

Best Citizenship Demanded to Rid America of Radicalism

Self-Control In Individuals As U. S. Asset

"Each Man His Own Master" Must Be Applied if Any Nation Is to Reap Full Measure of His Ability

No Half-Way Patriotism

Leaders Held Unfit Whose Everyday Life Fails to Meet the High Standards

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The platform contest is drawing to a close. Soon it will be placed among things unnumbered, but I believe its benefits will be permanent in awakening the people of America. I for one have been a close student of your columns, and before the last I said I want to join my plea with those of thousands of my fellow countrymen.

My plea is this: Let citizenship be our watchword, and with citizenship accomplished Americanization will follow as surely as night follows day. Let each man and woman in the United States strive to be the best citizen his or her ability will permit; then will the task of radicalism cease, for then it will have discontinued its existence.

The best chance of producing the kind of citizenship needed is under a Republican form of government. The natural tendency of the people is toward good citizenship, but it needs encouragement, strengthening, cooperation, and it is up to the delegates to the Chicago convention to provide these characteristics through the medium of their platform and subsequent acts.

The principle of self-control must be applied in the individual himself. No man is fit to rule, to govern others, unless he is his own master. In a self-governed community, individual self-government is a necessity. The larger the community the greater must be the degree of individual self-control if the whole is to operate smoothly.

Honesty, loyalty, truthfulness, sincerity, after all, are the fundamental virtues the individual must have if in lending a hand to his country he expects to see that country step out stride for stride with other nations, always keeping just ahead.

Lawlessness is more dangerous in a self-governed community than it is in any other, for the simple reason that in it the state depends for its existence upon the individual, and the individual is not doing his part as it should be done if disorder exists. He is not applying the brakes of self-control.

Americans should think of the Constitution—the framework of the state—as sacred. So thinking, they will uphold its terms in every way and the state will thrive.

We all agree that a man should be his own master—free. Free, but not free from obligation as the servant of his country.

Let the Republican party start aright with an appeal for citizenship—the best citizenship individually will provide. FITZ.

"Solid South" Totters

Chance for Great Gains by Republican Party Seen

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The Republican party has a chance this year to break into the "Solid South." Popular rule through the party system is greatly handicapped as long as any large section of the country votes en bloc from year to year merely as a matter of prejudice or tradition.

A new and broader feeling of nationalism as opposed to sectionalism and a growing distrust of Democratic leadership make this the logical time for the Republicans to exert themselves in the South. Aside from a campaign of organization and education, the most effective thing that can be done will be the nomination of a broad range progressive candidate. Demorest, Ga. S. C. HEINDEL.

New Currency System

Reduction of Living Cost Held Paramount Question

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: An administrative policy having for its object the change of our present currency system, making paper money issues depend on wealth production, is most essential. We must have a guiding hand in Washington, capable of leading us to a greater productivity, bringing us to the realization that upon our economic management of our great resources in nature, industry and commerce, as well as in the affairs of our government, depends our salvation from the present living costs and our future prosperity. MARIM SINDLER, 1519 North Eighth Street, Philadelphia.

Conditions of the Platform Contest

The Tribune invites you to write planks for a Republican platform and to write letters about planks proposed by other readers through its columns. For the best planks and letters The Tribune offers these prizes: For the best plank.....\$500.00 For the second best plank. 250.00 For each of the eight next best planks..... 100.00 For the best letter a daily price of..... 10.00 For the best letter in the whole competition..... 100.00

The Tribune will make up a platform of ten planks to be determined by your votes. The ten issues receiving the most votes will be the planks. The ten planks that best express the chosen issues will be selected for the prize awards. Each plank is limited to 100 words. Of two planks or letters of equal merit the shorter will be chosen. Every plank and letter must bear the name and address of the sender, although a nom de plume will be published if the writer desires. The contest will close at midnight, April 30, 1920. Manuscripts will not be returned. The judges of the contest will be three of The Tribune's editors. They will base their decisions on sound reasoning and brevity, clearness and strength of statement.

To-Day's Prize Letter

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: "Where will it all end?" is a question that is being constantly reiterated in these days of economic uncertainty and political backfire. No one can answer, because, under present conditions, we are as runners traveling a circle, with no outlet or goal and with no alternative except to keep traveling until we reach the breaking point. There is no other end. The Republican party should seriously consider means of wresting with what threatens to be an economic upheaval by first striving to get at the roots of present-day restlessness. Consider the farm and the rural community. Consider the thousands of acres lying idle for lack of men to work them, while veritable droves of men, attracted by the high wages, flock to the big city in search of jobs, while the helpless and hopeless consumer pays \$8 a bushel for potatoes and 17 cents a loaf for bread.

