

Governor Wilson on the Money Trust

Speaking in Tennessee, Woodrow Wilson talked about the Money trust in this way: What was it that they proposed to investigate in congress the other day? Not a money trust in the ordinary sense that anybody is hiding or hoarding money anywhere. Men who have money are not fools enough not to want to use it, because it does not yield them anything if it is not used. What is suspected is this: that nobody can get large loans in this country to start those large enterprises by which alone our industry thrives, unless he will consent to take certain gentlemen in with him who furnish the money; that the privileged circle is closed, and that while you can get all the little credits you please in your local banks you can't get your big credits where the reserves of the country are kept, except on the terms of the gentlemen who stand guard over these reserves. That is what is charged. And it is not charged without evidence. It is not charged without abundant evidence. Therefore, if only those who are chosen at the top have the right of way in, what is going to happen to America? Did you ever hear of a nation that was renewed from the top? Did you ever hear of a nation that was not made virile, that did not account for its youth by renewal from the bottom? Did you ever hear of a tree that drew its sap from its flowers? Does it not draw it from the dark and silent places of the soil? Does not a nation draw its power of renewal and enterprise, and all its future, from the ranks of the great body of unnamed men? And if you are going to discourage these men; if you are going to put the chill of fear in their hearts, then American captains of industry can whistle for their future, and they will whistle in a wilderness.

I am the friend of American business, because I know where its foundations are laid, and where they are weak; and those foundations are solid only when laid in the confidence of the common people.

Speaking at Kansas City Governor Wilson said: It is true that this country has ceased trusting the republican party, but it is not true that it has yet made up its mind very certainly that it can trust the democratic party. I believe we are going to show cause why it should, but we have got to show cause. It is very encouraging to see democrats multiplying in Kansas where you are constantly reminding yourselves you were once so few. You are not as bad off as a very witty woman I was talking to in New York, who said: "I have been a democrat ever since they hunted them with dogs." This country has hunted democrats with the dogs of distrust. Now, some decades have passed since the democrats began to excite the uneasiness of the business men of this country. Nothing excites anybody like the truth. I remember a story of Mr. Louis Pettigrew, a very distinguished and sensible man, who was one of the most distinguished figures at the bar of South Carolina. Mr. Pettigrew was a man of great dignity, and of unimpeachable character. One day after he lost a civil suit, his client followed him out of court abusing him vilely, accusing him of neglect, and finally called him a thief and a liar. He didn't pay any attention to him until he called him a federalist, and then he knocked him down. Some one said: Mr. Pettigrew, why did you do that, for that was the least offensive thing he said. Yes, said Mr. Pettigrew, but damn him it was the only truthful thing he said. I went along very happily in my political career, until one day I shall always remember, in the city of Harrisburg, I made a speech and I said one of the great trusts in this country was the credit trust, and the minute that was mentioned the trouble began. We have a great credit trust, and that, gentlemen, must be put out of business. I knew at the time that what I said was true. Men wince when you touch them on the raw. They don't wince when you touch them where the flesh is sound, and if you want to know if what you are saying is true, just wait and see them wince. Now there are many things that ought to be said about the present situation in the democratic party, only some of which I shall venture to detain you to say, but there is one thing that ought to be said in every democratic company, there are many functions to be preformed in setting forward reforms. One of the first functions is to set up and proclaim the truth when almost nobody agrees with you and then to go on proclaiming the truth and keeping our hearts untainted and perfectly sound year after year and decade after decade, keeping your faith and what you understand to be the truth, and

that you understand to be the interests of the people, and allowing no men to make an alliance with you in anything except what you believe to be the cause of freedom and of truth and I want to say that in my judgment, there is one man who has won the undying affection of this country by having performed that great service and that man is Mr. Bryan. His greatness and influence does not consist merely of the fact that men believe in him, but consists in the fact that men love him and trust him because he has kept his own life untainted by improper influence and his own heart absolutely true to democratic interests. That is the reason no man disbelieves him, and it simply is another instance of what I have been trying to show. Gentlemen, we have now come upon the time when the country is going to ask itself this question: This is a business country—can we trust the democrats to conduct the affairs of a business country? Do they understand the interests of business? Are they going to upset business? How are we going to answer that question? You know there are two theories that may not have come to the surface. Is it not an interesting fact that at the very time we proclaim the difficulty in this country that the government is under the influence of special interests, conspicuous representatives of those very special interests are asking that the government should control them? Isn't that an interesting circle to institute? I control you. I therefore suggest you control me. Have a private arrangement with a number of other men, whom I would prefer not to name, for the regulation and determination of prices. I also supply the funds by which the party in power keeps and gets its power. I therefore suggest that this party in power itself undertake to regulate prices. A very interesting proposal to my mind; one of the most beautiful family arrangements I ever heard proposed. And these gentlemen are the very gentlemen who shiver at the word socialism, when they are proposing it. It makes a great deal of difference about being a socialist whether you control the socialist's organization or not. "If you will let me control the organization, I am willing the organization should control me." These gentlemen at the very time they proclaim against socialistic doctrines are proposing measures which inevitably lead in the direction of state ownership of the industries of the country.

