

AN INSPIRING MANIFESTATION OF THE "OLD MORALITIES"

When asked at Atlanta how he reconciled the tariff plank of the Saratoga platform with his western tariff speeches Mr. Roosevelt said:

"I do not reconcile them. On that part of the platform I must refuse to be judged by what the platform said, but must be judged by what I myself have said."

When asked for a further explanation Mr. Roosevelt said:

"I have nothing more to say except that in my speeches at Saratoga and Syracuse I said about the tariff and the administration exactly what I said in my speeches at Cincinnati, Sioux Falls and Sioux City."

It was at Sioux Falls, September 3, that Mr. Roosevelt made his principal western speech discussing the tariff. The following extracts are taken from the Associated Press report of his speech:

"With the present tariff, made by the same methods as its predecessor and as that predecessor's predecessor, there is grave dissatisfaction. The people know that there are some things in it which are not right, and therefore they tend to suspect the—as I think—more numerous things in it which are right. They know the system on which it was made, the same system on which its predecessors were made, encourages a scramble of selfish interests to which the all-important general interest of the public is necessarily more or less subordinated. * * * The tariff ought to be a material issue and not a moral issue; but if instead of a square deal we get a crooked deal, then it becomes very emphatically a moral issue."

When Mr. Roosevelt returned to New York and printed this speech in the Outlook September 17, he inserted these words: "I think the present tariff is better than the last and considerably better than the one before the last." He did not say this to his western audiences.

At Syracuse all that Mr. Roosevelt said about the tariff is contained in this sentence:

"The president of the United States, Mr. Taft, has served his country honorably and uprightly in many positions—as judge, as governor of the Philippines, as secretary of war and now as president—for to him and congress acting with him we owe the creation of a tariff commission, the adoption of maximum and minimum tariff-law treaties with foreign powers, the proper treatment of the Philippines under the tariff."

In Mr. Roosevelt's speech as temporary chairman of the Saratoga convention his only reference to the tariff was in an omnibus sentence dealing with the record of the Taft administration, in which he referred to—

"The establishment of the maximum and minimum tariff provisions and the exceedingly able negotiations of the Canadian and other treaties, in accordance therewith; the inauguration of the policy of providing for a disinterested revision of tariff schedules through a high-class commission of experts which will treat each schedule purely on its own merits, with a view both to protecting the consumer from excessive prices and to securing the American producer, and especially the American wage-worker, what will represent the difference of cost in production here as compared with the cost of production in countries where labor is less liberally rewarded."

The text of the Syracuse and Saratoga speeches in no way supports Mr. Roosevelt's assertion that he said there "exactly what I said" in the west.

The Saratoga platform which Mr. Roosevelt now seeks to repudiate was framed by a committee that he as temporary chairman appointed after he threw four delegates off the committee who were politically objectionable to him. The platform declares that "the Payne tariff law reduced the average rate of duty eleven per cent," and that "advances in the cost of living are only the local reflection of a tendency that is world-wide and can not be truthfully said to be due to the present tariff."

After this platform was adopted Mr. Roosevelt made a speech to the National Republican League in Carnegie hall in which he said:

"There never was held in New York a convention more emphatically a people's convention. Not a lobbyist, not a single representative of a great special interest, exercised a finger-weight's influence there."

Yet out of this pure and undefiled convention came a tariff plank which is just the kind of tariff plank that Aldrich, Cannon, Guggenheim or the tariff-protected trusts would have framed—a perfect piece of standpattism.

The World does not undertake to explain the

Great Roosevelt Tariff Mystery. Perhaps the Tribune's explanation is as good as any. The Tribune correspondent who is traveling with Mr. Roosevelt in the south sends the following dispatch from Memphis:

"In amplification of Colonel Roosevelt's position on the Saratoga convention it may be said that he regarded that as essentially a state convention, dealing with state rather than national issues. The tariff was not discussed there. It impressed Mr. Roosevelt as being of little interest to the people of New York as an issue in the convention. Long before the convention he had made it perfectly plain that he would raise no objection to an indorsement of the Taft administration, and that he would urge no condemnation of any proposition for which the administration had made itself responsible, provided no efforts were made to commit the people of New York to the indorsement of Mr. Taft for 1912."

In other words, Mr. Roosevelt sold out his "moral-issue" tariff principles on condition that Taft be not indorsed for 1912 and the way left open for himself. What an inspiring manifestation of the "Old Moralities!"—New York World.

