

REPUBLICAN PARTY AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION

Present Administration Originated Policy Destined to Be Productive of Great Good to Country's Home Builders.

MR. TAFT IN FULL SYMPATHY

He is the Great American Who Typifies the Independence and the Constructive Genius of American Home Owners—Future Potent With Still Greater Undertakings if Republicans Can Continue Their Constructive Regime.

An extremely important feature of the constructive Republican policy is the national move for the conservation of the natural resources of the country. This measure has been originated by the present Republican Administration and, like the Homestead law, the National Irrigation act and other measures for the benefit of the whole people, its success is destined to be far-reaching and productive of great good to the home builders of the country.

The National Conservation Commission as it exists to-day is an outgrowth of the Inland Waterways Commission—this commission was appointed by President Roosevelt in March, 1907. In his letter creating the Waterways Commission the President uses this language: "That the Inland Waterways Commission shall consider the relations of the streams to the use of all the permanent natural resources and their conservation for the making and maintenance of prosperous homes."

Home Building For the People.

The inquiries of the commission along the lines indicated led to the proposal of the President on October 3 that he call a conference on the general subject of the conservation of the national resources of the nation. Among other reasons mentioned for this movement the letter to the President stated: "Hitherto our national policy has been one of almost unrestricted disposal of natural resources, and this in more lavish measure than in any other nation in the world's history, and this policy of the Federal Government has been shared by the constituent States. Three consequences have ensued: First, unprecedented consumption of natural resources; second, exhaustion of these resources to the extent that a large part of our available public lands have passed into great estates or corporate interests, our forests are so far depleted as to multiply the cost of forest products, and our supplies of coal and iron ore are so far reduced as to enhance prices, and, third, unequalled opportunity for private monopoly, to the extent that both the Federal and State sovereignties have been compelled to enact laws for the protection of the people.

"We are of opinion that the time has come for considering the policy of conserving these natural resources on which the permanent prosperity of our country and the equal opportunity of all our people must depend; we are also of opinion that the policy of conservation is so marked an advance on that policy adopted at the outset of our national career as to demand the consideration of both Federal and State sponsors for the welfare of the people."

The Constructive Leaven-at Work.

In his address before the Lakes-to-the-Gulf Deep Waterways Association at Memphis President Roosevelt announced his intention of calling such a conference, and on November 13 he issued invitations to the Governors of all States and Territories to meet at the White House May 13-15, 1908. In this letter he said: "Recently I declared there is no other question now before the nation of equal gravity with the question of the conservation of our natural resources, and I added that it is the plain duty of us who for the moment are responsible to take inventory of the natural resources which have been handed down to us to forecast the needs of the future and so handle the great sources of our prosperity as not to destroy in advance all hope of the prosperity of our descendants."

This conference was held, President Roosevelt presided and the practical conservation work was properly launched.

Taft to Direct the Work.

Mr. Taft is in thorough sympathy with this movement to build homes for the people and to make them more attractive. He is the great American who typifies the independence and the constructive genius of the American home builder. There is an innate desire in the heart of the Anglo-Saxon American to own a home. Mr. Taft recognizes the inherent yearning of the common people apparent on every page of history to own in fee simple some portion of the earth. The desire is as keen to-day as it ever was. Of all our wealth producing class the farmer needs a home most. He must have land. He should by all means own it. His farm need not be so large as some suppose, but it should belong to the farmer, not to someone else. This is not only self-evident because of the advantage to the farmer, but because of its advantages to the nation at large. It is the cornerstone of our national life. It lies at the root of all true patriotism and all social improvement and content.

Give a man a home upon the soil and you have made him a patriot who will defend your institutions at the ballot box or on the battlefield. Mr. Taft proposes to open the door to our vast natural resources with the Republican key of national conservation. This is a most hopeful augury of the future. When the people have easy access to the land and can fully utilize our great natural resources most of our other troubles will settle themselves. The property owner is a conservative man who loves his family and his country. Let the property owners be as numerous as possible.

