

Weekly Press Forum

Bellefonte (Pa.) Democrat: The trusts got all they wanted out of the congress just adjourned, and the people got—a big load to carry.

Fulton (Ill.) Journal: A Chicago paper the other day called "Jimmy" Eckels a democrat. Wouldn't that frost your Mr. Frosty? The republican majority in 1896 was composed of just that kind of democrats.

Albany (Mo.) Ledger: The president has arranged to quit Washington at once and enjoy a hunt in the wilds of Colorado. Having failed to bring down any big game in his contest with the trusts, he wants to try his gun on a mountain lion.

Bellaire (O.) Democrat: A careful study of the Elkins anti-trust law will about convince the average citizen that he has the hot end of the poker, and really weakened the former law. The trust magnates were a little too well satisfied with the measure to indicate that it curtailed their profits.

Clearfield (Pa.) Republican: The republicans in the United States don't mind going on record in favor of trusts when forced to do so in order to prevent anti-trust legislation from going upon the statute books. The vote on the Blackburn resolution to take up the Littlefield bill ought to satisfy the country that nothing can be expected from the g. o. p. that will in any way injure the big combinations of capital.

Denver (Colo.) Democrat: Having seen his historic bill enthusiastically kicked out of doors by the senate, Trust Buster Littlefield may be pardoned if he begins to entertain some doubts respecting the entire sincerity of the Honorable Theodore Roosevelt, who encouraged him to prepare the bill, but now professes complete satisfaction with entirely innocuous substitutes therefor. Other people than Mr. Littlefield are likewise dubious.

Carlisle (Ky.) Democrat: If we have to swallow a republican platform made by a democrat (?) let Cleveland & Co. draft it, but on the other hand, if you are democrats, and love democratic teachings and traditions, and desire a government by the people and for the people, stand to Jeffersonian principles as formulated and enunciated by the leaders and guardians of the sacred ark of the democratic covenant along the lines of right, justice and fairness among the great common people.

Anoka (Minn.) Free Press: Of all the iniquities for which the republican party leaders are responsible there is none more damnable and far-reaching than the protective tariff system, which is nothing more nor less than a legalized system of highway robbery. It levies an arbitrary assessment on every man, woman and child in the country for the enrichment of a few select individuals, who in turn contribute a portion of these stolen riches to a corruption fund which is used in perpetuating the system.

Hastings (Neb.) Republican: The trusts have started out on a campaign of education to educate the people that the trusts are a blessing and a joy forever. It has begun its missionary work under the name of an organization known as the National Economic League. It has notified the heads of banks and corporation interests that it will conduct a campaign similar to that waged against free silver that enabled Mark Hanna to save the country from bimetalism. Of

course the trusts will contribute liberally to the fund to provide trust literature to flood the country. It remains to be seen to what extent they will educate the people in the interests of the trusts.

Staunton (Va.) Spectator: We note that Mr. Cleveland now announces that he has retired from politics for good. It would have been better had he retired long ago, and it will be best to let this retirement be permanent.

Aurora (Neb.) Register: The republicans say they have what they want to curb trusts. Now let the curbing process begin. The sugar trust, oil trust, steel trust and paper trust need curbing about as bad as any.

Connersville (Ind.) Examiner: President Roosevelt won fame as a bronco buster, but as a trust buster he is proving a lamentable failure. He is heavily handicapped by the men who furnish the means to grease the republican machinery in order to carry elections. Bust the trusts and you shatter the republican organization.

Mansfield (O.) Shield: This is the only country in the world where the statesmen and orators of the party in power boast of how much the people are overtaxed. In no other country do party leaders make it a chronic boast that their party has taxed the people to a far greater extent than was required for the maintenance of the government.

Spencer (Ia.) Herald: The rank and file of the democratic party have ideas of their own as to who should be the party nominee and what the platform should contain. We miss our guess or they will be heard from about convention time and the would-be leaders will either stand pat or get off the track to keep from being run over by the cars. They have not changed their minds since 1896 and 1900.

Westmoreland (Pa.) Democrat: It has again been demonstrated by the republican congress, which adjourned last week, that if the people want and are to obtain any relief from the oppression of the plundering trusts, they will have to make a sweeping change in the law-making body. It has now been repeatedly shown that the trusts are absolutely safe from any determined or effective legislation under republican control.

Tiffin (O.) Advertiser: The republican national committee, Hanna and Dick, recognized the methods by which Addicks secured the Delaware legislature, even though he could not control it to secure a senatorship. Hanna should have gone a step further and instructed the gas man how he became senator, when a majority of the members of the legislature were against him. Or he might have sent Rathbone.

Hastings (Neb.) Democrat: The republicans are bound to settle the negro question for the south—again. As long as there are some two hundred or more colored gentlemen from the south who come as delegates to the republican national convention, patriotic northern politicians who need delegates to make themselves presidential candidates, spring up regularly every four years to settle the negro question. Here is Roosevelt inviting them to dine at the White house and giving them political appointments—in the south. Hanna wants to pension all ex-slaves. Spooner wants a convention of delegates appointed by the governors of all states to meet and

at a stroke settle the negro question. All these patriotic gentlemen have the same object in view to settle the negro question for the south. It is fortunate that they can't agree upon a plan, but how can they when they are all candidates for the same place and won't divide the delegates?

Harrison County (O.) Democrat: Mr. Littlefield was foolish enough to believe that Colonel Roosevelt really wanted to make things hot for the trusts and he wrought to that end. Note the finish.

Carroll (O.) Democrat: The assertion of Secretary Root that "negro voting is a failure" is interesting because it is the first admission of the kind from so high a republican source. Where would the republican party be were it not for the negro vote? It has won three-fourths of its victories.

Plattsburg (Mo.) Leader: The Brooklyn Eagle says: "The Bryanite remnant will have to support the nominee whoever he is and take their chances under him or they will have to get out." That is such nice, sweet-tempered harmony talk! Yet if a true democrat objects to it and resents that spirit, these fellows call him a destroyer of harmony. Fact is most of this "harmony" talk is simply a demand for unconditional surrender of all that's good in democracy. And the demand comes from the financial masters. They need watching. A citizen who falls in with them simply commits civic suicide.

Howells (Neb.) Journal: There is only room in this country for one trust-worshipping, corporation-ruled party, and that field is fully occupied by the g. o. p. This should be a pointer to the reorganizers in the east

who would make the democratic party a republican side-show. Even if they should succeed in their foul design, they could only hope to be a step-child in the trust household, where the g. o. p. will ever hold the position of first-born and only beloved.

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