

sane, sober man bent upon equal justice for all, and it will probably have no little effect with those independent voters whose support is invited in the closing words."

Mr. Taft did, it is true, have a great deal to say about Mr. Roosevelt and the Roosevelt policies. But before the Record-Herald can persuade the masses that they may depend upon Mr. Taft for reform measures it will have to explain how it happens that in spite of his extravagant praise for the Roosevelt policies Mr. Taft yet retains the enthusiastic support of the representatives of special interests.

For instance, in the same issue in which the Record-Herald says editorially, "The speech justifies the faith of the republican masses who believe that the candidate is more progressive than his platform," we find the following extracts from editorials printed in newspapers that are generally recognized as the spokesmen for special interests:

New York Sun: Mr. Taft's speech, deplorable as it is, will not lose him a republican vote. What a relief it must be to him today to have the fearful thing off his mind, and off his conscience; and how ardently he must look forward to the time when he can say things and do things not because they are to make votes for him, but because they are the right things to say and the right things to do. The nauseating incubus beneath which he staggers in nearly every sentence would suffocate any ordinary man. William H. Taft deserves the prayers as well as the votes of every decent citizen in the country. And when he is freed from his dread obsession and once more walks in sunshine that knows no mortgage, he will show his fellow men that no vicissitudes save death alone can forever frustrate or subdue an honest man.

Milwaukee Sentinel: A pervading tone of calm good sense and a marked absence of stumpy oratory claptrap and stage thunder agreeably characterize Mr. Taft's speech of acceptance. It therefore affords a needed relief from a style of declamation that has been much dinned in the ears of our people of late years. "Come, let us reason together," may be called the keynote of the republican candidate's discussion of principles at issue between the parties. The speech, therefore evinces that genuine respect for the intelligence and fundamental fairness of the people which the harangue of the demagogue always lacks.

In the same issue, the Record-Herald prints an interview with George Gould in which that great railroad magnate gives enthusiastic endorsement to the republican candidate.



AN "ENTHUSIASTIC" ENDORSEMENT

In his speech of acceptance Mr. Taft says: "With respect to the election of senators by the people, personally I am inclined to favor it, but it is hardly a party question."

What is it if it is not a party question? It is a public question and a very pressing one. The democratic party declared in favor of it. The republican party is silent on it. And the best that the republican candidate—convinced since the convention of the popularity of the plank—can do, is to say "personally, I am inclined to favor it." His remarks clearly indicate that he does not attach importance to the proposed reform.



UPHELD BY GOOD LAWYERS

In his speech of acceptance Mr. Taft, referring to the suggestion that trial by jury be required in all cases of indirect contempt, says: "Never in the history of the country has there been such an insidious attack upon the judicial system as the proposal to interject a jury trial between all orders of the court made after full hearing and the enforcement of such orders."

But the United States senate in June, 1896, undertook to make just such provision. Senator Platt of Connecticut was the only republican to speak against it. John Sherman of Ohio, William B. Allison of Iowa, Eugene Hale of Maine, Joseph B. Hawley of Connecticut, Justin S. Morrill of Vermont, Knute Nelson of Minnesota and Francis E. Warren of Wyoming were among the republican senators present when this bill passed. Presumably they voted for it. There was no roll call. At least they did not vote against it nor did they speak against it.

In the senate at the time and voting for this measure there were—besides the distinguished republicans above named—such good lawyers as David B. Hill of New York, Senator Villas of Wisconsin, Senator Pugh of Alabama,

Senator George of Mississippi, and William V. Allen of Nebraska.

Does any republican believe that John Sherman, William B. Allison, Eugene Hale, Joseph B. Halley, Justin S. Morrill, Knute Nelson, all distinguished republicans, would either cast their vote for or by their silence acquiesce in "an insidious attack upon the judicial system?"

Does any one believe that lawyers like Senators Villas, Allen, Hill, Pugh and George would participate in "an insidious attack upon the judicial system?"



IF NOT, WHY NOT?

In his decision in the Standard Oil case, Judge Grosscup said: "No monarch, no parliament, no tribunal of western Europe, for centuries, has pretended to have the right to punish except after due trial under all the forms of law. Can that rightfully be done here, on no other basis than the judge's personal belief that the party marked by him for punishment deserves punishment? If so, it is because the man who happens to be the judge is above the law?"

Are those republican organs that enthusiastically commend Judge Grosscup's decision willing to apply that doctrine to the laboring man confronted with the charge of "indirect contempt?" If not, why not?



WITH EVERY HOPE OF SUCCESS!

In his letter of acceptance Mr. Taft says: "If I am elected president I shall urge upon congress, with every hope of success, that a law be passed requiring the filing in a federal office of a statement of the contributions received by committees and candidates in elections for members of congress, and in such other elections as are constitutionally within the control of congress. Meantime the republican party by the election of a New York treasurer has subjected all its receipts and expenditures to the compulsory obligation of such a law."

