

"DON'T MISTAKE THE CHEERS OF THE POLITICIANS FOR THE VOTES OF THE PEOPLE"

(Continued from Page 13.)

abandonment of the democratic platform when they go home to give an account of their stewardship. But they keenly realize that they must first of all dispose of Mr. Bryan. They must destroy his influence with the democratic masses. They must drag him down from the high authority he has so long held. He must be degraded in the public eye; and those now in control, as Mr. Underwood put it, must establish a new leadership less querulous or less critical than Mr. Bryan's has been.

These gentlemen seem to forget that with reference to very many of them the control they now exercise in the house was made possible only by the leadership of Mr. Bryan. And Mr. Bryan himself has not changed. He stands precisely where he has stood during all the years he has been the accredited leader of the party. And he is denounced now as a liar and a mischief maker by gentlemen who seek to justify a departure from the true democratic course. They forget all that they owe to the great influence of this remarkable man and in an effort to divert attention from their own infidelity and weakness they are resorting to desperate means of undermining him in party estimation.

That Mr. Bryan will survive the attacks which the new leaders are making on him we have no doubt, for he is right and they are wrong. Mr. Underwood and those who have so cordially sustained him in his surrender to the protected interests have the floor now. They can applaud each other as they denounce Mr. Bryan to their hearts' content. They may indeed win encores from the plutocratic press and find sympathy in every breast responsive to Wall street promptings. But it must be borne in mind that congress is not the country and that the voice of Underwood is not the voice of God or even of the democratic party. These questions will all be threshed out in due course before the people themselves and we shall see then whose leadership is to abide. That it will not be that of the men who have adopted protective tariff bills in the name of the democratic party and in violation of democratic traditions and democratic pledges we believe to be a safe guess.—Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat.

Albert D. Leyhe, Phoenix, Ariz.—The following editorial appeared in the Arizona Democrat: "There is no man in the nation big enough to eliminate W. J. Bryan from leadership in the democratic party. The people love and trust Mr. Underwood for his brilliant leadership, but back

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of them all, bigger than any other man in the party, loyal to his people and his country, fearless and free, stands W. J. Bryan, the noblest Roman of them all."

In the language of the man whose impulse for prayer was not too fervent, "Them's my sentiments."

F. C. Garner, Oklahoma City, Okla.—The country will applaud the stand which Mr. Bryan is taking against some of the big guns down at Washington, among the democrats, particularly Mr. Underwood, Mr. Bailey and Mr. Martin. What we need are more men of the courage and honesty of Mr. Bryan. If we had a primary for the nomination of presidents, Mr. Bryan would be the next nominee.

MR. DYKSTRA ON THE FIRING LINE

Editor of the Evening Press: I notice that Congressman Sweet has joined the ranks of the democrats who never have a good word for the real leader of their party, but who gladly jump to criticize Mr. Bryan before the latter has a chance to explain the origin of his remarks about Chairman Underwood of the house committee. The fact remains, however, that William Jennings Bryan is the greatest living American citizen today; and the people will honor and remember him as long as this great republic will remain free and independent. The American people will build a monument for Mr. Bryan at a time when no one will remember that Sweet and Doremus were ever among the living. Mr. Bryan is an honest man, a great statesman and a most able leader of the great class of common people. Mr. Bryan could not be elected president—and probably never will be—because the great money power of this country was united against him; and it is against him today.

It is no credit for Mr. Sweet or any one else to criticize Mr. Bryan for a statement before the editor of The Commoner had time to show who is responsible for said statement. At any rate I am inclined to think that Mr. Bryan has forgotten more about the tariff than Mr. Sweet will ever know about it.—A. Dykstra.—Grand Rapids (Mich.) Press.

J. W. Dutton, Oakland, Cal.—Congressman Underwood is something of a figure in the councils of the nation. He happens to be the chairman of the ways and means committee and the floor leader of the house. Mr. Underwood represents a district which is the home of one of the most powerful trusts in this trust-ridden country. It is fair to presume that no man can be elected to congress from his district who is not acceptable to the great dominating trust. Mr. Underwood is nominally a democrat. The democratic party is opposed to a high protective tariff. Mr. Underwood, on the floor of the house of representatives the other day admitted that everything he had was invested in the iron industry. We read "Where your treasure, there is your heart also." We further read (this also is from the same book, the Bible) I Samuel, Chap. 30, v. 24, "As his part is, that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff." Mr. Underwood seems to have forsaken the "battle" and is tarrying by the stuff.

