

out this theory of taxation, it has opposed a tariff levied purely for the purpose of protection and has urged the income tax as a means of equalizing taxation.

Eighth—The democratic party believes in economy in public expenditures. Taxation being not a blessing but a necessary evil, should be limited to the needs of the government economically administered.

Ninth—The democratic party being the foe of special privilege, is the natural enemy of the private monopoly. It has presented the only sound and consistent anti-trust platform in declaring that a private monopoly is indefensible and intolerable.

Tenth—The democratic party believes that the corporation created by law should ever be subservient to the law. It would insert in each corporate charter "Remember thou thy creator" not only in youth but throughout its existence.

Eleventh—The democratic party in its efforts to secure the equal treatment of all the people according to their merits, naturally takes the part of the laboring man in his opposition to government by injunction and in his demands for arbitration and an eight hour day.

Twelfth—The democratic party is opposed to imperialism at home or abroad, and denies that a republic can consistently hold colonies and administer governments outside of and in conflict with the principles of the constitution of the United States.

Thirteenth—As might be inferred from the foregoing, the democratic party is opposed to swollen fortunes, and it would relieve the country of the menace of such fortunes by withdrawing the special privileges which have enabled these fabulous fortunes to be accumulated in so short a time. It would restore in society God's law of rewards so far as government is able to do so. God's law, as shown in nature, suits the reward to the contribution one makes in energy, industry and intelligence. If the government would cease to permit a few to monopolize that which belongs to all, there would be no fortunes so swollen as to vex the country.

The club also asks what issue will be paramount. No one can speak with accuracy so far ahead, but it seems evident that the trust question will occupy a prominent place, and as it is more intimately connected with the tariff question and the railroad question, it can hardly fail to attract a large share of public attention next year. The contest between predatory wealth on the one side and the unorganized masses on the other cannot be put off, although it is impossible to say in just what form the issue will present itself.

The young man who is seeking to use his influence for the promotion of the welfare of the common people will find the democratic party the best organization through which to act. It is not perfect in its personnel, but perfection is not to be expected among men. It may not go as far as all reformers wish, but it is going in the right direction. It may be more radical than some conservatives would like to have it, but a reasonable radicalism is necessary if a more extreme radicalism is to be avoided. The indications are that in 1908 the party will be able to add to those who have supported it a large number who recognize the necessity of remedial legislation fashioned according to democratic principles. It is not the party of any class or section of the country. It appeals to rich and poor alike and promises to secure as far as it can justice to all.

◆◆◆◆ "AH DAVIE!"

A Cincinnati, Ohio, reader makes this interesting contribution: "How did you happen to make such a mistake? It was not Job that said 'All men are liars.' It was David. Don't you remember the Scotch minister that took this for a text, and after reading it, stopped, and wiping his brow, said: 'Ah, Davie, had ye lived in this generation, ye might hae said it at your leisure.'"

◆◆◆◆ GOVERNOR WOODRUFF

Governor Woodruff of Connecticut, addressed a meeting of the economic league at New Haven recently and made what the Hartford Courant calls "a sensational speech in denunciation of the lobby ridden general assembly." The governor frankly confessed that he had been "turned down" by the legislature and bluntly admitted that if he could get that legislature to pass one bill drawn in the public interest, he would be performing "a miracle." The governor said: "I look upon government as a plain business proposition, in which the state puts men into office to attend to the people's affairs. The governor and the general assembly are servants of the commonwealth, acting under its constitution and they are responsible directly to the people for the way they carry on the state's business. Would you keep men in your employ who were working against your interests? I guess not. Would you engage men to manage

your business who were under the influence of other men and other interests directly opposed to your concern? I guess not. This is very plain talk—easily understood. It does not contain any charge against any man in the general assembly who is doing his duty as a representative of the people; but it does charge every man in the assembly who is controlled or coerced by the secret power of corrupt influence with being a traitor to his trust, an enemy of the state, unfit to hold office in the general assembly. The time of the general assembly is wasted in juggling with legislation. What a deplorable spectacle is presented to our view of the lawmaking power of this commonwealth paralyzed by the grip of lobbyists! How long will Connecticut stand for this?"

This republican governor deserves the cordial support of all good citizens in Connecticut and the hearty commendation of men everywhere. Corporation lobbies can not last long in a state where the governor is watchful and brave enough to speak out in the public interest.

More power to Governor Woodruff's elbow.

◆◆◆◆ A DIAGRAM

A Commoner reader asks for the publication of this diagram:

Query, Commoner March 22: "Will the present secretary of the treasury now hasten to reimburse Mr. Perkins? It was the present secretary of the treasury who handled the money in bulk last."

Answer, New York World, March 27: "Secretary Cortelyou today gave substantial relief to the financial situation in Wall street by directing that the customs receipts at New York be placed in the national depositories in the city and by anticipating the interest payment on the two per cent consols of 1930, due April 1. The comptroller of the currency went to the aid of the street by calling for a report of the condition of national banks at the close of business March 22. This will result in the banks depleting their reserves and releasing a large amount of money now held in the vaults."

The National Bank of Commerce, J. P. Morgan's bank, is one of them. Perkins is Mr. Morgan's partner.

