

seem hard on the manufacturers? They can escape by getting out of the trusts. As long as they conspire against the American people, they can not ask the people to build a wall around them. The next reduction should be made upon the necessities of life for the benefit of the masses, and the remaining reduction should be made with a view to reducing the tariff to a revenue basis.

The income tax is advocated, not as some republicans have proposed it, merely as a means of reaching swollen fortunes, but as a permanent part of the revenue system in order that the burdens of the government may be equitably borne. While a national inheritance tax is endorsed, the democrats of Nebraska believe that it is better to prevent swollen fortunes by abolishing privilege and favoritism than to allow these fortunes to be built up merely that their owners may be taxed at death.

The railroad regulation plank embodies four propositions; first, the ascertaining of the present value of the railroads; second, the prevention of watered stock; third, prohibiting the railroads from engaging in any business which brings them into competition with their shippers, and fourth, the reduction of rates until they yield only a reasonable return upon the present value of the roads, and in order that no charge of confiscation may be brought against this plank, it is specifically stated that a return to be reasonable must be sufficient to keep the stock of the road at par when the roads are honestly capitalized. Who can defend higher rates? Business conditions determine what rate of dividend is necessary to keep stock at par, but when the rates are sufficient to keep stock at par, they are as high as anyone can defend.

The platform recognizes the injustice done by present interstate rates, which are in many cases above local rates. By no form of logic can a railroad justify a larger charge on other rates than on local rates, and it is eminently just that the roads should be compelled to sell through tickets at a rate not exceeding the sum of the local rates.

The labor planks present the things for which the wage-earners are now contending, namely—arbitration, the eight hour day and the abolition of government by injunction. While the boards should be empowered to compel investigation, the finding is not binding. It is not necessary that the finding should be binding on either party, for in nine cases out of ten investigation will lead to a decision that both parties will accept.

The platform recognizes that government by injunction as it is now used, is merely a cunningly devised scheme for denying to the laboring man the right of trial by jury. When the subject is fully understood by the American people, there will be no doubt about legislation that will give to the laboring man the protection which he deserves.

The plank on Asiatic immigration presents the only solution of the question. We can not afford to invite immigration where the people remain separate and distinct from our own people and raise a race issue. It is not an act of friendliness to an Asiatic nation to invite its citizens here if their coming will involve us in diplomatic disputes and controversies with the Oriental powers. It is better to be frank and honest and recognize conditions that have to be met.

Oklahoma is welcomed and congratulated, and separate statehood is demanded for Arizona and New Mexico. The party's position in regard to the people of Porto Rico is unassailable; they are entitled to the rights and privileges that accompany a territorial form of government.

The party expresses itself in favor of the largest possible use of irrigation in the development of the country and in favor of the speedy completion of the Panama canal.

It advocates a generous pension policy and condemns militarism.

The position taken on the subject of imperialism is in line with the position taken in the national platform of 1900, the only addition being the suggestion of neutralization. There is little doubt that the independence of the islands could be agreed to by the leading nations which have interests in the Orient and thus relieve our country from the burden of protecting them. It will be noticed that in recognizing the independence of the Filipinos our government should retain such land as may be necessary for coaling stations and naval bases. The advocates of imperialism are constantly talking about trade expansion and commerce with the Orient, but we do not need colonies to secure this commerce. Coaling stations and naval

bases are all that we can use. Colonies weaken us instead of strengthening us, not to speak of the fact that a colonial policy is antagonistic to the principles of self government.

The platform concludes with a plea for a peace proposition looking toward the establishment of peace. Our country tried to secure at The Hague an agreement that navies should not be used for the collection of private debts. That was good, but why should we wait for other nations to join us in a righteous determination? Why not do right ourselves whether other nations join us or not? And the agreement proposed for the investigation of international disputes will do more than arbitration treaties to promote peace. Investigation is all that is necessary to prevent war, for investigation will not only cure misunderstandings but will give time for public sentiment to form in favor of the peaceful policy.

Is it not the duty of our nation to lead in the peace movement, and is the time not ripe for it?

Such is the Nebraska platform. It does not cover every question that has been discussed, but it does cover the questions upon which the people are ready to act. The democrats of Nebraska have in their platform taken advanced ground and stated their views with a fullness and clearness which proves their sincerity.

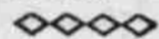


OKLAHOMA WINS

The president has announced to the newspaper men that he will approve of Oklahoma's constitution. He says that what he thinks of the constitution would not be fit to print but, suppressing his personal feelings, he expresses himself as willing to let the people have their way. Good for the president! And Hurrah for Oklahoma!

But the manner in which the president yields raises an interesting question. Is it not possible that Secretary Taft went to Oklahoma as a part of the plan to first reduce the majority and then reject the constitution? Is it not possible that the president would have postponed statehood if the people had adopted the constitution by a small majority or by electing a republican state ticket, giving the president a chance to avoid the charge of partisanship?

