

STRAWS

Following are some timely letters printed in one issue of the New York World, September 30:

WHY SO LATE?

To the Editor of the World: Will Mr. Roosevelt explain to the citizens whom he expects to vote for his "policies" why the Harri-man letters were not made public before they were stolen and sold for publication? And why did not Mr. Roosevelt start in and prosecute the corporations and trusts before the disclosures and not after he was found out? These are nasty ones. The answers to the above must be "unequivocal and immediate," for the day of retribution is at hand. JOHN F. DEANE.
Princeton, N. J., September 28.

A CHANGE WOULD WORK NO GREATER HARM

To the Editor of the World: I have supported the republican ticket, believing in the constructive policies of the party, especially as emphasized by the late William McKinley. The autocratic sway and self-centered ends of the present administration have caused me to change my views. As a business man I can conceive of no worse conditions than we are now experiencing, and I am led to think a change could work no greater harm. A MERCHANT.
Binghamton, N. Y., September 28.

OTHER FRIENDS OF TRUSTS

To the Editor of the World: The president says that Mr. Taft has long disapproved of Senator Foraker because of his opposition to those great measures of reform with which the administration is identified. The public might be interested in knowing if that disapproval for the same reason also embraces Messrs. Aldrich, Spooner, Hopkins, Cannon et al. My recollection is that the president was mighty thick with Spooner when the latter was in the senate. W. W. MORROW.
Supulpa, Okla., September 23.

HUMILIATION OF THE PEOPLE

To the Editor of the World: The people are humiliated by the stand taken by their chief magistrate. He has descended to the low level of the ward politician. He is wallowing in his own political mire. The more he pursues his present course the deeper he will sink himself and his party. Once an admirer of Roosevelt, I am no longer so, but will vote against him and his protegee, Taft.

REPUBLICAN.

Canarsie, N. Y., September 28.

WHY NOT LET TAFT RUN?

To the Editor of the World: I am a conservative democrat and have voted the gold democrat or republican ticket for president for the last three times. But since I have read Teddy Roosevelt's last letter, in which he proves—to his own satisfaction—that he is a greater radical than "William J." I have decided to vote the democratic ticket, as I want to remain a conservative. By the way, what has become of Taft? Teddy nominated him; why doesn't he let him run? THOMAS E. BISHOP.
Brooklyn, September 28.

THE "HARD-TIMES" ARGUMENT

To the Editor of the New York World: It seems to me that the republican party is afraid to meet the issue before the American people. It is trying through its newspapers to scare the people with the idea that if Bryan is elected we will have hard times. What I want to know is, can we have any harder times than those we are going through now? That argument scared the people in 1896, but I don't believe any one will take notice of it now. The trust magnates are trying to scare their employes with this threat. It can't be any worse with Bryan than it is now, and although I don't care about any party, I am convinced a change would be a good thing for the people this year. READER.
New York, September 10.

REPORTS FAVOR BRYAN

To the Editor of the New York Herald: The writer was one of the delegates from the First congressional district of Alabama to the Denver convention, and made it a point to inquire at several cities and towns in Kansas, Ne-

braska and Colorado as to prospects of the democratic ticket and found a very strong sentiment at every place for Bryan and Kern.

We are in receipt of a letter from a reliable correspondent in Ohio, who says Ohio is not a doubtful state at this time, but is safely for Bryan; that it is up to the republicans to change it. We are also in receipt of a letter from a correspondent in Missouri who says that state will give Bryan and Kern 50,000 majority, and still another from a correspondent in Indiana who believes that state will be found in the democratic column this time.

In his former races Mr. Bryan was unable to carry his home ward or county, but this time, so I was informed in Lincoln, he will carry his home county without any difficulty, it being the opinion of the gentleman with whom I discussed it that he would get seventy-five per cent of the vote in Lincoln, and this man was a republican. E. J. BUGG.
Monroeville, Ala., September 19, 1908.

FINDS MANY FOR BRYAN

To the Editor of the New York Herald: Being a traveling salesman selling securities for a prominent banking house, and having just returned from a trip through the west and east, I have taken every possible means and opportunity to sound the opinions of the leading bankers, merchants, farmers and leaders of laboring organizations as to the outcome of the presidential election.

It will no doubt surprise New Yorkers to know that the sentiment is almost unanimous in favor of Bryan, as they believe him to be not only eminently capable, honest and sincere, but believe that he has mellowed by age, is quick to see his mistakes and quicker to correct them. * * *

Everyone has the greatest admiration and faith in President Roosevelt and Judge Taft, but they believe that the republican party has grown so rich and powerful from the tariff and extravagances that a change is necessary or else the party will become bigger than the people. COMMERCIAL TRAVELER.
Stamford, Conn., September 20, 1908.

