

stituents, differing from the party on this question only, may be good democrats on other questions but this does not make him eligible to membership on the ways and means committee. That committee is intended to represent the views of the house on the tariff question—the democratic members of the committee representing the majority sentiment. The republican members of the committee can be depended upon to stand by the protected interests—the democrats should be tariff reformers.

It is to be hoped that the democrats will not allow congressional courtesy or length of service to pack the committee with protectionists. If the protected interests were in power they would not allow the tariff reformers to prepare the revenue law, and tariff reformers should not put protectionists in a place where they can misrepresent the party. This is not a sham battle; it is a real fight, and the leaders must be above suspicion.

DICKINSON'S PHILIPPINE RECOMMENDATION

Secretary Dickinson, in his report on the Philippines says that the Filipino assembly "though controlled by the nationalist party, which was organized in opposition to those who favored American control" has enacted laws for the promotion of development and progress along the lines advocated by the governor general. They have been liberal, he declares, in their support of reduction and internal improvement. They are cheerfully bearing the burden of taxation for education.

He is opposed to independence, however, "during the present generation," adding that while public expression is very generally in favor of independence, "many of the conservative and most substantial men would view such a result with consternation." That is the old story. Of course the "conservative" citizens are opposed to independence—that is why they are called conservative. If they wanted independence he would call them radical. And some of the "most substantial" men are also opposed to independence; so they were in 1776. Some of the substantial men who represented British firms among the colonists viewed the result of American independence with consternation—some of them returned to England and others went to Canada when independence was secured.

The question of independence is not a question of fact—it is a question of theory. Those who take the aristocratic view of government are now and always will be opposed to Philippine independence. Secretary Dickinson would not be in the cabinet if he took the democratic view. But it is to be hoped that a democratic congress will look at this democratic subject from the democratic point of view.

THE MORAL AWAKENING

The Baraca movement may be viewed in two ways: It is a result and a cause. It is a result of the moral awakening, world-wide in extent, upon which we have entered and, as a cause, it is contributing to a still larger awakening.

Religious in origin and ethical in its manifestations, the organization, like kindred societies, brotherhoods and leagues, is already making its influence felt in business, social and political life—and who is able to set limits to its power for good. It stirs the conscience and the conscience is the most potent force of which man has knowledge. Where the penalties of the law keep one man honest, conscience controls an hundred; where fear of prison walls restrains a few a multitude are hemmed about by the invisible barriers that conscience rears about us. May Atlanta's Baraca Union have a large part in the paramount work of applying Christianity to life.—(W. J. Bryan, in the Baraca Philathia Herald, Atlanta, Ga.)

THE TARIFF COMBINE

The following dispatch confirms the argument made in favor of free raw material, namely, that free wool is a menace to the high tariff: "Portland, Ore., January 2.—Notwithstanding the annual convention of the National Wool Growers' Union does not begin here until Wednesday, men prominent in all branches of the wool industry are today arriving in Portland in large numbers. Apparently the tariff question will be the main subject before the convention and from the number of men representing manufacturers who will attend who have asked for places on the program, it seems that a strong effort is going to be made to form a defensive alliance between the growers and manufactur-

ers to fight a reduction in the present tariff, either on wool or on woollen products."

The woolen manufacturers know that the wool growers cannot be relied upon to support extortionate rates on imports unless they get a part of the spoils, and they know, too, that the wool men will, as a rule, favor a high tariff on everything else provided a tariff on wool is included. No student of the tariff can doubt that a tax on wool is in the interest of the woolen manufacturers and that free wool will be the beginning of the end of a high tariff.

SHIP SUBSIDY

It is to be regretted that the ship subsidy bill passed the senate, but regret on the part of democrats will be all the keener because the passage of the measure was made possible by the absence of a senator who had been elected as a democrat. Mr. Watson will have an explanation to make not only to his constituents in West Virginia but to democrats throughout the country. In the democratic view ship subsidy is "undefensible and intolerable." Surely the democrats in the house may be depended upon to fight it with all the energy of which they are capable.

RECIPROCITY WITH CANADA

The movement toward reciprocity with Canada should receive encouragement at the hands of the democratic party. It is a step in the direction of reducing the burden of the tariff.

Canada, our neighbor on the north, ought to be brought into the closest relationship possible. There is no reason why there should be a tariff wall between us. Absolute freedom of exchange between the states has been found beneficial to the states and the extension of the principles to two nations like Canada and the United States will be justified by the results that will follow.

WHY "DISTURBING?"

