

The National Banner

Socialistic Opinions of Judge West
From his speech at Cleveland on Wednesday, August 1.

I desire to say, my fellow citizens, to you a word only upon a subject which I know is uppermost in the minds and in the hearts of most of you. It is that the industry of our country shall be so reorganized that laborers and employers alike that come together will be the supporters and sustenance of the laborer. I do not know how it may certainly be brought about. I know the difficulties; I know the embarrassments; I know how insurmountable are the obstructions in the way of any equal or proper adjustment of the relations between those who labor and those who furnish the means and opportunities to labor. But if I had the power, I would try one experiment at least. I would prohibit the great railroad corporations, the great thoroughfares of business, from exacting such a reduction of their rates by ruinous competition as to disable themselves from paying a just compensation to their operators.

I would go further, and try the experiment—but I do not know that it would succeed—I would arrange and fix a minimum of prices for all who labor in the mines and upon the railroads, and then require that from all the net receipts, the laborers at the end of the year, in addition to his fixed compensation, receive a certain per cent of the profits.

Then, if the profits were insufficient to compensate you as liberally as you might otherwise desire, you would bear with your employers a portion of the loss. But if these receipts be sufficient to make a division, we would in God's name let the laborer, who is worthy of his hire, share a portion of the profits.

Platform of the Mississippi Democrats.

Fidelity to the constitution of the United States; home rule and the preservation of State government with all their inalienable rights unimpaired; no interference by the military with the freedom of elections and with civil and political rights of citizens of the United States; protection of equal rights of all classes; no discrimination on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude or birth place, and no special legislation for the benefit of a few in the selection of public agents to the time-honored Jeffersonian standard (Is he fit? Is he capable? Is he true to the constitution?); continuation of the policy of retrenchment and reform so gallantly inaugurated by the democratic party.

Reduction of the burthen of taxation to the lowest point compatible with the efficient execution of the laws; corporations of every description supervisable within constitutional limits by state authority and subordinate to state legislation in the interests and for the protection of the people; and the welfare of free government depends upon the virtue and intelligence of the people.

We pledge ourselves to the maintenance of the state system of free schools.

We favor granting such aid as may be extended without violation of the constitution of the United States or departing from the established usages of the government to the Texas Pacific railroad and for rebuilding and keeping in repair the levees of the Mississippi river.

What the Texas Pacific Wants.

The Philadelphia Times, in speaking of the Directors' report of the Texas Pacific Railroad Company, recently published, says:

In alluding to the subject of Congressional aid, the Directors of the company say: "We give a statement of what they ask from Congress. They propose an open highway, 4,000 miles in length, from Fort Worth to San Diego, which, with the road now completed, shall be under Government control. Last winter political disputes prevented the consideration of their project, but they hope to gain favorable consideration at next winter's session. They propose to limit the Government's liability to \$2,500,000 for each road and a first mortgage is offered upon the road and 100,000 acres of land. Government bonds bearing 5 per cent interest, are asked at the rate of \$35,000 per mile of road constructed, \$5,000 per mile to remain in the Treasury of the United States. It is a private enterprise, they say, designed to secure the people, without cost to the Government, a national highway—the construction of which at this time is believed to be a field for the employment of the surplus labor of the country, and the recent discovery of coal mines, and the development of rich agricultural and mineral lands upon the line of the road are referred to as reasons for the opening of this great Southern highway."

Why Railroad Corporations Are so Unpopular.

We believe the answer is this: The people have seen how the railroads besieged the lobbies of legislatures and bought such special legislation as they wanted. A large number of railroads have been built in whole or in part by the railroads, and whenever there has been a railroad there has been a steal. The people have seen the railroads approaching the back entrances to the ears of the courts, bribing judges, as they have legislatures and congress, and buying corrupt decisions as they have bought corrupt laws. It is this idea of the power of money to commit fraud unpunished, corrupt the fountains of justice and the servants of the people as represented, or believed to be represented, that has arrayed such a hostile sentiment against them. And if railroad companies see in the substantial success in the issue of the strike only another instance of the power of money to mould everything to its purposes they will make a serious blunder. It occurs to me that such an evident and prevalent hostility among the people toward the railroads is worthy of all demands more than a passing thought; and if railroad managers read the lesson right they will do something in years to come to remove this prejudice.

Have You Dyspepsia?

With its attendant troubles, constipation, headache, loss of appetite, giddiness, water-brash, distress after eating, etc. If so, take Dr. Costa's Radish Cure and be well. Its results is astonishing and sure relief is guaranteed in every case, where it is directed.

As instances digestion, tones up the stomach, strengthens the debilitated, restores a natural appetite, and as a liver regulator has no equal. A clergyman of Philadelphia say: It is the very fountain of health. To all who are suffering from a disordered stomach or liver, or who need a gentle Spring or Summer tonic, we say try it, and you will thank us for the advice. Trial size 25 cents. Sold by C. Eldred & Son.

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15-5w.

The Duty of Congress.

Indians, Journals.