Let the good work of home making continue under Taft and Sherman.

The Future Growing Brighter.

We are entering upon a new and momentous era that calls for the highest qualities of constructive statesmanship—such as Taft has so impressively demonstrated he possesses. This revelation to our people of the wealth at their very doors is characteristic of the watchfulness of the Republican party, and the work must be firmly and intelligently directed to reach its highest possibilities to the citizen. We are planning not only for ourselves but for future generations. We are the forerunners of a mighty future in a mighty land. If we are equal to our duties and opportunities we will make homes west of the Mississippi River for a hundred million of the freest men and women who ever walked the earth.

We are living in an age of mighty achievements. The great projects and constructive work for irrigation in the arid region, the Panama Canal, the New York subway and the other mammoth projects will soon stand as completed monuments to the constructive genius of our people and this age. The future is potent with still grander undertakings, which will in a few brief years, under Republican direction, stand as accomplished facts.

WATTERSON'S TRIBUTE TO BRYAN

Colonel Henry Watterson's speech in Louisville on the night of October 8, which he announces will be his only public utterance during the campaign, is interesting for two particular reasons. The first is its scant reference to William Jennings Bryan, and the second its abundant assurance that Colonel Watterson's heart still beats warmly for his native land. Try a sample of his rhetoric:

"My faith is yet strong in the free-born spirit of American manhood. I believe that the American voters will rise in defense of American principles and precedents, that they will administer overwhelming rebuke to these perverters of their institutional system."

After that inspiring utterance there can be no doubt as to where the grizzled Demosthenes of the Blue Grass stands. He is sold for the old flag and an appropriation, if needed. Moreover, in spite of his omission of any extensive mention of William Jennings Bryan, his estimate of that gentleman is known of all men and is on record in plain black and white. The general character of Colonel Watterson's estimate of the Nebraska politician may be sufficiently indicated by a few selected phrases:

Bryan is a boy orator. He is a dis-

MR. TAFT'S ENTRY INTO POLITICS

It inhered in Mr. Taft that he should not shrink even the less attractive, to him, duties of citizenship. He was in politics in Cincinnati before he had finished his law course. The Mount Auburn districts were the lists in which he first broke a lance for clean politics and good government, for the preservation of the integrity of the ballot and for the enforcement of the election laws. He went into it heart and soul, and he bruised knuckles and lost his temper in fighting for the cause. He went about it in this way, to quote from a lecture he delivered at Yale: "The graduate will spend as much time as he can in learning the local situation, in becoming acquainted with the precinct and ward leaders, in consulting them as far as he can, in making himself acquainted, not only with the well to do and well educated persons in his precinct and ward, but also with the laborers, the artisans, the storekeepers, the saloonkeepers, in order that he may understand the controlling influences in the primaries and elections of that precinct and ward."

Mr. Taft's bulk and strength made him an impressive and a useful figure as a watcher at the polling places overseen by certain gentlemen who

MR. BRYAN'S UNUSED PEN.

Addressing a political meeting in St. Paul October 10, 1896, William Jennings Bryan said:

"I desire to express to the organized labor of this city my grateful appreciation of the gift which they have presented. It is a gold pen with a silver holder, and if I shall be elected to be Chief Executive of this Nation that pen and holder shall be used to sign a free coinage bill at the earliest possible moment."

When Mr. Bryan made that remark—whether it was a promise or a threat does not matter—the country was suffering from the greatest industrial depression it has ever known. Hundreds of mills and factories were idle, a still larger number were running on half or quarter time, hundreds of thousands of employees were idle, and those still employed were working for starvation wages.

The picture is not overdrawn. Mr. Bryan himself will admit its general accuracy, and his friend, Mr. Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, stated at the time that there were then more than 3,000,000 idle workmen in the United States.

To these suffering toilers and their less unfortunate brethren still employed, but at niggardly wages, Mr.

