

TAFT'S ELECTION MEANS GOOD WAGES

Protective Policy of the Republican Party Means General Prosperity and Steady Work.

Republicans Are Opposed to Reducing the American Laborer to the Level of Pauper Labor of Europe—Scale of Wages.

In addressing himself to organized labor at Zanesville, Ohio, the other day, the Hon. William Howard Taft said: "I laid down the law and I laid down the principles upon which the labor organizations in this country have since built up their prosperity and their usefulness, and instead of saying that I am an enemy, recognize that I am one of the greatest benefactors labor has had. I decided the case against the Brotherhood of Engineers and the Brotherhood of Carpenters. In four years they got into court in St. Louis and they had to cite my case to induce the court to withdraw the injunction because I had laid down the principles upon which they could organize, could have their officers, could raise their funds, could go on and conduct strikes under advice of the officers, and that case they induced, on the authority of my decision, the judge to withdraw his injunction and they went ahead and won the strike. That same thing occurred in a court in Cincinnati, and in a decision rendered in Chicago. If you will examine the cases you will find that instead of being an oppressor of labor, I am its benefactor."

Taft's Labor Policy.

If Mr. Taft is elected President he will carry out the Republican policies and give every man a square deal. The protective tariff of the Republican party restored general prosperity to the country, taking the place of the depression and ruin that was brought on by Democratic Free Trade. The tariff has protected our people against the competition of the underpaid and underfed workmen of foreign countries. The condition of these people is such that no friend of humanity can wish to see it duplicated on this continent.

The laborer earns about twice as much in America as he does in England or continental Europe, and the purchasing power of a dollar is very nearly equal to that of a dollar in any other country under the Republican protective tariff.

Democracy vs. Organized Labor.

The principles of organized labor championed by Judge Taft are irreconcilable to the free trade policy of the Democratic party. The country can have one, or the other, but not both. Organized labor of this country is protected from the sweating and underpaid laborers of Europe only by protective tariff. Labor unions exist, as Judge Taft says, to enable workmen, by union and combination among themselves to meet employers on equal terms, and to bargain with them.

If there were no labor unions and no combination, capital would be too strong and labor would be at the mercy of capital. Another object is to secure the highest wages which are consistent with the conditions of each trade, to raise the standard of living and prevent unfair competition. Every one of these measures is opposed to Democratic free trade, which would mean a degradation of American labor to the level of the pauper labor of the Old world.

What Gompers Said.

In 1897 at the time general prosperity was returning, after three millions of men had gone out of employment on account of the Democratic free trade policy, President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor in his report said these words: "It is agreed by all at the wage earners are the principal sufferers of American products. It necessarily follows that a reduction in wages involves a diminution in the power of consumption, and consequently a proportionate decrease in production and a curtailment also in the force of labor required for the production. A reduction in wages, therefore, results in an increase in the army of the unemployed."

