

## A GREAT DEMOCRATIC VICTORY

Following is an Associated Press dispatch: "Washington, May 14.—Supported by all the progressive republicans, the house tonight passed the Clayton anti-injunction bill. Every democrat present voted for it, and the result was announced to the accompaniment of a remarkable demonstration.

"The legislation is regarded as one of the most advanced steps yet taken in the interests of organized labor. Throughout the debate President Gompers, Secretary Morrison and a half dozen members of the executive committee of the American federation of labor were interested listeners. Gompers occupied a front seat in the members' gallery.

"The opposition to the measure attempted to put through a substitute drawn by Representative Sterling of Illinois. This modified the sweeping terms of the Clayton bill, but it was defeated, 219 to 48.

"It was generally said that the Clayton measure would meet with little opposition in the senate. The bill amends the law to prohibit the issue of injunctions without notice being served on those affected.

"Such injunctions would be effective for seven days only and renewal would be possible only when the court was convinced such injunction was necessary for the conservation of rights of property.

"'Job' Doe' injunctions would be impossible and the right of 'peaceful picketing' in strikes or the 'peaceful boycotts' would be recognized."

The following plank appeared in the democratic platform of 1896:

"We denounce arbitrary interference by federal authorities in local affairs as a violation of the constitution of the United States and a crime against free institutions, and we especially object to government by injunction as a new and highly dangerous form of oppression by which federal judges, in contempt of the laws of the states and rights of citizens, become at once legislators, judges, executioners; and we approve the bill passed at the last session of the United States senate, and now pending in the house of representatives, relative to contempts in federal courts and providing for trials by jury in certain cases of contempt."

The following appeared in the democratic platform of 1908:

"If judicial processes may be abused, we should guard them against abuse.

"Experience has proven the necessity of a modification of the present law relating to injunctions, and we reiterate the pledge of our national platforms of 1896 and 1904 in favor of the measure which passed the United States senate in 1896, but which a republican congress has ever since refused to enact, relating to contempts in federal courts and providing for trial by jury in case of indirect contempt.

"Questions of judicial practice have arisen especially in connection with industrial disputes. We deem that the parties to all judicial proceedings should be treated with rigid impartiality, and that injunctions should not be issued in any cases in which injunctions would not issue if no industrial dispute were involved."

## AT THE TITANIC MEMORIAL

Mr. Bryan was one of the speakers at the Titanic memorial services in New York on the 21st of April. The meeting was arranged by Mr. Frederick Townsend Martin, whose activity in public affairs of a popular nature is giving him increasing distinction. There were a number of persons on the program, and the local papers only published extracts of the various speeches. By request, Mr. Bryan gives below a brief abstract of his remarks:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: We are all indebted to Mr. Frederick Townsend Martin for this opportunity to give joint expression to the universal sorrow which the Titanic catastrophe has brought and to put into words our sympathy for the relatives of those who were lost. There are just three thoughts. I desire to present each thought in a word. First, the death of so many at one time under conditions so appalling shows that whatever differences may separate us in matters of creed or politics or social environment, we are one at heart and speak a common language when we mourn. Death by accident is not infrequent in these modern times—it is only too frequent—but occasional deaths, however great in the aggregate, do not shock us like the burying of a multitude in one watery grave. The great stream of our national sympathies is swollen from time to time by the tragedies that occur upon the rail, in the mines and in the factories, but these, like the swollen tributaries of a great river, do not come all at once. A calamity

like the sinking of the Titanic raises human sympathy to a flood.

The second thought is that the world is full of heroes who only wait the necessary staging to play their part. As we meet people upon the street, we can not always tell the real man from the villain, but an emergency furnishes a stage where the character of these is distinguished. The Titanic disaster has brought to view a nobility in men and women that makes us proud of our civilization. Men who in the presence of danger can stand back and at the risk of death invite others to precede them exhibit a self-control and an unselfishness that makes us all proud of these illustrations of manhood that were not confined to the rich or to the poor. We found the men of means and employes upon the ship vieing with each other in manifesting a high conception of duty. Women, too, proved themselves equal to the occasion. One will be especially cherished in memory, the wife of Isador Straus, who preferred to risk death by his side rather than to be saved without him—a modern Ruth.

The third word is the lesson to be learned. Mr. Martin has coined a splendid phrase when he says that one can see farther through a tear than through a telescope. Our sympathy excited by this enormous sacrifice of life will be quick to point out improvements that may be made in seafaring for the safety of the passengers. I remember hearing a man quote some thirty years ago the declaration that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins, and he made a broad application of it by adding that no great reform comes until the tragedy of death has startled the country and made it acquainted with the evils that need to be remedied. Already numerous remedies have been proposed, and we can not doubt that as a result of this great misfortune, the lives of those who will travel upon the sea will be made more secure. The speed mania will be checked if not entirely cured; more attention will be given to the safety which has been in some cases sacrificed to luxury. A sufficient number of lifeboats will be required and better regulation for the transfer of crew and passengers to the lifeboats. Two wireless operators will be put upon all ships, and other precautions will be compelled. Out of the grave new hope will come, and the dead by their death will aid the living.

