

# The Democrat.

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## THE RECALL IS ALL RIGHT.

The public official, who disregards his party's platforms and the pledges made by him when a candidate for office, is morally guilty of embezzlement. He embezzles the rights of the public when he uses them for a purpose other than the purpose for which they were entrusted to his keeping.

Why should such an embezzler continue to profit by his perfidy? Why should the public be obliged to suffer loss until the end of the unfaithful official's term? Why should any man untrue to a trust be permitted to retain to which he is untrue? The recall is needed and it will come.

## WHAT CONVERTED PRESIDENT TAFT?

The convention that nominated President Taft turned down, by a vote of 7 to 1, the proposition to make campaign contributions public. Notwithstanding this President Taft is now as ardent an advocate of this reform as Mr. Bryan, and all but a scattering few of the republican members of the house, voted with the democrats a few weeks ago for a drastic bill to make public, both before and after election, all campaign contributions exceeding \$10.

What caused such changes in so brief a space of time?

The answer can be found without an extended search. When President Taft was met by his campaign managers, on the threshold of his great office, and told by them that most of his cabinet positions had been promised "to the interests" in exchange for campaign assistance, he recognized that the disadvantages of such bargains were a heavy load for him to carry. As a result, he got the worst job lot of cabinet officers this country has had for a generation.

There are a few exceptions. Wilson, of Iowa, retained his place at the head of the Department of Agriculture, but those who read the daily papers of two years ago will recall the stories about his resignation which were kept before the public by the Washington correspondents of the big newspapers of the east. Secretary Wilson's place was undoubtedly promised to another but they could not land it. The farmers of the country would not stand for it, and they were too numerous and too unanimous to be disregarded. The farmers saved Mr. Wilson, but most of the promises were kept, and the result was disastrous to President Taft's administration.

## IOWA JEFFERSON CLUBS' ANNUAL BANQUET.

The Iowa Jefferson Club gave its annual banquet this year, at the Elks' Club in Des Moines, on the evening of the first day of this month.

W. J. Bryan was present, and in response to the toast assigned to him spoke for more than an hour. His speech was pronounced by those who heard him as one of the very best speeches he ever delivered. It was brim full of hope and good cheer and kindness.

Several other good speeches were enjoyed by the banqueters, notably those of Hon. Frank A. O'Connor, leader of the minority in the Iowa house of representatives, and Hon. D. D. Murphy, of Elkader.

At a business session of the Club held in the afternoon, a number of speeches were made and the following officers elected for the year:

John C. DeMar of Des Moines was elected president of the organization. He succeeded A. J. Mathis of Des Moines, who has acted as head of the club during the past year.

The other officers elected were: Secretary, H. H. Crenshaw, Adel; treasurer, J. P. O'Malley, Ferry; vice presidents, First district, N. C. Roberts; Second district, M. J. Wade; Third district, Lewis Murphy; Fourth district, A. J. Anders; Fifth district, A. G. Johnson; Sixth district, S. V. Reynolds; Seventh district, S. A. Hayes; Eighth district, F. G. Stuart; Ninth district, Frank Wallace; Tenth district, John McCarthy; Eleventh district, W. C. Whiting.

An executive committee was also elected composed of the following members: C. R. Porter, J. D. Deaton, E. M. Carr, J. B. Weaver, C. D. Huston, H. Uterback, W. E. H. R. A. J. Mathis, Jerry B. Sullivan, W. C. Campbell and H. C. Evans.

Next to Medicine Hat why is Mason City the coldest place on the weather map?

## WOODROW WILSON'S CANDID STATEMENT OF PRESENT CONDITIONS.

In his Kansas City speech last week, Woodrow Wilson took the position that an era of much promise is now upon the American people.

He described the era as a process of restoration, rather than something new or revolutionary.

He contended that this beneficial work was not confined to any one party; that both parties were well represented in the efforts at reform and that each party has its reactionaries.

But the democratic party, said Mr. Wilson, "is not so closely allied with the reactionary forces, 'the interests', as the republican party, and, therefore, the democratic party is better able to serve the people in the 'process of restoration'."

Mr. Wilson did no more than to truly state a fact which every well informed person knows, and every candid person is willing to admit.

It is true that the democratic party has its Baileys, but has not very many of them. They are not the dominating force in the organization; they do not write the party's platforms or shape its destiny. The contrary is true so far as the republican party is concerned. The republican reactionaries in the senate outnumber the progressive republicans three to one.

Mr. Wilson was right, everlastingly right when he said that the democratic party was better able to serve the people in this restoration era than the republican party.

