

# Payne Tariff, House Rules, Insurgency and the Interest of the People

WINFIELD, Kan., July 15.—Joseph G. Cannon of Illinois, speaker of the house of representatives, spoke at the chautauque here today. He said:

Six months ago I accepted an invitation extended to me by the representatives in congress, Mr. Campbell, to address the Winfield Chautauque association touching economic policies as connected with legislation, or, in other words, to make a political speech. I greet you.

A few years ago your distinguished citizens declared that Kansas had been marked out on the desert with the word "aid" written on the first page of its history, and that it had not been able to get rid of that word since. That was written by William Allen White and published in an eastern magazine in March, 1897. Whether he correctly represented conditions in Kansas at that time I will not attempt to discuss. The date is, however, significant. It was the month and the year when William McKinley was inaugurated president of the United States. Kansas had not given its electoral vote to McKinley, but to Bryan, on a hyphenated ticket. That was only fourteen years ago, but that fourteen years has transformed conditions in Kansas.

The same gentleman I have quoted as to conditions in 1897, who said you had built your state with other people's money and then had forgotten the debt, was in New York a few weeks ago, and told the newspaper reporters that Kansas was the most prosperous state in the union and that the high cost of corn and hogs had come to stay, because Kansas land is now worth \$100 an acre. I congratulate the people of Kansas that this great change has come in so short a time and under an economic policy which came in with McKinley and is still in force under Taft. I am told that you even buy your automobiles in New York and that your banks are overflowing with money while you are looking for safe investments in the east.

I am glad that the prosperity which you boast is not confined to Kansas, but that it spreads over the country and that it has come in the way of the tariff. In sections that did not aid to bring in the policy of McKinley than to those that did vote for him in 1896; for the statistics of the census office show that the greatest development under the Dingley law was in the south and then in the west, and in bringing in high prices by cheapening the money.

**Energy and Intelligence.**  
The creator gave us a great continent, filled with abundance of natural resources, and we have developed the energy and the intelligence to utilize those resources to make the greatest civilization on earth. We did not do this all at once. We did not discover those resources or know their value for many years. It has been said that the whole plains country was peopled three times before there was found a population that had the pluck and the intelligence to learn how to utilize what nature had given in the creation of a great commonwealth. The coal and iron ore has been in Alabama since the creation of the continent, but only the present generation has utilized it. I have confidence in the American people and in this country and I believe they have confidence in themselves and in their government. It does not require either energy or intelligence to be a pessimist. A lay man is an ideal pessimist. He will not work, but spends his time in envying the success of those who do. I believe that the great majority of the people of this country—those who are employing their energy in working out their salvation—have confidence in themselves and in quietness are going about their tasks too busy to hearken to the pessimist who is crying aloud to create discontent.

**Touching the Pocket Nerve.**  
Discontent of a people is not measured by words. It is measured by actions in a more significant manner and makes a more indelible impression than that of a penny paper bought, perused, thrown away and forgotten. "The pocket nerve" is one of the most sensitive nerves in our civilization, and that nerve is always the first affected by any disturbance of confidence. I have seen no evidence of weakness in "the pocket nerve" out here in Kansas, where you are reveling in high prices for farm products and showing no sympathy for those in the east who complain about the high prices of beef and pork and wheat and corn. I have seen no evidence of attack on the pocket nerve anywhere in the west, where business is moving with a push rarely seen before. There has not been enough of a disturbance of this nerve even to frighten Wall street for more than an hour or two at a time, and then the scare has been produced by some false report of supposed calamity, such as the false report of the administration running amok among the corporations or the rumor of the death of some financial magnate.

"The pocket nerve" was never in better condition than it is today, and that is the real evidence of confidence on the part of the American people in the economic policies of the government. That nerve shows no sign of prostration, such as it showed after the democratic party came into power and enacted the Wilson-Gorman tariff act. There was an experience that showed the pocket nerve and all other nerves in our business organization.

**Take Tariff Out of Politics.**  
"Take the tariff out of politics" is the advice of some, but I have noticed that this advice usually comes from those who are opposed to the protective tariff under which this country has had its greatest development. We have several times thought we had the tariff out of politics by the demonstration of the success and the necessity for the protective tariff principle.

