

are seldom satisfied. It measured up to the highest requirements of the occasion; it captivated the convention.

His greatest climax came as the conclusion of his defense of neutrality as maintained by the President. He led his audience step by step up the summit, and then he flashed upon them an impassioned picture of peace that thrilled the multitude of eager listeners. It interpreted the dominant thought in the democratic party as it is gathered here in its chosen representatives—the dominant thought of the country. This is the paragraph:

"This policy may not satisfy those who revel in destruction and find pleasure in despair. It may not satisfy the fire-eater or the swash-buckler, but it does satisfy those who worship at the altar of the god of peace. It does satisfy the mothers of the land, at whose hearth and fireside no jingoistic war has placed an empty chair. It does satisfy the daughters of this land, from whom bluster and brag have sent no loving brother to the dissolution of the grave. It does satisfy the fathers of this land, who will fight for our flag and die for our flag when reason primes the rifle, when honor draws the sword, when justice breathes a blessing on the standards they uphold!"

W. J. B.

DEMOCRACY'S ACHIEVEMENTS OUTLINED IN OLLIE JAMES' NOTABLE SPEECH

St. Louis, June 15. — The second day was equal to the first. The delegates, instead of being exhausted by the demonstrations of Wednesday, seemed to be warmed up for the entire convention. The announcement that Senator James of Kentucky would make a speech in assuming the position of permanent chairman, aroused great expectations, and the expectations were not disappointed. He was at his best.

Senator James is imposing in appearance, he towers above any crowd and attracts attention anywhere. He entered public life about twenty years ago, profiting politically by the apostasy of a number of prominent Kentucky democrats. He has grown from a young man delegate at Chicago in 1896 to congressman, then senator, now a leader of the party in the nation. His style is his own, his sentences abound in pithy statements, in antitheses, and in humor. The speech was not long, but it was full of meat.

The challenges which he flung out to the enemy stirred the delegates to round after round of applause. He called attention to the various remedial measures which this administration has written into law—first, a tariff law with an income tax embodied in it, lifting "one hundred twenty millions per annum off the tables and back to the poor." He justified the income tax on the ground that "it is a tax that forecloses no mortgages, forces no sales. It is collected only where riches abound and prosperity smiles."

Republican prophecies have failed. They told us that a democratic tariff would produce a panic even in time of peace, it has failed to produce a panic even when the world is at war. His defense of the currency law was even more forceful than his defense of tariff reform. Here, too, he contrasted the old system with the new. Under a republican currency law "a few men could create a panic as the whole nation witnessed in 1907." The new law preserves prosperity and protects our financial institutions with all the nations struggling to secure gold. He emphasized the fact that the republican convention lacked both the candor to endorse the currency law and the courage to denounce it.

He brought the convention to its feet in his eloquent justification of the President's Mexican policy. The following passage from his speech will be widely used during the campaign, combining, as it does, a citation from a Lincoln precedent with a powerful word picture of the condition that would have followed intervention. It reads:

"When the republican platform at Chicago denounced the Mexican policy of Woodrow Wilson it denounced at the same time the similar Mexican policy of Abraham Lincoln, the one they have heretofore called the 'patron saint' of the republican party. When the Lincoln administration came into power, Mexico had been in turmoil for years. The government of Jaurez was in power, but was unable to enforce order. Not only had American property been destroyed, but American lives had been lost and a member of the American legation had been murdered. It is a perfectly easy thing for the President of the United States to plunge his country into war if he is a politician before he is a patriot. He would seek his own re-election as he came upon

horseback up the bloody highway of contending armies. The American people have never yet repudiated a war president and never will. We are naturally a red-blooded, fighting race. Of course our army could invade Mexico and march in triumph to its capital, but after the war was over other armies would march—an army of widows and orphans, an army of cripples and men broken in health, an army of pensioners, and an army of tax-collectors, gathering up the earnings of the people to pay the great war debt. All America wants peace—peace with honor."

The audience responded to the peace note as it did yesterday when Temporary Chairman Glynn piled up the precedents justifying settlement by negotiation instead of by war. The audience roared when Chairman James explained why the republican convention condemned as ineffective the proposed rural credits system, which the senate had endorsed by a vote of fifty-seven to five and the house by a vote of 295 to 10, the explanation being that Senators Lodge, Oliver, and Wadsworth, three of the senators who voted no, were members of the sub-committee which prepared the republican platform. They secured a platform vindication of their own votes by condemning the republicans in both house and senate who voted with the democrats for the rural credits system.

The greatest applause, however, was called forth by the following sentence:

"Without orphaning a single child, without widowing a single American mother, without firing a single gun, without the shedding of a single drop of blood, he wrung from the most militant spirit that ever brooded above a battlefield an acknowledgment of American rights, an agreement to American demands."

It is evident that the speaker had not counted on the sentence producing the effect that it did because it was buried in a paragraph, being preceded by five sentences and followed by one. The sentence which followed read: "He truly demonstrated that principle is mightier than force; that diplomacy hath its victories no less renowned than war."