IS THE DEMOCRACY PROGRESSIVE

Farm, Stock & Home: He who takes passage over the sea of political storms in the good ship democracy, because of the glamour of its name, should pray for fair weather, and tie a bailing bucket to his wrist. This is said in sorrow that has no trace of anger, after she has been

inspected in dry-dock by such master-seamen as John Pierpont Morgan, and pronounced seaworthy. Possibly the doubt just expressed is impelled by, rather than in despite of, such indorsement.

It may be that a haunting fear that she will spring a leak where the water is deep, is due in part to the increasing importance in the democratic counsels of those who sit at the tariff tables, and in the seats of the money-kings. The south has become protectionist—ultra protectionist where cotton and steel are concerned, for the south now manufactures both steel and cotton. The strength of the tariff graft is local self-interest, and the new recruit will not willingly leave the feast of Special Privilege.

The democratic party has been long on desire for office, and short on principles. It is to be feared that now, with victory in sight, it will cast the principle part of its luggage overboard. Not willingly; not with the consent of the rank and file; not in the open will this be done, but rather in the dark, by the instigation and at the hands of those who have split the republican party in twain in their attempt to control absolutely the course of government. The invidious forces that give purpose to true democracy and to real progression exist in both parties, and to an alarming degree in the high councils of the democracy. The same split that is open and violent in the republican party crosses over the party gap and is already a definite line of cleavage in the councils of the democracy. The senate minority is organized by the reactionary crowd; the house majority has yet to prove its adherence to progressive principles.

Just at this moment when it should concern itself wholly with the question of how best to serve the people who have given it a tentative lease of power, the democracy in action is harassed by doubt how to win the next election. The public is concerned with the debate as to which of several good men is to go to the bridge; the observer anxious for the safe passage of progressive legislation is more concerned with the quality and amount of the coal in the bunkers, the strength of the bulkheads, and the sea-worthiness of the trust barnacled bottom. While the voyager should sing merrily, let him also carry a life preserver.

GEORGE D. PERKINS ON TRUST CONTROL

Associated Press dispatch: Washington, Aug. 10.—George W. Perkins, financier and director of the United States Steel corporation, made some striking recommendations today with reference to the government's control of corporations. As a witness before the house steel trust investigating committee he declared that existing laws were seriously threatening big business interests and their rigid enforcement was making it impossible for corporations to continue operations in conformity with the statutes.

Mr. Perkins went over a wide range of subjects. He touched on needed reforms in the laws, discussed the existing conditions of corporations and pointed out changes that could be made by congress in the financial system of the country.

Some of Mr. Perkins' observations follow:

"That great corporations, grown up under demands of existing conditions, can no longer successfully exist under the Sherman anti-trust law as now rigidly enforced.

"That the government's dissolution of the Standard Oil company served as the waving of a 'red flag' of warning to every corporation in the United States.

"That something of a constructive

nature must be done by the government with reference to the control of corporations and rather than for present conditions to continue, it would be better to go to the limit of permitting government regulation of prices.

"That the very reason subsidiary companies of a great corporation can violate the law without knowledge of the officers of the holding company is the law which prevents such corporation from operating and ruling the subsidiary concerns instead of merely advising them.

"That one great stride toward averting financial panics in New York could be made if the government would prevent banks in Chicago and the middle west loaning money on call in New York during the summer at cheap rates and suddenly calling it back in the fall for the crop movement, making high money and trouble in the New York market.

"That the establishment of a government bureau which could give accurate information to the public as to the condition of corporations would be an active inducement to the people to make wise investments.

"That one of the most striking developments of the present system of conducting business on a large scale is the dividing of great interests in the hands of many investors, rather than concentrating them in the hands of a few."

Mr. Perkins made the foregoing observations during the third day of his examination by the steel committee inquisitors and at times was eloquent and forceful in his declarations. He frequently emphasized his remarks by waving his arms, pounding upon the witness table with his fists, and arising from his seat to address the committee. When the committee adjourned late today it had not concluded with Mr. Perkins and again tomorrow he will take the stand. He has been held longer by

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