## RAPID TREND IN RIGHT DIRECTION.

Few realize the great changes for the better in the politics of this country which have taken place in the past few years.

Most of the schemes and tactics resorted to by Mark Hanna 15 years ago would send him and his associates to prison, if repeated today.

The presidents of the big life insurance companies, who gave great sums of money belonging to widows and orphans to Mark Hanna, could not do so now and escape the penitentiary.

And here in Iowa our brilliant ex-senator can not duplicate his tactics of 15 years ago. It is generally believed that he got his start then by contracting with Mark Hanna to furnish tens of thousands of copies of his paper to Iowa readers, who were not subscribers. This year he will be met at the door of the Des Moines postoffice and told that the old scheme won't go, that only a limited number of sample copies of his newspaper can be sent to persons other than subscribers.

It has been claimed, and never to our knowledge denied by Mr. Young, that before he left St. Louis after attending the republican national convention of 1896, he contracted with Mark Hanna to make his paper Hanna's organ in Iowa, and in return for so doing Hanna paid for more than 20,000 copies of Mr. Young's paper, for distribution in Iowa.

That was the year of the marriage of Mr. Republican Party to Miss Money, and, as Representative Fields said the other day, the marriage has not turned out very well. The legitimate children have been full-grown, and the adopted children, Andrew, John D. and J. P., like many other adopted children, have tried to swipe the entire estate. This naturally produced unrest and resentment and there are factions in the family and the era of reform and better things is here, and we trust here to stay.

For many years it was a common practice for large aggregations of capital, to secure the enactment of special privilege legislation, and then capitalize the privileges thus secured at the expense of the general public as so many millions of new money paid into their treasuries. When these privileges are taken away there will be great wailing on the part of "the interests."

The republican party must depend upon its progressives for a continuation of its existence, as well as for its present and future usefulness. When the old standpat faction of that party goes down, it will never rise again. It might as well copy after the Colorado editor, who wrote that this epitaph be chiseled upon his tombstone: "I am here to stay."

## BAILEY'S FORD.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hartman moved to their home in Delhi Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Porter were in Manchester callers Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Hayes, who have been sick the past week, is gaining.

## SPECIAL WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

REACTINARY FORCES STILL STRONGLY INTRENCHED IN NATIONAL SENATE.

By Clyde H. Tavenner.

That reactionary republicans in the Senate are lying in wait for the farmers' free list bill and other progressive legislation passed by the Democratic House, is becoming more evident every day. The motive is twofold, to protect the profits of the tariff trusts, and to prevent, if possible, the Democrats from carrying out promises made to the people.

The group of Senate Tories is still able to exert a tremendous influence upon legislation. Having packed the important committees with men who take the corporation viewpoint of the particular legislation to come before those committees, the reactionaries are in a position to continue serving special privilege by obstructing and perhaps preventing the passage of measures desired by the people.

Those whom the public may safely rely upon to oppose most of the progressive House measures are Gallinger, Smoot, Lorimer, Guggenheim, Stephenson, Lodge, Oliver, Warren Perkins, and a dozen others, who will at all times have the hearty co-operation of Vice-President Sherman.

Back of this group of reactionaries are arrayed the tariff trusts, the railroads, Wall street, Standard Oil and the balance of the organized wealth of the country.

The democrats and progressive republicans are pitted against this combination. The two forces will, when necessary, combine to prevent the passage of a bad bill, but they will be helpless at times to prevent the Tories from obstructing the passage of Democratic legislation such as the free list bill.

About the only thing the average citizen can do is to keep tabs on the votes of his individual representative in both House and Senate, noting particularly whether they vote for or against legislation desired by the people, and when election time rolls around to act accordingly.

Aldrich, Senator De Facto.

Co-operating with the group of senate Tories that is planning to interfere with the passage of such anti-trust measures as the free list bill, is Nelson Wilmarth Aldrich of Rhode Island. Nominally Mr. Aldrich is connected only with an institution of his own creation, called the monetary commission. The commission has a suite of rooms adjoining the rooms occupied by the finance committee, to which the free list bill will go.

If it should happen, opines the Cleveland Press, that the door were open between the rooms of the finance committee and the rooms of the monetary commission, it might happen that former senator Aldrich might communicate with Senator Penrose, the new chairman of the finance committee, and thus the latter leader of the senate majority might have the benefit of the views of the ex-leader (and possibly leader de facto) of the United States Senate.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Aldrich keeps in as close touch with the men he trained to be reactionaries as when he was himself a member of the senate.

Taft Antagonizes Progressives.

President Taft took the leading part in the fight against giving the progressive republicans of the senate the committee places they demanded, which fight resulted in leaving all the big senate committees the same citadels of special privilege that they were in the previous congress.