But the audience did not wait for the concluding sentence of the paragraph. They again registered their approval of the "he has kept us out of war" sentiment—the one overshadowing sentiment of the convention. The demonstration which followed lasted several minutes and was participated in by most of the states, the delegates carrying their standards around the hall.

Senator James, even before this speech, had won a place among the oratorical luminaries of the country; this speech adds to his fame and makes his place more secure.

What a campaign team these two chairmen will make, if the republicans have any match for either he is still in the "dark horse" class; he was not entered at Chicago.

W. J. B.

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM STRONG, CLEAR AND PROGRESSIVE

St. Louis, June 16.—The platform adopted by the democratic national convention is one of the strongest, clearest and most progressive utterances ever promulgated by any party. It sets forth the party's position with candor and courage, and it covers all the issues before the country. The party accepts the responsibility for what it has done, invites judgment upon the record made and challenges opponents to specify wherein a mistake has been made or to set forth the policy which the republican party would substitute for the policy pursued. The challenge is sweeping.

"We challenge comparison on our record, our keeping of pledges and our constructive legislation, with those of any party at any time."

This is bold enough for a beginning and the platform continues to deal in the same spirit with all subjects discussed.

The federal reserve act is treated in a paragraph. The old banking and currency system, "long the refuge of the money trust," has been supplanted by a new law, a true democracy of credit under government control, which has already proved "a financial bulwark in a world crisis."

A federal trade commission has been created, and its purpose is that "monopoly may be strangled at its birth and legitimate industry encouraged."

The party reaffirms the "doctrine of a tariff for the purpose of providing sufficient revenue for the operation of a government economically administered." It points to the Underwood law as a measure exemplifying that doctrine. A tariff commission is recommended for the purpose of studying the tariff schedules in the light

of the situation that may follow the war, with a view to such readjustments as may be found necessary.

The shipping bill is strongly commended; conservation is advocated and numerous measures for the advantage of the farmer are urged. The rural credits bill before congress is endorsed and attention is called to other measures advocated or already enacted for the benefit of agriculture.

The labor section of the platform gives the most complete and satisfactory program yet offered. A living wage, an eight hour day, with one day of rest, safety appliances, compensation for accident, uniform child labor laws, and then follows a declaration of unusual strength: "Such provisions for decency, comfort, and health in the employment of women as should be accorded to the mothers of the race."

The Philippine measure before congress is endorsed and the promise of independence is renewed.

A retirement provision for civil service employees is recommended, and the party is pledged to the enforcement of the Seamen's act. Consideration is promised for means and methods for the preservation of the public health and federal tuberculosis sanitariums are suggested for the needy.

These are some of the reforms which are specifically endorsed. Then comes a reform of the first magnitude; a declaration in favor of "such an alteration of the rules of procedure of the senate of the United States as will permit the prompt transaction of legislative business." It will be remembered that it was a similar demand in the platform of 1908 that led to the overthrow of Cannonism, and the adoption of rules which put the house under the control of its members. Now, eight years afterwards, the party attacks the last stronghold of special privilege namely, "unlimited debate," and takes upon itself the task of putting the people in position to carry out their will on public questions.

One of the most striking victories won by the progressive forces is to be found in the platform declaration in favor of equal suffrage. The plank reads: "We recommend the extension of suffrage to the women of the country by the states upon the same terms as to men."

Here we have a sentence containing only twenty-two words, less than four lines in the newspaper column, and yet it records a victory for which a multitude of women have been laboring for many, many years. The plank is not worded as strongly as many women desired, but it gives endorsement to the principle, and that is immeasurably more important than the details by which it is to be carried out. With the doctrine of equal suffrage endorsed by all of the three great parties, the advocates of the reform can now go forth with assurance of an early victory. While the democratic platform and the republican platform also relegate to the states the execution of the principle, this does not seriously lessen the strength of the endorsement. Some of the states may continue to resist for a while the growing demand, but only for awhile. The end of the fight is in sight. Local sentiment can not long stand out against the momentum of a movement which can command the favor of national parties representing practically the entire voting population of the United States.

The preparedness plank is so moderate as to appeal to those who have opposed the extravagant demands of the munition manufacturers, militarists and big employers of labor. It is more conservative in its wording than the republican or moose platform. The army is to be "fully adequate to the requirements of order, of safety and of the protection of the nation's rights."

What a jewel of a word is "adequate." It adjusts itself to the conscience and judgment of those who have to interpret it. It leaves democratic legislators at liberty to increase the appropriations when they are scared and at liberty also to reduce them when the war fever has run its course. It even leaves them at liberty to reduce them to a minimum when the nations agree to disarm.

As for the navy, the platform endorses "a fixed policy for the continuous development of a navy, worthy to support the great naval traditions of the United States, and fully equal to the international task which the United States hopes and expects to take part in performing."

This plank, too, is sufficiently general to permit its acceptance by all democrats, however their views may differ in the statement of specific sums.

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