

WILSON HANDLED FOREIGN RELATIONS WITH PATRIOTISM, SAYS PINCHOT

Amos Pinchot, New York lawyer, is a brother of Gifford Pinchot. Gifford Pinchot followed Roosevelt in supporting Hughes and has given as his reason that Pres. Wilson should have made common cause with the allies in their war with Germany. In short, Gifford Pinchot is against Pres. Wilson because he has kept America out of the European war. Amos Pinchot, equally enthusiastic as his brother in his advocacy of progressivism, is supporting Wilson, and in this article he tells why.

BY AMOS PINCHOT

For quite a good while it has been fairly clear to most of us that Roosevelt, Perkins and the Steel Trust old guard group around them have not been interested in the things which the Progressive party stood for. In fact, they have effectually thrown all liberalism and democracy overboard and are now playing pure, old-fashioned Republican politics.

Col. Roosevelt steered the Progressive ship as long as the sailing was good. But when it got into rough water he promptly changed back to the Republican craft. And, incidentally, he did not take much with him.

It is true that the colonel says that he is obliged to desert the Progressive camp only on account of the sudden appearance of a greater principle, a paramount issue, to wit, "Americanism." Mr. Root, Mr. Taft, Mr. Perkins, Wall street in general and the Steel Trust in particular are unanimously for "Americanism." They are "absolutely and uncompromisingly in favor of the United States." This is extremely reassuring.

To my mind, there is some inconsistency in waving the American flag with one hand and exploiting the public with the other. I would have

a great deal more faith in our exclusive proprietary pre-election brand of Americanism if it had more support outside the ranks of the machine politicians and industrial buccaneers.

Men like Mr. Wilson on the one hand, and Hughes, Roosevelt and Perkins on the other, embody in their attitude toward society the larger conflict between democracy and absolutism that is going on in this country. The Republicans, as a whole, stand for the idea that the country should be governed by a small group of efficient, powerful personages who will tell the people what to think and what to do, and make them do it. Men like President Wilson seem to me to stand for the opposite idea—that democracy after all, with all its mistakes and inefficiency, is the wiser plan, because it allows people to think for themselves, and teaches them to govern themselves by governing themselves.

The Republicans denounce Mr. Wilson for his attitude in regard to Germany and the European war. They say, no doubt sincerely, that Mr. Wilson, through his leadership, should have "moulded public opinion" into a more aggressive attitude irrespective of consequences; that we have been careless of our honor, and many of them go so far as to say that we should actually be in the war.

This ashamed-of-my-country attitude is wearing to the patience of thoughtful Americans. In the first place, it is utterly astonishing that, with the whole world involved in a death struggle, the United States (trying to steer an impartial course, which is naturally objectionable to every belligerent) should not have been for more seriously affronted by the war-maddened nations than she actually has been. Nothing but a very skillful and patriotic handling of the situation by Mr. Wilson could