

## What Are the Wild Waves Saying?

### THE TAFT ADMINISTRATION

Watch the rough and rude insurgent  
Rush to press with views divergent  
On the Taft administration  
From the views he once expressed.  
See him put away his hammer,  
Change the tenor of his grammar  
And declare that what he roasted  
Now has merit of the best.

Hear him change his tune completely,  
Mr. Taft he'll speak of sweetly,  
And he'll scramble unto cover  
As a chicken goes to roost;  
He will discontinue sneering,  
And will take up hearty cheering  
And for Taft's administration  
He will promptly start to boost.

He will put away his hammer,  
And the tenor of his grammar  
Will be soft and full of honey,  
Where in epithets he waded.  
Yes, the Taft administration  
He'll indorse with great elation,  
It's the only thing he can do  
Now that Teddy has O. K.'d it.  
—Detroit Free Press (Standpatter.)

### "BRYANISM" IN NEW CLOTHES

Louisville Courier-Journal (Dem.): "The new nationalism," says Theodore Roosevelt, "means nothing but an application to new conditions of certain old and fundamental moralities." "The new nationalism" is nothing more than "Bryanism" preached by Roosevelt. Roosevelt is a little more federalistic than Bryan; but he only needs to add "free silver at the ratio of 16 to 1" to make a perfect reproduction of "the Boy Orator of the Platte" and 1896. How do the straight republicans like it?

### BEWILDERED INSURGENTS

Detroit Free Press (Standpatter): What are the insurgents going to do about it? The question has suddenly become one of the most exciting of all developments of this remarkable campaign.

The Roosevelt declaration of complete allegiance to Taft republicanism at Saratoga came as a surprise to those who had been cheering for him as the supposed opponent of the president and who were looking for him to form a new party. Thinking back a few months, however, it seems as if the outcome ought not to have been unexpected.

As long ago as last spring, when the colonel was headed homeward, there were numerous predictions as to what he would do about insurgency. One of the magazines that has capitalized the restless spirit it helped to create in the country and has made handsome profits out of the operation cautioned its readers, we remember, not to rely too much on Mr. Roosevelt's independence. If memory serves, the same advice was repeated a short while ago by one Judson Welliver, muckraker in sugar and other specialties. He recalled that the Roosevelt career had been one of regularity, and was certain that the radicals could not hope that he would break away from the party for their sake.

It was freely said, too, after the memorable conversation at Beverly, that an understanding was then reached between the president and the ex-president whereby the one was to keep the regulars in line and the other would take care of the insurgents. No one knows how much truth there was in the supposition, of course. But the result gives some foundation for it.

Mr. Roosevelt toured the country after his two months of silence. He was a radical of the radicals. He did not indorse the administration, and critics and admirers alike drew the inference that he would oppose it when the time came. Was it part of the game planned at Beverly?

At all events, he went out into the enemy's tents and he won the hearts of the dwellers therein. To suggest that he was seeking to undermine the influence of the new leaders and to recruit the followers under his own banner, only to lead them in to the camp of the general from which they had been enticed away, would be unwarranted by the known facts. But the Cummins and the Dollivers and the others have seen their troops follow the magic piping until the ranks of regularity were in sight at

Saratoga. When they were safely aligned and headed toward their destination the music changed and instead of dancing merrily along to insurgent ragtime they found themselves soberly marching to the good old party harmony, as played by the New York band.

If it was political strategy it was done in masterly fashion. The insurgent captains are left alone out in the barren fields, so short a while since covered with shouting crowds. What are they going to do? Stay out in the dreary loneliness, or go back to camp with the rest?

President Taft is the acknowledged leader of his party today, and the untimely chortles of joy from the mischief makers over the Roosevelt victory at Saratoga have been abruptly stilled by the highly disturbing platform adopted there. Even the Chicago Tribune has entered upon a month of silence since it was published.

### DISAPPOINTED

Webster City, Ia., Freeman-Tribune, Insurgent. The Freeman-Tribune confesses to a great disappointment in the conduct of Theodore Roosevelt. This paper has been an admirer of Mr. Roosevelt for many years, and had full confidence in his wisdom, integrity and loyalty to the interests of the people. This opinion was strengthened by Mr. Roosevelt's tour of the west, when he took occasion to indorse the progressive program as exemplified by such leaders as Dolliver, Bristow, Pinchot and LaFollette. His Osawatimie address placed him unqualifiedly in the progressive ranks, and his general talk upon that western trip was in line with his record in the White House. Now, however, Mr. Roosevelt seems to be hedging. He is evidently trying to make peace with the reactionary element of the east. After a strenuous fight he controlled the recent state convention in New York. He dictated the platform and dominated the nominations. The platform gives unqualified indorsement to the national administration, and gives the president credit for all the good legislation of the past eighteen months. A man of the prominence of Roosevelt can not hope to retain the confidence of the people by indorsing the leading insurgents of the country one day and approving the administration of President Taft without reserve the next. Possibly there is some excuse or reason for Mr. Roosevelt's apparent double dealing that will satisfactorily explain his conduct.

### "GOODBYE, COLONEL"

The Des Moines (Iowa) News, one of Senator Cummins' papers prints an editorial entitled "Goodbye, Colonel." The editorial follows:

"It won't work.

