

# PROSPERITY STILL REIGNS

## Efforts to Breed Distrust Have So Far Proved Futile.

# LOOK FOR THE CALAMITY HOWLERS

## Way Traffic Is Heavy, New Factories Are Being Erected, and Iron and Steel Mills Are Crowded with Orders.

There is an effort on the part of some of the newspapers to create a lack of confidence in the public mind by saying that the country is going to the bad; that great industries are shutting down; that the railroads are retrenching, instead of improving roadbed and equipment; that no new factories are being constructed; that thousands of working people are idle and that Republican prosperity is a myth. These statements are so palpably false, or so greatly exaggerated, that intelligent persons are not misled by them, but there is danger that when the howlers are reiterated by the calamity mongers a few people who do not keep their heads in touch with industrial and commercial conditions may be led to believe that the country is in a state of depression.

It is not the purpose of this column to attempt to create distrust in the industrial or commercial world, but it is the duty of the press to state the facts as they are. Some States have been framed for the purpose of sending to prison persons who are innocent of any crime, and some companies, if the man who causes them to be a criminal, is not the man or woman who attempts to make political capital by destroying public confidence in the party that permits the utterances of the clamor and spreader of false rumors.

**What Is Possible.** Suppose the Democratic party won a victory at the polls through destroying confidence in commercial and industrial circles, would the administration of that party have the confidence of the people? Would not capital, which is always timid in the face of uncertainty, begin to hide? And when capital is distrustful what happens? Industries lag or close, trade of the retail merchant falls off, the jobber and wholesaler suffer, railway traffic diminishes, hundreds of thousands of wage earners are thrown out of work, distress becomes general, soup houses are opened and cities are compelled to begin charitable work for the idle.

No political party that countenances the creation of distrust is worthy of the people's confidence. It will be a sorry lot for the country when the calamity mongers succeed in reversing those beneficial policies which the Republican party has put into effect and which have resulted in an era of the greatest prosperity in the history of the nation. The few strikes in the building and other trades are not indicative of general conditions. Wage earners do not strike in times of panic or want of work. Strikes are generally for higher wages, and no toiler expects an increase in wages when work is scarce.

There is ample evidence that prosperity is still with us. A glance at the newspapers, Democratic as well as Republican, shows that millions of dollars are being expended in building new houses and enlarging old ones, in constructing new trolley lines and improving the roadbed and equipment of steam railroads. As proof of this statement, the following are a few of the railways whose independent expenditures are being expended on the pay rolls of the railways themselves United States on June 30, 1904, \$12,537, or 639 per 100 miles of road. These figures, compared with those of 1902, show an increase of 123,222, or 100 miles of line.

**Steam and Electric Railways.** New York.—Two million is the estimate of the cost of the steel rails wanted by the Grand Trunk Pacific for 1905. Kansas City.—One million dollars is to be spent by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy in the construction of a new passenger station at Clay County, Mo., opposite a Kansas City. Boston, Mass.—Three hundred and fifty thousand dollars will be spent by the Boston & Maine in constructing a line from Henderson Point to Point Cadet.

**Electric Railways.** Baltimore, Md.—The Baltimore & Ohio will spend \$300,000 in improving its passenger station at Baltimore; the Washburn-Pittsburg Terminal is erecting a \$75,000 freight house at Pittsburg. Alamo, N. M.—The El Paso & Southern is building fifty real-estate houses for employees.

**General.**—Ten large locomotives have been ordered by the Pennsylvania Railroad for the Boston & Maine. Louisville, Ky.—The Frisco Line is reconstructing its track and roadbed between Wichita and Ellsworth, giving employment to several hundred laborers. Pittsburg.—The Union Switch and Signal Company reports that the new orders booked for August exceed any other month of the year. Chicago.—Western railroads brought to Chicago last week 5,200,000 bushels of grain, showing an increase of more than 1,000,000 bushels over the grain traffic in the corresponding week last year.

**Miscellaneous.** New York.—The lockout and strike of 12,000 plumbers in Brooklyn has been decided off, the master plumbers granting

# SOME COMPARISONS

## CONDITION OF TREASURY UNDER PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATIONS.

### How the Public Debt Was Managed When Democracy Was in Power and How the National Finances Were Conserved Later by Republicans.

