

**BRYAN AND LINCOLN.**

While the grotesque something styled "Imperialism" is included in the rich and varied assortment of freak issues which Mr. Bryan offers to his countrymen this year, he is not urging it quite so vehemently as he did in 1900. In the campaign of that year he cheerfully assured his hearers that it was actually a live issue, a menace to free institutions, and could be overcome only by electing him to the Presidency. He declared, moreover, that if Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln were living they would recognize the acquisition of the Philippines by the United States as a step toward "Imperialism" and would oppose it with all their energy.

In his reckless zeal Mr. Bryan tried to make it appear that Jefferson was opposed to the very principle which found expression in the Louisiana Purchase. He perverted the utterances of Jackson in a tricky attempt to show that "Old Hickory" resisted the policy that led to the acquisition of Florida. And finally he deliberately misinterpreted the State papers of Lincoln in an endeavor to show that the Emancipator upheld the doctrine that the American Government has no right to suppress a revolt against its own authority, and if he were President at that time—1900—he would either withdraw the United States troops from the Philippines or order them to surrender to Aguinaldo, the leader of the Filipino insurrection.

Mr. Bryan's attempt to misrepresent the principles and purposes of Lincoln was the prize blunder of the ludicrous campaign of 1900. There was then, and happily still is, a living son of Lincoln who, in distinguished positions both public and private, has disclosed many of the rugged attributes of his martyred sire. Mr. Bryan's perversions of Lincoln's State papers were so flagrant and so frequently repeated that Hon. Robert F. Lincoln finally protested. He publicly and with great indignation denounced "the uses, inventions and distortions" to which his father's language had been subjected by the Democratic nominee, and expressed the confident belief that the people would judge them as they deserved. How completely that belief was justified at the polls is a matter of history.

To a man of fine sensibilities a rebuke like that from such a source would have been a staggering blow right between the eyes. Its effect upon Mr. Bryan was far less impressive. The only lesson he drew from it was even if a man knows history he is a fool to misquote it.

**BRYAN AND PENSIONS.**

In denying what he declares to be certain erroneous statements with respect to his attitude on the question of pensions for veteran soldiers and sailors and their survivors, William Jennings Bryan defines his position in these general terms: "I favor a liberal pension policy."

It is needless to refer to Mr. Bryan's record on the pension question. On this as on other issues—free trade alone excepted—his record is purely negative. His zealous support of the Wilson-Gorman tariff was in fact the only positive, aggressive act of his career in Congress, and in the history of the frightful industrial ruin which that measure caused Mr. Bryan's act is designated by a broad, indelible mark in black.

Nevertheless, while Mr. Bryan's record on pensions is insignificant and negligible, the record of his party is properly a matter for careful examination. It may be outlined and its tendency accurately indicated by a few facts derived from official sources.

During a single period of two years under the administration of President Cleveland 8694 pensioners were stricken from the rolls and 23,702 pensions were reduced. In the course of his two terms President Cleveland vetoed 524 pension bills, while President Grant during his two terms vetoed only five. Lincoln never vetoed one, nor did Hayes, Garfield, Arthur, Harrison or McKinley.

It is worth while to carry the inquiry a step further. The record in Congress on fourteen important pension measures prior to 1900 shows that 417 Democrats voted for these measures, while 648 Democrats voted against them. On the other hand, 1068 Republicans supported them, and not a single Republican was recorded against them!

With these facts to guide them the old soldiers will have no trouble whatever in determining where their interests lie in the present campaign. The Republican party, faithful to the nation's defenders in time of war, has been their steadfast friend and protector in time of peace. As against its honorable record in that respect we place the reproachful fact that the only Democrat to occupy the White House since the Civil War vetoed 524 pension bills while his seven Republican predecessors vetoed only five.

**TAFT SPEECHES INSPIRE CONFIDENCE.**

(From the Brooklyn Eagle.)  
The aggressive tone of Mr. Taft's speeches will soon put Mr. Bryan either upon a falling defensive or will drive him to an outburst of radicalism that will still further challenge the apprehension and affright the judgment of the country. The thoughtful jurist is playing the mischief with the mercurial Bohemian, and the man of Ohio who inspires confidence is destroying the vogue of the man of Nebraska, who inspires only the reverse.

