RAILROAD ASSAULT BEGINS

Tax Commissioner Polleys Opens Fire on State Assessment.

ENCOUNTERS OPPOSITION FROM REED

Douglas County Assessor Challenges Figures of Railroad Man and Points Out Where He Has Made Mistakes.

(Continued from First Page.)

value of real estate in a given county has been assessed and returned to the state board at its full actual or market value.

2. The arithmetical and logical formula evolved by the Wisconsin tax commission and used by it for several years past in determining the true realty value of that state is in the form of a problem in proportion and is as follows: As the total assessed value of the lands sold in a district or county is to the total consideration paid for those lands, so is the total assessed value of all the lands in the district to the total actual or market value of all the lands therein.

4. Sales in which the 1904 assessment of the parcels sold varies abnormally from the consideration stated in the deeds have not been included in the computations, so far as such abnormal transactions could be discovered from a mere comparison of selling prices and assessments as disclosed by the public records.

5. While there are undoubtedly abnormal transfers and assessments not yet eliminated from consideration, yet some of them tend in one direction and some in the other, and their entire elimination would not and will not materially affect the aggregate realty value of any given county as worked out by the Wisconsin process.

6. Assessments which are unfairly high tend to correct themselves by reason of the objections of owners prejudiced thereby, but assessments which are unfairly and abnormally low, either through the incapacity, carelessness or favoritism of the assessor, are exceedingly likely—to remain undisturbed. Many instances of the latter kind have undoubtedly been eliminated from consideration in the computations made, but are fairly entitled to be included in such computations. It is safe to say that the number of instances in this class which would be disclosed by a close examination of the facts would more than counterbalance the instances in which the consideration in deeds is overstated by the parties. Discriminating and unfair undervaluation in assessing real estate is true as to a vastly larger number of parcels of land than is overstatement of true consideration in conveyances.

7. The Wisconsin plan is as easily and accurately applied to the determination of the realty value of lots as of lands. The average selling price process, advocated by Mr. Vollmer, is not capable of direct application in the case of lots.

In Western Nebraska.

8. Investigation will demonstrate that in counties like those in western Nebraska, in which lands are very low in value, the average selling price per acre of such lands at any time is much more widely from average actual value of all the lands than it does in counties in which land values are high. If so, the unreliability of average selling price per acre as the sole test of average value per acre is still further shown.

9. Lands in many of the counties of the state have been assessed this year higher per acre than the average selling price per acre of such lands as have been sold recently within the counties, respectively. Each such instance is a most cogent admission against interest that the average selling price per acre of the lands sold is not an adequate measure of average value per acre of all lands within a county.

10. We do not ask the board to take any different action in respect to equalizing the realty value of the several counties concerning which we have more statistics than is taken as to all other counties in the state. They should not be singled out for special treatment. We have merely presented the results of our investigation in these counties as supplementary to the information already possessed by the board and to aid it in arriving at substantially accurate conclusions as to the realty value of all the counties in the state.

11. The state of Nebraska, taken as a whole, has been returned to the state board at an aggregate sum not exceeding seven-eighths of its aggregate actual value.

12. The average selling price per acre of lands sold in the different counties of the state does not, as a whole, exceed 60 per cent of the true average value per acre of all lands as worked out by the Wisconsin or ratio process.

13. The aggregate actual value of all taxable lands and lots in Nebraska cannot justly be fixed by the board at less than $1,000,000,000.

14. The board should at this time equalize the value of lands and lots and of all other property subject to general taxation in Nebraska at the full amount they are convinced it is actually worth. This they should do for the following, among other reasons:

a. Because the law requires them to do so.

b. Because the state is in need of every cent of revenue for state purposes that can be raised by legal levies based upon a full valuation.

c. Because this is the most favorable time, at the beginning of operations under the new revenue law, to place all values as nearly as possible at what they honestly should be.

d. Because no other assessment of real estate will be made until 1908, and any failure of the board at this time to equalize lands and lots at their full actual value will be unjust now and will operate with increasing injustice throughout the four years to come.

Railroad Classification.

