

BRYAN ADDRESSES VAST AUDIENCE OF HAWKEYES

Continued from Page 6.

There were not as many in the room as there are here. He said: "An advance of \$1 a thousand on lumber would mean \$3,125,000 on last year's product."

Burden Upon Poorer Classes.

The second step in the reduction of the tariff is a "material reduction upon the necessities of life, especially upon goods competing with such American manufactures as are sold abroad more cheaply than at home."

A given rate on a particular article is the same, whether levied for the purpose of revenue or for the purpose of protection. It may be well to define the difference between a revenue tariff and a protective tariff.

Let us suppose another case: If we import one-tenth of a certain kind of merchandise and produce at home nine-tenths, and the imported and domestic articles sell at the same price, then the treasury receives duty on the foreign article and the manufacturer collects nine times as much on the domestic article as the treasury collects on the one-tenth imported.

Question of Right.

As a tariff law interferes with the natural laws of trade, one who proposes a protective tariff, takes upon himself the burden of proof to show, first, that a protective tariff is right in principle; second, that it is wise as a public policy; and, third, that it is necessary.

It is right to tax all of the people for the benefit of a few? Where the community has attempted to collect taxes for the aid of an industry, even when the industry was to be located in the community, the highest court in the land has declared such a tax to be arbitrary in the form of law.

Mr. Taft's "Alarm."

Mr. Taft, however, finds the greatest alarm in the following clause in our platform: "Gradual reductions should be made in such other schedules as may be necessary to restore the tariff to a revenue basis."

As a matter of public policy, it is wise that the industries that do pay should be compelled to carry upon their backs the burden of a few? Where the community has attempted to collect taxes for the aid of an industry, even when the industry was to be located in the community, the highest court in the land has declared such a tax to be arbitrary in the form of law.

that it is being resorted to again. The New York Leather Belling company has sent out a number of letters to companies with which it has business dealings, asking them to post in their factories a notice saying:

The Old Device.

"Believing that the election of Taft and Sherman means a safe and conservative administration, the day following the election we shall start this plant on full time and keep going."

Here is a direct attempt to influence the election by a bribe. It is virtually a promise of wages if the Republican ticket is successful and an implied threat in case of Democratic success; but the offer is so made that it gives the employer no guaranty of its fulfillment. The same kind of promises were made in 1896, and yet for six months after the election times were worse than they were before.

Taft's Threat of Panic.

It cannot pass from this part of my subject, without calling attention to the fact that Secretary Taft has allowed himself to be drawn into the use of an argument which the beneficiaries of protection have been employing for a generation.

to accept the responsibility for them. Now, let us consider the panic of 1892. If that could be properly charged to the Democratic party, it would only be one Democratic panic to two Republican panics. But can it be fairly charged to the Democrats? It came, it is true, a few months after the inauguration of a Democratic president, but it came while the McKinley high tariff was still in effect and before a single Republican law had been repealed, and it came from causes that were in operation before the election.

The third proposition which the protectionist must establish, namely, that the tariff asked for is necessary, is still less considered. It is true that we pay higher wages per day than are paid elsewhere, but that does not necessarily mean that the actual labor cost of an article is higher than abroad. On the contrary, the rule is that high-priced labor produces a cheaper article than low-priced labor.

Protection Does Not Affect Wages. For twenty-five years the American working man has been told that the English workman solely because of protection, but our wage earners know that this cannot be true.

Protection does not make good wages. Our better wages are due to the greater intelligence and skill of our workmen, to the greater hope which free institutions give them, to improved machinery, to the better conditions that surround them, and to the organizations which have been formed among the wage earners.

A revenue tariff will not bring a panic; it will not inaugurate industrial depression; it will not reduce wages; it will not reduce employment, and a larger demand for labor will be a guaranty against the reduction of wages.

We cannot hope to invade foreign markets to the extent we should until we believe our manufacturers of the handicraft that protection places upon them in the purchase of materials they have to use. Neither can we hope to continually increase our exports without increasing our imports.

tem to the other; it expressly declares that the change shall be gradual, and a gradual change is only possible where the country is satisfied with the results of each step taken. We elect a congress every two years and a president every four years, and the people can soon stop any policy if the results of that policy are not satisfactory.

Income Tax.

The Democratic party has declared for an income tax as a part of the revenue system, and for a constitutional amendment as a means of securing this tax. Secretary Taft announces in his notification speech that he is in favor of an income tax whenever the revenues are so low as to require it, and expresses his belief that it is possible to frame a law which will avoid the objections raised to the income tax law of 1894, well and good, but that is uncertain.

The whole aim of our party is to secure justice in taxation. We believe that each individual should contribute to the support of the government in proportion to the benefits which he receives under the protection of the government. We believe that a revenue tariff, approached gradually, according to the plan laid down in our platform, will equalize the burden of taxation, and that the addition of an income tax will make taxation still more equitable.

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