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much enhanced by the unanimity with which it is conferred by my party fellows, and the universal good will with which it is accepted by our co-laborers of the minority. Coming into the speakership under these fortunate circumstances, the hearty cooperation of all members, of whatever political persuasion, is thereby earnestly invoked in maintaining order and decorum and in placing upon the statute books laws for the good of the country and the whole country, working out promptly, patiently, courageously and patriotically those measures necessary for the betterment of government methods and for the amelioration of conditions under which we live.

Some Party Satisfaction

"My democratic brethren, coupled with the joy of once more seeing a house a large majority of which is of my own political faith, is a keen sense of our responsibility to our country and our kind. It is an adage worthy of acceptance that where much is given much is required.

"After fourteen years of exclusion in the house and fourteen years of exclusion in every department in the government, we are restored to power in the house of representatives, and in that alone. We are this day put upon trial and the duty devolves upon us to demonstrate not so much by fine phrases as by doing works that are worthy of the confidence imposed on us by the voters of the land and that we are worthy of their wider confidence. We could not if we would, and we would not if we could, escape this severe test. We will not shirk our duty. We shrink not from the responsibility.

"That we will prove equal to the emergency in which we find ourselves placed through our own efforts and through our own desires, there can be no doubt, and the way to accomplish this is to fulfill with courage, intelligence and patriotism the promises made before the election in order to win the election. In discharging our duty thoroughly and well, subordinating personal desires to principle and personal ambition to an exalted love of country, we will not only receive the endorsement of the people but what is far better—we will deserve their endorsement.

The Party Pledges

"Chief among those promises were: "First—An honest and intelligent revision of the tariff downward, in order to give every American citizen an equal chance in the race of life and to hamper none unduly by special favor or privilege, to reduce the cost of living by eradicating the enormities and cruelties of the present tariff bill and to raise the necessary revenue to support the government. Bills are already far advanced in preparation looking to the accomplishment of these beneficial ends.

"Second—The passage of a resolution submitting to the states for ratification a constitutional amendment providing for the election of United States senators by the popular vote. This resolution has already been introduced and will soon be passed by the house. Let us hope that we will send it to the senate by a unanimous vote.

"Third—Such changes in the rules of the house as are necessary for the thorough and intelligent consideration of measures for the public good, several of which changes are accomplished facts. If other changes are deemed wise, they will be promptly made. I congratulate the house and the country and particularly do I congratulate the members of the committee on ways and means upon the success of the important and far-reaching experiment of selecting committees through the instrumentality of a committee, an experiment touching with dire predictions were made and concerning the

operation of which grave doubts were entertained, even by some honest reformers.

Economy the Watchword

"Fourth—Economy in the public expense that labor may be lightly burdened. The literal fulfillment of that promise which so nearly affects the comfort and happiness of millions we have begun—and we began at the proper place—by cutting down the running expenses of the house by more than \$188,000 a year. Economy, like charity, should begin at home. That's where we began. We cannot with a straight face and clear conscience reform expenses elsewhere unless we reform them here at the fountain head. The democratic caucus deserves well of the country for taking this long and important step in the direction of economy all along the line.

"The constitution gives the house the practical control of the purse strings of the country, and the house should insist resolutely and firmly upon exercising that control to the end that appropriation bills be reduced to the needs of the government, effectively and economically administered. It is our duty to provide every dollar needed for the proper and economical conduct of the government, but it is equally our duty to prevent waste and extravagance in public expenditures, for we should never forget that it is a difficult task for millions of families to live now in decency and comfort.

"Surely it is the part of wisdom, statesmanship, humanitarianism and patriotism to legislate so as to reduce their burdens to the minimum. The resuscitation of the Holman rule will help along in this matter. No good citizen desires to cripple the government in any legitimate function, but no good citizen desires that the people be loaded down with unnecessary taxes.

The Light of Publicity

"Fifth—The publication of campaign contributions and disbursements before election. The bill to accomplish that desired reform has been prepared and introduced. It will be speedily passed by the house. The average citizen, whatever his politics, is absolutely honest. He demands honesty and cleanliness in politics. He believes that too much money is spent in election matters and he proposes to put an end to it."

"As the representatives of the average man it is our duty to carry out his patriotic wishes in that regard to the end that all men desirous of serving the public may have a fair chance in politics, and to the end that this mighty republic, the political hope of the world, may not be destroyed by corruption in elections.

"Sixth—The admission of both Arizona and New Mexico as states. I violate no confidence in saying that so far as the house is concerned they will be speedily admitted and they will be admitted together.

"These are a few of the things which we promised. We are not only going to fulfill them; we have already begun the great task. What we have done is only an earnest of what we will do. We, this day, report progress to the American people. The rest will follow.

"No man is fit to be a lawmaker for the people who yields to the demands and solicitations of the few having access to his ear, but is forgetful of that vast multitude who may never hear his voice or look into his face.

"I suggest to my fellow members on both sides of the big aisle—which is the line of demarcation betwixt us as political partisans, but not as American citizens or as American representatives—that he serves his party best who serves his country best."

"I am now ready to take the oath

and ask that it be administered by Mr. Talbot of Maryland."

IN THE SENATE

In its report of the United States senate proceedings, the Associated Press says: Vice President Sherman found the first opportunity to extend a courtesy to Senator Kern of Indiana, his recent competitor for the vice presidential office. The Indiana senator occupied the vice president's chair about five minutes almost immediately after he had been sworn.

The only ex-senator present was the eighty-eight-year-old Henry Gasaway Davis of West Virginia.

Of the senators sworn in seventeen never before held seats. The new republicans were Lippett of Rhode Island, McLean of Connecticut, Pindexter of Washington, Townsend of Michigan, and Works of California. The new democrats being Messrs. Bryan of Florida, Chilton of West Virginia, Hitchcock of Nebraska,

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