

specified requirement of incapacity is in effect set aside by Order No. 78 as to all persons over sixty-two.

The war closed nearly forty years ago. In the meantime many of our soldiers and sailors long survived the age of sixty-two, and passed away without receiving any pension. Skillful pension attorneys hunting through the statute failed to find there a provision giving a pension to all who had reached sixty-two. Many prominent veterans urged the justice of congressional action giving a service pension to all veterans. Bills to that effect were introduced in Congress. And not until March of this year did any one ever claim to have made the discovery that the President had power to treat the statute as if it read that when a claimant had passed the age of sixty-two years he is necessarily disabled one-half in ability to perform manual labor and therefore entitled to a pension.

The President of the Civil Service Commission, General John C. Black, formerly Commissioner of Pensions, and Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, indicated his view of the order when in a recent address he thanked the President for what he had done, and advised his hearers to use their influence that a law might be passed to the same effect. Full confidence after all seems not to have been placed on the defense of justification for it is in evidence that a former Democratic President did something looking in that direction. Even if that were so—which is not admitted—our present duty would be none the less plain and imperative. Our people must never tolerate the citation of one act of usurpation of power as an excuse for another. The first may possibly be due to mistake; the second, being based on the first, cannot be. In explanation, however, it should be said that the order relied on simply provided that the age of seventy-five years should be regarded as evidence of inability to perform manual labor. Few men are able to perform manual labor at that age, but nearly all men are at sixty-two.

The first order is based on a fact that experience teaches, the other is based on the assertion of that which is not true as a general rule.

ROOSEVELT'S CHALLENGE.

The old inquiry, "What are you going to do about it?" is now stated in a new form. It is said by the administration to reply to the public criticism of this order, that "it is easy to test our opponents, sincerity in this matter. The order in question is revocable at the pleasure of the Executive. If our opponents come into power they can revoke this order and announce that they will treat the veterans of sixty-two and seventy as presumably in full bodily vigor and not entitled to pension. Will they authoritatively state that they intend to do this? If so, we accept the issue."

This suggests the suspicion, at least, that the order was made to create an issue—that it was supposed to present a strong strategic position in the battle of the ballots. On the assumption that the order, as stated by the Administration, is revocable at the pleasure of the Executive, it having been an attempt, though perhaps unwitting encroachment upon the legislative power, and therefore unaccountable by the Constitution, I except the challenge and declare that if elected I will revoke that order. But I go further and say that that being done, I will contribute my effort toward the enactment of a law to be passed by both houses of Congress and approved by the Executive that will give an age pension without reference to disability to the surviving heroes of the Civil War; and under the provisions of which a pension may be accepted with dignity because of the consciousness that it comes as a just due from the people through their chosen representatives, and not as a largess distributed by the Chief Executive.

UNDER BONDS FOR PEACE.

The foreign relations of the government have in late years assumed special importance. Prior to the acquisition of the Philippines, we were practically invulnerable against attacks by foreign States. Those tropical possessions, however, seven thousand miles from our shores, have changed all this and have in effect put us under bonds to keep the peace. The new conditions call for a management of foreign affairs that the more circumspect in that the recent American invasion of foreign markets in all parts of the world has excited the serious apprehension of all the great industrial peoples. It is essential, therefore, more than ever, to adhere strictly to the traditional policy of the country as formulated by its first president and never, in my judgment, wisely departed from—to invite friendly relations with all nations while avoiding entangling alliances with any. Such a policy means the cultivation of peace instead of the glorification of war, and the minding of our own business in lieu of spectacular intermeddling with the affairs of other nations. It means strict observance of the principles of international law and condemns the doctrine that a great state, by reason of its strength, may rightfully appropriate the sovereignty or territory of a small state on account of its weakness. It means for other American states that we claim no rights and will assume no functions save those of a friend and of an ally and defender against European aggressions. It means that we repudiate the role of the American continental policeman; that we refuse to act as debt collector for foreign states or their citizens; that we respect the independent sovereignty of each American state and its right to preserve order and otherwise regulate its own internal affairs in its own way; and that any intervention in its affairs by us is limited to the single office of enabling its people to work out their own political and national destiny for themselves free from the coercion of any European state.

