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## CONTENTS

WHAT IS A DEMOCRAT?  
GOVERNOR HUGHES' VETO  
A WORD ON SPECULATION  
THE TARIFF  
WHAT WILL IT STAND FOR?  
THE JAPANESE QUESTION  
A STEP TOWARD SIMPLICITY  
"THE AVERAGE THOUGHT OF THE AVERAGE MASS OF MEN"  
MR. BRYAN ON CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS  
WASHINGTON LETTER  
PARAGRAPHIC PUNCHES  
COMMENT ON CURRENT TOPICS  
HOME DEPARTMENT  
WHETHER COMMON OR NOT  
NEWS OF THE WEEK



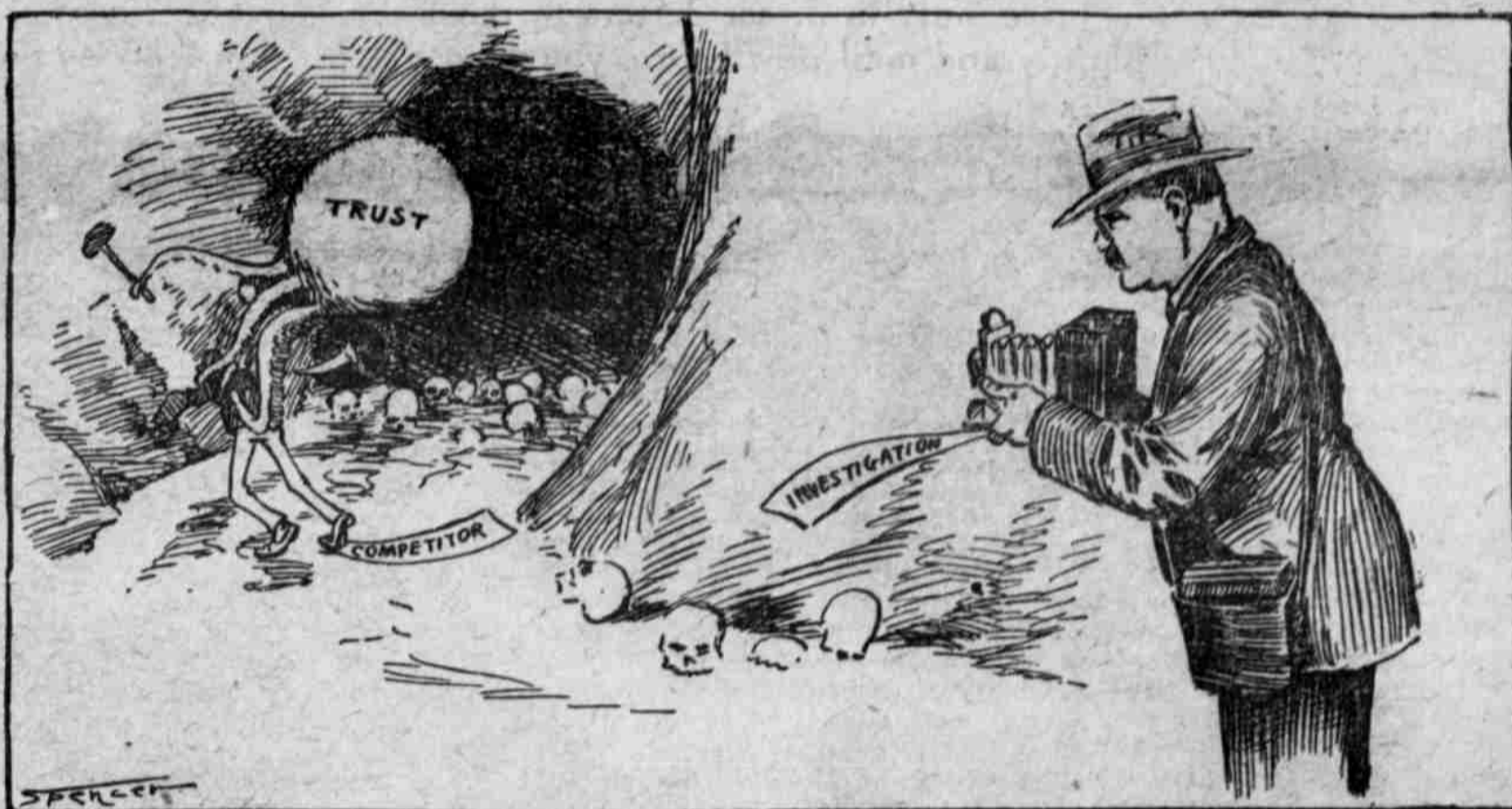
MR. ROOSEVELT HUNTING WILD THINGS--AND--

