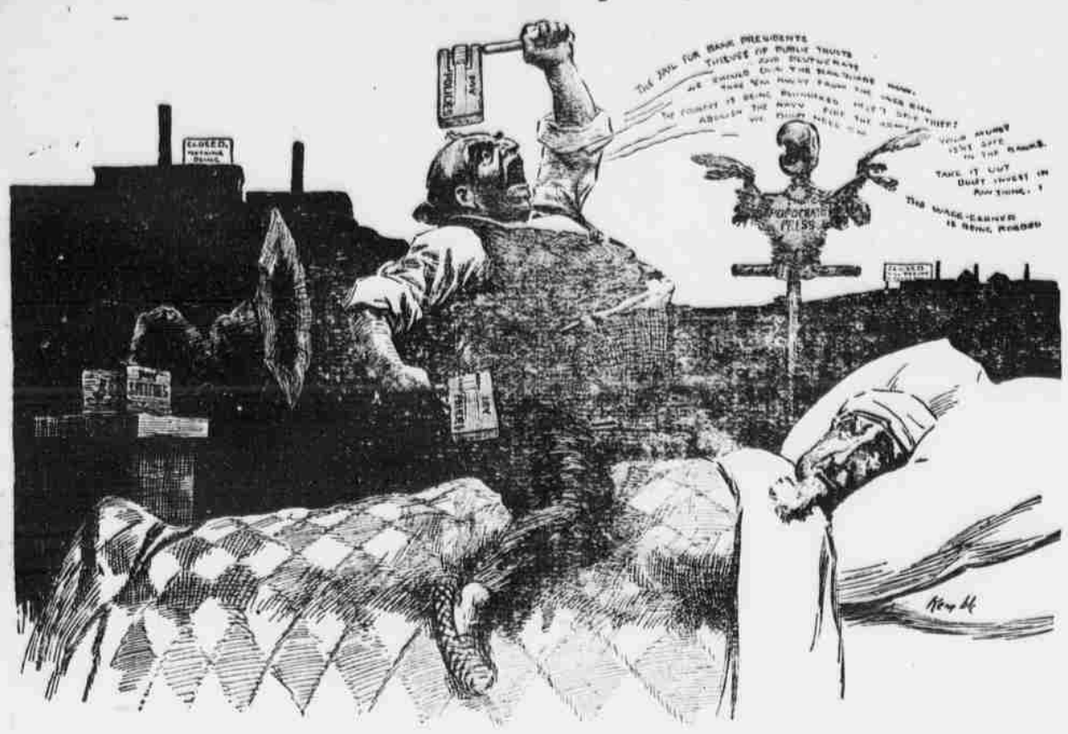
What Four Years of Bryan Would Mean.



Uncle Sam—If somebody would only chloroform him and let me have a much needed rest!—Harper's Weekly.

TRIBUTE TO MR. TAFT

How China Apologized For the American Boycott.

JUDGE SIGNALLY HONORED.

Recognition of His Efforts to Bring About Remission of Boxer Indemnity. National Friendship Reaffirmed and Commercial Amity Restored.

It was through Mr. Taft, when he was in Shanghai last fall, that the Chinese apologized for the American boycott that was instituted in the kingdom a few years ago and expressed their appreciation of the remission by our government of the indemnity granted because of the Boxer rebellion. When it became known that Mr. Taft was coming to Shanghai representatives of all the Chinese guilds in the city met and arranged to give him a suitable reception. The guilds in China control every branch of commercial activity and united form in every city and community a thoroughly representative body. Each of the scores of guilds in Shanghai took part in the demonstration to Mr. Taft. For the purpose the beautiful Yuyuen gardens in Bubbling Well road were obtained. Governmental cognizance of the greeting to Mr. Taft was through the vicarious participation of Tuan Fang, viceroy of the Liangkiang province, in which Shanghai is. The viceroy ordered his representative, the taotai tong, to spare no expense in arranging a suitable reception for Mr. Taft and to present the bills to him.

Americans long resident in Shanghai agreed that no such signal honors had ever been paid to another foreigner by the Chinese. A heavy rainfall, which began the previous night, threatened to mar or wholly prevent the garden party. At great cost and an expenditure of labor the committee completely roofed over with canvas a good share of the gardens, including long walks and paths, so that Mr. Taft and the other guests were enabled to move about freely, fully protected from the storm.

