

REPUBLICANS FATHER RURAL FREE DELIVERY

Its Remarkable Development During
Eleven Years of Republican
Rule.

Enables More than Sixty Per Cent
of the American People to Come
Into Their Own.

Our rural free delivery, under the robust constructive policy of the Republican party, is scarcely twelve years old. It has fully kept pace with the growth and development of our whole country. The farmer is now reaping some of the rewards he justly earned in the past, by the burdens he has borne. He is the producer of wealth. He is coming to be one of the most independent of all our citizens. No branch of the public service has been so well developed and improved in the past few years as our rural free delivery.

Only six years ago there were only 5,000 rural routes in operation. There are now about 40,000 and these are scattered through every State and Territory in the country, so that there is not a rural section in the whole land that is not practically covered. This entire service has been evolved from a small beginning, a little more than eleven years ago, during the three Republican administrations, with which the country has been blessed since 1897.

The Democrats object, of course, to the appropriation of \$35,000,000 made this year for the support of rural free delivery, but this service brings more direct benefit to the people of this country, whom it affects, than almost any other appropriation made by the general government.

Great Aid to Education.

The development of the postal facilities has been the development of the people in wisdom and greatness. When these facilities reached but a few at wide intervals, it was a blessing. The tardy system by which letters were carried by canal and horses from the East to the western frontier at great expense was a blessing; and when steam was harnessed to the mails and delivered its precious freight to the large cities and towns to which the people went from miles around to get the weekly paper, the benefits were still greater. Larger yet did they become when business men in large cities could receive their mail several times a day at their desks by city carriers.

But not until very recent years, and under a Republican policy, was it discovered that the people whose money pays the majority of all taxes levied for government purposes; who constitute the majority of the people; from whose ranks are recruited armies and navies in time of war; in whom the hope of the nation rests for that stability and wisdom which is unmoved by new and untried schemes, and in whom is cast a safe anchor when storms of corruption and squalls of political delusions beat against the ship of state; not until recent years have any of these people from the country received the benefits of free delivery, and not nearly all of them do now. Yet judged by policy, or right, is any class more entitled to the benefits of free delivery with its constant dissemination of useful knowledge?

It Popularizes Country Life.

When municipalities are being crowded and congested by people drawn from the country and from foreign lands, it is the part of wisdom to encourage life in the country; and with electric roads, telephones and rural delivery, the benefits of city life have been extended, and municipal boundaries have been removed. Democrats talk as if Republicans were making concessions to the people of the country by arranging for the extension of rural mail service, when in reality the Republican party is simply aiding the rural districts to come into possession of a portion of their own.

Democrats "View with Alarm."

Democrats are "viewing with alarm" the possibilities of a deficit in connection with the extension of the rural free delivery service. That there will be a deficit for the first two years it is practically certain. This belongs naturally to the business end to the constructive Republican policy, when it sees how it can best serve the people at present, and recoup the government treasury later. After three years, the rural free delivery service will be more than self-supporting. The receipts of the Postoffice Department have been largely increased already since rural delivery was established, and every route of any age shows a steady increase in pieces of mail handled and in stamps sold and canceled. Yet this cancellation and sale of stamps does not measure the whole effect of rural delivery. Its benefits reach every other department, and much of the general increase in business can be traced to it.

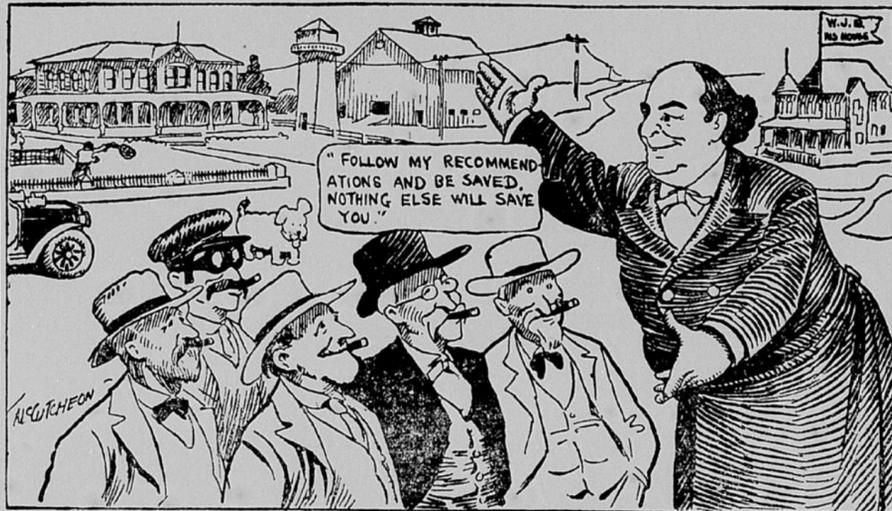
Aids Character Building.

