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EASTERN POLITICIANS IGNORE WESTERN LEADERS.

Raymond, the Chicago Tribune's Washington correspondent, writes interestingly in reference to the mistakes of the wise men of the East, as follows:

"It is strange that the eastern leaders do not seem to appreciate the great political importance of the newly solid front presented by the senators from the states just tributary to Chicago. New England men have run the tariff for so long a time that they do not take into consideration any of the rest of the country, except as means of trading off so as to secure the highest rates on their own schedules.

Most of the eastern senators are absolutely ignorant of the west. Few of them ever go beyond the Alleghenies, and when they do it is often in a private car. They stop at a few hotels in the big cities, but are ignorant and unconscious of the extent to which the west has begun to dominate the politics of the country.

With a western president, a western secretary of treasury, a western war secretary, and secretary of commerce and labor, secretary of agricultural, secretary of interior, all from beyond the Mississippi, the west has become to have a dominating influence in the executive administration.

Eastern Men Run Congress.

In congress, however, eastern senators and representatives run everything, in spite of the fact that Illinois supplies the speaker of the house. They make combinations which win and parcel out tariff favors to the far west or to the south to head off the attitude of the men from the central west. They are strangely oblivious to the fact that behind the attitude of the Mississippi valley senators there is strong public sentiment which cannot be ignored from a political point of view and which will make itself felt later on if the eastern men persist in their dangerous rule or ruin policy.

It is a fact which wise students of politics understand that the real throbbing political heart of the country beats closely around the population center, which is now probably in Illinois. The anti-slavery agitation in New England probably did more harm than good. It was the conservative men of the Lincoln stripe from the interior who finally decided the policy of the government and the union army had its strongest support in men and in morals from the same section.

It was the attitude of the west on the silver question which raised up the necessary bulwark to the Bryan wave. So, too, in the last campaign it was in the west, and in the west alone, that the battle was fought and won and Bryan given his third defeat.

Taft Aware of Revision Sentiment.

Mr. Taft knows all this, and he is fully aware of the depth of the revision sentiment in the western states. In all of his speeches during his western tour he constantly referred to his personal pledge of support for downward revision. I was with him for 12,000 miles or so on that trip, and can testify from personal experience that he never failed to make that pledge, and that it was received with intense satisfaction by the people to whom he was speaking.

The western senators who have been fighting Mr. Aldrich represent not great corporations or machine politics, but the real, live, throbbing sentiment of the Mississippi valley and beyond. In spite of this fact, short sighted men from New England persist in the attitude of defiance to this public attitude of the west, and the present prospects are that any tariff bill which is passed, even if it is signed by President Taft, as seems likely, will be only in a small measure a redemption of the pledges which helped win the west for the Republican candidate.

There was no shrewder judge of public opinion in the United States in the last generation than William McKinley. He had the faculty of keeping his ear to the ground, and often when he was accused of vacillation, or delay, or lack of nerve, he was merely waiting to assure himself of what the people really wanted. He was a believer in the idea that the people were supreme, and that the president or senators who did not represent them when they had fully made up their minds, betrayed their trust.

Listened to the Interior.

When he wanted to find real crystallization of public sentiment in the United States he never went to the Atlantic seaboard for his information, because he knew well the corporate and immigration influences of that section. Instead of that he listened to such good purpose that during the whole of his administration, involving as it did the building up of an entirely new system of colonial government, after the carrying on of a successful war, he never made a serious political blunder.

At the risk of repeating something I may have written long ago, it seems just as well to tell the story of when and where and how William McKinley developed his expansion policy, which prevails today and which is accepted by the people as final. It is a case directly in point because President McKinley was wise enough to know that when the great interior mass of the people had made up their minds that fact created the only safe guide for the establishment of a great public policy.

It is a pity that Senator Aldrich and his satellites have not been able to take a lesson out of the same book. It so happens that at the present time the two senators

STAINS.

By Theodosia Garrison.