When Grover Cleveland began his first fiscal year, July 1, 1893, of his second term, our public debt was \$1,345,000,000; when the fourth fiscal year closed, June 30, 1897, it was \$1,817,000,000, an increase of \$472,000,000, without anything to show for it.

When Benjamin Harrison began his first fiscal year, July 1, 1889, our public debt was \$1,019,000,000; when his fourth fiscal year ended, June 30, 1893, it was \$1,345,000,000, a decrease of \$326,000,000.

When Grover Cleveland began his first second-term fiscal year, July 1, 1893, he found \$707,000,000 cash in the public treasury; when he closed his fourth fiscal year of that second term, June 30, 1897, he left only \$831,000,000 of a cash balance, though in the meantime he had sold enough bonds for cash to increase the public debt by \$272,000,000; consequently he had really decreased the treasury cash by \$139,000,000, being the \$272,000,000 bonds sold less the \$134,000,000 difference between the \$831,000,000 and the \$707,000,000 cash balance.

When Benjamin Harrison began his first fiscal year, July 1, 1889, the net public debt—that is, the entire debt less the cash in the treasury—was \$975,000,000; when he closed his fourth fiscal year, June 30, 1893, it was only \$838,000,000, a decrease of \$137,000,000 as the result of four Republican years.

When Grover Cleveland began his first fiscal year of his disastrous second term, July 1, 1893, the net public debt was \$838,000,000; when he closed the fourth fiscal year, June 30, 1897, it was \$986,000,000, an increase of \$148,000,000 as the result of four Democratic years.

When we add Harrison's decrease of \$137,000,000 in the net public debt to Cleveland's increase of \$148,000,000 in the same, we have another \$285,000,000 bill of indictment against the Democratic party for only four years of financial misrule.

When William McKinley began the first fiscal year of his first term, July 1, 1897, he found only \$831,000,000 in the public treasury; when he closed his fourth fiscal year, June 30, 1901, the treasury cash balance was \$1,098,000,000, an increase of \$267,000,000 as the result of four Republican years of protection to American industries and financial ability. And this was in spite of the fact that \$340,000,000 had been paid out for the cost of the Spanish war for the freedom of Cuba.

When we add McKinley's increase of \$267,000,000 treasury cash to Cleveland's real decrease of \$138,000,000 in the same, we have \$405,000,000 plus the Spanish war expense, as the true gain to the country of four years of Republican prosperity immediately following four years of Democratic adversity.

When Roosevelt's first fiscal year began, July 1, 1901, the treasury cash balance was \$1,098,000,000; when he closed his third fiscal year, June 30, 1904, it had increased to \$1,382,000,000, an increase of \$284,000,000, notwithstanding that all the Spanish war taxes had not been paid for the Panama canal property and rights; and that \$5,000,000 had been given, and nearly \$5,000,000 more loaned to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

When we summarize the treasury cash transactions from the beginning of Cleveland's second-term first fiscal year, July 1, 1893, to the close of Roosevelt's third fiscal year, June 30, 1904, we have the following:

Cleveland's loss in treasury cash	\$138,000,000
McKinley's gain in treasury cash	267,000,000
Roosevelt's gain in treasury cash	284,000,000
Paid cost Spanish war	340,000,000
Paid Spain for Philippines	20,000,000
Paid account Panama canal	50,000,000
Gift and loan Louisiana Purchase Exposition	10,000,000
Total	\$1,109,000,000

Eleven hundred and nine millions of dollars betterment less forty-eight millions increase in our interest-bearing debt between July 1, 1897, and June 30, 1904, leaving one thousand and sixty-one millions (\$1,061,000,000) to the credit of seven years of Republican control of our national finances.

# WHEN HILL WILL QUIT.

[David Bennett Hill says he will abandon politics when Parker is elected.] "When Parker is elected," says David Bennett Hill, "I will suddenly grow still; he says that for rude politics he really shall not care. When Parker has been planted in the Presidential chair—O, gentle reader, with alarm do not grow cold and stiff; There's much of virtue in that 'When,' as Shakespeare said of 'it.'"