All of the speakers referred to the obligations under which China had been laid by the remission of the Boxer indemnity and the contributions made by Americans for the relief of victims of the recent famine in China. Mr. Taft was cheered and applauded for several minutes when he said:

"When I was here a little more than two years ago there was just a little bit of mist, a little bit of fog, in the clear sunshine of our friendship. But we gave assurances at that time which I am glad to say have been carried out on the one hand, and on the other there is every evidence that the mist has cleared away. The boycott is a thing of the past. It is a closed episode."

Two young Chinese ladies bore forward a massive silver bowl and presented it to Mr. Taft as a memento of his visit. The bowl, which was a rare specimen of Chinese silver work, was inscribed, "Presented to the Honorable William H. Taft, Secretary of War of the United States of America, as a Memento of the Garden Party Given In His Honor by the Chinese Residents of Shanghai."

Copious comments were printed by the eastern press upon the reception by the Chinese to Mr. Taft and its significance as a tribute to the man and as a renewal of the old time bonds of amity between the nations.

"BILLY BRYAN."

By REV. HY J. BOATMAN.

[No tune.]

Billy Bryan, Billy Bryan,
Still a-tryin', still a-tryin',
Vainly tryin';
Thrice before us like a chorus,
Jackass chorus most uproarious,
Tried to floor us.

Billy Bryan, Billy Bryan,
Far too high your kite's a-flyin'—
Wind's allayin'.
Cease to mouth us, cease to mouth us.
Jackass discords don't affright us,
Only rouse us.

Billy Bryan, Billy Bryan,
Vainly cryin' like one dyin'—
Calf a-dyin'.
Once you'd give us halves for whole uns—
Silver dollars, them sixteen uns,
For our gold uns.

Billy Bryan, Bill'y Bryan,
Give up tryin'; quit your tryin'.
Call your "cry" in.
Once you hitched the ass and monkey.
Now you'd ride that poor old donkey—
Played out donkey.

Billy Bryan, Billy Bryan,
Forces routed, forces flyin',
Still you're tryin';
Still you're pleadin' like a lover,
Oft rejected for another,
Better brother.

Billy Bryan, Billy Bryan,
You're a good un; you're a lion
(Little chained un),
But your roarin' sounds too chaffy—
'Deed it's daffy. Give us Taft-y!
Give us Taft-y!
T-A-F-T!

—Fullerton, Cal., September, 1908. Copyright Applied For.

Campaigning In 1908.

[From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.]

The train comes whizzing down the track
And halts amid the cheers,
And on the platform at the back
The candidate appears.

And then the engine hoarsely shrieks
His words are far from plain.
And then the engine hoarsely shrieks
And drags away the train.

LABOR MOVEMENT IS NONPARTISAN.

Daniel J. Keefe, Sixth Vice President of the A. F. of L., Insists That President Gompers Has Been Misrepresented and Denies That Any Attempt Has Been Made to Swing Labor Vote to Bryan.

TAFT A FRIEND OF LABORING MAN.

"We insist that the labor movement shall remain as free and independent from political domination as it has ever been in its history."

That sentence is the keynote to a statement made by Daniel J. Keefe of Detroit, Mich., president of the International Longshoremen, Marine and Transport Workers' association and sixth vice president of the American Federation of Labor.

In his statement, which he made in answer to a query from the editor of the Buffalo Republic, Mr. Keefe says:

"I desire to say that the American Federation of Labor is not committed to any political party, nor has any candidate for president been indorsed by the executive council.

"I am of the belief that the general public does not fully understand the position of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor in the present campaign. The policy of the labor movement is nonpartisan and is as follows:

"We desire to refute here the aspersions that have been cast upon the executive council and particularly one of its members, President Gompers, that it is our purpose or his to dictate to the working people of our country how they shall cast their votes in the coming elections, nor has any one promised the vote of the working people to any particular party. We have strongly, clearly and emphatically, as it was our duty, presented the situation in which the working people of the country find themselves, the demands which labor has made upon both political parties as to necessary action, which they should take, the treatment they have received, and have appealed to the judgment and patriotism of the working people and the friends of labor throughout the country, since both political parties have spoken, to make their choice as their conscience may dictate.