The three ghosts on the lonesome road
Spoke each to one another,
"Whence came that stain about your mouth?"
"No lifted hand may cover?"
"From eating of forbidden fruit,
Brother, my brother."

The three ghosts on the sunless road
Spoke each to one another,
"Whence came that red burn on your foot?"
"No dust or ash may cover?"
"I stamped a neighbor's hearth flame out."
Brother, my brother."

The three ghosts on the windless road
Spoke each to one another,
"Whence came that blood upon your hand?"
"No other hand may cover?"
"From breaking of a woman's heart,
Brother, my brother."

"Yet on the earth clean men we walked,
Glutton and Thief and Lover;
White flesh and fair, hid our stains
That no man might discover."
"Naked the soul goes up to God,
Brother, my brother."

from Iowa are leading the attack on a New England tariff. Mr. Cummins is a new man in the senate, but he has been a tariff revisionist for years and he made good almost immediately after his arrival here.

Dolliver an Old Hand.

Senator Dolliver is an old hand at the business. He served in the ways and means committee, in the making of the Dingley tariff and in making and unmaking of the war revenue act. I can testify from personal experience that he was one of the best equipped men on that committee during all of his service. He was infinitely better posted than Mr. Payne and he ought to have been on the finance committee in the senate, and would have been if the powers that be over there were not personally afraid his great ability would force a reduction tariff.

Both of these Iowa senators are protectionists from the word go, and yet both of them are in favor of a moderate and reasonable reduction in the tariff. That they faithfully represent the views of their people no man can doubt.

This points the moral that I have been so long getting at. In the early fall of 1898 hostilities with Spain had been suspended. A protocol for a treaty had been agreed upon in August, and the treaty itself was signed in Paris some months later. With the armistice President McKinley found it possible to leave Washington. He went out to the Omaha exposition and from there he took a trip across Iowa, down into Missouri, eastward into Indiana, and back to Chicago, where a great peace carnival was in progress, of which he was a central figure. I was with him on the whole trip and remember some things which for obvious reasons could not be printed in full at that time, although they were listed at in my dispatches.

What They Wanted to Hear.

When we first steamed out of Omaha early in the morning the crowd to greet the train at Council Bluffs was small. The president made one of his usual speeches, referring to the great prosperity of the country which had followed the enactment of the Dingley law. The crowd was respectful but not enthusiastic. A little farther on a variation of the same speech was tried at some cross road stopping place. It had the same reception. For the third time the experiment was made on a larger crowd and again the lack of any wild enthusiasm was apparent, and this, too, in a state where McKinley was known and loved by every one.

After this third experiment the president came back in to the car and sat down on a couch at the end of the room. I could see he was preoccupied, and apparently a little anxious. After thinking over the matter a little while he brightened up.

"These people are so prosperous," he said, "and they know it so much better than we do, that they don't care to be told about it."

"He had struck the nail on the head with his unerring political sagacity, and he proceeded at once to apply the remedy."

At the next station there was even a larger crowd, as I remember, and the president cut out a great deal of his prosperity talk, but referred to the necessity of finding new markets abroad for the products of the farms. Instantly there was a whoop from the crowd and the president's face brightened. He had discovered what the people were thinking about and he was exceedingly quick to give them what they wanted.

When the train slowed up again Mr. McKinley, who was a wonderful campaign orator, extended his remarks to the desirability of finding an American market across the sea. The crowd went wild. They made application to the Philippines at once and it was easy to see that they were practically unanimous in deciding that the vast territory conquered by Dewey would remain under our flag. Again the president caught the inspiration of the moment and later on some of us were surprised to find him saying that our flag was flying on far away islands across the sea and that the flag was not to come down.

Forming of Expansion Policy.

And so it went. The expansion policy was formulated in the president's mind there and then. He went on from one statement to another until by the time we had reached Burlington, where he was received with a great torchlight demonstration, the president of the United States in repeated speeches had practically

outlined his policy of retaining the Philippines.

