

and Taft. Even in this short time it has enormously improved the material and social conditions of the islands, given the Philippine people a constantly increasing participation in their government, and if persisted in will bring still greater benefits in the future.

"We accepted the responsibility of the islands as a duty to civilization and the Filipino people. To leave with our task half done would break our pledges, injure our prestige among nations and imperil what has already been accomplished.

"We condemn the democratic administration for its attempt to abandon the Philippines, which was prevented only by the vigorous opposition of republican members of congress, aided by a few patriotic democrats.

Pledge to Foreign-Born

"We reiterate our unqualified approval of the action taken in December, 1911, by the President and congress to secure with Russia, as with other countries, a treaty that will recognize the absolute right of expatriation and prevent all discrimination of whatever kind between American citizens, whether native-born or alien, and regardless of race, religion or previous political allegiance.

"We renew the pledge to observe this principle and to maintain the right of asylum, which is neither to be surrendered nor restricted, and we unite in the cherished hope that the war which is now desolating the world may speedily end, with a complete and lasting restoration of brotherhood among the nations of the earth and the assurance of full equal rights, civil and religious, to all men in every land.

Protection of Country

"In order to maintain our peace and make certain the security of our

people within our own borders the country must have not only adequate but thorough and complete national defense, ready for any emergency. We must have a sufficient and effective regular army, and a provision for ample reserves, already drilled and disciplined, who can be called at once to the colors when the hour of danger comes.

"We must have a navy so strong and so well proportioned and equipped, so thoroughly ready and prepared, that no enemy can gain command of the sea and effect a landing force on either our western or our eastern coast. To secure these results we must have a coherent and continuous policy of national defense, which even in these perilous days the democratic party has utterly failed to develop, but which we promise to give to the country.

Tariff Policy

"The republican party stands now, always has, in the fullest sense, for the policy of tariff protection to American industries and American labor, and does not regard an anti-dumping provision as an adequate substitute. Such protection should be reasonable in amount, but sufficient to protect adequately American industry and American labor, and be so adjusted as to prevent undue exactions by monopolies or trusts. It should, moreover, give special attention to securing the industrial independence of the United States, as in the case of dyestuffs.

"Through wise tariff and industrial legislation our industries can be so organized that they will become not only a commercial bulwark but a powerful aid to national defense.

Underwood Tariff

"The Underwood tariff act is a complete failure in every respect. Under its administration imports have enormously increased, in spite of the fact that intercourse with foreign countries has been largely cut off by reason of the war, while the revenues of which we stand in such dire need have been greatly reduced.

"Under the normal conditions which prevailed prior to the war it was clearly demonstrated that this act deprived the American producer and the American wage-earner of that protection which entitled them to meet their foreign competitors, and but for the adventitious conditions created by the war would long since have paralyzed all forms of American industry and deprived American labor of its just reward.

"It has not in the least reduced the cost of living, which has constantly advanced from the date of its enactment. Welfare of our people demands its repeal and the substitution of a measure which in peace as well as in war will produce ample revenue and give reasonable protection to all forms of American production in mine, forest, field and factory.

Tariff Commission

"We favor the creation of a tariff commission with complete power to gather and compile information for the use of congress in all matters relating to the tariff."

Regulation of Business

"The republican party has long believed in the rigid supervision and strict regulation of the transportation and great corporations of the country. It has put its creed into its deeds, and all really effective laws regulating the railroads and the great industrial corporations are the work of the republican congresses and presidents. For this policy of regulation and supervision the democrats, in a stumbling and piecemeal way, are undertaking to involve the government in business, which should be left within the sphere of private enterprise and in direct competition with its own citizens, a policy which is sure to result in waste, great ex-

pense to the taxpayer and in an inferior product.

Democratic Methods

"The republican party firmly believes that all who violate the laws in regulation of business should be individually punished. But prosecution is very different from persecution, and business success, no matter how honestly attained, is apparently regarded by the democratic party as in itself a crime. Such doctrines and beliefs choke enterprise and stifle prosperity. The republican party believes in encouraging American business, as it believes in and will seek to advance all American interests.

