WAR VETERANS AND PENSION LEGISLATION

Republican Party Wholly Responsible for Caring for Old Soldiers.

Democrats Opposed All Friendly Aid —Damning Record—Taft Great Friend of G. A. R.

The Republican party has just cause to be proud of its pension record. With the aid of patriotic men from other parties it waged to a successful conclusion, the greatest war of modern times.

It has never ceased to honor the officers and men who composed the victorious army. Every Republican President elected since the close of that war had been a conspicuous officer of the Federal army, with the exception of President Roosevelt, whose brilliant record in the Spanish war is a matter of just pride to the American people.

Republican Pension Legislation.

Republican legislation for the old soldier, his widow and his minor children has been generous and bountiful. The Invalid Pension Law of July 14, 1862, and the Dependent Law of June 27, 1890, are monuments of Republican achievement and bear witness to the country's tender care of its soldiers and its sailors and their families.

The Act of June 27, 1890, is a fitting illustration of the generosity of the Republican party toward the veterans of the Civil War. This law was passed by a Republican Congress, was signed by a Republican President, and through its administration there was expended during tht next fiscal year a total amount of $88,708,830.71. The number of soldiers receiving the benefit of this act amounted to 443,721, while the number of the dependents relieved by this Act was 171,259. The gain in the number of pensioners under this Act, over the previous year was 8,643 and the gain from June 30, 1890, to January 5, 1904, was 4,063.

The Republican party passed the Act of April 19, 1908, increasing pensions of all widows from $8 to $12 per month and granting pensions without reference to the value of property or income. The Republican party also passed the Act of February 6, 1907, granting pensions to soldiers by reason of age alone, without regard of disability.

Democratic Opposition Record.

The Democratic party, as such, has opposed every measure voting appropriations for pensions. Its record for the past forty years is one of opposition to those men who bore the hardships of war and jeopardized their lives that the Union might be preserved. Here is a brief list of their official, adverse Acts in Congress towards the veterans of the Civil War:

In 1878 a bill passed the House repealing all limitations of time in which applications for arrears of pensions should be made. This was opposed by a majority of the Democrats. The bill increasing the pensions for widows from eight to twelve dollars per month was opposed by the Democrats. The Amputation Bill passed August 4, 1886, was opposed by the Democrats and voted for solidly by the Republicans in the House. The Widows' Arrears Bill, the Disability Pension Bill were both fought bitterly by the Democrats.

In the Forty-third Congress a Dependent Pension Bill was voted on in the Senate, the Republicans supporting it solidly and the Democrats opposing it by a two-thirds vote. In the House this bill was voted for solidly by Republicans and opposed by a majority of the Democrats. After it had passed the House and Senate it was vetoed by President Cleveland, a Democrat. An effort was made in the House to pass the bill over Cleveland's veto, the Republicans voting 138 for it and the Democrats voting 125 against it.

This vote showed that twenty-nine Democrats who had originally voted for the bill hastened to avail themselves of the opportunity afforded by the president's veto, to vote against it, thus testifying their real sentiments, while twenty other Democrats who had dodged the first vote came up promptly and supported the veto. The Dependent Pension bill was bitterly opposed by the Democrats, the Republicans putting it through despite the opposition. This bill, as the old soldiers well know, was promptly signed by President Harrison.

Democrats Dislike Veterans.

To sum up, the following gives the total of fourteen votes of Congress upon the most important of the various pension measures presented since the war, viz.:

Democrats for the bills	417
Democrats against the bills	648
Republicans for the bills	1093
Republicans against the bills	None

The official records of national legislation show that of all the Republican presidents since the war, only one has withheld his signature from any pension bill, and that was General Grant, who was forced to decline to approve five of these bills. The Democrats have only been in power for a few brief years since the war, and their president, Grover Cleveland, vetoed 32 pension bills. The records show that every pension law has been passed by Republican votes, and every pension bill defeated has been defeated by Democratic votes—every pension bill vetoed, 629 in number, was vetoed by a Democratic president—except five.

The Old Soldier's Friend.

The Republican party has kept its promises. Through its legislation there has been disbursed in the payment of pensions on account of the Civil war, to June 30, 1908, $3,533,596,025.95, and there were on the pension rolls on the last date 633,338 veterans of the Civil war and a total of 967,371 pensioners of all wars and classes, and on June 30, 1905, there were approximately on the pension rolls, 621,000 surviving veterans.

