

conservative democrat who, on the other hand, objects to specifications so minute, may not be a protectionist, but he is justly open to suspicion. The only way to bind political leaders is to substitute specific for general instructions.

The candidate for congress next fall, who makes that platform his pledge to and contract with his constituents, ought to be supported by democratic democrats whether he wears the republican label or the democratic. Senator Bailey has exposed himself by attacking it. Mr. Bryan has again served his party and his country well by proposing it.

Where the Old Ship is Leaking

Washington, D. C., special dispatch to the Philadelphia North American:

Every organization man in congress who does the bidding of Aldrich and Cannon is praising President Taft's speech in New York last night. Every independent republican in the house or senate sees in the speech a determined effort upon the part of the president to justify his own alliance with the Aldrich-Cannon organization and the work of that organization as it has thus far made itself manifest in legislation or legislative plans.

Every democrat sees in the president's speech only a political harangue intended, if possible, to hold for the republican party the confidence of the public until after the congressional elections of the coming fall.

The average reader, accepting the speech at its face value and as the careful conclusions of the president of the United States respecting all the great problems which confront the public, formed after careful study and consideration, must wonder what are the evils against which the public is complaining, and what are the conditions which public sentiment insists should be changed for the better by wise and public-spirited legislation and effective administration of the laws.

Little Encouragement for the Public

Respecting the character of these evils and wrong conditions, he gets absolutely no information from the president's words and little encouragement that anything is to be done for their betterment.

From such widely diverging and conflicting opinions it can be judged that the president's carefully-planned utterances will not effect the harmony he declares to be so necessary to the welfare of the republican party and the country, or change the public sentiment of bitter opposition to the controlling organization in congress into one of greater tolerance of legislative control for the benefit of special interests. The speech is bound to be accepted by the country as a defense of the present republican leadership in congress, and the work of that leadership.

BADGERING GLAVIS

Washington correspondence of the Philadelphia North American, republican:

There were further instances today to show how partisan is the majority of the investigating committee. If it were the purpose of Senators Nelson and Root to discredit in advance any judgment they may render upon the evidence presented, they could not adopt a course more certain to produce such a result.

Whenever it appears possible to construe an answer made by Glavis in favor of Ballinger these two senators immediately make the effort. When by pettifoggery some fancied rather than real advantage is gained by the attorneys of Ballinger, these two senators see that it is clinched and permit no interference.

Today they refused to let the stenographer read one of Glavis' answers, although requested by Glavis' lawyers, obviously because they believed that Glavis might explain it so as to give it a different meaning than that they wanted.

It has developed in the last three days that documents called for by the committee are turned over to Ballinger's lawyers, and are first heard by the Glavis side when Vertrees has begun questioning Glavis about them.

Today Vertrees was permitted to consume the best part of an hour asking Glavis to state from memory the contents of certain letters and documents, although every one of them was in the printed record.

Glavis himself called attention to this, and repeatedly told the lawyer that he would not risk

his recollection of the papers when they were all before the committee in printed form.

There was no other object possible except to break down the wonderful composure of Glavis and to lead him into a misstatement which would serve to discredit him. That he went through the ordeal with absolute success, to the disappointment of Lawyer Vertrees, was one of the interesting features of the proceedings.

After this was all over, Senator Fletcher protested against any repetition of the performance.

ALDRICH DROPS A BOMB

Special dispatch to the New York World: Washington, February 21.—"If I were a business man and were given permission to manage the affairs of the government I would run them for \$300,000,000 a year less than it is now costing," declared Mr. Aldrich in the senate debate this afternoon, creating consternation among his party associates and giving the democrats a timely piece of campaign ordnance.

"By the employment of proper business methods," Senator Aldrich continued, "the ordinary expenditures of the government can be reduced at least 10 per cent, or \$100,000,000 a year. At present the executive departments are being managed on obsolete business methods, or none at all. The American people are never ruffled by reform or disturbed by the truth. The cost of arranging a system of modern business methods would be but a trifle compared with the great saving made possible by their adoption."

"That is a terrific arraignment of the party in power," said Senator Money, the minority leader. "I think the senator's party will demand from him an explanation of such a remarkable statement."

And later in the afternoon Senator Hale took Mr. Aldrich off in a remote corner and told him he had made the most stupendous blunder of his public career; that his words would be hurled from the stump with telling effect during the campaign; that he had made it seem that the republican party had squandered billions of dollars since it has been in power.

MR. TAFT'S "FIVE MEASURES"

Associated Press dispatch:

Washington, February 24.—Following his return from a two-days' trip to New York and Newark, N. J., President Taft today had several conferences with members of the two houses regarding the legislative program. Recently it was stated that he would press only four measures at this session of congress, and the printed list omitted all reference to the conservation bills, whereas the president has repeatedly pointed out that he would insist, so far as he could, that at least some of the conservation measures should be made laws before the present session adjourns.