Rural Credit

"We favor an effective system of rural credits as opposed to the ineffective law proposed by the present democratic administration.

Rural Free Delivery

"We favor the extension of the rural free delivery system and condemn the democratic administration for curtailing and crippling it.

Merchant Marine

"In view of the policies adopted by all the maritime nations to encourage their shipping interests, and in order to enable us to compete with them for the ocean-carrying trade, we favor the payment to ships engaged in the foreign trade of liberal compensation for services actually rendered in carrying the mails, and such further legislation as will build up an adequate American merchant marine and give us ships which may be requisitioned by the government in time of national emergency.

"We are utterly opposed to the government ownership of vessels as proposed by the democratic party, because government ownership, while effectively preventing the development of the American merchant marine by private capital, will be entirely unable to provide for the vast volume of American freights and will leave us more helpless than ever in the hard grip of foreign syndicates.

Transportation Laws

"Interstate and intrastate transportation have become so interwoven that the attempt to apply two and often several sets of laws to its regulation has produced conflicts of authority, embarrassment in operation and inconvenience and expense to the public.

"The entire transportation system of the country has become essentially national. We, therefore, favor such action by legislation or, if necessary, through an amendment to the constitution of the United States, as will result in placing it under exclusive federal control.

Economy and National Budget

"The increasing cost of the national government and the need for the greatest economy of its resources in order to meet the growing demands of the people for government service call for the severest condemnation of the wasteful appropriations of this democratic administration, of its shameless raids on the treasury and of its opposition to and rejection of President Taft's oft repeated proposals and earnest efforts to secure economy and efficiency through the establishment of a simple business-like budget system, to which we pledge our support and which we hold to be necessary to effect any real reform in the administration of national finances.

Natural Resources

"We believe in a careful husbandry of all the natural resources of the nation—a husbandry which means development without waste, use without abuse.

Civil Service Reform

"The civil service law has always been sustained by the republican

party, and we renew our repeated declaration that it shall be thoroughly and honestly enforced and extended wherever practicable. The democratic party has created since March 4, 1913, 30,000 offices outside of the civil service law at an annual cost of \$44,000,000 to the taxpayers of the country.

"We condemn the gross abuse and the misuse of the law by the present democratic administration and pledge ourselves to a reorganization of this service along lines of efficiency and economy.

Territorial Officials

"Reaffirming the attitude long maintained by the republican party, we hold that officials appointed to administer the government of any territory should be bona fide residents of the territory in which their duties are to be performed.

Labor Laws

"We pledge the republican party to the faithful enforcement of all federal laws passed for the protection of labor. We favor vocational education; the enactment and rigid enforcement of a federal child labor law; the enactment of a generous and comprehensive workmen's compensation law, within the commerce power of congress, and an accident compensation law covering all government employees. We favor the collection and collation, under the direction of the department of labor, of complete data relating to industrial hazards for the information of congress, to the end that such legislation may be adopted as may be calculated to secure safety, conservation and protection of labor from the dangers incident to industry and transportation.

Suffrage Plank

"The republican party, reaffirming its faith of government of the people, by the people, for the people, as a measure of justice to one-half the adult people of this country, favors the extension of the suffrage to women, but recognizing the right of each state to settle this question for itself.

"Such are our principles, such are our purposes and policies. We close as we began. The times are dangerous and the future is fraught with peril. The great issues of the day have been confused by words and phrases. The American spirit, which made the country and saved the Union, has been forgotten by those charged with the responsibility of power. We appeal to all Americans, whether naturalized or native-born, to prove to the world that we are Americans in thought and in deed, with one loyalty, one hope, one aspiration. We call on all Americans to be true to the spirit of America, to the great traditions of their common country, and, above all things, to keep the faith."

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