

whenever he advocates anti-democratic policies or republican policies. I will support him whenever he advocates American policies, even though both parties have been silent. I will oppose him whenever he advocates un-American policies, even though both parties have been silent. I know no better way of killing a party than by opposing everything that "comes out of Nazareth." Then you add that "the president's method of getting at it is bad. It is like himself—headstrong, hot-headed, rash and prone to substitute autocratic power for the orderly procedure of law." If I had any complaint to make of the Townsend bill, which is now before the house, and heralded as being there with the president's approbation, it would be that it does not give sufficient authority to enforce the rates prescribed by a governmental tribunal. You add that the democratic leaders "also should have brains enough to formulate a policy of their own, announce it and fight for it." I have instructed my secretary to send you by today's mail a copy of the bill agreed upon by the democracy of the house, to be offered as a substitute for the Townsend bill. It is, in our opinion, a better and more efficacious measure than that bill, but, if our substitute should be voted down, it is also our opinion that the Townsend bill is infinitely better than nothing and that it is to the interest of the people—shippers and everybody, except those who enjoy unjust gains by railroad favoritism—to enact it, rather than to put up with the present chaotic condition and the present impotent law.

I agree with you perfectly that the democracy "ought to match every policy on every public question with a better, wiser, nobler and more truly popular policy of its own," and my humble endeavor has been in that direction always, and that endeavor has been supported always with a unanimity, with regard to vital and essential points, somewhat rare in the history of our party. I do not think there is any danger that the democratic minority, although somewhat "demoralized by an overwhelming defeat," will follow republican policies or republican leadership, or surrender democratic principles. This, however, is a totally different thing from advocating democratic principles and sticking to them with unfaltering allegiance, even though a republican president and a large number of republicans should finally come to see their justice and wisdom. If all that was necessary to prevail upon us to desert a democratic position or cease to strive for the enactment of wise and just laws were that a republican president should indorse them, then that republican president would have us truly at his mercy. I am, with every expression of regard, very truly yours,
JOHN S. WILLIAMS.

Who is the Borrower?

Some observers are amused and more are surprised by the sight of Mr. Bryan and the democrats in the act of holding up Mr. Roosevelt's hands as he labors for the enlargement of the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission and for government supervision of railroad rates. The Hon. John Sharp Williams and the democratic brethren in the House of Representatives rally around the president with a well stimulated enthusiasm. They will be his shields against monopolistic republicans, if such there be in congress.

In this lightning change comedy of politics has Mr. Bryan "fopped" to Mr. Roosevelt or has Mr. Roosevelt "fopped" to Mr. Bryan? Have the democrats become republicans or the republicans become democrats?

The best way of answering these questions is to consult the republican national platforms and the democratic

national platforms, beginning with 1896, the first year of Bryanization.

What did the republican platform of 1896 say upon this now all-obessing and supreme subject of government regulation of railroad rates?

Nothing.
Turn now to the democratic books. First the democratic platform of 1896: "The absorption of wealth by the few, the consolidation of our leading railroad systems and the formation of trusts and pools require a stricter control by the Federal Government of those arteries of commerce. We demand the enlargement of the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission and such restrictions and guarantees in the control of railroads as will protect the people from robbery and oppression."

In 1900 the democrats called for laws "providing for publicity as to affairs of corporations engaged in interstate commerce," and requiring these to "show before doing business outside of the state of their origin," that their stock is not watered and that they are not trying to monopolize. More specifically as to railroads:

"We favor such an enlargement of the scope of the Interstate Commerce law as will enable the commission to protect individuals and communities from discriminations and the public from unjust and unfair transportation rates."

The democratic national platform of 1904 repeats the cry of 1896 and 1900:

"We demand an enlargement of the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission, to the end that the traveling public and shippers of this country may have a prompt and adequate relief from the abuses to which they are subjected in the matter of transportation."

Three times the democratic party was beaten. Three times its platform was rejected. Three times the republicans showed by their silence that they did not want the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission enlarged.

In his message to congress Dec. 6, 1904, Mr. Roosevelt said:

"The government must, in increasing degree, supervise and regulate the workings of the railroads engaged in interstate commerce and such increased supervision is the only alternative to an increase of the present evils on the one hand or a still more radical policy on the other. In my judgment, the most important legislative act now needed as regards the regulation of corporations is this act to confer on the Interstate Commerce Commission the power to revise rates and regulations, the revised rate to go at once into effect, and to stay in effect until the court of review reverses it."

Thus Mr. Roosevelt complied with the democratic "demand for an enlargement of the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Naturally the democrats, like Moliere, take their own where they find it.—New York Sun.

The Stone Resolution

Senator Stone of Missouri on January 4, offered the following resolution in the senate, and it was ordered to lie on the table subject to call and to be printed:

"Whereas, Thomas W. Lawson, a prominent citizen of Boston, Massachusetts, and a capitalist of reputed large fortune, in a signed article published in Everybody's Magazine, a responsible and widely circulated publication, has specifically charged that he conspired with certain other well-known capitalists to raise a large corruption fund to be used to promote the election of the republican candidates for president and vice president in eighteen hundred and ninety-six, and that they did raise five million dollars

to be expended to 'turn at least five of the doubtful states,' and

"Whereas, During the campaign of nineteen hundred and four it was directly and emphatically charged by Judge Alton B. Parker, a prominent candidate for the office of president, and by other citizens of great prominence and high repute, belonging to both the republican and democratic parties, as well as by many important and responsible journals, that large sums of money had been contributed by, extorted from, numerous trusts and corporations, to be used to influence the election then ensuing for president and vice president of the United States; and

"Whereas, The president, in his last annual message, sent to congress on December 6th, nineteen hundred and four, took official cognizance of the growing tendency to corrupt the electorate, and did in direct terms recommend the enactment of a law against bribery and corruption in Federal elections: Now, therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the judiciary committee of the senate be, and is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to make inquiry into the matters stated in the foregoing preamble, and also,

generally, into the subject of the use of money in federal elections, so as to ascertain as far as possible the extent of the evil, and to report to the senate at the first session of the fifty-ninth congress, by bill or otherwise, the legislation said committee may deem necessary to prevent or suppress bribery and corruption in such elections. Said committee may sit during the vacation of the senate, and shall have authority to send for persons and papers and to compel the attendance of witnesses.

Hear Plants Grow

Two Germans have discovered a method by which they can hear plants grow. In the apparatus the growing plant is connected with a disk, having in its center an indicator which moves visibly and regularly, and this on a scale fifty times magnified denotes the progress and growth. Both disk and indicator are metal, and when brought in contact with an electric hammer, the electric current being interrupted at each of the divided interstices of the disk, the growth of the plant is as perceptible to the ear as to the eye.—Kansas City Journal.

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