

JAMES E. MARTINE

Copy of resolution passed by the Plainfield Democratic club, November 14, 1910:

Resolved, That we the Plainfield Democratic club, hereby approve the candidacy of James E. Martine, as United States senator from New Jersey.

For years the democrats of this state have urged the selection of senators by popular vote and three years ago a law was passed to make this effective. In pursuance of this law Mr. Martine received a clear majority over all competitors at recent primaries. This was a vote of confidence on the part of the people and it is the duty of the members of the legislature to obey this mandate; it is the voice of the people and our party will be false to its pledges if it is not obeyed.

Mr. Martine needs no introduction to the people of this state. He is a man of the highest honor and integrity, an orator and debater of great ability; a student of public affairs; a democrat who has lived his whole life for the success of democratic principles, and a gentleman known throughout the whole state. If elected to this office he will be an honor to the state of New Jersey and to the senate of the United States.

J. F. ZEREGA, Secretary.

WHAT ABOUT THE PEOPLE?

The Washington correspondent for the New York Herald expresses the opinion that Mr. Taft will be renominated in 1912, that he will unite his party in the senate and in the house, bringing together the regulars and insurgents. This correspondent says:

"He broke the ice with Senator Cummins, of Iowa, Saturday; he is expected to go further with Senator Bristow, of Kansas, on Monday. When he has smoked a few pounds of plug tobacco in the pipe of compromise with these two redoubtable frontier chiefs, he will have accomplished much. Keep your eye on the president. Things may be even worse than now before they are better, but in the end, it is predicted, he will triumph just as he did at the last session of congress."

But what about the people? What about the rank and file of republicans and insurgents? Politicians in the republican or in the democratic party may compromise and "patch up the differences." But the people who make and unmake politicians, who build and destroy parties do not always follow the politicians' lead. The people want relief, adjustments of differences between "leaders" in the distribution of appointments to office will not satisfy the people.

KONOP OF WISCONSIN

In one issue The Commoner credited Wisconsin with the election of but one democratic congressman. There were two democrats and one socialist elected in Wisconsin. Although the Ninth congressional district, which Mr. Kuesterman (republican) of Green Bay, represented in congress for the past two terms, went for McGovern, the republican candidate for governor, by a plurality of 4,784, Thomas F. Konop defeated Mr. Kuesterman by a plurality of five. Mr. Konop has been a hard working democrat all his life and he will carry to the house of representatives a high order of energy and ability.

MR. TAFT'S APPOINTMENTS

Satisfying, no doubt, his selection will be to the interests; but in every other quarter it will be a grave, almost a shocking, disappointment.

Mr. Justice White has been nominally a democrat; but in reality he has been another Aldrich or Cannon. If the president desired to advance an associate justice to be chief, there was learned and revered John Marshall Harlan, who for thirty-three years has been a pillar of fire for the guidance of the court. To pass him, in order to take Justice White, evinces a cold-blooded calculation to satisfy the reactionaries, which is both surprising and alarming.

The two appointments for associate justice are not of a character to still any of the fear. Judge Vandevanter has had the good will of powerful railroad influence; and that kind of indorsement comes under justified suspicion

when we realize that this court must soon pass upon progressive legislation to regulate rates and control transportation companies. The appointment of the little known Lamar seems to have been made to conciliate democrats—without any possible danger to the general scheme for "arranging the court" to please the great commercial combines.

The "Court is the Thing" the country must look to; and there is every justification for public discomposure in President Taft's selection of men who probably will not recognize "the growing wants and the changed conditions of the nation." The supreme tribunal of the country seems to have been turned into a stand-pat adjunct.

What a pity that he did not set the politicians and the combines aside, and take counsel only of his own patriotism, judicial knowledge and good sense; in selecting pure and able jurists whose very names would have been a covenant of righteousness to the people!—Denver News.

HERE'S A RADICAL FOR YOU

In his speech before the Chamber of Commerce at New Haven, Theodore Roosevelt said: "I am a radical, but I am a radical who most earnestly desires to see a radical program carried out by conservatives. I wish to see great industrial reforms carried out, not by the men who will profit by them, but by the men who lose by them; by just such men as you around me. I believe most emphatically in the progress which shall be sane."

That explains in part why Mr. Roosevelt failed to accomplish any reforms while in office. He talked about the desirability of securing reforms and then he built his cabinet of strong corporation men.

It is not safe to trust great reforms to men who have no sympathy with the proposed reforms. It is not safe to trust the making of tariff laws to men who, like Aldrich, hold stock in the rubber trust or who, like Lodge, give their sympathies to the protected interests. It is not safe to trust the enforcement of anti-trust laws to an attorney general who believes in trusts. It is not safe to leave the fortunes of government to men who believe in the right of a favored few to rule. It is not safe to leave popular government to an administration that is picked by the representatives of special interests or to a party whose campaign funds are provided by those interests.