Congress will meet on the 15th of October. The labor question will present itself in two aspects: first, what can be done towards a permanent settlement of the question, and second, what to do with the unorganized employed workingmen. Both aspects of the case are equally important. Something must be done, and undoubtedly can be done towards a better definition and adjustment of the relations between capital and labor, and if possible something must also be done to relieve the immediate wants of the unemployed workingmen. It will not be so much a question of what shall be done as what can be, for what can be ought to be.

It will not be a question of the duty of government so much as one of constitutional power and resources. There are thousands of unemployed men in the country willing and anxious to work, but unable to obtain employment. When Congress meets next winter will be near at hand, and the case will call for prompt action. With the best efforts that can be made there will be a great deal of suffering of the country next winter. Though we believe the men are improving and business is reviving, this is not yet enough, and in spite of everything there will be a great deal of destitution and suffering during next winter. Under these circumstances the country will expect Congress to give the matter prompt and intelligent consideration, and to do whatever can be done towards furnishing relief for the people. We have already expressed our opinion that the clause of the resumption act requiring the resumption of specie payment of the national bank should be repealed. There can be no doubt that this act is the main cause of the prevailing lack of confidence which in turn produces a general stagnation of enterprise and business. We believe its repeal will be followed by an immediate sense of relief, and in a short time by a more active movement of capital than we have had for at least two years past.

Then, if the profits were insufficient to compensate you as liberally as you might otherwise desire, you would bear with your employers a portion of the loss. But if these receipts be sufficient to make a division, we would in God's name let the laborer, who is worthy of his hire, share a portion of the profits.

From the "Post-Office with Secret Passages."

Story that reads like a medieval romance comes from New York. In refitting the old post office building the carpenters have discovered that the upper floors are double, and are watching the operations of the different rooms, who suppose themselves to be alone. The whole building was furnished with secret passages, sliding panels, hidden trap-doors, and mysterious chambers, of whose existence the postoffice officials had no knowledge—with the exception of the postmaster and assistant. When the workmen had removed the flooring, it was seen that the concealed space was from four to four and one-half stories high, and ample room for men to move about. Passages led entirely around the building. At very short intervals were found small circular holes in which were inverted lenses. Through these a view of the room below was obtained. Back of and above these lenses were reflectors which brought before the eye of the observer the utmost recesses of the postoffice. If a detective saw any steaming or any improper action committed either by a clerk or by a person speaking to him by his side, he would give a warning at once to the attic room, and the guilty person was met at the door, or tapped on the shoulder in the interior of the office by another detective. The apertures through which the detective overlooked the rooms, are in most cases so small as hardly to be visible from the apartments below. Some of them, however, look down from the basement, and the holes would readily be taken for knot-holes.

But then, these girls were not of the kind that will sit down and cry over such small troubles. Not much! They simply entered the saloon in which were a hundred immodest men, and caused a little consternation by kicking things around and emptying some of the glasses on the floor of the street. They seemed to think they had done a noble deed, but the comments which hundred men passed upon them would not do to relate here. As a warning, however, it is suggested by the saloon-keeper that if they do not wish to go out of the room upon the toe of a "Long boot," they had better, hereafter, commit such depredations when he does not see them.

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15-5w.

Sensible Workingmen.

An immense meeting of workingmen was held at Columbus, Ohio, a few nights ago. The intelligent mechanics, the hard-fisted laborers, the honest sons of toil who demanded a fair day's wages for a fair day's work, turned out en masse and adopted the following ringing and sensible resolution:

WHEREAS, It is an admitted fact that the business and laboring interests of the country are paralyzed, and that capital invested in legitimate industrial pursuits fails to produce a living profit to those investing it, and thereby reducing the wages of the mechanic and laboring men employed by said capital in industrial pursuits below that absolutely necessary to support themselves and their families; and WHEREAS, we have been compelled to support the country by the sale of untaxed bonds and interest paid in gold by the government furnishes no wealth to the country, but accumulates wealth in the hands of the few; therefore be it

Resolved, That after sixteen years

of almost unlimited power, and with exclusive control over the legislation of the country, we are compelled to the conclusion that this distress prevailing among the people employed in the productive and industrial pursuits of the country is wholly attributed to the pernicious legislation of the republicans, and that the same is increased in the interest of a centralized power, without a proper regard for the interests of the people who add wealth to the country by their labor. We believe that the best efforts that can be made to relieve this suffering will be made by the people themselves.

Resolved, that this being our opinion we shall use our influence and our votes to procure a change in the executive and legislative power of State and nation, and to that end we shall use all the means of the democratic State and Franklin county tickets.

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15-5w.

A New Capitalist.

Detroit Free Press.

He don't look as if his pockets

held fifty cents, but a rich man has a right to dress as he chooses. He loaded up Griswood street until he saw the right sort of a face, and then asked:

"Can you show me a bank?"

"Yes, sir; three doors below, or just across the street, or right back there."

"Thanks. I'd like to put some money in some bank, but I'm a little afraid of banks. I always did prefer a note of hand to a bank."

The citizen picked up his ears and asked:

"You have some money to lend, have you?"

"A trifle," was the answer. "Do you know of anybody who'd like to take some and give me a note for a year at seven per cent? I think of going to Mexico for a while."

"Let's see," mused the citizen