

The Sugar Trust Revelations.

Many interesting but no new facts have been elucidated by the legislative inquiry into the so-called Sugar Trust. It has long been known, for example, that the profits of the American Sugar Refining Company generally exceed \$20,000,000 annually; that its dividends average 12 per cent; that its capital stock is mostly "water," and that it absolutely controls the sugar trade of the United States.

Only one fact having an appearance of novelty has been elicited by the investigation. That is, as the Trust's advocates put it, that before the formation of the Trust the entire sugar business of the country was in the hands of fewer than one hundred men, whereas to-day more than 9,000 persons are interested as owners.

But that this deduction is dishonest and misleading may be seen upon consideration. Though it may be true that 9,000 persons own shares in the American Sugar Refining Company, only a half dozen of them have any voice in its management. The Trust is managed by these half dozen men, who are, to all intents and purposes, one man—Harry O. Havemeyer.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS.

The statesmen who made the constitution of the United States had to provide for a country of vast extent. To carry news from New Hampshire to Georgia was then a matter of weeks. The dispatch which announced the opening of the war at Lexington was carried by express, who thought to show their patriotism by the swiftness with which they rode.

But the inventions of the railway and the telegraph have changed all this. A man may now easily travel from Portland to San Francisco in less time than Sam Adams needed to ride to the continental congress from Boston to Philadelphia.

It is all the more curious, therefore, that the prudent arrangement made for an electoral board by the constitution should be really better adapted to the present condition of affairs than it was to the times of Franklin, Sherman and Gerry, who made it.

The real electors of today are the delegates to the rival conventions. On the persons appointed to attend those conventions depends the choice of the next president. They know this, and the people who choose them know it.

It is one of the infelicities of such a system that a state which has no power in the national election appears in the convention as the equal in rights of another state sure to give its vote for the successful candidate.

To the makers of the constitution any such convention, even, was a flat impossibility. For half a century after 1789 the choice of candidates was practically left to congressional caucuses of the one party or the other.

the country. Since that system was abandoned the convention system has gained more and more precision of movement, with more and more power.

But suppose, today, a deadlock in one of the conventions, or, better still, in both. Suppose that we voted it to the good offices of silver or gold, of protection or tariff, or all these together, that each convention adjourned without a nomination.

Each party would name, in each state, the strongest possible electoral ticket it could name, of men commanding the public confidence, for on such men everything would depend. In Maine Reed men would be chosen by the Republicans, in Ohio McKinley men.

No one would care much for whom the minority party gave its votes. But the electors of the successful party would meet at Washington or at some other central point and determine in convention who should be their candidate.

This condition of things will not come about this year, nor, perhaps, at any election within the next decade. But it is more and more probable with every election, and when it does come about people will be extolling, as they should, the wisdom of the fathers who made a preparation so elastic and so admirable in any contingency.

There were then really four modes of choosing electors. They were chosen by the legislature, and some legislatures voted by concurrent vote and some by joint ballot, or they were chosen popularly, by general ticket or by districts.

The great decision was made by what may be called, roughly and with exceptions, the general rule of the politics of the first 60 years of the century—namely, the union of the southern states with New York against the rest of the northern states.

The Plausible Lie.

We resent calumny, hypocrisy and treachery because they harm us, not because they are untrue. Take the detraction and the mischief from the untruth, and we are little offended by it.

The Measure of the Man.

When a man says he is satisfied with his lot, you may be sure of one of two things—either he is a very enterprising and cunning specimen of humanity or he is a liar.—Up to Date.

Another Dolt.

"What was the trouble between Jibsey and his wife?" "Oh, the common story—they couldn't agree on the money question." "Say! It is too bad that politics!" "Who said anything about politics? The row began because Jibsey insisted that he ought to have at least a third of his salary to spend on himself."

THE OLDEST AND THE BEST

Cough-cure, the most prompt and effective remedy for diseases of the throat and lungs, is Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. As an emergency medicine, for the cure of Croup, Sore Throat, Lung Fever and Whooping Cough,



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Cherry Pectoral cannot be equaled. E. M. BRAWLEY, D. D. Dis. Sec. of the American Baptist Publishing Society, Petersburg, Va., endorses it, as a cure for violent colds, bronchitis, etc.