TAFT THE WISER MAN

To the Editor of the New York World: I think Senator Beveridge is right, Taft is a wiser man than Bryan. He is wise enough, if he has any ideas on reform, to keep them secret before election. Surely Mr. Taft's wisdom in this regard should commend itself to the people.

THOMAS S. BATES.

New York, September 20.

A DEMOCRAT'S FIRST VOTE

To the Editor of the New York World: A democrat by reason as well as by training and a voter for fifty-five years, I have never cast a vote for Bryan, but will if I live till November and can get to the polls. If you and I wait for tariff reform from the republican party we shall wait forever, for that is their most valuable political asset—for oil to run presidential campaigns. HENRY L. OSBORN.
Wainscott, N. Y., September 9.

THE COMMON PEOPLE ARE FOR BRYAN

To the Editor of the New York World: I am a naturalized citizen of twenty years' standing and I always split my ticket. This time I shall vote for Colonel Bryan and I believe he will be elected, after a hard fight. This morning I took a walk in a remote rural district of Long Island. On the road I talked with an aged man working on the highway and he said he had voted the republican ticket for the last fifty years, but this time he will vote for Bryan and the whole democratic ticket, and his five sons, who are farm laborers, will vote for him in the same district. Then I passed through a small hamlet and called at the grocery store and post-office, and the proprietor, a most intelligent and well-read man, said: "I have always been a republican and am beholden for my position as postmaster to the republican party, but this time I shall vote for Bryan." The people are for Bryan. A COUNTRY PARSON.
Kings Park, L. I., September 11.

"SAFE AND CONSERVATIVE MR. BRYAN"

To the Editor of the New York World: Bryan is the people's candidate. He did not receive his nomination from the hands of the bosses as Taft has. He is the most independent candidate that ever ran for president of the

United States. His nomination was forced upon the bosses by the people, who are tired of the present blundering president, who talks very loud about trusts, nature-faking and big navies, but does very little to promote the interests of the country. Bryan is a different type—a safe and conservative statesman who would promote the best interests of the country at home and abroad. I venture to say he is the most popular man in America today. I know many who have always voted republican, but are going to change this time and vote for Bryan. So am I, and I think we will be successful.

THOMAS J. CONWAY.

New York.

AN INDEPENDENT'S VOTE FOR BRYAN

To the Editor of the New York World: While an independent in politics, the writer will vote for Bryan because the class of men denounced by President Roosevelt as "malefactors of great wealth" are supporting Taft.

P. B. COX.

Pleasantville, N. J., September 9.

A REPUBLICAN FOR BRYAN

To the Editor of the New York World: Up to today I have been in doubt for whom I shall vote for president. I am no longer in doubt after reading Hearst's attack on Mr. Bryan. As a republican, I shall cast my ballot for Mr. Bryan as against Hearst, Hisgen & Co.

C. BRADSHAW.

Brooklyn, September 9.

AN ALIENATED REPUBLICAN

To the Editor of the New York World: The writer is a republican, but will support Bryan from disgust due to the methods employed by the administration to secure Taft's nomination. Such methods are a menace to republican institutions and should be rebuked at the polls as a warning to any future administration that would designate its successor through an officeholders' trust. S. CALVERT.
Atlantic City, September 9.

LANDSLIDE FOR BRYAN

The Boston Herald: In a recent editorial you said "New England is not interested in the guarantee of bank deposits." If you had chanced to be in Providence on a certain morning last October, as I was, and see the long line of men, women and children that coiled around and still around the Union Trust company building waiting for the bank to open (which it never did), and had watched the ever lengthening lines forming outside other financial institutions—

What! will the lines stretch out unto the crack of doom?—

you would not have made this statement. That the Boston clearing house issued certificates last fall is enough to prove that New England is vitally interested in this most important plank of the democratic platform.

Again, it will act as a salutary check to the attempt of certain cliques to monopolize the banking business in Boston on the ground that large banks are the more safe.

The tremendous power that the national bank system gives to irresponsible oligarchies will be considerably moderated by making "national" banks truly national.

This is the strongest plank in the democratic platform and is going to be a factor in the great landslide in November for William Jennings Bryan. Yours truly,

ARTHUR B. FLANAGAN.

Cambridge.

AN ABSURD REPORT

Republican managers claim that some one charged Mr. Taft with having said that "a dollar a day" was enough for a laboring man.

The Associated Press reports, printed in the newspapers of October 2 and describing Mr. Taft's Nebraska tour, show how the republican candidate disposed of this absurd report. The Associated Press says:

"At Table Rock, addressing a crowd of workmen, Mr. Taft discarded the word 'false' and employed the 'shorter and uglier' term. He said: 'Some ordinary, cheap, common liar has devoted himself to the business of running around the country saying I was in favor of paying a laboring man a dollar a day and that I have said that is enough. Anybody that says I ever made that remark is a liar, and the man who believes it is a fool, for why should I say that?'"