OLD BILL TAFT.

By REV. HY. J. BOATMAN.

(Tune: America.)
For leader strong and great
To man the ship of state
Both fore and aft
To guide where breakers roar,
To safely land our store,
To quiet all uproar,
There's Old Bill Taft.

To White House there to stay
And Bryan send away
Upon a raft;
To do as Teddy did,
What all our people bid,
For man upon the lid,
There's Old Bill Taft.

To do what's good and just,
Strike down the evil trust,
And all of grand
To keep our money pure
And plenty, too, and sure,
The hard times' only cure,
There's Old Bill Taft.

Reform his flag unfurls,
Against all evn evils,
Unerring shaft;
Then let our trumpets blare—
"He's always on the square
At home and everywhere,
Is Old Bill Taft."
Fullerton, Cal., September, 1908.
Copyright applied for.

A Labor Leader Writes a Remarkable Letter to His Brother Workers, Stating With Convincing Frankness How Injudicious It is for the Head of a Union to Give Advice Along Political Lines.

[Official Circular.]
Indianapolis, Ind., Oct. 7, 1908.
To the Officers and Members
of the United Mine Workers
of America:

Greeting—We are in the midst of a political campaign. Every method known to political managers will be used to secure votes for their respective candidates. This is especially true in the attempt to obtain expressions from those holding official positions in labor unions. I am in receipt of hundreds of letters from men of all shades of political beliefs and from all parts of the United States asking for my opinion of the different candidates or my views upon the issues involved in the political campaign.

The United Mine Workers do not elect me international president to influence your political preferences or how you should cast your vote on election day. You have elected me to direct the affairs of the United Mine Workers. The success of the United Mine Workers and the welfare of its members have and will receive my first and only consideration as long as I have the honor of representing you. I am not responsible for interviews appearing in the newspapers, alleged to be from me, that I favor any particular candidate. I have declined to express or to give any statement politically for or against any candidate or issue, nor do I intend to do so. This letter will be my answer to all who ask me for any advice along political lines.

I have the honor to represent an organization of nearly 300,000 members of every known nationality and different political views. We have among our members Prohibitionists, Populists, Independents, Socialists, Democrats and Republicans. From what I know of our members you are fully competent to decide for yourselves how you will vote on election day.

All my time is required to look after the interests of the United Mine Workers. Those interested in the subject matter of this letter will please refrain from writing me in connection with politics if they hope to get an answer.

