

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., September 7, 1906.

20,000 Persons Cheer Nebraskan at New York Reception.

TRUSTS THE PARAMOUNT ISSUE

New York, Aug. 31.—The homecoming of William J. Bryan was made complete when he was greeted in Madison Square Garden by a throng of well-wishers numbering more than 20,000. It was such a welcome as seldom, if ever before, was accorded a private citizen. Mr. Bryan's eyes filled with tears as he stood and acknowledged the thundering welcome from 20,000 throats. For eight minutes, while the Garden seemed to sway and shake from the shouts and applause, he strode nervously from side to side of the narrow platform.

When Mr. Bryan rose to speak he was greeted with tumultuous applause. He said in part:

Mr. Bryan's Speech.
Like all travelers who have visited other lands, I return with delight to the land of my birth, more proud of its people, with more confidence in its government and grateful to the Providence that cast my lot in the United States. No other nation could show such a record of benevolence and disinterested friendship. My love for our form of government has been quickened as I have visited castles and towers and peered into dark dungeons and I am glad that our nation, profiting by the experience of the past and unhampered by traditions and unfettered by caste has been permitted to form a new centre of civilization on new soil and erect here a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

The first message that I bring from the old world is a message of peace. The cause of arbitration is making real progress in spite of the fact that the nations most prominent in the establishment of The Hague tribunal have themselves been engaged in wars since that court was organized. There is a perceptible growth in the sentiment in favor of the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means.

Lost Prestige Through Philippines.
Before leaving international peace, let me add that our nation has lost prestige, rather than gained it, by our experiment in colonialism. We have given the monarchist a chance to ridicule our Declaration of Independence, and the seifer has twisted us with inconsistency. A tour through the Philippine Islands has deepened the conviction that we should lose no time in announcing our purpose to deal with the Filipinos as we deal with the Cubans. Every consideration, commercial and political, leads to this conclusion. Such ground as we may need for coaling stations or for a naval base will be gladly conceded by the Filipinos, who simply desire an opportunity to work out their own destiny, inspired by our example and aided by our advice. In so far as our efforts have been directed toward the education of the Filipinos, we have rendered them a distinct service, but in educating them we must recognize that we are making colonialism impossible. If we intend to hold them as subjects, we must not dare to educate them; self-government with ultimate independence must be assumed if we contemplate universal education in the Philippines.

Elect Senators By Popular Vote.
I return more convinced than before of the importance of a change in the method of electing United States senators. There is noticeable everywhere a distinct movement toward Democracy in its broadest sense. In all the countries which I have visited there is a demand that the government be brought nearer to the people. In the United States this trend toward Democracy has taken the form of a growing demand for the election of United States senators by a direct vote of the people. I am within the limits of the truth when I say that the senate has been for some years the bulwark of predatory wealth, and that it even now contains so many members who owe their election to favor-seeking corporations and are so subservient to their masters as to prevent needed legislation. The popular branch of congress has declared in favor of this reform by a two-thirds vote and more than two-thirds of the states have demanded it, and yet the senate arrogantly and impudently blocks the way.

Favors Income Tax.
The income tax which some in our country have denounced as a socialistic attack upon wealth has, I am pleased to report, the endorsement of the most conservative countries in the old world. It is a permanent part of the fiscal system of most of the countries of Europe and in many places it is a graded tax, the rate being higher upon the largest incomes. I have been absent too long to speak with any authority on the public sentiment in this country at this time, but I am so convinced of the justice of the income tax that I feel sure that the people will sooner or later demand an amendment to the constitution which will authorize an income tax, and thus make it possible for the burdens of the federal government apportioned among the people in proportion to their ability to bear them.

Capital and Labor.
I have referred to the investigation of international controversies under a system which does not bind the parties to

accept the findings of the court of inquiry. This plan can be used in disputes between labor and capital. In advocating arbitration of differences between large corporate employers and their employes, I believe we are demanding the highest interests of the three parties to these disputes, viz., the employers, the employees and the public. The employer cannot be turned over to the employer to be dealt with as the employer may please. The question sometimes arises: "Can I not conduct my business to suit myself?" This question is a plausible one, but when a man in conducting his business attempts to arbitrarily fix the conditions under which hundreds of employees will have to live and to determine the conditions under which hundreds of others shall have to exist, I contend that he has no right to deprive his employees of the right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. To support this position need only refer to the laws regulating the safety of the mines, the factory laws fixing the age at which children can be employed, and usury laws establishing the rate of interest.