All the civilized nations of the earth combined have not equaled the United States in liberality in granting pensions, bounties, homesteads and land warrants, providing homes, etc., for war veterans. The appropriation for the present fiscal year, for paying pensions, is $162,000,000.00—more than one-fifth of the entire revenue of the government.

No man who was not old enough to be a factor in that great struggle could give his heart and soul more completely to the welfare and wellbeing of the veterans who fought for liberty and right in the days of '61 to '65, than Mr. Taft. He is the recognized and distinguished friend of the old soldier and is pledged to carry out Republican policy in a generous manner towards the Grand Army of the Republic. He has never been too busy to see the veteran and listen with sympathetic interest to his just demands. Taft, as President, will be an abiding fast friend to all the survivors of all our wars.

BRYAN AND TILLMAN.

Hold Identical Views on the Question of Negro Disfranchisement.

On the question of negro disfranchisement Bryan, of Nebraska, and Tillman of South Carolina, stand shoulder to shoulder. Mr. Bryan has defined his attitude in the following language:

"The white man in the south has disfranchised the negro in self-protection. The white men of the south are determined that the negro shall be disfranchised everywhere if necessary to prevent the recurrence of the horrors of carpetbag rule."

Senator Tillman has spoken even more frankly, as witness the following:

"We stuffed ballot boxes and we shot negroes. We are not ashamed of it."

In the south Mr. Bryan poses as the special friend of the negroes and assures them that his election as president will be greatly to their advantage. Senator Tillman also insists that he is their best friend. Both of these eminent Democrats would prove their friendship for the negro by robbing him of his constitutional rights.

That the intelligent negro citizens of northern states should vote for Mr. Bryan in spite of his open approval of the disfranchisement of their fellow-negroes of the south is simply unbelievable. As well might they be expected to vote for the restoration of slavery.

Taft Urged Unionism.

Whenever the occasion has made it proper for him to do so, William Howard Taft has invariably shown his belief in the wisdom of justice of organized labor. Not only as a judge on the bench but as governor of the Philippine Islands and as secretary of war, having control of upwards of 30,000 laborers employed in the Panama Canal zone, he has recognized the right of workingmen to organize for their own protection and advantage. As governor of the Philippines Mr. Taft strongly urged the native workingmen to form labor unions, partly as a means of inculcating correct ideals of the dignity of labor and partly in order to guard against the peril of a vast inflow of cheap labor from China.—Labor World.

Gompers and Union Labor.

The prediction that union labor would resent the attempt of President Gompers of the American Federation to drag it into the Bryan camp was freely ventured early in the campaign. Now it is coming true. Hardly a day passes without fresh advances from some part of the country of serious friction between the leader of the Federation and his former supporters.

Evidently Gompers will not be able to carry out his undertaking to deliver the union labor vote to Bryan. Union labor is intelligent enough and independent enough to insist upon doing political thinking for itself.—Milwaukee Evening Wisconsin.

"When elected, as I expect to be, I intend to continue my interest in labor. I am for giving labor its right to be put on a level with employing and other classes, neither above nor below. I am for giving labor a square deal." —William H. Taft at Chicago.

Opinion of an Independent.

The voters of the United States will certainly understand Mr. Taft by election day, and we shall see whether they desire such an orderly advancing of the interests of good government, of honest and sound progress all along the line, as he promises—for he is a transparently honest man, amply committed to the Roosevelt policies, and can be trusted to stand for them with wisdom and strength.—Springfield Republican.

Bryan Didn't Know.

Governor Hughes vetoed the 2-cent fare commutation rate bill because a state commission appointed for the purpose has the matter under investigation. Bryan attacks Hughes without apparently knowing that there is such a commission. But the idea of investigating would sting him anyway.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A LESSON TO FIRST VOTERS.

EXPERIENCED WORKMAN—DON'T VOTE YOURSELF OUT OF A JOB.

DUTY OF THE FIRST VOTER

May Change Results in Certain Doubtful States.

Should Carefully Examine Record of Two Leading Parties and Start Right—Real Americanism.

It is not beyond the range of possibility that the first voters in this presidential election may hold the balance of power in a few of the doubtful States. It is difficult to ascertain the exact strength of this vote, hence it offers a fertile field for speculation. An intelligent estimate arrived at by the only authentic data available would seem to establish the number of first voters in the United States at this presidential election somewhere near three million. These young men are to cast their first ballot for President in early November.

