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Exit President Taft

Mr. Taft's retirement from the presidential office would be humiliating to him but for the consolation that he finds in the fact that by running he made certain the defeat of Mr. Roosevelt. Whatever may be the reasons for the personal hostility between the president and the ex-president, there is no doubt that each one felt justified in suffering defeat himself rather than permit the other to succeed. The democratic party is the immediate beneficiary of this personal hostility but the country is the gainer, for the disruption of the republican party will result in an advance that was not possible otherwise. Mr. Taft has done a number of things which reflect credit upon his administration, but he has failed so signally to trust the people and to recognize the trend of progressive sentiment that his good deeds are likely to be overlooked by his political shortcomings. He is an honest man, a well meaning man, and personally a lovable man, but all these qualities fail to satisfy when he stands in the way of a people's progress. However much one may dissent from the conclusion that the people reach, he is not justified in opposing the popular will when that will is constitutionally expressed. The people may make mistakes, but they have a right to make mistakes. No one can claim the right to make mistakes for them. Mr. Taft's failure to satisfy the demands of the people will be a lesson to those who come after him. But in spite of the monumental reverse he has suffered, he will carry into private life the personal good will of a multitude who voted against him. They will wish him long life, health and prosperity.

What about Mr. Roosevelt? Mr. Roosevelt's overwhelming defeat can not but dampen the ardor of those who worship him so blindly as to think him invincible. They will now have time to meditate upon the largeness of the American electorate and to realize that it takes a great many supporters to give a man a majority. There were several causes that contributed to Mr. Roosevelt's defeat, first—the fact that he was a bolting candidate. All of the inertia of the party was against him, all the forces of regularity. Then the investigations showed that he was intimately associated with men who do not enjoy public confidence. The men who contributed the bulk of his campaign fund are a liability rather than an asset to a candidate. His attitude on the trust question alarmed those who have studied the trust question and appreciate the menace of private monopoly, but the strongest argument against him was the argument against the third term. He not only asked a third term but refused to discuss any limitation on the number of terms. It is fair to sup-

pose that his defeat will end all talk of a third term for a generation. In fact, the constitution is likely to be amended so as to confine the president to a single term and thus eliminate forever the third term issue.

But what shall we say about Mr. Roosevelt's future? It would not be hard to guess if we knew what he intended to do. Mr. Roosevelt is a man—just a man. He is an extraordinary man in some respects but amenable to the rules that govern human beings. A man's influence in politics is determined largely by the public estimate of his unselfishness. Mr. Roosevelt has not convinced the public that he is unselfish; his unwillingness to allow any progressive but himself to be nominated, these things were difficult to explain, but he is not an old man, and there is plenty of time left in which to prove his devotion to the progressive cause. If he lays aside his ambition for a third term and devotes himself to the propagation of progressive thought and the formulation of plans for the perfecting of popular government, he can be a power for good in the country, and in proportion as he convinces the public of his desire to serve rather than to secure new honors—in this proportion he will regain his strength. The people forgive easily, and in the long run they judge justly. Mr. Roosevelt's career as office-seeker is over if past events furnish any basis for judgment, but his career as usefulness may be only begun. As a moral force he may not only be a national power but a world power. It all depends upon the purpose that animates him. It is true in politics as in the sphere of religion that he that saveth his life shall lose it, and one can lose his life in the service of a cause and by so doing find the larger life.

"A GREAT CAUSE"

Governor Wilson's first reference to the democratic victory was this: "A great cause has triumphed. Every democrat, every true progressive, of whatever alliance, must now lend his full force and enthusiasm to the fulfillment of the people's hope, the establishment of the people's right, so that justice and progress may go hand-in-hand."

That is a splendid beginning. If the democratic party will build upon that foundation it will not only make glad the heart of every man who helped to victory but it will win for itself so many new supporters that it will hold undisputed power for many years to come.

GOVERNOR DUNNE

Perhaps Edward F. Dunne is the most widely known of the democratic governors elect. Judge Dunne has been so long on the firing line of progressive democracy that he has the personal acquaintance of a large number of men in every state in the union. With the general rejoicing over his election for party reasons and patriotic reasons there will be felt large personal satisfaction by Judge Dunne's many friends.

GOVERNOR SULZER

William Sulzer, governor-elect of New York, won a magnificent victory and he has a large number of personal friends in every section of the country who are uniting in words of congratulation to the people of New York and to Mr. and Mrs. Sulzer. William Sulzer will make a splendid governor for the empire state.

"THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER"

Missouri, which by joining the republican column in 1904, became known as "The Mysterious Stranger," has returned to its first love with an old-time democratic majority. Good for the "Mysterious Stranger." It surely did look awkward in the republican column.

SIXTEEN TO ONE

The victory of November 5th presents a new interpretation of the sixteen-to-one phrase so familiar to the public in 1896. Sixteen years to one victory—but it is worth waiting for.

Election of 1912

The election of 1912 is an epoch-making event. When the returns are all tabulated we can see to what extent they show an increase in the democratic strength and how far we are indebted to the republican party for the division in its ranks. We can also see which of the republican candidates is third and how far behind he is. When the facts are all known, it will be possible to survey and discuss the situation with intelligence. At this time we know enough to realize that the magnitude of the victory imposes upon the democratic party a great responsibility. With a president elected by so large a plurality and by an overwhelming majority in the electoral college, with both senate and house democratic, the democratic party must come forward and realize the expectations that its promises have excited. The magnitude of the Roosevelt contingent is also a spur to action, for the democratic party can not turn back from its progressive course with so large a body of progressives ready to step in and take the leadership. Our party has no choice but to go forward even if it were disposed to compromise, and it is not likely that any disposition to compromise will be shown.

Governor Wilson has conducted himself so admirably during the campaign that there is no reason to doubt his determination to make the most of this victory for the party by making the victory serviceable to the country.

WHAT A PLATFORM CAN DO

Another democratic platform plank has been vindicated by the adoption of the new rules by the United States supreme court. The democratic platform of 1908 upon which Mr. Bryan was a candidate, declared: "Experience has proven the necessity of a modification of the present law relating to injunctions, and we reiterate the pledge of our national platforms of 1896 and 1904 in favor of the measure which passed the United States senate in 1896, but which a republican congress has ever since refused to enact, relating to contempts in federal courts and providing for trial by jury in cases of indirect contempt. Questions of judicial practice have arisen, especially in connection with industrial disputes. We deem that parties to all judicial proceeding should be treated with rigid impartiality and that injunctions should not be issued in any case in which injunctions would not issue if no industrial dispute were involved."

A Washington dispatch to the New York World says: In promulgating the first revision of the equity rules of federal courts in the last fifty years the supreme court of the United States prohibited the granting of preliminary injunctions without notice to the opposite party and restricted the granting of temporary restraining orders.

The court embodied in the new rule many of the points of the Clayton anti-injunction bill, for which labor leaders have been fighting, which has passed the house and waits in the senate. The rules will go into effect February 1, 1913.

Instead of temporary restraining orders being issued, without notice upon presentation to a federal judge of general allegations that immediate and irreparable damage is about to be inflicted, the new rule requires that it must be shown by specific facts set forth in affidavits or otherwise that such damages will result.

When a temporary restraining order is issued a hearing on the injunction must be given within ten days. Heretofore no time limit was fixed by the rules, and often not by the courts.

The court went still further and provided that those restrained may come into court within two days and be heard with expedition on a motion to dissolve the restraining order.

The new rules do not require those procuring the restraining order to give a bond or the

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