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CARNEGIE AS A WITNESS

That was a clever trick that Chairman Stanley played on Mr. Carnegie when he read him the first section of the anti-trust law and asked him what he thought of that as a proposed measure. He thought it absurd and ridiculous; no wonder the audience laughed when Stanley explained that that has been the law for more than twenty years. Mr. Carnegie is not a brilliant success as a witness. The committee is restive under his evasions and wanderings. "The remoteness of his mind from the subject under discussion," as was once said of Lord Salisbury is the chief characteristic of the wily Scot. But they are getting something—he admitted recommending Mr. Knox, his Steel trust attorney to President McKinley for attorney general. A little light is thus thrown on the methods employed by predatory wealth to control the government. And how quickly the subsidized press rush into defensive explanations!

FIGHTING IN MISSOURI

Following is an Associated Press dispatch: St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 28.—Virgil Rule, chairman of Speaker Clark's campaign committee, tonight addressed a letter to Lon Sanders, campaign manager for Former Governor Joseph W. Folk, in which he refused to appoint two Clark supporters to meet with Folk supporters to provide for a divided delegation at the Baltimore convention.

Rule called attention to the statements issued by Folk and Clark a short time ago in which they agreed to abide by the decision of the delegates at the state convention at Joplin, each declaring he would refuse to permit his name to be used as a presidential possibility if his opponent was endorsed by the delegation.

The letter was written in reply to one by Sanders in which he urged both camps to adopt William J. Bryan's idea of harmony and agree on some plan for a divided delegation at the national convention.

ROBERT BURNS

Robert Burns was born Jan. 25, 1759. On Jan. 25, 1912, the Chicago Tribune printed the following tribute from S. P. Prowse, Peoria, Ill: With spendthrift hand he gave his largess of poetic lore that those who crouched in fear might stand erect on freedom's summit undismayed. Upon the distant peaks of faroff years he saw, through prophet's keen and penetrative glance, the dawning of the brotherhood of man. He made the little rivers of his native land historic streams. In every mountain-sheltered loch he saw the bright reflection of his country's glorious past. He knew that tyranny could never scale her heather heights while sons retained the pride derived from patriotic sires.

Auld Scotia's rugged cliffs and smiling braes and brier-scented dells, the rustling barley fields that caught but could not hold the sunset's varied hues, the strident call of curlew clearly heard in gathering mist, the blithesome laverrock that thrilled his morning note of

The Commoner.

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House Demands Publicity on Judicial Appointments

Following is an Associated Press dispatch: "Washington, Jan. 24.—Publication by the president of every written or verbal indorsement of candidates for all federal judicial judgeships from the supreme court down, prior to the appointment of the judges, would be required by a bill passed by the house today after a lively struggle. The requirement was added by Representative Cullop of Indiana, as an amendment to the Evans bill, which would abolish the federal circuit judgeship at Chicago made vacant by the resignation of Judge Peter S. Grosscup and supplant it with an additional district judgeship.

"Republican Leader Mann demanded a separate roll call on the Cullop amendment, which was adopted, 148 to 82. Mr. Mann then led a fight against the entire bill and lost, 93 to 147. The Cullop amendment reads:

"Hereafter, before the president shall appoint any district, circuit or supreme judge, he shall make public all indorsements made in behalf of any applicant."

This is a good bill and it ought to pass. Mr. Taft has been repeatedly challenged by Mr. Bryan to make public verbal and written recommendations upon which he appointed men to the bench and he also urged the senate to require the president to file a statement of these recommendations at the time he submits the name of Justice Harlan's successor. The senate ought now to pass this house bill.

The following reproductions from The Commoner will be interesting at this time:

Extract from Commoner editorial October 6, 1911: "But, speaking of challenges, here's one for the president: Mr. Bryan challenges him to make public the written and verbal recommendations upon which he appointed Justice White to the position of chief justice over Justice Harlan and the recommendations, written and verbal, on which he appointed the justices whom he has placed on the supreme bench. Did he know how they stood on the trust question or was it PURELY ACCIDENTAL that ALL of his appointees took the trust side of the question? He signed a publicity bill that requires publicity as to campaign contributions. Why not have a little publicity as to the influences that control the appointment of United States judges?"

Extract from Commoner editorial October 13, 1911: "Now that Mr. Perkins discloses the REASON for Governor Hughes' appointment to the supreme bench, will President Taft tell us upon whose recommendation Governor Hughes was appointed?"

Extract from Commoner editorial October 20, 1911: "The Associated Press report of Mr. Taft's meeting at Tacoma, Wash., October 11th, says: 'The president referred sarcastically to his challenge to publicists and jurists and 'others who don't deserve the name' to find a loophole for illegal trusts in the Sherman anti-trust law under the supreme court's Standard Oil and Tobacco decisions. The only answer to the challenge, he said, was the Yankee one—to the question, 'Tell me your motives in your

praise, and the mavis' benediction in the thicket's green retreat, were freely used to touch the golden harp of song and stir with hope the languid souls of listening men.

He deeply sinned and suffered, and yet it is not ours to judge his will's perversion and his blood's excess. His great unquestioned genius, not his obliquity, concerns mankind. Borne down by poverty that could not bend his inde-

pendent will, and forced to bear the open slight of smaller, meaner souls, scant honor he received from those who did not claim him as their own until death claimed him first. Since then, with gratitude and pride, the lowly and the learned pay yearly tribute to the Ayshire Bard who sang life's sweetest strains—the notes of which will vibrate round the world until all song shall cease.

Extract from Commoner editorial October 27, 1911: "TO THE PRESIDENT: You are about to select a successor to the late Associate Justice John M. Harlan. This will be the fifth associate justice chosen by you, not to mention the privilege you had of naming the chief justice. The Commoner has repeatedly urged you to make public the recommendations, written and verbal, upon which you appointed Justices Lurton, Hughes, Van Devanter, Lamar and Chief Justice White. While you are making up your mind as to the advisability of complying with this suggestion you will have opportunity of giving complete publicity with respect to the selection of Justice Harlan's successor. The Commoner suggests that you make public all the recommendations, written and verbal, given you with respect to the appointment of an associate justice to take Justice Harlan's place. You can not fail to observe the high estimation the people place upon the public services of Justice Harlan. You can not be unmindful of their anxiety that his successor be a man upon whom the special interests may not count in the rendering of judicial decrees. The people are watching this appointment, Mr. President. Will you take them into your confidence?"

Commoner editorial November 10, 1911: "If President Taft persists in his refusal to make public the recommendations for the appointment of the successor to Justice Harlan then the progressive democrats and republicans in the United States senate have an opportunity to render distinct service to popular government. When the president sends to the senate the name of Justice Harlan's successor let the progressive democrats and republicans demand that the president submit to the senate a statement of the verbal and written recommendations upon which the appointment was made. This is an opportunity which the senate ought not to permit to go by."

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