

NO DEFENSE FOR THE TARIFF LAW

The most amazing feature of the campaign just closed was the utter lack of effort made to defend the Payne-Aldrich tariff law. It was the first great blunder that Taft made, the first great shock to the confidence the public had given him, yet he found few to come forward in his hour of need to offer even a good word for his action in signing what has been proved overwhelming to be a direct repudiation of a most solemn pledge to the people. None of the great leaders of the republican party ought to excuse or palliate this offense against political morality, and even the president himself confined his tariff discussions to criticism of the bills the democrats in congress had passed, and which he vetoed. The only issue they raised was the false one of free trade vs. protection.

The truth is the whole law is, as President Taft said was true of the woolen schedule when he signed the bill, it was indefensible. Just after its passage Congressman Payne, then floor leader of the republicans, made an elaborate defense of the law, and some computations based on actual importations have been printed to show that it reduced duties slightly. Mr. Payne's speech was circulated in some sections, but the defense broke down almost entirely. That speech was a most audacious attempt to deceive the people. It contained a computation showing that the bill, as it was enacted into law, reduced duties on articles the consumption value of which exceeds 5 billion dollars a year and raised them on necessities the consumption value of which is but \$272,000,000. The statement was true, but when it was analyzed the deception became apparent.

It was shown that the articles entering into the consumption of the people to the value of 5 billions on which the duties were decreased comprised such things as lumber, agricultural implements, meat and food products and petroleum and its products, of all of which we are the greatest exporters in the world; steel rails and coal, which we export in large quantities; barbed wire, a business entirely monopolized; nails manufactured and sold by a trust with strong international connections; yarns and threads, the raw material for textiles, on which finished textiles the tariff was increased, and sugar, on which the reduction was a dollar a ton. Over a fourth of the 5 billions was on the metal schedule, covering industries that are in the hands of monopoly and making reductions that merely decreased the excess protection and made nothing cheaper. Five hundred million was on lumber, 300 million on sugar and 500 million on provisions. That these reductions were futile so far as price was concerned is proved by the fact that prices are today higher in each industry than when the law was enacted.

Thus it was that the most pretentious defense devised for this bill proved to be of no avail, and was early abandoned. The law was indefensible also because it was a repudiation of a solemn promise to the voters. For years loyal republicans had been demanding a reduction on imports because the excessive rates shielded monopoly and monopoly extorted and the cost of living mounted faster than income. The party and Mr. Taft promised there would be a revision, and stated specifically what rule they would apply in making that revision. When the time came to redeem that promise the rule was not invoked, no attention was paid to the large amount of data at hand that various departments of the government had gathered and which gave full information by which the measure of protective duties could be devised, and various industries were permitted, as had been done before, to write the tariff-schedules affecting them.

On the pretense that whatever wrongs were committed in the law, the president's tariff commission would furnish facts by which they would be righted thousands were spent gathering data. And when a democratic congress passed bills justified by the tariff board's report the president stood by the tariff barons and vetoed them and said they were inadequate and ignorantly drawn. No wonder the tariff law lacked defenders in the campaign.

C. Q. D.

The democratic party is indebted to both Mr. Taft and Mr. Roosevelt—to the former for preventing the latter's nomination, and to the latter for preventing the former's election.

RECEIVING RETURNS AT THE WILSON HOME

Following is a special dispatch in the New York World: Princeton, Nov. 5.—As the big grandfather's clock in the library of the Wilson home in Cleveland lane chimed out the hour of ten, Mrs. Woodrow Wilson placed her hands upon the shoulders of her husband and kissed him.

"My dear, I want to be the first to congratulate you," she said.

The governor was standing with his hands folded and his back to the open log fire. It was the first definite word that he was the president-elect of the United States. The bulletins that removed all doubts of the verdict were given to Mrs. Wilson by "Jack" Mendelson, the telegrapher, who received the news off the leased wire.

Next to congratulate the governor were his three daughters, Misses Margaret, Beesie and Eleanor Wilson. Bubbling over with happiness, the president-elect, fondly embraced each of his daughters.

"Joe" Tumulty, the governor's secretary; James Woodrow, his cousin, and Charley Swem, personal stenographer, danced with glee. From the time that "Joe" Tumulty had telephoned the first returns from the Princeton club, New York, at 6:15 o'clock, not a line of discouraging news reached the governor.

A CHEERFUL FAMILY GROUP

The governor was at dinner with his family when the telegraph instrument which had ticked off the news of victory to Grover Cleveland twenty years ago first sounded. The first bulletins were from up-state counties in New York and showed that the governor had a big lead over Roosevelt and Taft.

"Jack" Mendelson then copied the returns faster than they could be read aloud by Dudley Field Malone, a personal friend of the governor, who was a guest at dinner.

James Woodrow and Walter Measday read the returns to the newspaper correspondents in the library. Even after the New York Tribune and other republican papers had conceded his election, the governor refused to make a statement for publication.

Throughout the evening the governor was the center of a happy group in the parlor. He told stories and laughed at those told by his daughters and others who were in the happy circle about the wood fire. His comments on the bulletins were brief.

