

FARMER DOESN'T SEEM INTERESTED.



REPLIES TO BRYAN

MR. TAFT MAKES NEW TURN IN CANVASS.

People to Judge Between Man of Accomplishment and One of Absurd Promises and Exploited "Paramount Issues."

The most effective statement yet made in the present campaign is that of Mr. Taft, in reply to Mr. Bryan's criticism of the Roosevelt letter relating to the Republican nominee. This statement marks a new turn in the canvass. It may be said that Mr. Taft has finally struck his gait. From this time on there will be something doing when Mr. Taft discusses Mr. Bryan.

There is no possibility that the present campaign will be marked by unseemly personalities. Both candidates are men of clean characters. But in the absence of great, dominating issues the personalities of the two candidates, and especially their records—the one as a performer and the other as a theorist—will play an unusually important part in the campaign.

Mr. Bryan has forced the fighting from the first. He has done his utmost to discredit the record and the pledges of the Republican candidate. He has gone out of his way to belittle what others have said of the achievements of Mr. Taft. Finally Mr. Taft has replied with a broadside that will give Mr. Bryan something to think about for a few days.

All this was both interesting and illuminating. The people like a spirited presidential canvass. They like good fighters. Mr. Taft is a good fighter and he is an honest fighter. In this particular encounter, Mr. Bryan, not Mr. Taft, will be put on the defensive.

Mr. Taft's life has been full of labor and accomplishment. He has a record that he may confidently submit to the people. Ordinarily a man who has no official record is at an advantage in a political contest, provided he can make the people believe his promises. But the majority has never believed in Mr. Bryan's promises, and the explosion and abandonment of his several paramount issues of the past are not calculated to increase public confidence.

In this beginning of the real Taft-Bryan contest the first thing that Mr. Taft has done has been to call the attention of the spectators to Mr. Bryan's fighting methods. It is to be hoped that in the future Mr. Bryan will be as fair as Mr. Taft has been. The public likes an honest observance of the rules of the game.—Kansas City Star.

Richard Olney.

Richard Olney declares for Mr. Bryan. He is not, however, a new recruit. He was regular in 1900 on the issue of imperialism. He is regular this year on what are called general principles. He sees great dangers to the country from longer Republican rule, tending, as he thinks it does, to centralization and a cloud of other evils. His remedy is the election of Mr. Bryan, which would be followed by other Democratic triumphs, and so in time would be accomplished the rescue of affairs from Republican control. Mr. Olney's letter is probably intended as an offset to Mr. Cleveland's letter advising support of Judge Taft. Is the live Olney more powerful than the dead Cleveland? He is the fourth member of the second Cleveland cabinet to throw his support to Mr. Bryan. Judge Harmon, Hoke Smith and David R. Francis have been in camp for weeks.

Only "nine-tenths of the Republican farmers," according to Mr. Bryan, "are with the Democrats on public questions." Is Mr. Bryan running his legs off and working his chin day and night for the purpose of converting the remaining one-tenth?

TAFT THE BUILDER

His Directing Hand Has Insured Success of the Mammoth Project.

Raised Wages of Isthmian Laborers by Longevity Order While War Secretary.

The Panama Canal is one of the greatest achievements of any Republican administration.

As Secretary of War, Hon. William H. Taft personally assumed the responsibility of inaugurating the work and systematically shaping up the practical operations until a degree of efficiency has been reached that may well astonish the nations of the earth.

Mr. Taft has applied to this world project and history making enterprise those same qualities of careful, thoughtful investigation, penetrating judgment and absolutely fair dealing, which have made him so signally successful in the performance of all those duties of state which have brought him to the high eminence he now occupies as one of our greatest living Americans.

Must Know Personally.

Like the Philippine project and other great work laid upon him, he has studied the situation at Panama at close range and trusted to no second hand information with which to insure his success. There has been about ninety million dollars expended on the work to date and Mr. Taft has had to approve every dollar of this expenditure. He has not been satisfied with a single visit to the isthmus, but has made the long journey every year so that he might direct the work more economically. The result is that he has changed the situation there from an inhospitable region to a locality where Americans can live in healthful security without the fear of plagues or dread of contagious diseases. The rate of mortality on the isthmus is about the same as it is in our American cities.

Stages of the Work.

Work on the canal has passed through two stages, those of planning and preparation. It is now in the third and final stage, that of construction. Both of the earlier stages required the presence of a large working force, necessarily quartered in temporary and make shift accommodations. Because of these conditions, inevitable at the outset, early critics of the enterprise mistook the initial and temporary outfit for permanent equipment.

Thoughtful About Labor.

Mr. Taft's chief concern has been the proper care of the laboring man on the isthmus. Under his patient and approved methods the terrible scourge of yellow fever, against which the French struggled in vain, the filthy and pest breeding state of the principal Panamanian towns, the rough labor camps, and other pioneer hardships of the two first eras, have been eliminated. He has accomplished these things through the activity of the Department of Sanitation, the Department of Municipal Engineering and the Building Department. To-day we find yellow fever driven from the isthmus, the deadly stegomyia mosquito thus rendered innocuous, malaria and pneumonia greatly reduced and a high average of health prevailing.

Mammoth Construction Project.

