

TAFT DISCUSSES CAMPAIGN ISSUES

IN A NOTABLE INTERVIEW THE PRESIDENT TREATS OF THE TARIFF, TRUSTS, HIGH COST OF LIVING, WOMAN SUFFRAGE, RECALL OF JUDGES, IMMIGRATION AND GOV. WILSON.

PROTECTION RAISES WAGES

Thinks the Payne Law Has Enabled the American Worker to Meet the Cost of Living and Maintain His Family in Comfort—Every Able-bodied Man Willing to Work Has Work—City Hotels Thronged with Buyers and Farmers Never Better Off—Nothing Can Kill Prosperity But the Benumbing Glacier of Free Trade or a Wave of Anarchy.

President Taft, when in New York, September 24, gave a long interview to the newspapers in which he discussed fully the campaign issues.

This is the interview in part: "Mr. President, have you visited the 'Chamber of Horrors' in Union Square, where the burdens upon living under the high tariff are illustrated?"

"No, but a New York friend told me a little incident in regard to it worth remembering. According to the story told me, the exhibition includes a number of articles of clothing tagged with the prices, and an alleged statement of what the articles would cost with the tariff duties deducted. I understand that a number of establishments engaged in the manufacture of clothing are situated in the neighborhood, and a working man, evidently from one of those establishments, strolled at the noon hour into the exhibition. Looking about him he noticed a coat bearing a price tag, and indicating what the cost of the coat would be without a tariff duty. 'Why,' he remarked, 'that would bring the price of the coat lower than what I get for making one. At that rate where would I come in?' It is hardly necessary to say that he would not 'come in' at all, unless willing to work for one-half to one-fifth of his present pay for making a coat.

"The policy of the Republican party is not to shut out foreign manufactures, but to foster domestic manufactures and to keep the American workman employed.

"The tariff should be revised so far as may be necessary to keep prices from being exorbitant, so that, as I have explained in my speech of acceptance, the manufacturer shall secure only enough protection to pay the scale of high wages which obtains and ought to obtain in this country, and secure a reasonable profit from the business."

"What do you think, Mr. President, of the proposal of the third term party to control the trusts through Federal incorporation and regulation?"

"It would create the most monstrous monopoly of power in the history of the world—a power as much greater, as much more autocratic, than that of a Caesar or a Napoleon, as the business interests of the twentieth century are greater, more dominant and far reaching than were those of two thousand or one hundred years ago.

"The Payne law has had no more to do with advancing the cost of living than the latest Atlantic cable tariff. On the contrary, it has enabled the American worker to meet the cost of living and maintain his family in comfort.

"Under the operation of that law prosperity has been gradually restored since the panic of 1907. Practically every able-bodied man who is willing to work has work, and in some of the large industrial centres, as well as in other parts of the country, the demand for labor far exceeds the supply. City hotels have been thronged with buyers from all sections of the Union, who report ready sales and empty shelves, and are eager purchasers of goods to replenish their stores. Farmers were never better off. Every legitimate industry is looking forward to still greater prosperity, provided the nation's progress shall not be halted by the benumbing glacier of free trade or the destructive lava stream of anarchy.

"I have not changed in the slightest my view as to the necessity of monetary reform, or of the great value and importance of the work done by the Monetary Commission, of which former Senator Aldrich was chairman.

"It is a reform necessary in the interest of all the people and must be carried through according to some practical and efficient plan that will remedy the gross inadequacy and marked imperfections of our banking and currency system.

"There has been no intervention in Nicaragua. Under conditions of anarchy, accompanied by acts of ruthless barbarity, American marines were landed at the request and with the consent of the lawful Government of Nicaragua to assist in protecting the lives and property of Americans and other foreigners. There was no invasion, no levying war. Common humanity dictated the course that has been pursued."

"What is your attitude, Mr. President, on the woman suffrage question?"

"Suffrage for women is an issue to be decided by the States, and there can be no doubt whatever that whenever and wherever a majority of women impress upon their fathers, their

husbands, sons, brothers and bear that they want to vote they will get the right to vote."

"Do you regard the recall of judges, Mr. President, as an issue in this campaign?"