But if it is unwise to make the employer the sole custodian of the rights and interests of the employees, it is equally unwise to give to the employees uncontrolled authority over the rights and interests of the employer. The employees are no more to be trusted than the employers are to be trusted than the employers. In their zeal to secure an advantage they may not only do injustice, but even forfeit a larger future gain.

No reference to the labor question is complete that does not include some mention of what is known as government by injunction. As the main purpose of the writ is to evade trial by jury, it is really an attack upon the judicial system, and ought to arouse a unanimous protest. So long as the present method of securing a trial by jury, a jury ought not to be denied to wage earners. However, as the writ is usually invoked in case of a strike, the importance of the subject would be very much reduced by the addition of a system of arbitration, because arbitration would much reduce, even if it did not entirely remove the probability of a strike.

Just another word in regard to the laboring man. The struggle to secure an eight-hour day is an international struggle, and it is sure to be settled in favor of the workingman's contention. The benefits of the labor-saving machine have not been distributed with equity. The producer has enormously multiplied his capacity, but so far the owner of the machine has received too much of the increase and the laborer too little.

Bimetallism Not an Issue.
Thus far I have dwelt upon subjects which may not be regarded as strictly partisan, but I am sure that you will pardon me if in this presence I betray my interest in those policies for which the Democratic party stands. Our opponents have derived not only a pleasure, but also partisan advantage from the division caused in our party by the money question. They ought not, therefore, to begrudge us the satisfaction that we find in the fact that unexpected conditions have removed the cause of our differences and permitted us to present a united front on present issues. The former keeping the gold standard and the latter wanting the latter securing the larger volume of money for which they contend.

Trusts the Paramount Issue.
While men may differ as to the relative importance of issues, and while the next congress will largely shape the lines upon which the coming presidential campaign will be fought, I think it is safe to say that at present the paramount issue in the minds of a large majority of the people is the trust issue. I congratulate President Roosevelt upon the steps which he has taken to enforce the anti-trust law and my gratification is lessened by the fact that he has followed the Democratic rather than the Republican platform in every advance he has made.

Imprison the Guilty.
We need not quarrel over remedies. We must show ourselves willing to support any remedy which promises substantial advantage to the people in their war against monopoly. Something is to be expected from the enforcement of the criminal clause of the Sherman anti-trust law, but this law must be enforced not against a few trusts as at present, but against all trusts, and the aim must be to imprison the guilty, not merely to recover a fine. What is a fine of \$100,000 while the trial is in progress? If the criminal clause is not going to be enforced it ought to be repealed.

New Anti-Trust Laws Needed.
But it is not sufficient to enforce existing laws. If ten corporations conspiring together in restraint of trade are threatened with punishment all they have to do now is to dissolve their separate corporations and turn their property over to a new corporation. We need, therefore, new legislation and the Republican party not only fails to enact such legislation, but fails even to propose it. The Democratic party must be prepared to propose new and efficient legislation.

For Tariff Reform.
The tariff question is very closely allied to the trust question and the reduction of the tariff furnishes an easy means of limiting the extortion which the trusts can practice. While absolute free trade would not necessarily make a trust impossible, still it is probable that very few manufacturing establishments would dare to enter into a trust if the president were empowered to put on the free list articles competing with those controlled by a trust. The principle embodied in the protective tariff has been the fruitful source of a great deal of political corruption as well as the support of many of our most iniquitous trusts. It is difficult to condemn the manufacturers for uniting to take advantage of a high tariff schedule when the schedule is framed on the

theory that the industries need all the protection given and it is not likely that the beneficiaries of these schedules will consent to their reduction so long as the public waits for the tariff to be reformed by its friends.

