

ment, March 4, 1889, there was in the federal treasury the largest surplus in history. When the Republican party went out of power, March 4, 1893, there was a large deficit and the incoming administration was finally persuaded to make the bond issues which its Republican predecessor had at one time thought to be necessary, but had skillfully avoided.

PANIC BEGAN UNDER HARRISON

The claim that the business disasters of the period referred to were due to the popular fear of tariff legislation to be enacted by Democrats is, as has been said, met by the fact that this panic began two years prior to the presidential election day of 1892. The following will serve as reminders on this point:

FAILURES DURING PRESIDENT HARRISON'S TERM

November 11, 1890, the reports showed financial distress in New York. The New York Clearing House association voted its certificates to banks in need of assistance.

The Boston Clearing House association did the same thing November 17. Barker Bros. & Co., big bankers in Philadelphia, suspended at that time, with liabilities placed at \$5,000,000.

November 19, 1890, there was a run on the Citizens' Saving Bank of New York, and a receiver was appointed for the North River Bank.

November 22, 1890, the United Rolling Stock company, of Chicago, assigned, with liabilities at \$6,851,000.

November 28, 1890, B. K. Jamieson & Co., the Philadelphia bankers, failed, with liabilities at \$2,000,000.

December 6, 1890, the Oliver Iron and Steel Mills of Pittsburg, shut down, discharging 2,000 employes. On the same date the cotton firm of Myer & Co., of New Orleans, failed, with liabilities at \$2,000,000.

January 18, 1891, the American National Bank at Kansas City suspended, with liabilities at \$2,250,000.

May 8, 1891, the Spring Garden National Bank at Philadelphia closed its doors, and the Pennsylvania Safe Deposit and Trust company made an assignment.

The Homestead strike and other strikes during 1892, and prior to election day, are well remembered by the people.

MCKINLEY TARIFF AND PANIC START TOGETHER

The record discloses that the first indications of the so-called panic of 1893 were given November 11, 1890, a little more than THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE MCKINLEY TARIFF BILL BECAME A LAW. From that date the panic raged, and while its effects were felt for several years it reached its worst stage in 1893, and during the early days of 1894, DURING ALL OF WHICH TIME THE REPUBLICAN TARIFF LAW WAS IN EFFECT.

THE EXTENT OF FAMOUS REPUBLICAN PANICS

The panic of 1873, under Republican rule and twelve years of high tariff taxation, was the most disastrous and the period of business depression for five years thereafter was the most severe of any in history.

From 1881 to 1886, under two Republican tariffs, there were labor strikes involving 22,304 establishments and 1,323,203 workmen. Of these strikes 9,439 were for an increase of wages and 4,344 against reduction of wages.

Mr. Reed's party tinkered the tariff in 1883. In that year there were 9,184 business failures, involving \$172,874,000. In 1884 there were 10,968 failures involving \$226,343,000. In the next year, still under the Republican tariff and currency laws, there was a general business depression. More than 1,000,000 men were out of employment.

In 1890 the McKinley bill was passed, and there were 10,673 failures in that year, and 12,394 the next, with liabilities in each year amounting to nearly \$200,000,000. The tariff was raised to nearly fifty per cent. but wages either stood still or declined, while the prices of necessities advanced. The protected manufacturers kept all their "bonus" as usual.

Tramps and trusts, the twin products of a monopolists' tariff, were practically unknown in this country until we had endured uninterrupted Republican rule for a dozen years.

The worst labor troubles, the bloodiest riots, the most destructive strikes, the most brutal lockouts ever known in any country have occurred here under the high tariffs, bought, made and paid for by the contributors of the Republican campaign funds.

THE ROOSEVELT PANIC OF 1907

The Roosevelt panic broke with full force on the whole country Monday, October 28, 1907, after a long term of high tariffs and Republican rule. On Sunday bankers' conferences

were held in every town in the United States. Cash payments were everywhere suspended, although checks were honored to the extent of a small per cent. of the individual's deposit.

Soup houses and "bread lines" dotted the continent, in 1907, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. In all the large cities in Pennsylvania, especially Pittsburg, Johnstown, Altoona, Lancaster, Philadelphia, and the coal regions, you can easily recall how business was paralyzed, and sparrows built nests in the smokeless stacks of our great industries. In all the large centers thousands of honest men were in dire want, and our charities were taxed beyond their limit. Soup houses were not regarded then as a disgrace, but an absolute necessity to save starving humanity.

You "calamity howlers" and "soup house politicians" are like Roosevelt before the recent Senate Investigation—at critical moments, and on important matters, your memory strangely and conveniently fails you on such incriminating facts. During Roosevelt's time, as only an instance, the city of Pittsburg issued \$200,000 in bonds to give the unemployed work on the streets as a result of this panic. The Salvation Army took care of the other poor, while Teddy loaned the Government's gold to Morgan to speculate and profit on others' distresses.

In concluding this article let us quote from an editorial published in the New York Evening Post, of October, 1907, when the Roosevelt panic was still in effect. It said:

"But now their panic chickens have come home to roost. Here we are in an off year; the little talk there is of tariff reform comes more from Republicans than from Democrats; no political bugaboo can be alleged to be interfering with the beneficent workings of the high tariff, yet it is visibly failing to do what its champions have avowed it always would do. The advance agent of prosperity has been replaced by the bill collector of adversity. Whatever other effects the panic may have, it has at least dealt a death blow to the tariff superstition. Perhaps in no other way could we have gotten rid of it. Hereafter, any man who uses the argument that you must not demand the abolition of tariff outrages since, if you do, you will imperil prosperity, will be laughed at. The way is at least open to attack the question of protective duties in statesmanlike fashion, without having to face the abuse and prejudice and idolatrous ignorance which have for years made it difficult to deal with the tariff like rational men."

The year 1912 will be known in political history as the time of the "Republican Party's Panic," when the selfish ambitions of an ungrateful Ex-President completely wrecked that great organization. Roosevelt always was, and ever will be, a panic.



"PRICES CLIMB HIGHER THAN WE CAN PUSH THE EARNINGS UP."—Woodrow Wilson.