**GOVERNOR HUGHES' VETO**

Governor Hughes has vetoed the two-cent fare bill sent to him by the state legislature, and in doing so he has greatly pleased the newspapers which take their cue from the corporations, but he has disappointed the plain people who have expected from him more independence and moral courage. He defends his action on the ground that the legislature did not make a sufficient investigation before acting, but this excuse is hardly sufficient. He has simply given the benefit of the doubt to the railroads instead of giving it to the people, and that too, when the railroads had the right of appeal to the courts so that there was no possible chance for an injustice to be done, while the people have no appeal. In acting upon public questions men's sympathies play as important a part as their intelligence, and it is evident that the sympathies of Governor Hughes are with the railroads. It is always easy to find an excuse for doing what one wants to do, although as in this case, the excuses may be very nebulous. If Governor Hughes had been as anxious to do justice to the people as he is to guard the railroads against injustice, he would have signed the bill and given the courts of New York a chance to suspend the law if it made an unreasonable reduction in the earnings of the roads. He confesses that he has made no investigation and that he does not know whether the law is just or not, but the protest of the railroads has more weight with him than the opinion of the representatives of the people in the New York legislature.

He refers the question to his public utilities board which he is to appoint, but if, in the appointment of the members of this board, he is as solicitous about the railroads as he is in his veto message, the people can not expect a great deal from the board.

He seems to be afraid that the railroads might retaliate by introducing "economies in the service" and readjusting rates, etc. He seems to overlook the fact that under any efficient regulation of railroads the governments, state and national, are able to compel the railroads to meet the demands of the public. From his language it seems that he takes a hopeless view of the subject and assumes that after giving to the railroads the right of eminent domain, the people must trust the railroads to deal kindly and considerately with the public. If the people are to rely upon regulation, they will have to have more courageous representatives in office than Governor Hughes has shown himself to be.



MR. ROOSEVELT HUNTING THE OCTOPUS

## WHAT IS A DEMOCRAT?

To the Editor of the New York World:

Accepting your kind invitation to define a democrat, I beg to say that the subject may be considered from two standpoints: First, from a party standpoint, a democrat may be defined as one who is a member of the organization known as the democratic party. A man's connection with a party is voluntary. He is at liberty to connect himself with any party or with no party, and he is known politically by the company he keeps. If he allies himself with the democratic party and votes the democratic ticket, he is entitled to be called a democrat, insofar as that term is used as a party designation, although he may not endorse all of the party platform or be democratic in his instincts. If, in addition to voting the democratic ticket, he endorses the platform adopted by the party no one can dispute his title to the appellation democrat when the subject is viewed from the standpoint of party. A party organization has a right to choose its own name, to write its own platform, and to nominate its own candidates; and employing the word democrat in a party sense, the party has a right to withhold

the name democrat from anyone who refuses to accept the party's decision without questioning the right of a person to leave his party organization at the command of his conscience and his judgment. It is only fair to say that he can not take the party name with him if he dissents from the opinions and acts of the majority of the party, for the rule of the majority is as much a part of party government as it is a part of our theory of government. Men upon the outside may claim to be more democratic than men on the inside of the party—and under a broader definition of the word democrat they may be—and yet, from a party standpoint their claim can not be allowed without the obliteration of party distinctions.

If, then, by your question, What is a democrat? you mean to ask for a definition from a party standpoint, I would say that a democrat is one who considers himself a member of the democratic organization, who works with the democratic organization and who expects to vote the democratic ticket. I do not mean to say that by taking part in the organization he would bind himself morally or politically to endorse