The rural communities become poorer, the unworked farm lands increase, the supply of food products decreases, the population of the big cities increases abnormally, rents and the prices do likewise; strikes result, wages are increased, more men from the farms and rural communities, attracted by the still higher wages, acres lie idle, the dearth of food becomes still more apparent, the congestion in the cities is more than ever appalling; rents and prices climb again, more strikes result, wages are again increased and we are back again to where we started, ready for what? Why, another lap around the circle. And when that lap is completed we will be ready—for what? Another lap. Where will it all end? In making Bolshevists of the middle classes, possibly; in economic upheaval, probably; in the exhaustion and degradation of many, surely.

More Justice, Not Education, To Curb 'Reds'

Republican Party Urged to Devise Means Whereby Every Man in America Will Own His Home

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Education and yet more education seems to be the panacea in the solution of the problem of Americanization.

Before launching ourselves into an aggressive campaign which will have as its ultimate object the Americanization of the unassimilated American and which will entail the expenditure of vast sums of money and herculean efforts, as now proposed by many well-meaning organizations, let us pause a while, take soundings and judge facts from the viewpoint of past and actual experience.

Americanization, or, better yet, patriotism, in order to be of the 100 and not the 2.75 per cent variety, must form an integral part of the very life-blood of the individual. It must be so welded in the person as to mean an unwavering defender of the flag. This is the only Americanization for which the Republic can afford to stand, and unless it is founded on love for country, and not knowledge of country, all efforts will be of no avail.

Having found the solution of the question—love for country—the next step must necessarily be how to create that love, and in this we find more tangible facts must be faced. The important issue in this connection, it seems to me, is that the individual should not alone live in the country, but that through governmental process concrete opportunities should be afforded him to own something in the nation which he may learn to love and to cherish.

Closely allied to this question we find that man has struggled through generations in the hope that he may have a place in this earth worthy of being called his home, for, as has been so aptly made clear, a man will fight for his home, but will take no interest in his boarding-house.

In devising means by which every deserving citizen may be given the opportunity to own his place of abode as the greatest antidote against Bolshevism, it should be the endeavor of the Republican party, as the major controlling factor in American politics, to create constant opportunities by development.

The party of Abraham Lincoln is now on the eve of clinching a complete victory. Let it answer the plaintive cry of the rank and file of the Republic for more practical application of that very illusive term, justice, and by the creation of opportunities such as will give to the men and women of America a chance to flourish, as the nation can not progress unless the individual prospers. Bolshevism and anarchism will then be a thing of the past. Education as a by-product will take care of itself. JOHN CHICO, 253 West Fourteenth Street, New York City.

Make Universities Popular

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: We have our scientific and technical schools, and they are of the world's best, and no criticism of their methods is intended, but, fairly or unfairly, the university has been and is looked upon as the rich man's fancy. Pride alone of an unjust and selfish nature can stand in the way of bringing about this improvement, and our schools may become a national pride rather than the burden of a class. J. R. F.

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Party Urged to Stand On Past Performances

History of Republicanism Emblazoned as Convincing Proof of Its Merit

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: For the Republican party to be successful in the coming campaign it would seem that its greatest asset will be to keep before the people its past career as an indication of future performances.

The greatest Presidents which this country has produced have impressed the civilized world with their achievements. The illustrious founder of our American people, his name has been forever blazoned on the sands of time and he has had worthy successors in Grant, Garfield, McKinley and Roosevelt. It was their greatest pride to point to the name of Lincoln as their ideal and inspiration.

The American people are demanding that their temporary rulers shall not only be the instruments of their wishes, but that they shall lead them to a larger vision and shall be as efficient as the leaders of industrial organizations. ERNEST COLLIER, 511 West 129th Street, New York.

Food and shelter are two of the three essentials of existence. The present status of industry is causing flock into the big cities; more fertile both to become more scarce every year. There is less food, because there are annually fewer people to produce food. There is less shelter, because our population is badly distributed. The richest country on earth, which could easily provide for ten times its present population, is facing a dearth of the very things that make life possible and facing a condition that is making it almost unbearable for an increasing number of people every year.

Seventy cents out of every dollar's worth of everything produced in this country comes from the farm; yet only 40 per cent of our population is engaged in the production and distribution of food and related commodities. The other 60 per cent of the people, who are mostly crowded in the big cities. The 40 per cent is diminishing and the 60 per cent is increasing.

