

rate measure that will be satisfactory to Mr. Roosevelt.

There are many men in this country who, having a very kindly feeling for Theodore Roosevelt, have not satisfied themselves whether he may be depended upon to stand resolutely and seriously in behalf of the people against the encroachments of powerful interests. He is undergoing trial today and those who, regardless of political prejudice, have given him support hope that he will acquit himself proudly.

There are, however, disquieting rumors and some very good friends of the president fear that as a result of railway rate agitation the president and the republican congress will agree on a measure which will represent not the wishes of the American people nor the views so often expressed by Mr. Roosevelt, but will represent the will of the railroad magnate and will fail to provide the people with material relief even so far as actual railroad regulation could give relief.

It is significant that so far as results to the public are concerned Mr. Roosevelt has made small progress in his boasted campaign against special interests. His proceedings with respect to rebates have been characterized by a disposition to ignore the law where influential republicans were involved, and his policy with respect to that law has been so variable that where he makes what would seem to be business-like moves—such, for instance, as his order to district attorneys to proceed under the conspiracy statute—his plans have neither inspired the public with confidence nor frightened the railroad magnate. His far-famed campaign against the Northern Securities company resulted merely in a change of organization, and we find the same old men heaping upon the people the same old impositions. In the face of his prosecution of the beef trust, that trust has continued to pile higher and higher its impositions. Does any one imagine these men would dare to continue these wrongs with an Andrew Jackson in the White House?

The prestige of the president of the United States is great, and when he moves in a determined way to obtain relief for the public, he may depend upon the practically united support of the people. Under those circumstances the president of the United States need fear no man. Republican leaders may appeal to the spirit of partisanship, and trust magnates may cry "radicalism," but a president moving resolutely in the people's behalf will be untouched by any of these criticisms. He may, for a time, meet defeat at the hands of a republican senate controlled by the corporations; but he will yet triumph—provided he rejects all proffers to compromise with the representatives of special interests and insists that real evils must be met with real reforms. If he does not take this determined stand; if he yields to the pressure of politicians who pretend to be solely anxious for party harmony; if he prefers to become the political leader of a party undisturbed by concern for the public welfare, rather than the courageous and uncompromising champion of public interests, then he will fail—and fall. And then it may be written of him as it was written of another:

"Let not Caesar's servile minions
Mock the lion thus laid low!
'Twas no foeman's hand that slew him—
'Twas his own that gave the blow."

A BADGE OF SHAME

The Lake County Herald, published at Painesville, Ohio, directs an open letter to Lake county's representative in the state legislature. It was reported that this representative had announced that he expected to receive a railroad pass during his service, and would accept and use such a pass. The Herald directs attention to the fact that this member of the legislature is presumed to act as the attorney in the state legislature for the people of Lake county, and that he will be required to vote on important railroad legislation. The Herald pleads with this representative to reject the pass, and to stand as a free representative of public interests.

The appeal is a good one, and it is hoped it will be heeded. The free pass is one of the great evils of the day, and no public official is in a position to discharge his duty to the people if he places himself under obligations to the corporations.

The battle against the free pass is not a temporary struggle. Unless we are prepared to confess that popular government is a farce, that battle will not cease until the pass has been abolished.

In the meantime let it be understood everywhere that a free pass in the hands of a public official is a badge of shame.

The Story of Two Resignations

For some reason or other republican editors who have had so much to say concerning the forced resignation of United States Attorney Baxter in Omaha have had nothing to say concerning the voluntary resignation of United States Attorney Johnson in the Indian Territory. And there-by hangs a tale.

The story is told by the Washington correspondent for the Boston Transcript in this way:

United States District Attorney W. B. Johnson of the southern district of the Indian Territory has telegraphed his resignation to the president because the department of justice, acting on the direct order of the president, has caused the dismissal of certain indictments against prominent Indian Territory men which the district attorney has secured. Mr. Johnson was nearing the end of his second term and had made a successful record. His was the biggest district in the United States and he had tried more than 4,000 criminal cases. Something more than a year ago he obtained evidence that the law firm of Mansfield, McMurray & Cornish of South McAllister, Indian Territory, was concerned with Ex-Governor Mosely, whom Mr. Johnson had succeeded as district attorney, and Governor Johnston, chief of the Chickasaw tribe of Indians, in an attempt to embezzle the funds of the tribe. The scheme, according to the evidence, was to present false expense accounts, which Governor Johnston ordered paid without vouchers. District Attorney Johnson submitted to the federal grand jury evidence showing that the five men had already obtained upward of \$92,000 by this means, and they were all indicted for criminal conspiracy.

The accused men had friends among the influential republicans of the territory and of Texas, who were also friends of President Roosevelt. Through these friends the indicted men had their case presented to the president, with the result that an order was issued from the department of justice at Washington that the cases should be continued over

the first term of the court, which met in Ardmore, Indian Territory, not long after the indictments were returned. The success of that effort led to renewed appeals to the president. The accused were trying to have the indictments dismissed without going into court. Secretary Hitchcock heard what was going on and caused an investigation to be made on his own behalf. He was satisfied the indicted men were guilty and should be brought to trial.

