

in the election was the attitude of the business world. Mr. Bryan based his hopes of success largely on the belief that there was strong opposition to the trusts and that he would be regarded as the logical leader of this opposition. But so far as the business world itself is concerned there is little reason to believe that there is much opposition to trusts. The average business man does not take them as seriously as the academic writers or as the people who have been knocked out of business by them. As a plain matter of fact he rather likes the principle underneath. A trust puts an end to competition, and the business man likes to be rid and delivered from the harassing worry and fret of having to keep ahead of the other fellow. If he can put him out of the running, so much the better.

Again, the trusts are predatory, and it must be admitted that there

is still a kind of predatory instinct or disposition in business. Business is after the dollar and it chases it hard. Hence when we talk about predatory wealth, the average business man feels, away down in his unseen anatomy, that he is first, second or third cousin to that kind of disposition. Hence the business world is not yet ready to be scared along that line.

Rockefeller

When it was announced that Rockefeller had pronounced for Taft the republicans were alarmed over the possible effect on voters. President Roosevelt went so far as to declare it a trick of the enemy. But it is now admitted that it had no unfavorable effect. Why? Simply because as yet the country is not seriously afraid of trusts. That Rockefeller and Carnegie should both take sides against Bryan on the same day did no harm to the other man. On the contrary, these mighty potentates of the commercial world really give direction to its sentiments and political preference. Much as the Standard Oil trust is denounced and railed at, its commander and its captains are looked up to by the business circles of the country as the shrewdest and surest authorities of the time. In spite of all appearances to the contrary, the greatest exploiters of this age or any other age are carrying on their work under the spell of a peculiar kind of confidence. Taft could have had the open, active and unquestioned support of every trust in America and it would not have interfered with his election. Simply, as I have said, because the business men of the country are not alarmed over the trusts.

A Curious Fact

But the qualifying remark should be made, that some of those who are opposed to the trusts regarded the Roosevelt policies as standing for that opposition, and they accepted Taft as pledged to carry out those policies. Curiously enough, while the west voted for him to carry out the policies, the east seems to have voted for him in the belief that he would not carry them out, as is seen by the support of such papers as the New York Sun, the Times, the Brooklyn Eagle, the Baltimore Sun, and numerous other well known trust organs. It is a peculiar feature of the situation. My own private belief is that Judge Taft will have a policy of his own. He is entirely capable of it. He is too large, physically and every other way, to be a shadow or an echo. And, to be quite frank about it, I think he will find it easier to form his own policy than he would to determine exactly what Mr. Roosevelt's policies were. Mr. Roosevelt is impulsive, but Mr. Taft is calm, of the judicial turn of mind, experienced and brainy; and he is in every way more fitted to be president in his own person and right than to be heir, or reflector or imitator of a man who will have passed from the stage to the pursuit of wild game in Africa.

\$4,000 IN OLD PUMP

Utica (N. Y.) dispatch to the New York Herald: John Roberts, of Watkins, Schuyler county, a well driller, purchased of Angelo Dupree, a junk dealer, an old pump for ten cents. It was apparently of no value, but he thought there might be some parts that he could use in this business. When Mr. Roberts and his assistant took the pump to one of the wells they were drilling and started breaking it up they were greatly surprised to see gold coins drop out of the holes they made. They at once finished the job, and found \$4,000, nearly all in \$20 gold pieces.

Whom the pump belonged to at the time the money was hidden or how long it had been there is a mys-

tery. The latest date of one of the coins was 1888. Mr. Roberts at once deposited his find in the Farmers and Merchants' bank, at Watkins. He is willing to surrender the find to any one who can prove own-

ership, but no claimant has yet appeared.

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