"The misrepresentation of newspapers and others to the contrary notwithstanding, we repeat and insist, and we have so conducted and propose to so conduct our course, that the labor movement shall remain as free and independent from political domination as it has ever been in its history.

"The foregoing does not commit the American Federation of Labor to any political party and is nonpartisan, which permits union men to vote for whom they may please for president and other offices without fear of criticism. All of which I heartily indorse.

"Some of the members of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor no doubt will support and vote for Mr. Bryan, which is their individual right. I shall support and vote for Mr. Taft, who was admitted to membership in the International Brotherhood of Steam Shovel and Dredge Men on account of his strong advocacy of the enforcement of the eight hour law on all government work coming under the jurisdiction of the war department, and if the eight hour day did not become an established fact in connection with dredge work it was the fault of the workmen and not the fault of the secretary of war.

"I might add further that Mr. Taft, as secretary of war, has done more to inforce laws in favor of organized labor than all his predecessors."

HINTS FOR FARMERS

Common Fowls Unprofitable.

The farmers who are careless regarding the kind of fowls to keep pay well for their indifference, says a writer in Commercial Poultry. They must content themselves with the belief that "one fowl is as good as another," but they are governed by old customs and usages instead of experience. Compared with common fowls, the pure breeds are more useful; they lay more eggs; some varieties come to maturity sooner; they are far more quiet generally; at maturity the cockerels make fine birds and the pullets good winter layers. Flocks of common kinds noticed on some farms cause loss to their owners and are a drawback to any farm in these days of progress and improvement. It costs but little to begin with pure breeds, and in one year the farmer can have a handsome flock of nice, thrifty, useful breeders that will give satisfaction and pay liberally for their keeping.

Filling the Silo.

When the silo first came into use it was thought necessary to fill it with very green, succulent growth, says American Agriculturist. This is now known to be an erroneous idea, and the silo is regarded much as a storeroom or food preserver, the value of the ensilage depending to a very great extent on the nutritive value of the crop with which the silo is filled. To this end it is advisable that the corn shall have reached a degree of ripeness indicated by rather hard, well dented or glazed kernels and partially dried husks before it is placed in the silo. There is a week or ten days when the ears are in this condition and the stalks still contain sufficient sap to cause the silage to pack well in the silo. It is even better to add a little water to accomplished the latter purpose than to cut the crop before it has attained its full feeding value.

Advertising Farms.

Advertising combined with intelligence and enterprise will do more to elevate the farmer and give deserved prominence to his occupation than any other factor. In fact, many advantages are enjoyed at the present time by the most progressive farmers, who may be recognized by the advertising which they do in one way or another.

The first step in agricultural advertising is to make the farm a respectable place of business and one which will incite patronage. The farm should be christened with a suitable name and its stock and produce marketed under the name of the farm as well as the name of the proprietor. The stock and produce should have a specific trademark to distinguish it in name as well as in quality and to induce buyers to become permanent customers.—Professor Hornbury, Wisconsin Agricultural College.

Precautions Against Hog Cholera.

The greatest care should be exercised to keep the infection from entering healthy herds. If the disease is in the immediate locality stray dogs should not be allowed in the hog lots or pastures. To eliminate as much as possible infection from birds, the hogs should be fed in covered inclosures. Stockmen and buyers should not be allowed to enter the premises without first thoroughly disinfecting the shoes with some germicidal solution, as carbolic acid. The hogs should under no consideration have access to a stream which is fed from water running through other farms. No newly purchased hogs should be placed with the general herd until they have been quarantined for two or three weeks. Plenty of air slaked lime should be used about the hog houses and feeding places. — Kansas Experiment Station Bulletin.

Jap Insect Kills Gypsy Moths.

One of the most promising enemies of the gypsy moth is a small parasite brought from Japan. This little insect lays its eggs on the caterpillars. The young hatch and burrow into the caterpillar, soon causing its death. The young insects then attack other caterpillars in the same way, destroying large numbers. The Japanese insect seems to be firmly established here and promises good results by another season. In Japan the gypsy moth is successfully held in check by the parasite, and it is not too much to hope that it will do as well in this country.

Bees on the Farm.