It is the public interest, not the interest of any single or separate "interest," that demands the election of Taft and Sherman, as well as of a Republican Congress.

**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 a-layin';  
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, Billy Bryan,  
Give up tryin', quit your tryin',  
Call you "Cry in";  
Once you hatched 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.  
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**MR. TAFT AND THE EDITOR.**

When Mr. Taft was a young man there was a scallawag of the name of Rose running a miasmatic weekly paper in Cincinnati. It was an unhealthy sheet, given over to personal attacks, the printing of scandalous gossip and thinly veiled innuendoes. Rose was a fighting editor. He really could fight, and he stood ready to back up his articles with his fists. Also he consorted with bruisers, who constituted a bodyguard. The town was intimidated. His victims squirmed, but none of them cared to join issue with Rose.

Mr. Taft did it. Rose would have been all right had he possessed sufficient witom to keep the point of his pen away from Judge Taft. But he did not. So he was forced to take the consequences, which came in a hurry in the shape of a substantial apparition of 250 pounds, white-mad, with locked jaws and a shimmer like that of cold steel flashing from his blue eyes. Rose weighed nearly as much as Taft, so no advantage was taken of him.

"Are you Rose?" demanded Mr. Taft. Rose barely had time to wag his head affirmatively and insolently when he was jolted severely on the jaw, hurled to the street, and, overborne by the weight of the Nemesis from Mount Auburn, was forced to submit to having his face literally ground into the dirt. "If you'll leave town to-night I'll let you up," offered Mr. Taft, when the grinding process had proceeded as far as he deemed it should. Rose promised. "Mind," cautioned Taft, "I am coming downtown again to-night, and if you're still here you'll think that this thing has only just begun."

Rose did leave that night, and Cincinnati saw him no more for a term. He went somewhere to lead a better life, and did it, so much so that when he finally did return to the city he felt impelled to hunt up Mr. Taft and assure him that he harbored no animosity. He also explained one or two things.

"I knew there was trouble coming my way when you asked me my name," said Rose, "and I thought I was ready for you. I was waiting for you to hit, and then I was going to eat you up because, you know, I could fight some myself. But you fooled me. You hit out with your left hand. An amateur always strikes with his right first, and I'd figured that you wouldn't do anything different. But over came that left of yours and caught me."

They say that Mr. Taft's roars of laughter as Rose offered this explanation could be heard over half of Cincinnati.

**BRYAN CAN'T GET AWAY FROM HIS SHADOW.**

There is a famous story about a man who sold his shadow to the devil, and was haunted through life by the fact that he was different from all others of human kind in being without a shadow.

Bryan is quite different from the hero, or victim, of that story. He wants to get away from his shadow—the shadow of the record he has made as a champion of free silver and a fifty-cent dollar, of free trade and abandonment of the Philippines, of Government ownership of the railroads and other more or less disordered fads and fancies, which have accumulated from campaign to campaign, until now they loom up as the most remarkable aggregation of political monstrosities that ever amazed and appalled the American people.

Bryan cannot get away from the shadow of his past, beat the air as he may. It is part of him, and he must be judged by it as well as by the later vagaries which he would fain have considered as his sole political outfit. There is only one Bryan, and his shadow will not be buried out of sight until both Bryan and his past shall be snowed under in November by the ballots of American freemen electing Taft and Sherman President and Vice-President of the United States.

**FROM SECRETARY ROOT'S SARGATOGA SPEECH.**

Mr. Bryan charges that the Republican party is responsible for the abuses of corporate wealth. As well might he charge that the man who plants cotton is responsible for the boll weevil, or that the man who plants fruit trees is responsible for the San Jose scale.

Until the millennium has brought the eradication of human selfishness and greed, social abuses will come according to the shifting conditions of the times.

Perhaps Senator Bailey could cast a little oil on the troubled waters.