Mr. Roosevelt's speeches have not been in great demand since election day. That the demand is growing smaller and smaller is due to the fact that the paragraph above quoted from his New Haven speech is a fair sample of the remarks he makes upon public questions.

GOOD FOR GOVERNOR WILSON

Governor-elect Wilson of New Jersey has served notice on James Smith, Jr., that he will not stand for any candidate for the United States senate other than James E. Martine who was nominated at the primary last October. Good for Governor Wilson. Martine is not only the party nominee, but he is a simon pure democrat. He is a democrat on all questions at all times. There is no variability in him or shadow of turning. With Martine in the senate New Jersey will be in harmony with the democracy of the union. Governor Wilson may or may not personally prefer Mr. Martine, but he does well in insisting that the choice of the democrats at the primary shall be respected, New Jersey cannot afford to imitate Illinois in the rejection of the primary nominee.

PRETTY GOOD TITLE

In objecting to James E. Martine for United States senator from New Jersey, the New York Times says: "Mr. Martine's title to the senatorship seems to consist in his lifelong devotion to the party and in his labors for its success in many campaigns. He has often been a candidate for office, and he himself admits that his record of defeat is a long one. His title is strengthened and confirmed, of course, by the fact that in the primary election a majority of the democrats who took part in that election indicated their preference that he should be chosen senator."

The Times adds, "His (Martine's) independence and honesty are unimpeachable, but something more is required."

Well, if New Jersey will now elect to the United States senate a man who has given "life long devotion" to democracy and whose independence and honesty are unimpeachable, to say nothing of the fact that he received the majority of votes in the democratic primary that will be

a pretty good start. We can all afford to wait for the "something more" in the way of eligibility.

A NEW YORK POSSIBILITY

Congressman Sulzer is being urged by his friends for the New York senatorship, and why not? He has had a long career in congress, and it has been a worthy one. He has had legislative experience far beyond the average senator when he enters that august body. Mr. Sulzer has also shown his ability as a vote getter—in fact he has all the qualifications which would be considered necessary in other parts of the country. His only defect—and that ought not to be considered a fault—is that he has not taken his orders from Wall Street. It has been some years since the voters of New York had anything to do with the selection of a senator in that state. The New York Central, the Pennsylvania, the trusts and the express companies have been in control. What a relief if the people could have a representative from New York.

NOT EXACTLY

In his after election speech Woodrow Wilson said: "The people of this country are seeking new leaders to direct them, and it is not the day of the leader who would inflame the minds of the people but that of the leader who seeks to guide and lead the people by appealing to their intelligence and judgment."

If the people are really in search of new leaders it is not that the people want to be directed. In these days the people insist upon "directing" their so-called leaders. These leaders need not worry themselves about "guiding" the people. They will play their part well if they understand that they are the servants rather than the masters of the people and are willing to follow where the intelligent judgment of the masses points the way.

PUSH IT ALONG

The Illinois, Georgia, Arkansas, Texas and Tennessee delegations have declared for Champ Clark for speaker. This is good work. Let's make it unanimous.

IN NEW JERSEY

Woodrow Wilson, governor-elect of New Jersey says:

"The question who should be chosen by the incoming legislature of this state to occupy the seat in the senate of the United States, which will presently be made vacant by the expiration of the term of Mr. Kean, is of such vital importance to the people of the state, both as a question of political good faith and as a question of genuine representation in the senate, that I feel constrained to express my opinion with regard to it in terms which cannot be misunderstood. I realize the delicacy of taking any part in the discussion of the matter. As governor of New Jersey I shall have no part in the choice of a senator. Legally speaking, it is not my duty even to give advice with regard to the choice. But there are other duties besides legal duties. The recent campaign has put me in an unusual position. It afforded me, if elected, to be political spokesman and adviser of the people. It is my duty to say with a full sense of the peculiar responsibility of my position what I deem it to be the obligation of legislators to do in this gravely important matter.

"I know that the people of the state don't desire Mr. James Smith to be sent again to the senate. If he should be he will not go as their representative. The only means I have of knowing whom they do desire to represent them is the vote at the recent primaries, where 48,000 democratic voters, a majority of the whole number who voted at the primaries, declared their preference for Mr. Martine. For me that vote is conclusive. I think it should be for every member of the legislature. Absolute good faith in dealing with the people and unhesitating fidelity to every principle involved is the highest law of political morality under a constitutional government."