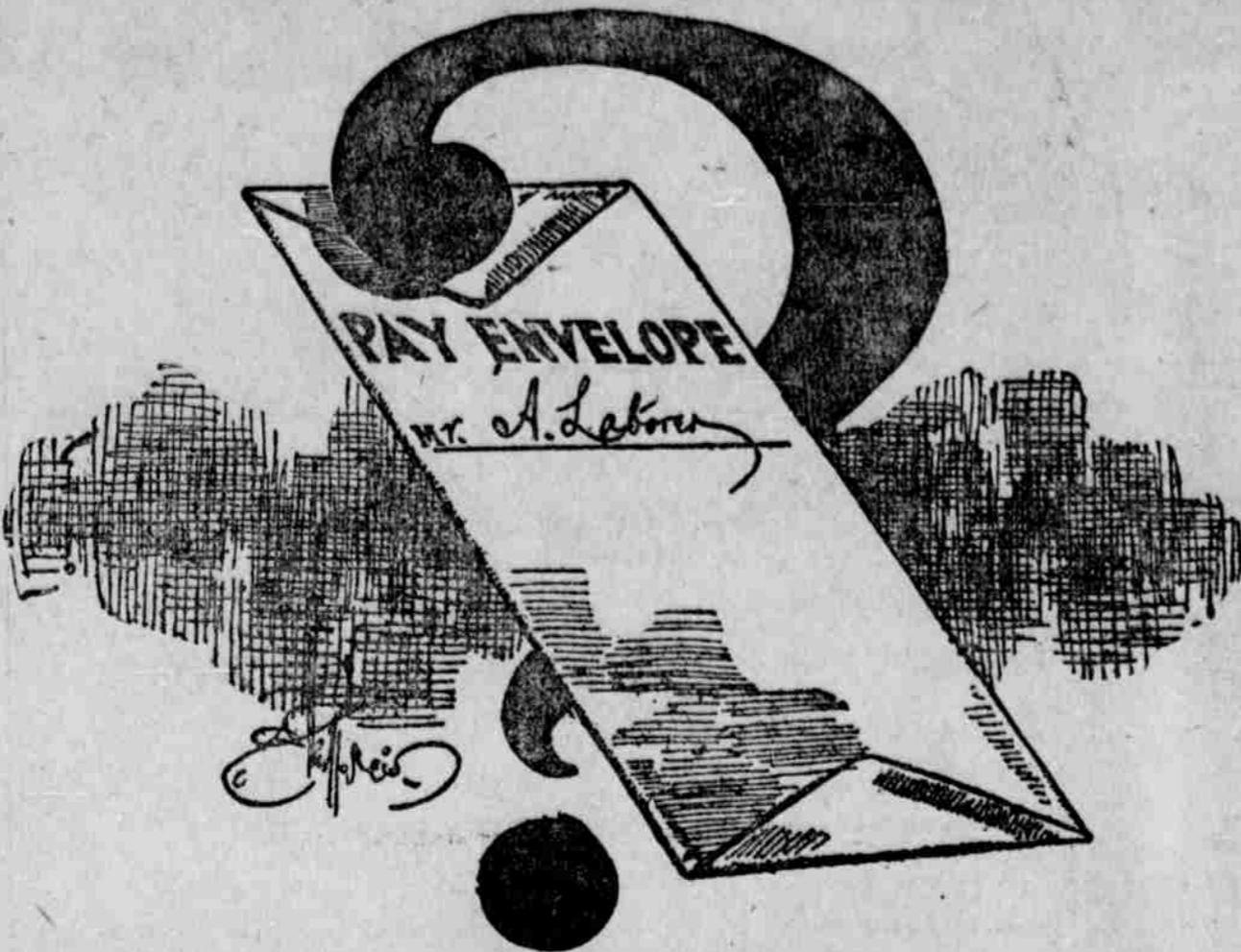
Great Labor Record.

The Democratic party has never done anything for labor. All the laws on the federal statute books have been placed there by Republicans. Some of these laws are: The eight-hour law, the first of its kind in this country, since intended to include employes on public works; prohibition of importation of contract laborers; restriction of immigration; exclusion of Chinese; abolition of peonage; prohibition of involuntary servitude; prohibition of involuntary servitude; prohibition of involuntary servitude; prohibition of involuntary servitude.

High Prices and the Farmer.

It is related that a Nebraska farmer who complained that a reaper cost \$10 more than in 1893 was reminded by the storekeeper that he paid for the old reaper with 600 bushels of corn at 10 cents a bushel. The merchant said: "If you will bring me 600 bushels of corn now I will give you a reaper, a survey for your wife and \$50 in cash." The farmer admitted that there must be prosperity somewhere.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

THE ALL IMPORTANT QUESTION



—From the Kansas City Journal.

WHICH PARTY KEEPS IT FULL?

TAFT—THE MAN.

His Life Marked by Sincerity, Faithfulness, Purity, Kindness and Devotion to Duty.

