

Not "George W. Perkins' Children" but "OUR Children" should be the slogan!

merce and for the prevention of private monopoly shall be added to, not substituted for, state remedies."

The democratic party has stood faithfully for an income tax. Platforms have advocated it, and a democratic congress enacted it into law only to have it destroyed by a republican supreme court. In 1908 it urged the submission of a constitutional amendment authorizing the congress to levy an income tax and it finally forced the submission of that amendment.

The father of the inter-state commerce commission was in reality a democrat—Judge Reagan of Texas. In 1884 he introduced the bill which became law in 1887. And the democratic party was the first, in 1900, to favor an enlargement of the scope of the inter-state commerce law so as to enable the commission to protect individuals and communities. The democratic party was the first national party to favor a law giving to the inter-state commerce commission the initiative with reference to rates and transportation charges, permitting the commission on its own initiative to declare a rate unjust, also requiring that all traffic agreements affecting interstate rates would be unlawful unless first approved by the inter-state commerce commission.

The democratic party was the first of the old parties to declare in favor of the initiative and referendum. In its platform of 1900 it said: "We favor direct legislation wherever practicable."

The first formal suggestion made in congress for the election of the United States senators by popular vote was made by a democrat. Andrew Johnson in December, 1860, while serving as a democratic senator from Tennessee, offered a joint resolution providing for the election of senators by popular vote. The first joint resolution ever reported for the submission of an amendment to the federal constitution for direct election of senators was submitted in the first session of the Fifty-first congress—a democratic congress. The house of representatives, also democratic, in the succeeding congress again passed a resolution but it was defeated in the republican senate. In 1900 the democratic party declared, "We favor an amendment to the federal constitution for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people." In 1904 it said: "We favor the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people." In 1908 it said: "We favor the election of United States senators by a direct vote of the people. And we regard this reform as the gateway to other national reforms." In 1912 it congratulated congress upon the submission of the amendment providing for the popular election of senators and called upon the states to rally to the support of this great reform.

In this year of 1912 the democratic party stands consistently for real progressive measures. It speaks for a tariff revision in the interest of the consumers; for the enforcement of the anti-trust law with such amendments to that law as experience shows to be necessary for the protection of the public interests; for the preservation of three co-ordinate branches of government and the system of federal and state government making it clear that there shall be no twilight zone between the two systems in which exploiting interests can take refuge from both; for the income tax and election of senators by the people; for the publicity of campaign funds before and after election; for presidential primaries; for the installation in office of national committeemen immediately upon receipt of their credentials; for the prohibition of campaign contributions by corporations; for a single presidential term; for a thorough investigation of the rural credits system in use in foreign countries as to the adaptability to that system to this country; for the extension of a waterways system that shall include plans for drainage of swamp and overflowed land; for the supervision by the inter-state commerce commission of telegraph, telephone and express companies as well as railroads giving that commission authority to prevent the over-issue of stock and bonds; for a department of labor in the president's cabinet; for an employe's compensation law; for a

scientific system of conservation and development of the country's natural resources; for the strengthening of the pure food and health laws; for the abolition of the delays in the administration of justice; for parcels post or postal express; for the extension of the rural delivery system; and for the suppression of the pernicious practice of gambling in agricultural products by organized exchange or others.

But after all "the proof of the pudding is in the eating." The democratic party is entitled to the credit for having been the means through which many of the most progressive of these reforms were enacted into law. Through these efforts an amendment providing for the income tax has been submitted to the states; also an amendment providing for the direct election of United States senators. In addition to these it has destroyed "Cannonism" in the house of representatives; it has provided for the publication of campaign expenses; it has provided for publicity of campaign contributions before as well as after election; it passed a bill to prevent the abuse of the writ of injunction; it established the 8-hour day on all national public works; it provided trial by jury in contempt of court cases under certain conditions; it vindicated American citizenship in the passage of the Russian treaty resolution; it paved the way for agricultural extension departments in connection with agricultural colleges in the several states; it provided for better protection for human lives at sea; it established a children's bureau charged with timely investigations of infant mortality, education, occupation and general care of the little ones; it provided for an excise tax which transfers the tax burdens from those least able to carry them to those who have heretofore escaped; it compelled newspapers to disclose their ownership. Aside from these reforms accomplished it was prevented from bringing about other reforms by republican interference. It sought to require the president to make public the recommendations, written and verbal, on which he appoints United States judges. It sought to extend the principle of publicity to the period before presidential conventions or primaries. It sought to give consumers relief from various tariff schedules; and by the things it tried to do as well as the things it actually accomplished it proved that the democratic party is progressive in the best sense of the term.

