

SENATOR GORE'S VINDICATION

CONGRATULATIONS, SENATOR.

We congratulate Senator Gore on the verdict which has so emphatically given the lie to the trumped-up charges against him. He performed a fine public service in refusing to make terms with the blackmailers and fighting them in the open. It required no small amount of moral courage to do this on the part of a public man like Senator Gore. The first impulse of many men, no matter how innocent, would have been to avoid the scandal and to hush the matter up. But Senator Gore was brave enough to face them before the world and to show them in their true colors. He has not only vindicated his own honor and his own good name by this manly course, but he has set an example that will have a deterrent effect on other blackmailers and disreputable schemers.—Baltimore Sun.

SENATOR GORE'S ORDEAL

The prompt rejection of the claim brought against the blind senator from Oklahoma was almost a foregone conclusion from the firmness of the evidence brought against him. All decent citizens will rejoice that a United States senator under a serious charge was able to clear himself so easily and completely.

It looked like an attempt at blackmail from the beginning and the uncontradicted testimony of the plaintiff and her witnesses did not remove that impression even before the defense had said a word. Senator Gore bore himself with great dignity and good sense throughout his unpleasant ordeal and, supported as he was by the unshakable faith of his wife, he has every reason to regard the unpleasant episode with gratification since he received a complete vindication and found out just who were his true friends and who were his enemies.

The event has a national interest since it reveals the kind of pressure a United States senator may be subjected to when the spoils system is in full operation. One of the reasons given by congressmen and senators in the past for supporting civil service reform is that they had found out from experience that the distribution of offices on the old ground of rewarding political favors made them more enemies than friends, for when they got one man a position they had disappointed a half dozen other aspirants for the same place and the disappointed ones immediately became their political enemies and worked

against them when the opportunity offered. This opposition of disappointed office seekers in Senator Gore's case went so far as a malicious attempt upon his good name and fame, a most cowardly kind of assault which they doubtless felt encouraged in making in his case owing to his physical infirmity and comparative helplessness.—Philadelphia Press.

SENATOR GORE'S EXONERATION

All men in public life will feel reassured by the outcome of the sensational trial in Oklahoma, in which Senator Thomas P. Gore was the defendant. He was promptly exonerated by a jury, and the verdict stated that the jury would have voted to exonerate him, even if he had put in no defense. Evidently the charge against Senator Gore was not only baseless, but was surrounded by circumstances which caused the jury to make its verdict most emphatic in his favor.

Any public official is liable to be confronted with a situation like that which Senator Gore faced with such courage. He is entitled to the gratitude of all public men in having fought to the end a case which aroused intense feeling and for the time being clouded his good name among those who do not know him personally. Men of less moral courage might have tried to compromise the case, for the sake of hushing up scandalous talk.

The Gore trial ought to serve as a warning to the public not to be too quick to think evil of men in public office. Men who wield power and influence are under heavy responsibility, and have before them constantly the incentive to act discreetly. But they are also the targets of designing persons who, either for purposes of revenge or gain, threaten them with scandalous charges, or even go to the extent of trying to make such charges good. It is unfortunately only too easy to convince a portion of the public of the truth of such infamous charges; but it is not so easy to convince a jury, which has in its possession all the facts. The collapse of the charges against Senator Gore shows how a public man must run the risk of having his good name besmirched. If the case will have the effect of causing the public to suspend judgment when it hears similar scandalous stories against public men, some good will have come out of the ordeal through which the blind senator has just passed.—Washington Post.

HINDU STUDENT OBJECTS TO BAKER BILL

To the Editor of The Commoner: It sounds strange that the Baker bill has found favor in the house of representatives. But there is time yet to reconsider the matter and view the situation from different aspects.

The long and short of the whole thing is that a few hundred of the Hindus have come here (U. S.) as laborers, mostly in California, and have, as is alleged, set up something like a competition in the labor market. These people are strictly Aryan, stalwart in figure, sober by nature, and generally more enlightened than many immigrants from some European countries. Though not intellectually very high, they are, as I have known them in my country, polite, obliging and God-fearing; diligent, honest and quick in adapting themselves to their changed conditions. I have met here men of different European nationalities, who in spite of their stay in this country for a decade and more have not learned to talk or write in English; but I am confident a charge like that cannot be laid at our doors. The United States is a

rich country with immense possibilities, and some of our laborers, an absolutely negligible element, have shared their bread with the American wage-earner.

On the other side of the scale is poverty-stricken, plague-infested, over-populated India, struggling for a bare existence. The American merchants, traders, professors, physicians, missionaries and others have been there in hundreds and thousands. American trade is daily growing in importance there; on the continent of Asia, the largest number of Americans are in India. The American insurance companies have done extensive business with my country in the past but they hope to do more in the near future. Professional men have been making their living there without a word from my countrymen. To crown all, the Panama canal is going to be ready for the realization of unthought-of possibilities ere long. At this juncture you are considering a bill which concerns a nation which has a glorious past and whose heart is throbbing today with the feeling of a new life. India no more sleeps today.

International complications starting with boycotting of American goods and services up to any length will, I am afraid, be the inevitable consequence of such a measure. We have enough complications at home already and we do not want any more. I have been told by some of your enlightened and thoughtful countrymen that "the heart of America has gone out to India times without number," and let it once more do so without being uncharitable at home.

I have no objection to your restricting Hindu immigration in a general way, on a par with some of the European nations, but I have serious objections to your "excluding" them in the way proposed in the bill. Moreover, no restrictions should be imposed upon any students provided they come into this country with money enough to meet all expenses for one university year, i. e., nine months; and this sum may be conveniently fixed at from two hundred to two hundred and fifty dollars. The Hindu student, like all other students, should not be deprived of his right to earn some money here, not only because it teaches self-help but because it is a part of his education whose value can hardly be exaggerated. He should not be required to produce certificates from British officials to prove his ability to meet his expenses, since that will practically prevent his coming out to America. Whether or not the student has with him one year's expenses may be ascertained by the immigration officers in the several ports of entrance.

I have laid bare before you the whole thing in a nutshell, and hope it will have your kind consideration. No country under the sun has given such a sacred promise as you have, and the time has come when an intensely religious people is waiting tiptoe at your gates to see whether you are capable of demonstrating that "trust in God" which has been your watchword before the whole civilized world. Respectfully yours,
INDU PRAKAS BANERJI,
Calcutta, India.
Student in Nebraska State University,
Lincoln, Neb.

Quite Likely Right, Too

An evangelist says there are thirteen roads to hell. This statement makes the Bangor Independent man want to bet that every one of them is choked with men who let their horses stand out in the cold unblanketed.—Monroe Democrat.

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