# The Commoner.

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reached at last where it is plain that the chasm which opened following the enactment of the tariff law can not be bridged, and it is about equally plain that the president now does not care to bridge it if he could. He now holds that the insurgents in congress are his enemies. He proposes to fight them. There is to be no quarter. The man in the White House will regard the insurgents, be they known as progressive or by any other name, as secessionists, and he is going to fight with Aldrich and with Cannon."

# WOODRUFF IS THE LEADER

By the election of George H. Cobb as president pro tem of the New York state senate, Timothy L. Woodruff, former lieutenant governor, becomes the republican leader for New York. Woodruff won out over the combined effort of Senator Root, President Taft and Governor Hughes. An Associated Press dispatch under date of March 11 says:

"Vice President Sherman and Representative McKinley, chairman of the republican congressional committee, are evidently disturbed by the developments in the republican caucus at Albany last night. Together they called to see President Taft today and while waiting in the ante-room Mr. Sherman, whose expressions seemed to have been endorsed by Representative McKinley in commenting on the caucus said: 'I was not pleased with the selection (referring to Cobb as president pro tem to succeed Allds). The other selection (meaning Hinman) would have meant plain sailing for the campaign, with no clouds or squalls in the way. I would not say that the course of events complicates matters, but it certainly disturbs them."

# GARFIELD ON THE STAND

Washington, March 10 .- James R. Garfield, former secretary of the interior, was finally excused from the witness stand at the Ballinger-Pinchot investigation late this afternoon. His final half hour before the committee furnished the sensational of what had been up to that time a decidedly dull day. Mr. Garfield stated that Mr. Ballinger, after having been commissioner of the land office, submitted to him on September 17, 1909, an affidavit signed by Clarence Cunningham and containing the statement that the Guggenheims had no interest whatever in the Cunningham group of coal claims in Alaska, while, as a matter of fact, the record of a recent hearing before a senate committee on territories shows that prior to the making of the affidavit the Guggenheim syndicate had been given an option of a half interest in all the Cunningham claims.

Attorney Brandies, who was questioning Mr.

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Garfield, followed up this declaration by reading from Secretary Ballinger's report to President Taft on September 4, last, concerning the Glavis charges, the statement that Mr. Ballinger had suggested to Mr. Cunningham an amendment to an affidavit made prior to the one which he presented to Secretary Garfield on September 19, and that Mr. Cunningham made the amendment by explaining in detail what he meant by certain terms used in his former affidavit.

Mr. Garfield said Mr. Ballinger, in giving him the affidavit, left the impression that his action was entirely casual, and that he had been requested by friends in Seattle to leave it on file for whatever it might be worth. Mr. Brandies then called attention to the fact that the name of Mr. Ballinger's law firm was printed on the backing of the affidavit .- Associated Press dispatch.

#### BALLINGER'S EARS BURN

One day's proceedings before the Ballinger investigating committee are given by the Associated Press in this way:

Engineer Davis said Secretary Ballinger deceived the president when he represented to him that he was prompted to order the restoration of public lands to entry because the reclamation service had recommended it. Davis said the recommendations of the reclamation service were made only when Ballinger had given orders to have such recommendations.

Ballinger, the witness declared, was at heart against reclamation, and he feared all that had been done in the past would be undone if the secretary had his way.

Ballinger, he said, in public commended reclamation, but in private he criticised it and complained that all of Secretary Garfield's acts in ordering withdrawals were illegal.

Ballinger, it was testified, ordered restorations made quietly, so as not to attract too much attention.

#### MR. TAFT FULL OF FIGHT

Washington dispatch to the Philadelphia North American (rep.):

It is no longer a secret that the republican congressional campaign committee will endeavor to prevent the re-election of every man in the house who has fought Cannon, and that the same effort is to be directed against the members of the senate who have refused to follow the lead of Aldrich.

This is to be done despite the general fear among republicans of all factions that the next house will be democratic. Obviously, the efforts of the Cannon and Aldrich partisans will contribute to that result.

President Taft is in full sympathy with the plans of the campaign committee. They have been discussed at the White House, and no move is being made without the president's knowledge and consent.

Recently there was a conference at the White House respecting the possibility of besting both Cummins and Dolliver in Iowa. This proposition is so manifestly absurd that it caused nothing but laughter when it was announced in the newspapers.

In the meantime, the president is finding that any attempt by him to influence the political situation brings additional embarrassment to him.