The lands now being sold are quite evenly distributed, as to area, among the three classes of lands, the high priced lands, the medium priced lands and the low priced lands. In the middle class in Washington and Burt counties comprises lands selling at from $30 to $40 per acre, and in Lancaster and Wayne counties those selling at from $40 to $50 per acre. Lands selling above middle class prices are placed in the high class and those selling below middle class prices in the low class.

	Total No. Acres Sold.	No. Acres in High Class.	No. Acres in Middle Class.	No. Acres in Low Class.
Washington	9,307	2,170	4,508	2,629
Burt	17,513	8,513	4,119	4,881
Lancaster	14,694	4,694	4,619	5,383
Wayne	23,994	6,220	10,168	7,106
Totals	65,508	19,573	23,418	22,509

Average selling price per acre of lands sold in a given county is not, ordinarily, the full measure of the average value per acre of all lands located within that county. The table below shows that the lands sold are, in the judgment of the assessors, lower in value than the average value of all lands:

COUNTY.	Number acres sold.	Ave. sell. price per acre at which lands were sold by the county assessors in 1904.	Ave. val. per acre of all lands in the county as worked out by assessors on 1904 basis.	Ratio between ave. value per acre of lands sold and all lands—per cent.	Average sale price per acre of lands sold.	Average true value per acre of all lands in the county.
Washington	9,307	$42.40	$51.66	85.80	$53.10	$61.78
Burt	17,513	44.61	47.47	93.93	51.00	54.30
Lancaster	14,694	44.73	46.21	96.81	49.63	47.60
Wayne	23,994	43.06	46.73	90.63	45.07	46.60

Nemaha County's Position.

Judge Stull, who was the principal talker for Nemaha county, said that the average value of land in that county had been placed by the assessor at $53.10 an acre, which he said was an exorbitant price, and in discussing the average value of the land that had been sold which was $39.58, he stated that only the best kind in the county had been sold and offered to take a representative of the board to Nemaha county and show every piece of land that had been transferred, and he would be willing to abide by the decision of the board's representative. He told that during the prosperous years the farmers had plowed up lands along the numerous streams of Nemaha, since which time that land had not paid, as it had not been reset in grass and it is constantly overflowed. It has washed into the streams to such an extent that every mill that had been run by water power had been closed down because of the sediment that had collected in the streams. One-third of the land in the county he said is this kind of land that had been overflowed and was not fit for cultivation.

He prayed the board to pay no attention to the protests of other counties against Nemaha, and said that Cass had been assessed at a high figure because Plattsmouth was afraid it would lose the courthouse if the taxes were reduced to any great extent. He thought every county should attend strictly to its own business and pay no attention to the other counties. He took a poke at the citizens of his county who are trying to straighten the rivers by saying if they would get their heads straight, reset the land in grass and let Providence attend to the rivers conditions would be better.

Governor Mickey interrupted to remark that it was his belief, based on his own knowledge and the word of Tom Majors, that Nemaha county was the best in the state.

"Well, governor," answered the judge, "you and Tom Majors are alike—both of you are in politics and what you say doesn't count. Why, Tom Majors is such a politician that I will wager that, with the single exception of Church Howe, he has kissed more babies than any man in the state."

County Clerk Hacker, County Assessor Maxwell, Representative Good and Tom Majors each spoke for Nemaha's assessment to stand as it had been returned by the assessor.

How They Met.

County Assessor Reed of Douglas county and T. A. Polleys, the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad tax agent, had never met until this morning, though the work of each has been the target of the other before the state board for several days and each has taken a few hot shots at the work of the other. The meeting furnished considerable amusement to a number who witnessed it.

The two rode up from the depot in the same car and walked from the car to the state house together. As they entered the capitol Reed remarked to Polleys, "I guess there will be a pretty big time here today. I understand a fellow named Polleys is going to shoot off against the low assessment of land."

"That is what I heard," answered Polleys, "and I understand that a fellow named Reed is coming down from Douglas county to do things to Polleys' talk."

"I'm Reed," said the Douglas county assessor.

"I'm Polleys," answered the other. And the two shook hands and at once began to wrestle over the Douglas county assessment proposition, with the familiarity of old friends.

The total assessed valuation of the state as returned by the county assessors is $291,853,395, against $183,458,379 last year, or an increase of $108,494,926.

HORSETHIEVES BURN A BARN

Remains of Stolen Animals Supposed to Be in Ruins of Stable.

