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WILLIAM J. BRYAN, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

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IT WAS REAL DESERTION

The Cincinnati Enquirer pays a high tribute to Senator Foraker for his course on the railway rate bill, saying: "If any man is entitled to distinction for initiation and suggestion by which the bill was to be made sane and strong, Foraker's name is in the blazon light."

Something more than a year ago the Enquirer formally deserted the democratic party. Since then it has done many things in line with an anti-democratic program. Recently it objected to the election of senators by direct vote of the people. It condemned the primary system characterizing it as "carrying to an extreme the current fad and heresy of legislative interference with the private affairs of a political party." And now the Enquirer eulogizes Senator Foraker for the part he played in railway rate legislation!

The Enquirer certainly deserted.

KENTUCKY'S FAVORITE SONG

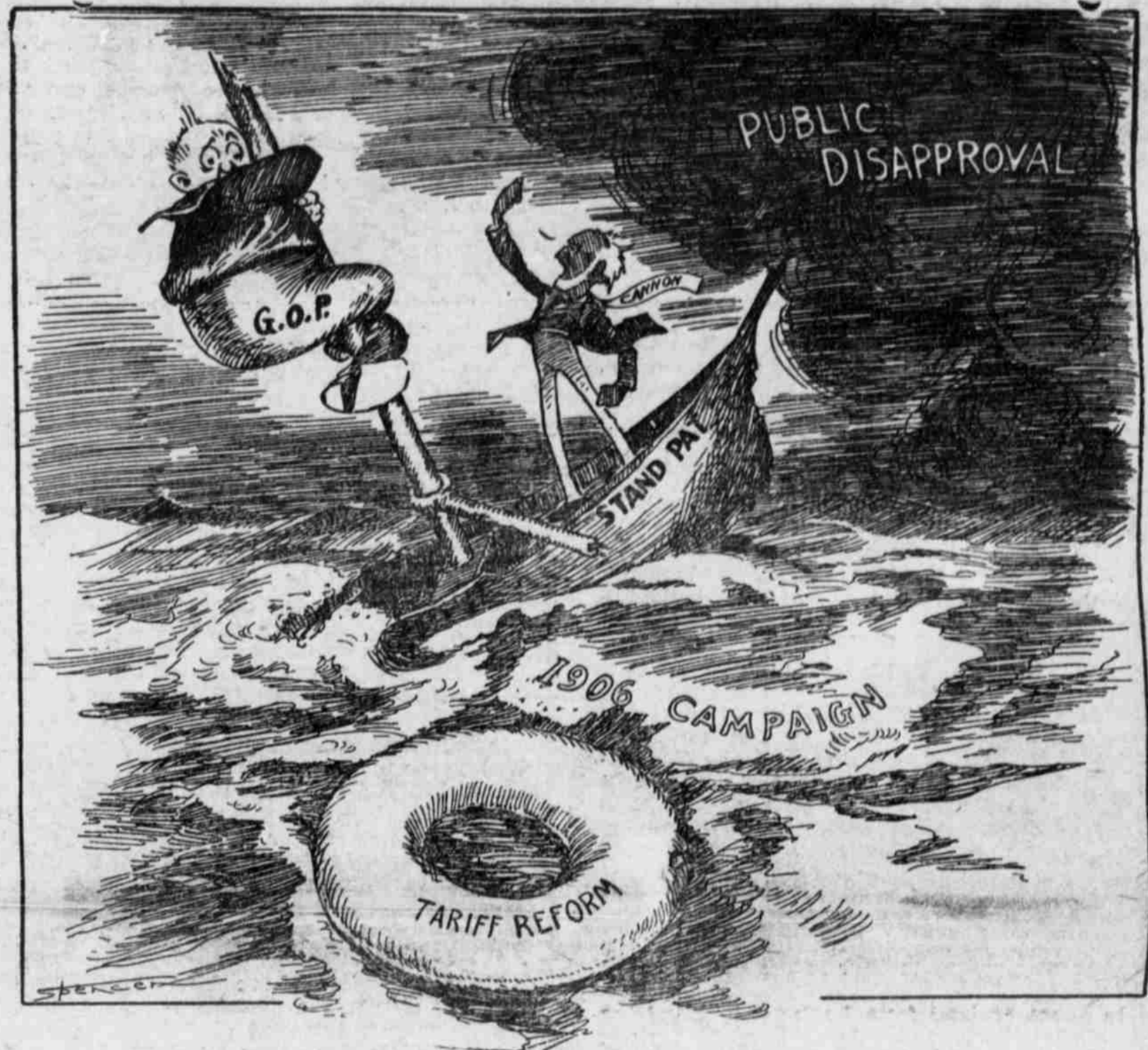
This month Kentuckians will celebrate "Old Home Week," and thousands of former Kentuckians will soon be on their way to the old home to renew their youth and the acquaintances and friendships of other days. Referring to this fact the Houston Texas Post declares that the favorite song in the Blue Grass state will be "My Old Kentucky Home." In this opinion The Commoner coincides. But there is another song that will run Foster's composition a close second. In fancy we can hear the home-going Kentuckians singing, "With All Her Faults I Love Her 'Still."