COURAGEOUS DEMOCRACY

Editorial in the Seattle Star: A few years ago Edward J. Dempsey was mayor of Cincinnati, Ohio, through a popular uprising against the Cox machine. The chairman of a committee formed to boom Harmon for the democratic presidential nomination wrote to Mr. Dempsey urging him to help boom. Mr. Dempsey's reply so well describes the condition of mind of many intelligent and patriotic democrats, we think, that we give the following excerpts from it:

"My conclusion is that it is not wise for the democracy of any particular state, or section, to commit itself, or themselves, at this date, to the fortunes of any particular candidate. It seems to me that what the democratic party of the nation should be interested in just now is principles, not men.

"It sounds cant-like, no doubt, to talk about the rights and powers of the common people, but no thinking or observing man will deny that, during the last decade, the question of those rights and powers has come largely to the fore, and that now there is an insistent, imperious demand that the wishes of the people shall be more considered and consulted in the making of laws and in the administering of the government than has heretofore been the rule. The political party that fails or refuses sincerely to recognize this condition of affairs, is bound, in my judgment, to meet defeat in November, 1912; and this prophecy applies to both of the present dominant political organizations, for there is a vast insurgent host in each of them that will resent any repudiation, or ignoring, or sidestepping, of this main question, and show their resentment by aligning themselves in a new party under some such leader as La Follette.

"If the national democratic party responds to the demands of the times, in its platform of principles, then it will have further to make good by naming a candidate for president in accord with those principles, and one who has proven the faith that is in him by good works theretofore done in behalf of those principles. He must be no eleventh-hour convert; other-

wise, the electorate will doubt his sincerity. And therein is where I fear that our good friend, Governor Harmon, is weak, and probably this weakness comes naturally to him; for Governor Harmon was not bred a democrat. On the contrary, Governor Harmon was bred a republican, and, in his early manhood, held subordinate political place under republican office-holders. He came into the democratic party through the liberal-republican back door of 1872, because, after the overwhelming victory of the regular republicans in that year, there was no other place for him to go. But the leaven of his early republican teachings seems still to lurk in his blood, as is evidenced by the hesitancy and reluctance which characterizes his acceptance of modern progressive democratic ideas.

"I have a strong personal liking for Governor Harmon, and, if he could make it plain and clear that he is willing to stand upon a progressive democratic platform, conserving and preserving the rights and powers of the whole people of this good land of ours as against the claims and demands of a privileged few, with an earnest purpose on his part to make an unflinching, sincere and conscientious endeavor to carry that platform into accomplishment in case he is elected, I would be glad to support him, and to use my best efforts, humble though they be, to aid in his nomination and election as president.

"But, whether the nominee be Governor Harmon or another, if the next platform of the national democratic party be reactionary, or ultra-conservative, in its nature, or if it be written with the word of promise to the ear, and with the intent of deception and destruction to the hope of the great mass of American people, or if the planks therein be framed, to use an Indian expression, in forked language, as the tariff reduction plank in the last republican platform was framed, then I reserve the right to abandon my allegiance to the democratic party."

THE FATHERS ON RECALL

As to the tenure of office of members of congress, the first constitution of these United States provided, in Article V: "Delegates shall be annually appointed in such manner as the legislature of each state shall direct to meet in congress on the first Monday in November in every year, with a power reserved to each state to recall its delegates, or any of them, at any time within the year and to send others in their stead."

Some of the ablest among the framers of the present constitution insisted that members of the house of representatives should stand for re-election every year, that their constituents might retain a firm hold over them. Gerry declared the people of New England would never surrender the principle of annual election of representatives. The fathers debated long before adopting the compromise of a two-year term. Recall, in short, is by no means the new-fangled and un-American invention of insurgents which its opponents describe it as being. —Saturday Evening Post.

DISAPPOINTED

Twin Falls (Idaho) Chronicle: In appearing before the Ohio state constitutional convention in opposition to the incorporation of the initiative, referendum and recall in that document, Governor Harmon took a step at variance with his course during the last session of the Ohio legislature, and one that indicates he is not as closely in line with progressive democracy as his supporters in the west had been led to believe. As a firm believer in these measures the Chronicle is disappointed in Governor Harmon and can no longer regard him in the light of a first choice for the presidency, regardless of his many other distinguished qualifications and attributes. While admiring the candor of Governor Harmon in this, as in other matters, his point of view places him on a tangent with the progressive democracy.

OHIO DEMOCRATS
 The Democratic Progressive league, which was organized at Columbus, January 2nd, has opened headquarters at No. 510-511 Harrison building, Columbus, Ohio, secretary of the league, W. Durbin, in charge. Mr. Durbin desires to get into communication with the Ohio democrats who approve of the work that the league has undertaken.