Four years ago in its platform of 1908 the democratic party directed attention to the awakening then beginning to make itself felt, declaring the spirit of progressivism that the party has faithfully cultivated and which is now dominant in the public thought in these words: "We rejoice at the increasing signs of an awakening throughout the country. The various investigations have traced graft and political corruption to the representatives of predatory wealth, and laid bare the unscrupulous methods by which they have debauched elections and preyed upon the defenseless public through the subservient officials whom they have raised to place and power. The conscience of the nation is now aroused to free the government from the grip of those who have made it a business asset of the favor-seeking corporations; it must again become a people's government and be administered in all its departments according to the Jeffersonian maxim, of equal rights to all and special privileges to none. Shall the people rule? is the overshadowing issue which manifests itself in all the questions now under discussion."

That is the overshadowing issue in this campaign. The people's banner is in the hands of the democratic leader and the party's right to the title of progressive can not be successfully contested by any other political organization—particularly by one that is led by a man who has been tried and found wanting in the very political virtues he now professes and who during all his years of activity fought the democratic party's efforts to bring about reform.

THE LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE

Josephus Daniels, chairman of the publicity bureau of the national democratic committee, and editor of the Raleigh, (N. C.) News and

Observer, has written to the New York American the following:

The little red schoolhouse has been embalmed in story and song, but most of the writers and poets have not looked at the waste involved in keeping that little red schoolhouse, shut up one-fourth of the months of the year, one day in every week and all the afternoons and nights.

The only use of a schoolhouse in this former conception was as a place to teach children. There is a larger conception now, thanks to the leaders in the social center development organization, which has given the country a new idea of the value of the schoolhouse. This new conception does not minimize the real purpose of the schoolhouse, or its chief function to educate the child, but it has a larger vision of how the child should be educated, and looks also to the education of the "boys grown tall," as well as the smaller child.

In this day, when economics are studied everywhere, it is surprising that we were so long in considering the economic waste in our use of the schoolhouse. We are just waking up to the fact that if any industrial plant in the world remained idle three months out of every twelve, bankruptcy would follow.

Some of the colleges have utilized their plants all the year round and some of them utilize them at night for giving education to those who are compelled to earn their living in the day.

The new idea of the social center development organization is an improvement on this. It not only conceives of the schoolhouse as a place for educating people, young and old, but it looks to making it the clearing house for the whole community. The trouble in most communities is that people do not talk over their local affairs one with the other, but that they also neglect the broadening of their minds, which would come from contact of mind with mind.

This new idea is that the schoolhouse shall be the forum in which women can gather to swap their ideas about household matters and talk over the improvement of parks and school-grounds, and health questions, and everything that concerns a community, and in which men may discuss any and everything that concerns them; and to furnish a meeting place, without cost, so that we shall have in every school district a forum for free discussion, such as prevails in London, in Hyde Park, and on the Common in Boston, and as should exist in every school district in America.

In North Carolina every rural schoolhouse has a library and some of the more progressive rural districts keep their library open all the year around, and two nights in the week it is open for men who come from their farms and sit around the stove in the winter months, swap expressions, trade information and have a social evening.

When we have this conception of the schoolhouse so that it may be used as a place for political meetings and for holding elections, we shall not only educate the people by this use of the schoolhouse, but the boys and girls will grow into earlier knowledge of the problems of government and be better fitted to solve them than when we regarded the schoolhouse only as a place to learn their a b c's and the three r's.

When friendship, love and truth abound
Among a band of Brothers,
The cup of joy goes gaily round,
Each shares the bliss of others:
Sweet roses grace the thorny way
Along this vale of sorrow,
The flowers that shed their leaves today
Shall bloom again tomorrow:
How grand in age, how fair in youth,
Are holy friendship, love and truth.

From those delightful fountains flow
Ambrosial rills of pleasure:
Can man desire, can heaven bestow
A more resplendent treasure?
Adorn'd with gems so richly bright,
We'll form a Constellation,
Where every star with modest light
Shall gild its proper station.
How grand in age, how fair in youth
Are holy friendship, love and truth!
James Montgomery.