But why "with every hope of success?" Did the letter Mr. Taft wrote to Senator Burrows, urging the adoption of such a law, have any effect upon the republican congress?

Did the recommendation of Mr. Roosevelt have any effect upon the republican congress? The Taft letter and the Roosevelt recommendation were given to congress while a presidential election was approaching. If a republic-



MR. TAFT'S BIG BLUNDER

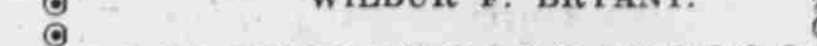
Lincoln, Neb., July 29, 1908.

To the Editor of The Commoner: It behooves the leader of a great political party to be accurate in his statements, for ordinary people are very likely to accept him as authority. In his speech accepting the nomination for president of the United States at the hands of the republican party, made at Cincinnati, July 28th inst. Judge William Howard Taft, speaking of the jury trial in cases of constructive contempt for disobeying an injunction, makes use of the following language:

"If now their (the courts) authority is to be weakened in a manner never known in the history of the jurisprudence of England or America, except in the constitution of Oklahoma, how can we expect that such statute will have efficient enforcement."

It seems incredible that a man who held a position of federal circuit judge for eight years, and who dealt with this very question should be ignorant of the fact that the English parliament enacted a law, restraining chancery jurisdiction, and forbidding arrest, conviction or forfeiture without a jury. See 3 Edward II A. D. 1309. In his work on Federal and State Constitutions (1908) Professor Stimson refers to this act of parliament as "a principle only recently revived in the constitution of Oklahoma." See page 14. Judge Taft was doubtless aware of the further fact that Sir Edward Coke sarcastically referred to the court of star chamber as "A court of criminal equity." The framers of the Oklahoma constitution were not so original as you credit them with being, Judge Taft. Sincerely,

WILBUR F. BRYANT.



can congress would not act under those circumstances with what reason does Mr. Taft say that after the presidential election he would urge such a measure "with every hope of success?"

The republican party in national convention assembled voted down a publicity plank by 94 yeas to 880 nays.

Meantime let it be remembered that the publicity favored by Mr. Taft is an "AFTER" election publicity. In other words, the people will be told who the financial backers of the republican party are when it is too late for the people to profit by the information.



CAMPAIGN FUNDS

If bank deposits are guaranteed as recommended in the democratic national platform, funds in bank will be as good as gold in the pocket. There will be no more money panics because there will be no more lack of confidence. Washington will not have to go to the aid of Wall Street banks in trouble because all bankers, being jointly responsible, will watch the Wall Street banks and see that they do not do dangerous and irregular business. Big bankers do not want deposits made absolutely safe in all banks because it will give them less power with their big banks. They oppose the democratic guarantee.

Large industrial interests enjoying special favors at Washington oppose the popular election of United States senators because such a method would soon result in breaking up the present powerful senatorial oligarchy headed by men who shamelessly represent Standard Oil. All these big interests fight this plank in the democratic platform.

The republicans will not materially reduce tariff schedules because the tariff barons control their organization and provide their campaign funds.

To prevent the adoption of reform measures the republicans will have an enormous campaign fund contributed by the powerful interests most deeply concerned. The rigid policy governing the campaign funds of the democrats does not govern with the republicans. They tell nothing until the fight is over. Then it can be shown that large sums were paid to minor organizations and men who could not render detailed reports. With the democrats there must be weekly reports.

If the government at Washington is to be rescued from the powerful few and turned over to the whole people the people must help now. The democratic managers need money for the legitimate expenses of the campaign. They do not require and do not expect anything like the millions which will be used by the republicans. They have no vast organization with thousands of men, from the topmost to the lowest, receiving extravagant salaries. But they do require money to see that the republicans do not improperly use the vast sums put at their disposal by rich men who want to continue the government of the few. They require money for the preparation and dissemination of literature and for the expenses of national headquarters.

Elsewhere in this paper will be found a coupon which can be filled out, giving name and address of sender with amount to be subscribed to democratic national committee. The committee pledges itself that every cent forwarded in answer to this appeal will be carefully expended and accounted for. A special account will be kept and a detailed report will be made. It is a fight of the many against the powerful few. The people must work together in making this contest or the well-organized few with their millions in campaign funds will win.

(All newspapers that are supporting Bryan and Kern are asked to print a reading notice similar to the above and to reproduce the display notice and coupon printed on page 7.)



GOOD WORK AT MEMPHIS

Memphis, Tenn., July 28, 1908.—The Commoner, Lincoln, Neb.: The Commercial Appeal fund passed the one thousand dollar mark at 6 p. m. today. The work is speeding. The ladies of Boliver county, Mississippi, are forming a state organization to push the work.

COMMERCIAL APPEAL,  
C. P. J. Mooney,  
Managing Editor.



PLEASANTRY

The usually accurate Houston Post says editorially that "the next vice president has already been invited by Mr. Bryan to share the White House with him during his term of office." The Post has taken, in all seriousness, a bit of pleasantry.