, usually the best patrons of the hotels, changed their routes, as they could sell nothing in the coal regions. The theaters have been unable to attract audiences, and many of the best attractions canceled their dates, to the further detriment of the hotelkeepers.

As there was little coal to be hauled the coal railroads had to lay off the crews of most of their coal trains. In many towns it is now impossible to obtain coal for domestic use at any price. Appeals are being made to the United Mine Workers' organization for funds for the relief of destitute strikers.

A Few-Line Interviews.

NEW PERIL IN CHINA.

Washington Officials Fear Uprising in Yangtze Provinces.

Washington officials profess to be very much concerned over the critical condition of affairs in Southern China. They will not admit directly that they have advised confirming the press reports that an outbreak is imminent, but indicate that they have no reason to doubt that such is the case.

One of the most prominent of them said that unless the international situation assumed a more definite shape it would hardly be possible to prevent an uprising in the Yangtze provinces. He said that the viceroys of these provinces had succeeded against remarkable odds in holding the unruly element in check, but they could not do this much longer. In his opinion the initiation of peace negotiations was the easiest and surest way of stopping the agitation, for as long as the general Chinese question remained unsettled the empire would be perturbed.

The government is working zealously to bring about a settlement of the recent troubles, but practically no progress has been made. The severe winter of Northern China begins about Nov. 1, and if no arrangement between the powers to effect an amicable understanding is made before then, the present uncertain conditions must continue until spring, as during the winter Pekin will be almost entirely cut off from communication with the outside world.

Minister Conger, as his telegrams to the State Department show, is not satisfied with the action taken by the Emperor Kwang Hsu to placate the powers. He has indicated plainly to the department that the list of those Chinese named for trial on account of their participation in the Boxer troubles is not nearly complete, and this and other advices from him lead to the belief that he and his diplomatic colleagues in Pekin doubt the good faith of the imperial government in its dealings with the civilized nations.

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The diplomatic situation in China has undergone a decided change. Germany has receded from its demand for the punishment of the leaders of the anti-foreign revolt and has submitted to the powers modified proposals, which have been accepted by all, including the United States and Great Britain. France, in turn, has submitted proposals to the powers which are as drastic, if not more so, than the ones originally submitted by Germany. Minister Delcasse proposes that the importation of munitions of war into China be prohibited; that Pekin be garrisoned by the allied troops, and that a line of communication between Pekin and the coast be permanently guarded by foreign troops. The United States has taken the lead in accepting these proposals, with distinct reservations. President McKinley states that the United States is not prepared to go to the length proposed by France, but that it will co-operate in any proposal having for its object the immediate opening of negotiations for final settlement between China and the powers.

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Of the relief work in Galveston, Stephen E. Barton, second vice-president of the Red Cross Society, said: "So far there has been donated for the flood sufferers about \$1,000,000 cash. Of this amount \$750,000 has been donated to Galveston. It will require every cent of this amount to clean up debris and pay the expenses of distributing the materials donated, and nothing will be left for reconstruction of the 4,000 homes destroyed. The broken lumber that can be extracted from the debris is not worth the cost of the labor necessary to recover it. However, it is utterly impossible to think of burning any part of it without removing it to some distance from the remaining buildings."

Said Conrad G. Hubbard to a Washington Post reporter: "American tourists rave over the glorious scenery of the Rhine, when it is immeasurably inferior to the scenic charms of the Hudson or the St. Lawrence. There is not in any corner of Europe, nor elsewhere on the globe, anything comparable to the Thousand Islands for natural beauty."

Emperor William says that the Boxer chiefs should suffer for the death of the Christians, and he also says: "I also long for peace which atones for the guilt, which makes good wrongs done, and which offers to all foreigners in China security for life and property, and, above all, for the free service of their religion."

Kato Takaki, Japanese minister in London, says of the empress dowager: "She is the heart and soul of China. So long as she lives, so long as she remains in China, whether the supreme power is taken from her or not, she will always be the greatest force, the one above all others to be reckoned with. The difficulty will be to get any one who can speak for her. I fear that the influence of Li-Hung-Chang is now of extremely little weight."

Samuel Gompers defines the position of organized labor by saying: "All that labor demands for itself is willing to grant in equal measure to others. It does not oppose combination among employers. It does not depend upon legislation. It asks no special privileges, no favors from the State. It wants to be let alone and to be allowed to exercise its rights and use its great economic power."

About the influence of the United States in world politics Gen. Joseph Wheeler says: "We are not a military people, and yet we are the most martial, and, when necessary, the most warlike of all people on earth. We seek to avoid entanglements with other nations, but to-day every nation on the face of the globe, before it makes a diplomatic move, telegraphs to its minister in Washington and learns the views, wishes and demands of the American people."

Chicago will arrest street beggars.

INDIANA INCIDENTS.

RECORD OF EVENTS OF THE PAST WEEK.

Hiding Place of Gold Revealed in a Dream—Pickle Crop of the State—Young Millionaire Chase Disappears—Train Wrecked and Burned.

David Schwarze of Galena, a wealthy miller, has just found \$150 in gold as the result of a dream. The money was hidden by Mr. Schwarze during the Civil War, in anticipation of the raid of Gen. John Morgan. After Morgan had passed Schwarze looked in vain for the money, and concluded that some one had stolen it. He moved to Galena years later. A few nights ago he had a dream, in which he located the spot where the money was hidden, and, going there, found it intact.

Indiana Pickle Crop Booms.

The pickle crop of Indiana, though a comparatively new one, is rapidly increasing from year to year, and the deliveries to the salting houses established by a big Pittsburgh concern are the largest this year since the firm began buying the vegetables from Indiana growers. There are several establishments which are operating in northern Indiana, but the Pittsburgh house is the largest, with its thirty salting houses scattered over the outside world.

Searching for Young Chase.

Detective William J. Sutherland of the Mooney & Boland agency of Chicago has reported to the police the mysterious disappearance in Paris of Moses Fowler Chase of Indiana. Chase is a millionaire and had been placed in a private asylum by his aunt, Mrs. Duhme of Cincinnati. He was held in restraint because of a dispute over his sanity and the case has already gone into the courts of America.

Train Wrecked and Burned.

An accident occurred on the Evansville and Terre Haute Railroad seven miles south of Vincennes, in which three men were badly hurt, one fatally, and five are missing. A freight train ran into a cow and the engine was ditched and eighteen cars, four having oil tanks, were piled on it and burned.

Eyesight of Four Destroyed.

During a session of a class in chemistry