WEEPING WATER, Neb., July 27.—(Special.)—This morning about 1 o'clock a team of mules belonging to William Whittaker, driver of the Standard Oil wagon, was stolen from his barn and then hitched to a wagon belonging to Troy L. Davis. The mules were tracked about one mile north to a barn belonging to E. F. Marshall, a grain man who resides in town. It is supposed the mules were put in the barn and three good horses belonging to Marshall stolen, after which the thieves set fire to the barn. In the ruins was found a mule's hoof, but at present burning embers prevent making a thorough examination. The barn was a fair one, filled with hay. After this it is supposed they traveled west, as at another house on the same farm, the renter heard them going past at 2 o'clock. No trace of the mules could be found after they reached the barn. Two strangers were noticed here yesterday, who are thought to be the thieves.

Old Section Foreman Resigns.

COLUMBUS, Neb., July 27.—(Special.)—David McDuffie of this city probably holds the record for continuous service on the Burlington in Nebraska. This week he resigned his position as section foreman at this place with a record of twenty-four years and five months of continuous service on one section, with no intermission except a slight vacation taken eighteen years ago, when he went to Michigan on some business. In speaking of his long term of years here today Mr. McDuffie said: "During all this time I never had a wheel off on my section that could have in any manner been charged to my neglect, and I don't recall that I ever received a second order to do anything. I told them that I wanted to lay off this summer and the superintendent told me to go back to Michigan and have a good time, and when I got ready come and report to his office, but I don't know as I shall ever tamp another tie or oil a car again."

Telephone Companies at War.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., July 27.—(Special.)—O. A. Abbott, sr., and Charles H. Manderson, as attorneys, have filed a petition in the district court and have been granted a temporary injunction restraining the Grand Island Telephone company from crossing over, above or on its line with their new telephone line. The petitioners set forth that especially in dense foggy or wet weather the telegraph service on their line, as well as the telephonic service proposed, would be impaired by the closeness of the electric current, and relate that they had served notice upon the new telephone company to put their wires across the track underground, but that the management of the new company refused to give ear and the relator had no other remedy at law.

Find Body of Drowned Girl.

BLOOMINGTON, Neb., July 27.—(Special.)—Last Sunday, while fishing in the Republican river three miles west of Red Cloud, a farmer discovered the remains of Nellie Thompson, whose tragic death by drowning was reported two weeks ago. The party notified the authorities of Webster county, who in turn notified the authorities here of the finding of the corpse, and soon the sheriff of this county, accompanied by a dozen or more people, went to take charge of the body if identified. The identification being positive, the remains were brought to this place and were yesterday interred in the cemetery north of town.

For two weeks the citizens of this and nearby towns had kept up a ceaseless search for the body of the drowned girl, watching the river as far as Guide Rock, forty miles below, but no trace of the body was found and the almost hopeless effort was about to be given up when the body was discovered where, from all indications, it must have floated during the first twenty-four hours, as at no other time was the river high enough to deposit the corpse where it was found.

Beatrice Settles Judgment.

BEATRICE, Neb., July 27.—(Special.)—At a meeting of the city council last night a resolution was passed authorizing the mayor and city clerk to enter into a contract with Chester B. Masslich, an attorney for eastern bondholders against the city, for a settlement of the city's indebtedness in judgments and bonds amounting in all to $44,146.75. Mr. Masslich was at the meeting and a settlement was reached by the city agreeing to pay $43,000, a reduction of about $1,000, and a reduction of interest upon judgments from 7 to 4 per cent and upon bonds from 6 to 4 per cent from July 27, 1904. The amounts are to be paid as follows: $16,000 when contract is entered into, $14,000 to be paid August 1, 1905, and the remainder, with interest, on August 1, 1906.

Cass County Schools.

PLATTSMOUTH, Neb., July 27.—(Special.)—Superintendent R. L. Rouse of the Plattsmouth city schools has completed his annual report for the school year just ended. Among other things the report shows that the indebtedness against the school property for the last year has been reduced in the sum of $4,117. The amount received was $30,825.15. The amount paid to male teachers, including the superintendent's salary, was $1,932.50; amount paid female teachers, $12,430. The total value of the property is estimated at $80,000. The total number of children in the city between the ages of 5 and 21 is 1,794. Eight school houses were used and two were not during the last year.