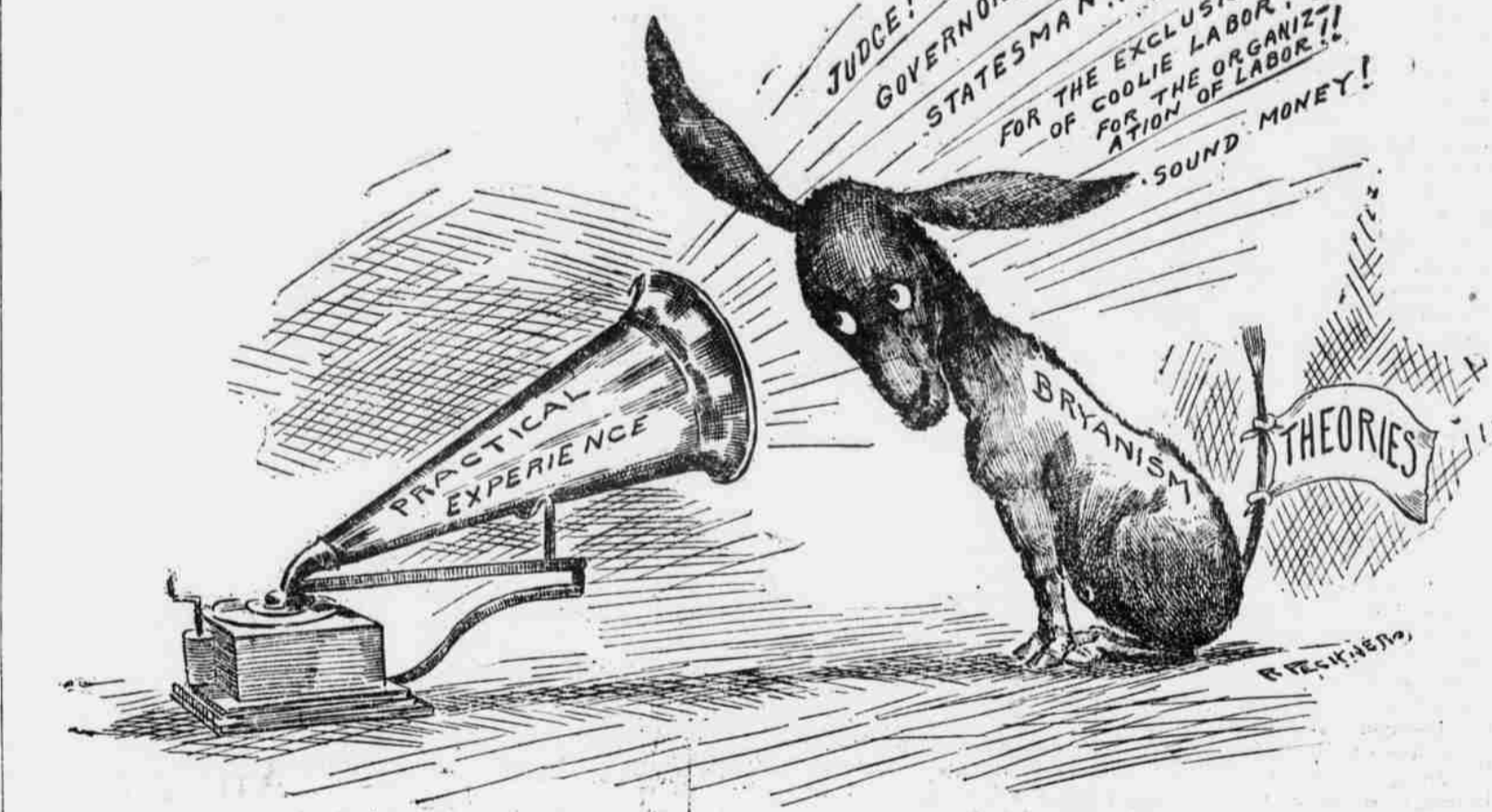
The United Mine Workers as an organization has been in existence for many years before this political campaign, and we all wish that it may live many years after the present campaign has passed into history and until every wrong of which the miner complains is honorably adjusted. Yours fraternal-ly and for harmony,
T. L. LEWIS,
President U. M. W. of A.

WHY MR. TAFT FOUGHT.

Old-time friends of Mr. Taft say that as a boy he was a boy all over. Zestful for play, he was no less faithful to work when it had to be done. He worked hard and played hard. Blessed with a brain as big and capable as the huge, but not clumsy, body that serves him so well, he took to books with the same quality of enthusiasm as that with which he developed his forces in a stone or apple fight with the Taylortown gang—boys who lived in a section adjoining Mount Auburn in Cincinnati—or bent his footsteps toward the swimming hole when school was out and tasks were done.

Those fights with the Taylortown gang were pretty strenuous for amateur affairs, too. They were a legitimate heritage handed down to Will and his contemporaries from the boys who had preceded them. Judge Taft called Will in one day and began a cross-examination into the reasons why the Mount Auburn boys and the Taylortown gang periodically "rocked" each other.

"What is all this fighting about?" he asked.
"Oh," replied Will, "I don't know exactly, only we've always fought those fellows."
"But why?" persisted the Judge.
"What reason have you for fighting them?"
"I don't know," was the response, "only we've got to, that's all. Charles and Peter (his half brothers) always did, and somehow it seems natural."