NO EXCUSE FOR EXTRAVAGANCE.
Twenty-eight years have passed since the Democratic party of the State of New York, in convention assembled, recommended to the National Democracy the nomination of Samuel J. Tilden as its candidate for the Presidency, and declared it to be "their settled conviction that a return to the constitutional principles, frugal expenses and administrative purity of the founders of the Republic is the first and most imperative duty of the times—the commanding issue now before the people of the Union." This strong expression

was called forth by the national expenditures for the year 1875, which amounted to \$274,000,000—a situation which, in the opinion of a majority of our people, justified an imperative demand for reform in the administration of public affairs. As the expenditures of the last fiscal year amounted to the enormous total of \$582,000,000, it is evident that a thorough investigation of the public service and the immediate abandonment of useless and extravagant expenditures are more necessary now than they were then. This astounding increase is out of all proportion to the increase of our population, and finds no excuse from whatever aspect we view the situation. The National Democratic platform declares that "large reductions can easily be made in the annual expenditures of the Government without impairing the efficiency of any branch of the public service?" Can there be any doubt of the accuracy of this statement? Between the expenditures of the year 1886, amounting to \$242,000,000, and those of the last fiscal year—the seventh after Grover Cleveland ceased to be President—aggregating \$582,000,000, there is a difference so great as to excite alarm in the breasts of all thoughtful men. Even excluding the sum of \$50,000,000 paid for the Panama Canal rights and to the State of Panama, the expenditures of the last fiscal year exceeded the sum of \$532,000,000, being more than double the expenditures of the Government for all purposes during the first year of Mr. Cleveland's administration.

The expenses of the first four years succeeding the last Democratic Administration amounted to the enormous average of \$511,000,000 per year. This large expenditure was due to a considerable extent to the cost of the Spanish-American War, which occurred during that period, but the termination of that war brought no relief to the Treasury, for the average annual expenses of the Government during the three subsequent years ending June 30, 1904, were about \$519,000,000, which is the largest sum hitherto reached, during a like period, since the close of the Civil War.

CONCEALMENT OF CONDITIONS.

This draft upon the revenues of the country has had the effect which might have been anticipated, and now we have presented the reverse of the situation, which led to the famous observation, "It is a condition, and not a theory, which confronts us," for, although the present incumbent found at the close of the first fiscal year, during which he assumed control of the administration, a surplus of receipts over expenditures of more than \$91,000,000, there was an excess of expenditures over receipts at the close of the last fiscal year of \$41,000,000, and the official monthly reports made by the Treasury Department show that the expenditures are continuously and rapidly increasing, while the receipts are diminishing.

In this connection it is interesting to note the recent Administrative orders forbidding Government officers from making public any statement of estimates on which future appropriations are to be based. If a man of ordinary intelligence and prudence should find in the operating expenses of his business such a tremendous percentage of increase, would he not promptly set on foot an inquiry for the cause of the waste, and take immediate steps to stop it, especially when mislead employees have been found dishonest and convicted, and a widespread impression exists that a thorough investigation may discover other cases of malfeasance? When the Chief Executive reports to Congress that, "through fraud, forgery and perjuries, and by shameful bribery the law relating to the proper conduct of the public service in general, and to the due administration of the Postoffice Department have been notoriously violated . . ." there was a general popular demand for a rigid, sweeping investigation by Congress, in addition to that undertaken by the Executive himself. Such an investigation the Republican majority in Congress would not permit, although the minority insisted that the interest of good government demanded it. And the minority was right. The liberty, patriotism and National pride of the people should not be made an excuse for waste of the public funds. Official extravagance is official crime.

There is not a sentence in the Republican platform recommending a reduction in the expenditure of the Government; not a line suggesting that the increase in the cost of the War Department from \$34,000,000 in 1886 to \$115,000,000 in 1904, should be inquired into; and not a paragraph calling for a thorough investigation of those departments of the Government in which dishonesty has been recently disclosed. The people, however, can by their votes, if they desire it, order such an investigation and inaugurate a policy of economy and retrenchment. It is safe to say that this will not be accomplished by endorsing at the polls the Republican majority of the House of Representatives which refused the investigation and made the appropriations, nor by continuing in power the Administration which made the disbursements.