Chautauqua at Auburn.

AUBURN, Neb., July 27.—(Special.)—The board of management of the Auburn chautauqua has about completed arrangements for the assembly, to begin on August 12. Special trains will be run on "Political day," August 18, if not on other days of the assembly. Especial features have been arranged for Political day. Senator Jonathan P. Dolliver of Iowa will speak for the republicans, while the democratic side will be represented by Senator William J. Stone of Missouri. It is possible that ex-Senator Allen of Nebraska may be present to represent and defend the populist party.

Nebraska Man Lost at St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, July 27.—(Special Telegram.)—After giving the police twenty-four hours of hard work, Frank K. Janowski, aged 75, who disappeared from the Union station after coming from Ashton, Neb., was located. He left the station before his son, Brother Joseph of St. Louis university, could locate him, and becoming confused had wandered away.

Platte County Wheat Poor.

COLUMBUS, Neb., July 27.—(Special.)—Reports from reliable threshers in this county place the yield of wheat at from twelve to fifteen bushels per acre, and the quality is said to be somewhat poorer than was generally expected. The wheat is light and blighted. Owing to the wet weather threshing is progressing very slowly and but little grain has been stacked.

News of Nebraska.

BEATRICE, July 27.—In a runaway accident yesterday near his home northeast of this city, John Huttenmaier was thrown from his wagon and sustained painful injuries.

PLATTSMOUTH, July 27.—William Hunter of Loup county has purchased the Fred Lehnhoff residence property in this city and expects to remove his family here and occupy it in the near future.

GRAND ISLAND, July 27.—The Payne Investment company of Omaha has ordered its local representatives to proceed with the matter of putting up the buildings necessary for the manufacture of a new stock food, from alfalfa meal, salt and syrup, and it is stated that $25,000 worth of machinery will be put in.

COLUMBUS, July 27.—Chester Weeks, a farmer living near the Merrick county line, has a curiosity on his farm in the shape of a peach tree. The tree is eighteen years old and has never before borne any fruit nor even blossomed, but this year it is fairly loaded down with peaches. Mr. Weeks set out four other peach trees near this one last fall.

PIERCE, July 27.—The mortgage record for Pierce county for the month of June, as taken from the books of County Treasurer Hirons, is as follows: Farm mortgages filed 20, amount $37,847; farm mortgages satisfied 32, amount $32,451.40. Town mortgages filed 7, amount $2,156.65; town mortgages satisfied 5, amount $1,197.50. Chattel mortgages filed 132, amount $55,552.22; chattel mortgages satisfied 425, amount $153,320.41.

BEATRICE, July 27.—Mrs. Mary A. Rogers yesterday appeared before Judge Inman and swore out a peace warrant against her husband, Alfred Rogers. She alleges that defendant has been drinking hard and has abused her, causing her to take her child and go to the home of her parents in order to receive protection. The hearing has been postponed for a few days in order to give Rogers time to leave town. He is a tailor by trade.

GRAND ISLAND, July 27.—Mercer Coates, the little son of Manager J. F. Coates of the Koehler hotel, who was kicked in the head by a mule ten days ago, is slowly recovering from the effects of the frightful injury received. Being unconscious for nearly a week he began to call for his ball, periodically, though at first not recognizing his parents. He now recognizes nearly all whom he knew and complete recovery is expected.

PIERCE, July 27.—Although the campaign has not opened in Pierce county, yet some of the populists are doing a whole lot of talking. One prominent populist who has been heretofore a leader in the party says that Nebraska will go for Roosevelt by 40,000 majority. Another one said he guessed he would have to vote for Roosevelt. Pierce county can be depended upon to give Roosevelt and the remainder of the ticket a good rousing majority.

PIERCE, July 27.—County Clerk W. G. Hirons has given to the public the valuation of Pierce county for this year, as compared with the year previous. This year real property was valued at $1,703,690.50; last year it was valued at $1,046,430.00. Personal property this year, $336,060.01; last year, $327,973. Town real estate this year, $161,921.79; last year, $115,970. Railroads this year, $231,905; last year, $209,634. Telegraph this year, $3,836.48; last year, $2,443.30. Telephone this year, $5,192.86; last year, $2,625. Total valuation for this year, $2,745,378.36; total valuation for last year, $1,645,203.

