# Something About Fighting Democrats

The field is full of strong, capable fighting democrats these days. Among these great leaders is Woodbridge N. Ferris, governor of Michigan. A writer in the Grand Rapids (Mich.) Herald says:

Woodbridge N. Ferris, democrat, with a little

"d," fighter, governor of Michigan.

Perhaps those two words better characterize the man whom the people have chosen chief executive of Michigan for the next two years, than any two paragraphs could. Woodbridge N. Ferris is a democrat with a little "d." The fact that he is a democrat with a large "D" is merely an incident. Woodbridge N. Ferris is a fighter, too, a real fighter-for all that is good, against all that is bad. His life has been a battle—a battle won. His characteristics would have made him a great general in war as they have made him a great general in peace.

Yet in calling him a fighter, one must not forget that his heart is the kindest ever, that he draws toward him by his fighting qualities those whose spirits are of conflict and by the love of his soul every little child with whom he

comes in contact.

And being a fighter himself, he inspires in all with whom he comes in contact that same fighting spirit, the spirit to overcome obstacles, the spirit to fight for oneself, the spirit to fight for all that is good, the spirit, too, to fight for him.

Being a democrat with a little "d," keeps him rubbing shoulder to shoulder with his less fortunate, less able and less pugnacious brother and sister and makes it possible for him to carry out in life his one great motto:

"I have tried all my life to make happy and to make useful every man, woman and child

who has crossed my path."

With that spirit in his heart, he has fought, with his fists when necessary, with his purse in a good cause, with his voice and his mind and his heart always.

He has fought for the better government of Michigan until today he stands as the first democratic governor-elect in twenty-two years, and second since the republican party was or-

ganized, in 1854.

Now nothing has been said about the politics of this man, Ferris. Thus far all his democracy has been spelled with the little "d." How about his political life and his democracy with the big "D." This is not the first time Woodbridge N. Ferris has been a candidate for office, but it is the first time he has been successful in a campaign. Twice have the people of his home city, the city for which he has done more than any other one man, turned him down as candidate for mayor just because he spelled his democracy with a big "D" as well as with a little "d." In 1892 he was a candidate for congress and again was defeated, his home city going heavily against him just because of his democracy with a big "D." In 1904 he was a candidate for governor and ran 160,000 ahead of his ticket, accomplishing what was believed to be impossible and narrowly escaped winning.

This year he was a candidate for governor again. This year he overturned all traditions and won. But he is not an office seeker and has never run because he wanted the job. He has job enough running Ferris institute. He was a candidate first because he believes he can be of service to his state, that he has ideas which if put into operation will make Michigan a better Michigan, make her people happier, give a greater degree of democracy with the little In every campaign he has fought hard, for he goes into nothing with only a half heart. He has fought for all he ever got and when he goes into a campaign, hopeless though he may know it to be, he fights until the last gong has sounded with all the energy of his nature.

#### SENATOR SHIELDS OF TENNESSEE

Referring to the new senator (for the long term) from Tennessee, the Nashville Tennessean Bays:

After a strenuous conflict in the general assembly, Judge John K. Shields was elected United States senator.

Several worthy and distinguished citizens were contestants for the senatorship along with Judge Shields, the avowed candidates being Col. B. A. Enloe of Jackson, Congressman K. D. Mc-Kellar of Memphis, Judge John Allison of Nashville and Col. L. D. Tyson of Knoxville.

When it was found by those who opposed Judge Shields that Colonel Enloe could not be elected, it was determined to put another man against him, and Gen. C. T. Cates, jr., attorneygeneral of the state, was brought into the race.

It was generally conceded that the ballot Thursday would result in the election of a senator and it was believed it would be a close finish.

This proved to be true. General Cates, who was absent from the city, and who had declined to become a candidate, was put into the race, the result in the voting being Shields 66, Cates 64-necessary to a choice, 66. Changes before this ballot was announced resulted in 69 votes for Shields and 61 for Cates.

The election of Judge Shields as Senator ends one of the most notable contests for senatorial honors that has ever been waged in Tennessee. It was a contest between democrats, and whatever might have been the result, a democrat would have been elected.

Judge Shields is an able and distinguished citizen of the state and he has the talents and the capacity to render service to the nation.

#### SENATOR WEBB

Referring to W. R. Webb, senator-elect (for the short term) from Tennessee, the Nashville

Tennesseean says:

The election of Prof. William Robert Webb as United States senator for the short term is a happy solution of the problem that has confronted and harassed the general assembly, as the honors of the station will be borne by him with credit and dignity.

His commission will expire on March 3, 1913, the brief time between now and then being the unexpired term of the late Robert L. Taylor. His service in the United States senate and his commission will begin the day he presents himself and his credentials, and on that day Senator Sanders' term and service will end.