There never was a time when tariff reform could more easily be entered upon, for the manufacturers by selling abroad cheaper than at home, as many of them do, have not only shown their ingratitude toward those who built the tariff wall for them, but they have demonstrated their ability to sell in competition with the world. The high tariff has long been a burden to the consumer in the United States and it is growing more and more a menace to our foreign commerce because it arouses resentment and provokes retaliation.

Favors Public Ownership.
I have already reached the conclusion that railways partake so much of the nature of a monopoly that they must ultimately become public property and be managed by public officials in the interest of the whole community, in accordance with the well-defined theory that public ownership is necessary where competition is impossible. I do not know that the country is ready for this change. I do not know that a majority of my own party favor it, but I believe that an increasing number of the members of all parties see in public ownership the sure remedy for discriminations between persons and places, and for the exorbitant rates for the carrying of freight and passengers.

Believing, however, that the operation of all the railways by the federal government would result in a centralization which would all but obliterate state lines, I prefer to see only the trunk operated by the federal government and the local lines by the several state governments. If any of you question my propriety of my mentioning this subject, I beg to remind you that the president could not have secured the passage of the rate bill had he not appealed to the fear of the more radical remedy of government ownership, and nothing will so restrain the railroad magnates from attempting to capture the interstate commerce commission as the same fear. The high-handed manner in which they have violated law and ignored authority, together with the corruption discovered in high places, has done more to create sentiment in favor of public ownership than all the speeches and arguments of the opponents of private ownership.

Opposes Socialism.
Socialism presents a consistent theory, but a theory which, in my judgment, does not take human nature into account. Its strength is in its attack upon evils the existence of which is confessed. Its weakness is that it would substitute a new disease—if not a worse one—for the disease from which we suffer. The socialist is honest in the belief that he has found a remedy for human ills, and he must be answered with argument, not with abuse. The best way to oppose socialism is to remedy the abuses which have grown up under individualism, but which are not a necessary part of individualism, and the sooner the remedy is applied the better.

Palma Will Fight It Out.
Havana, Sept. 3.—The hopes of those who tentatively suggested a project of mutual concessions as a means of ending the rebellion were shattered when President Palma called General Cebreco, one of the proposed peace commissioners, to the palace to inform him that the government had no concessions to offer or accept and no intention other than fighting the matter through and suppressing the insurrection.

Fatal Fight Over Two Cents.
Johnstown, Pa., Sept. 4.—In a fight among Italians at Beswell, a mining town in Somerset county, four men were seriously injured, two fatally. The trouble started as the result of a dispute over two cents that one man claimed to have won in a poker game. All four men are under arrest.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of
CHAS. H. FLETCHER.

Travelers Guide.

CENTRAL RAILROAD OF PENNA.

Condensed Time Table effective June 18, 1906.

READ DOWN			STATIONS			READ UP		
No. 1	No. 3	No. 5				No. 6	No. 4	No. 2
8:10	7:20	6:30	BELLEFONTE	PHILA.	PHILA.	8:40	9:15	9:40
7:20	6:30	5:40	PHILA.	BELLEFONTE	BELLEFONTE	9:27	10:02	10:27
6:30	5:40	4:50	BELLEFONTE	PHILA.	PHILA.	10:21	10:56	11:21
5:40	4:50	4:00	PHILA.	BELLEFONTE	BELLEFONTE	11:15	11:50	12:15
4:50	4:00	3:10	BELLEFONTE	PHILA.	PHILA.	12:09	12:44	13:09
4:00	3:10	2:20	PHILA.	BELLEFONTE	BELLEFONTE	1:03	1:38	1:58
3:10	2:20	1:30	BELLEFONTE	PHILA.	PHILA.	1:57	2:32	2:57
2:20	1:30	8:40	PHILA.	BELLEFONTE	BELLEFONTE	2:51	3:26	3:51
1:30	8:40	7:50	BELLEFONTE	PHILA.	PHILA.	3:45	4:20	4:45
8:40	7:50	7:00	PHILA.	BELLEFONTE	BELLEFONTE	4:39	5:14	5:39
7:50	7:00	6:10	BELLEFONTE	PHILA.	PHILA.	5:33	6:08	6:33
7:00	6:10	5:20	PHILA.	BELLEFONTE	BELLEFONTE	6:27	7:02	7:27
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