

ment "must tax and manage all corporations, must oversee insurance and trust companies, and must either own the railroads or dictate to their owners the minutest details of their business." He asserted that these things are resented not "because they are new but because they are old—as old as tyranny itself."

**Meeting of New Issues**

All new issues and all novel departments, he said, must be met with "firmness and perseverance." He pointed out the way:

"If we are to deal effectively with these various issues, whether in opposition or in power, it will be necessary to have a real party with real followers, attached to real and recognized principles. It is not enough that it shall have a collection of fads—many of them useless and some of them dangerous and opposed to the historic position of our organization. We have already had too many of these, because it is safe to assert of a policy that if it is radical it is not democratic; if it is democratic it is not radical."

He touched on the monetary crazes "which swept over the country only to sink faster than they rose," and asserted that the lesson to be learned was that "whether as Americans or as partisans, we must struggle out of the treacherous bogs of opportunism and get back to the solid ground of principle." And to do this he said the first and most important step "is recognition of a fact inherent in our society, fixed in our laws and institutions, and the consistent policy of the democratic party from the earliest days, that honest thrift, the natural fruit of industry, must be encouraged and promoted." He asserted that if the democratic party is to continue its being "it must in the future as in the past draw its membership from these representatives of work and thrift."

**Warning on Confiscation**

Mr. Parker denounced any policy "which shall directly or indirectly suggest even the possibility of confiscation, or which, by any agitation, so much as threatens the measure of values." Taking up the subject of corporations and trusts, he said of the former that his recent experience in politics had not inclined him to favor overmuch the management of some great corporations. But he said the developments of corporations is not only logical, but is necessarily so. He said the majority of them are managed honestly, and that the wrongdoers are punished.

Mr. Parker "mentioned" trusts, saying they were sometimes "good" or "bad" according to their disposition toward the party in power. He discussed at length the remedies for these evils, saying that first there are existing statutes and the common law. He declared that since the decision in the beef trust case little has been heard "about the impotence of the law." He referred to "executive authority" and averred "it had fumed and fussed; it has thundered in the index and failed to enforce the law, except in a few cases." He continued:

"At the instance of the attorney of a foreign railroad with a branch in this country—also the representative of a governor of a state—it has very properly and legally broken up a great railroad combination. Was it because of satisfaction with having suppressed a 'bad' combination that a dozen others, larger, more flagrant in their violation of the law, each of them affecting the interests of ten times as many people, have not been punished or even prosecuted? Is this the natural reward of a 'good' trust?"

**Sincerity in Trust War**

"We have seen one department give a character to a great and far-reaching combination just as the local branch of the government started out to lay the case of the same combination before a federal grand jury. Is this the way of the prosecutor who is in earnest? In another instance the managers of a great railroad, having admit-

ted that they have paid rebates, the government, some years after the fact has been avowed, appoints special counsel to prosecute. Meanwhile the official in power at the time, and mainly responsible for this admitted infraction of the laws, is now a member of the president's cabinet. Must we construe this to mean that the trust which was once 'good' has now become 'bad'?"

He said that when a trust or railroad has violated the law "the place for the guilty official is in jail or the penitentiary, not in the cabinet or in the board rooms of great railroads."

The second effective way of dealing with the trust proper, he said, "is to take away all tariff duties on articles made by any great combination so long as it violates the law or while it discriminates in price against the American customer in favor of the foreigner." He continued:

"The tariff is the fertile and nursing mother of all the abuses to be found in these trusts, and yet, the very moment the sacred subject is mentioned, the president of the United States draws a red herring across the trail, all others in republican authority raise their hands in holy horror, the order to stand pat is passed along the whole line of beneficiaries, and the time-honored process of throwing dust in the eyes of the people is revived."

**Points Way to Success**

The speaker closed with the suggestion that there be an honest attempt at democratic organization. His parting words were:

"I would not for a moment convey an impression that organization is not important. It is even more—it is vital, if we are to give effect to the principles and policies which buttress our party faith. But however necessary and vital, it may be useless—a mere empty bauble—if it is viewed as the end rather than the means. We are confronted by forces which, when not purely personal, are almost wholly mechanical. They are represented by a party, well managed, indeed, in that two-thirds of the Union to which it restricts its activities. It has everything that patronage can suggest or imply. In return for favors received it sells to the highest bidder or freely gives the powers of government. Nothing that the ingenuity of monopoly can suggest, as within its scope or interest, is withheld."