PLATTSMOUTH, July 27.—M. S. Briggs, the barber, found a stray bronco mare about 13 years old, buckskin color, with white mane and tail, wandering about his place yesterday morning. The animal carried a saddle, bridle and a portion of a hitching strap and looked as though she had been ridden hard during the night. She was branded on the left hip. While on his way to town he noticed two other horses hitched to a post, but when he returned within half an hour with Sheriff McBride they were both gone. The animal was placed in the livery barn of F. W. Sage, but up to the present time no one had called for her.

CANNON NOTIFIES ROOSEVELT

(Continued from First Page.)

to power, in 1897, under the lead of McKinley, our country has prospered in production and in commerce as it has never prospered before. In wealth we stand first among all the nations. Under the lead of William McKinley the war with Spain was speedily brought to a successful conclusion. Under the treaty of peace and our action Cuba is free, and, under guarantees written in its constitution and our legislation, it is assured that it will ever remain free. We also acquired Porto Rico, Guam and the Philippines by a treaty the ratification of which was only possible by the votes of democratic senators. Civil government has been established in Porto Rico, and we are journeying toward civil government in the Philippines as rapidly as the people of the archipelago are able to receive it; and this, too, notwithstanding the false cry of "imperialism" raised by the democratic party and still insisted upon, which led to insurrection in the Philippines and tends to lead to further insurrection there. The record of the republican party under the lead of William McKinley has passed into history. Who dares assail it?

Follows Footsteps of Lincoln.

The republican party, under your leadership, keeps its record from the beginning, under Lincoln, of doing things, the right thing at the right time and in the right way, notwithstanding the opposition of those who oppose the right policies from the selfish or partisan standpoint. They dare not tell the truth about your official action or the record of the party and then condemn it. They can, for selfish or partisan reasons, abuse you personally and misrepresent the party which you lead. It is true, however, that, so far, their abuse of your action and their alleged fear of your personality is insignificant as compared with the personal and partisan carpings against Lincoln, Grant and McKinley when they were clothed with power by the people. Those whose only grievance is that you have enforced the law and those who carp for mere partisan capital will not, in my judgment, reap the harvest of success. The republican party for you and under your leadership appeals to the great body of the people who live in the sweat of their faces, make the civilization, control the republic, fight its battles and determine its policies, for approval and continuance in power.

The office of president of the United States is the greatest on earth and many competent men in the republican party are ambitious to hold it, yet the republican convention met in Chicago June last and unanimously, with one accord, nominated you as the candidate of the party for president. I am sure all republicans and a multitude of good American citizens who do not call themselves republicans said "amen."

In pursuance of the usual custom the convention appointed a committee, of which it honored me with the chairmanship, to wait upon you and inform you of its action, which duty, speaking for the committee, I now cheerfully perform, with the hope and the confident expectation that a majority of the people of the republic will in November next approve the action of the convention by choosing electors who will assure your election to the presidency as your own successor.

President Roosevelt's Response.

President Roosevelt shook Mr. Cannon's hand heartily at the conclusion of the notification speech and then mounted the chair to deliver his address in response. So cordial a reception was given to him that it was some time before he could proceed. He was in excellent voice, and though he followed the printed text of his speech he seldom referred to it. The address was punctuated by applause. The president said:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Notification Committee: I am deeply sensible of the high honor conferred upon me by the representatives of the republican party assembled in convention, and I accept the nomination for the presidency with solemn realization of the obligations I assume. I heartily approve the declaration of principals which the republican national convention has adopted, and at some future day I shall communicate to you, Mr. Chairman, more at length and in detail a formal written acceptance of the nomination.

Three years ago I became president because of the death of my lamented predecessor. I then stated that it was my purpose to carry out his principles and policies for the honor and the benefit of the country. To the best of my ability I have kept the promise thus made. If next November my countrymen confirm at the polls the action of the convention you represent, I shall, under Providence, continue to work with an eye single to the welfare of all our people.