His appointment of Wade H. Ellis as the campaign manager in Ohio has been so bitterly resented by the Ohio republicans that the president is protesting that he had nothing to do with it, and is putting the blame upon Arthur I. Vorys.

## MONEY TRUST FOR WAR

Washington, March 10-The "money trust" is attempting to make the state department pull its chestnuts from the fire in the far east, according to Congressman Francis Burton Harrison (dem.) of New York, and unless we intend to follow England's example and go to war for trade, the open door forced by the late secretary of state, John Hay, will be slammed in our faces."

In his opinion, it is a banker's war that blackens the diplomatic horizon. "It looks as though China, Russia and Japan had all got together," said Mr. Harrison, commenting on the latest developments in the oriental situation, "and as they are all Mongolians, Russia as well as the other two, it is not to be wondered at that they have done so. If we were in England's shoes we might go to war over the thing, for England fights for her trade. The stake is not worth while for us to do so. Our factories can get along without the Chinese or Japanese trade. It don't make a bit of difference to the workmen in these factories whichever way the squabble turns out. If the Morgan banks do not get their share of the division over there, I guess we can stand that, too. Certainly the people of the country would not sanction for a minute the idea of going to war to fight for the 'money trust's' share."-Associated Press dispatch.

IOWA DEMOCRATS HOPEFUL

Des Moines, Iowa, dispatch to the Omaha

Cannon camp, and that he was interesting him-

World-Herald: Iowa democrats are expressing the greatest satisfaction over the reports from Washington which reached Des Moines Saturday to the effect that President Taft had gone over to the Aldrich-

self in the outcome of the Iowa republican convention.

Democrats believe that greater bitterness than ever will result from the president's efforts to make the state convention standpat, and that the democrats are surer than ever of victory in the Second, First, Sixth, Eighth, and possibly the Seventh congressional districts, and in the gubernatorial fight.

The reports from Washington state that Senator Dolliver's political scalp is in danger, and that the president would crush every Iowa insurgent. The democrats believe that the progressives will never support a standpat candi-

date for the United States senate.

TROUBLE IN NEW YORK

Albany, N. Y., March 10.—Disregarding the advice of United States Senator Elihu Root and Governor Hughes, the republican members of the state senate at the close of an all night conference elected George H. Cobb of Watertown as president pro tem to succeed Jotham P. Allds. Cobb received seventeen votes, including

Much more than the mere selection of a majority leader was involved in tonight's struggle. It represented a test of strength between Chairman Timothy L. Woodruff, of the republican state committee, William Barnes, Jr., and others of the old party leaders and Senator Root, Governor Hughes and the national administration at Washington. Thirty-three senators went into the conference, making seventeen necessary for a choice.—Associated Press dispatch.

### THE PEOPLE BETRAYED

The controlling organization of the republican party is worse than discredited before the country. It stands condemned, by public sentiment and overwhelming public expression, for betraying the people on the tariff.

That betrayal was conscienceless, brutal and defiant. The people may know that the increased cost of living is not entirely due to the tariff, but they are keenly sensitive to the enormities of the tariff burden. That sensitiveness forced the nomination of President Taft and his promises and those of the republican platform that the tariff would be revised downward.

No party, no president, ever had a finer opportunity to merit and enlist enlightened popularity than had the republican party and President Taft one year ago. That opportunity was disregarded. The country was betrayed and has utterly repudiated those leaders who are responsible for the betrayal.

But the amazing spectacle is that, with the best possible means for knowing public feeling, with evidences of party demoralization on every hand, and with a congressional election coming on, not one thing has been done, and not one intelligent thing has been proposed by those controlling leaders in congress to repair the damage or lessen its political effects.-Editorial in Kansas City Star (rep.)

ROOSEVELT ON THE STUMP

Washington, D. C., March 9 .- The republican congressional committee, it was reported, has taken initial steps to enlist former President Roosevelt in the coming campaign upon his return to the United States.

Officials of the committee, it is said, have been in correspondence with Mr. Roosevelt and have unfolded to him a plan which contemplates a spectacular speech making tour of the west, particularly in states where the so-called insurgents' movement is militant.

The former president's attention is said to have been called to the fact that in 1906, President Taft, then secretary of war, made a tour of the west upholding the policies of President Roosevelt and appealing for a return of a republican house of representatives. That it will be comparatively easy to convince Mr. Roosevelt that "turn about is fair play" is said to be the belief of the committee.-Associated Press dispatch.