There has been much talk about Mr. Taft's religion, and many have cried out against him on the ground that he is not "orthodox." He is a Unitarian, as his father and mother were. He has never sought to conceal the fact. He is willing to lose the presidency if a man is to be shut out of it for cherishing the religious views of John Adams, John Quincy Adams, Jefferson, Madison, President Elliot and Everett Hale. Professor James of Harvard says that one needs only to worry about those beliefs which express themselves in actions, and we who know Mr. Taft are willing that he be judged by these. If sincerity, faithfulness, purity of personal life, kindness, and an uncompromising devotion to duty are not indications of a true Christian faith and character, we do not know what is.—The Home Herald.

To Learn the Truth.

If any one doubts that defection from Bryan is general, let him talk with his Democratic friends. Whether they are employers or employees, a large number of them will be found of the opinion that the country does not want a President who declares that what Roosevelt has done to establish interests is as nothing compared with what he will do. Those who are employers or professional men want business.

MR. TAFT'S MEMBERSHIP CARD.



The October number of the "Steam Shovel and Dredge" explains as follows why Mr. Taft was made an honorary member of the International Brotherhood of Steam Shovel and Dredge Men.

As the members of our organization are well aware, Mr. Taft was made an honorary member of our Brotherhood in recognition of his fairness to our members in all his dealings since he has been Secretary of War. He had direct charge of the construction of the Panama Canal, the greatest engineering work of modern times, and in all his official acts and personal relations with members and officers of our Brotherhood on that work he has always shown himself fair and just.

When contractors on government work showed a disposition to disregard or violate the Eight-Hour Law, Mr. Taft started prosecutions against these contractors through the United States Attorney General's Office.

When an effort was made this year to cut wages at Panama, Mr. Taft used his influence to prevent it, for his knowledge of conditions on the Isthmus convinced him that the prevailing wages were at least fair and just and that there should be no reduction in pay on that work. Since Mr. Taft has been Secretary of War he has had a great many dealings with organized labor in its different branches, and he has always shown a spirit of absolute fairness. We have the utmost confidence in case of his election to the presidency of the continuance of the fair and just policies toward organized labor that prevailed while he was Secretary of War.

The committee which presented Mr. Taft with an honorary membership card in our organization was composed of members of our order from different parts of the United States, and they received a very cordial reception when they called on Mr. Taft at his home in Cincinnati and presented him with his card. In accepting the membership card in the Brotherhood, Mr. Taft said, among other things: "I am glad to have at your hands this expression of confidence in my efforts to do justice while I was in office. As to the work upon which many of your members were engaged in one capacity or another, we all endeavored to facilitate the greatest construction work of modern times. I am especially gratified for this compliment because your organization and its members receive a liberal and impartial view in this tendering of me this recognition, because in the administration of work on the Isthmus I did not always decide in favor of your contentions. In accepting this compliment of your organization, I shall always cherish it as one of the evidences that there are some men whom I have convinced through my official work of my desire to do the square thing for everybody."

Some politicians are trying to make it appear throughout the country that Mr. Taft is opposed to organized labor and its principles, but close study of his record will convince the most skeptical that he is a fair and just man to all interests, whether labor organizations or any other organizations.

NAME OF HONORARY MEMBER:

William Howard Taft

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER:

[Signature]

NEW LAW BOON TO LABOR.

Act Provides for Compensation to Employes Injured in Government Service.

Receive Pay for One Year—Secretary of Department of Commerce and Labor Administers Act—Families to Be Taken Care Of.

The act of May 30, 1908, entitled "an Act granting to certain employes of the United States the right to receive from it compensation for injuries sustained in the course of their employment," which came into effect on August 1, is a measure of great importance in the domain of labor legislation. Under previous laws, compensation in case of injury is paid to employes in the railway mail service and in the life saving service. The new law applies to persons employed by the government as artisans or laborers in the following services: Arsenals, navy yards, river and harbor construction, fortification construction, hazardous employment in the reclamation service, namely in construction and in control and management of works, hazardous employment under the Isthmian canal commission, government manufacturing establishments.