There is also no accurate way of knowing just how these votes are prorated to the different States. It is probably true that the safely Democratic States and the safely Republican States have something of a similar quota, and to that extent, of course, the votes in the electoral college will not be influenced either way, but how about the effect of this unknown vote in the doubtful States?

Past experience shows that in these States an increased suffrage in favor of one party or the other, from 1 to 4 per cent, may change the results and mark the defeat or victory of either party. It is the first votes in doubtful States that is of supreme importance. How will they be cast? For Democracy, negation—a policy destructive of all that is good, and obstructive of all that is progressive—or shall they be for Taft and Sherman, who represent the great constructive business league in America, known as the Republican party?

Performance Vs. Promise.

The performances of the Republican party may well be contrasted with the obstructive tactics of the party of slavery, State rights, secession, anti-expansion, free silver, free trade, government ownership of railroads, and numerous other foolish and impossible makeshift expediences. From the immortal Lincoln to the renowned Taft, there is one long line of brilliant achievements to the credit of the Republican party. Foremost among these many victories will forever stand the abolition of human slavery. Lincoln gave his life that four millions of human beings might be set free. He washed the stain of human slavery forever from the stars and stripes. The Republican party saved the Union and made this a free republic forever.

Thirty-seven years later the cry of the oppressed went up from Cuba; her people had been ground into the dust for four centuries by Spanish greed and oppression. Another Republican President, another American martyr, came to the rescue of the Queen of the Antilles, and William McKinley, acting for the Republican party, freed Cuba and put her feet upon the solid rock of peace and hope. Invincible in war, the Republican party has accomplished great things in time of peace. Only a generation ago a Republican Secretary of State purchased from despotic Russia its only possession on the North American continent—Alaska—and instead of it being a menace, as it formerly was, to the peace of our land, it now stands as a sentinel guarding American interests in the Northern Pacific and Atlantic oceans.

Another great Republican Secretary of State secured for the United States the open-door policy in China and thus guaranteed equal commercial rights for America in the Celestial Kingdom for all time. Through a Republican President and a great Secretary of War—the Hon. William Howard Taft—the United States is today building the Panama canal—the realization of the dream of ages.

When we acquired the Philippines and Porto Rico we set about to establish public schools and make education possible to all those strange peoples. Now hundreds of thousands of Filipino and Porto Rican children are speaking the English language and singing the songs of patriotism and freedom with their faces turned to the future and their eyes resting complacently upon the "Star Spangled Banner."

For all time these matchless victories in war, and constructive statesmanship in peace, will stand to the credit of the Republican party.

Known by Its Fruits.

The Republican party never has had factions within itself concerning issues. It has been unanimous in knowing what it stood for. There is something about the Republican party that sends things up above par, and something about the Democratic party that sends things down below par. Above par is sunlight, summer, hope and plenty. Above par is the fire light dancing on the walls of contentment, to the song of the kettle singing on the hearth of plenty. Below par, Hunger and Want and Bankruptcy sit brooding by dead ashes, while the candle of life gutters down to the shape of a winding sheet.

A Damning Record.

The people of this country only once in nearly a half century have listened to Democratic promises, followed Democratic advice, and placed that party in power. During that Democratic administration our national debt increased a half million dollars each day. Each day we lost a half million dollars in foreign trade; farm products decreased more than $300,000,000. Fear, distrust and panic paralyzed the great industrial system of our country; banks closed their doors; business houses assigned; the balance of trade was against us; bonds were issued; capital withdrew from the field of legitimate enterprise into secret places; labor was forced into unwilling idleness; we had deserted mills, smokeless factories, silent machinery.

What has the Democratic party done to command confidence that gives it a right to assume to advise the American people. The Democratic party asks always to be judged by the future and not by the past. It always asks to be judged by its promises and not by its performances. Why should a party that brought upon us the horrors of the Cleveland administration, that went hysterical over free silver, a party that has learned nothing in fifty years, that has forgotten nothing in fifty years, a party that has not kept a promise in fifty years, a party that has not been right in fifty years—why should this party assume that with it wisdom shall perish from the earth?

The Democratic party always has its face to the past and its back to the future. It never sees an opportunity until it is passed, and never gets on the right side of any issue until it is settled. Such is a portion of the record of this self-constituted keeper of the country's conscience, and the country's welfare, the oft-defeated, discouraged, disorganized, disgraced, divided, decrepit old Democratic party. It stands today without an issue, without a principle, without a policy, without a platform, without a leader, and without hope.