Reform in expenditures must be had in the Civil, Military and Naval establishments in order that the National expenditures may be brought to a basis of peace and the Government maintained without recourse to the taxes of war.

CONCLUSION.

I have put aside a congenial work, to which I had expected to devote my life, in order to assume, as best I can, the responsibilities your convention put upon me.

I solicit the cordial co-operation and generous assistance of every man who believes that a change of measures and of men at this time would be wise, and urge harmony of endeavor as well as vigorous action on the part of all so minded.

The issues are joined and the people must render the verdict.

Shall economy of administration be demanded or shall extravagance be encouraged?

Shall the wrongdoer be brought to bay by the people, or must justice wait upon political oligarchy?

Shall our Government stand for equal opportunity or for special privilege?

Shall it remain a Government of law or become one of individual caprice?

Shall we cling to the rule of the people, or shall we embrace beneficent despotism?

With calmness and confidence, we await the people's verdict.

If called to the office of President, I shall consider myself the Chief Magistrate of all the people and not of any faction, and shall ever be mindful of that fact that on many questions of National policy there are honest differences of opinion. I believe in the patriotism, good sense and absolute sincerity of all the people. I shall strive to remember that he may serve his party best who serves his country best. If it be the wish of the people that I undertake the duties of the Presidency, I pledge myself, with God's help, to devote all my powers and energy to the duties of this exalted office. Very truly yours,

ALTON B. PARKER.

RECKLESS EXTRAVAGANCE.

Presentation of Figures Likely to Startle the Most Ardent Apologist of the Party of Waste.

The Magnitude of Recent Republican Extravagance in the Administration of the Government which are given here, with are copied from the official records of the Secretary of the Treasury, and are, therefore, beyond dispute. President Roosevelt assumed office September 14, 1901, and as soon as he became firmly established in power and control, it will be observed, increased expenditures began. The total expenditures, actual and estimated, for the four years of his incumbency aggregated \$2,641,728,019.18, which is \$211,407,628.89 greater than the four years of McKinley, though he conducted the Spanish War, and \$883,024,802.75 greater than the four years of Cleveland. In the first full fiscal year of Roosevelt (1903) expenditures exceeded those of the first full fiscal year of McKinley (1898) by \$107,942,248.83, and in the last full fiscal year of Roosevelt (1905) expenditures, as estimated by the Secretary of the Treasury, will exceed those of the last full fiscal year of McKinley (1901) by \$105,875,690.25.

The last year of McKinley exceeded his first by \$75,392,652.57, while the last year of Roosevelt will exceed his first year by \$134,435,301.89. Of the total increase of \$883,024,802.75 for the four years of Roosevelt as compared with the four years of Cleveland, the notable increase, exclusive of the postal service, is, in round numbers, \$160,000,000 in the civil establishment, \$231,000,000 in the naval establishment, and \$24,000,000 in the military establishment. The total cost of the military establishment, exclusive of pensions, during the four years of Roosevelt, exceeds that of Cleveland by \$315,000,000.

SLIGHT CHANGE NECESSARY.

Small Percentage of Shifting of Voters Needed to Wipe Out Odell's Plurality.

Those supporters of Judge Parker who are discouraged by the odds against them as shown by the figures of recent elections will do well to reflect upon the fact that there are a great many voters in this country, and that a very slight change in sentiment is enough to produce tremendous effects in the election returns. At least 15,000,000 votes will be cast for President this year. The States of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware, West Virginia and Colorado, added to those carried by the Democrats in the last State elections, would be enough to elect Judge Parker. A change of 23,904 votes, or a little over one-fifth of one per cent. of the total vote of the Union, would carry these six States. A change of less than one-third of one per cent. of the vote of this State alone would wipe out Odell's last plurality in New York.

