

# THE BIG STICK WHACKS BRYAN

### PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT RAINS BLOWS UP-ON DEMOCRACY'S LEADER.

### TAFT'S DEEDS VS. BRYAN'S WIND

Says Corporations Having Nothing to Fear from Bryan Except the General Panic Which Would Follow His Election.

You say that you will not permit any responsible member of the republican organization to misrepresent the attitude of your party in the present campaign. You will have no difficulty in getting me to represent it aright, for my sole anxiety is that the people of the country shall understand this attitude clearly, and shall then condemn it as it should be condemned.

You say that you have advocated more radical measures against private monopolies than either I or my party associates have been willing to undertake. You have indeed advocated measures that sound more radical, but they have the prime defect that in practice they would not work. I should not in this letter to you discuss your attitude on this question if you did not yourself bring it up; but as you have brought it up, I answer you that in my judgment the measures you advocate would be wholly ineffective in curing a single evil, and so far as they had any effect at all would merely throw the entire business of the country into hopeless and utter confusion.

I put Mr. Taft's deeds against your words.

I ask that Mr. Taft be judged by all his deeds, for he wishes none of them forgotten. I ask that you be judged both by the words you wish remembered and by the words that seemingly you and your party now desire to have forgotten.

#### Digging Up Skeletons.

I ask that your present plan for regulating the trusts be judged in connection with your utterances that you did not believe in their regulation, but in their destruction; and again in connection with your past utterances to the effect that only government ownership by a complicated national and state system of railroads would avail; and again by your past utterances when you proposed to remedy all the sufferings of our people by a depreciated currency. For several years now I have been steadfastly fighting to secure thorough going and far reaching control in the interest of the public over the great business combinations which do an interstate business. In this effort I have been as much hampered by the extremists, well meaning or otherwise, who demanded visionary and impracticable radicalism, as by those other extremists, no less dangerous, who stand for the reactionary refusal to remedy any grievance.

#### Nothing To Fear in Bryan.

One side, the side on which I am obliged to say you have placed your self, has shown itself to be just as much the enemy of progress as the other. I hold it entirely natural for any great law defying corporation to wish to see you placed in the presidency rather than Mr. Taft. You plan to put a stop to the abuses of these corporations are wholly chimerical; how chimerical your last plan is you will yourself see if you read Gov. Hughes' speech at Youngstown, O. To recall to your mind what Gov. Hughes said I quote as follows:

"When we consider those [proposed] remedies [of Mr. Bryan against the trusts] we find ourselves journeying in a land of dreams. Again the magician of 1896 waves his wand. At a stroke difficulties disappear and the complex problems of modern business are forgotten in the fascination of the simple panacea."

"The most important proposal of Mr. Bryan is that any manufacturing or trading corporation engaged in interstate commerce shall be required to take out a federal license before it shall be permitted to control as much as 25 per cent of the product in which it deals, and no corporation shall be permitted to control more than 50 per cent of the total amount of any product consumed in the United States."

"It might be interesting to inquire what is the meaning of 'any product consumed in the United States.' Does it refer to a class of commodities? And if so, what account does his proposal take of the skill and initiative of manufacturers who have built up a more or less exclusive trade in particular articles often protected by trade marks, although in most active competition with other articles designed for the same general purpose and seeking the same market?"

#### Nails For People To Crack.

"To a desire to correct the evils of business are we to place an embargo on honest endeavor whose activities

present none of the abuses requiring remedies? And, if not, what statutory definitions shall be found to be adequate and just if we lay down our prohibition in terms of volume or ratio of business and not in terms of right and wrong? If we adopt Mr. Bryan's proposal, to what period of production is the prohibition to apply? Is the excess for a day or for a month to be considered? Or is the average production for a year to be taken? And what system shall be devised by which suitable information may be furnished in the nature of danger signals along the routes of trade so that the manufacturer may know when he is about to exceed the prescribed ratio? He may justly be required to govern his own conduct, but how shall he be apprised of the conduct of others upon which is to depend his guilt or innocence?"

Let us repeat that no law defying corporation has anything to fear from you save what it will suffer in the general paralysis of business which any attempt on your part to reduce to practice what you have advocated would bring. This paralysis would affect the wage worker, the farmer, the small business man more than it would affect the great business man. But it would affect the latter, too.