"When Parker is elected"—it's a striking trait of Dave's. That always in his statements there's a little phrase that saves. You see, it would have sounded like an unexpected joke. Had he said he'd retire the day that Davis said: "I'm broke."

# MR. HILL'S RETIREMENT.

It is fortunate for him, but its manner is not the best. David Bennett Hill announces that he will at the end of his sixty-first year retire from politics, but that he will take a part in the present campaign. The mistake that Mr. Hill makes is that he does not retire now. This is one of the things he said in his recent opening campaign speech at Binghamton, New York:

"That vast corruption exists in many departments of the Federal Government is virtually conceded. It has been declared often that more corruption has been disclosed during the last four years than during the whole previous period of our history. Therefore it must exist, or it could not be disclosed. Convictions for frauds, however, can be counted on one's fingers. The Republican party tends toward socialism when it advocates the right to build up one man's business at the expense of the community. What the American people demand is a free field and a fair contest in the race of life."

It is perhaps fortunate for Mr. Hill that he has decided to disappear from politics. It is most unfortunate, for his sake, that in his speech, practically opening the campaign on the Democratic side, he should have been guilty of political falsehood. That is not the manner in which a good American should sing his swan song.

All men should be fair. Mr. Hill declares that enormous corruption exists under the present Republican administration, and intimates vaguely that the Republican party is responsible for any evil which may have occurred. He refers especially to frauds of the Postoffice Department, and there were some frauds. We at least admit this. Into every great party will necessarily be ingrafted some thieves. What has happened in the United States following the discovery that some officials of the Postoffice Department were indirectly stealing? What has happened is this:

The Republican party punishes its own thieves and throws them out of its ranks. What happened to the men who stole under the present administration? They are already wearing striped clothes and doing the lockstep in various localities. Could there be a better proof of the soundness and honesty of the present administration in that it punishes its own sinners, and, very properly, punishes them to the utmost.

David Bennett Hill, in intimating that there has been unpunished crime among the vassals of the party which is conducting the affairs of this government just now, is guilty of political trickery and political falsehood of the basest kind.

It is very earnestly to be regretted that an exceedingly clever American should mark the circumstances of his exit from political life by expressions of what are not facts, and of a sort never countenanced by the greatest leaders of great parties. What Mr. Hill said at Binghamton cannot mar the outlook of the Republican party one jot or tittle, but it can mar the respect which the American people held, aside from all party lines, for one of the shrewdest of politicians.

# YOUNG DEMOCRATS

Those Who Voted for McKinley Probably Will Support Roosevelt.

Some allowances must be made, of course, for the optimistic representations of politicians as the approach of every great election. It is a part of the game to manifest confidence, even if the policy of "claiming everything" has been discredited by the best political managers. But the declaration that, according to more or less careful canvasses, those young Democrats who bolted Bryan and voted for McKinley will remain in the Republican party, is quite plausible. Those old Democrats in whom the party spirit is still strong in spite of the trying alignment of the Democracy four and eight years ago, may be expected to return to the fold pretty generally this year; but there is nothing except partisan feeling to draw them, and this does not exist to any great extent among the younger generation, especially among those who have already broken over the lines to vote for a Republican President.

Indeed, President Roosevelt appeals with especial force to the young men of the nation. Considering his achievements, he is still a young man himself. He is in intimate sympathy with the spirit of early manhood. He is vigorous in mind and body, and is active in both. He is strongly progressive. His leadership has been inspiring to all classes, but more especially to those in whom ambition is assertive. His policies appeal forcefully to those who would make a stronger and a better nation. He stands for those reforms that are regarded as essential to the perpetuity of personal liberty and civic righteousness.

The belief that President Roosevelt, in his splendid fulfillment of an obligation assumed as a result of accident, has earned an election at the hands of the people he has served, is especially strong in the hearts of the younger generation of voters.

The Democratic argument this year should be printed in the humorous columns. It is, in brief: "You need not be afraid of us, for if we elect a President and the House, the Republican Senate will keep us from doing any damage."