Secretary Hitchcock went to the president and protested vigorously against any interference with the process of the courts. He was so emphatic in his argument that Mr. Roosevelt directed the department of justice to cause an independent investigation to be made. In fulfillment of this direction District Attorney Johnson was ordered to come to Washington. He arrived here last week and was followed almost immediately by McMurray and Cornish. A hearing was had before Assistant Attorney General Russell and both sides went over their evidence. Mr. Johnson contended that, inasmuch as the men had been indicted by a federal grand jury they should be brought to trial, and argued that if their evidence was as strong as they contended, and they had such faith in its efficacy, they should have nothing to fear from a trial. Mr. Russell reported to Attorney General Moody that, in his opinion, there was not sufficient evidence to insure a conviction. Upon that report, transmitted to him, Mr. Roosevelt ordered the department of justice to dismiss the indictments.

Commenting upon this incident the St. Joseph (Mo.) News-Press says: "Just why the president of the United States should interfere with the trial of men whom a faithful officer of the department of justice insisted upon proceeding against, is neither so easily understood nor easily adjusted to Mr. Roosevelt's famous 'square deal' platform. Of course, it may all be explained away, but until it is, Mr. Roosevelt is in a queer position before the people."

FOR THE GUIDANCE OF YOUNG MEN

A Pittsburg dispatch says that Andrew Carnegie will write a book telling the story of his life. This dispatch adds:

It is said Carnegie will begin with his humble birth, trace his efforts to obtain knowledge from the library of Colonel Anderson of Allegheny, and give in detail his rise from messenger boy to the head of the steel industry. Several chapters in Carnegie's business career have been filled with bitterness. He has intimated he will not shield himself nor omit his own mistakes in life. It is Carnegie's hope that the book will become a classic for the guidance of young men who have energy and ambition.

If Mr. Carnegie really desires that his book shall become a classic he will devote several chapters in showing the great debt he owes to the special privileges he has enjoyed under a republican tariff. Mr. Carnegie may find a hint of what these particular chapters should contain in an editorial printed in the Chicago Tribune, a republican paper, of May 18, 1902. The Tribune is not always so frank in dealing with the tariff question as it was on that occasion, but at that time it was reported that Mr. Carnegie had offered to pay \$20,000,000 for the Philippine islands, providing he was permitted to assure the Filipinos that they would be given their independence.

Commenting upon this story, the Tribune said that the steel magnate "has tried the patience of his friends severely in some of his late bids for notoriety." It expressed the opinion that Mr. Carnegie is constantly posing, and said "he has scattered libraries broadly throughout the country, all of which are to be called for him, and every one of them is 'a contribution to the conscience fund.'"

Then the Tribune said:

Mr. Carnegie made his money in a magnificent way, but he should never forget that he made it through the undue favoritism of the government of the United States. Owing to the discrimination practiced in his favor by the tariff, he was enabled to amass a fortune of \$200,000,000, or more, most of which came out of the pockets of his countrymen through the operation of unequal laws. Much has been said of the benefit arising to the

workingmen from the establishment of the Carnegie works. The beneficent tariff system permitted the works to survive and flourish, but there are some people who have not forgotten the Homestead strike, nor the outrageous manner in which the workingmen were treated at that time by employers whose brutality has seldom been exceeded in the history of labor agitations.

If Mr. Carnegie were not possessed of enormous wealth the announcement that he intended to write the story of his life would be very generally laughed at. But even with all of his wealth the story will fail of interest unless the author writes frankly of the great advantages he has enjoyed at the expense of the American people.

To be sure, Carnegie began life as a poor boy. Of course he was industrious, and for many years it was necessary for him to economize. But most of the men of this country began life as poor boys; most of them had struggles; most of them were required to undergo privations.

Carnegie amassed a fortune which is so large that it is impossible now to estimate it. With all of his industry, with all of his painstaking care, he could not have won this enormous fortune had he not been given extraordinary privileges, and all at the expense of his fellows.

If Mr. Carnegie will tell the true story, showing how he grew rich through a high protective tariff; if he will describe the methods he employed in persuading republican politicians to maintain for his advantage that system which, as Mr. Roosevelt once said, "is harmful in theory and vicious in practice;" if he will print a statement of the sums of money he has paid into the republican party's treasury in order that there would be no interference with his special privileges; if he will tell the truth concerning the terrible affair at Homestead—then there need be no apology for the publication of his book. Then the volume would prove valuable "for the guidance of young men who have energy and ambition." If young men would, however, profit by the lesson, they should determine to base their hopes for success upon their own honest and legitimate efforts rather than upon a system which takes from the pockets of the many to fill the pockets of the few, and thus makes possible rich men of the Andrew Carnegie class.