

Stanley of Kentucky Makes Hot Reply

Following is a special dispatch from the Louisville Courier-Journal: Henderson, Ky., Sept. 1.—"Colonel Roosevelt is spending much of his time denouncing the recommendation of a committee, which he characterizes as 'mere sound and fury,'" said Congressman A. O. Stanley, chairman of the committee investigating the United States Steel corporation, here tonight, in answer to the strictures of Colonel Roosevelt in his recent speech at St. Johnsbury, Vt. Congressman Stanley's statement continues in full as follows:

"Ordinarily a candidate for president and a former president could be expected to find some subject of 'pith and moment' to occupy his valuable time and that of his auditors. But the colonel is unique, as he knows the great value of 'sound and fury.' They have been his principal assets during more than a decade of public service, and 'sound and fury'—more fury and less sound, as his voice grows hoarser and chances slimmer, have characterized his last furious political fiasco, stampede of the stall fed bull moose, lately the property of the steel trust, now exhibited by his devoted manager and munificent provider, one George W. Perkins, of New York.

"Says Colonel Roosevelt, 'the anti-trust law by itself can never in any shape or way solve the problem of dealing with the trusts.'

"If the Sherman anti-trust law had been a complete and all-sufficient remedy the Stanley committee would never have proposed to amend it. What a pity the colonel did not discover there was no value in the Sherman act when he was president, and when his attorney generals brought repeated suits under it to dissolve the trusts, and his allies with 'much sound and fury' proclaimed to the country that by this means they were going to punish all the malefactors of great wealth who were not 'friendly' or sufficiently liberal.

"During his entire incumbency in office Roosevelt never advocated but one amendment to the Sherman act, the notorious Hepburn bill, and this bill was actually written, every word and every line of it by E. H. Gary, chairman of the board of directors of the United States Steel corporation, and by Victor Morawetz and Francis Lynd Stetson, its attorney.

"For the first time since the Sherman act was written the Stanley committee has proposed amendments with teeth in them, and which, if enacted into law, will deprive the colonel of such valuable aides as the chairman of the finance committee of the steel corporation and the heads of the harvester trust because these laws, if enforced will find these gentlemen so busy keeping their precious hides out of jail that they will have no time running the politics of the country or 'pulling fodder for the bull moose.'

"Many of the ablest lawyers in congress served upon the Stanley committee. With the exception of a single provision in one of the bills the recommendations of the majority were indorsed by democrats and republicans alike. The legislation proposed by this committee has met the approval of the members of the interstate commerce commission, and such jurists as Louis D. Brandeis, of Boston, and Robert R. Reed of New York.

"If it would add anything to the strength of these measures or give them additional favor among the more discerning and thoughtful of American citizens I might add that at one time many of the measures proposed by the Stanley committee were approved by Colonel Roosevelt himself.

"When he was on the stand in New York I interrogated him at some length as to the propriety of the ownership of common carriers by industrials, and explained to him in some detail my plan for the separation of the business of mining and manufacturing, and at that time, as the hearings will show, Colonel Roosevelt expressed his approval of the proposal.

"It would be manifestly unfair to Colonel Roosevelt to expect him to maintain the same opinion on any subject for as much as a year at a time, and it has been twelve months since he has appeared before the committee.

"A campaign and a campaigner, 'all sound and fury,' and nothing else, does not require consistency.

"The very recommendations which Roosevelt himself recently stamped with his unqualified approval are the most vital and important made by the committee which he now attempts to discredit by bald assertion devoid of argument or

any attempt to analyze the measures he condemns.

"The Stanley committee holds no brief for the Sherman act, and the chairman of that committee has repeatedly said that the Sherman law of and by itself is not sufficient to remedy existing evils. The fact that the law has not been enforced by a republican administration is, however, no good reason for condemning it. The Sherman act fearlessly and capably enforced is a sword; Taft has struck only with the scabbard, and Roosevelt never attacked anything in his life except with a horn or a bass drum.

"There's a pretty fair law against gambling in New York, but it is not effective as enforced by Becker. No statute against combination in restraint of trade would ever be a serious menace to 'big business' so long as George W. Perkins and Theodore Roosevelt have it in their power to suppress investigations of the harvester trust and authorized mergers by the steel corporation.

"Colonel Roosevelt says, 'the democratic and republican platforms uphold the anti-trust law as in itself a sufficient panacea.'

"Of course, the democratic platform does not say anything of the kind. The democratic platform demands additional legislation strengthening the law against trusts and monopolies, without impairing or destroying the authority of the states or the jurisdiction of their courts. The Stanley committee, in obedience to the will of the democratic party as expressed at Baltimore has recommended legislation supplementing the anti-trust law, rendering it more drastic and specific, and providing heavy fines and penitentiary sentences for those who violate its provisions.

"That committee has proposed to divorce absolutely the business of mining and manufacturing from that of transportation. One bill forbidding such concerns as the United States Steel corporation and the International Harvester company from owning and operating railroad and steamship lines or from receiving terminal allowances and divisions of rates will, if enacted into law, cost these two concerns not less than \$50,000,000 a year, now obtained by pernicious devices which are, in fact, if not in law, naked rebates. Of course, such legislation is not acceptable and was not expected to be acceptable to the McCormicks, George W. Perkins or Theodore Roosevelt.