**A JESTER WHO WOULD BE KING.**



Wellington

**LABOR MOVEMENT IS NON-PARTISAN**

**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.**

New York, October.—"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 endorsed 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 non-partisan, 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 election, 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 non-partisan, which permits union men to vote for whom they may please for President and other officers, without fear of criticism. All of which I heartily endorse.

"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 enforce laws in favor of organized labor than all his predecessors.

**WHEN THE ACTORS CAME TO YALE**

During the last reunion of Mr. Taft's class in Yale some one recalled the advent into New Haven of "Count" George Johannes, histrion, and his leading lady, "Virginia, so tall and so fair." The Count was reputed to be an actor. He was strong in Richard III. The class of '78 took him to its collective heart in the role, witnessing the performance from a block of reserved seats in the front of the house. They liked the show, particularly because the Count's tin armor provided a surpassing target for beanshooters. The '78 men were good shots, and the Count that night

read his lines to the accompaniment of beans impinging against his helmet and cuirass until it sounded like a professional rifle shot ringing a continuous tattoo of bull's-eyes. But when the boys carried their appreciation of artistic worth so far as to endeavor to draw the fair Virginia to her lodgings in her carriage it required the arguments of the constables to dissuade them.

Mr. Taft is first, last and all the time a Yale man. His father's four brothers, himself and his son Robert are all Yale men and his youngest son, Charles P. Jr., is going to be when he gets big enough.

**WILLIAM H. TAFT'S FATHER.**

Admirable Traits in the Parent of the Republican Standard Bearer Which Descended to Son.

Persistence, industry, justice, clear sightedness, all the inestimable legacies of birth handed down by Judge Alphonso Taft to his son William, were dominant and determining qualities in the elder Taft's own career.

The place of his nativity was a farm near Townshend, Vt. The austere, delving round of farm life of more than a generation ago was his portion until the voice within him, the innate hunger for knowledge, for a progression, spoke and stirred him to ambitions for an education, to a future living to be earned with his head, rather than his hands. The Tafts were folk in only moderate circumstances. So Alphonso taught school in winter, worked in the fields in summer and saved up his money until he had enough to bridge the hiatus 'twixt income and outgo during a course at Amherst. His plans were deflected for some reason, and he chose Yale for his alma mater instead. He was graduated in 1833.

Another season of toil and saving and he was financially equipped for the course that turned him out a finished lawyer in 1838. Cincinnati, a raw, unshaped town, with a problematical future, needed men like Alphonso Taft in the fourth decade of the last century. He settled there, and his law office speedily became a centre of legal and civic interests, in which Judge Taft invariably took a commanding part.

An intensely human man he was, "of imposing presence, dignity and refinement," as has been written of him, "unostentatious, kindly and gentle, yet of a strong and forcible character, which won for him respect, confidence and love." Almost identically the same enumeration of traits would serve for the son. He zealously championed the cause of education, especially the common school system.

A pioneer in his sensing of what means of land transportation meant to Cincinnati, he strove to encourage the building of railroads as a complement to the advantages of Cincinnati. It was he who successfully argued before the Supreme Court of the United States the claim of the city for the estate of Charles McKim, which was the start of the endowment fund for the University of Cincinnati. He was Judge of the Superior Court of Ohio, as his son was after him, and like him was also Secretary of War and Attorney-General of the United States under President Grant. Later he represented his country as Minister to Austria and Russia.

**MR. TAFT REGISTERS.**

The Republican Presidential candidate shows he is a good citizen by going home to register. The registration place was in a plumbing shop. He was catechised thus by the registry clerk:

"How old are you?"  
"Fifty-one."  
"How many years have you lived in the State of Ohio?"  
"Fifty-one."  
"How many in the country?"  
"Fifty-one."  
"How many years in the precinct?"  
"Twelve."  
"Married?"  
"Yes."

The distinguished citizen then signed the registry book "Wm. Howard Taft."

It is apparent that the private correspondence of Judge Taft can stand the sunlight of publicity.

Every subsequent fact has refuted every economic theory ever advocated by Bryan.