◆◆◆◆ "FETCHING"

The Houston Post says: "And as for Mr. Harriman? Why is Mr. Harriman more 'undesirable' now than in 1904 when he was raising a quarter of a million dollars to aid in Mr. Roosevelt's election? It was 'My Dear Mr. Harriman' then. He was recognized as a 'practical' man and as such was invited to raise a slush fund of which Mr. Roosevelt was the beneficiary. He was later invited to visit Washington to discuss policies before the president's message was written. Has Mr. Harriman changed his viewpoint since 1904 or has the president?"

The Post certainly has a "fetching" way of putting things.

◆◆◆◆ A COMPARISON

The New York Herald does not pose as a humorist, but it at least laid claim in that line, when in a recent issue it said: "Early in the fall one of two twin brothers living in Madison county, Kentucky, became demented and was sent to the insane hospital. The other twin accompanied him to the institution. Shortly after the two brothers arrived the sheriff of Madison county received a telegram from the superintendent, saying: 'Two men who look just alike are from your county—one for confinement. One is talking of building a railroad to the moon and the other says the republican party is opposed to trusts. Which is the crazy man?'"

◆◆◆◆ "UNDESIRABLE CITIZENS"

The news columns of The Commoner have already contained references to the president's letters in which he classes Harriman and Moyer with the undesirable citizens. The first letter was given to the public in reply to a letter written by Mr. Harriman, and in making this letter public the president may not have intended to influence the Moyer trial, which was soon to take place. His object was to strike back at Harriman and he may not have thought of the effect of his language on the trial court and jury. In his second letter however, he discussed this very subject and accused the friends of Moyer and Haywood of trying to influence the action of the court. It is strange that it did not occur to him that his caustic criticism of the accused would have far more influence on the court and jury than any eulogies pronounced by the friends of the accused. In a criminal case the accused is not only entitled to a fair trial but he is entitled to any presumption of innocence which may be raised by previous

good character as shown at the trial. It is not fair therefore for the president to take the stand and testify against the character of the men on trial where conviction involves the death penalty. He does not confront the accused in court and is not subject to cross-examination and his letter is likely to have more weight with any Roosevelt republicans who may be accepted on the jury than all the testimony which the defendants can introduce to show a good reputation. No one should try to excuse the accused if the evidence shows that they committed murder, and no one should want to convict them unless the evidence does establish their guilt. Until the evidence is in the public generally will withhold judgment. If the friends of Moyer and Haywood demand their acquittal regardless of the evidence they deserve criticism; if they attempt to influence the court and jury they should be censured, but being private citizens their offense is not so grave as that of the president, whose position as well as his great influence should restrain him from using language, whether intentionally or through indiscretion, calculated to prevent a fair trial.

◆◆◆◆ IS BORAH "UNDESIRABLE?"

President Roosevelt designated Moyer and Haywood as "undesirable citizens," although these men are awaiting trial and such a declaration is calculated to prejudice their case. Now comes the man retained to prosecute Moyer and Haywood and asks that the charges of fraud preferred against him by the grand jury be delayed until he can finish the trial. Is Senator Borah another "undesirable citizen" merely because he is charged with a crime?

◆◆◆◆ DRAKE OF IOWA

Mr. Shonts having given a scholarship or two to Drake university of Des Moines, Iowa, the Boston Globe admits that it never heard of Drake university. But that is not strange. The Globe's ignorance of things western does not do away with the fact that Drake university is one of the largest denominational schools in the country, and that it bears the name of one of the nation's most gallant soldiers who afterwards became governor of Iowa. Really there is quite a stretch of United States west of Massachusetts.

◆◆◆◆ ANOTHER KIND OF PREVARICATOR

A Philadelphia shipbuilder replies to a congressional charge of fraud in the building of government ships by private contract by declaring that it is "an infernal lie." With even shipbuilders engaged in forcing men into the Annapolis club the chances are that the organization will soon be one of the largest in the country. "Infernal liar" is a new addition to the list. Even the proverbially slow Philadelphian seems able, now and then, to give even the White House pointers on adjectives.

◆◆◆◆ SOUND ADVICE

President Ingalls of the "Big Four" railroad, evidently has seen a great light. He is now giving the railroad managers some advice that should have been given and heeded long years ago. In an address before the Pittsburg Traffic club he said: "This is what all railroads must do—submit to the law." Had this been done years ago the railroads would not now be complaining so bitterly.

◆◆◆◆ "THE MAN LAND"

Little boy, little boy, would you go so soon
To the land where the grown man lives?
Would you barter your toys and your airy things
For the things that the grown man gives?
Would you leave the haven whose doors are set
With the jewels of Love's alloy
For the land of emptiness and regret?
Would you go, little boy, little boy?

It's a land far off, little boy, little boy,
And the way it is dark and steep;
And once you have passed through its doors, little boy,
You mayn't even come back to sleep.
There is no tucking in, no good night kiss,
No mornings of childhood joy.
It's passion and pain you give for this,
Think well, little boy, little boy!

Little boy, little boy, can't you see the ghosts
That live in the land off there;
The "broken hearts," "fair hopes," all dead;
"Lost faith" and "grim despair?"
There's a train for that land in the after years,
When old Time rushes in to destroy
The wall that stands 'tween the joy and the tears—
—So don't go, little boy, little boy!
—Maynard Waite in the Metropolitan Magazine.