"I regard the maintenance of an independent judiciary as a supreme issue, and I thoroughly agree with the American Bar Association that the recall applied to judges would tend to deprive the public of judges of ability, character, high sense of duty and a due regard to enlightened public sentiment, and that such a judiciary is absolutely necessary to the existence of a constitutional democracy."

"What are your views, Mr. President, in regard to immigration?"

"There are both room and opportunity in the United States for immigrants of wholesome physique, industrious habits and good moral character. I hope that when the Panama Canal is opened the tide of immigration from Europe will flow through to the Pacific States, which are very sparsely settled in view of their vast extent and magnificent natural resources."

"It is reported, Mr. President, that Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor, has sent out circulars to labor unions attacking your administration as hostile to organized labor."

"I have not seen the circulars you mention, but if the statement is correct Mr. Gompers is as much in error as he was four years ago, when he proposed to deliver the whole labor vote to Mr. Bryan.

"I appreciate," added Mr. Taft, "Gov. Wilson's courteous and respectful personal attitude toward my office and toward me. As to his statement about my being misled by 'bad advisers,' I wish him and every one to understand that I have been and will continue to the end of my term President of the United States in all that the title implies, that I am responsible for every act of my administration and have no burden to shift on others."

TAFT CONFIDENT OF RE-ELECTION

Convincing Indications That the Republican Party is Still Dominant

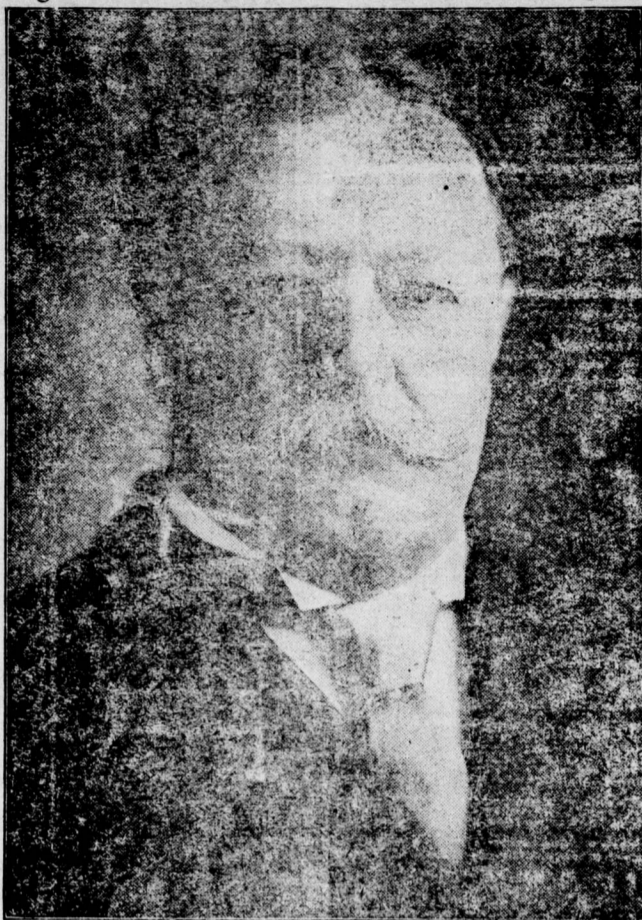
When President Taft was visiting his brother in New York a few days ago the newspaper reporters called upon him. After a pleasant chat the President made a formal statement of his views on the political situation:

"When I declared, a few weeks ago, that I felt reasonably sure of my own re-election in November, and the success of the Republican Party, I was regarded by some, as entirely over sanguine, and unaware of the situation. Today, however, after a number of indications that the Republican Party is still the dominant party, and that the expected growth of Democratic strength has failed to materialize, my early declaration is shown to be entitled to respect. The Republicans necessarily will have a reduced majority over 1908 because of the presence of three tickets in the field, but the Democratic party will suffer, also. The combined strength of the Third Term party will not be enough to change the ultimate result.