"The progressive sentiment that has stirred men of all parties in all parts of the country can not be chained to any party chariot. Not by Theodore Roosevelt nor anybody else.

"Roosevelt is not the prophet nor the leader of progress. He has no monopoly on it.

"Roosevelt has had New York state put an O. K. on the tariff bill.

"He has commended Taft, the political assassin of Pinchot and all that Pinchot stands for.

"He indorses Taft's conduct in using the patronage club against LaFollette and Cummins and Poindexter and Bristow and the other real insurgents.

"He indorses the lawyer cabinet, Ballinger and all.

"He tries to obscure all this treachery with glittering generalities about 'graft hunting,' but the people will feel safer in graft hunting when they have fewer Lurons on the supreme bench, and fewer Oscar Lawlers in the department of justice.

"Taft, too, just now, declared that he is for insurgency—but Murray Crane and Wickersham and Hitchcock sit at his table.

"Roosevelt selects as his permanent chairman Elihu Root, who is the incarnation of the doctrine of dollars in politics.

"Roosevelt, bringing with him Taft, Ballinger, Wickersham, Root, J. P. Morgan, Tawney, Lurton, Hitchcock, and all the motley crew of plutocrats and Hessians of privilege, can not enlist in the army of insurgency.

"It would have been as sensible if James Buchanan with Jeff Davis and his outfit had tried to get into the councils of Abraham Lincoln.

"Insurgency got along pretty well while Roosevelt was in Africa.

"He can not swallow up the insurgent move-

ment, and insurgency will not swallow him with his indorsement of the tariff bill, of the president, and with his Roots and Griscoms.

"There can be no stop to insurgency in either the republican or democratic parties, and no harm can come to the movement unless undesirable and eleventh hour recruits are permitted to fog its councils and pervert its aims.

"Taft isn't welcome as a recruit and Roosevelt's room is far preferable to his company.

"Let's cut out the red fire and the leather lungs and go back to the patient, dogged fighting of real insurgents.

"Listen to that T. R.-built New York platform! It says: 'We enthusiastically indorse \* \* \* Taft. \* \* \* Each month since his inauguration has confirmed the nation in its high estimate of his greatness of character,' etc.

"Rot! It may have confirmed Roosevelt's high estimate of Taft, but it hasn't confirmed the nation's. Look at the record of those eighteen months!

"Taft ran a fake republican convention in Wisconsin to beat LaFollette.

"Taft tried the patronage club on Bristow.

"Taft excommunicated Cummins.

"Taft fired Pinchot.

"Taft put Lurton on the supreme bench.

"Taft stood for Morgan's Wickersham railroad bill, and tried to club Cummins into voting for it.

"Taft fought Poindexter at home.

"Taft bargained with Cannon and Aldrich; helped their freinds and hamstringed their foes, though the foes were good party men.

"If that record 'confirms' any 'estimate' of Taft that was held in 1908 then Roosevelt knew he gold-bricked the nation when he handed it the 'judicial temperament' package.

"After that New York platform there is no room in any group or party for both Roosevelt and LaFollette or Roosevelt and Cummins or Bristow or Poindexter.

"And insurgency can't get along without the LaFollettes, Cummins, Bristows and Poindexters.

"So goodbye, colonel; take keer o' yourself."

### "A NEW GUESSING GAME"

The Sioux City (Iowa) Journal, standpatter, of the standpatters, is disconsolate. In an editorial entitled "A New Guessing Game," the Sioux City Journal says:

"Nowadays it is hard to guess the platform utterance after seeing the party label. Conversely it is not easy to guess the party label after hearing the platform utterance.

"For instance, here is a plank that was adopted at a political convention in Wisconsin the other day: 'We denounce the Payne-Aldrich tariff act as an indefensible masterpiece of injustice, legally authorizing remorseless extortions of the many to enrich the few, through the operation of trusts and monopolies, which it fosters. We favor an honest, non-partisan investigation of the tariff by authorized experts to the end that the electors may be enlightened as to the iniquity of the present system of spoliation. We regard the creation of a board of tariff experts by the last congress as a mere subterfuge satisfactory to the special interests.'

"To what political platform would you attribute it? It sounds just like what Senator LaFollette has been saying in the senate, on the platform and in print. Knowing that Senator LaFollette runs the republican party of Wisconsin, you cheerfully guess that the above plank comes from the republican platform. Poor guess! It is good LaFollette doctrine, but as it happened the Wisconsin democrats grabbed it and put it in their platform.

"But here is another chance: 'The operation of the federal and state anti-trust and conspiracy laws has been productive of flagrant and unjust inequalities. The laws have been circumvented by the most dangerous and powerful of the monopolies and trusts, which, through their control of the banks, the money and the credit of the country centered in Wall Street, control the natural resources, the food and clothing and the highways of the nation. This money power, in defiance of laws, has crushed competitors and has built up financial monopolies in the interest of speculators and against the interest of producers, wage earners and consumers. The laws designed to prevent industrial monopoly have been used to suppress the unions and co-operative efforts of wage earners and farmers in their struggle to protect the value of their labor and products of their labor against those moneyed monopolies. We favor such separate classification of unions, associations, monopolies and trusts as shall abolish this