Every farmer should keep a few hives of bees, not only for the honey which they will produce, but to increase the yield of his fruit bearing trees and plants. Very often the failure of a fruit crop is due to insufficient pollenization. It is said that the yield of alfalfa seed may be increased by the presence of bees. There are many apparently small and unimportant things which the alert farmer may do, all or any of which will make life on the farm more pleasant and profitable.

Selection of Seed Corn.

The season for selecting seed corn is now at hand. In no way can the quality and quantity of a crop of corn be so easily increased as by care in the selection of seed and in caring for it through the winter. Corn as easily as live stock can be bred to type. Select well matured ears of the type desired and store them in a warm, dry place. The results will more than pay for the trouble.—Farmers Advocate.

The Profitable Hen.

The hen that lays 200 eggs a year is the one that pays for her keep and leaves a good margin of profit to her owner. She is in the same class as the cow that makes fifteen pounds of butter a week.

Bulgaria as a Storm Center.

Among all the Balkan countries Bulgaria seems to be best prepared to do something decisive when the time is ripe for political change. Conditions have improved there since the powers at the Berlin conference thirty years ago placed its destinies in the hands of Turkey. The people want to be free and twenty years ago made a good fight against Turkey. In that struggle they lacked the sympathy of a strong European power. A free and independent Bulgaria must, of course, complicate the politics of eastern Europe.

The Russians have never ceased to plot for the control of Bulgarian politics. Russia covets a southern outlet to the sea and needs a strong power which she can dominate in that region to defend her pass. Russian intriguers drove the predecessor of Prince Ferdinand, Alexander, from power and later forced Bulgaria's greatest statesman, Stambuloff, from the office of prime minister and then shot him down in the streets like a dog. It is probable that when the "psychological moment" arrives Russia will bring forward one of the czar's kin to occupy the throne created by Bulgaria's proclamation of independence. The dominant passion of the Bulgarians for the past generation has been political freedom. They have sacrificed everything to raise a good army and have long been prepared to put 200,000 to 300,000 men in the field. Their officers have had German training, and their military equipment is modern. The men of education in Bulgaria were taught in Germany, and there are practically three interests at work in the state—the native element, yearning for freedom, and Russia and Austria, each wishing to dominate Bulgarian politics. The chief intriguers in the Bulgarian mess are agents of Russia, the court influence is keyed on the wishes of the Austrian emperor, and the natives want to be free of all princes and rule themselves. Before they attain their ideal the land will probably be drenched with blood and become another Poland, a bone for big powers to fight over. All the world must wish that whichever way Balkan affairs are settled the Bulgarians shall not be held up on their march of progress.

The Common Brick.

In a recent publication treating of our mineral resources and issued by the geological survey considerable attention is given to the common brick. Here at least is a natural resource which is not likely to be soon exhausted. Good clay for brick is found in every state of the Union, and the annual product of the whole country ranges up to nearly $20,000,000. Last year the two states leading in this industry, New York and Illinois, produced nearly 3,000,000,000 brick, having a market value of $13,500,000. The average price of brick for the whole country in 1907 was $6 per thousand.

It has been supposed that concrete was destined to drive brick out of general use. For foundations to frame buildings concrete is much used as a substitute for brick in regions where it is produced in convenient form. But concrete is still on trial among conservative people. The cheap concrete building block has not been thoroughly tested for structures higher than two stories. Even with concrete as a competitor brick must hold its own. It can be produced near where it is wanted, and this is a saving on cost. Materials for concrete are not so well distributed over the land, or if they are the beds are yet to be discovered. In value brick constitutes approximately 40 per cent of all our clay products.

Boosting Good Books.

Decadent taste in reading is not confined to any country it seems. Complaints are common here that the people read too much trash, and recently some educators in England have taken up the subject with a view to improving the stock on the public library shelves. Now from Germany comes a report of a new plan to foster in people who have the reading habit a taste for good literature.

The German idea is to deliver to the home of every applicant at a nominal cost for use for one week a thrilling novel, certain to be read and appreciated. This is the bait. If a second book is ordered one of a higher class than the first will be sent, and the third, if called for, will be still better, and so on until the reader has desire for none but the best literature. We think sometimes that we have that stage of education to deal with here and that the dime novel and the "shilling shocker" create a reading appetite which will not be wholly satisfied until it feeds upon something substantial. If reading is only a phase of the eternal search for new sensations it is possible that the uplift can be applied to literature by the German plan with good results.