TIMELY QUOTATIONS

Dr. G. G. Brock, Sheldon, Iowa.—It has been said by one humorously inclined, that the American people are a nation of "forgitters." Lest we forget, let us recall a quotation which has no chance on earth to become immortal, for it was based, I believe, on willful falsehood. I refer to a statement directed to Mr. Bryan by Theodore Roosevelt in their newspaper controversy during our last presidential campaign, viz: "I verily believe the trusts are supporting you in this campaign." Having this quotation in mind, I have wondered if Mr. Roosevelt did not feel out of place while attending in Paris, a session of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, even though he were entitled to wear the green brocaded uniform of an academician?

Maggie Mullin, Sheldon, Iowa.—I am enclosing several quotations for publication in your "Timely Quotations" column:

"Once to every man and nation, Comes the moment to decide In the strife of Truth with Falsehood, For the good or evil side; Then it is, the brave man chooses, While the coward stands aside, Doubting, in his abject spirit, Till his Lord is crucified, And the multitude make virtue of that Faith They had denied."

From "The Crisis," by J. R. Lowell.

"I live for those who love me; Whose hearts are kind and true; For the Heaven that smiles above me, And awaits my spirit, too; For the cause that lacks assistance; For the wrongs that need resistance; For the future in the distance; And the good that I can do."

From "What I Live For," by Rev. J. L. Banks.

"Ill fares the land, To hastening ills a prey, Where wealth accumulates and men decay. Princes or kings may flourish or may fade; A breath can make them, As a breath has made; But a strong peasantry, their country's pride, When once destroyed, Can never be supplied."

—"The Deserted Village," Oliver Goldsmith.

J. J. Fultz, Mt. Vernon, O.—I send the following for your column of quotations—words by Pericles, consul for Greek republic, 430 years B. C.:—"That country which in its public capacity is successful confers more benefit on individuals than one which is prosperous as regards its particular citizens (millionaires) while collectively it comes to ruin. For though a man is individually prosperous, yet if his country is ruined, he none the less shares in its destruction; whereas, if he is unfortunate in a country that is fortunate, he has a much better hope of escaping his danger."

M. M. Riley, Bessemer, Mich.—In listening to Mr. Bryan's lecture at Ironwood, Michigan, on "The Price of a Soul," I was much interested in the comment as to duties of the legal fraternity and I respectfully invite your attention to a quotation from Shelly in the poem en-

titled "The Green Bag," in which speaking of those who serve tyranny and weigh the advantages or success in the legal profession against their souls says:

"They, too, the tyrant serve, Who skilled to snare the feet of justice in the toils of law, Stand ready to oppress the weaker still, And right or wrong will vindicate for gold."

I respectfully call your attention to the quotation, thinking that some time you may have the opportunity of using it to advantage.

R. K. Phillips, Weatherford, Texas.—I think the following quotation contains one of the finest thoughts in all literature. Will you kindly reprint it and oblige:

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey, Where wealth accumulates and men decay; Princes and lords may flourish or may fade, A breath can make them as a breath has made But a bold peasantry, their country's pride, When once destroyed, can never be supplied."

Hal P. Floyd, Georgetown, Pa.—Having read many beautiful poems in your paper, I give you the enclosed poem which I have in my scrap book; it is one that appeals to me very much, and there may be some of your readers who would like to drink its simple virtues. I can not give the name of the author:

How happy is he born and taught That serveth not another's will; Whose armor is his honest thought And simple truth his utmost skill! Whose passions not his masters are, Whose soul is still prepared for death, Untied unto the world by care of public fame, or private breath; Who envies none that chance doth raise Nor vice; who never understood How deepest wounds are given by praise; Nor rules of state, but rules of good: Who has his life from rumors freed, Whose conscience is his strong retreat; Whose state can neither flatterers feed, Nor ruin make oppressors great; Who God doth late and early pray more of His grace Than gifts to lend; and entertains the harmless day With a religious book or friend; This man is freed from servile bands of hope to rise, or Fear to fall; Lord of himself, though not of lands; And having nothing, yet hath all.

PRAYER

It is not prayer when with our tongues we say "We love Thy laws, Oh Lord; and pray Thee guard Our hearts from harm and feet from slipp'ry way;" Then straight seek out sin's paths His laws have barred.

It is not prayer to fold our hands and ask Our God to shield us from our human laws That bind our children to soul-wracking task; Ours is the crime; ours to remove the cause.

His sun and showers our yearly harvests bring; His days are filled with plenteous reward; To greed and crime our laws His blessings fling, And hunger bar from bread, with legal sword.

Prayer is the work our busy hands have wrought Not the weak words our lips have feebly said; Prayer is the act that bane or blessing brought; Words without deeds are profitless and dead.

Would you pray truly? Break the barriers down That fence earth's soil from hungry toilers' needs. Fear neither human law, nor human frown That mock God's laws. Prayers are not words, but deeds.

—Will Atkinson in San Francisco Star.

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