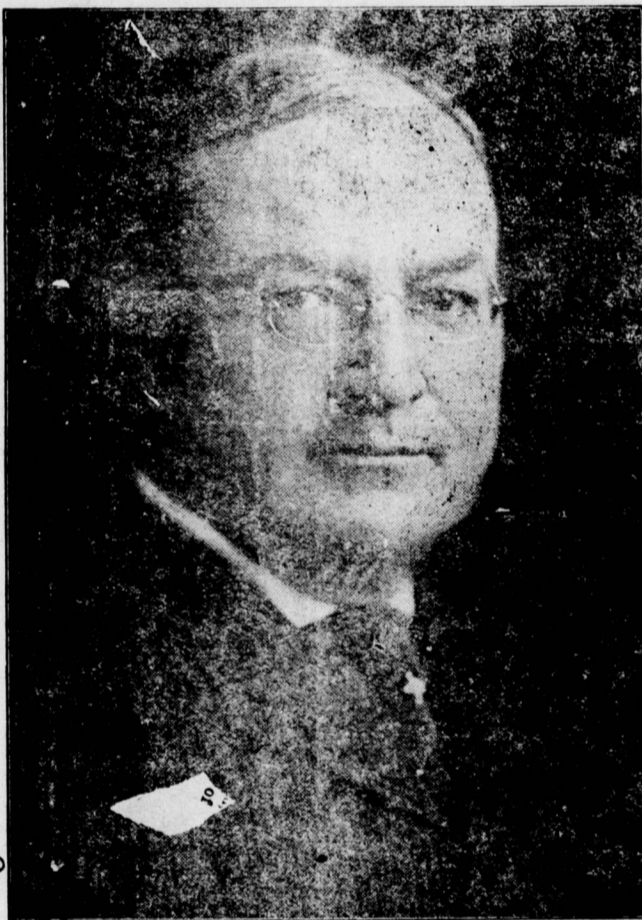
"Five or six weeks ago it was asserted generally that the Republican Party would secure the vote of the Solid East, including all of the New England States, with the exception of Maine and Vermont that the Democratic Party would maintain its hold on the Solid South, and that the Third Term party would secure the Solid West, leaving only the Middle West as debatable ground. Today, with the election still one month away, the Republican Party finds itself with a strengthened hold on the Solid East, having routed the Third Term party in Vermont, and the Democratic Party in Maine. The Third Term leaders recently conceded that we would pick the State of Utah out of the Solid West, and, after conferring with Chairman Hilles and others recently in the West, there is every reason to believe that the Republican Party will carry Michigan, Washington, Idaho and Wyoming. Moreover, if the proper kind of a campaign is waged, we will carry Oregon, Kansas and Minnesota, where the Third Term strength has rapidly waned since the recent tour through that section by the party's candidate.

"I am not familiar with the developments in other Western States, although many good reports have come to me at Beverly concerning them, but even with the States already mentioned it can be seen that there is no longer a Solid West back of the new party, but, more nearly, a Solid West reunited in support of the Republican ticket. This strength, added to the indisputable hold on the Eastern States, constitutes, in itself, a sufficient strength to give success to the party.

"It is scarcely necessary for me to point to the necessity of re-establishing a Republican majority in the House of Representatives. If this is done, I feel confident that I will be able to have placed on the statute books the workmen's compensation law which I urged upon the session, but which was sent into oblivion by the Democratic House. If the country will give the Republican Party a complete victory in its congressional, as well as its Presidential, ticket, a proper tariff revision will be speedily effected, with knowledge of the facts ascertained by a tariff commission, which will harm no one and remove its present defects."



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BUSINESS IS GOOD



—Bronstrup in San Francisco Post

Just to be on the safe side, Arkansas voted down all the proposed constitutional changes, some of which were good and some bad. Arkansas takes its reform straight of not at all.

The destruction of the famous mosque of Constantinople will suggest another opportunity for American wealth to help Europe take care of its art treasures.

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—Morris in Spokane Spokesman-Review
John Bull: H'oh, Sammy, you can't allow your bloomin' ships to pass through your Panama Canal without payin' a toll, don'tcha know.
Uncle Sam: No?
John Bull: H'oh, yeah, no!



NEWS ITEM: Bacon intimidated in the Senate that the Republican chances in the campaign would be enhanced should the country be plunged into war; the result of the disturbance in Nicaragua is Mexico.