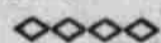


is the railroad, not the public, that demands the removal of authority to Washington.

The democrats can be depended upon to oppose with all their might this movement toward centralization. If any democrat wavers his constituents should look into his business relations and see whether he is under obligations to the railroads. A Hamiltonian republican, like the president, may honestly think that the farther the government is removed from the people the better it will be, but a Jeffersonian democrat does not cherish any such delusion. Even the Hamiltonian republican ought to hesitate to trust congress with any more power while the United States senators are elected by legislatures.

It is fortunate that the people have had an object lesson so recently. The federal law stopped rebates and passes, but the railroads make more money than they did before. The states, on the other hand, gave the people a reduction in rates and those who are receiving the benefit of these reductions will be slow to surrender the advantage thus far gained.

It is very doubtful whether the republican congressmen from the west will dare to support the president's proposition, but if an attempt is made to put such a measure through congress the democrats will stand a good chance of retiring every western republican who votes for it. Let the democrats present an unbroken front on this vital proposition.



#### "AFTER THE MANNER OF DAVIS"

But Mr. Williams should have strongly qualified that sentence about "thinking after the manner of Calhoun and Davis." It cost the country a good deal to settle the falsity of the main phase of that manner of thinking.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

In the above the Milwaukee Sentinel refers to John Sharp Williams' declaration that Mississippi "will have a man in the senate who will at least think upon political subjects after the manner of thought of Calhoun and Davis, Tilden and Walthall." And the Sentinel is very unfortunate in its comments. It overlooks the fact that the republican party today is construing the Declaration of Independence, not as Lincoln construed it, but exactly as Jefferson Davis construed it. We promise to give to the Filipinos all the liberty they are capable of enjoying, a doctrine that Lincoln denounced as the "doctrine of kings." Jefferson Davis construed the Declaration of Independence as having been "written for the benefit of the white men who wrote it, and to be construed according to the circumstances under which it was written." That policy is exactly in line with the present republican administration's policy towards the Filipinos, and the Milwaukee Sentinel supports that administration and endorses that policy.



#### TAFT WEAKENS ON REFORM

Secretary Taft's speech will prove a disappointment to those who expected a clear bugle note in favor of reform. There is not a single question on which he takes a strong, advanced position.

On the railroad question he is in favor of preventing watered stock, opposes the consolidation of competing lines and the duplication of directorates. So far so good; but he does not advocate the ascertaining of the value of the roads or the reduction of rates. He even defends the president from the charge of favoring the reductions made by the states. The railroads may object to his rhetorical denunciation of abuses, but they will hardly be scared by his remedies.

On the trust question he thunders at UNLAWFUL trusts, but not only does not recommend new legislation but takes the position that a monopoly may not be harmful. He seems to lean toward the idea that it must be convicted of some harmful act—and this throws the burden of proof upon the government. He recognizes that "restraint is more difficult" when one corporation swallows up a lot of other corporations—that "it involves enormous labor on the part of the government to prosecute such a combination because the proof of the gist of the offense lies underneath an almost limitless variety of transactions" and yet he is opposed to the license system which would enable the government to absolutely prevent a monopoly. In other words, he gives the benefit of the doubt to the corporation instead of to the people. He thinks that putting one or two trust magnates in the penitentiary would have a healthy effect,

but he uses so many qualifying words that one is left in doubt as to what he really favors.

After submitting an argument in support of an inheritance tax and a graduated income tax, he concludes by saying that he is not in favor of adopting either of them NOW. At some future time he may favor them IF THEY ARE NEEDED.

He comes out strong in favor of government by injunction, but does not take any position on arbitration and election of senators by the people.

He takes a rap at socialism, denounces the initiative and referendum and presents an argument against government ownership of railroads. He is stronger in stating what he opposes than in stating what he favors and he—unintentionally, of course—misstates Mr. Bryan's position on several questions.

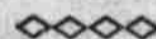
He makes out a strong case in favor of tariff reform, but when he gets to the remedy he goes no farther than the republican leaders have gone in former campaigns. He wants enough tariff to cover the difference in cost of labor here and abroad—the excuse given for the present tariff—and he wants the tariff reformed by its friends. "Tariff reform by the friends of the tariff" is a farce and a fraud and the secretary runs away from the conclusions which would naturally be drawn from the statistics which he presents.

The conservatives may object to his speech because it admits many democratic contentions, but no real reformer will find encouragement in it. It is a straddle of the most important issues—a compromise instead of fight for reform.



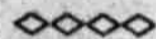
#### APPALLING FIGURES

Last year 100,000 acres of American spruce, poplar and hemlock forests were denuded in order to furnish the paper used by the newspapers and periodicals of this republic. And while the administration is boasting of its efforts to renew the forests it persists in maintaining a tariff on wood pulp that puts a premium on the destruction of forests which progresses faster than the government can replace, and at the same time increases the cost of print paper for the benefit of a paper trust. The tariff on lumber and the tariff on wood pulp and paper puts a heavy tax on consumers for the benefit of a few tariff barons, and at the same time offers a heavy premium for the destruction of our forests.