A party is of worth only insofar as it promotes the national interest, and every official, high or low, can serve his party best by rendering to the people the best service of which he is capable. Effective government comes only as the result of the loyal co-operation of many different persons. The members of a legislative majority, the officers in the various departments of the administration, and the legislative and executive branches as toward each other, must work together with subordination of self to the common end of successful government. We who have been entrusted with power as public servants during the last seven years of administration and legislation now come before the people content to be judged by our record of achievement. In those seven years that have gone by we have made the deed square with the word; and if we are continued in power we shall unswervingly follow out the great lines of public policy which the republican party has already laid down; a public policy to which we are giving, and shall give, a united, and therefore an efficient, support.

More Fortunate Than Opponents.

In all of this we are more fortunate than our opponents, who now appeal for confidence on the ground, which some of them seem seek to have confidentially understood, that if triumphant they may be trusted to prove false to every principle which in the last eight years they have laid down as vital, and to leave undisturbed those very acts of the administration because of which they have asked that the administration itself be driven from power. Seemingly their present attitude as to their past record is that some of them were mistaken and others insincere. We make our appeal in a wholly different spirit. We are not constrained to be silent on any vital question; we are divided on no vital question; our policy is continuous, and is the same for all sections and localities. There is nothing experimental about the government we ask the people to continue in power, for our performance in the past, our proved governmental efficiency, is a guarantee as to our promises for the future. Our opponents, either openly or secretly, according to their several temperaments, now ask the people to trust their present promises in consideration of the fact that they intend to treat their past promises as null and void. We know our own minds and we have kept of the same mind for a sufficient length of time to give to our policy coherence and sanity. In such a fundamental matter as the enforcement of the law we do not have to depend upon promises, but merely to ask that our record be taken as an earnest of what we shall continue to do. In dealing with the great organizations known as trusts, we do not have to explain why the laws were not enforced, but to point out that they actually have been enforced and that legislation has been enacted to increase the effectiveness of their enforcement. We do not have to propose to "turn the rascals out," for we have shown in very deed that whenever by diligent investigation a public official can be found who has betrayed his trust he will be punished to the full extent of the law without regard to whether he was appointed under a republican or a democratic administration. This is the efficient way to turn the rascals out and to keep them out, and it has the merit of sincerity. Moreover, the betrayals of trust in the last seven years have been insignificant in number when compared with the extent of the public service. Never has the administration of the government been on a cleaner and higher level; never has the public work of the nation been done more honestly and efficiently.

Unwise to Change Good Policies.

Assuredly it is unwise to change the policies which have worked so well and which are now working so well. Prosperity has come at home. The national honor and interest have been upheld abroad. We have placed the finances of the nation upon a sound gold basis. We have done this with the aid of many who were formerly our opponents, but who would neither openly support nor silently acquiesce in the heresy of unsound finance, and we have done it against the convinced and violent opposition of the mass of our present opponents who still refuse to recant the unsound opinions which for the moment they think it inexpedient to assert. We know what we mean when we speak of an honest and stable currency. We mean the same thing from year to year. We do not have to avoid a definite and consistent committal on the most important issue which has recently been before the people, and which may at any time in the near future be before them again. Upon the principles which underlie this issue the convictions of half of our number do not clash with those of the other half. So long as the republican party is in power the gold standard is settled, not as a matter of temporary political expediency, not because of shifting conditions in the production of gold in certain mining centers, but in accordance with what we regard as the fundamental principles of national morality and wisdom.

Under the financial legislation which we have enacted there is now ample circulation for every business need, and every dollar of this circulation is worth a dollar in gold. We have reduced the interest-bearing debt and in still larger measure the interest on that debt. All of the war taxes imposed during the Spanish war have been removed with a view to relieve the people and to prevent the accumulation of an unnecessary surplus. The result is that hardly ever before have the expenditures and income of the government so closely corresponded. In the fiscal year that has just closed the excess of income over the ordinary expenditures was $80,000,000. This does not take account of $50,000,000 expended out of the accumulated surplus for the purchase of the isthmian canal. It is an extraordinary proof of the sound financial condition of the nation that instead of following the usual course in such matters and throwing the burden upon posterity by an issue of bonds, we were able to make the payment outright and yet after it to have in the treasury a surplus of $165,000,000. Moreover, we were able to pay $50,000,000 out of hand without causing the slightest disturbance to business conditions.

Country on High Plane.