We thought this principle of tariff taxation had been firmly established when it produced the revenue to pay off the debts of the civil war and, at the same time, built up our industries, not only in the north, but in the south, which had been laid waste by the ravages of that war. But our confidence has not been shaken. Every four years they met in national convention and declared that a tariff for protection was unconstitutional and a system of robbery. They made their campaigns on that issue, refusing to allow the system that had been established to such great advantage to the country to stand unimpaired. They did not merely advocate a change of tariff schedules. They insisted that the system was wrong, was unconstitutional and must be abolished.

The present democratic leader in the house of representatives has repeatedly said: "I am a free-trader from the sole of my foot to the crown of my head, and I would tear down every customs house from turret to foundation stone."

In that declaration Mr. Clark was not speaking as an individual, but as a loyal, constitutional, second-come, representative of the tariff principle of the democratic party and their unwavering determination not to allow the tariff to be kept out of politics.

President McKinley thought we had taken the tariff out of politics in 1898, when the United States declared war on Spain. The Dingley law that the president had passed because it seemed. In a speech in Boston he said that it seemed we had at last ac-

cepted the principles of protection, and that he hoped it would be many years before there would be another campaign made against it. But in the next year the democratic party in national convention again took their old position that the tariff was unconstitutional and made their campaign against it, just as they did in 1896, and again in 1908.

**Attack of the Insurgents.**  
The republican tariff law, both in restoring confidence and encouraging business, and in raising revenue, ought to have taken the tariff out of politics for several years to come; but the opponents of protection renewed the campaign immediately after the enactment of the law, and they have continued that campaign in the most violent and virulent form ever since. They have misrepresented it; they have lied about its schedules; they have resorted to every conceivable trick to keep the tariff in politics.

On the final vote on agreeing to the conference report on the Payne tariff bill the majority in the house of representatives was twelve; the Kansas delegation in the house, with the exception of Mr. Murdock, majority in the senate in favor of the adoption of the report was sixteen. Among those voting against the adoption of the report in the senate were Messrs. La Follette, Cummins, Dooliver, Beveridge and Brewster. After the final passage of the bill in the senate, Senator Cummins made a speech. On his way to Iowa, after the adjournment, he gave an interview to the Chicago papers, and later on addressed the Marquette club in Chicago. On these occasions Senator Cummins declared that "the Payne tariff law is a repudiation of the Chicago platform."

**President Commended Payne Law.**  
President Taft, when he signed the bill, made a public statement, in which he said: "There has been a great number of real decreases in rates and they constitute a sufficient amount to justify a statement that this bill is a substantial downward revision and a reduction of excessive rates."

In his Winona speech the president declared: "The Payne tariff bill is the best tariff bill the republican party has ever passed."

Senator Cummins declares that the issue from now until the national convention in 1912, "shall the men now in control of party destinies be permitted further to disregard plain party platforms?"

Republicans constituting a majority in both house and senate passed the bill, and the president approved it, but Senator Cummins, who I am informed, not only his own sentiments, but those of Senators La Follette, Beveridge, Brewster, Dooliver and Clapp, proposed to make war upon those republicans in the house and senate who voted for the bill, and upon those who actually carried out their threat as shown by political history since that time. In the primaries recently held in Iowa Senator Cummins, aided by Senator Dooliver, entered into the contest and opposed the re-nomination of Representative Hall of the Des Moines district. Senator Cummins also went into the district represented by Hon. Walter I. Smith, and entered into the campaign and sought to defeat his nomination at the primaries, and to oppose the nomination of Mr. Kennedy in the district represented by him. Their opposition to Smith and Kennedy, however, was unsuccessful.

My information is that in Kansas Senator Brewster with his allies, Governor Stubbs, Representatives Murdock and others, is opposing the re-nomination of Representatives Scott, Campbell, Anthony, Calderhead and Heeder, for the reason that these representatives voted for the tariff bill and co-operated with their republican brethren in the house of representatives.