If Judge Parker's strength does not represent more than these minute margins of votes, the influence of a just cause and a good candidacy on elections has been greatly exaggerated.

DANIEL NOT DOUBTING.

Virginia's Senior Senator Entirely Hopeful of the Prospect.

Eloquent Senator Daniel, of Virginia, was one of the numerous statesmen who called at Democratic Headquarters this week. The Senator, like all the other callers, takes a very hopeful view of the situation. He said: "At no time," said Senator Daniel, "have I ever doubted the election of Parker and Davis. To-day the chances are better than ever. Reports that I have received from every part of the country, especially the doubtful States, show that Democratic prospects are brightening. I feel confident that New York, New Jersey and Connecticut will go Democratic and that we will get enough votes in the Middle West to insure Parker's election."

HOPE FOR WEST VIRGINIA.

W. E. Chilton, ex-Secretary of the State of West Virginia, and who served as Chairman of the Democratic organization in his State when it gave its electoral vote to Cleveland, was a caller at National Democratic Committee headquarters last week.

"While West Virginia must be considered a debatable State," said Mr. Chilton, "there are many good reasons for believing we shall carry it in November. The platform and the candidates of our party are very acceptable to our people, and ex-Senator Davis for many years has been one of the most popular men in the State. The principal thing we shall have to fight is the tendency of the Republicans to poll illegal votes, especially among the negroes, but I believe we shall be able to overcome this with the precautions we are taking for vigilance."

WHERE 100,000 WOMEN VOTE.

The Republican National Committee has sent Mrs. J. Ellen Foster to do missionary work among the 100,000 women who are eligible to vote in Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and Idaho. Mrs. Foster will find that the women of these States are able to take care of themselves. There are one or two local issues there which appeal strongly to lovers of freedom and fair play, both males and females, and Mrs. Foster, a professional "spellbinder," of New York, will discover that they are unlike any issues that she has been accustomed to harp upon under the direction of "Tom" Platt and "Ben" Odell.

CAMPAIGN LIE NAILED.

Effort to Injure Parker, in Ulster County, Completely Destroyed.

The campaign liar is abroad. He began his work in Judge Parker's home district by circulating a lie through Ulster County. It purported to be a statement made by Judge Parker as to the wage an unskilled laborer was entitled for a day's work. But the falsehood was soon dissipated. The lie was rubbed by elaborate details. The employer tried to make it circumstantial proved too much. It brought out a sworn denial by those whose names had been dragged in. The affidavit reads as follows:
Emery Freer, Samuel E. Mott and Louis Booth being severally duly sworn say, and each for himself says, that he has read the article published in the Globe and Commercial Advertiser, of New York, of date of September 9, 1904, wherein it is stated that on Saturday morning in the year 1902, at the store of Emery Freer in Esopus, while several residents of that place were discussing the rate of wages that should be paid for unskilled labor, Judge Parker said: "I think a dollar a day is enough for any man, provided that his work is steady. Any man can live on that, and that is all unskilled labor is worth. I am sorry that I have to pay more than that, and wouldn't if we had better supply of labor thereabouts."

We note particularly that the article so published states "on the day in question a crowd of men were there. There were Emery Freer, Sam E. Mott, who runs the butcher shop and livery stable; New Booth, the barber; Carl Wismer, who is now a baggage handler in the West Shore station in Kingston, and several farmers from the vicinity, who were in the village for their Saturday's trading."

We and each of us, the said Emery Freer, being a Democrat, and the said Samuel E. Mott and Louis Booth, Republicans, depose and say as to the statements in said article:

First—That we are the identical persons named in the article, and in whose presence Judge Parker was alleged to have made said statement.

Second—That no such conversation ever took place, either at the store of Emery Freer or any other place, and that Judge Parker never made the statements attributed to him at Freer's store or any other place to the knowledge of either of us.

Third—That the statement is false in substance and in fact.

Fourth—That to our knowledge Judge Parker, since he has resided in Esopus, has paid the usual and going rate of wages to all the men employed by him on his place.