Senator-elect Webb is a distinguished and eminent educator of the state. He founded the Webb school at Culleoka in 1870, which in 1886 he moved to Bellbuckle, where under his guiding hand it has become widely known as one of the foremost schools for young men in the state, and he himself has attained to that eminence as an educator that few men enjoy.

No better selection could have been made for the bestowal of senatorial honors, for in Senator Webb are all the qualities of both heart and mind that constitute real greatness. He has lofty ideals and the purest sentiments. He has the deepest convictions and the staunchest courage to maintain them. He is a student, a scholar, a thinker and a man of the best and noblest type, and Tennessee has paid a graceful tribute to the tutor, friend and admirer of the late lamented Edward Ward Carmack by placing this man in the seat formerly occupied by him, and we heartily and cordially congratulate Senator Webb and the people of Tennessee.

#### SENATOR ROBINSON OF ARKANSAS

St. Louis Republic: The election of Joseph T. Robinson to the United States senate from Arkansas introduces a new figure into our national politics. The circumstances of the introduction are unusual. Previous to his election to the governorship last November, Robinson was unknown outside of Arkansas. Indeed, he had hardly occupied a commanding place in the state's politics. The announcement of his candidacy for the senate, following fast upon the November result, evoked powerful opposition within his own party. The indications for a deadlock were bright. Nobody would have been surprised had the Arkansas legislature become involved in a long senatorial struggle. The first ballot, however, was decisive. Before the result of the roll call was announced and when apparently no choice had been made, several republican members followed by democrats arose and changed their votes, giving Robinson a clear majority. The senator-elect from Arkansas, therefore, has proven his possession of political acumen and given an exceptional example of political leadership. His victory acclaims him a man of force and foresight. Such talents, if accompanied by the equipment that ordinarily goes with them, should make the new senator from Arkansas a valuable addition to the senate's democratic majority.

## TARIFF REDUCTIONS AND THE REVENUES

When the federal income tax is a federal law something certainly will have to be done to make up the deficit in revenues if the democratic party reduces the tariff. The government will not have sufficient funds to operate, and it will depend largely upon the income tax to meet this deficiency.-Memphis News Scimitar.

Here is the same old republican roorback,

which did duty in the north and west for so many years, resurrected from the burial of last November and appearing in ghostly cerements in the editorial column of a southern newspaper.

We will not gratuitously assume that the Scimitar knows that the higher the tariff the fewer the importations and, therefore, the smaller the amount of duties collected into the federal treasury. We much prefer to credit its repetition of this oft exploded economic fallacy to ignorance than to conscious mendacity. For surely no one possessed of ordinary regard for a decent reputation would knewingly saddle itself with a statement so plainly at vari-

ance with fact.

The intent of the democratic leaders in congress is "To reduce the duties to a revenue basis;" and that is precisely what their reduction below the prohibitory scale, which is protective, will bring about. Under the high protective tariff the trusts have been collecting the tax from the people and putting it in their pockets. Under a tariff for revenue only the government would collect the tax from the foreign manufacturer and put it in the national

On this subject, in response to a query from a northern journal, Mr. Bryan made an answer which covers briefly the whole ground. He referred to the records of tariff legislation in this country for fifty years past to show that a reduction in the tariff would increase the revenue by increasing the imports and at the same time increase the demand for labor by increasing the domestic output. Where, said he, the tariff is prohibitory it may result in placing a heavy burden upon the consumer without yielding any revenue at all. It is a common mistake of protectionists to measure the burden borne by the consumer by the amount of the taxes collected, whereas the people may pay to the protected interests many times the amount that reaches the treasury. If, for instance, we import onetenth as much of a given article as we consume and the domestic industry collects approximately the full amount of the tariff, the burden upon the people is ten times as great as the amount received by the government in revenue. In such a case a reduction in the tariff might double the revenue and at the same time compel such a reduction in the price of the domestic article as to greatly increase the demand and thus aid the consumer and the laborer.

"The question permits of an additional answer, namely, that no new form of taxation would be likely to bear as heavily upon the masses as tariff taxation, for there is no other form that bears more unequally upon the public. Lt would be difficult, therefore, to find a new system which would not be more just to the masses than the tax on consumption which they have so long borne—a system under which the poor man pays more than his share, and the rich man less than his share."

Mr. Bryan might have added that one of the republican indictments against the Cleveland administration was the excess of money flowing into the federal treasury, creating a surplus which stimulated congressional extravagance. This was an object lesson on one of the workings of low tariff which republican organs seem anxious to ignore.-Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

### "BIG ENOUGH FOR TEXAS" IS PRETTY BIG

The Houston (Tex.) Post, whose owner has just been defeated for United States senator, shows its sore spots in this way: "Positive, small; comparative, smaller; and then Morris Sheppard." But then Morris was big enough for the people of Texas to directly elect to the United States senate for the long term and indirectly, through the power of public opinion, to the short term.

"Big enough for Texas," is as big as any human being could comfortably be.

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