**MR. TAFT AND THE ROOSEVELT POLICIES**

**President Roosevelt's Battle Won, His Policies Have Reached the Constructive Stage.**

**NO BACKWARD STEP POSSIBLE**

As President Mr. Taft Will Be as Loyal to the Roosevelt Policies as the Needle is to the Pole—Under His Regime Will Be Harmony, Prosperity and a Long Period of Development of Enterprise and of National and Individual Progress.

When Washington gave up command of the army because there was no more fighting to do, and turned over to others the continuance along peaceful lines of the work which he had carried on amid the thunder of cannon and by bayonet charges, it was not pretended that there was any change in the purposes which actuated the American people or their leaders. The aim of all was to establish on an indelible footing the independence of the United States and to make the Republic united and respected abroad and at home. When hostilities ceased methods were changed, but the policies were the same, although they now assumed a constructive form.

When President Roosevelt took the stand that no person, no corporation, was above the laws of the United States, he aroused an opposition hardly less formidable than was with a foreign enemy, and he had to take measures to compel obedience to law which seemed more strenuous and aggressive than they really were because of the clamor raised by those who were forced to take their choice between surrender to the requirements of law or legal punishment for disobedience. It is a well known fact that a wrong long perpetrated with impunity comes to be regarded, by the offender at least, as a right, and disturbance in his lawbreaking is, in his view, the greater wrong. Such was the attitude not only of powerful wrongdoers, but also of a large part of the public who had so long endured fraud, extortion and oppression at the hands of law-defying corporations that they had learned to accept these evils as matters of course, out of the reach of legal processes that applied to ordinary lawbreakers. To change all this required supreme courage, a firm resolve, and an indifference to unjust criticism and studied misrepresentation.

Present conditions more than justify the so-called Roosevelt policies. It can be said without fear of responsible contradiction that there is not in the United States to-day a corporation of importance enough to be within public view that openly defies the law. Retaking its course, or where carried on, is conducted with the same secrecy as counterfeiting, or any other crime, the perpetrators of which look for prompt punishment to follow detection. The orders of the Interstate Commerce Commission are obeyed, where not suspended by appeals to the courts. There is evidence that former offenders have generally come to the conclusion that it is best for them, from every point of view, to be in the right, so far as compliance with the law is concerned, and most important of all—the public have been fully aroused from apathetic indifference to lively interest in the enforcement of law against "malefactors of great wealth."

Mr. Taft will face an entirely different situation from that which confronted President Roosevelt. The Roosevelt policies are now in the constructive stage, and Mr. Taft, as he has shown in the Philippines and at Panama, and in his varied duties as Secretary of War, is eminently a constructive statesman. There will be no going backward; no reaction toward the toleration of offenses which President Roosevelt has justly made odious; but there will probably be little occasion for severity now that those who defied the law have been chastened into the conviction that it does not pay, that neither the Government nor the people will stand for unlawful methods in business, and that, as the old saying has it, honesty is the best policy.

Mr. Taft, as President, will be as loyal to the Roosevelt policies as the needle to the pole, but he will not have the same problems to confront, or rather, not the same phase of the same problems. He will be in a position not dissimilar from that which he took when he went to administer the Philippines, after the hard fighting had been done, and the battle won. But if any corporation, or individual, however powerful and wealthy, should dare to raise his hand in the same spirit of defiance that once prevailed, against the laws of the United States, that corporation or individual would find in Taft another Roosevelt.

Indications all point, however, to harmony and prosperity under the Taft regime, to a long period of development, of enterprise and of national and individual progress. The "Roosevelt policies" will bear rich fruit in the achievements resulting from the impulse given to individual effort and fair competition by the proof that those policies were not merely for a day but for all time, and that every citizen is to have equal opportunity in the pursuit of wealth and happiness. The election of Mr. Taft will give assurance and stimulus to every form of legitimate business, because everyone will feel secure in the possession of those legal rights which President Roosevelt has striven so manfully to vindicate, and which President Taft will not less manfully defend.

Mr. Roosevelt caused it to be denied that he would go on the stump, but he spoke to the entire Nation, just the same!

Experience and association are the first-class qualifications of Judge Taft for popular promotion to the Presidency.