"Growth is the law of our national, social and industrial being. We have not yet reached the limit of the Divine purpose. Tomorrow will be greater and more splendid than today."—Senator Fairbanks, at St. Paul, August 31, 1903.

Whenever the Democratic party has had the power it has attacked and destroyed the policy of protection for American industries.

# DAVIS WILL NOT DO.

Too Old for the High Position to Which He Aspires.

Dr. J. B. McPatrick, editor of the Third Ward Republican, a Chicago publication, says: "It may be that former Senator Henry Gassaway Davis is planning to have his money talk for him during the campaign. It is only on this hypothesis that his reply to the notification address of John Sharp Williams can be satisfactorily explained. The octogenarian vice presidential candidate of the Democracy at the White Sulphur Springs function indicated that he is sadly deficient, in so far as present issues are concerned. He had nothing to say upon any of the questions which interest the voters of both parties. A careful reading of his address fails to disclose where he stands on any vital issue."

"The man who is popularly supposed to carry the State of West Virginia around in a shawl strap had not a word to say regarding the trusts. He omitted an allusion to labor and capital. So far as the speech indicates there is no such thing as the Philippine question. He had nothing to say about the tariff. He is certainly old enough to have heard of the Monroe doctrine, but not a line of this important bit of Americanism can be found in his speech. For all he says there is no such thing as the Panama canal and the closest observer cannot learn whether he believes in the open door or reciprocity or any of the things which men discuss. And has not Uncle Gassaway heard of the United States navy?"

"For a speech which was looked forward to as a sort of keynote essay, the utterance of the old gentleman with the barrel is a great disappointment to the Democracy. To the Republicans it is merely an evidence of the fact that Mr. Davis does not possess, at his advanced age, the necessary mental equipment to properly appreciate the great public questions which must confront the next presiding officer of the Senate."

"Of course, Uncle Gassaway is a thoroughly respectable old gentleman. He is also possessed of much wealth and for a man who has slipped over the 80 mark is well preserved and active. But there is a vast difference between minding his own personal business and attempting at the sunset of life to take a hand in the strenuous work of conducting the great affairs of a big nation. As Vice President Henry Gassaway Davis will not do."

# The Lone Fisherman.

It is only one of the curiosities of an American national campaign the result of which is foreordained, but it arouses more than a slight degree of interest. Where is the Lone Fisherman, the man who has been twice President of the United States? Where is he, and what is he going to do between the present time and the 8th of November?

What is he thinking about—this Lone Fisherman, and what are his inclinations? We are all interested in him as we should be interested in any ex-President of the United States, and, being interested, we have also a curiosity. What about Cleveland? Is that portly and forceful old gentleman going to have anything to do with politics this year, or is he simply intent upon the consideration of the subject of lines, bait, and all that sort of thing?

The impression seems to prevail, and one apparently justified, that the Sage of Princeton is not much interested in the Sage of Esopus. The Sage of Princeton has at least a certain caliber, and the two men do not fit.

Still, we all want to know what the Lone Fisherman is going to do.

"The Republican party will be found expounding these issues and those issues, the honor and the welfare of the country,"—Senator Fairbanks, at Indianapolis, December 31, 1903.

# Judge Parker's Manager.

It is not often that a political leader finds it necessary to promise his party associates that he will keep out of office and be unrepresented in the councils of his friends in case of the success of his own nominee. This unique performance has been exemplified by the Mephistopheles of the Democratic party, David Bennett Hill.

The effect is rather grotesque. It is much as if the king of the nursery rhyme were to declare that he would not, in any case, taste of the pie, after the four and twenty blackbirds had been caught, plucked and baked in a big dish of pastry.

The reception given to the promise of Mephistopheles to "be good after the 1st of next January," is rather comical. The more outspoken of the Democrats say plainly, "Pshaw! I don't believe it!" while the more secretive ones simply "wink the other eye" with a grimace that would make the fortune of the man that "broke the bank at Monte Carlo."

It is a sly old David, so it is! Well he knows how to draw the ass's skin over his own; confident is he that no braying will hide from the faithful few his real

# WALTER J. BALLARD.

Schenectady, Aug. 25.

# SLY OLD DAVID.

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