**Co-Operation Through Party.**  
This is a government by the people; but in order to govern it is necessary, with a population of 90,000,000, that those who substantially agree touching economic and other policies should co-operate, and they can only co-operate through organization. During its whole history the republican party has stood for protection to American industries, to American labor, to American capital for the development of our resources. The democratic party has opposed the policy of protection. They would levy duties upon imports for revenue only and not for protection. All republicans and all democrats do not agree touching every detail covered by their respective policies, but they do substantially agree.

The differences existing between members of the party in power must necessarily be compromised or there would be no legislation. During the consideration of the senate amendments to the Payne tariff bill Senators Cummins, Brewster, La Follette, Beveridge and Clapp voted substantially with the democrats, although, Kansas being a great cattle-raising state, Senator Brewster voted to place a duty on hides, while many republican senators voted to place hides on the free list. Senator Brewster voted also to increase the duty fixed by the house on barley.

No one senator, no one representative constitute the republican majority. Many republican senators opposed the reduction of the duty on lumber, many members would have preferred to see lumber on the free list. So I might as well say that all schedules and find differences among republican senators and representatives as to the items that should be placed on the free list, those that should have an increased duty and those upon which the duty should be decreased. There have been no legislation had not these differences been compromised.

**Duties Were Reduced.**  
Under the Dingley law the duty on lumber was \$2 a thousand feet; in the Payne law it was fixed at \$1.50 per thousand feet. In the Payne law hides were placed on the free list; there was a material reduction upon leather and upon boots and shoes; also upon agricultural implements, with a provision for free trade in agricultural implements with all countries that admitted agricultural implements free into their markets.

In the Dingley law the duty on print paper was 10 per cent. As the house passed the Payne bill the duty on this commodity was fixed at 12 per cent in accordance with the recommendations of the Mann committee which investigated the matter under authority of action taken at the last session of the Sixtieth congress. In my judgment, the rate fixed by the house bill was correct, but when the bill reached the senate it was amended by the republican senators, together with senators from New York, Wisconsin and other states where print paper is produced, took the opposite view and insisted that the rate fixed by the house was not protective. So a compromise was made fixing the duty at \$2.50 per hundred.

Taken as a whole, the Payne law reduced duties on imports which compete with similar commodities produced in the United States amounting to consumption value yearly to \$1,000,000,000, while the increase over the rates of the Dingley law were in the main upon luxuries, the largest increase being upon wines and similar products, the consumption value of which is \$200,000,000 a year.

**Aim of the Tariff Law.**  
The object of the recent tariff legislation was two-fold: First, to provide revenue to pay the expenses of the government, and, second, to fix the duties in

such a manner as to protect American labor and capital engaged in production. From both these stand-points the Payne tariff law well deserves the commendation of President Taft when he says that it is the best tariff bill ever enacted by the republican party. The demagogue may pick out an item here and there and say that duties are too high; but the law is to be tested by all its provisions and not by an isolated item here and there.

The best test is that afforded by the result of the operations of the law. The Payne law went into effect on August 5, 1908. For the fiscal year ending on June 30, 1909, the duties received under the operation of the new law during operation less than eleven months of that time amounted to \$103,000,000, the largest revenue produced under any tariff law ever enacted. So that it is a success as a producer of revenue.

One-third of our population are engaged in agriculture, two-thirds in mining, manufacturing, railway work and other vocations. Since the enactment of the Payne law 39,000 idle freight cars, with the locomotives that hauled them, have gone out of the shops and off of the sidetrack and again are engaged in answering the great demands of transportation and commerce. Labor which had been idle, and therefore a minimum consumer of the products of the farm and the products of the factory, has gone into constant employment. No one who is willing to live in the sweat of his face need search for employment, and the unemployed searchers for him. Not only is there universal employment, but it has been estimated that since the passage of the Payne law wages have been increased in the aggregate \$99,000,000. The demand comes for further advancement, not here to judgment, there will be and ought to be further advances.

**Prosperity a Certain Result.**  
With full employment and full wages there comes full consumption. The prices the farmer receives for his products advance because of the greater demand, and in turn, he is enabled to increase his consumption of articles which he does not produce. The farm and the factory come closer together, thus cheapening the cost of the exchange of products.