Before the republican caucus was held the regular republicans of the senate signed an agreement by which they agreed to give the progressives a one fourth representation on all the committees. Senator Penrose, who signed the agreement for the regulars is said to have bitterly arraigned his regular colleagues for putting him in the position of breaking his political word, which he declared he had always especially prided himself upon keeping inviolate.

It now develops that Penrose's breach of faith with the progressives was forced by White House pressure. President Taft considers progressives like La Follette his personal enemies, and he does not want them in a position to assist in bringing about the passage of legislation like the farmer's free list bill, which they could do by combining with the democrats if given the representation on the big committees to which their numerical strength entitles them.

Schedule "K" is Next.

Schedule K, the joker-filled wool schedule of the Payne-Aldrich tariff law, will be the subject of the first general tariff revision of the democratic house.

All the jokers by which rates have been piled one upon another until the total has been far in excess of 100 per cent. are to be abolished.

Likewise there will be abolished the infamous provisions of the Payne-Aldrich law, by which material containing wool, but really made of cotton, is taxed as wool. The average reduction on all items in the woolen schedule is expected to reach at least 25 per cent.

What the democrats propose will cause a tremendous outcry from the woolen trust and its allies, the producers of raw wool, and will no doubt provoke men like Warren of Wyoming, Lippett of Rhode Island and the other high protectionists of the senate into predicting the downfall of the nation.

Wickersham is Worried.

United States Attorney General Wickersham is worrying. He is afraid the investigations to be made into the affairs of the steel trust, sugar trust, shoe trust and woolen trust will give these concerns immunity from prosecution. As all of

concerns, with the exception of a few \$18 a week employees of the sugar trust, have enjoyed absolute immunity from prosecution and investigation since the day Mr. Wickersham left the service of the sugar trust to become the chief prosecuting officer of the government, it is difficult to understand how the immunity which they might receive, but will not, through congressional investigations, could be any more complete than the immunity Mr. Wickersham has given them.

Should Be Made by the House of Representatives into the political machine of Postmaster General Frank Hitchcock is one in which the whole country will be interested. The resolution of inquiry directs the postoffice committee to determine how much political work is performed by postmasters and subordinate officers in the postoffices of the country, and by what authority they neglect their official duties and violate the civil service law. It has long been charged that through post-office department patronage the postmaster general has established a machine for the control of delegates to the national convention.

The "back to Roosevelt" movement has boomed forth again within the ranks of the republican party, and while it is destined to grow, it is undoubtedly also destined to fall just short of success.

While Col. Roosevelt's friends and press agents are endeavoring to start the "back to Roosevelt" germ of thought in the hope that it will race across the country like a prairie fire, the ex-president himself is represented as being hostile to the idea of accepting another nomination. The former president insists that his only motive in traveling about the country to meet the people who have honored him so long with their confidence and esteem and to say "howdy" to

Roosevelt will not again be given an nomination, because he is unsatisfactory to both the progressive and tory wings of his party. Besides, both wings have already decided upon their choice. The genuine progressives will back La Follette and the so-called regular republicans will undoubtedly stick by Taft.

Roosevelt is still extremely popular with the people, particularly in the west, but he is not so popular with the leaders of the people as he was a few years back. He lost the sympathy of the standpatters while in the White House, and he lost some of the confidence of progressives like La Follette at the time the New York state convention was held. He has never been able to completely regain the confidence of either wing of the republican party, and it is doubtful if he ever will. Roosevelt denies now that he was responsible for the convention platform, the feature of which was the strongest kind of an endorsement of the Payne-Aldrich bill as an honest revision downward measure, and reference to President Taft as one of the great American statesmen.

Col. Roosevelt declares now that he was not in control of the convention over his enemies, the reactionaries, and yet at the time he declared to the newspaper men that "we have licked them to a frazzle."

Roosevelt was in complete charge of the convention according to all the newspaper reports of the time, but whether he was or not, he did nothing to prevent the adoption of the platform which contained statements in regard to the Payne-Aldrich bill which were far from being in accordance with the facts. Col.

Roosevelt dictated the committee that was to frame the resolutions, and could have selected men who would have turned out a progressive paper instead of the one that resulted. If the resolutions of the convention spoke the truth, progressive republicans who told the people that the Payne-Aldrich bill was not a fulfillment of pre-election promises were placed in the attitude of having opposed the measure without due cause.