The Fort Worth (Texas) Record, a newspaper with plutocratic leanings, says: "Of the men in prospect for the presidential nomination, Harmon and Wilson are easily the most conspicuous, and both have demonstrated superior ability, fine tact and ample courage. It is pleasing to observe, also, that Mr. Bryan is assuming a more tolerant attitude toward these two men. About the only disturbing element so far developed is Governor-elect Foss of Massachusetts, but he is not to be a national factor, and may be dismissed from consideration."

What has Governor Foss done to justify the charge that he is a "disturbing element." He has certainly been very active in his fight against the system and representatives of the system. One may readily understand why the system should regard Governor Foss as a "disturbing element." But it is not at all clear why a democratic newspaper should take that position,

DEMOCRATIC DOCTRINE

The doctrine of equal rights should be made a living, vital, controlling force in government. This doctrine opposes the privilege of subsidies, bounties and all forms of governmental favors to a few at the burden of all. The government has no more right to take from one man indirectly to add to the wealth of another than it has to compel one man directly to contribute to the fortunes of another. When such governmental favors are conferred they go to those of wealth and influence enough to secure them and are beyond the reach of the average man. If such favors benefited all alike, no one would want them. It is because they give a class privileges denied to others that these few clamor for them, and it is for this reason that the rest of the people should not submit to such discriminations. As privilege increases opportunity must diminish, and as opportunity diminishes the rights of the individual are destroyed. That is the reason why, under the republican system, the classes are becoming more opulent and the masses are finding the opportunity for individual effort growing less as the years go by.—Joseph W. Folk, in The Commoner, January 20, 1911.

particularly just at the time when Governor Foss has attracted widespread approval by his fight against the re-election of Henry Cabot Lodge.

JONES OF VIRGINIA

Will the state of Virginia affix the title of senator to the name of Hon. William A. Jones? The Commoner is glad to learn that he has consented to become a candidate. He is just the kind of a man we need in the United States senate. His long service in the house has demonstrated both his capability and his fidelity. He is industrious and always at work for his constituents. He is democratic to the core, and adheres to the rules laid down by Jefferson and Jackson. He is courageous and does not hesitate to risk his all in defense of what he believes to be right; and he is incorruptible.

When senators are elected by direct vote of the people, we shall have more men like William A. Jones in the senate, for the honor of representing the state will be the prize awarded to those who have demonstrated their fitness in lower positions.

HOLDING THE POSTOFFICES

A reader of the New York World writes to that paper to say: "Your editorial in Monday's issue commending the stand taken by Postmaster General Hitchcock in favor of a non-partisan postal service is all right in theory. But did it ever strike you that Hitchcock may have a sinister design in advocating this plan? Is it not a fact that at the present time practically all the postmasters in the United States, one hundred thousand or more, belong to the republican party? Will not the effect of the new plan be to prevent the appointment of any democratic postmasters by a democratic president, if one should be elected in 1912, as now seems probable?"

IMPROVEMENT

The Omaha Daily News says: "President Howard Elliott of the Northern Pacific is quoted as saying that there are 1,000,000 persons holding railroad stocks, averaging \$13,600 each. There are, of course, nearly 100,000,000 using the railroads, directly or indirectly, and paying in one form or another all expenses of their operation, including dividends on stock. Up to a recent date the laws were made and administered for the benefit of the one in a hundred owning the railroads. Now it is proposed to revise that policy and have railroads conducted for the benefit of the ninety and nine who use the railroads, but do not own them. The new policy is the better, by 99 to 1."

THE RELIGION OF DEMOCRACY

Mr. Bryan's paper, The Commoner, this week gives place to a special article by Joseph W. Folk, called "The Religion of Democracy." In this production the ex-governor of Missouri states his ideas of party principles and places himself squarely in line for progressive measures. He discusses the dangers besetting the country and gives his ideas of the remedy. The article is worth reading since in many quarters Mr. Folk is seriously considered as one of the prospective democratic candidates for the presidential nomination.—Indianapolis New Era.

INSEPARABLE COMPANIONS

Socrates is credited with saying: "There are two things which the magistrates of Athens will be careful to keep out of our city—opulence and poverty. Opulence because it engenders weakness and effeminacy; poverty because it breeds baseness and crime; both because they lead to revolution. One cannot exist without the other. They are the two extremes of one evil."

He is right. Opulence and poverty are not only enemies of the state, they are, as he says, companions—parts of one evil.

AS TO FREE RAW MATERIAL

Representative William R. Smith of Texas, appears to have thrown down the gauge of battle to Senator Bailey of the same state, and the issue between them is not unimportant. Senator Bailey has for some time been the chief democratic assailant of the doctrine of free raw material, declaring that it is not sound democracy, but an innovation of the Cleveland