But is it necessary that the system should be self-supporting to entitle it to the support of the Republican party? Do we maintain schools, found and support colleges because they are self-supporting? Do we not provide general education because that people is greatest and most prosperous which is best educated, and that state most

THEN.



NOW.



—From the Chicago Tribune.

BRYAN STICKS TO SILVER FALLACY.

Declines to Let the Public Share His
Present Monetary Beliefs.

Unpublished Correspondence Reveals
Him Still Tenacious to
the Theory of 16 to 1.

W. J. Bryan, Democratic candidate for President, would, if he were elected, and if the conditions of the country seemed to him to become the same as they were in 1896, favor the free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1, just as he did in 1896. At least so he said in a personal letter written some months ago to Capt. James Ross, of Columbus, Ohio, and now for the first time brought to the attention of the public.

But strange though it may seem to the unsophisticated Mr. Bryan, most emphatically does not want his convictions on this subject made public. He not only refuses to discuss the question, but he also refuses to allow his former discussion of it to be printed.

Answer to Taft's Inquiry.
However, the problem which puzzled Mr. Taft in his speech delivered last Monday in Cincinnati now is solved. And thereby hangs a tale and five interesting letters. Four of the letters throw much light on Mr. Bryan's attitude toward "free silver," though the most important of all, the letter which Mr. Bryan marked "personal," cannot be printed unless he gives his permission.

Mr. Taft said of Mr. Bryan: "He does not now say whether he is still in favor of the free coinage of silver. He does not now answer the question whether, if he were President and an exigency should arise in which he would be called upon to exercise his discretion affirmatively to maintain the parity between silver and gold, he would exercise that discretion."

Capt. Ross' Letter to Bryan.
Last March Capt. Ross was pondering on the same question, and his wonder took form of a letter to Mr. Bryan, which in part is as follows: "It is said by some that during former campaigns in which you were a Presidential candidate that with equal eloquence you argued in favor of free coinage of gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, but since you have changed your mind and intimate that you may in time change your mind in regard to the question of guaranteed banks."

"Were you right then, and if the conditions were the same now as then would you favor free coinage of gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1?"

"JAMES B. ROSS."
Mr. Bryan's reply was delayed until May. Then he wrote a letter marked "personal," which Capt. Ross refused to publish unless Mr. Bryan consents. But Mr. Bryan refuses to consent.

Not Satisfactory to O'Connell.
The tenor of Mr. Bryan's reply, however, is revealed in the second letter

written to him by Capt. Ross on June 24. The letter began: "Columbus, O., June 24, 1908.—My Dear Sir: I am in receipt of your esteemed favor of May 12 in reply to my letter to you of March 23 last, wherein you state that your argument in 1896 in support of free coinage of gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 was sound and that if conditions were the same now as then it would be an issue and that you would support it with the same energy you did then. In answer thereto I beg to submit the following:

"Then follows Capt. Ross' own views on the monetary situation. He closes by saying:

"If you were wrong then, you have been wrong for the last twelve years and are wrong now on the question under discussion. You were then and are now the leader of one of the great political parties, and if you have been wrong for the last twelve years on such a vital question affecting our government and our people you may advocate many other questions equally as detrimental to our people."

MR. TAFT ON THE AVOIDANCE OF INDUSTRIAL STRUGGLES.

There is a class of capitalists who look upon labor unions as vicious per se, and a class of radical labor unionists who look upon capital as labor's natural enemy. I believe, however, that the great majority of each class are gradually becoming more conciliatory in their attitude toward the other. Between them is a larger class, neither capitalist nor labor unionist, who are without prejudice, and I hope I am one of those. The effects of the panic are not over. We must expect industrial depression. This may be fruitful of labor controversies. I earnestly hope that a more conservative and conciliatory attitude on both sides may avoid the destructive struggles of the past.

Mr. Bryan's Unsafe Record.

The Democratic candidate for President is doing his best to allay the apprehensions of thoughtful men of his own party, as well as the people generally, caused by his advocacy for years of various and dangerous issues. He seems entirely incapable of realizing that when the people come to weigh a Presidential candidate they must, and do, take him for what he has been as well as for what he pretends to be. No man can be a candidate for a high office in this country without having his record taken into account. If that record has been erratic in advocacy of visionary and dangerous schemes, it fixes the character of the man and no one with such a record can be safely trusted with the administration of the government. Mr. Bryan has that record.—Philadelphia Press.