Year by year the economic policies of the republican party in the west, and in the rest of the country, under the economic policies of a majority of the people of the republic, constituting, as they do, the republican party, we have become the greatest producing nation on earth. In agriculture, in mining, in manufacturing, in commerce, in the products of all the civilized world. Westward the star of empire has taken its course. There is more of production in manufactures in the middle west than in the east and far west combined. Illinois, we claim, is still first in agriculture. It is third in manufactures in the world, and its manufacturing city in the United States, says more, it is the second manufacturing city in the world. In the middle west we have ceased to borrow, and now lend. It is no longer true, except in the mouth of the demagogue, that the west is tributary to the east.

Not only do our agricultural products constantly increase in volume and value, but, basing the estimate on the semi-decennial census of 1908, Kansas produced during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909, manufactured articles to the value of \$23,000,000. The same census shows that, counting the real wealth that you can see and feel, the tangible property—the per capita wealth of Kansas is now about \$1,500. Nebraska has a per capita wealth of about \$1,200, Iowa \$1,000, Illinois \$1,000, New York \$1,000, while New England has a per capita wealth of about \$1,100. I say again the star of empire westward has taken its way.

**Champ Clark's Onslaught.**  
Under these conditions, the leader of the democrats in the house of representatives, Mr. Clark, makes frequent charges in his speech of July 4 at Tammany Hall that the democrats are united; that the republicans are divided into factions, and he proceeds to call for recruits. He attacks the Payne tariff law as vigorously as Brewster, Cummins, La Follette, Beveridge and other so-called insurgents attack it. He gives notice that the democrats are to control the next house of representatives, and that their first labor will be a revision of the tariff from the standpoint of revenue only. He declares that he will introduce a tariff-for-revenue-only bill, but it will be to the senate and if the senate does not pass it, upon the provisions of that bill, they will enter the campaign of 1912 asking to be clothed with full power both executive and legislative.

I have been denounced as a stand-patter and as against a revision of the tariff. I will confess that I do not believe frequent changes in the tariff are for the best interests of the people. Therefore, from the time of the enactment of the Dingley law to the making of the national platform in 1908, upon which we nominated Taft and Sherman and declared in favor of the revision of the tariff, I was against entering upon a revision of the tariff.

**Agitation Halted Production.**  
Agitation for revision and the revision itself always halt production. The farmer, certain he will not have customers, imports the minimum, and the revenue that is derived from imports correspondingly decreases. The manufacturer, not knowing what the proposed revision brings forth, certainly has no customers, and is aware that his product may be sold later at a loss. The farmer, the miner and all other producers purchase the minimum, and the result is that in the aggregate the capacity of the people to buy decreases. The bill led the mind and they fell in a ditch, carrying with them the remainder of the people of the United States.

**Progress and Conservation.**  
After we had made such progress in the creation and use of wealth as no other people in all the history of civilization, we are advised to be progressive. I have heard of a tramp on the breakneck criticizing the engineer who was repairing a run of Twenty-first Century Limited, and saying this talk about progressive legislation comes from as responsible a source—from those who are securing a ride without con-

tributing either effort or substance, and without any more knowledge than the tramp had concerning the locomotive. When Lincoln became president the sale of public lands had so fallen off that the receipts but little more than paid for the administration of the land office. He recommended the homestead laws and donation of alternate sections to the railroads, and it was such legislation that opened the way to the settlement of the great west. That was a measure to stand and after it had brought results the policy of giving away the public domain was abandoned. It was abused as all laws are abused.

Twenty years ago we began the policy of conservation, and by statute in 1885 we withdrew all the arid lands thought to be capable of irrigation and assigned the director of the geological survey to select sites for reservoirs. I took much interest in that legislation and helped to enact it. But in two years there was a great protest from the western states that their development had been arrested, and the hardest fight I ever had in congress was against the absolute repeal of that act. I had charge of the sundry civil bill in the house and made the fight against the amendment adopted in the senate repealing the entire act. After a long contest we compromised, repealing that part of the act withdrawing all the lands from settlement, but preserving that part which gave the sites for reservoirs. That legislation was wise; that the west realized at the time, for it is on those identical sites that we are now constructing the great reservoirs for the greatest irrigation scheme ever undertaken by man. We have already expended more than \$200,000,000 on this great scheme, and a few weeks ago congress authorized the loan of \$30,000,000 more to the reclamation fund to complete existing projects.