In conclusion let me add that one thought which must come to us all on an occasion like this is that the soul can not be swallowed up by the sea any more than it can be confined in a tomb upon the land. That which is best in us can not be destroyed by the elements that battle so successfully against the body. Many of us were personally acquainted with those who lost their lives upon the Titanic. That which we knew in these friends still lives, and we shall greet them in the world beyond.

## DEATH, THE GREAT LEVELER

King Frederick of Denmark fell dead upon the street a few days ago and not being identified his body was taken to a morgue, where the members of the family afterwards found it. Death is a great leveler; it comes to prince and to peasant alike. While this mysterious thing which we call life animated the body of the king he was supreme in his land, but the moment the golden cord snapped, his authority passed to another, and that which was mortal of him was carried to the common receptacle of the unidentified dead. Mystery of mysteries is man; he comes into the world without his volition, he lives moulded by conditions that he can not largely change, and passes out of this temporal existence he knows not when. He works with an interrogation mark before him, and must qualify all of his plans with an "if." He surrounds himself with that which he calls his own, and sometimes builds artificial walls between himself and others, but when death comes his plans are at an end, and the temporal abode of his spirit falls back to the dust whence it came. Surely death is a great leveler.

## THE INCONTROVERTIBLE BOND

The Commoner, in a recent issue, called attention to a suggestion made many years ago by Tom L. Johnson and renewed by Mr. Jones, the New York banker, in reference to giving elasticity to the currency by the issuing of money on government bonds. Here is a kind of elasticity that can be given without the extension of special privileges and without doing violence to any democratic principle. There is no reason why every holder of a government bond should not be able to use it as security in time of financial stress. When the government loans money on its own bond, it not only eases

the money market but it saves the interest while the loan is outstanding. At present only banks could borrow on government bonds, and the money which they borrow is of course loaned to the public at a higher rate of interest than they pay for it. Why should banks be given a monopoly of this privilege? The plan is commended to the democratic members of congress as one that can be used to satisfy the demand for elasticity. But possibly the Wall street crowd does not want any elasticity that enables the public to get directly from the government. It is worth while to put the advocates of the Aldrich bill to the test; or if they oppose the incontrovertible bond, it will show that their real desire is not elasticity but a more complete control of the financial situation by Wall street.

## TIT FOR TAT

Assailing Mr. Roosevelt, Mr. Taft says: "Just in what respect I have failed, just in what respect I am different from what I was when he recommended me, I have been unable to see.

"I am here to say why he should not be nominated, and why, if nominated, he will run the risk of defeat in election.

"Theodore Roosevelt \* \* \* would be a dangerous man to intoxicate with the compliment of putting him in a place and giving him the power that has been denied to every American president since the beginning of the government.

"Is it fair, is it honest, is it a square deal for him to turn on me and denounce me for a reactionary for following the only course which he advised me to take?"

Assailing Mr. Taft, Mr. Roosevelt says: "Four years ago Mr. Taft had not discovered that I was a flatterer, a demagogue, and egotist, and engaged in honeyfugling the people, and yet I stood then exactly where I stand now.

"We have not changed position, we progressives, and we stand exactly where we stood four years ago. It is Mr. Taft who has left us, and who has joined the enemy. Therefore our attitude toward Mr. Taft can be expressed in the words of Abraham Lincoln, when he said: 'I will stand with anybody who stands for the right; stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong.'"

## ARIZONA'S INNOVATION

Arizona, under the leadership of her reform executive, Governor Hunt, is setting the older states an example in the regeneration of convicts. Success to his efforts. The following is from the Philadelphia Enquirer's Arizona correspondent:

"Two hundred converts in the Arizona state penitentiary at Florence have organized a 'law and order league,' the constitution of which sets forth belief in prison reforms, and names the purpose to be the promotion of better morals and the abolishment of crime. The membership includes 96 per cent of the prisoners, who above their signatures have agreed to observe the following seven rules:

"To try each day to do some good deed.

"To set aside from each day a certain time for the study of pure and noble thoughts.

"To assist each other in all matters of grievance.

"To assist the officers in the discharge of their daily duties.

"To avoid and prevent disorderly conduct.

"To refrain from profane language.

"To respect each other, assist the weak, and do all in our power to uplift the principles of prison reform and the policies of our new state."

## GOOD FOR THE MINORITY

Men of all political parties will heartily approve the action of Senators Lea and Kern, democrats, and Senator Kenyon of Iowa, republican, in protesting against the retention of William Lorimer in the United States senate. They have submitted for the consideration of the senate this resolution:

"Resolved, That corrupt methods and practices were employed in the election of William Lorimer to the senate of the United States from the state of Illinois, and that his election was therefore invalid."

The resolution ought to pass. Senators Lea, Kern and Kenyon may be depended upon to make a hard fight for it. It is to be regretted that the name of any democrat was appended to the majority report, but it goes without saying that Senators Lea and Kern are better representatives of the democratic party than Senator Fletcher of Florida and Senator Johnston of Alabama.