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It must grieve the president to have Senator Aldrich retire so soon after receiving a certificate of confidence from the chief executive.

Some one has had the audacity to paraphrase the first line of a rollicking stanza to make it read: "Hale, Hale, the gang's all gone," but it is not accurate. Several are left.

WHEN TEDDY COMES MARCHING HOME

It has been suggested that upon the return of our prodigal son from Africa we kill the fatted beef trust.

WHAT WILL HE DO?

Those republicans who are hoping that Mr. Roosevelt will take up the fight against Cannon and Cannonism will perhaps be interested in a letter printed by the New York World...

"I feel that all good citizens who have the welfare of America at heart should appreciate the immense amount that has been accomplished by the present congress organized as it is, and the urgent need of keeping this organization in power. Mr. Cannon, as speaker of the house, has accomplished a literally phenomenal amount of good work. It has shown a courage, good sense and patriotism such that it would be a real and serious misfortune for the country to fail to recognize. To change the leadership and organization of the house at this time means to bring confusion upon those who have been successfully engaged in the steady working out of a great and comprehensive scheme for the betterment of our social, industrial and civic conditions. Such a change would substitute a purposeless confusion, a violent and hurtful oscillation between the positions of the extreme radical and the extreme reactionary, for the present orderly progress along the line of a carefully thought-out policy."

AFTER MANY YEARS

In a recent issue the Philadelphia North American, republican, demands the enforcement by President Taft of the criminal clause of the Sherman anti-trust law. Referring to the suggestion that the trust be proceeded against with "fines and injunctions" the North American says:

Fines and injunctions and dissolutions! The old, old story—with the ancient and inevitable ending! And this with a statute on the books which the highest legal authority has proclaimed "a criminal statute;" this while the history of the fines and judicial orders of dissolution and injunctions against Standard Oil and the beef trust and the sugar trust is fresh in every mind; this bill of entertainment proffered in the hour when the temper of the nation demands dramatic, climactic and conclusive action and not prolongation of the foolery of an already tiresome farce.

What the welfare of the whole nation demands today, what would be the best possible benefit to every honest corporation and would most promote legitimate business and check most effectively the spread of dangerous revolutionary sentiment would be action by the federal executive and judicial officers along the lines of these indisputable truths declared more than two years ago by President Woodrow Wilson, of Princeton:

"Our thinkers, whether in the field of morals or in the field of economics, have before them nothing less than the task of translating law and morals into the terms of modern business; and inasmuch as morals can not be corporate, but must be individual, however ingeniously the individual may seek covert, that task in simple terms comes to this: to find the individual amid modern circumstances and bring him face to face once more with a clearly defined personal responsibility.

"One really responsible man in jail, one real originator of the schemes and transactions which are contrary to public interest legally lodged in the penitentiary, would be worth more than one thousand corporations mulcted in fines, if reform is to be genuine and permanent."

But Woodrow Wilson's opinions may be belittled. He is a student, a scholar, a college professor—a statesman, even though a democrat of the ante-Bryan brand. He is not a judge, a corporation lawyer, a "practical politician," nor a man experienced in the detailed workings and demands of the country's "big business."

Therefore, we submit as preferable study for the guidance of the present national administration in treatment of the trusts the highest expert testimony—the views of the jurist who, while he was a corporation lawyer, earned the title "godfather of the trusts."

But Mr. Wilson's recommendation of two years ago was by no means the first demand made upon a republican administration for the enforcement of the criminal clause of the Sherman anti-trust law. Democrats and populists, through newspapers and through party platforms and political speeches, have demanded the application of this very effective method of treating with lawbreakers. From the beginning, The Commoner has urged the enforcement of this criminal clause. More than seven years ago, in its issue of October 17, 1902, The Commoner printed this editorial:

THE CRIMINAL CLAUSE

The New York Journal is entitled to credit for formally bringing to the attention of Attorney General Knox the criminal clause of the federal anti-trust law and insisting upon the enforcement of that law against the coal barons. The Journal has directed Attorney General Knox's attention to the fact that the very first section of the federal anti-trust law provides for criminal prosecution of those who engage in combinations in the form of trusts or conspiracy in restraint of trade or commerce among the several states or with foreign nations.