In addition the said Emery Freer for himself says that he has frequently, during the absence of Judge Parker, paid the Judge's employees; has time and again cashed checks given to said employer for wages, and on his knowledge says that Judge Parker has always paid the going rate of wages to all men employed as day farm laborers on his farm, to-wit, from \$1.50 to \$1.75 a day, and that the statement to the contrary published as aforesaid is untrue and absolutely without foundation.

CHEAP CHARGE.

Judge Parker Beyond and Above Control by Special Interests.

Ex-Senator James K. Jones, of Arkansas, late Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, joins Mr. Bryan in unqualified praise of Judge Parker. Mr. Jones recently said of the candidate:

"Judge Parker is recognized everywhere as an able, incorruptible statesman, and if he should be elected President there would be no fear at any time of the business interests or prosperity of the Nation being disturbed."
"The cheap and contemptible charge, intended to injure Judge Parker, that he is dominated or controlled by corrupt Wall Street elements is, beyond all doubt, absolutely false. If he is elected, he will resolutely enforce the laws against all illegal combinations and under his administration no predatory Government favorites will be sheltered."

THE STRENUOUS EXAMPLE.

President Roosevelt has succeeded, perhaps beyond his expectations, in arousing the fighting blood in the Oyster Bay populace. They had invited the Stamford (Conn.) baseball nine to play a friendly game with them, but it turned out that the Oyster Bayites were too strenuous, and instead of batting the ball soon commenced to bat the Stamfordites. A pitched battle ensued, knives were used, blood flowed and the wounded covered the field. The safe and sane people of Oyster Bay and vicinity are debating whether the "strenuous life" should be preached so constantly to their young men as to stir them up to battle with their neighbors and guests.

DEMOCRATIC GAIN IN MAINE.

While from Republican quarters the election held recently in Vermont was given considerable prominence as indicating the way "the cat will jump" in November, the Democrats attached but little importance to it, nor did they figure upon the election held in Maine last Monday as a weather vane, yet it was with a feeling of some elation that the Democratic hosts received the announcement that notwithstanding a full vote had been polled in Maine, the usual Republican majority in that State had been considerably reduced. This would at least tend to offset the claims being made by Republican papers and party managers, if it indicates nothing else.

SHRINE OF THE DEAR PEE-PUL.

The Los Angeles (Cal.) Times, which devotes considerable space to laudations of President Roosevelt and defends him from the charge of being friendly to the trusts, contains in its editorial columns of recent date an editorial severely arraigning the Standard Oil Company. It refers to the offices of the company at No. 26 Broadway, New York, as the shrine at which the dear pee-pul are permitted to lay their golden offerings, sometimes at the rate of \$30,000,000 a year, if recent accounts are to be relied on.

SOME SMALL BILLS.

Few "Unconsidered and Trifling" Items of Cost of Playing Role of World Power.

The following figures represent approximately the cost of the Philippine experiment to date:
Paid to Spain for the islands, \$20,000,000.
Paid to the friars to abandon their lands and give title to the United States, \$7,239,000.
Cost of the Army above normal from 1890 to 1903 inclusive, \$700,000,000.
Cost of patrolling Philippine waters and miscellaneous expenses of the fleet, \$25,000,000.
Expenses of the Philippine Commission, two budgets, \$429,000.
Cost of transport service, \$50,000,000.
The foregoing figures are from official sources, and only one of them, that of the expense of the transports, is estimated. Here is a total outlay of \$922,418,000, and we have only just begun to play the role of a "world power."

This colossal sum, moreover, represents only the actual and direct expenditures of public money in and for the Philippines, and takes no account of the enormous increase in the cost of maintaining the Army and Navy, which has been rendered necessary by the Rooseveltian policy of being prepared to "lick all creation."

Reliable statistics show that from 1893 to 1897, both inclusive, the Navy cost \$152,555,452; and from 1898 to 1903, inclusive, the cost was \$330,825,412, or almost double. The average annual cost of the Army during Cleveland's second administration was \$46,000,000. Since 1890, under McKinley and Roosevelt, the average annual cost has been \$137,000,000.

It costs money to maintain colonies and play the bully among the nations.

SHEPARD'S EXPOSURES.

