

ing war among democrats. When the Baltimore democrats celebrated St. Jackson's Day, the republican papers predicted a great row as impending, and unfortunately they were aided and abetted by a few so-called democratic papers. We met and had a most enjoyable, hilarious and harmonious meeting. In talking about revising the tariff I suggested in my speech that, considering the fact that there would be a republican majority in the senate and a republican in the white house during the life of the Sixty-second congress, it seemed to me that the best way to revise the tariff downward would be to revise it one schedule at a time, taking the worst schedule first, and that in that way we would stand a better chance of getting relief from some of the most outrageous features of the Payne-Aldrich-Smoot tariff bill. Senator Bailey followed me and expressed a preference for a general and wholesale revision in one bill. We agreed fully as to the iniquitous character of the present tariff bill and as to the desirability of revising it down but differed only as to mode of procedure, every man of sense knowing that fourteen bills revising fourteen schedules would in the end constitute an entire tariff bill. Next morning all the republican papers and their so-called democratic co-adjutors headlined in big black-faced type 'Great Democratic Split at Baltimore!' Senator Bailey promptly explained in an interview that there was no split—that he and I agreed entirely as to the necessity of tariff revision downward and differed only as to the modus operandi, a matter which could be easily settled by consultation. I said 'Amen' to his interview when it was shown to me, but not a single republican paper had grace enough to headline his interview or my concurrence therein.

"Again, when we called the democratic caucus for January 19th, of the members-elect of the Sixty-second congress—an unprecedented performance—to select the democratic members of the ways and means committee in order to expedite tariff revision, the republican papers, all with ghoulish glee, predicted that we were absolutely certain to go to pieces at the caucus, even going so far as to name the men who were to start the riot. They also represented it as a cruel hardship on the new members to have to come to Washington in midwinter, and prophesied that few of them would attend. The caucus was held promptly on schedule time; out of a possible 227 members-elect 220 were in attendance; the seven absentees were accounted for as sick or detained by imperative prior engagements, the newly elected members were among the most enthusiastic there; we had four hours talk, every member, old or new so desiring, having his say; I was unanimously nominated for speaker; the fourteen democrats of the new ways and means committee were unanimously chosen; we had a regular love feast, without a discordant word, and we adjourned knowing full well that we had done a fine night's work for our party and our country; but that sort of news was not headlined in the republican papers.

"Again, when we called a democratic caucus to consider the reciprocity bill, these same republican papers predicted another 'democratic split.' The caucus met; we came out united and cheerful, but the republican papers insisted in scare headlines that we had split wide open. These same republican papers strove so hard to minimize the republican spirit that it required careful reading to discover that President Taft and his Lieutenant-General McCall failed to line up even a majority of republicans for reciprocity—a pitiful performance, surely.

"Some democratic senators voted to retain William Lorimer in the senate; more democrats voted to put him out. Immediately the republican papers announced a 'democratic split,' apparently blissfully ignorant of the fact that while a majority of republican senators voted to retain Lorimer, a respectable minority voted to put him out. They also ignored the fact that the seating or unseating of Lorimer was in no sense a party question.

"The ways and means committee instead of the speaker-to-be is charged with the duty of naming the committees—a reform which I helped to achieve, notwithstanding the fact that it is generally assumed that it will diminish the speaker's power. Under the old system the speaker possessed more power than any one man should have in a republic. The ways and means committee is now engaged in the onerous important and difficult task of making up the committees. A few days ago the republican papers headlined a story to the effect that quite an able democrat had failed to be assigned to

the committee on rules on which he had set his heart, and that therefore he was breathing out threatening and slaughter, and proposed to erect the standard of revolt and split the party wide open. Of course no method of appointing committees could be devised by human ingenuity through which all members could get all they want, and while there must in the very nature of things and the necessities of the case be some disappointment, some disgruntlement and some criticism by reason of committee assignments, the chances are that in due time things will be smoothed out and in good running order.

"I have cited these glaring instances out of a multitude to illustrate the plan of the republican newspapers to deliberately misrepresent us and to stir up all the strife possible in our ranks, but being forewarned, we should be forearmed.

"I never read their malicious canards that I do not recall Sir John Falstaff's exclamation: 'Lord! Lord! How this world is given to lying!' These papers appear to have adopted as their motto Voltaire's celebrated dictum: 'Keep on lying and some of it will stick.'

"Advice is cheap, but I advise democrats not to be deceived by this palpable and malicious trick of republican newspapers. The highest authority known among man tells us: 'In vain is the net spread in the sight of any bird,' and certainly democrats have as much intelligence as the birds. Our duty to ourselves and the country is to stick together, pull together, work together and fight together until we have completely wrested the government from republican maladministration.