It was Gov. Haskell who devised the scheme of guaranteeing bank deposits. He should now devise some scheme of government guarantees of political repudiation.—New York World, Sept. 25.

SWEDISH-AMERICANS STRONG FOR TAFT.

Little Doubt but that Solid Vote
Will Be Cast for Taft
and Sherman.

Expressions of Swedish Clergymen
Indicate the General Sentiment
Which Has Been Reached
After Thought and
Study.

It is particularly interesting in this campaign to note the almost unanimous way in which the Swedish-American voters are lining up for the Republican national ticket. The Swedes have a well-deserved reputation for thrift and sensible caution in political as well as in personal affairs. They usually study the situation well before making up their minds and are not often misled by glowing promises and shallow logic.

The clergymen among the Swedish-Americans are very close to their people and may be accepted as thoroughly representative spokesmen. From all over the country leaders in and out of the pulpit express themselves in a decided manner with reference to the campaign and the issues.

The Rev. V. J. Tengvold of Pullman, the industrial suburb of Chicago, holds a high official position among Swedish ministers, being secretary of the Illinois organization of his sect. "Mr. Taft," says he, "is the strongest and best equipped man ever nominated by any party for President. His good judgment and experience in diplomatic questions, especially in Cuba and the Philippines, place him as one of the foremost statesmen in the world."

Nation's Interests Demand Taft.

The best interests of the nation demand the election of Taft. In the opinion of Dr. Ludwig Holmes of Evansville, Ill. The Rev. E. G. Chinlund of Red Wing, Minn., believes that the election of Taft assures continuation of the reform work undertaken by Roosevelt's brilliant administration, and that a change in parties at present would be disastrous.

"With the possible exception of Mr. Roosevelt, no citizen in the United States has held more positions of trust and confidence than Mr. Taft, and he always has made good," is the forceful way in which the Rev. Dr. Bergstrom of Cheltenham, Chicago, expresses himself. He has warned his countrymen that if Bryan is elected they may prepare for four years of hard times.

A North Dakota pastor, the Rev. Carl W. Andeer, says that all Swedish-Americans who wish to see our present economical, political, industrial and moral conditions maintained, should vote without mental reservation for "Bill" Taft. Something of this minister's view is shared by the Rev. A. P. Fors, Ph. D., of Englewood, Chicago, who asserts that it is impossible to tell where Bryan's radicalism may lead him, pointing to the many political issues and panaceas he has advocated.

Democratic Hard Times Remembered.

"We have a bitter recollection of Democratic times and we do not wish their return," says the Rev. L. Johnson of Kensington, Minn. Judge Taft, he believes, is most emphatically the right man for President.

The Rev. Dr. P. Martinson of South Chicago, Ill., says: "Mr. Bryan longs to be President regardless of how he gets the office. His motto is 'If I can't win on one issue I will try some other.' Such a man is unfit to be trusted. Mr. Taft is a man who has conscientiously performed all duties of state entrusted to him. He is a man of strong character and will follow the course mapped out by Roosevelt."

The election of Taft would insure the speedy completion of the restoration of industrial activity, in the opinion of the Rev. J. A. Ekstrom, of Worcester, Mass. This clergyman thinks the setbacks recently have been through fear of a possible change in administration. He has pointed out that Taft's labors in various parts of the globe fit him conspicuously to serve a cosmopolitan people.

Disasters Hard to Find.

It is difficult to find in Chicago or anywhere else for that matter, Swedish clergymen who are opposed to Judge Taft. The Rev. M. C. Ranssen, of 79 West Huron street, is a particularly strong advocate of the Republican candidate, believing that Bryan cannot be depended upon, and that he will seize any issue to win votes. In his support of Taft, his brother clergymen in Chicago include such men as the Rev. Dr. S. Pearson, the Rev. G. A. Elliott, the Rev. Anders Andre, the Rev. G. S. Ohlund of Bethel Church, Englewood, the Rev. Joshua Oden of Irving Park, the Rev. Gottfried Nelson of Trinity Church Lake View; the Rev. John Lundeen of Irving Avenue Methodist Church, the Rev. P. A. Hjelm of the Swedish Baptist Church, and the Rev. Oscar N. Olson of St. Paul's Church.

The Rev. Andre, in a vigorous expression, says: "Honesty and fidelity are inherent in the heart of every North man. We have no use for Bryan because he preaches class hatred and his principles are otherwise untenable. Should he win our country will receive a setback."