Democratic Proportions of Prosperity Far Exceed Republican Pretensions.

Republican "Prosperity" Talk.—Shall we take the increase in total manufactures, which is the glory of the protectionists? We have not the official figures before 1850, which would, no doubt, show enormous proportional increases. Let us, as we must, begin with 1850.

The Democratic increase for 1850-1890 was from \$1,019,000 to \$1,885,000, or at the decade rate of 84 per cent. But in 1890-1900 the Republican and "protected" increase—allowing the abnormally high prices of 1900—was from \$9,372,000,000 to \$13,039,000,000, or at the decade rate of only 39.2 per cent. It is not significant that, while the total manufacturing product increased in 1890-1900 by 39 per cent., the increase in wages and salaries paid employees was from only \$2,283,000,000 to \$2,735,000,000, or at the decade rate of 19.8 per cent., being only one-half the ratable increase in the manufacturing output? So it is to be noticed that, while population increased in 1850-1890 by 35 per cent., the increase in manufacturing output was 84 per cent., or 2.5 times the rate of population increase; but that the population increase from 1890-1900 was 21.8 per cent., while the increase in wealth was 39.2 per cent., or only 1.81 times the population increase. And, in what we have just way the figures of even manufacturing growth are treated, they tell for the period of Democratic rule and greater economic liberty.—Edward M. Shepard, of New York.

PROMISE OR THREAT?

Danger of Continuing the Republican Program of Extravagance.

President Roosevelt in his letter of acceptance said among other things, "We believe that the progress we have made may be taken as a measure of the progress we shall continue to make if the people again intrust the government of the nation to our hands. We do not stand still."

Considering this statement as sincere and believing that what has been done is merely a measure of what will be done, what will be the effect upon the United States Army? If what has been done is the measure of what is to be done, then the army, which now costs three times as much as when the Republicans regained power, will cost three times as much in the ensuing eight years if the government of the nation is continued in Republican hands.

In other words, the army, which in 1897, cost \$23,129,544, cost \$70,070,300 this year, and if this "progress may be taken as a measure of the progress" which will follow, eight years from now the army will cost \$210,000,000 a year.

The cost of the navy, which has also tripled, may, under Mr. Roosevelt's promise (or threat), triple again. Eight Republican years have raised its annual cost from \$33,063,234 to \$98,065,140. Eight more years of the same sort of extravagance should naturally bring its cost up to about \$300,000,000.

NEW YORK CAMPAIGN.

Democratic and Independent Newspapers United For Herrick.

Every Democratic and independent newspaper in the city of New York, except the Evening Post, expresses satisfaction with the Democratic State ticket and will give it earnest support. The Post concedes Judge Herrick's great ability as well as his impartiality as a judge, but says it cannot advise its readers to vote for him because the judge has "dabbled" in politics while on the bench. Yet the Post will continue to denounce Odellism in its usual vigorous style and no one need fear that any considerable number of its constituents will vote for the discredited Odell's ticket in preference to the one headed by Judge Herrick. In addition to the practically unanimous support of the Democratic and independent press, the Republican New York Sun is making a strong fight for Herrick and Harrison without any "ifs" or "buts."

"Sweep all of Odell's creatures, great and small, into the Hudson River!" is the Sun's clarion call to honest voters, irrespective of party affiliation. "Speak softly and carry a big stick." Was ever a more potent suggestion of a sneaking brute?

TRUSTS AND TARIFF.

Honest Treaties Would Expand American Commerce.

Francis E. Woodruff writes to the Evening Post (N. Y.), the following interesting letter on "Protection":
Sir—The Republicans' declaration that "We insist upon the maintenance of the principles of protection" is a challenge to make the question whether the principle of protection is right or wrong a campaign issue. This leaves the clean-cut issue, is protection in principle right or wrong? The only argument that has been advanced for the former is that we see it accompanied by prosperity; and a similar argument would equally prove that the sun goes around the earth! An argument against it is that, simply because something cannot be made out of nothing, "protective" duties can do no more than to divert production from its natural channels; that is, from the lines of least resistance, and therefore of least expenditure of effort, and so of least cost of production. Conversely, such diversion from natural channels must increase cost of production, and, therefore, other things being equal, lessen profit.