The first voter should vote and vote right. He will vote right by voting for Taft and Republican prosperity.

Shows Prosperity of Unions.

"They are not gone," replied Mr. Taft. "The labor organizations today are more prosperous, have more influence, have more lawful control than they ever had in their lives before. The American Federation of Labor has increased its numbers 100 per cent. The International Typographical union in its annual report showed an increase from 28,000 to 45,000. They paid in five millions of dollars; they had $250,000 in their treasury and they never had such prosperity or influence in their lives and the basis upon which those organizations have been constructed are the legal lines which I laid down in my legal opinions. Therefore, I claim that there is nobodyy in public life that has done more to legalize and give force and standing to labor unions than I have."

Bryan, the Unsafe Engineer.

"If you can picture the prosperity and welfare of 80,000,000 people, carried upon a great engine, with a selection of one of two engineers, both intent upon reaching a certain objective point, both honest, both determined, I believe the selection of William H. Taft would be the selection of the engineer, who, earnestly intent upon his mission, would consult the elements of safety or danger of track and would arrive in safety at his destination. Mr. Bryan, if selected, would throw the throttle wide open and with his impatience and enthusiasm, would be as likely to land us in the ditch as at the station."—Henry F. Cochems of Wisconsin.

PATRIOTISM.

Bryan Opposed to Giving Nebraska Volunteers Praise.

It has been charged in the Capital that on the subject of pensions Col. William J. Bryan was not patriotic while a member of congress. The friends of the colonel dispute the statement.

But there is another record.

Every one remembers the great career of the First Nebraska volunteers in the Philippine Islands. That regiment made a reputation which thrilled the country.

The Nebraska legislature in 1899 adopted the following joint resolution:

"Be it resolved by the legislature of the State of Nebraska, That the thanks of the State be hereby extended to the officers and men of the First Nebraska regiment of the United States volunteers for their gallant conduct on the field of battle, their courage in the presence of danger and their fortitude in the hardships of camp and campaign.

"Resolved, That we acknowledge with gratitude and joy the debt the State owes them by reason of the honors conferred upon it by their valor while defending in the far-off Philippines the principles of our government and adding new glory to our flag. We pledge the honor of the State that to the living shall be accorded worthy distinction, and to the dead all that can be given to the dead—a fitting memorial of their fame."

The governor of Nebraska at that time was a Democrat and he vetoed this resolution, and later it was charged that this was done on the advice of Mr. Bryan. On the 3d of May, 1899, in an open letter to the editor of the State Journal, published in Lincoln, Mr. Bryan denied that Governor Poynter discussed the question with him prior to the publication of the veto. He said:

"I knew nothing of the passage of the resolution until I read the veto message in the newspapers. I approve of the governor's action, however, and believe that he did right in thwarting a partisan attempt to make political capital out of the bravery of Nebraska soldiers."

We call the attention of Captain Clark and other veterans of the civil war to this partisan action on the part of Colonel Bryan.

In no State in the union, except Nebraska, could such a veto and such a letter have appeared. And it could not have occurred in Nebraska except for the partisan leadership of Colonel Bryan.

Looking on the matter as history that is made and cannot be undone, one cannot realize that the governor of Nebraska would take the action which he did, nor can it be realized that Colonel Bryan would approve it.—Des Moines Capital.

THE NEMESIS.

BY JAMES J. MONTAGUE.

Bryan had a little Past he thought had been forgot,
But everywhere he wandered it was Johnnie on the Spot.
When he cried, "I'm strong for honest men!"
His Past rose up and wildly yelled, "Rah! Rah! Sixteen to one!"

When he said, "Labor ought to have a a fair and honest chance,"
The Past bawled, "Yes, but Workingmen are public menaceans!"
When he said, "Down with Trusts that would the populace despoil!"
His Past observed, "Save Haskell and his friend, the Standard Oil!"

When Bryan yelled, "Railroads are a thing that men should spurn,"
His Past remarked unfeelingly, "They're mighty good to Kern!"
When he said, "I have never sought my private purse to fill!"
His Past observed, "Except, of course, from Mr. Bennett's will!"

"I stand upon my record," often Bryan would declare,
And then his Past would whisper, "Boys, there ain't no record there!"
He dodged about and in and out, and when men saw him last
He still was vainly seeking to escape from little Past.

