

branch of the federal government into harmony with the ideas of those who framed our constitution and founded our government.

#### OTHER ISSUES WILL BE DISCUSSED LATER

"Shall the people rule?" I repeat, is declared by our platform to be the overshadowing question, and as the campaign progresses, I shall take occasion to discuss this question as it manifests itself in other issues; for whether we consider the tariff question, the trust question, the railroad question, the banking question, the labor question, the question of imperialism, the development of our waterways, or any other of the numerous problems which press for solution, we shall find that the real question involved in each is, whether the government shall remain a mere business asset of favor seeking corporations or be an instrument in the hands of the people for the advancement of the common weal.

#### DEMOCRATIC PARTY HAS EARNED CONFIDENCE

If the voters are satisfied with the record of the republican party and with its management of public affairs we can not reasonably ask for a change in administration; if, however, the voters feel that the people, as a whole, have too little influence in shaping the policies of the government; if they feel that great combinations of capital have encroached upon the rights of the masses, and employed the instrumentalities of government to secure an unfair share of the total wealth produced, then we have a right to expect a verdict against the republican party and in favor of the democratic party; for our party has risked defeat—aye, suffered defeat—in its effort to arouse the conscience of the public and to bring about that very awakening to which Mr. Taft has referred.

Only those are worthy to be entrusted with leadership in a great cause who are willing to die for it, and the democratic party has proven its worthiness by its refusal to purchase victory by delivering the people into the hands of those who have despoiled them. In this contest between democracy on the one side and plutocracy on the other, the democratic party has taken its position on the side of equal rights, and invites the opposition of those who use politics to secure special privileges and governmental favoritism. Guaging the progress of the nation, not by the happiness or wealth or refinement of a few, but "by the prosperity and advancement of the average man," the democratic party charges the republican party with being the promoter of present abuses, the opponent of necessary remedies and the only bulwark of private monopoly. The democratic party affirms that in this campaign it is the only party, having a prospect of success, which stands for justice in government and for equity in the division of the fruits of industry.

#### DEMOCRATIC PARTY DEFENDER OF HONEST WEALTH

We may expect those who have committed larceny by law and purchased immunity with their political influence, to attempt to raise false issues, and to employ "the livery of Heaven" to conceal their evil purposes, but they can no longer deceive. The democratic party is not the enemy of any legitimate industry or of honest accumulations. It is, on the contrary, a friend of industry and the steadfast protector of that wealth which represents a service to society. The democratic party does not seek to annihilate all corporations; it simply asserts that as the government creates corporations, it must retain the power to regulate and to control them,

#### PLAIN QUESTIONS OF RIGHT AND WRONG

Judge William J. Gaynor of New York has written, for the New York World, an interesting article which shows the importance of democratic victory in this year of 1908. Judge Gaynor says:

"There are no radical questions before the country, but only plain questions of right and wrong which have long been calling out in vain for settlement. In spite of all we have heard of the misuse of our public highways by favoritism in freight rates, no individual, however gross an offender, has been indicted by the government, and the gross result is the collection of a few thousand dollars in fines. The question is whether we are to have not only proper laws but an impartial and reasonably strict administration of the laws, for the welfare of all, or whether our government is to suffer to remain a long gathering condition of favoritism and advantage for a few. That question is now become a live coal in the minds of the American people, and is to be answered. Let us have fair play, and a fair, manly discussion and hearing for the good of our great country, and for our posterity. Those who, instead of living to make posterity better and happier, live only for their own greed and

selfishness, live worse than in vain. I do not intend to strike a despondent note. All our evils will be worked out right gradually, a little by one party and a little by another, until all is done, but those I have mentioned have unhappily lasted too long and grown too grievous. The future is secure with the splendid intelligence and integrity of the people of this country. Though we have our evils and our problems, no one correctly informed of the past can take a morose or despondent view of the present or of the future."