It was also nearly twenty years ago that we gave the president power to withdraw lands for national forest reserves, and we now have 28,000,000 acres of such reserves. President Roosevelt withdrew several millions acres of public lands to protect and conserve water-power sites, coal lands and oil lands. President Taft, following the same policy, doubted the power of the executive in such conservation and to be entirely safe recommended legislation giving such authority. The legislation has been enacted and the president has again withdrawn the lands, making the conservation doubly certain as authorized by law as well as by executive order.

**Rules of the House.**  
We have much loose talk about the rules of the house, and the origin, instead of being in the main as old as the congress and even older, for Thomas Jefferson prepared his manual for the senate from a treatise on parliamentary practice he secured in Europe. The rules of the house are simply a copy of a code of procedure so as to enable a body of men to transact business in an orderly manner, protect each member in his rights and at the same time not permit a belligerent minority to block the proceedings nor a meretricious majority to ride rough shod on the rights of the minority. Some of the ablest and fairest members we have ever had in public life have contributed to this code of rules. The custom has been to adopt the rules from one congress to another, because they were considered as practicable as any that could be devised. They are not partisan, and never have been. They are the laws of the house of representatives for the government of that body, as much as the statutes are for the people. Men desiring to secure results in legislation have been able to accomplish much, while men who were little interested in general legislation have either devoted their time to some pet private measure and complained because they could not pass it, or they have found their means of attacking the house to obstruction or efforts to reform the practice of parliamentary proceedings in general.

**Effect of the Rules.**  
As a rule, the majority of members study the rules to secure results in legislation. There has always been a minority who are not so little study and as the easiest way to attract attention and make up for their deficiency in general legislative work. As a member of the house of representatives for thirty-five years, sometimes on the majority side and sometimes on the minority side of the house, I have found the rules sufficient to secure results. I was a member of the committee on rules in the Fifty-first congress with Speaker Reed and William McKinley. We then had to modify the rule for a quorum of the speaker to count members who would make motions and then refuse to respond to their names when the roll was called. That modification was made in a constitutional way, reported from the committee on rules and adopted by a majority of the house. There was simply to check an endless filibuster by the minority that boasted it would not permit the majority to do the business congress was elected to do. Reed was denounced as a czar, and the hysterical cry went all over the land. But the majority changed and the democrats came into control. They adopted the so-called Reed rules after one session of trying to get along without them.

We have had another season of hysteria over the rules, abounding in more ignorance than knowledge. A small percentage of the political majority went over to the political minority and created a hybrid majority to change the rules and create a new committee on rules. In doing this they admitted it was revolution—a rather strange admission. It has been the policy of a law-making body to defy the law created for its control while making laws for the people to obey. It is difficult to draw the line against mob spirit to resist laws made by such a body.

But there have been changes in the rules, and those who are engaged in many vocations, mining and mercantile pursuits, as differentiated from those engaged in agriculture, are compelled to pay too much for breadstuffs and other products of the farm. There is in the practice of Illinois and Kansas and in the agricultural districts generally they declare that the farmers are paying too much for the products of the two-thirds of the population who are not engaged in agriculture. They are all things in time as they are striving for power. We had an experience with democratic tariff revision during the years from 1892 to 1895. Our democratic friends, being in full power, enacted the Wilson tariff law. The bill led the mind and they fell in a ditch, carrying with them the remainder of the people of the United States.