The bills which the president declared today that he looked for congress to pass in redemption of solemn party pledges are these:

Establishing postal savings bank.
Amending and strengthening the interstate commerce law.

The conservation measures, giving the president the right to withdraw public lands from entry and to continue the withdrawal until revoked by himself or by an act of congress, and providing for a reclassification of the lands. These two bills may be consolidated.

The anti-injunction bill.
Statehood for New Mexico and Arizona.
In addition to these the president has recommended several matters of legislation, including the bill for a new form of government in Alaska, the bill for federal incorporations and the bill creating a public health bureau.

Mr. Taft let it be known that while he would urge only the five measures set forth as party pledges, he has by no means abandoned the other measures he has recommended, and will call the attention of congress again to them at the beginning of the next session.

SOUTH DAKOTA INSURGENTS

The insurgent republicans of South Dakota held a state conference at Huron. The conference adopted a platform as follows:

"We commend President Taft for his reiterated declarations of loyalty to the Roosevelt principles of progressive republicanism, and pledge his administration the support of the progressive republicans of South Dakota in its efforts to obtain the enactment of legislation embodying these principles.

"The dominating issue in the coming campaign is the wresting of control of national legislation from special interests entrenched behind Speaker Cannon of the house and Leader

Aldrich of the senate and their supporters. It is not sufficient that Speaker Cannon be retired. It is essential that a successor be elected who is committed to and is a supporter of progressive principles. The progressive republicans of South Dakota will not support a candidate for the primary who does not stand unequivocally on this platform.

"We believe the Payne tariff law was a decided step in fulfillment of the party pledge, but that inequalities yet exist which should be remedied when demonstrated to be such by the investigations of the tariff commission.

"We denounce the practice of collecting moneys for political campaign purposes from persons who hold or are aspiring to appointive government positions, and favor the prohibition thereof by amendment of the corrupt practice act.

"We favor the elimination of the personal spoils system by amendments to the primary law to provide how party nominations to all appointive government positions shall be determined.

"We favor the nomination of postmasters for presidential postoffice by popular party elections, who are resident patrons of the office.

"We favor an amendment to the present corrupt practice act so as to eliminate therefrom the legality of paying for men and teams to haul voters to the polls."

MR. BURKETT GETS "COMFORT"

In its issue of February 25, the Lincoln (Neb.) Journal, republican, prints a Washington dispatch from which the following is taken:

"Senator Burkett is getting considerable comfort out of the messages from Nebraska, which arrive daily in his mail and are brought personally by his friends visiting in Washington. Among the latter is Robert Clancy, assistant tax commissioner of the Union Pacific railroad. The first place Clancy headed for when he reached Washington was Senator Burkett's office. He had a long talk with the senator, and when he emerged he declared that so far as he could see Burkett could not be defeated."

MR. TAFT AND THE NEWSPAPERS

In his speech at New Jersey Mr. Taft complained of the treatment he had received from newspapers, saying:

"In view of all that, to have received the welcome when introduced today, and which I believe to have been sincere, gives one a little hope that, perhaps, the newspapers don't carry in their pockets all of the public opinion, and that, perhaps, the American people are able to see through something of hypercriticism, something of hysteria and something of hypocrisy, and to have a real sympathy with the man who, under a considerable responsibility, is doing the best he can."

MAKING CANNON A SCAPEGOAT

Washington, D. C., February 25.—Representative Claude Kitchen of North Carolina, made a general assault on the new tariff bill under license of general debate on the postoffice appropriation bill in the house today.

Telling a number of stories of starving children and of workmen appealing for food in the large cities, Mr. Kitchen concluded each tale with the statement: "And all this under the Aldrich-Payne bill which no one on the republican side has the courage to defend."

Mr. Kitchen declared the bill was well named the "Aldrich-Pain bill—a blessing to all the rich and a pain to the hungry people of the country."

Reading from newspaper clippings of distress among working people and of large profits earned by the United States steel corporation, Mr. Kitchen declared that "at the very time the steel trust was earning such great profits men who helped to make them were taking their children from school to assist in the support of their families."

A lively exchange took place between Mr. Kitchen and Representative Gardner of Massachusetts over the prices of food products. Reading from testimony of Secretary of Agriculture Wilson that meat products of the American farm were being sold in Europe cheaper than in this country, Mr. Kitchen said:

"It is not true that the farmer has benefited by the high prices. Prices for farm products were higher in 1893 under the Cleveland administration than ever before and statistics show that."

Turning his attention to Cannonism, Mr. Kitchen in dramatic manner described what he termed a plot to assassinate Mr. Cannon for the good of the g. o. p. Referring to the "near insurgents," Mr. Kitchen read from a New York