Tariff duty is only one of many factors, but so far as it goes the argument is confirmed by the fact that under the Walker so-called free trade tariff, when our manufacturers came nearest to following the natural channels of production, their ratio of increase, which is largely dependent on relative cost of the tariff beneficiaries, was greater than ever before or since. Under the crowning iniquity, so far, of the Dingley tariff, while the ratio of increase, and so the profit to the Nation, is less, corrupt legislation has diverted the lion's share of the diminished profits into the pockets of a tariff-privileged few—to the building up of huge individual fortunes, that by their evil example and evil use in corrupting our legislators and voters are endangering our republic. It is true that, thanks to abundant crops, and to other causes with which protection has nothing to do except to do harm, there are crumbs of the resulting prosperity for the rest of us; but under the Walker tariff, while individual fortunes would not have been so dangerously overgrown, the people would have had full leaves. Besides, despite the delaying of the end by "Trust" combinations, the artificial stimulant is manifestly losing its effect, and should the Republicans win it is an open secret that to bring about another "boom" it will be necessary to increase the dose, at our further expense; as well as to add ship subsidies, and so on. If, on the other hand, the Democrats should win, revision, properly managed, as it would be by the friends of our country (in place of the friends of the tariff beneficiaries, and the Republican corruption fund, and with honest reciprocity treaties, so far from checking prosperity would give it a healthy impulse by throwing open to us the field of international trade; in which, just as fast as our necks are freed from the millstone of protectionism, with our natural resources, including brains, we would lead the world. The rich employers would become richer. Steel rails, for example, at \$28 would lose the \$8 we are now robbed of, but the remaining profit of \$8 on the added enormous output for the vast increase in the foreign trade would more than make up the loss. These employers, also, could obviously afford to and so long as a good ratio of our land to our inhabitants continues would have to, give as good wages as now, or better, and instead of the present alternating feasts and famines there would be more steady employment.

Best of all, perhaps, as the tariff robbery was lessened its artificially enhanced cost of living would be reduced, and (say) fifty cents would provide what now costs a dollar. It has been the writer's lot to spend most of his grown life abroad, and although now some years at home he still feels humiliated whenever, as often, he finds that in his own enlightened country, of which he had been so proud, he now has to pay for inferior quality double what he has been used to paying in the benighted world outside. Besides the sense of humiliation, however, there is also a distinct inclination to kick somebody. What justice is there in robbing us to make other men rich, or to swell the Republican corruption fund? From their own selfish view point the Republicans do well to fight tooth and nail against change, except to make the duties higher. Even ten years under a scientific tariff would make my countrymen amazed that they could have been so fooled. After fifty years, our historians would group the protection craze with the tulip mania and the South Sea bubble.

A RATHER POOR COMPARISON.

Alleged "statistics" being circulated by the Republican Campaign Committee assert that there has been no very considerable increase in the cost of living as compared to the wages earned, and one of the comparisons made is with regard to building materials. It is shown that while bricks have increased 39.3 per cent. putty has decreased 29.5 per cent. This it is contended is an offset, but a contractor figuring on the construction of a house would hardly be willing to offset the increase in the cost of bricks by the decrease in the cost of putty. Many other such comparisons are made in the schedules furnished from the National Bureau of Labor.

FRYE'S HOME DEMOCRATIC.

Lewiston, Me., the home of Senator Frye, and for many years the home of Nelson Dingley, author of the present tariff, is one of the bright spots in the old "Pine Tree" State. At the recent Maine election Lewiston gave a large Democratic majority, although it has usually given a larger one for the Republican tickets. Biddeford, Saco and Waterville, which, like Lewiston, are manufacturing cities, where thousands of men and women are employed in protected industries, all show heavy Democratic gains. In Biddeford and Saco more than 5000 persons are employed in cotton mills and 1200 in the manufacture of cotton mill machinery.

Apropos of Roosevelt's letter: "Whoever does these boots displace Must meet Bombastes face to face."