The history man says that the affinity business "flourished" 7,500 years ago. So did the warclub and ax.

Perhaps money won't transmit disease, but it can give a mighty big pain when it goes wrong.

TAFT IN THE ISLANDS

Why McKinley Sent the Judge to the Philippines.

STRONG, HONEST AND TACTFUL

Relinquished Certainty of Elevation to Supreme Bench at Call of Duty. Proved His Ability as a Nation Builder—A Real Altruist.

In the beginning of our occupation of the Philippines the problems there were military. Nothing of civil functions could be essayed until the rebellion had been put down. In the midst of this the first Philippine commission was sent out to look over the situation "as bearers of the blessings of a liberating rather than a conquering nation," as President McKinley wrote. The commissioners decided that it was a bad mess.

Mr. McKinley was advised to try to do nothing by civil power, but to give a military governor full sway. This would have been a fatal error. Any continuance of the military government beyond the time when its stern restrictions were required to induce peace and maintain it would still further have jeopardized the trust of the natives in our good faith. And it had already been so strained that it would stand no more tension.

The people at home, too, were growing thoroughly out of conceit with "the little brown brother." Our appetite had become sated of military conquest. Too many long, narrow boxes were shipped over sea and land for interment in village churchyards, too many mothers mourned sons, done to death by bullets or bolo, to support general conviction in the doctrine of expansion. We thought we had no prototype of Cromer, no giants of colonial administration upon whom Mr. McKinley might call to "lay the foundations of a superior civilization, with specific reference to the needs of the people to be governed and with definite reference to the welfare of the islands, both material and moral," as he had put it.

There was dearth of men wholly in harmony with the president's conception of what our national duty to the Filipinos comprised, who would constantly bear in mind that it was liberty they wanted, liberty that they should have, as Mr. McKinley had promised, pledging our faith as a nation—liberty, as he wrote, "of the whole Filipino people and not of a decimal fraction of them, who through the leadership of education and property have acquired a domination over the great mass."

Mr. Taft had not been thought of. If his sentiments on the Philippine question was known it was patent that he was neither a believer in Mr. McKinley's policy nor in our ethical right to be in the islands. Said the president one day to the then secretary of state, William R. Day, "I want a man who is strong, honest and tactful, a man of education and executive ability, a man who is fearless, but conservative, who will get along with the army people."

"Judge Taft fills the bill if he will take the job," said Mr. Day in a stroke of inspirational genius. They sent for Judge Taft, who was then on the supreme court bench, and told him what was wanted. He shook his head.

"I cannot be of use to you there, Mr. President," he answered. "I didn't want to take the Philippines. It was a mistake." The president regarded him musingly for a moment, then, "Nor did I want to take them," said he. "I had to. There was nothing else to do. We must build a new nation out there. I want you to help us."

Secretary of War Root added his persuasions. He showed both sides of the medal to Judge Taft. Perhaps he was motived more shrewdly than he affected, for he descanted upon the difficulties of the task compared with the congenial and relatively easy work that Judge Taft had upon the bench, with the almost ultimate certainty of being elevated to the supreme court. He must forego all this, said Mr. Root.

But what a chance offered in the Philippines to do, to create, to disprove the infallibility of some of England's pet theories of colonization, to bring into being a nation. Such arguments turned the tide. Judge Taft accepted one of those duties "which," to quote him, "is an entirety and not fulfilled until it is entirely fulfilled."

As he took ship, and always afterward, there was in his mind the concluding paragraph of the instructions given him by the president:

"A high and sacred obligation rests upon the government of the United States to give protection for property and life, civil and religious freedom and wise, firm and unselfish guidance in the paths of peace and prosperity to all the peoples of the Philippine Islands. I charge this commission to labor for the full performance of this obligation, which concerns the honor and conscience of their country, in the firm hope that through their labors all the people in the Philippines may come to look back with gratitude to the day when God gave victory to the American arms at Manila and set their land under the sovereignty and the protection of the people of the United States."

Altruistic, perhaps, but Mr. Taft is an altruist. It needed an altruist to compass the requirements specified in the quotation to the letter and pave the way for the fulfillment of Mr. McKinley's "firm hope," as Mr. Taft has done.

The Republicans will revise the tariff, and they will revise it so that no American workingman shall suffer loss of wages or pay more to fill his dinner pail.