"The committee has done more and has offered more bills prohibiting any officer, director or employe of any company engaged in the business of manufacturing railroad rails, cars or other equipment of any kind from acting as officer, director or employe of any railroad purchasing such supplies.

"It has offered bills excluding from interstate commerce all corporations, companies or associations whose stock is held by some other corporation or which hold the stock of other corporations, all corporations dealing in their own stock, and of overcapitalized corporations, providing that the president or some other responsible officer of such company shall prepare and verify under oath a statement that the corporation is not guilty of any of these things and that this statement shall be filed with the bureau of corporations. Any person swearing falsely to such a statement can be prosecuted for perjury; the corporation offending subject to heavy fine; and the guilty officers or directors to long terms of penal servitude.

"Colonel Roosevelt has not the hardihood to denounce these measures except in general terms, or to oppose specifically any one of them. It is silly and ridiculous to claim that the trusts are aided by taking from them the control of public highways which they have prostituted to private gain and for the plundering of the public generally. How is the steel corporation to be helped by permitting it to gamble in its own securities with \$175,000,000 held in cash for that purpose; play a brace game upon the public investing in its securities, and a skin game upon the public purchasing its wares? The trouble with Colonel Roosevelt is that the laws proposed by the Stanley committee punish most severely those trusts which he perfected while president, and which are now financing and boosting him for president.

"Colonel Roosevelt can not misrepresent or simply scoff at the sober and carefully considered recommendations of this committee; they have occupied columns in the greatest journals in Europe and America; they have been seriously

considered and fiercely assailed by the very Wall street interests now dictating his policies and financing his campaign. They have been indorsed by that portion of the press most representative of the best interests of the plain people, by members of the interstate commerce commission, by such eminent jurists as Louis D. Brandeis, of Boston, and Robert R. Reed, of New York. They have deserved and received the commendation of a democratic congress, and what is more they will not be side-tracked by the machinations of George W. Perkins, or silenced by the truculent and boisterous fulminations of Theodore Roosevelt."

Some Half Forgotten History

Washington dispatch to the Philadelphia Public Ledger: Washington, Sept. 3.—A bit of half-forgotten history that may play an important part in the sweeping inquiry which the United States senate is to make into pecuniary contributions and expenditures in the national political campaigns has been recalled by a paragraph in the letter written by Colonel Roosevelt to Senator Clapp, of Minnesota.

As in the case of the Standard Oil contributions to the republican national campaign fund of 1904, when Colonel Roosevelt was a candidate for president, a question of veracity is involved. In this phase of the matter, however, there are eight men living who will be able to testify as to the truth of a charge made anonymously at that time, and now acknowledged by Colonel Roosevelt to have been sanctioned by himself, that John D. Rockefeller had virtually demanded by telegraph of certain senators that they must prevent the enactment of anti-trust legislation pending in congress.

In addition to Mr. Rockefeller, the living men who doubtless will be called on by the senate committee of investigation to answer Colonel Roosevelt's charges of nearly a decade ago are Nelson W. Aldrich, ex-senator from Rhode Island; Eugene Hale, ex-senator from Maine; John Kean, ex-senator from New Jersey; Chauncey M. Depew, ex-senator from New York; Henry Cabot Lodge, senator from Massachusetts, whom Colonel Roosevelt has said was one of his two most intimate friends; Knute Nelson, senator from Minnesota, and John W. Spooner, ex-senator from Wisconsin and now an attorney in New York.

All of these men were members of the federal senate at the time the allegation was printed in newspapers that Mr. Rockefeller had endeavored to have them prevent anti-trust legislation.

Other men mentioned then as having received the alleged Rockefeller telegram were Senators William B. Allison, of Iowa; Orville H. Platt, of Connecticut, and Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia. These three are dead.

All ten of the senators named in the publications at the time were republicans.

This is the paragraph of Colonel Roosevelt's recent letter to Senator Clapp that may afford the basis for one of the lines of inquiry by the Clapp committee into trust contributions to the presidential campaign of 1904:

"The newspapers at the time of the passage of the bureau of corporations bills, in February, 1903, contained full accounts of my publications of the telegrams from Standard Oil people protesting against the bill. I, of course, at that time had rather heated arguments with a number of upholders of the Standard Oil people in this matter, but I have forgotten the details of them. All I know is that I got the bill through and it was largely the publication I gave to these telegrams that enabled me thus to get it through."

The resolution of inquiry adopted by the senate is regarded as broad enough to cover the allegation now acknowledged by Colonel Roosevelt to have been instigated by him. Under the terms of the resolution the committee on privileges and elections is authorized and directed "to investigate fully into all statements and questions of fact referred to in the statement of personal privilege made by the senator from Pennsylvania, Mr. Penrose."

As Senator Penrose's statement dealt with his relations with the Standard Oil company, the resolution is comprehensive enough to permit the committee to seek the facts as to Colonel Roosevelt's assertion that the head of the Standard Oil company communicated directly with United States senators, with the purpose of killing one of Colonel Roosevelt's pet pieces of legislation.

An additional reason for inquiry is found, however, in the action of Colonel Roosevelt in calling attention to the alleged Rockefeller telegram in his formal communication to the chairman of