It is fortunate for Oklahoma that the constitution was ratified by an overwhelming majority and the state offices put in the hands of democrats. It left no other excuse than a partisan one for the delay of statehood. After all, the voice of the people has force in it, and the president has wisely bowed to the demand for statehood so emphatically made by the people of Oklahoma. Again is Oklahoma to be congratulated and again are the "unterrified democrats" of the new state to be thanked for the courage they have shown.



THE USE OF WEALTH

Mr. Charles M. Schwab is quoted as saying to the commercial travelers, "I have some money—quite a lot of it in fact. What good does it do me? I have a nice place to live, good meals to eat and clothes to wear. That is about all, except that Mrs. Schwab is able to spend a few pennies and enjoy herself."

Schwab is right. Our needs are not so great after all. We must have food; we must have shelter; and we must have clothes, and a man does not have to be a millionaire to have all the food and all the clothes and all the shelter that he needs and can use to advantage. Great fortunes are a great burden to those who use them wisely and a great calamity to those who use them foolishly, and yet, there are a number of American citizens who go on fighting for millions that they do not need and to secure these millions they violate laws, human and divine. And when they are through, they find that they have not improved upon the wisdom of Solomon, who said: "Give me neither riches nor poverty," and who declared, "a good name is rather to be chosen than great riches and loving favor rather than silver or gold."



MAN VS. MONEY

The press dispatches contain an interview recently given out by Admiral Dewey on the Philippine question. He is quoted as saying:

"Abandon the Philippines? I don't believe our country will ever do that. Certainly it should not, because it has already too much at stake. It is only our control over the Philippines that makes it possible for us to insist upon the open door in the East, toward which

our diplomacy has been directed for a number of years. We want our share of the enormous commerce of the East, and we can't keep the door open for it unless we hold the islands. I want to emphasize my belief that the United States as a world power will always have commercial and diplomatic interests in the far east and can not maintain itself properly without a base of operations. The United States can not withdraw from its present enterprise in the East but must go forward seeking its share of the advantages and sustaining its share of the responsibilities."

What does this mean? Can it be that our talk of being in the Philippines against our will and that it was providential; that it is good for the Filipinos that we are there and that we can not leave the Philippines without doing injustice to the natives—can it be that all these arguments are merely pretense and that our real object is to get our share of the trade of the Orient? Admiral Dewey tears the mask off of the Philippine question and it stands forth as a commercial transaction in which dollars are placed above principles of government, and money is elevated above men.

It is not necessary that we should assume control over eight millions of people in order to have coaling stations and naval bases in the Philippine Islands. The Filipinos will be only too glad to let us retain whatever land we need. In fact, if we are to protect them, they will want us to have coaling stations and naval bases there, but it is not necessary that we should adopt a colonial policy or force our government upon the Filipinos against their will. We can give them their independence and let them run their own government. Our commercial interests would not be jeopardized by a return to American principles, but it is interesting to know that all this talk about Providence and about the welfare of the Filipinos is buncombe and that the dollar argument is the argument that weighs with the imperialist. There was a time when American citizens would not talk about bartering away the doctrine of self-government, and that time will return. The Philippine experiment has, however, answered a useful purpose. It has taken the veneer off of a few statesmen who, until the battle of Manila was fought, were supposed to favor the Declaration of Independence and the principles of free government.



THE FLOOD OF GOLD

Mr. Frederick Upham Adams has a very interesting article in a recent number of Success on the "Flood of Gold." Mr. Adams points out that in 1500 the annual production of gold amounted to about four millions. A hundred years later it was about six millions, and in 1700 about seven millions. In 1800 the annual production had risen to about twelve millions. And even as late as 1840 the production was only about twelve millions. It began to rise in 1849 but even the flood of gold that followed the discoveries of 1849 looks diminutive when compared with the four hundred million dollar output of 1906. The annual supply of gold has developed since 1896, and we are now each year producing more gold alone than we produced gold and silver both in 1896. As a result prices have risen the world over, and the purchasing power of the dollar has fallen. Debts are now being paid in cheap dollars—at least in dollars some thirty per cent cheaper than dollars were in 1896. And the end is not yet in sight. How long will the financiers permit without protest this cheapening of the dollar?



WHY NOT TO OTHERS?

The American Newspaper Publishers' Association, to which all of the large daily newspapers—including republican papers—belong, adopted at its last meeting this resolution:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that the duty on printing paper, wood pulp and all material entering into the manufacture of printing paper be immediately repealed.

In the face of this resolution republican newspaper editors continue to preach high protective tariff and continue to assert that the foreigner pays the tax. These republican papers protest against any reduction in the tariff for the benefit of consumers generally. They would not give their support to the plank adopted several years ago by the republicans of Iowa providing for the destruction of the shelter which the trusts find in the tariff and even at this moment most of these republican papers are protesting against any interference with the