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SENATOR BAILEY AND THE BAILEY DOCTRINE

Writing in the Louisville Courier-Journal Henry Watterson says:

According to the report in the Congressional Record, Mr. Bailey the other day, in the course of a speech in the senate, said:

"The Courier-Journal of May 17—these things would be more persuasive to me if they came from sources that have always been loyal in their support of the democratic party and its candidates—published an editorial paragraph that runs this way:

"Senator Bailey, demanding that the magnates of the steel trust be put in jail, votes to put them in palaces by voting for a tariff on iron ore and against the old democratic doctrine of free raw materials."

"The old democratic doctrine of free raw materials! How old? Old enough, thank God, to have perished before this day; and yet not so old as that it ever received the indorsement of the democratic fathers. It was in a season of madness and folly proclaimed as a democrat doctrine; but it has long since been rejected as a democratic heresy."

It is old enough to have been formally enunciated by the democrats in the days when they made the tariff a dominant issue, when they made a tariff for revenue only a cardinal party doctrine and when they won victories on their platforms thus proclaimed. Just when it was "rejected as a democratic heresy," Senator Bailey did not enlighten us, and nobody else seems to know, or seems even to have heard that it ever was so rejected. No one, on this occasion, appeared sufficiently interested in Mr. Bailey's revelations to ask his authority for declaring that the doctrine of free raw materials "has long since been rejected as a democratic heresy," but when a week later he recurred to the subject, Mr. Aldrich was curious enough to inquire of him:

"Since when has the doctrine of free raw materials ceased to be a democratic doctrine?"

To which Mr. Bailey is quoted by the Associated Press as replying:

"Since men like I have come into power in the democratic party."

This, we presume, is adequately illuminative. The authority that has pronounced the doctrine democratic heresy and rejected it as such is Senator Bailey himself—not the democratic party in representative convention assembled, but merely the democratic party as it exists in Senator Bailey and "men like I." And when Mr. Aldrich reminded him that every other conspicuous democratic leader except Senator Bailey had advocated the doctrine, the Texan did not so much as hint at the identity of "the men like I" who with him had overruled democratic conventions and democratic platforms, though in the same speech he reiterated the announcement that he repudiated so recent a democratic platform as that declared at Denver last year.

And by the way, the Courier-Journal fears it is so obtuse as to fail to understand the mental processes by which the senator takes it to himself as a virtue to reject platforms of the democratic party while discrediting the Courier-Journal for having rejected candidates of the democratic party, as he would discredit it when he says that "these things would be more persuasive to me if they came from sources that have always been loyal in their support of the democratic party and its candidates." For the life of us we can not grasp the sharp distinction which Mr. Bailey makes between rejecting a party candidate and rejecting a party platform.

In Germany there are several schools in which young women are taught to box.—Ex.

THE TAFT ADMINISTRATION

Does President Taft know what an impression the members of his cabinet are making on the country?

The nation is beginning to suspect that the Taft administration is to be a "business administration" in the sense that the needs of the large business interests are to be considered in preference to the need of moral reform in politics and enforcement of the doctrine of equality before the law. In other words, the country fears that the Taft administration intends to serve the wealthy class instead of the people.

This impression has been created by the selection for cabinet places of corporation lawyers, unknown to the country, by the tender of a high diplomatic post to Fulton, who had been repudiated by the people of his own state, by the speech of Wickersham, and by the reports of the Washington correspondents, who who seem agreed on the point that "big business" will run the country while Taft sits quietly in the White House. The character of the "tariff revision" which congress is concocting without protest from the White House and the tales of social exclusiveness which come from Washington do not tend to diminish the popular misgiving.

Since Mark Hanna's time the people have learned much, and they will not again endure the Hanna system.

If Taft has any political sagacity, or really intends to pursue the Roosevelt policies, he had better do something, or, at least, say something to remove the bad impression that his administration is making.

This is frank and friendly from an independent republican newspaper which supported Taft earnestly.—San Francisco Bulletin (Rep.)

An Italian scientist suggests that Vesuvius be tapped, the molten lava being molded into paving blocks or building stones.—Ex.

Faint Spells

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