"On the other hand, we cannot deal with a trust, or a self-seeking class, with neither have nor can acquire the things they want, and we can say with truth that, when in power, we have refused even to consider them as a possible asset. It may be an element of weakness, but we have never developed the faculty of purchasing votes in gross by turning over to chosen agents powers belonging to the people."

**Scope of Party Work**

"With us, then, organization, to be effective, must lie in the state, the county and the district. By the very necessity of our principles and our existence we must protect the rights and promote the interests of communities, and carry up into federal politics only that reserve of power properly incident to our institutions and system of government. The ambitions we must foster are infinite in number and variety. All our later history has shown that it is far more important for us to have our full share of governors, legislatures, senators, members of congress, and of state, county and municipal officials, than it is by neglecting these, to command a long list of places under the general government."

Other speeches were made by Mayor George B. McClellan, Henry T. Rainey of Illinois, John W. Kern of Indiana, J. J. Willett of Alabama, Judge Augustus Van Weyk and Senator Newlands.

The keynote of Mayor McClellan's address was: "As the first step in the direction of commanding public confidence so as to succeed in this patriotic work, let us prove to the people

that we are more anxious to teach and to practice sound political doctrine than we are to frame our platforms so as to catch the passing vote."

By "patriotic work" the mayor of the greater city meant spreading of the precepts "of the true democracy."

**Chicago Victory Cheers**

Mr. Rainey of Illinois referred to the victory of the democrats in Chicago as a hopeful sign. He said the fight there was made by the "radical democracy along progressive lines against the greed of great corporations." He asserted the Chicago victory "is the first great victory of the reorganized democracy—there are many more to follow."

The Hoosier orator, John W. Kern, talked to the theme, "The Rank and File." He made a hit with this expression:

"We may as well make up our minds now that the day of the 'boss' in democratic politics is at an end and that 'gavel rule in conventions will no longer be tolerated.'"

Mr. Kern also made the suggestion that henceforth the work of organization in campaigns "must commence with the voters and proceed upward, rather than commence in a so-called conference of leaders and work downward."

**A STRIKING SERMON**

The president's sermon before the Mother's club at Washington is attracting as much attention as Dr. Osler's too-old-at-forty speech—though for a very different reason. If the physician's statements are absurd and in contradiction to innumerable conspicuous and incontestable facts, the statesman's contentions are true and just, something to be pondered and to be laid to heart by every thoughtful man and woman in America.

The "vapid self-indulgence" and the "pseudo-intellectuality" which he so cordially reprobates are doing destructive work among us, giving us barren homes and robbing marriage of its

highest and holiest character. The head of the nation is not beating the air when he holds up to scorn the thoughtful and the intelligent, the cowardice and moral degeneracy of those who shrink from their first duty to their country and to the race.

The lesson which he reads to the nation will not prove palatable to those who need it most. The "New York Times, in a bright editorial, says:

"The tenor of the president's address was to disapprove of, even to stigmatize, the childless family, as a shirker of its responsibilities toward the nation and the race; and, so far as may be, to invite the stigma of others upon the childless family. Admitting the inevitable exceptions, Mr. Roosevelt classed the wives who decline to bring children into the world as instances either of 'vapid self-indulgence' or natures twisted to 'a sterile pseudo-intellectuality.' He says he has the same 'contempt,' which he feels for a runaway soldier, for 'the man or woman who deliberately foregoes the blessings of children, whether from viciousness, coldness, shallow-heartedness, self-indulgence, or mere failure to appreciate aright the difference between the all-important and the unimportant.'"

"Mr. Roosevelt is going to hear from those who object to being impaled on any of these alternatives, and especially from the women—with whom speaking largely, the question of race suicide among educated Americans begins and ends. They will tell him that their family affairs are strictly their own concern. They will say the he is sneering at the blue-stocking woman. They will say that the object of marriage is 'sympathy' and 'companionship,' not offspring. They will accuse him of acting 'the little father' to his people without warrant; layman though he is, of talking like a priest to a bridal couple, and, man though he is, of lecturing women how they should rear their children."

"And yet the president is right in the broad comparison he draws be-

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