Roosevelt could hardly have been considered the logical candidate of the progressives when he had not, up to a month ago, ever publicly endorsed Senator La Follette of Wisconsin, who has accomplished more tangible results in getting progressive legislation upon the statute books than any half dozen American statesmen now alive. Instead of having been willing to cooperate with La Follette, Roosevelt was inclined to permit him to fight his battles against special privilege alone, and not infrequently spoke slightly of the Wisconsin senator. Men in Washington who have been familiar with the hostility Roosevelt has maintained toward La Follette for years, were naturally somewhat surprised at the tribute paid La Follette last month at Madison, Wis., by the ex-president.

That postmasters, United States marshals and other federal employees should be elected by the direct vote of the people instead of being appointed by the president, was the keynote of a strong speech delivered in the House by Congressman William A. Cullop of Indiana. Judge Cullop has given the subject much thought and investigation for several years and his remarks had the close attention of the House.

Referring to the vast army of government employees, numbering 411,332 persons, exclusive of the officers and enlisted men in the military and navy branches of the government, Judge Cullop declared that the president's appointive power is practically unlimited, and too enormous to be given to any one man in a free country.

"The civil service law worked well for years, but has now fallen a victim to political abuse and is the 'Trojan Horse' for political knavery," declared the Indiana member.

"The most aggravated and offensive partisanship is in the postoffice department, which is a political machine and openly administered as such. Its membership is 272,813, strong, reaching into every neighborhood, and coming into direct personal contact with all the people. It is the great political machine constructed in this or any other country."

"The postmaster general is today commanding general of the republican party. He is at the head of the national organization. Too much of his time is given to politics and not enough to public service. It is a notorious fact that rumors are in circulation in many quarters, that officials under the civil service branch of the government, more especially in the postal service, are assessed every campaign for the republican campaign fund, from the highest to the lowest position; even the rural route man in the country with his paltry wage and the letter carrier on the streets of the city who does hardly live on his meager pay, does not escape."

"In the postoffice department alone, there are 272,813 appointees who should be elected in order to break down a great federal machine and give the people an efficient service is deplorable. It is the only \$240,000,000 business in the world run at a loss every year. Why? Too little attention to busi-

ness, and too much to politics." Wallace D. Bassford, private secretary to Speaker Champ Clark, has but one hobby. That hobby is Champ Clark. Bassford began boosting Clark as a boy and has been on the firing line ever since. He has been Mr. Clark's secretary for 18 years. The secretary to the speaker is especially qualified for the position, because he has a personal acquaintance with practically every member of Congress and most of the public men in Washington. He is courteous and painstaking, as well as being a diplomat of the first water, which means that those who call upon the speaker go away happy.

Mr. Bassford lives at Mexico, Mo., and is the son of James C. Bassford, who descends from an old English family.

The speaker's secretary started life as a reporter. His brother, Homer Bassford, is well known in the newspaper world, being general manager of the St. Louis Times, the Westliche Post and the Anzeiger, St. Louis.

## WHAT SCHEDULE K MEANS TO CONSUMERS.

The wool growers and the manufacturers of wools, though only a small fraction of the population, have for many years written schedule K to suit themselves. They have told congress what duties it should levy, and it has levied them. Here is an instance of the way those duties work: The wholesale cost abroad of a knitted woolen jacket weighing two and a quarter pounds is 81 cents. If there were no duties the cost to the American consumer, including wholesaler's and retailer's profits, would be about \$1.62. But duties have to be paid to help along manufacturer and wool grower—an ad valorem duty of 60 per cent., or 49 cents, and a specific duty of 44 cents a pound, or 99 cents, making the total cost of the jacket \$2.29. Add the profits of wholesaler and retailer and the cost to the American consumer becomes \$4.58.

Now, after fifty years petting and pampering of the sheep men and the manufacturers, it is time for the consumers to have their turn. They have put up more or less patiently with poor clothing of inferior quality. They think they have a right to cheaper clothing of better quality. They are told that if they were to have their wish there would be a falling off in the number of American sheep. That would be a calamity which the consumers would endure philosophically. They would like to see congress display more interest in the welfare of human beings than in that of sheep.

"The greatest good of the greatest number is the foundation of morals and legislation." Make it the foundation of a revision of schedule K and there would be no question of the outcome. The consumers are many and the shepherds are few. The wool growers went to congress as far back as 1828, when the tariff of that year was under consideration, and said if given protection they would furnish all the wool the country would need. Today they are supplying a little over half what it uses, and only a third of what it would use if it were not for the excessive duties. During nearly all this time consumers have been taxed for the support of an industry that has not kept its promises. The wool raisers and the manufacturers, who have worked hand in hand with them, have had their fill. Now let the consumer have theirs.—Chicago Tribune.



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