All this, it must be remembered, was before the peace commissioners had ever started abroad. There was no fighting going on, but we were in a position to control Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines beyond all question. Late in the evening I called the president's attention to the fact that he, in one day, apparently had developed a great national policy of vast importance. He stopped a moment and said in his quiet way, although of course I cannot remember the exact words:

"I suppose it is true that my progressive speeches this day while traveling across the state of Iowa will be taken not only at home but abroad as a basis for the policy we will insist upon in negotiating the treaty of peace. I don't care much if that interpretation is put on these speeches. No man, whether he be president or congressman, and no collection of public officials can create any great public policy. They can only register the will of the people."

"I would rather have the point of view of these Iowa farmers as a basis for my future policy than the advice of great merchants or college professors or famous statesmen. It is true I have progressed in a single day, but I believe you will surely find that the sentiment we have found expressed so decidedly here in Iowa today is the sentiment of all the people, and that in the long run it will decide the question of policy, whether we believe that policy to be wise or not."

Day in Iowa Fixed National Policy.

President McKinley was wise in his generation. I know that he felt some doubt as to the wisdom of keeping the Philippines, and later on he was careful to leave a door open for giving the people their independence once when they had fitted themselves for it, but it was one day across the Iowa prairies which fixed the policy of the United States as it exists to day, and it was fixed not by an arbitrary decision of the president himself but by his accurate gauging of the determination of the people that the islands should not go back to Spanish misrule that they should not be turned over to Germany or Japan, but that the American white man should bear their burden and build up the Philippines to the point where our spoils of war should not degenerate into a prize of mere European diplomacy.

It is a pity that Mr. Aldrich and Mr. Lodge and other men who ought to know better do not see that when Senators Dolliver, Cummins, Beveridge, Bristow, La Follette, Nelson, Clapp, and others take the stand they do they are only representing public sentiment, which in the long run will be irresistible and which can define the tariff policy just as easily as it did the greater one of territorial expansion. It might be a good idea to put Mr. Aldrich, Mr. Lodge, Mr. Crane, and some other of the eastern senators on a special train and let them go touring and making speeches to crowds in the rural districts of Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Kansas, and other states.

POPULAR FEELING AND TARIFF BUNCO.

The St. Paul Pioneer Press, the leading republican newspaper of Minnesota, in an editorial entitled as above, strikes at its party's tariff program in the following wrathful language:

"The most wholesome thing for congress to do at this juncture would be to adjourn for a few weeks and distribute itself among its constituents. It would get in touch with the practically universal exasperation and disgust of the voters with the Payne bill, the Aldrich monstrosity, and the cheap skulduggery and chicanery which have characterized the framing of the house and senate measures. But there is not the slightest hope that congress will consult its constituents. The tariff framers do not want to put their heads in the sand and imagine that there is no trouble in store for their blessed protected industries. They can't and they won't see that unless they grant the just and reasonable demands of consumers for a more moderate tariff on necessities, and for free raw materials, particularly for free lumber, free wood pulp, free hides, free iron ore and free coal, there will be a storm that is not unlikely to put an end for good and all to the republican party as at present constituted, or at least to the domination of the standpatter and reactionary, and to extreme protection for any industry whether it needs it or not."

"Let congress commit the crime it threatens to commit and by a little judicious leadership on the part of the democratic party, by sloughing off free trade, free silver and other populist excrescences, that party would be likely to carry, four years hence, almost every state in the Mississippi valley. To elect a republican president against a sound and sensible democratic candidate standing on a platform of common sense, there would not only have to be a republican candidate and platform unequivocally pledged to a definite tariff policy, but a complete change in the feeling that now exists."

"It is probably not exaggerating to say that millions of voters west of Ohio are ready today to rebuke congress for its evident intentions in a way that will disturb the gall even of that hoary old sinner, Aldrich. For the rank and file of the republican party is mad, and mad clean through. They are not only exasperated at the 'gold brick' which it is the purpose of Aldrich and his followers to hand

them; they are still more exasperated at the evident assumption that they are a pack of dolts and block-heads who can be bamboozled with impunity.