**Take Off the Fat Where It Shows.**  
Most women suffer much humiliation because of great quantities of fat, so located that no matter how they dress, everybody sees that they are abnormal. This is the day of the slender figure, and fat women are almost not tolerated either in business or social affairs. Women may not know it, but men when they see a fat woman pass them on the street make all manner of sympathetic remarks about her. They think of men who are anxious to marry, but it is natural for a man to dislike fat on a woman. Where fat shows it is not only a disfigurement, but it is as quickly as possible. The hot weather dresses seem to be made for a fat woman's misery. They expose all the charms of woman and her ugliness as well. Exercise and diet will not remove fat. The best remedy is the famous Marmola prescription which has met with such phenomenal success and has so many of our society women as its converts, is now being sold in tablet form to meet the demand of the public for this style of treatment. These little tablets go into your system just like food. They clean the stomach and digestive apparatus from producing fat and reduce the fat on the body at the rate of from 12 to 15 ounces a day. They are harmless and can be carried in your purse and taken every afternoon as quickly as possible. The hot weather dresses seem to be made for a fat woman's misery. They expose all the charms of woman and her ugliness as well. Exercise and diet will not remove fat. The best remedy is the famous Marmola prescription which has met with such phenomenal success and has so many of our society women as its converts, is now being sold in tablet form to meet the demand of the public for this style of treatment. These little tablets go into your system just like food. They clean the stomach and digestive apparatus from producing fat and reduce the fat on the body at the rate of from 12 to 15 ounces a day. They are harmless and can be carried in your purse and taken every afternoon as quickly as possible.

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and those who are united to make these changes are not satisfied.

**Murdock's Own Record.**  
Mr. Murdock recently made a speech in the house recounting what the insurgents had done. He pointed with pride to calendar Wednesday. But he not only voted against the rule creating calendar Wednesday, but spoke against it, as a Trojan horse, brought into the house by the committee on rules; and he said he could see cold feet sticking out of the belly of that horse, referring to some members who had been associating with him but who had acted with the majority to secure that change.

Mr. Murdock also boasted that the insurgents had returned the rules to secure a unanimous consent calendar, so that members would not have to go "hat in hand" to the speaker and ask his consent as a member. He forgot to say that the unanimous consent calendar was created by the Fitzgerald rule, adopted the first day of the Sixty-first congress, and that Mr. Murdock not only voted against it, but denounced it as a part of a conspiracy to prevent rule reform. Mr. Murdock did not forget these things. He simply hoped other people would forget, and that he could justify his co-operation with the political minority of the house by claiming it had accomplished things which he opposed and denounced. Now, I have no fault to find with any of these changes. I do find fault with the methods of men who were elected as republicans and who have been so-called insurgents, and that Mr. Kendall of Iowa, who was generally associated with Mr. Murdock in his alliance with the democrats, defended the special rule for the consideration of the postal savings bank bill, and in his speech said: "They (the democrats) are not here to assist us in redeeming the pledge of the republican platform or in justifying the recommendations of the republican president. As usual, they are interposing whatever obstructions seem possible to the carrying out by us of the solemn pledges of our platform and the independent recommendations of our president."

Mr. Kendall thus exposed the weakness of those who co-operated with the democrats in this congress in legislation and in revolutionary methods against legislation.

**Great Work of Congress.**  
It has been said that the change in the rules, effected on March 13, 1910, enabled the house to accomplish more work than it did before. That change in the rules was simply to create a new committee on rules, composed of ten members in the place of a committee of five, and the speaker not to be a member thereof.

This new committee on rules reported two special rules: one for the consideration of the postal savings bank bill, the other to consider the Appalachian reserve bill. In addition to these that committee reported a new rule providing a method for discharging a committee from the further consideration of a bill.

But the great work of the session, in providing appropriations for the life of the government, were, with three exceptions, passed before the change in the rules of the house. The District of Columbia appropriation bill was passed December 29; the army appropriation bill, January 1; the fortification appropriation, January 1; the Indian appropriation, January 2; the Indian department, February 2; diplomatic and consular, February 11; military academy, March 2; river and harbor appropriation, February 16; pension appropriation, March 2; naval, April 1; sundry civil, June 4; and the general deficiency appropriation bill, June 15.

It will be seen from the above list that with the exception of the naval sundry civil, general deficiency and pension appropriation bill, the great budget bills were all passed upon by the house of representatives before the date of the change in the rules. They were all considered as in the past without any special rule, and all the important legislation of the last session of congress was enacted without any special rules.

The railroad rate bill, creating a court of commerce, was passed in exactly the same way as the Hepburn bill was passed in the Fifty-ninth congress, considered in the committee of the whole house and open to amendment at every stage, with no time fixed for a vote, except by unanimous consent.