#### MIXED LOGIC

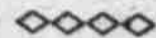
In the same column of the same issue in which the St. Louis Times demands the immediate building of the free bridge for which the people of St. Louis voted bonds, it asserts that "public ownership is a public bust." The logic of the Times is wierd and wonderful. St. Louis voted bonds for a free bridge to rid itself of the exactions of the bridge and terminal company. Municipalities vote bonds for lighting and water plants to rid themselves of corporate exactions. The Times should call a meeting of its editors and endeavor to reconcile them.



#### A HIT, A PALPABLE HIT!

The New York Times declares that the Standard Oil company has been chosen as the scapegoat by the present administration because it has no friends, is decidedly unpopular, and because "it may be cudged to death without dislodging the smallest copingstone from the top of the tariff wall."

A hit; a palpable hit!



#### THE ANSWER IS EASY

The telegraph operators' strike will give argument to those who believe in government ownership of public utilities. Who ever heard of a strike in the civil service or postoffice department? However, what would become of the telegraphers' union?—Marshalltown (Iowa) Times-Republican.

It would probably grow stronger than ever, and be more what its organizers intended it should be—a helpful fraternity bound together by ties of friendship, common interest and mutual helpfulness. Columbia Typographical Union is the second largest typographical union in the international. It is located at Washington, D. C. Three-fourths of its members are employed in the government printing office, and they constitute practically one hundred per cent of the force. Every mechanical trade employed

by the government in its big Washington plants, and at its various plants throughout the country is thoroughly organized. The government's mechanical work is done by mechanics, ninety per cent of whom are members of their various trades unions. There are no strikes against Uncle Sam for the simple reason that he is a considerate employer, works the short day, pays good wages and employs only adults. Uncle Sam's craftsmen are the best paid craftsmen in the world, as well as the best treated and the most skillful.



#### THERE ARE OTHERS

The Chicago Record-Herald says: "There are some citizens who do not like Taft. It may be assumed that John D. Rockefeller is one of these. Otherwise the unwelcome praise of Taft would not have been given in his sensational, half-denied interview the other day."

Was the New York Financial Chronicle also showing hostility for Mr. Taft when it said: "Mr. Taft is a man whom everyone respects and no opposition can be made to him except on the ground that he is the heir to the place appointed by the present ruling president and his designated representative of the policies he will have been foremost in advancing during nearly eight years when his present term expires. This action has a hopeful aspect, as it scatters some hitherto disturbing doubts. There can be no question hereafter as to an impending third term; that danger is wholly removed. What is also highly important is that Mr. Taft is an extremely able, many-sided man of sound judgment. He is not controlled by pride of opinion, petty prejudices nor by a hysterical temperament. If time should prove that any of the recently enacted laws are working industrial mischief, he will not hesitate to urge remedial legislation, notwithstanding he wears Mr. Roosevelt's mantle."

Referring to the New York Financial Chronicle, the Springfield (Mass.) Republican says it is "above any other publication the organ" of the great corporation interests. The Republican interprets this statement quoted from the New York Financial Chronicle in this way: "Which amounts to saying that the policy of 'persecuting' the railroads and trusts will undoubtedly stop with the outgoing of Mr. Roosevelt and the incoming of Mr. Taft, and may even be 'remedied' so far as now obtaining force. Mr. Taft, in a word, is not only vastly to be preferred by these interests over Mr. Roosevelt, but is open to consideration as a first choice on account of his highly judicial temperament."

#### WHAT OF THE NIGHT

"Little man, what of the night?"

"I know not the night," he said.

"I wake in the morning light,

And mother puts me to bed  
When the sun in red gold is dressed,  
And he goes down the hill to rest."

"Busy boy, what of the night?"

"The night? Oh, it comes too soon—

And then takes a sudden flight

In tow with the dreaming moon—  
Scarce my head on the pillow lies  
Ere there's light in the morning skies."

"Young lover, what of the night?"

"The beauty of sky and star,

And there in the vast midheight

A face that is fair and far—

To the love in whose glorious eyes

All my heart offers sacrifice."

"Laborer, what of the night?"

"A sanctuary of peace

And rest to the weary wight;

And sleep that his bones doth ease—

'Tis the blessing which God's right hand

Kindly giveth to every land."

"Trembling heart, what of the night?"

"The stars' eyes have closed in sleep.

The moon has withdrawn her light—

Dread shapes from the shadows creep

And mingle, and grow into one

That keeps me near till night is done."

"Trusting soul, what of the night?"

"The spirit of God seeks mine,

The deeper the dark, his light

Doth kinder and brighter shine,

In the day we behold God's might—

But his love fills our hearts at night."

—Mary A. O'Reilly in St. Louis Globe-Democrat.