

The foregoing is from the *Denver Republican*. "It looks very much as though" certain political wire-pullers, "Liberal" strikers and election manipulators were setting their traps and preparing their tricks "to gain a victory" of fraud, but it does not yet appear that they are going to succeed. That remains to be seen. But suppose that prognosticated "victory" should occur, how much of a "great thing" would it prove to "owners of real estate?" Why, it is to cause "an enormous rise in the value of city property."

Well, who will receive the enormous benefits from the enormous rise? Will it not be the speculators in real estate? To people who wish to sell out their homes to strangers, to those whose sole aim is the transfer of their inheritances to the highest bidder, to persons whose occupation is the purchase and sale of real estate for profit, such an enormous rise would no doubt be very desirable. But to permanent residents who wish to live peaceably in the homes they have made for themselves, the enormous rise would simply mean enormous taxes. To the laborer, the artisan, the worker in any capacity for a living who has managed by thrift to acquire a residence of his own, it would mean such a draft upon his small income as would compel his relinquishment of that possession, to make way for a wealthier proprietor.

It has been published here that this is to become "a city of the rich." The schemes that are on foot involve the driving out of poor landholders and the possession of the soil by rich purchasers. So that before long the wealthy would hold the land and the houses, and the working people remaining here would rent instead of own their homes, and be at the mercy of the landlords, as in the cities of the world.

The policy of this community and of their leaders has been to promote the ownership of homes by as many permanent residents as possible. The landlord and tenant system is one of bondage and poverty. It is incompatible with true liberty. The people who settled this Territory, and those who have followed who are in sympathy with them and their views, should hold and retain the land to which they have acquired title, as wisdom dictates. To make a wholesale relinquishment of their possessions is a piece of folly too flagrant and senseless to be expressed in words. Every person of sense can see this, and

none understand it better than those who are endeavoring to induce or compel the small holders to sell out and move away, and who denounce the defenders of the sound policy and pretend that their own designs are for the benefit of their dupes.

A sudden or abnormal rise in the value of real estate is held up so strongly as a thing to be desired, that to question its benefits seems in some people's eyes astounding. But let common sense and an understanding of our situation in these valleys prevail, and all these wild-cat and booming schemes and arguments will appear as inimical to the welfare of the community. We all desire gradual growth and progress in everything that tends to build up the Territory. But we do not all wish such a condition of affairs as will suddenly make a few rich to the detriment of the many and throw the local control into the hands of plotters and place-hunters.

We need more improvements which must be had as the city grows, and they cannot be made without money. The volume of the revenue must be increased, but it can be swelled through the healthy expansion and the closer habitation which will come with natural and steady development and increase of population. A sudden and enormous rise in taxation, which could be effected in several ways that might be named without any change of chartered powers by legislation, would have some advantages on the surface and would benefit a few, but deep down in society it would be disastrous to the many, and ruinous to some whose hopes and interests and faith are centered here, and who desire to live and die here.

The "victory" spoken of by the *Denver Republican* would be a calamity in more ways than one. If the permanent "Gentile" residents can see their own permanent interests clearly and the sure results of such a victory, they will not wish for it. And certainly the great body of the people would see in it a shameful defeat. For it can only be secured, after all the intended frauds are attempted, through the apathy and carelessness of The People and their failure to meet and overcome the tactics by which Ogden City was captured through double-distilled fraud and double-dyed villainy.

LEASING LIBERTY PARK.

AN effort is being made to induce the City Council to lease Liberty

Park to a private party. While there is a pretension that the public interest is sought by such a project, it is not a great stretch to presume that money-making is really at the bottom of it. There are not many men running around with their hair streaming in the wind hunting for a chance to serve the dear public, but many can be discovered looking after opportunities to line their pockets. Favorable action by the Council upon this application would result in the people's having to pay for admission to their own premises and the grounds would therefore no longer be public but private. The rule associated with pleasure resorts conducted by private parties or corporations in this section, at present, is that pecuniary profit is the chief consideration and morality a very secondary affair. There is no reason to expect that Liberty Park in private hands would be any exception to this rule.

Altogether the people in this matter are much safer in their own hands than in the hands of private parties. If public control of the Park is relinquished there will be no resort in this whole neighborhood to which the people can obtain free admittance. It would be an imposition on the poor who have not the means, and we hope not much inclination as well, to go to certain places toward which there appears to be an inordinate rush of pleasure hunters. Large numbers of people go to Liberty Park now and there enjoy the grateful shade afforded by the groves, in which troops of happy children, of the poorer class, engage in pleasant sports and pastimes. The gates should not be shut against them by a demand for the almighty dollar. Rather let the City Fathers make the grounds gradually more pleasant by improvements. It is even now a very good place in which to spend a few hours of recreation; but a little money judiciously expended would make it far more desirable. After a certain fixed hour it should be closed, and even then a watch should be kept over the enclosure for obvious reasons.

PHENOMENAL TIMES.

THE "fierce and vivid lightning," is playing havoc in various parts of the world. It is no ordinary incident for a procession on parade to be struck by the electric fluid, as was the case in a Silesian town yesterday, killing five of the paraders and severely shock-