

History Demolishes Republican Claim That Democrats Make Hard Times.

1893 WAS UNDER HIGH TARIFF

Every Panic Since the Civil War Has Been a Republican Panic—Lessons From 1907 Upheaval.

The enemies of Democracy are making their anticipated and regularly recurring howl—they are predicting hard times if Woodrow Wilson is elected president on a Democratic tariff revision platform.

The Republicans are claiming all credit for present prosperity. A glance backward will be worth while at this time.

Every panic since the civil war originated and developed under Republican rule.

The Republican campaign textbook of 1904 devoted much space to the many business disasters occurring from July, 1893, to November, 1894, intending the public to attribute them to the inauguration of President Cleveland in March, 1893. But the Republicans fail to refer to the fact that the Republican tariff law was in force during more than twelve of the sixteen months of greatest business disasters. This fact must be remembered—the McKinley tariff bill became a law Oct. 6, 1890, and the first indications of the 1893 panic were seen Nov. 11, 1890, scarcely more than thirty days after the McKinley law was passed, and the panic reached its worst stage in 1893 and early in 1894, during which time the McKinley law was in full force.

Millions Lost Their Jobs.

It may be recalled, too, that the panic of 1873 under Republican rule and in a period of twelve years of high tariff taxation, was most disastrous. It continued five years, 3,000,000 workmen were thrown out of employment and bankruptcy ran riot.

In 1890 the McKinley high tariff bill was passed, and there were 10,673 failures, followed by 12,394 in 1891. The tariff was raised to nearly 50 per cent, but wages stood still or declined while the cost of necessities advanced.

The most serious labor troubles in the history of the United States have occurred under Republican high tariffs.

Some Lessons From 1907.

The Republican panic of 1907 furnished another forceful refutation of the Republican claim that Democratic administration and hard times, lower tariffs and panics have been co-existing.

In 1907, in the midst of prosperity, thousands of leading banks, with hundreds of millions on deposit, suspended cash payments. The trouble began as a result of a struggle between great New York financial institutions for business.

The New York Post in October, 1907, said:

Condemn Themselves.

"The certain and significant thing is that it will be known as a Republican and high tariff panic. Protest as Republicans may, they will be held responsible. Out of their own mouths the Republican party and the Dingleyites will stand condemned. They fixed in 1896 the standard by which they cannot escape being judged. In the party platform of that year they referred to the panic of 1893, and the hard times following, squarely to charge up the entire accountability to the party in control of the national government, and the political inference was stated with meretricious logic:

"Every consideration of public safety and individual interest demands that the government be rescued from the hands of those who have shown themselves incapable of conducting it."

"Now, what are the Republicans going to do when the Democrats hand them back their poisoned chalice? * * * A great emergency has come and the high tariff is seen to be of no avail whatever. It was to keep us all rich and prosperous."

"Because the country has just got over the results of a Republican panic the president and his friends are urging us to perpetuate the Republican administration," says the Philadelphia Record.

Business Depression.

"As soon as business was checked five years ago the steel corporation, which was encouraged by Mr. Roosevelt to swallow the Tennessee concern, then its most formidable potential competitor, drew its fires and threw about half its workmen out of employment. Other industries did much the same thing. * * * There was an extensive stoppage of mills in Philadelphia.

"The Republican candidate for congress in the Kensington-Richmond district is using the 'soup houses of 1893' as a means of securing the wage earners from voting the Democratic ticket. Those soup houses existed under the McKinley tariff. But there have been more recent ones. After 1907 there were soup houses in the Kensington-Richmond district, and everybody who was charitably disposed was begged for contributions to feed the people who were out of employment."

—For high class Job Work come to the WATCHMAN Office.

COULD HAVE CARRIED OHIO.

But Big Bull Moose Took to the Vermont Woods—Noted Woman Exposes His Change of Front.

BY IDA HUSTED HARPER.

The Progressive party had its first opportunity to show its loyalty to the woman suffrage plank in its platform when the vote was taken in Ohio on a new constitution. Forty-two amendments were on the ballot, and all were adopted except the one for woman suffrage!

Ohio is one of the "banner" Progressive states, and Mr. Roosevelt expects to secure its electoral vote. In order to do this a plurality of the electors must be Progressives, and they could therefore have easily carried the suffrage amendment if all the others had voted against it, as the vote on the constitution was very light, only a few hundred thousand out of more than a million who were eligible. Did he issue any orders to this effect? Did he say to his followers: "Now, here is our first chance to show the women that we mean business. Of course if we win in November we will give the franchise to all in the United States, but just now we can make good by giving it to those in Ohio, so let every Progressive vote for the woman suffrage amendment?" Did he do this? On the contrary, he completely ignored the matter, although he passed through Ohio the very day of the election.

A few days before, at St. Johnsbury, Vt., Mr. Roosevelt had devoted a large part of his speech to showing how strongly he believed in the ballot for women and how anxious he was for them to get it. The question was not an issue there or likely to be, but it was a vital issue in Ohio, to be settled in four days, and yet not by spoken or written word did he show to the people of Ohio that he knew of its existence.

