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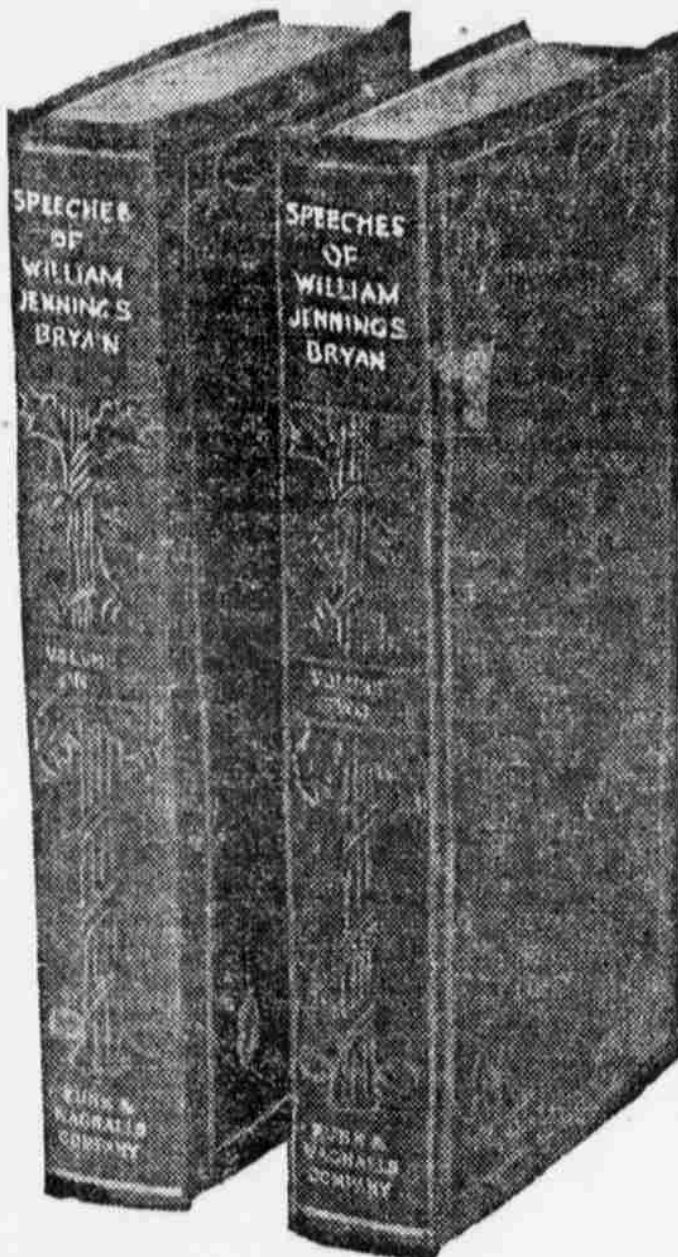
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A REPUBLICAN LEADER ON MR. TAFT'S RECORD

Medill McCormick has written for the February number of the *Woman's World* the following criticism of the Taft administration:

The editor of the *Woman's World* has asked me to present to his readers the case of the progressive republicans against President Taft and the other standpatters in the trial of strength which is going on before the country, because he believes as I do that the women as well as the men of the United States form an integral part of the national jury which will decide the case. In doing so I offer for your consideration only the great questions which have confronted the present administration.

The progressive republicans are not engaged in a factional squabble. They are enlisted in a great cause. In the language of the resolutions of their conference in Chicago Oct. 16, "The progressive movement is a struggle to wrest the control of government in the nation and the states from the representatives of special privilege and restore it to the people. The issue is the same in all the states of the union, though the problem may be presented in different ways."

Progressive republicans are opposed to the president's renomination:

1. Because he has not risen to the emergency presented by this nation-wide struggle;
2. Because he has failed to fulfill the pledges which he made in the last national campaign and which were made in his behalf in the republican platform of 1908;
3. Because, elected to carry out the "Roosevelt policies," which had been approved by a majority of the American people, he abandoned the policies of his predecessor for those of his new friends like Aldrich, Penrose, Tawney, Wickersham, and Cannon.

Progressive republicans favor the nomination of Mr. La Follette:

1. Because they believe that his record in his own state of Wisconsin and in the senate of the United States proves that, when in power, he is as able as he is determined to execute the policies to which he is committed; and
2. Because they believe that his policies make for the comfort and happiness of the great majority of the people; rather than for the privileges and undue advantages enjoyed by the powerful few, through their influence with the political leaders of both parties in this country.

Mr. Taft was nominated in the belief that he could and would carry out the progressive policies of the great progressive president who preceded him in office.

In the campaign of 1908 his most active supporters were the republicans who most heartily believed in Theodore Roosevelt—the same men who now most actively oppose the president's renomination—men like Cummins of Iowa, Norris of Nebraska, Bristow of Kansas, and Garfield of Ohio.

No sooner had Mr. Taft been elected than the progressive republicans sought his support in their effort to elect as speaker of the house of representatives somebody other than Mr. Cannon. But after conferring with Senator Aldrich of Rhode Island and with "Uncle Joe" himself the president threw his great influence in favor of the re-election of the standpat czar as speaker.

In his first message to congress the president in no way recommended downward revision of the tariff, which he had led the people to expect he would urge in their behalf.

In the tariff session, from March until the dog days of August, the president did not stir to secure any reduction of duties in behalf of the great consuming public. Wool

lobbyists, worsted lobbyists, lobbyists for cotton manufacturers and silk manufacturers, rubber men, and steel men, thronged the secret hear-

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