"That is encouraging," he would say.

"Those figures are surprising," he said when Mr. Malone read a bulletin from New York.

From 8:30 until nearly 10 o'clock the governor stood with his back to the fire and faced those who were scanning the typewritten bulletins as they came from Mendelson's typewriter. Only two or three times during the evening did the governor adjust his eyeglasses and read the bulletins for himself.

Others who spent the evening with the governor and his family not already mentioned were Prof. Stockton Axson, a brother of Mrs. Wilson; Capt. George H. McMasters, U. S. A.; Fitzwilliam Woodrow and nine newspaper correspondents who have been with the governor since the Baltimore convention.

The governor walked into the library at 9:30 o'clock and called out to Mr. Tumulty that he was wanted on the telephone. Newspaper men were writing about the big library table.

"You gentlemen will ruin your eyes," he said. "I'll get you a better lamp."

He disappeared into another room and returned within a minute or two with an oil lamp.

"Perhaps this will be better," he said.

As the governor dropped his ballot into the box, the camera men made the flashlight picture. When the governor was leaving the engine house, Mrs. Wade Mountfort, wife of one of the photographers, presented him with a rabbit's foot.

"It's from the left hind leg," she said. "And I hope that it may bring you good luck today."

"That is very kind of you," said the governor, and I thank you very much, indeed."

After leaving the voting booth, the candidate pointed out a little house to Capt. "Bill" McDonald, and explained:

"When I was a freshman I took my meals there, and I remember that one day I got a fish-bone stuck in my throat. See that porch there? I jumped off that six times trying to shake out the bone."

Soon after reaching his home, the governor answered a ring at the front door, and was met by William G. McAdoo, vice chairman of the national committee, and Josephus Daniels of North Carolina, chairman of the publicity com-

mittee. Mr. Daniels came to say good-bye before returning to North Carolina and Mr. McAdoo dropped in to congratulate the governor on his escape from serious injury in the automobile accident of Sunday morning.

Hundreds of telegrams were received by the governor early in the day predicting his election and wishing him success. The one which pleased him most came from William Jennings Bryan, who had just returned to his home in Lincoln, Neb. Here is Mr. Bryan's wire:

"Having finished a seven week's tour of twenty-two states with a meeting here similar to yours, I beg to assure you that indications everywhere point to an overwhelming victory, but whether you win or lose, I congratulate you on the splendid campaign you have made. You deserve to succeed. Best wishes."

In the afternoon Governor Wilson went for a long walk. He was accompanied by Capt. McDonald, Walter Measday and Dudley Field Malone, son-in-law of Senator O'Gorman. Mrs. Wilson and the Misses Wilson were out automobiling during the afternoon.

The governor's cottage is in the northwestern part of Princeton. The streets about were quiet tonight except for the constant stream of messenger boys who were kept busy delivering telegrams to the president-elect. A score of the governor's neighbors called and offered their congratulations in person.

About every twenty minutes the governor was called to the telephone, which is in the dining room. As this is being written he was just heard to say:

"That is very kind of you. I thank you very much."

GOVERNOR WILSON CASTS VOTE

Governor Wilson cast ballot No. 112 at 10:51 o'clock today. He voted in the village fire engine house in Chambers street, near the cottage where he boarded in 1876 when he was a freshman in Princeton university.

He was accompanied to the voting place by Walter Measday, his campaign secretary, and Capt. "Bill" McDonald, his bodyguard. Photographers were waiting for the governor when he turned into Chambers street. He agreed to have a flashlight picture made if the election officials did not object.

While waiting for one of the three booths to be vacated, the presidential candidate chatted with the election officials and newspaper correspondents. He remained in the booth for nearly a minute.

"That ballot was certainly arranged to conceal the democratic electors," he said, as he stepped from the booth. "I had a hard time finding them, and was beginning to think that they had been left off the ticket entirely."

The names of the democratic electors were in the second column, near the bottom. The governor could not understand why the nominee of his own party had been placed on a less desirable position than had been accorded the bull moose and the socialist electors. He was told that the order of the numbers had been arranged by the county clerk, who had taken the names off of the first electors on each ticket and then placed them in alphabetical order.

While the governor was waiting to cast his ballot, one of the election officials offered to have one of the men who was then in a booth called out.

WOULDN'T HURRY VOTER

"He has already overstayed his time," said the election official.

"No," replied the governor. "You must not hurry him. He must be given time to vote right."

THE REPUBLICAN PAPER LIKES IT

Here is an editorial from the Hoquim, (Wash.) News: The following from the pen of William Jennings Bryan, throws some light on the philosophy of the American system of protection. We copy it, even though it is from the leader of the democrats, at the risk of persecution for heresy: "In this country, if a man dies he divides his property and gives each heir a share. Why doesn't he do as the republican party does in treating the relation of employer and employe and give his estate to an uncle, ordering him to give to the children what he thinks they need? The republican party has thrown millions into the laps of the employers and has said that thus they have helped the employes. What sublime trust in the employers."

The question of abolishing capital punishment was voted on in the Oregon election. The advocates of capital punishment were victorious.