Scope of Law Large.

According to a rough estimate made by the department of commerce and labor, about 75,000 government employes come within the provisions of the law. Compensation will be paid under this act only for such injuries to an employe as occur in the course of his employment and cause inability to pursue his employment for more than fifteen days. Compensation is not paid if the injury is due to the negligence or misconduct of the employe himself. The act applies only to injuries received on or after August 1.

The compensation consists of a continuance during the period of disability, but not over one year, of the same pay which the employe was receiving at the time of the injury. If the employe is killed by the accident or dies from the results of the injury received and leaves a widow or children under 18 years of age or dependent parents, the same amount of compensation is paid to these dependent relatives until the completion of the twelve months' period.

Discretionary Power in One Man.

The administration of the act is entrusted to the secretary of commerce and labor. All questions of negligence or misconduct are to be determined by him, and in case of death from injury the amount of the compensation among the dependent relatives entitled to it must be made according to his orders. Cases of injuries to employes coming under this act must be reported to the secretary of commerce and labor, and compensation may be paid only when approved by him.

No compensation will be paid either for injury or for death unless the persons entitled to such compensation make application for the same. This application must be made by the injured employe, or, in case of his death by his dependents and forwarded by the official superior of the injured employe, accompanied by a physician's certificate, through the regular official channels to the secretary of commerce and labor. The secretary is authorized by the act to demand such additional information, or order such investigation as is necessary for the proper administration of the law.

Regulations of Law.

Regulations have been prepared by the secretary of commerce and labor for the guidance of officials and employes in the government service, and the necessary forms and blanks have been prepared, printed and distributed among the government offices throughout the country, where persons are employed who come under the provisions of this act. According to these regulations, reports of injuries must be made by the official superior of the employe to the secretary of commerce and labor not later than the second day after the accident. Application for compensation must be made as soon as possible after the first fifteen days of disability. If the application is approved the compensation will be paid during disability, but for a period not exceeding six months, at the end of which period, the injured person must make application for re-examination by a physician provided by the secretary of commerce and labor, and after this examination has been made and reported, a new approval by the secretary for further payment of compensation is necessary. This procedure is demanded by section 5 of the act. The only other condition required is a presentation to the disbursing officer on each pay day of a physician's certificate as to the disability of the injured person, approved by the official superior.

Furnish Accidents Statistics.

Applications of dependents for compensation in case of the death of an employe from accidental injury must be made within 90 days after such death. The records of the application of this act will furnish valuable material for statistics of accidents, which, for this country are quite meager. In order to make the statistics more complete and valuable, reports of all accidental injuries to government employes, regardless of the application of this act, have been requested from all government establishments and offices. As the number of United States government employes exceeds 300,000, these statistics will prove of great scientific value and practical use in the future.

The Two Candidates.

Here is the difference: Mr. Taft's fitness can be measured by his acts, but Mr. Bryan's has to be measured by his words.

BISHOP URGES METHODISTS TO CAST VOTES FOR TAFT.

Church Head in Southern Asia Says Republicans Are Material Aid to Christianity in the Philippines.

Bishop W. F. Oldham, head of the Methodist Episcopal church in Southern Asia, residing in Singapore, addressed Chicago Methodist ministers yesterday morning in the First Methodist Episcopal church, Washington and Clark streets, and made an eloquent plea to those present to do what they can to prevent a change in the administration in the Philippines. To do this, he said, it would be incumbent upon them to stand by the party in power. "Do not subject us to demagogic experiments in the Philippines," said he. "Every missionary in the islands is adding his plea to mine. Our missionaries are giving their life to the work and the wonderful progress they have made in the last four years, during which the membership in the Methodist church has increased from 4,000 to 28,000, shows the beneficial effect of the administration, as directed at present. "If the candidate of one party is the 'fearless one,' the leader of the other is the 'fearless one,' and we want the fearless one. The presence of old glory has had much to do with our success in the Philippines, where we have made more converts in the last four years than we have in the entire Chinese empire in twenty-four years."

