

their interests are simply interests of the business community, and especially of the wage workers, I believe they will support Judge Taft. So far as they have special interests which are to them more important

than the general business welfare, I believe they will support you. I base this belief upon what happened in 1896. Your success then would, in my belief, have been a calamity for the country from the standpoint of

the welfare of the business men, farmers and workingmen, just as, in my belief, your success now would be a calamity to this country, both from the standpoint of business (and especially of the interests of the wage worker) and from the standpoint of morals. One of your supporters, the New York World, in February last, printed a list of contributions to your campaign funds of 1896, containing the names of individuals and corporations owning silver mines who made contributions to the aggregate amount of \$288,000, one of these contributions being \$159,000 and another of \$45,000, etc.

Now all the great financial magnates who then contributed to your campaign fund would have preferred business prosperity to business adversity, other things being equal; but they would rather have had the immense profit that would have accrued to them from the free coinage of the fifty cent dollars than the smaller profit which would have accrued to them merely from the general industrial prosperity of the country. Because of their personal interests and against the interests of the community at large these "trust" magnates then supported you. My belief is, and the statement of Judge Priest, quoted above, and the attitude of many men of large financial interests, warrant me in expressing the belief that those trust magnates whose fear of being prosecuted under the law by Mr. Taft is greater than their fear of general business adversity under you, will support you and not Mr. Taft.

Campaign Contributions

I now come to what I have to say as to contributions, and here you furnish your own answer. You state that it appears from the published statement of the contributions to Mr. Hughes' campaign for governor two years ago, that various men of wealth, some of them connected with big corporations whom you name, to the number of nine, contributed from \$20,000 to \$500 apiece. You ask "would the fact that these gentlemen contributed to his campaign fund strengthen or weaken his testimony against the reasonableness of our anti-trust remedy?" And later you continue by asking "are you willing to say that any public interest was served in 1904 by concealing until after the election the contributions made to the republican campaign committee by Mr. Harriman, and those collected by him for others?" Are you willing to say that the publications then made would have had no effect on the election? You then propose to publish the names of contributors before election, and ask us to do the same.

A Question of Motive

The amounts you mention as contributed to Mr. Hughes are utterly trivial compared to the amounts I have already mentioned as contributed to your campaign in 1896; but in my judgment the amount contributed has nothing whatever to do with the point at issue. The question was, for instance, whether Mr. Clark of Montana, when he contributed so heavily to your campaign fund, had a proper motive, and whether your actions would or would not have been influenced properly or improperly by that contribution, and the same question applies to Mr. Hughes and to me. In the case of Mr. Hughes and myself the answer is, fortunately, easy. You have nothing to do but examine our records in the offices to which we were both elected. You either knew, or ought to have known before writing, that in not one instance has Mr. Hughes, as governor, done one thing of any kind, sort or description for anyone of the contributors you mention, or for any other contributor to his fund, which ought not to have been done

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