We have enacted a tariff law under which during the past few years the country has attained a height of material well-being never before reached. Wages are higher than ever before. That whenever the need arises there should be readjustment in the interest of the consumer is undoubted, but such changes can with safety be made only by those whose devotion to the principle of a protective tariff is beyond question; for otherwise the changes would amount not to readjustment but to repeal. The readjustment when made must maintain and not destroy the protective principle. To the farmer, the merchant, the manufacturer this is vital; but perhaps no other man is so much interested as the wage worker in the maintenance of our present economic system, both as regards the difference and the tariff. The standard of living of our wage workers is higher than that of any other country, and it cannot so remain unless we have a protective tariff which shall always keep as a minimum a rate of duty sufficient to cover the difference between the labor cost here and abroad. Those who, like our opponents, "denounce protection as a robbery" thereby explicitly commit themselves to the proposition that if they were to revise the tariff no heed would be paid to the necessity of meeting this difference between the standards of living for wage workers here and in foreign countries. We therefore on this point their antagonism to our position is fundamental. Here again we ask that their promises and ours be judged by what has been done in the immediate past. We ask that sober and sensible men compare the workings of the present tariff law, and the conditions which obtain under it, with the workings of the preceding tariff law of 1894 and the conditions which that tariff of 1894 helped to bring about.

As to Reciprocity.

We believe in reciprocity with foreign nations on the terms outlined in President McKinley's last speech, which urged the extension of our foreign markets by reciprocal agreements whenever they could be made without injury to American industry and labor. It is a singular fact that the only great reciprocity treaty recently adopted—that with Cuba—was finally opposed almost alone by the representatives of the very party which now states that it favors reciprocity. And here again we ask that the worth of our words be judged by comparing their deeds with ours. On this Cuban reciprocity treaty there were in the outset grave differences of opinion among ourselves; and the notable thing in the negotiation and ratification of the treaty, and in the legislation which carried it into effect, was the highly practical manner in which without sacrifice of principle these differences of opinion were reconciled. There was no rupture of a great party, but an excellent practical outcome, the result of the harmonious co-operation of two successive presidents and two successive congresses. This is an illustration of the governing capacity which entitles us to the confidence of the people not only in our purposes but in our practical ability to achieve those purposes. Judging by the history of the last twelve years, down to this very month, is there justification for believing that under similar circumstances and with similar initial differences of opinion, our opponents would have achieved any practical result?

We have already shown in actual fact that our policy is to do fair and equal justice to all men, paying no heed to whether a man is rich or poor; paying no heed to his race, his creed, or his birthplace.

Capital and Labor.

We recognize the organization of capital and the organization of labor as natural outcomes of our industrial system. Each kind of organization is to be favored so long as it acts in a spirit of justice and of regard for the rights of others. Each is to be granted the full protection of the law, and each in turn is to be held to a strict obedience to the law; for no man is above it and no man below it. The humblest individual is to have his rights safeguarded as scrupulously as those of the strongest organization, for each is to receive justice, no more and no less. The problems with which we have to deal in our modern industrial and social life are manifold; but the spirit in which it is necessary to approach their solution is simply the spirit of honesty, of courage, and of common sense.

Irrigation and Canal.

In inaugurating the great work of irrigation in the west the administration has been enabled by congress to take one of the longest strides ever taken under our government toward utilizing our vast national domain for the settler, the actual home-maker.

Ever since this continent was discovered the need of an isthmian canal to connect the Pacific and the Atlantic has been recognized; and ever since the birth of our nation such a canal has been planned. At last the dream has become a reality. The isthmian canal is now being built by the government of the United States. We conducted the negotiation for its construction with the nicest and most scrupulous honor, and in a spirit of the largest generosity toward those through whose territory it was to run. Every sinister effort which could be devised by the spirit of faction or the spirit of self-interest was made in order to defeat the treaty with Panama and thereby prevent the consummation of this work. The construction of the canal is now an assured fact; but most certainly it is unwise to entrust the carrying out of so momentous a policy to those who have endeavored to defeat the whole undertaking.

Our foreign policy has been so conducted that, while not one of our just claims has been sacrificed, our relations with all foreign nations are now of the most peaceful kind; there is not a cloud on the horizon. The last cause of irritation between us and any other nation was removed by the settlement of the Alaskan boundary.