ORDERS IF TAFT IS ELECTED.

Traveling Man Says He Has Taken Many Such in the Last Few Weeks.

"Talk to the effect that the traveling men, or any considerable proportion of them, will vote this year for Bryan is tommyrot," declared T. R. Travis of Kansas City in the lobby of the Loyal Hotel, at Omaha. "If Bryan gets 20 per cent of the commercial travelers' vote he will do a good deal better than I expect. Practically all the men in our line are Republicans in the first place and believe in Republican principles. In the second place, all of them know full well that they will get precious few orders if Bryan should win. This is not so much because Mr. Bryan could do any great harm himself, for he could carry none of his wild schemes into effect, but because business men are so afraid of him.

"If he, by my miracle, should get in things would shut down absolutely for a year. Everyone would be afraid of his neighbor; would think, and think rightly, that Brown and Smith and Jones would be afraid. It is exactly the same principle that causes runs on a bank. Many intelligent depositors are not afraid of the bank which has ample resources, but they are afraid that their fellow depositors will be afraid and so they hurry down to get in line.

"I have had many orders lately subject to Taft's election. This was a pure business contract and not designed to influence me. People simply are unable to swing the roads if Bryan wins. It is not politics. It is business."

Vague and Dangerous Theorist.

While sitting in Denver, watching the convention, we jotted down the opinion that Mr. Bryan's best hope for election lay in retiring to the bottom of the Pacific and allowing not a single bubble to escape. Since that time he has talked a great deal about the best way of regulating trusts; he has made a special slogan of the Oklahoma patent medicine banking plan; he, the visionary, has claimed to be heir to the practical Roosevelt; he has been desperately involved in an encounter with that almost invincible politician; and he has cast false aspersions on the integrity of the governor of New York. Too many bubbles have escaped. Whatever may be thought of the President's taste, in the controversy between him and Mr. Bryan the country will, we imagine, feel the difference between vague and dangerous theory upon the one hand and shrewd, practical reform upon the other; between hesitating and vacillating arguments and the heavy battalions of establishment fact.—Collier's Weekly.

Why the Workers Support Taft.

It is noticed that a large majority of the labor union leaders who are doing any talking in the campaign are praising Mr. Taft and are promising to vote for him. In all his addresses to workers—and he has made many of them—Mr. Taft has made an excellent impression. He is now traveling through a region covering Ohio, West Virginia and New Jersey, in which the labor unions are particularly strong, but everywhere he is meeting with a very cordial greeting. He is getting so many tributes from labor union chiefs that the Democrats are resorting to their old cry of "bribery."—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

Hughes Not Hurt by Bryan.

Mr. Bryan does not appear to advantage in assailing Governor Hughes for his veto of the two-cent fare bill. He insinuates that this is evidence of the governor's strong leaning to the side of the corporations as against the people, while as a matter of fact it is nothing of the kind. The two-cent fare bill was vetoed simply because the state was adopting the policy of railroad rate regulation through commissions with mandatory powers. It would have been the height of inconsistency to create commissions to regulate fares and then have the legislature itself and at the same time assume the function.—Springfield Republican.

Corporations are barred and excluded rigidly from the joys of giving to the Bryan fund. But in glancing over the names of some of the largest subscribers the painful discovery is made that they are corporation magnates, and the frightful thought arises that the money that some of them contribute smells suspiciously of corporations.—Baltimore Sun.

No one can doubt that if Mr. Taft is elected he will redeem his pledge immediately upon his inauguration to call a special session of congress to revise the tariff.—New York World (Dem.).