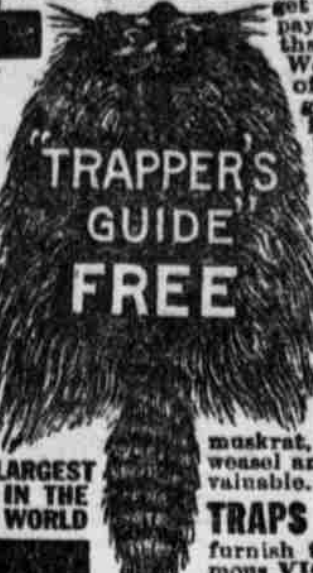


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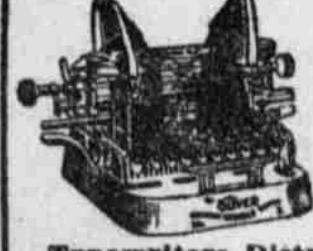
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THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OFFERS THE ONLY SINCERE REFORM PLEDGE

(Continued from Page 7.)

you ought not to go from Mr. Taft to Mr. Roosevelt, but if you are ready to leave the republican party, as you ought all to be, why you should come to the democratic party and help to make the victory of Wilson and Marshall unanimous.

My friends, my first reason why you should not vote for Mr. Roosevelt as a substitute for Mr. Taft is that Mr. Roosevelt gave us Mr. Taft. We would not have had a Taft if we hadn't had a Roosevelt. He picked out his own successor; he found him all alone; he discovered him by himself, and then he patented him, that there might not be an infringement on his rights; and then he guaranteed him, so that there might be no question about him; then he nominated him; then he elected him, and then he went off and left him.

If I were Mr. Taft I would sue Mr. Roosevelt for breach of promise. He wooed him from obscurity, led him out into the limelight and then cruelly deserted him. I think that the people of this country have an action in damages against Mr. Roosevelt for obtaining the White House for another under false pretenses. He told us that he knew this man; he said that he had an interest in him; that he was city broke, that he was halter wise, and that he could lead him anywhere, and then he led him into the White House and turned the halter over to Wall street and went to South Africa to shoot rhinoceroses and hippopotamuses.

And from the time that Mr. Taft took the oath of office Mr. Roosevelt has never tried to help him make good. I think that when he guaranteed him to the American people he took upon himself a solemn obligation to help him realize the expectations that had been around. This is the only time in history where a guarantor ever asked to be rewarded for the failure of his principal. It now seems as if we misunderstood him. It now looks as if what he intended to say was this: "Here is the man, I commend him to you; he is the best prepared man who ever ran for president; take him on my word, and if he doesn't measure up to my recommendation, then come to me and I will take his place and be president the rest of my life."

My first objection, therefore, is that Mr. Roosevelt offers himself as a substitute for this man who has failed to live up to his recommendation. But my second objection is even a graver one. It is this: That where he is a reformer he has not only come in late, but he doesn't show the spirit of a reformer.

I have been told that over in France you sometimes find at the stores three kinds of eggs, fresh eggs, good eggs and eggs. We have the same kind in this country, but they are not marked, and we sometimes don't know which we have until we get them home, but I have known conscientious and honest men to write the date of the laying of the eggs on the egg in order that the purchaser might know how fresh it was.

If Mr. Roosevelt would write upon his national reforms the date when he began to advocate them and then let me write the date when the democratic party began to advocate them, you would see the gap between his advocacy and our party's advocacy. But, as he doesn't do it, I will do it. As he doesn't mark his eggs, I will mark them, for I have had nothing to do for sixteen years except to watch the republicans and keep books on them.

Let me take up some of these reforms. Take the election of senators by the people. I regard that as the greatest national reform of a hundred years. Four years ago we de-

clared it to be the gateway to other reforms, and I believe it is.

We have been fighting for it for just twenty years. It is twenty years ago this summer that a democratic congress passed a resolution submitting the amendment. That was the first time that resolution was ever passed. That was twenty years ago. When did Mr. Roosevelt commence to advocate this reform? Two years ago. Where was he all that time? He waited until after we had put it in three national platforms; he waited until it had passed the house of representatives at Washington five times; he waited until two-thirds of the states of the nation had indorsed it in their legislatures. He was president for seven and a half years, and there wasn't a year when he could not have led the people to victory on this reform; but he waited, while the convention at Chicago four years ago turned it down by a vote of seven to one.

Still he didn't say anything. Why, my friends, even Mr. Taft, with all his corporation connections, came out two years before Mr. Roosevelt did, in favor of the election of senators by the direct vote of the people. It was a very feeble come-out. It was two years before Mr. Roosevelt came out; a feeble come-out, but it was better than no come-out at all. Mr. Roosevelt was in Washington; he knew what that senate was. He knew that from his own state there was Chauncey Depew, who represented the New York Central Railroad company and got \$50,000 a year from it, and \$5,000 a year from the government as a senator, and the Central came nearer getting the worth of its money from him than did the government—and there was Tom Platt, representing the express companies; and there was Matt Quay, who was owned by the Pennsylvania railroad and lent to the Standard Oil when the railroad company didn't need him; and there were others there of the same kind; there wasn't one of them that Mr. Roosevelt didn't know intimately; and yet all that time he never declared himself until the victory was practically won. That is his record on that subject.

Where has he been while we have been fighting for an income tax? It is now eighteen years since the democratic party began this fight. It is almost finished. Thirty-four states have now ratified the amendment to the constitution that authorizes an income tax. Where has Mr. Roosevelt been? He has never gone into a single state to ask that state to ratify this income tax amendment. He has never made a speech in favor of the income tax as a permanent part of the fiscal system. He has said, on one or two occasions, that it might be well to have an income tax to curb swollen fortunes. My friends, the way to curb swollen fortunes is to prevent them, and the way to prevent them is to take away the privilege and favoritism that enable these men to gather where they do not sow. Mr. Roosevelt would not take the privilege from them, but speaks of an income tax to curb the swollen fortunes. We want an income tax that we may lift the burden from the backs of the struggling poor, and make these men bear their share of this nation's burdens. Where has Mr. Roosevelt been while we have made this fight?

My friends, why hasn't he helped us in the purifying of our politics. I told you that four years ago Mr. Taft said that we ought not to know until after an election where the money came from. Four years ago Mr. Roosevelt said the very same thing, and gave his reason for not wanting the people to know. He was afraid they would not make proper use of the information, if they found out the source of the campaign fund. Where has he been on the rail-

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