NOT FOR THE LAFOLLETES

The Sioux City (Iowa) Journal, republican, reproduces several attacks by republican editors upon Senator LaFollette. One of these republican editors says: "A man of LaFollette's stamp is out of place in legislative halls." Surely 'tis so. Places in legislative halls should be reserved for the Aldriches, the Depews, the Platts and the Burtons—men whose devotion to public interests has made them leaders of the republican party.

PECULIARITIES

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, republican, says: "A peculiarity about the congressional canvass of 1906 will be the attention which the democrats will give to the western states." Another peculiarity about the congressional canvass of 1906 may be the attention which the people of all states will give to the record of the republican party.



Don't Give Up the Ship!

BURMA AND BUDDHISM

Mr. Bryan's Twentieth Letter

Burma is another country which was added to our list after leaving home, but as its people are quite distinct from the inhabitants of India and as it is one of the strongholds of Buddhism, we turned aside to visit it en route from Ceylon to Calcutta. On the map it occupies a part of the east side of the first of the three great peninsulas that stretch down from Asia to the Indian ocean and is separated from India proper by the Bay of Bengal. Its principal stream is the Irrawaddy, famed in story for the magnificent scenery along its course and for the fertile valley through which it passes on its way to the sea.

Rangoon, the seaport of Burma, is situated some twenty miles inland upon a river of the same name and has a harbor quite different from those at Singapore and Colombo. At those places the passengers on the incoming and outgoing steamers amuse themselves by tossing silver coins into the transparent waters and watching the divers catch them before they can reach the bottom, but at Rangoon the water is so muddy that a diver would have difficulty in finding an electric light. The depth of the water, too, is insufficient except when the tide is high. But the city of Rangoon is substantially built and has a number of fine business blocks and excellent public buildings. A municipal hospital now in course of construction surpasses anything which we have seen in the east. The park system at Rangoon is very attractive, and one sees the well-to-do element of the city fully represented there in the early evening. The roads about Rangoon are good, but not equal to those of Ceylon and Java. I have already spoken of the Java roads, and those of Ceylon

are not behind them. No one can see these well graded, well drained and beautifully shaded highways without having his interest in good roads quickened.

At Rangoon we saw the elephants at work in a lumber yard, and they did not attract anything like the attention from the natives that "Jumbo" and the "Baby Elephant" did in the United States during my boyhood days. It is not necessary here for the head of the family to take his wife and all the children to the circus in order that the younger members of the family may catch a glimpse of one of these ungainly beasts. In Burma the elephant is simply an every day beast of burden and earns his food as faithfully as the horse or the ox. We saw three at work in the lumber yard which we visited, the oldest of which is more than three score and ten years and has labored industriously for more than fifty years. A native rides upon his back and directs him by word, sometimes emphasized by an iron-pointed stick, and the huge fellow lifts, pushes and twists the logs about with almost human intelligence. The elephant has an eye for neatness, and one would hardly believe from hearsay with what regularity and carefulness he works, moving from one end of the log to the other until it is in exactly the right place. In lifting he uses his tusks, kneeling when his work requires it. In carrying large blocks of wood he uses both tusks and trunk. Sometimes the elephant pushes a heavy log along the ground with one of his forefeet, walking on the other three, but generally the logs are drawn by a chain attached to a broad breast strap. An eighteen-year-old elephant, working in the