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LODGE DIRECTORY.

Clarendon Lodge, No. 64, A. F. M. Meets Thursday nights of each month, on or before the Full Moon.

L. S. CARSON, W. M. H. C. MOSES, Secretary

Beulah Chapter, No. 25, R. A. M. Meets on First Tuesday of each month.

L. S. CARSON, High Priest. F. M. SPANN, Secretary.

Gamecock Lodge, No. 17, K. of P. Meets every Monday night at 8 o'clock, except fifth Monday night.

H. B. BLOOM, C. O. B. WATSON, K. of R. & S.

Sumter Lodge, No. 1077, K. of H. Meets every First and Third Monday nights at 7 o'clock.

W. J. DURANT, Dic. H. C. MOSES, Rep'r.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 251, K. & L. of H. Meets every Second and Fourth Monday nights at 7 o'clock.

J. S. HUGHSON, Protector B. J. RHAME, Secretary.

Sumter Council, No. 649, A. L. of H. Meets every Second and Fourth Tuesday nights at 7 o'clock.

W. F. RHAME, Com. J. N. CORBETT, Sec'y

Sumter Lodge, No. 1, A. O. U. W. Meets every First and Third Thursday nights at 7 o'clock.

H. C. MOSES, M. W. B. WALSH, Rec.

Pocahontas Tribe, No. 16, I. O. R. M. Meets every Friday's Sleep at the 8th Run.

R. O. PURDY, Sachem. B. C. WALLACE, C. of R.

Sumter Council, No. 7 Jr. O. U. A. M. Meets on Second and Fourth Tuesday nights of each month at 8 o'clock.

WM YEADON, Councillor. B. C. WALLACE, Sec'y.

Holly-Wood Camp, W. of W. Meets every Third Wednesday night at 8 o'clock.

E. W. HURST, Con. Com R. S. HOOD, Clerk.

Carolina Council, No. 515, C. B. L. Meets every Second and Fourth Wednesday in Monaghan Block.

NEIL O'DONNELL, Pres. A. H. EBERHART, Sec.

Chucucola Lodge, No. 261, O. G. O. Meets Second and Fourth Wednesday nights at 8 o'clock.

G. N. MARSHALL, Com. B. C. WALLACE, Secty.

All of the above societies hold their meetings at the Masonic Temple, except when otherwise specified.

Notice!

AFTER an experience of twenty-eight years in the Cabinet shop of Mr. J. D. Craig, the undersigned have gone into the business of repairing and cleaning furniture, on their own account, and feeling confident of their ability to give perfect satisfaction, respectfully solicit the patronage of the people of Sumter and vicinity.

The preparing and dressing of dead bodies for burial will be promptly and carefully attended to.

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And, whilst this has been true, there has been no prejudice of the makers against new ideas of real merit. The universal verdict by those who are the most competent Judges is that it is impossible to improve upon the richness of its tone.

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Estate of R. Harry Baker, Dec'd.

ALL PERSONS holding claims against said Estate will present same duly attested, and all persons in any way indebted to said Estate will make payment without delay to MARI C BAKER, Qualified Executrix.

Jan. 20—31.

PATRICK BURNS

Inform his friends and the public that he has opened business in the Tuomey Block, at the late stand of Frank O'Donnell, with a stock of

GENERAL MERCHANDISE,

and solicits patronage. Prices as Low as Anywhere. Dec 23—41.

THE BANK OF SUMTER, SUMTER, S. C.

City and County Depository. Transacts a general Banking business, also has

A Savings Bank Department,

Deposits of \$1 and upwards received. Interest allowed at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum. Payable quarterly, on first days of January, April, July and October. W. F. B. HAYNSWORTH, President. W. F. RHAME, Cashier. Jan 13.

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DOORS, SASH, BLINDS,

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Office and Warerooms, King, opposite Cannon Street, CHARLESTON, S. C.

Purchase our make, which we guarantee superior to any sold South, and thereby save money.

Window and Fancy Glass a Specialty October, 16—0

Sumter, S. C., Dec. 28, 1896.