President Roosevelt appointed a special commission to examine the Isthmian situation last spring, and it reported Aug. 6, 1908. According to this special report there were at work at the Isthmian Canal Commission and 7,075 at work for the Panama railroad, a total of 33,193 men all told. Housing this industrial army in quick time, with due attention to sanitation and hygiene, was a problem which would have been beyond most men. But Mr. Taft did it successfully.

To keep the machinery and tools in condition, three large machine and repair shops, two shipyards and numerous warehouses are maintained. When we recall that this enormous plant is operated at a distance of 1,382 miles from its nearest base of supply, New Orleans, and 1,975 miles from its main base of supply, New York, we can estimate with more justice and accuracy the magnitude and complications of the undertaking Mr. Taft has conducted so well.

Workmen Appreciate Taft.

He has succeeded in impressing labor on the isthmus with his kindly interest in its behalf. On this point the special commission's report says: "From the outset we were strongly impressed by the spirit of good will and loyalty of the employees. . . . The general sentiment of the workers was expressed in the words of a mechanic, in one of the conferences which we held with representatives of different trades. Said he: 'We want it understood that we are American citizens and that we are proud to have a share in this great work. We believe the government is treating us right, and we are as much interested to see this thing a success as anyone.' This spirit of loyalty and interest in the work was evidenced on many occasions and should be accounted as an asset of the highest value to the government in the accomplishment of its colossal task."

ing liberal and appreciate increase in the wages of various classes of workmen, as follows:

"All employes not native to the tropics who occupy the positions herein designated shall be granted the following increases in pay for length of continuous service on the Isthmus: Five per cent of the basic or class rate for the second year, with accumulative addition of three per cent of the basic rate for each subsequent year; provided, however, that such cumulative increase shall not exceed a total of 25% of the basic rate."

In other words, Mr. Taft made it possible for every American laborer on the Isthmus, by remaining there and working, to increase his wages 25 per cent and at the same time have a permanent position. These men also get four weeks' vacation with pay, every year and Mr. Taft favors making the vacation six weeks with pay.

Change Would Be Disastrous.

In the performance of this work the United States is under the scrutiny of the entire world, especially of our neighbors in Central and South America, before whom we must make good our profession of high social and industrial ideals. It would be a national calamity to jeopardize the present liberal progressive policy that is so successfully constructing the Panama Canal. Mr. Taft is the one man to continue this great work to the end.

COUNTRY NEEDS A REPUBLICAN CONGRESS.

President Roosevelt Points Out Importance of Electing Legislators to Support Taft.

President Roosevelt, in a letter to William B. McKinley, chairman of the Republican Congressional Committee, appeals to disinterested citizens to join with the National Republican Committee and the Congressional Committee in a movement to elect William H. Taft as President and a Republican Congress to support him, saying, in part:

"It is urgently necessary, from the standpoint of the public interest, to elect Mr. Taft, and a Republican Congress which will support him; and they seek election on a platform which specifically pledges the party, alike in its executive and legislative branches, to continue and develop the policies which have been not merely introduced, but acted upon during these seven years. These policies can be successfully carried through only by the hearty co-operation of the President and the Congress in both its branches, and it is therefore peculiarly important that there should obtain such harmony between them. To fail to elect Mr. Taft would be a calamity to the country; and it would be folly, while electing him, yet at the same time to elect a Congress hostile to him, a Congress which under the influence of partisan leadership would be certain to thwart and baffle him on every possible occasion. To elect Mr. Taft, and at the same time to elect a Congress pledged to support him, is the only way in which to perpetuate the policy of the government as now carried on. I feel that all the aid that can be given to this policy by every good citizen should be given; for this is far more than a merely partisan matter."

APPEAL TO LOYAL REPUBLICANS

To Middle West and Rocky Mountain States Republicans.

You want Mr. Taft and Mr. Sherman elected and they cannot be elected unless the Republican National Committee has sufficient money to pay the legitimate expenses of the campaign. It costs money to perfect an organization. It requires money to pay for printing, postage, salaries or stenographers and clerks at headquarters, traveling expenses of speakers and numerous other details that go to make the campaign end successfully. Congress, as you know, has passed a law making it unlawful for us to solicit money from corporations. We must depend upon the contributions of individual voters. If every Republican in this Western Division would contribute one dollar to the campaign fund, we will be able to do all the things that the voters want done; we will be able to elect Taft and Sherman. Will you help? If so, please send one dollar to the chairman of your State Finance Committee, whose name appears in the list following, or send it direct to me and you will receive the official receipt of the Republican National Committee.

FRED W. UPHAM, Assistant Treasurer.

Contributions may be sent by check or money order to any of the following named chairmen of the various State finance committees:

- Colorado, Whitney Newton, Denver.
- Idaho, Frank E. Johnson, Wallace.
- Illinois, Col. Frederick H. Smith, Peoria.
- Iowa, Hon. Lafayette Young, Des Moines.
- Kansas, Frank E. Grimes, Topeka.
- Michigan, John N. Bagley, Detroit.
- Missouri, O. L. Whitelaw, 409 North Second street, St. Louis.
- Montana, Thomas A. Marlow, Helena.
- Nebraska, John C. Wharton, New York Life building, Omaha.
- New Mexico, J. W. Reynolds, Santa Fe.
- North Dakota, James A. Buchanan, Buchanan.
- Oregon, Dr. H. W. Coe, Portland.
- South Dakota, O. W. Thompson, Vermillion.
- Washington, James D. Hoge, Seattle.

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