The Journal suggests to Attorney General Knox that criminal prosecutions of these well-fed violators of the law will be advantageous to public interests. By way of proof in support of the demand for the immediate criminal prosecution of these people the Journal calls attention to the findings of the congressional committee of the interstate and foreign commission made in 1893 and quoted with approval in the report of the industrial commission in 1902, as follows:

"The committee, after a careful investigation, has come to the conclusion that the railroad companies engaged in mining and transporting coal are practically in a combination to control the output and fix the price which the public pays for this important and necessary article of consumption. There is substantially no competition existing between these companies. The only limitation to their demands is the indisposition on the part of the public to buy their product at an exorbitant price."

The editor of the Journal announces to the attorney general that an active concert and combination controls the country's anthracite coal supply. He declares that he can show that the main conspiracy is centered in the Temple Iron company and that the men whose acts should thus be subjected to an investigation by the grand jury are George F. Baer, Eben T. Thomas, E. D. Underwood, William H. Truesdale, Alfred Walter, R. M. Olyphant, Thomas P. Fowler, and Irving A. Stearns.

Upon receipt of the Journal's statement, Attorney General Knox referred the same to the district attorney for New York. There has been a very general curiosity to know why the administration has not sought to enforce the criminal clause of the federal anti-trust law. No representative of the administration has attempted to explain the administration's failure in this respect, and the formal notice which the New York Journal has served upon the attorney general will attract widespread attention. It is to be hoped, also, that Attorney General Knox may yet be persuaded to

seriously undertake the enforcement of this very important and in fact chief feature of the federal anti-trust law.

In The Commoner of February 10, 1905, the following editorial appeared:

ENFORCE THE CRIMINAL CLAUSE

The opinion rendered by the United States supreme court in the beef trust case appears to be a complete vindication of the government's claim that the packers have conspired in restraint of trade and have made themselves liable to the terms of the Sherman anti-trust law.

In this case the opinion was delivered by Justice Holmes who, several months ago speaking from the bench, declared that the Sherman anti-trust law was a criminal statute and should be enforced accordingly.

Several weeks ago, Washington correspondents announced that some one high in the confidence of the administration had declared that if the supreme court sustained the government's contention in the beef trust case, criminal proceedings would be instituted. On the day following the supreme court's decision in that case, Washington dispatches said that unless the packers accepted the opinion as the government understood it, the criminal clause of the Sherman anti-trust law would be invoked.

It is to be hoped that this course will be adopted. Long ago, the criminal clause, which is indeed the chief feature of the Sherman anti-trust law, should have been enforced. It is the one feature of that law which the trust magnates greatly fear. The criminal indictment is the one weapon which powerful law breakers dread. Mr. Roosevelt has it in his power to demonstrate his sincerity by invoking the powerful aid of the criminal indictment in his warfare against the trusts. Men of all political parties hope that the president will rise to the emergency. He has everything to gain and nothing to lose by standing fearlessly and stalwartly in defense of public interests and the only way in which the welfare of the many may be protected from the greed of the few is by calling strictly to account men who, in order to fill their pockets with ill-gotten gains, do not hesitate to conspire against the very lives of the people.

The time for experiments has gone by, Mr. President. The time for action is at hand. The people have been permitted to suffer all too long. They are not only entitled to relief, but they must have relief. It is within your power to protect them and whatever contempt these influential law-breakers may show for injunction proceedings or high-sounding manifestos, they will be very ready to obey the law—and obey it implicitly—when they are brought face to face with the fact that continued violation of the law means imprisonment.

FRIGHTENED

Washington dispatches say that even Representative Dalzell is frightened and recently made a hurried trip to his home in order to look after his fences. Representative Tawney, another Cannon lieutenant, also received a hurry call. These little spasms of fright are mighty tame compared with the chill which will come over these republican leaders on election day.

"AS AISY AS YOU CAN"

I've a sweetheart that's the merriest boy in all the County Clare, His whistle's like the blackbird's flute in spring-time's larchwoods fair, An' if I'm troublin' any time, "Be aisy, love," says Dan, "An' if you can't be aisy, be as aisy as you can!" He'll up at dawn to find for me the wee red cow that strays, His hand will make the butter come on wearin' churnin' days, An' when the world seems all awry, "Be aisy, love," says Dan, "An' if you can't be aisy, be as aisy as you can!" He's such a way with all the girls, an' when he buckled shoes He steps the jig 'tis many a maid for partner he might choose, But tho' his smile's for every one, "Be aisy, love," "An' if you can't be aisy, be as aisy as you can!" Oh, there's no one like my sweetheart all the way thro' County Clare, An' he says we'll just be married when the May bloom scents the air. An' 'tis life will be all springtime, for "Be aisy, love," says Dan, "An' if you can't be aisy, be as aisy as you can!" —Pall Mall Gazette.