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Is now at hand and we are better prepared to supply the wants of our friends than ever before.

We have been handling fertilizers very largely for 14 years, and we believe we know how to buy and where to buy. We will handle nothing but

Standard Brands,

Unless forced to do so by illegitimate competition.

Our leading brands for which we are SOLE AGENTS

Wagner's High Grade. High Grade Blood and Bone and Navassa.

In addition to these we handle. Atlantic and Chicora, Cotton Seed Meal, Genuine German Kainit and Acid Phosphate.

As cash is quite an item to us in our business, any person who is fortunate enough to be able to pay cash for his fertilizer, will find it to his interest to see us before buying. To those who are not so fortunate we will figure as close as the character of security they have to offer will admit. We would advise our friends in making their calculations for the purchase of fertilizers and other things, not to exceed five cents as a basis for the price of their cotton as all indications point that way.

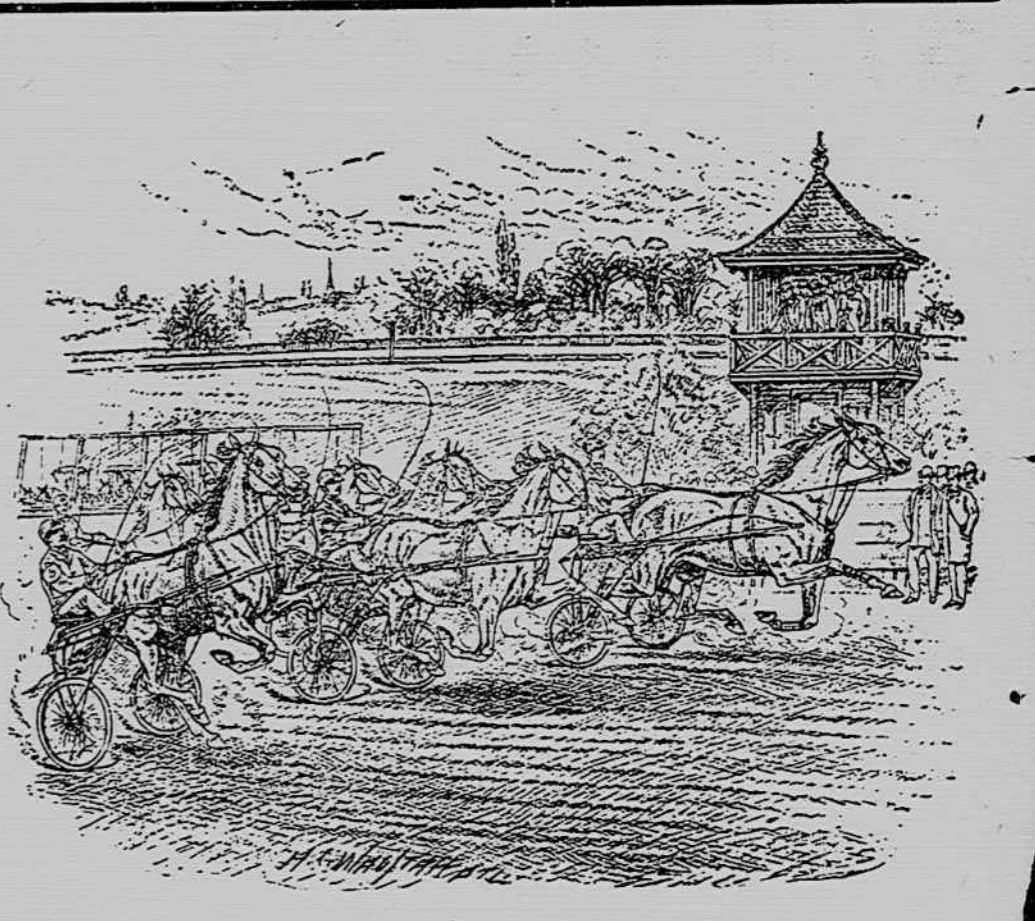
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With best wishes for a prosperous new year and hoping we may be favored with a liberal share of your business. Very respectfully,

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Two car loads extra choice work horses.

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Sumter, S. C., Dec. 28, 1896.