Let the Republican party make it its business to try to solve this problem that is undermining the morale of millions. Solve it, not by legislation, not by artificial stultifiers; solve it, if you will, by making westward migration attractive through government loans; solve it justly, honestly, non-politically, but solve it. REX A. COLLINGS, 133 North Maple Avenue, East Orange, N. J.

Electoral College Seen As National Injustice

Six-Year Term for President and No Re-election Favored; Business Man as Leader

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Every Democratic Presidential candidate has had a mortgage on practically the whole Southern electoral vote, because the electoral vote is determined by a certain ratio to population, but the electors are elected by a mere faction of the people, the ones who actually vote. This makes a Presidential election farcical and it gives the Democratic candidate an unfair advantage. I am neither a partisan nor a sectionalist, but I do want to see our constitutional requirements lived up to.

Of course, one remedy for this condition would be the abolition of the electoral vote system and the election of the President by popular vote. Another crying need is to make the Presidential term six years and make the incumbent ineligible for re-election. Then at least once in a while some question would be settled on its merits.

Why not a business man for President? Enough of soldiers, lawyers, near-statesmen and schoolmarms, and give us someone who doesn't know any theory whatever, but a clear-thinking, plain every-day, straight-out-from-the-shoulder American.

The immediate future of this country is bound up in the proper treatment of economic conditions, not in providing jobs for indigent pussy-footers and lame ducks, and to this end we should work tooth-and-nail and demand that the national convention nominate a man who thinks more of principles than votes, and who won't truckle to this interest and that, and who won't know any North, South, East or West.

We should also demand that Cabinet officers have decent qualifications for their jobs. GEORGE E. WOLSLEY.

Conservation of Forests

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I desire to cast a vote in favor of the conservation of natural resources as a plank to be included in the Republican platform.

I believe in the importance of the practice of forestry as a means of conserving stream flow, providing and increasing timber supplies, perpetuating wild life, regulating temperature, and also in providing recreational advantages for the people. E. A. ACKLEY, Hobart, N. Y.

Class Spirit Condemned

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Class distinction should not be permitted to enter into our domestic affairs. Consequently, the Republican party should oppose those dangerous doctrines which are bred by Bolshevism and urge that vigorous measures be taken to prevent, by education, the spread of all propaganda which acts to arouse class hatred and inflame the American people. G. P. G.

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Some Suggested Planks

Among the mass of suggestions for planks in the Republican platform are the following:

Night Schools for Aliens

We declare in favor of free night schools to teach the customs, language and laws of our land to all prospective citizens, and we further favor a law making it compulsory for all new arrivals to attend such schools until eligible to become citizens. If they fail within a given time to avail themselves of this they shall be deported.—George Lyman Banks, Groveland, Calif.

Condemn Radicalism

Radicalism, no matter whether it takes the form of opposition to constitutional government or the robbing

of the honest toiler by the profiteer, has our severest censure and condemnation. We pledge an aggressive and continued opposition to radical socialism and its accompanying evil.—Charles Olive, Wilmer, Minn.

Education Put First

It seems to me that every one's thoughts for the Republican platform should be educational. It cannot be too strongly emphasized. Many persons in office do not know the duty required of them. We need a well organized government that will teach its citizens the things that their parents failed

to take the time to teach them.—C. B. N. S., 845 West Sixty-fourth Street.

Maintain National Unity

The time has come when the national policies of the United States should be chosen with due regard for their effect upon the civilization of the earth. Therefore have we chosen as our chief policy the strengthening and maintenance of our national unity; and we believe this end can be best attained through adherence to the principles expressed in our Constitution.—George P. Russell.

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This is not a special purchase for sale purposes, nor is it a disposal of surplus stock, but a deliberate cutting of our own profit for the purpose of helping the movement to force down the high cost of clothing.

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\$45, \$50 and \$55 Suits and Topcoats **\$37.50**

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Men's Furnishings and Boys' Suits Also Very Drastically Reduced

Boys' Fancy Norfolks Well-made Suits, Formerly Up to \$25 **\$15.50**

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Well tailored, stylishly cut, gray and brown mixtures; double stitched and taped seams. All from our regular stock. Sizes 7 to 18 years.

Very handsome patterns in the delicate pastel tints of Spring. Blue, lavender, green and pink are some of the colors. Also many of white radium silk.

Boys' Spring Topcoats Smart Models, Formerly Up to \$17.50 **\$9.75**

Men's Silk Ties \$2.50 and \$3.00 Ties **\$1.95** of Rare Beauty

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