#### Why Taft is Worthy.

Therefore, I hope and believe that all farsighted citizens who wish to see this country prosper in material things will support Mr. Taft. But, above all, I ask for support for him because he stands for the moral uplift of the nation, because his deeds have made good his words, and because the policies to which he is committed are of immeasurable consequence alike to the honor and the interests of the whole American people.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

### TRAGEDY IN MONONA COUNTY

#### Careless Parents Cause the Death of Their Own Son.

Rockwell City Republican: Down in Monona county a farmer is under indictment for the murder of a sixteen year old boy. This boy with a lot of companions was engaged in a night raid on the farmer's melon patch. It may have been the first time these particular boys had raided this particular farmer's melon patch. Quite likely not. The probabilities are they had done the same thing last year and for several years. There seems to be a popular notion that it is a smart thing to raid melon patches and not only steal the melons but destroy the vines, and this notion is not only winked at but very often laughed at by the parents of the boys who engage in the crime. Thus the parents become particeps criminis. They fail to restrain their boys. Parents are accountable for the care of their children and if they give the boys and girls free rein to roam at large after nightfall, not knowing where they are, or what doing, or by whom attended, and harm comes to the child through this neglect, the parent is just as responsible for the injury as the party by whom the wrong was done. Had the parents of the boy shot down in the melon patch made it their business to see that he was safely housed that fatal night instead of roaming the country with bad companions they would not have lost their boy. Rockwell City parents need to take warning. Some of the band of marauders who went out to Dealro's one night last week and stole the plums while the widow and oldest daughter lay sick in the house may meet with a like fate one of these nights and the parents have only themselves to blame if they fail to keep the lads under control. Only a few days ago a young chap told us all of the names of every family in Rockwell City and the country round who have any grapes or other fruit this year. How came the young scapegrace to be so well posted? Simply because for years he has been giving attention to the matter and with his companions year after year has raided the orchards and vineyards until he knows them all like a book. And these young criminals belong to some of the most prominent families in town. Christian homes, too, but the parents have been too indifferent or too lazy to train their children or keep them at home nights and so they run wild growing up as sneak thieves, a menace to the community and a disgrace to the parents who have found it easier to let them go their own way than to exercise proper restraint over them during their tender years. There is need of a curfew law in every home, and it is the duty of parents to see that it is operative. The boy or girl whose parents make it a rule of their life to know at all times where their children are and who they are with, are in comparatively little danger of being led astray.

We call the attention of our readers to the W. A. McHenry Poland China Hog sale Ad in another column of this issue. These hogs are perfectly healthy and are of the big bone breeding, such as farmers demand. Longfellow, their sire, can be made to weigh 1000 pounds.

### JOURNEYING IN LAND OF DREAMS

#### Impracticable Democratic Proposition for Trust Control.

#### Convincing Exposition of Fallacy of Bryan's Panacea for Solving Problems of Modern Business.

(From Gov. Hughes' Youngstown speech.)

When we consider remedies that are proposed for the trusts, we find ourselves journeying in a land of dreams. Again the magician of 1896 waves his wand. At a stroke difficulties disappear and the complex problems of modern business are forgotten in the fascination of the simple panacea. And, as the free coinage of silver in the ratio of 16 to 1 was to destroy the curse of gold, so the new found specific of equal perfection is to remove the curse of industrial oppression. The delusion of 1908 is comparable only to that of twelve years ago.

The first suggestion is that the law should prevent a duplication of directors among competing corporations. However advisable it may be to have independent directorates of competing corporations, it would seem still more important to have independent stockholders, for a majority of the stockholders of a corporation choose the directors. If a law were passed preventing the duplication of directors it would easily be evaded in the selection of men who would represent the same interests. The most ordinary experience shows that it is not necessary to serve on a board of directors in order to control its proceedings. Whatever the advantage of such a law as is proposed, it hardly rises to the dignity of a "remedy," or vindicates its title to a place in an imposing scheme of reform outlined in a national platform.

But the more important proposal is "that any manufacturing or trading corporation engaged in interstate commerce shall be required to take out a federal license before it shall be permitted to control as much as 25 per cent of the product in which it deals." A license is permission, and the object of the remedy is not to regulate large businesses, but to destroy trusts. Hence the supposed efficiency of the plan is to be found in the prohibition of the control by any such corporation "of more than 50 per cent of the total amount of any product consumed in the United States." This is another delusion of ratio.

It might be interesting to inquire what is the meaning of "any product consumed in the United States." Does it refer to a class of commodities? And, if so, how shall the classes be defined? Or does it refer to each separate article of commerce? And, if so, what account does this proposal take of the skill and initiative of manufacturers who have built up a more or less exclusive trade in particular articles, often protected by trade-marks, although in most active competition with other articles designed for the same general purpose and seeking the same market? In a desire to correct the evils of business are we to place an embargo upon honest endeavor whose activities present none of the abuses requiring remedies? And, if not, what statutory definitions shall be found to be adequate and just if we lay down our prohibition in terms of volume or ratio of business and not in terms of right and wrong? If we adopt Mr. Bryan's proposal, to what period of production is the prohibition to apply? Is the excess for a day or for a month to be considered? Or is the average production for a year to be taken? And what system shall be devised by which suitable information may be furnished in the nature of danger signals along the routes of trade so that the manufacturer may know when he is about to exceed the prescribed ratio? He may justly be required to govern his own conduct, but how shall he be apprised of the conduct of others upon which is to depend his guilt or innocence?"