Bryan insists that he is running against two Republicans. Worse than that. He's running against about 8,000,000 of them.—Omaha Bee.

REPUBLICAN PARTY FRIEND OF THE WORKER

Statistics Compiled by President of Bookbinders' Union Prove the Assertion.

Striking Contrast Between the Deeds of the Republican Lawmakers and the Democratic Legislators.

One of the issues in every campaign is that of labor legislation. All parties claim to be the friend of labor, and it is but natural that this would bring out the facts.

This year the Democratic party is doing more claiming than ever before along this line, and this has led James Feeney, president of Washington Union No. 4, International Brotherhood of Bookbinders, to compile some statistics which speak for themselves. Mr. Feeney is one of the best known and most highly respected labor leaders in the national capital, and his word is always accepted with those who know him.

Many Records Taken.

Mr. Feeney has taken the records of the various states for the purpose of finding out what laws have been passed and by what party they were enacted. He has taken ten laws, including those creating labor bureaus, public employment agencies, state boards of arbitration; also eight-hour laws, child labor laws (minimum age), child labor laws (night work), women's labor laws, seats for shop girls laws, anti-sweat shop laws and laws for protection of unions.

In every one of these laws the labor union has furnished the incentive for the passage, it being the most vitally interested.

Majority is Republican.

Mr. Feeney shows that in the case of each law the great majority of the states which have passed them are Republican. This is true to a remarkable degree.

For instance, in the case of the eight-hour law, eighteen states have them, sixteen being Republican states and two Democratic states.

Another instance is in the case of laws protecting labor unions, there being such laws in fifteen states, fourteen of which are Republican.

The following are Mr. Feeney's figures:

Labor Bureaus—
33 States have them.
26 are Republican states.
7 are Democratic states.

Public Employment Agencies—
15 States have them.
13 are Republican states.
2 are Democratic states.

State Boards of Arbitration—
22 States have them.
18 are Republican states.
4 are Democratic states.

Eight-Hour Laws—
18 States have them.
16 are Republican states.
2 are Democratic states.

Child Labor Laws (Minimum Age)—
27 States have them.
23 are Republican states
4 are Democratic states.

Child Labor Laws (Night Work)—
15 States have them.
12 are Republican states.
3 are Democratic states.

Women's Labor Laws—
21 States have them.
15 are Republican states.
6 are Democratic states.

Seats for Shop Girls Laws—
33 States have them.
23 are Republican states.
10 are Democratic states.

Anti-Sweatshop Laws—
12 States have them.
10 are Republican states.
2 are Democratic states.

Laws for Protection of Unions—
15 States have them.
14 are Republican states.
1 is a Democratic state.

Seeking to Mislead Labor.

From the very beginning of the campaign there has been a concerted Democratic effort to misrepresent Judge Taft on questions pertaining to labor interests. His judicial decisions have been distorted, and falsehoods invented.

In his canvass of the West Judge Taft has devoted considerable attention to this subject with good effect. He has not been apologetic, for there is nothing in his record that needs apology. He has not been on the defensive because no one on the bench who does only what the law requires him to do needs defense. He has made clear his position—made it clear that it was helpful and not hurtful to labor—and turned back falsehood and misrepresentation.

It is one of the many illusions of Mr. Bryan that he is the special and only champion of labor. What has he ever done for it? When in Congress he helped to frame a tariff bill which kept hundreds of thousands of people out of employment until a Republican administration was elected and a Republican tariff act was passed. He could not at that time have hit labor a more paralyzing blow.—Philadelphia Press.

An Upright Judge.

The attempt to make the Republican candidate out the enemy of labor falls in the light of the facts. Judge Taft has demonstrated that as a judge he did what the law required him to do, and if he had done otherwise he would have been entitled to no respect from the labor or any other interests. Some of his decisions have provided the ground upon which labor organizations have protected themselves, and have been cited on the labor side of subsequent cases before other courts.—Philadelphia Press.

Candidates Should Compare Notes.

Joe. Worth Kern, the Democratic candidate who lost his railroad pass, is in New York telling people that Roosevelt's "interference in the campaign has helped the Democrats," while out in Nebraska William Jennings Bryan, the other Democratic candidate, is making forty-seven speeches a day pleading with Roosevelt to keep out of the fight. Some misunderstanding between the Democratic candidates, apparently.—Philadelphia Press.