Two days after the Progressive party in Ohio permitted the defeat of this amendment its state convention met. If any women were elected delegates the press dispatches failed to mention it, and in the platform a woman suffrage plank was conspicuous by its absence. "The Progressive party pledges itself to the task of securing equal suffrage to men and women alike," says its national platform, and Ohio has just given the first example of the way it apparently means to keep that pledge.

In Mr. Roosevelt's second term the suffragists determined to make every possible effort to secure an endorsement from him. As Miss Susan B. Anthony's most eloquent letters to him received no answer, she went in person to see him in November, 1905. Just four months before her death. With all her powers of persuasion she pleaded with him to recommend in his forthcoming message some recognition of woman's claim to a voice in the government. Laying her hand on his arm, she looked up into his face and said, "I beg of you to be the emancipator of woman as Lincoln was the emancipator of the slave." He was not resembling Lincoln so much in those days as he is at present, and he remained totally unmoved by her appeals.

Scant Courtesy at White House.

Shortly before he left the White House several officers of the National Suffrage association, realizing his great influence on public opinion, made one last effort to have him speak a favorable word. He came into the outside lobby of the executive office, required them to state their business before the crowd waiting to see him and would hardly give them a chance to speak, but kept saying, "Go and get another state." He shrugged his shoulders and turned on his heel, and then they said, "If we will get up a petition of a million names will that influence you?" "No," he replied, "not one particle."

That was in 1909. The next year a letter from him was read at an anti-suffrage meeting in the Berkeley theater, New York, in which he said: "I am very tepid on woman suffrage."

The cause of woman's enfranchisement has no more implacable enemy than the Outlook, and Mr. Roosevelt is on the editorial staff. Last February he had in that magazine a ten column article entitled "Woman's Rights," but

the only right considered was that of the suffrage. The article was such an excellent exposition of the attitude of women who do not wish to vote that the Anti-suffrage association ordered copies for distribution. In this article he said again, "In our western states where the suffrage has been granted to women I am unable to see that any great difference has been caused as compared with neighboring states."

And yet just four months after this publication, when Mr. Roosevelt had definitely decided to make the contest for the presidential nomination, all his scruples about forcing suffrage on a hostile and indifferent majority vanished in thin air because a million and a half already had votes and the color wanted them, and he knew they wouldn't stand for any nonsense about a referendum.

CIRCULAR TO G. A. R. POSTS.

Bought "Means" and "Harsh" Expressions by Wilson Supporters, but Finds Facts the Reverse.

Ignoring the fact that the Democratic house passed the most liberal pension bill in the history of the United States and that it was the Republican senate that reduced the appropriation the editor of the National Tribune of Washington has appealed to grand army posts all over the country to supply campaign material for use against the Democratic party.

Colonel (Sergeant) John McElroy, the editor, has not met always with the co-operation he desired. This is evidenced by the fact that indignant grand army men have forwarded his circular letters to Democratic national headquarters in New York with their protests against the playing of such politics within the old soldiers' organization.

Quest For "Mean" Things.

Editor McElroy's appeal was sent out, mimeographed, on the letterhead of the National Tribune, with his own name at the top. The letter read:

Sept. 13, 1912. Comrade—We are anxious to get the expression of editorials on pensions from the papers supporting Wilson in your neighborhood. Will you kindly look over the files of your local papers and send us anything particularly harsh and mean which they have published. We want to show conclusively the attitude of the men who are supporting Wilson and who will control his administration if elected. Please send these at your earliest convenience, as the time is short. Fraternal-ly, THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

One of the replies sent to the Tribune was:

Headquarters Cushing Post, No. 14, G. A. R., Astoria, Ore., Sept. 28, 1912. National Tribune, Washington, D. C.:

Gentlemen—Your communication addressed to me as adjutant of Cushing Post, No. 14, of the 17th instant, I found today on my return from the national encampment at Los Angeles, Cal. Thus the delay in answering.

You wish me to look over the files of our local papers and send you "anything particularly harsh and mean" which they have published regarding pensions. As you have specified that these "harsh" and "mean" comments must be from papers supporting Wilson I must inform you that the papers supporting Wilson throughout the state, so far as I have been able to learn, are friendly toward the interests of the civil war veterans and endorse the action of the Democratic house of the United States congress in its passage of the pension bill in the special and last session of congress and have no fault to find with Senator Kern for his eloquent appeal in the senate in behalf of the civil war veterans.

If you are really looking for "mean" and "harsh" editorials along this line, if your object in this search is for the interests of the old soldiers, you will find enough "mean" and "harsh" things in the papers that are supporting Mr. Taft. And if you wish to prospect away out here in Oregon (politically) for other than pure gold please excuse the adjutant of Cushing Post, No. 14, department of Oregon, G. A. R., in assisting.

B. F. ALLEN.

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