The patent laws confer a true monopoly in the exclusive right to manufacture and sell. Are these laws to be repealed because a "private monopoly is indefensible and intolerable?"

#### Bryan's Grade Reasoning.

An example of Mr. Bryan's reasoning is found in his statement that "when a corporation controls 50 per cent of the total product it supplies forty millions of people with that product." There are, of course, specialties which have a limited market and are used by a relatively small number of the people of the United States. More than 50 per cent, and indeed even as much as 100 per cent of the trade in such articles may be in the control of a particular corporation. This may, in fact, be relatively a small corporation. It may never have aspired to the unsavory renown of a "trust." But by prosecuting its particular line with fidelity and meeting satisfactorily a limited want; or by reason of some secret processes or advantage of experience, it may control the trade in a given article of commerce. Or, suppose a concern controls the whole trade in some useful byproduct which it has found it advantageous to make, is the trade to be prohibited?

The Democratic platform makes no

# PROGRAMME!

Celebration of

## GERMAN DAY

Under the Auspices of the

### DEUTSCHE BRUEDERSCHAFT

# TUESDAY, 6 OCTOBER

**PROGRAM FOR THE DAY:**

FORENOON	AFTERNOON
<p>10 O'clock - Grand Parade</p> <p>Floats of Business Houses. Local and visiting societies and Lodges. Local and visiting orchestras. Cavalry Corn Brigade.</p>	<p>Concert - commencing at 1 o'clock</p> <p>Invocation, Rev. E. Hansen, Schleswig, Iowa; Address of welcome, Mayor W. C. Rollins; Response for Deutsche Bruederschafft, Hon. J. F. Harthun; Address, Hon. C. F. Kuehnle.</p>
<p><b>AMUSEMENT PROGRAM--Foot Races, Sack Races, Egg Races, Tug of War and many other amusements for young and old.</b></p>	
<p><b>Beautiful Fireworks in the Park at 8 O'clock.</b></p>	
<p><b>Fine music throughout the evening</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Grand Ball in the evening at the</b></span></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Bruederschafft Halle</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Dinner and Supper served at the Hall</b></span></p>	
<p>All the Germans and all the friends of the Germans are Cordially Invited to this Great Celebration of German Day . . . . .</p>	
<p><b>Committee of the Deutsche Bruederschafft.</b></p>	

exceptions to cover such cases, and we have learned that it is equally "binding as to what it omits."

If we could imagine such a crude prohibition to be enacted into law, and to be regarded as valid, what would be the effect? Mr. Bryan, with his usual readiness, suggests that the concern may sell as much of its plants as are not needed to produce the amount allowed by law. He speaks as though every manufacturing concern had as many fully equipped units of production as would correspond to any given percentage of trade which it might be required to stop. Plants are not so easily dismembered. Reduction in output means reduction in work, reduction in the number of men employed and curtailment of the efficiency of a going concern. Let us suppose a concern which controls 80 per cent of a given product—that is to say, makes and sells \$5,000,000 in value out of a total trade in the product amounting to \$10,000,000. Is it to be compelled to reduce its output to \$2,000,000 because only \$2,000,000 in value are made by others? Then, if it could sell a part of its plant on Mr. Bryan's theory, what should it sell? Should it sell off enough to reduce its capacity to \$5,000,000, and allow three-fifths of its plant to remain idle until others developed a capacity for handling the other \$5,000,000? Should it assume that the total trade will increase and is not always to remain at \$10,000,000, and hence retain a larger portion of its plant in idleness? Or suppose a concern controls 100 per cent of the trade in some article, what plants shall it retain? It can produce nothing until others produce; but it may produce an amount equal to the production of others, and it hopes the trade will grow. What a vision of business uncertainty and confusion, of idle and impaired plants, of the ruin of workmen whose lives have clustered around particular industries and who depend upon their continued efficiency, is presented by this fanciful remedy for the destruction of trusts!

Apart from this, if the dissolution were effected in the manner desired and portions of plants could be sold and were sold as suggested, to whom would the sale be made? Would it be necessarily to foes or to those ambitious to be competitors and anxious to take advantage of its plight?