"It is time for congress to wake up to the facts. Either the consumers of this country are going to get what they demand, genuine revision downward, with raw materials on the free list, and without any administrative 'jokers' or any 20 per cent. maximum trickens to pay two years and four years hence in the republican party. Failure to comply with the demands of the rank and file will split the party wide open."

"These are not threats. They are a plain statement of popular feeling as expressed in this state by individuals and as revealed in the columns of the press of the country from one end to the other."

PARTING OF THE WAYS.

From the New York World.

Because he was once a Democrat MacVeagh's words of warning do not please the rump Republicans of the Senate. When plunder and plutocracy are about it is usually enough to denounce as "Democrats" all who resist their advance. Conditions are changed to some extent when the chief obstructionists chances to be Secretary of the Treasury in the Cabinet of a Republican President.

Mr. MacVeagh's admonition to the Republican supporters of the projected trusts in the Senate was as follows:

No great leader of an American party can fail to understand the value of independent thought and action in the party itself if only this independence aims at the party's liberalizations and progress, and if it seeks in and through the party to answer more perfectly the deliberate and wise demands of the nation. And you and I must agree—for, we cannot escape the conclusion—that it might become the duty of a great party leader to create for his party a new majority and control.

Because this message from Mr. Taft, who is the great party leader referred to, was borne by a man who was once a Democrat it is no less binding and impressive. The Republican party, from its organization to the present day has profited greatly in power and intellect by its Democratic recruits. They were the backbone of Lincoln's Cabinet. They may prove to be equally important in Taft's.

There is nothing ambiguous in Mr. MacVeagh's "new majority and control." It means of course a coalition between the liberal and progressive Republicans and such Democrats as are loyal to their professions. There may not be enough of these to create at once a "new majority and control," but they are numerous enough even now to prevent the passage of a monopolistic tariff bill over the Presidential veto, and that, beyond question, is the interesting prospect which the Secretary's speech foreshadowed.

The Democratic party went to pieces in 1860 on the issue of an inhuman plutocratic slavery system. It is the glory of the American people that, strong as is their attachment to party, no political organization has yet been able perpetually to maintain solid ranks in support of a vested wrong. Is the liberal and progressive element of the Republican party, with the President at its head, about to separate from the wing that is wedded to the insatiable plutocracy of the tariff?

WHAT IS A HAVANA CIGAR?

From the London Chronicle.

What is a Havana cigar? "The London Sessions Jury on Wednesday appear to have been of opinion that a cigar made in England of Havana tobacco cannot rightly so be called. And George Augustus Sala, who knew as much about smoking as most people, and had studied Cuban cigarmaking on the spot, once set forth that three kinds of cigars come from Havana itself. First, genuine Havana, made of tobacco grown, cured and rolled in the island of Cuba; secondly, cigars composed inside of United States or European tobacco imported into Cuba, with an outside wrapper of Havana leaf. Thirdly, cigars brought ready made from Europe, mostly from Breen and Switzerland, and re-exported from Havana to Europe, where they pay duty and are sold to the unwary as "Havanas."

A DRY JOKE.

An English laborer in Cheshire attempted to drown himself, an Irish reaper, who saw him go into the water, jumped after him and brought him safe to shore. The fellow making a second attempt, the reaper again saved him. "But the laborer, determined to do away with himself, watched his opportunity and hanged himself behind the barn door. The reaper, who saw him, never offered to interfere or cut him down. When challenged for this afterward by the farmer, he answered:

"I took him out of the water twice, and, knowing he was wet, I thought he hung himself up to dry."—London Tit-Bits.

AN UNCONVENTIONAL GRADUATE.

"So you've just graduated from college?" snaps the head of the firm. "And I suppose you think you know enough to run my business if I give you a place?"

"I hadn't considered that phase of the matter," replies the graduate. "I called to inform you that I have combined all your rivals and am willing to let you into the combination if you will talk business."—Chicago Post.

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