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#### NO "OVERCONFIDENCE"

In his address to the Ohio republican committee on July 27, Mr. Taft said:

"We must know, those of us who face the facts, that we are meeting a large, strong party, headed by an able, forceful and experienced candidate, and we should be exceedingly imprudent if we belittle the forces behind him and the resources of an able leader."

It is not likely that the republican politicians will lose the battle by "overconfidence." Although they are making proud claims in every section of the country, it is known that they have never been in such a state of panic as they are now.

and that it should not permit any corporation to convert itself into a monopoly. Surely we should have the co-operation of all legitimate corporations in our effort to protect business and industry from the odium which lawless combinations of capital will, if unchecked, cast upon them. Only by the separation of the good from the bad can the good be made secure.

#### NOT REVOLUTION BUT REFORMATION

The democratic party seeks not revolution but reformation, and I need hardly remind the student of history that cures are mildest when applied at once; that remedies increase in severity as their application is postponed. Blood poisoning may be stopped by the loss of a finger today; it may cost an arm tomorrow or a life the next day. So poison in the body politic can not be removed too soon, for the evils produced by it increase with the lapse of time. That there are abuses which need to be remedied, even the republican candidate admits; that his party is unable to remedy them, has been fully demonstrated during the last ten years. I have such confidence in the intelligence as well as the patriotism of the people, that I can not doubt their readiness to accept the reasonable reforms which our party proposes, rather than permit the continued growth of existing abuses to hurry the country on to remedies more radical and more drastic.

#### OUR PARTY'S IDEAL

The platform of our party closes with a brief statement of the party's ideal. It favors "such an administration of the government as will insure, as far as human wisdom can, that each citizen shall draw from society a reward commensurate with his contribution to the welfare of society."

Governments are good in proportion as they assure to each member of society, so far as governments can, a return commensurate with individual merit.

#### THE DIVINE LAW OF REWARDS

There is a Divine law of rewards. When the Creator gave us the earth, with its fruitful soil, the sunshine with its warmth, and the rains with their moisture, He proclaimed, as clearly as if His voice had thundered from the clouds, "Go work, and according to your industry and your intelligence, so shall be your reward." Only where might has overthrown, cunning undermined or government suspended this law, has a different law prevailed. To conform the government to this law ought to be the ambition of the statesman; and no party can have a higher mission than to make it a reality wherever governments can legitimately operate.

#### JUSTICE TO ALL

Recognizing that I am indebted for my nomination to the rank and file of our party, and that my election must come, if it comes at all, from the unpurchased and unpurchasable suffrages of the American people, I promise, if entrusted with the responsibilities of this high office, to consecrate whatever ability I have to the one purpose of making this, in fact, a government in which the people rule—a government which will do justice to all, and offer to every one the highest possible stimulus to great and persistent effort, by assuring to each the enjoyment of his just share of the proceeds of his toil, no matter in what part of the vineyard he labors, or to what occupation, profession or calling he devotes himself.

#### MR. GOULD IS HAPPY

Arriving in New York from an European trip, George Gould made some interesting statements:

"After election," said Mr. Gould, "I expect to see things get straightened out again. The nominations suit me perfectly."

"Do you mean the democratic as well as the republican nomination by that?" Mr. Gould was asked.

"I do. Mr. Bryan's nomination is very satisfactory. The election of Mr. Taft, which seems assured, will mean the return to prosperity. His large experience in handling public affairs bids fair to make him an excellent president."

In the same interview Mr. Gould, referring to E. H. Harriman's victory in securing a foothold in the Gould system, said that he would welcome Harriman to a place on the Gould railroad board. A great many people will suspect that Mr. Gould is just as well pleased with Mr. Harriman as a Gould director as he is with Mr. Bryan's nomination.

It is to be noted also that in the same interview wherein Mr. Gould gives enthusiastic endorsement to Mr. Taft, he expresses his happiness because of the reversal of the Standard Oil fine.