

Rosewater-Hitchcock Debate

(Continued from Twentieth Page.)

article shall extend to the several states, the territories, the District of Columbia and all territory under the sovereignty and subjection of the jurisdiction of the United States. Mind you, it extends to all states, all territories and the dependencies, if we may so call them.

"Section 2. Congress shall have power to define, regulate and prohibit or banish trusts, monopolies or combinations whether existing in the form of a corporation or otherwise. In the several states may continue to exercise such power in any manner not in conflict with the laws of the United States."

"Section 3. Congress shall have power to enforce the provisions of this article by appropriate legislation."

Where does that destroy the legitimate of the states? It simply supplements the legitimate of the states and makes their legitimate as much stronger.

Bryan's Warmer's Party.

It is all a farce, that whole warfarer can our friend, the attorney general, is waging against these corporations under the Nebraska law. (Applause.) And the point that he has succeeded the most in the trust that has given him the most trouble is the Standard Oil trust, not within the Standard, even if he is not in it as Mr. Croker is in the big crowd of New York, Standard's largest. The business of the Standard company never was prosecuted. It is in the enforcement of no powers or privileges, but still it is the biggest trust in these United States. (Applause.) And this proves that our law is entirely impotent unless it is to sweep up a factory like the sugar works in Nebraska City without respecting another one. (Applause.)

Now then, we have been told that the tariff has built up all the trusts. I have a hat box of at least fifteen or twenty that I can name to you that were not built up by the tariff and that were not protected.

Will the Michigan trust be reached by Mr. Bryan, if he becomes president of the United States, and more than by Mr. McKinley or any other man? (Applause.)

What Has Bryan Done?

What has Bryan done up to the time against the trusts? A voice: "Nothing."

He was in the house of representatives for four years. Did he introduce any measures or did he push any bill, excepting probably the Wilson act which bankrupted hundreds of thousands of industries in the United States and impoverished the country? (Applause.)

We know what we had from the time the Wilson act went into effect. We had nothing but failure after failure in the country because our industries could not compete with the standardized industries built up in foreign countries. (Applause.)

The tariff does undoubtedly protect some trusts and assists them to live, but the people who do not have to defend the tariff in order to reach them, if you should succeed in incorporating such a bill, will have the laws of the country which would happen? The parties in New York who are exporters of various goods would organize themselves into trusts and have their goods put upon the free list, and then their goods would be imported from Europe and all parts of the world and admitted free of charge and our industries would close their doors. (Applause.) That is what would happen. But that is not the way to reach the trusts.

One way to reach them is to take away the patents from every trust that owns a patent and monopolizes any industry. (Applause.)

One way to reach them is to compel them to write the water out of their stocks and capitalizing their property at nominal value. (Applause.) That is the way that the constitutional amendment intended it to be and that can be done under a republican administration as well as under Mr. Bryan. (A voice: "So it will.") A republican administration has enacted the laws, signed all bills, a republican administration has done great deal notwithstanding the denunciation that has been made here that they have only prosecuted four particular establishments. These matters are still open in the courts and the whole question finally will resolve itself, whether the statutes we have got will stand the test of the supreme court and if they do not you have got to get back to the constitutional amendment or a constitutional revision, one on the other and when we do that then we will begin from the bottom up and we will get rid of the bad trusts.

They say there are no good trusts. I say that there are corporations that are called trusts, combinations of various capitals, that have built up great industries all over this country and they can be continued without detriment to anybody, so long as they do not raise prices. (Applause and laughter.)

Now let me say that the raising of prices by combination was made a criminal offense. It can be stopped. (A voice: "Why don't you do it?") Why don't you do it? What have they done elsewhere where the democrats are in power? They never have been able to exercise any power over them and they never will because they do nothing, anyway. (Applause.)

Mr. Bryan was in congress four years. Mr. Allen has been there eight years, and I would like to see one single act that they have introduced to destroy the trusts. They have talked, but they have done nothing.

We have done the best we could and I should show you if I had the time and will probably before I go through, where we have derived some benefit from the big aggregations of capital. Why for instance you will take the big department stores, which in their nature are like trusts, and yet on the department stores insure the people. Do they raise prices? (A voice: "Yes.") Well, that depends. They buy for cash and sell for cash only and thus are enabled to undersell everybody else, not because they are raising prices, but because they are cutting prices. (Applause.)

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