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WILLIAM J. BRYAN Editor and Proprietor RICHARD L. METCALFE Associate Editor CHARLES W. BRYAN Publisher Editorial Rooms and Business Office, 324-330 South 12th Street

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RECEIVED IN SILENCE

An Associated Press dispatch says: Chicago, Oct. 11.—After escaping the direct attacks of Burrage Farwell, head of the Chicago temperance forces, the Christian Endeavorers and a score of temperance societies, the brewers in attendance at the second international brewers' congress received a shock at the closing banquet when one of their own number attacked breweries and delivered an exhortation of them little short of the best efforts Mr. Farwell might have put forth had he had a chance. The speaker was H. Hamilton, president of the Houston Brewing company, of Houston, Texas. He had heard a resolution submitted for adoption, reading: "Resolved, that public drinking places, which are the haunts of vice, are dangerous and should be eliminated."

"I have waited for some brewer to arise and tell what he knows of this truth," Mr. Hamilton said. "There can be no doubt that the sale of liquor in disreputable places should be stopped. What is the use, however, of adopting resolutions like these when it is well known that most of the improper places in large cities are in some way owned or controlled by breweries. If the brewer does not own the license, he owns the building or business or is in some other way in control. Some of you think the fight against the prohibition wave has been won, but it has not; it only has begun. The owning of these disreputable places and the protection of them by the brewing interests is what gives us a black eye. The apti-liquor interests take these facts and make capital of them, as they justly should. A few years ago it was this way in Texas, but we cut ourselves off from such institutions and we have won our way back. I know what I say is true, because I have visited every large city in America and found out for myself."

His remarks were received in silence.

"GIVE THE VOTERS A CHANCE!"

Editorial in Chicago Record-Herald: The president's secretary, Mr. Hilles, announces that his chief, as candidate for another term, is entirely willing to submit his candidacy, along with La Follette and others, to a popular presidential primary in Ohio.

In that state, as in many others, a presidential primary can be arranged by the voluntary action of the party organizations. In six states only—New Jersey, Wisconsin, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon and Texas—does the law provide for a presidential preference primary. It is as certain as anything can be, however, that the presidential primary idea is gaining favor every day. Why should not the voters express their preference as to "the people's office" par excellence in the national sphere as they express it with reference to governors, mayors, legislators and all sorts of minor officials?

Mr. Taft's acceptance of the presidential primary for his own state is significant and important. It should remove much opposition and cause the idea to march. "Give the voters a chance!"

"SHALL THE PEOPLE RULE"—PASS IT ALONG

The democratic precinct club organization work is now proceeding in an encouraging way. Every Commoner reader ought to help in this work. The headquarters of this movement has prepared a pledge to which it asks the signatures and address of all democrats who want to keep the democratic party true to its great mis-

sion. The Commoner prints herewith a copy of this pledge and asks every reader to clip the same and forward it to Senator Robert L. Owen, chairman Federation Democratic Precinct clubs, Washington, D. C. The headquarters will send out on request printed copies of this pledge. Here it is:

"Shall the People Rule? is the Overwhelming Issue"—Democratic National Platform, 1908.

PLEDGE

The Presidency in 1912. Let Us Organize

I believe in The Rule of the People, and the party and the legal mechanism to make it effective; an Honest Registration and Election Laws, a thorough going Corrupt Practices Act and in the Election of Senators by the direct vote of the people.

I favor the election of party committeemen and of party delegates to the Democratic National Convention of MEN who are KNOWN to favor the People's Rule Program as above indicated and the progressive principles of the Jeffersonian Democracy.

It is of the utmost importance to the masses of the people that a man be nominated as candidate for the presidency who is Democratic from Principle, who is Identified with the Progressive Movement to bring the government closer to the people and make it responsive to the peoples' will and one who is Courageous Enough to lead a fight for such principles.

I will endeavor to attend all Caucuses, Conventions and Primary Elections of the party and will assist in organizing a Democratic Precinct Club in my precinct as a part of the National Federation of Democrat Precinct Clubs and will assist in making effective the principles above set forth in seeing that the Democrats are registered and attend the primaries and elections.

Name..... P. O.....

County..... R. F. D.....

NOTE—If you favor the above principles and desire to see them enacted into law kindly sign this slip and mail it to R. L. Owen, Chairman Federation Democratic Precinct Clubs, Washington, D. C.

(SEE OTHER SIDE)

On the reverse side of this pledge the following appears:

AN APPEAL

The time for action is at hand and we appeal to progressive democrats to immediately write for copies of the constitution, by-laws, organization blanks and literature for use in organizing precinct clubs that will affiliate with the State and National Federation of Democratic Precinct Clubs in an effort and determination to have the Democratic platform declare for progressive principles and to nominate candidates who are in sympathy with and who will wage a fight in behalf of the principles set forth in the platform. Address

THE FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC PRECINCT CLUBS

Bliss Building, Washington, D. C.

MR. TAFT'S NEW JUDGE

President Taft must soon assume the duty and responsibility of appointing another supreme court judge. It will make the fifth member of that great tribunal he has appointed during the short period of two and one-half years. Whether it is a good court or a bad or indifferent one, the present one will be as emphatically Taft's court as it can be through the power of appointment. No president, since the court was first established, has exerted so tremendous an influence upon the supreme court; for the time has gone by when one believes that a president of the United States doesn't know how a judge he is about to appoint will stand on certain great fundamental questions that are involved in pending litigation or litigation soon to be brought.

Taft's appointments have been Charles E. Hughes, Horace Lurton, Joseph R. Lamar and Willis Van Devanter. In addition, he promoted Justice White, a democrat, to be chief justice. As the last appointment was really a promotion it didn't involve the appointment of an additional judge.

In the important cases—involving Standard Oil, the Tobacco trust and other great commercial combines, upon which the court has taken action since Taft became president, these four judges as well as Chief Justice White have stood together without a single difference. They helped write the word "unreasonable" into the Sherman anti-trust law, and are accepted by the interests as "safe and sane" as contrasted with

judges who might be in sympathy with the rising tide of reform that is developing throughout the country.

Unless President Taft is careful in his selection to fill the vacancy Judge Harlan's death made, his nominee will be met with an organized reform opposition in the senate when it comes to confirmation. It is doubtful if a majority in the senate can be brought to stand for another "conservative," such as any one of the four judges Taft has already appointed. Progressive republican senators will particularly fight the confirmation of such a judge, and the great bulk of the democrats will be likely to become comrades with them in such a struggle. Since the supreme court has gone into the business of making laws the majority of the senate will be justified on insisting that the new judge shall either make such laws as the public welfare requires or stay out of the law-making business altogether, and leave that governmental function to congress.

The encroachments of the federal judiciary upon the legislative department of the government has aroused the people the country over. It is these encroachments that have given the impetus to judicial recall that Taft was confronted with in California. The people don't propose to permit judges, whether state or federal, to assume the powers of legislation without taking effective means to check their ambitions. They will no more stand for a judicial oligarchy than they will for money oligarchy.—Denver News.