This proposal in its utter disregard of the facts of business, in its substitution of the phantasies of the imagination for the realities of life, stamps the Democratic platform with the fatal stamp of 1896. The commerce and industry of this country, the interests of its wage earners and of its interdependent masses, who must rely upon the stability of business, cannot afford to give license to such vagaries.

In the solemnity with which this proposal has been declared, and the insistence with which it is advocated, we find an appropriate test of the capacity of our opponents to deal wisely with the problems of the day.

#### TAFT COMES FROM GOOD STOCK

##### Family Banked Among the Plain People for Many Years.

The Tafts—those who at present are the Tafts—hail ancestrally from Uxbridge, Mass. They say that Tafts are so thick in Uxbridge that even a woman can't throw a stone without hitting one.

Some years ago—in 1874, to be exact—there was a Taft reunion in Uxbridge, to which descendants of the original Robert Taft came flocking from all parts of the country. One of the conspicuous features of the affair was a historical address by Alphonso Taft, father of the present Republican candidate. He traced the history of various branches of the family, and when he came to the one to which he and his children belonged he said: "Our family have not embarked much upon national politics, except that they have shared in the battles of the country when national independence was to be won, and also when the Union was at stake. But brilliant political careers have not been characteristic of the Tafts in the past. It is not safe to say what may be in store for them. There is a tide in the affairs of men and also of families."

This is taken from the account of the reunion published at the time. Alphonso Taft would perhaps have been somewhat dazzled if he could have foreseen how quickly and brilliantly the family would proceed to "embark upon national politics." He himself started the turn of the tide which he predicted. It seems to be reaching its flood in the career of the son who that year was entering Yale.

As Alphonso Taft described his immediate ancestors one sees where his son got certain characteristics. Peter Taft (1715) was "a large, good-looking man of magnanimous disposition." He had four sons.

Aaron, the candidate's ancestor, was also so magnanimous that he lost money by indorsing a friend's notes; he was a man "of great intelligence and integrity." And then, going somewhat further back, there was Captain William Taft, who took Blarney Castle in the sixteenth century "by blarney quite as much as by military prowess." Good stock was Captain William from which to make a twentieth century Secretary of War William.

**A Grand Record.**  
The Republican party is not only rich in men, but rich in practical and beneficial principles—it is rich too in its record. In promises performed and pledges fulfilled, and so we are for party and party principles first and will acquiesce in the choice of the majority, rallying around the standard bearer who will carry us again to victory.—Hon. James S. Sherman.

Mr. Bryan might make a hit in the Rocky Mountain States by proposing a Federal generosity of mining stock deposits.—Omaha Bee.

#### HOW TAFT WAS SOUGHT BY M'KINLEY.

##### The Manner in Which the Republican Candidate Was Called to a Larger Sphere of Action.

One afternoon early in 1890, when Judge William H. Taft was detaching a decision of the United States Court in the Federal Building in Cincinnati, a telegram was placed in his hands. He tore off the envelope and was surprised to find a telegram from President William McKinley, reading:

"I shall take it as a great favor if you will call on me some time next week."

Judge Taft guessed at the meaning of the summons and guessed wrong. He went to Washington and was shown into a room at the White House, where he met the President and Secretary Long of the Navy. Later, Elihu Root, the Secretary of War, came in. Then, to use Mr. Taft's own words:

"Mr. McKinley said that he wanted to send me to the Philippines to help in the work of establishing civil government as the army moved on. I thought of my place on the bench and hesitated. Besides, I believed and said we could get along without the Philippines."

"But we have them and must take care of them," the President replied.

"You are at the turning of the ways in your life," Mr. Root then observed. "The bench is the easy road. You can stay there and be comfortable. On the contrary, the Philippines will demand personal sacrifices and risks and much hard work, but you will have an opportunity of doing your country a very great service." I went home, and argued the matter for two weeks."

The telegram to Cincinnati opened the door of American history to William H. Taft and made him the Republican candidate for President of the United States.

#### Obligations of Civil War.

Money indebtedness is not the only obligation we incurred and assumed in the great civil war. There was a still greater debt, an everlasting obligation that could never be paid in full. But in the years that have followed, the Republican party has inaugurated and developed pension laws under which over three and one-half billion dollars have been paid to disabled veterans or to the survivors of those who gave their lives for their country and their flag. This pension system, a product of the policy of the Republican party, has no precedent in history and no equal in justice and generosity among the nations of the earth.—Hon. James S. Sherman.

Colonel Bryan laments the "discrimination that has been going on against the farmer" in electing so few tillers of the soil to Congress and the Senate. What troubles him chiefly, however, is the discrimination which the whole American nation exercises against a certain farmer of Lincoln, Neb., in declining to elect him to the White House.—New York Tribune.