In the Carribean sea we have made good our promises of independence to Cuba, and have proved our assertion that our mission in the island was one of justice and not of self-aggrandizement; and thereby no less than by our action in Venezuela and Panama we have shown that the Monroe doctrine is a living reality, designed for the hurt of no nation, but for the protection of civilization on the western continent, and for the peace of the world. Our steady growth in power has gone hand in hand with a strengthening disposition to use this power with strict regard for the rights of others, and for the cause of international justice and good will.

Desire Friendship of World.

We earnestly desire friendship with all the nations of the New and Old Worlds; and we endeavor to place our relations with them upon a basis of reciprocal advantage instead of hostility. We hold that the prosperity of each nation is an aid and not a hindrance to the prosperity of other nations. We seek international amity for the same reasons that make us believe in peace within our own borders; and we seek this peace not because we are afraid or unready, but because we think that peace is right as well as advantageous.

American interests in the Pacific have rapidly grown. American enterprise has laid a cable across this, the greatest of oceans. We have proved in effective fashion that we wish the Chinese empire well and desire its integrity and independence.

Our foothold in the Philippines greatly strengthens our position in the competition for the trade of the east; but we are governing the Philippines in the interest of the Philippine people themselves. We have already given them a large share in their government, and our purpose is to increase this share as rapidly as they give evidence of increasing fitness for the task. The great majority of the officials of the islands, whether elective or appointive, are already native Filipinos. We are now providing for a legislative assembly. This is the first step to be taken in the future, and it would be eminently unwise to declare what our next step will be until this first step has been taken and the results are manifest. To have gone faster than we have already gone in giving the islanders a constantly increasing measure of self-government would have been folly. At the present moment to give political independence to the islands would result in the immediate loss of civil rights, personal liberty and public order, as regards the mass of the Filipinos, for the majority of the islanders have been given these great boons by us, and only we keep them safe and vigilantly safeguard and guarantee them. To withdraw our government from the islands at this time would mean to the average native the loss of his barely-won civil freedom. We have established in the islands a government by Americans assisted by Filipinos. We are steadily striving to transform this into self-government by the Filipinos assisted by Americans.

The principles which we uphold should appeal to all our countrymen, in all portions of our country. Above all they should give us strength with the man and women who are the spiritual heirs of those who upheld the hands of Abraham Lincoln; for we are striving to do our work in the spirit with which Lincoln approached his. During the seven years that have just passed there is no duty, domestic or foreign, which we have shirked; no necessary task which we have feared to undertake, or which we have not performed with reasonable efficiency. We have never pleaded impotence. We have never sought refuge in criticism and complaint instead of action. We face the future with our past and our present as guarantors of our promises; and we are content to stand or to fall by the record which we have made and are making.

When he had concluded he was heartily congratulated, first by Speaker Cannon, then by Chairman Corteiyou and then by the others present. After the informal reception which followed the address, Speaker Cannon suggested that all the visitors assemble on the lawn at the foot of the veranda steps "in order that they may have their respective shadows secured ere the substance fade."

President Is Photographed.

As the president descended the steps to face the photographer he called for Governor Pardee of California and W. S. Simpson of Texas to stand near him. These two, with Speaker Cannon, Chairman Corteiyou, Governor Odell of New York, Cornelius N. Bliss and Frank S. Black were grouped about the president as the photographs were taken.

A buffet luncheon followed. The president's children, nephews and nieces served the guests. Early in the afternoon William Barnes, jr., of Albany pinned a campaign button on the coat lapel of former Governor Black. While Black was conversing with the president, Governor Odell approached and seeing the button, inquired, "Black, when did you leave the republican party?"

"Haven't left it," was the reply.

"Then why are you wearing that button around here?"

Glancing at the button and discovering that it bore a fine likeness to Judge Parker with appropriate democratic inscriptions, Black remarked: "That proves absolutely what sublime confidence we up-state republicans have in one another."

During the afternoon, before the departure of the guests, the president had conferences with several of them. Tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock President Roosevelt will start for Washington. He expects to arrive in Washington at 6:15 p. m. It is not unlikely that he may return to Oyster Bay in two weeks, thus shortening his proposed stay at the national capital.