"Mr. Taft is a man of the people," says the Rev. Oden, "with great experi-

ence in statesmanship and a full understanding of the laboring man's condition."

Taft Stands for Progress.

The Rev. Nelson will support Taft because he believes that candidate stands for the most progressive policies. All of these men, it will be observed, are able to give good reasons for their political attitude, and this is the invariable rule. "Where poverty and want among thousands would result from unfortunate disturbances, extreme caution is necessary in choosing the head of the government," remarks the Rev. Olson, adding, "We can place implicit confidence in Mr. Taft."

"No thinking man can have any confidence in Bryan," asserts the Rev. G. A. Brandelle, of Deaver. "I shall vote for Taft because his character as a statesman is faultless and because he is experienced and broad-minded and will push along the good things President Roosevelt has started," declares the Rev. Adolf Hult, of Omaha.

The Rev. N. J. Forsberg, of Calumet, Mich.; the Rev. Carl P. Edblom, of Andover, Ill.; the Rev. Carl Almin, of Iron Mountain, Mich.; the Rev. J. Ekholm, of Newman Grove, Neb., and the Rev. S. G. Newman, of New Britain, Conn., are a few of the hundreds of Swedish ministers who are earnestly supporting Taft, not because they have to, but because of conviction.

Let Bryan Talk and Taft Rule.

"Mr. Bryan may have virtues, but political honesty is not one of them," says the Rev. Forsberg. "Let Bryan talk and let Taft rule." The Rev. Almin declares the people of the Michigan mining districts remember with sadness the "blessings of free trade." The Rev. Ekholm says it would be the height of folly to sidetrack the good work instituted by President Roosevelt. "The more Bryan talks," remarks the Rev. Newman, "the more he shows his incompetency as a statesman."

More interviews are unnecessary to show the political trend among the Swedish-American voters, and it is safe to say that their solid vote may be counted in the Republican column.

BRYAN'S CAMPAIGN FUNDS.

Tom Watson, the Populist Leader,
Recalls Certain Contributions.

(From Statement of Thomas E. Watson.)

"Bryan well knew that the Parker campaign fund of 1904 was raised by the Wall street element of his party. He said so time and time again in public speeches and written editorials.

"Yet, he himself did not hesitate to use that campaign fund. It was the money of Ryan and Belmont which paid for the luxurious special train employed by Bryan in his campaigning for Parker.

"According to Bryan himself, the source of the campaign fund of Judge Parker was certainly not less than was that of the campaign fund of Roosevelt.

"Bryan's own brother and brother-in-law got \$15,000 of the Parker funds and violated the law of Nebraska by their failure to render an account of what went with it.

"That \$15,000 came from August Belmont and Thomas E. Ryan, two of the most notorious of corporation criminals and corruptionists, and although Bryan said he would refund the money he has not done so.

"Before Bryan fires off his man Pettigrew at me again he had better do one of two things, either disgorge Ryan and Belmont's \$15,000 or explain what became of it."

Jumps Back to Taft.

To the Editor of the New York World: The World plays fair with both candidates, Bryan and Taft. That is why half of your readers are Republicans. Two weeks ago I wrote you endorsing Bryan. Since then I have changed my mind and shall vote for Taft.

I do this because Bryan, if elected, will have a Republican Senate and House opposed to him. Not a bill can be passed without the aid of the Republicans. Bryan will be tied hand and foot. Taft, if elected, will be foot-free. He will have experienced cabinet officers, like Root, Straus, Garfield and Cortelyou ready to go right to work and bring the old prosperity back.

Bryan can do nothing but wrangle and cause delay. What does he know about Panama, the Philippines, Cuba, the South American republics and our army and navy?

JOHN NATHAN RIGDON.
New York, Sept. 29.

Watterson's Ex-Opinion of Bryan.

In 1896 this is what Henry Watterson thought of Mr. Bryan:

"Mr. William J. Bryan has come to Kentucky and Kentuckians have taken his measure. He is a boy orator. He is a distinguished dodger. He is a daring adventurer. He is a political faker. He is not of the material of which the people of the United States have ever made a President, nor is he even of the material of which any party has ever before made a candidate for the Presidency.

"This youngster, who has set himself up as the financial teacher of the American people, travels over the land with a tireless tongue and a voluminous vocabulary blandly telling the people of the impossible things that will happen in the future with free coinage of silver when he is utterly ignorant of the simplest facts of our past financial history."

It must be admitted that Bryan advocating Roosevelt policies is a much more attractive proposition than Bryan advocating his own policies.—Peoria Herald Transcript.