

"Glad Tidings of Great Joy."

Representative Champ Clark of Missouri delivered the address in New York at Tammany's Fourth of July celebration. Mr. Clark said: "Democrats celebrate the birthday of the republic under more favorable auspices this year than at any time since 1893. Republican factionists are at each other's throats in the house of representatives, in the senate and throughout the land. More power to their arms. I bring to you the glad tidings of great joy that the democrats in the house of representatives have laid aside the weight

which for years did so easily beset us, that of fighting each other, and recently have presented a solid and united front to the common enemy. We are no longer a feeble, wrangling, querulous, dispirited body, but a courageous, vigilant, virile, hopeful, militant band, not only ready but eager for the fray.

"Notwithstanding the fact that at the beginning of this congress the republicans had forty-seven majority in the house and, even after the casualties in the Fourteenth district of Massachusetts and the Rochester district of New York, they still have forty-three majority, we have fought several drawn battles with them and have gained some great victories—notably on March 19 last, when we performed the great surgical operation of clipping Mr. Speaker Cannon's claws. In that momentous movement in the cause of good government every democratic member did his duty and, in the immortal words of Admiral Schley: 'There is glory enough for all.' So utterly were the republicans routed, so thoroughly were they demoralized, that Mr. Speaker Cannon publicly declared that there was no longer a republican majority in the house.

"If a member of the Sixtieth congress had gone to sleep March 4, 1909, and, after the manner of Rip Van Winkle, had slumbered till the evening of June 17, 1910, and had then looked into the house and seen it pass a rule by the enormous majority of 201 to 1 to prevent committees from pigeon-holing or smothering bills, which resolution I introduced, he would have pinched himself to see if he were awake. Had any man been bold enough in the early days of this congress to predict that such a thing would come to pass before the summer solstice in 1910, he would have been in imminent danger of being clapped into a straight jacket and a padded cell.

"The regular republicans gave in their adhesion because they knew full well that if they did not do so, we would force it through without their help and in spite of their opposition.

"Most assuredly that was a pitiful conclusion for that vast array of republican pie-hunters which, drunk with victory and power, paraded the streets of Washington March 4, 1909, with flags flying, drums beating and bugles blowing. Their arrogance then, as their serried ranks swept by and their utter demoralization and humility now recall the opening stanzas of Byron's splendid poem, 'The Destruction of Sennacherib.'

"I submit to a candid world that the democrats of the house of representatives have set a fine example to democrats every where and deserve well of the country. Our unity of purpose and unity of action should become contagious to the end that we may sweep the land from sea to sea and hurl from power those who have abused the sacred trust which the people committed to their hands.

"But we must fight if we would win. The republicans are so split up that some folks seem to think that all we have to do is to stand still and see the salvation of the Lord. Such over-confidence may cost us dear. The sure way to win is to fight today, tomorrow and every day till the polls close on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

"Special privilege which Jefferson fought in his day and over which Andrew Jackson, of blessed and heroic memory, triumphed in his day is firmly entrenched in power now through years and years of re-

publican maladministration and can not be rooted out without a terrific struggle. The beneficiaries thereof will pour a stream of gold like unto the River Pactolus into the republican boodle fund with which to debauch the voters of the land and then recoup themselves by more of special privilege granted by the men for whom they buy the offices. For years that endless chain has been in operation and it will continue to operate till our system of government is thoroughly purged of every variety and every vestige of special privilege.

"The tariff graft—one species of special privilege—became so offensive that five or six years ago even certain republicans became dissatisfied and began to demand a revision downward. First there were only what the doctors call sporadic cases of republican dissatisfaction; but the republican dissenters increased so rapidly that in the spring of 1908, Sereno E. Payne, chairman of the great committee on ways and means and ex-officio republican floor leader in the house, was driven into declaring that he violated no confidence in stating that the republicans would revise the tariff. His statement was equivocal, as he did not say whether the revision was to be down or up, but, considering all the circumstances under which his utterance was made, he intended it to be understood as a promise of revision downward; and to do him perfect justice he claims that his bill is a revision downward.

"Clearly he has been imposed upon by his arithmeticians for his bill revises it up about 1.71 per cent on the average. His declaration, however, did not allay the clamor among republicans. It swelled into such a roar that when the republicans held their national convention in 1908, they were forced to promise tariff revision in their platform. Again the promise was equivocal, as it did not state whether the revision was to be up or down. But the demand for tariff revision downward was so strong and so insistent that a majority of republican orators and editors declared that the revision was to be downward. On that promise they won. Having got in, they proceeded to revise it upward. So that in the impending campaign the overshadowing issue is whether men in conducting a campaign are under any obligation to tell the truth or whether they are licensed to palter in a double sense—to keep the word of promise to the ear and break it to the hope. Query: Is it any less dishonest to secure offices under false pretenses than to obtain money in that felonious manner?

"President Taft himself admitted in his Winona speech that the woolen goods schedule is too high and ought to be reduced. I agree with him on that; so do you all. Why, then, have they not reduced it? It is eleven months lacking one day since he signed the Payne-Aldrich-Smoot tariff bill. He is a republican. Both houses of congress are republican by overwhelming majorities. As the democratic floor leader in the house I guaranteed that if the president would send in a message urging that the woolen goods schedule be cut to a reasonable basis, so that the people could have cheaper clothing and cheaper blankets, and Mr. Chairman Payne would report such a bill and put it upon its passage every democrat would vote for it, and every democrat in the house applauded my offer, thereby proving that I spoke their sentiments. That was on May 21, but the president has never sent in any such message and Mr. Chairman Payne has never reported any such bill.

"Every newspaper in the land that commented on my offer to the president said that it was a fair proposi-

tion and should be accepted. By reason of republican refusal to cure that great outrage hundreds of thousands of people must shiver and freeze through the ensuing winter. Doctors and philanthropists are waging war against the great white plague, which the woolen goods schedule of the Payne-Aldrich-Smoot tariff bill does so much to foster. Shame upon men who will not remedy such a gross outrage, an outrage which causes incalculable sickness, suffering and death, an outrage which they have abundant power to stop!

"If we have the next house, as I believe we will have, we will honestly and courageously report a bill to revise the tariff down to a revenue basis, pass it through the house and send it over to the senate. Perhaps by that time the senate, yielding to the public demand, will also pass it. If it does not, we will go to the people on that issue in 1912.

"A democrat is a man who believes in democratic principles and who votes the democratic ticket. In recent years there has been much straggling from the ranks. I cordially invite all backsliders to come back home. I also heartily invite all others who are dissatisfied with republican misrule and republican extravagance to join with us in the crusade for the overthrow of the republican machine. We will give them a warm welcome, not inquiring too closely into their political pedigrees or political antecedents. The doors stand wide open. There is no mourners' bench in the church democratic. Even life-long republicans will be welcomed on the good old principle that, 'While the lamp holds out to burn, The vilest sinner may return.'

A FOOLISH QUESTION

A Swede entered a postoffice in the northwest and inquired: "Ban any letters for me today?" "What name, please?" "Ay tank de name is on de letter." —Everybody's Magazine.

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