"There is an old Latin saying: 'Quos Deus vult perdere prius dementat'—'Whom the Gods would destroy they first made mad.' This seems to fit the present day republican leaders like a glove. History has a strange and confirmed habit of repeating itself. During John Adam's administration the federalists found the current of public opinion running strong against them, with defeat staring them in the face. In hopes of extending their lease of power they enacted the alien and sedition laws in a vain endeavor to throttle free speech. Everybody knows the result. In 1800 Thomas Jefferson, the father of democracy, the greatest statesman that ever lived, bar none, was triumphantly elected and the ship of state was placed on the democratic tack. Now, the republican bourbons, learning nothing and feeling the ground slipping from under their feet, Postmaster General Hitchcock undertakes to increase the postage on magazines to such an extent that it would put many of them out of business by rigging up a scheme which would virtually and pro tanto establish a press censorship. The effort to accomplish that feat and to bridle free speech by means of the infamous alien and sedition laws failed a century ago, just as this latest effort to bridle free speech will fall now, as it deserves to fail.

"My democratic brethren, a golden opportunity has come to us. Let us gird up our loins, buckle on our armour and fight the battles of the people to a triumphant conclusion. If we do our full duty, as I believe we will, we will be victorious not only in 1912 but for years to come. 'Tis a consummation devoutly to be wished.'"

MR. BRYAN'S ADDRESS AT THE CLOSE OF THE BANQUET

Mr. Toastmaster, Distinguished Guests, Members of the Lincoln Bryan Club, and Ladies and Gentlemen: You have made this anniversary a delightful occasion. One could welcome age if each new year were ushered in by such a cordial greeting as this. If I could compel my wife to grow old with me I might wish for a birthday every month if each celebration brought so happy a reunion. I am indebted to the Bryan Club of this city for the honor it has done me on several birthdays, but this is the most ambitious commemoration it has undertaken. I have asked clubs in other parts of the country not to take my name, first, because if I consented it might be construed as a desire to be a candidate again, and second, because I do not care to have a democratic club suffer because of any mistakes that I may make. But I have made an exception in the case of this club in my home city, and I thank it again for the honor it does me.

I appreciate the welcome extended by those who have gathered here, and among those present I see not only democrats who have been with me in all my political fights for twenty years, but republicans also, some of whom have been against me in most of my campaigns. I am glad that friendship is not bounded by party

lines, and I am grateful for the good will that so many of my republican neighbors have so constantly expressed. This meeting is a great gratification to me because it has given the audience an opportunity to hear some of the great men of our party in the nation, and it has given our invited guests a chance to hear some of the strong men in our own state. As the years fall upon me I find myself more and more interested in the young men who are growing up, the young men upon whom the responsibilities of party leadership must soon rest.

Senator Skiles has proven his capacity as a senator, and his speech gives evidence of his understanding of the political situation and of political issues.

Representative Quackenbush has placed us under obligation for his frank discussion of the dangers which he sees, and we can congratulate ourselves upon having so vigilant a democrat on guard.

Congressman Maguire has earned his right to speak as a representative of Lincoln and of the First district. He was re-elected upon his merits, upon the record he had made. I am proud to be his constituent, proud to have him as the representative of the district in which I live.

Senator Hitchcock's speech presents one of the great issues which is soon to be settled on the side of the people. I am glad to have these gentlemen who will be his colleagues in the senate know that they will have his hearty co-operation in all progressive movements. His paper was in the early years of our fight one of the few great dailies which supported our cause; it could be relied upon when many others had left us.

Mr. Metcalfe's speech brings to memory the fact that we have been associated in political contests for more than twenty years. To have the continued confidence and the affection of co-laborers like Mr. Metcalfe is worth more than any office.

It was opportune that Mr. Yamashita should have been here at this time. His participation is the exercises is a most pleasant incident. He came to our home as a young man, and soon became one of the family. His earnestness, his exemplary conduct and his zeal in the study of the science of government interested us all. It is a great satisfaction to know that he now enjoys a responsible position and is endeavoring to inform his countrymen regarding American ideals. I am glad to endorse what he said about the friendship existing between his country and ours. It is almost criminal for sensational papers to attempt to create ill-will between these two countries. My own acquaintance with the people of Japan enables me to confirm what he says in regard to the friendship which the Japanese people feel toward our country, and I think I know our country well enough to assure him that that friendship is reciprocated.

In Governor Shafroth of Colorado, you see one who has won, by fair and honest fight, the prominent position which he holds in his state. Following the dictates of his conscience he left the republican party in 1896, and his conduct since has been such as to win him increasing respect. He refused to accept a certificate of election to congress when he was convinced that there was fraud at the ballot box. In the last state convention the democratic machine of his own city attempted to prevent his nomination, even went so far as to vote him against himself under the unit rule. The country re-nominated him, over the protest of the delegates from the city of Denver, but the city of Denver rebuked the machine by giving him an overwhelming majority at the election. When you hear him you hear one of the best and bravest of the executives of the nation.

Senator Owen has identified himself with all of the measures that look toward the popularizing of government. He believes in the people. He has confidence in their capacity for self-government as well as in their right to self-government. Senator Owen illustrates the power of the brain when backed by a great heart, and he also illustrates the fact that faith is necessary to great achievement. His latest claim to fame rests upon his courageous action during the closing days of congress. When he saw that the reactionary element in the senate was endeavoring to admit New Mexico and reject Arizona he flung himself into the breach and succeeded in uniting the two territories in one bill, and there they are likely to stay until they are admitted together. The feeling of Arizona toward New Mexico, when it comes to the matter of admission, is something like Ruth's feeling

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