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WAS HE SCARED IN 1904?

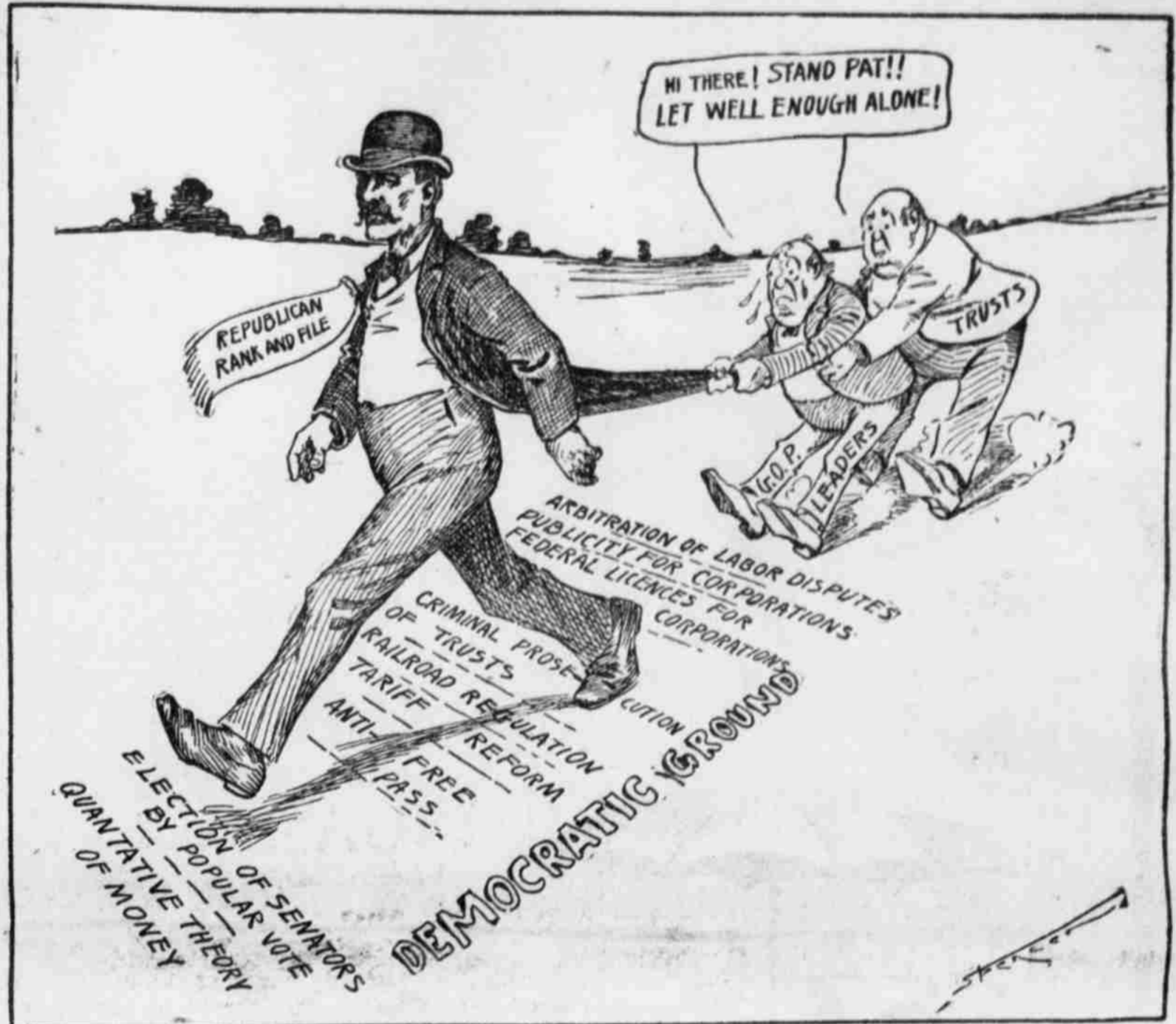
Testifying before New York's insurance committee John A. McCall of the New York Life Insurance company sought to justify his contributions to the republican campaign fund on the ground that the country was "threatened" with bimetalism, and that the policyholders of this company would suffer a great loss with the establishment of that principle.