The statehood bill, the employers' liability bill, the conservation bill and many others were passed in the same way. The postal savings bank bill was the one

important piece of legislation enacted by the last session of congress considered under a special rule. It has been said that this special rule was a drastic one; it was, I think it was one of the most drastic special rules ever adopted by the house of representatives. I can remember but one special rule that was a more drastic one, and that was the special rule, adopted in the Fifty-third congress, by which the democratic house discharged the conferees on the Wilson tariff bill, and accepted, on bloc, 99 senate amendments with but two hours' debate and without an opportunity for amendment.

**Special Rule for Postal Savings Bill.**  
The special rule for the consideration of the postal savings bank bill was advocated by Mr. Murdock and other gentlemen who, in the past, complained of special rules. In the republican caucus these gentlemen took the position that they needed a special rule cutting off all amendments save a substitute offered by the minority of the committee as a means of protection. They said very frankly to their associates in the republican caucus that, if the bill were open to general amendment on the floor of the house, the democrats would certainly offer amendments which would be embarrassing to the western members, and that they would either be compelled to vote for those amendments or have very serious trouble explaining why they had not done so to their constituents at home. In taking that position I think they were justified and by so doing they kicked from under the old prejudices and arguments against special rules.

The republicans met in caucus and after four long night sessions perfected a bill which they agreed to as a party measure. And that is exactly the function that had been performed by special rules of the house of representatives ever since the committee on rules was given the power to report such rules. Such special rules, always reported from the committee on rules in obedience to caucus action, or a canvass of a majority side of the house, have never been rejected by the house. The support of Mr. Murdock and other so-called insurgents, which was given to the special rule for the consideration of the postal savings bank bill, was identical with the attitude of the "regular" republicans not only in the support of that rule but in the support of every special rule by which an important piece of legislation has been considered in the last twenty years. And Mr. Murdock in his vote of June 7, 1910, condemned all his previous actions against the committee on rules of the house of representatives.

**Hope for Murdock.**  
There was no one in the house of representatives more ardent in his support of the postal savings bank bill than Representative Murdock. He was ready to adopt

any means to secure that legislation. And for once in his legislative career he became a constructive legislator instead of a mere obstructor against legislation. As a member of the committee on postoffice and post-roads which had charge of that bill, he did good services in committee and on the floor, and I am glad to make this acknowledgment of that service. I hope he may take the advice William Allen White gave to Kansas in 1897, "become less interesting and more frequently right."

In conclusion, I want to say a word about your delegation in the national house of representatives. As a whole there are few if any better delegations in congress. Experience in a great legislative body is as valuable as experience in any other place or calling. If you believe in the policies of the republican party send to congress to represent you three men of ability, men of courage, men of industry, men who will represent the interests of their respective districts, but who will be broad enough to recognize that they legislate for the whole country and that no part of the country and no part of the population can permanently prosper at the expense of any other part. Send representatives who will co-operate with their republican colleagues from all the other states and who, through co-operation and after full consultation will be wise enough and strong enough to legislate for 90,000,000 people. With such men representing you, you need have no fear but that you will receive full recognition for industries, a better of farm, mine or factory of your respective localities. Send men who are competent to legislate in the house and in the senate, and not merely in the newspapers and magazines.

You may say it is none of my business to take counsel with you touching this matter. My reply is that we in Illinois are as much interested in having correct representation from Kansas as you are in having correct representation from Illinois, for in the last analysis wise legislation is vital for all the people of the republic.

**Sincerest Flattery.**  
At the dinner of a literary club in Chicago two minor poets were heard in conversation.  
"Harold," said the one, "I've just seen your triollet in the Spread Eagle Magazine."  
"Ah!" exclaimed the other, a pleased expression coming into his face, and with the air of a man preparing himself against a burst of praise.  
"Yes," continued the second poet; "and do you know I heard rather a neat little compliment passed on it by a young lady of my acquaintance."  
Harold seemed still more pleased. "May I ask what she said?" he queried.  
"Why," said he, "she wanted to know whether I had written it—Lippincott's Magazine."

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