But the New Haven (Ct.) Union reminds Mr. McCall that this does not explain the contribution of the \$48,000 in the campaign of 1904. The Union points out that Mr. Parker was a gold man, was committed to the gold standard and by his gold telegram had practically committed the democratic national convention to the gold standard. While the Union says that Mr. Parker's gold telegram was one of the powerful factors that led to his defeat, it insists that that telegram "was proof positive for President McCall that the safety vaults of the treasury department of the New York Life Insurance company could remain closed during the national campaign to all appeals from political leaders for financial help."

The union adds: "We should think under the circumstances that the republicans who are numbered among the policyholders of the New York Life should rise in rebellion against this waste of the good cash of the New York Life. It was like throwing away so much money. Parker would have protected and have lived up to the gold standard policy if he had been elected president just as faithfully as the republican standard bearer. McCall was actually on Easy street in the last national campaign, but he apparently wasn't aware of the fact."

PROMISES MADE TO BE BROKEN

Every now and then an administration organ inadvertently reveals the g. o. p. plans in the Philippines. The Lincoln, Neb., Star, a republican organ whose owner is evidently close to the administration, being ambassador to Brazil, says: "If as Congressman Payne says, there is nothing for us to do but to hold the Philippine islands till the natives are ready for self-government, we may as well quit fiddling and settle down to governing them permanently." Then all these promises of future independence count for nothing—just like a vast lot of other republican promises. If the Filipinos can be kept quiet by holding out promises that the administration has no intention of keeping, all right. If they detect the imposition and emulate the example of the men who rebelled against government without consent along about 1776, "burn and kill all over ten." It is certainly a beautiful example of "liberty, freedom, self-government and national honor," that the Star maps out for this government.



But Can They Hold Him?

THE REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA

However much the "extremists" of Russia may seek to minimize the importance of the reforms promised in the czar's latest manifesto, no one will deny that this is the nearest approach to effective relief ever suggested in a Russian proclamation.

The manifesto issued by the czar, under the inspiration furnished by Premier Witte, must be interpreted in connection with the necessities and the temper of the Russian people; and so it has been interpreted by the civilized world. In this view, then, such a revolution in Russian affairs has been brought about that October 30, 1905, the day on which the czar's now famous proclamation was issued, will stand as one of the important milestones on the pathway along which men struggle to obtain possession of their own.

Indeed, men of peace are almost prepared to give thanks for the fact of the Japanese-Russian war, under the impression that no influence other than that great contest with all of its surprising results could have shaken the Russian throne and aroused its occupant from his slumbers.

Throughout the civilized world men appear to have confidence in Witte, and at this moment Witte appears to be the power behind the throne. When he visited America as Russia's peace commissioner, we were told that in the circles where autocrats most do congregate he was unpopular, and that in accordance with the rules of Russian aristocracy his good wife was barred from what in Russia was regarded as polite society. But in the discharge of his duties as peace commissioner Witte acquitted himself so well, winning for his countrymen unexpected favors, that upon his return he found that he had secured, in court circles as well as among the populace, a prestige which he had not previously or altogether enjoyed.

It is not at all surprising that this man who displayed such skill in dealing with the representatives of Japan, and won the hearts of the American people, should, upon his return to Russia, employ his great talents in behalf of his suffering countrymen and bring his influence to bear upon the czar so long surrounded by men who would not tell him the truth and upon whose advice he could not depend if he were, in fact, anxious to deal justly with his people.

The seriousness of the reforms promised in the czar's latest manifesto depends much upon the activities and the co-operation of the Russian people. If "revolutions never go backwards," autocracies do not surrender without a struggle; and whether it be the autocracies of the court circles of Europe or the plutocracies in free America, men who strive for "the greatest good to the greatest number" must always remember that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." Doubtless Witte understands this thoroughly, yet while he is required to meet at every turn the machinations of the skillful representatives of autocracy, it will be, indeed, a great surprise if he is not at the same time embarrassed by the criticisms and, perhaps, in some instances, the open antagonism of some of the very men in whose behalf he is struggling.

But the man who acquitted himself as Witte did in the peace conference at Portsmouth, the man who was able to open the eyes of the czar of Russia, the man who seems to realize that he has a mission to perform with respect to his countrymen, is certainly not the man to be deterred by the schemes of the natural enemy or discouraged by the embarrassments put upon him by those who should be his ardent supporters.

In the czar's latest proclamation a great victory for popular government has been won. Fairly interpreted that proclamation means the dethronement of the Russian aristocracy, constitu-