THE TAFT RECORD.

BRYAN WAS TOO MODEST.

In the course of his address before the Lakes-to-the-Gulf Waterway Association in Chicago, October 8, Mr. Bryan, while heartily approving the project under consideration, stated that he had no plan to offer by which to raise the money required for the construction of the proposed canal. On this occasion as on so many others Mr. Bryan again displayed the extreme modesty and lack of self-confidence which have characterized his public utterances.

It would be a ridiculous and inexcusable blunder to assume that, because he offered no plan for financing the canal project, therefore Mr. Bryan had no plan or that he could devise none. As a matter of fact plans are Mr. Bryan's specialty. He can supply them in bulk on an hour's notice, and if there is anything, from exterminating potato bugs to amending the Federal Constitution, for which he hasn't a neat hand-made plan ready in stock, it is simply because the matter has never been brought to his attention.

Mr. Bryan proposed no canal plan solely for the reason that he was not asked to do so. If he had been he could have pulled a plan out of his coat pocket in full view of the audience and without the aid of a confederate.

Mr. Bryan holds that money is created by law. Therefore, according to his philosophy, if \$500,000,000 is needed to construct a canal between the great lakes and the Gulf all that is required is merely an act of Congress creating that amount of additional money and turning it over to the canal builders. The thing is as easy as rolling off a log.

Mr. Bryan in 1896 wanted the Government to go into the business of creating money by fiat. He earnestly assured the people that Congress, by a single brief enactment, could make silver bullion worth \$1.23 an ounce everywhere in the world and maintain the price at that level forever. He has never quite understood why the people rejected his plan to make them and the Government rich merely by an exercise of legislative authority.

If Mr. Bryan were President and the canal builders needed money he could show them how to get it. He might, however, take a short cut and propose to build the canal itself by fiat instead of building it with fiat-made money. Mr. Bryan's plans are marvelously flexible, and he controls more than fifty per cent. of the entire output.

FROM SECRETARY ROOT'S SARA-TOGA SPEECH.

The proposition of the Democratic platform to require all national banks to guarantee the payment of deposits by all other national banks is another patent financial nostrum, advertised to catch the fancy of the multitude, and it should be suppressed under the pure food law until it is correctly labeled "a measure to compel legitimate business to bear the risks of speculation."

tinguished dodger. He is a daring adventurer. He is a political fakir. Bryan is only Tillman in better English. He is nothing but a Populist in doctrine and practice.

It is Bryan and Populism, Bryan and Repudiation, Bryan and Riot, Bryan and Ruin. The three R's of Bryan's campaign seem to be Repudiation, Riot and Ruin.

The flag that floats over the name of Bryan is the flag of pirates. It is the flag of Socialists and Anarchists rather than the flag of Democrats.

There is nothing equivocal about that testimony. It is as plain as a pink wart on a pale face. There is more of it, lots more, in the editorial columns of Colonel Watterson's great newspaper, but this is one of those cases in which quite enough is entirely sufficient.

Colonel Watterson is supporting Mr. Bryan this year more or less fervidly. But in a spirit of selfishness most unusual with him he refuses to explain whether he is doing so because of his estimate of Mr. Bryan or in spite of it.

HELPS THE WAGE EARNER.

The Republican party has created labor bureaus in twenty-six Republican States; has created factory inspection services in twenty-three Republican States; has provided free employment bureaus in thirteen Republican States; has provided boards of conciliation and arbitration in eighteen Republican States; has prohibited the employment of children under fourteen years in twenty-three Republican States; has limited hours of work for children in twenty-four Republican States; has restricted employment of children of school age in twenty-six Republican States; has prohibited night work for children in eighteen Republican States; has prohibited dangerous employment for children in twelve Republican States.

It has also limited the laboring hours of women in fifteen States; regulated sweatshops in ten States; regulated wages to be paid weekly, fortnightly or monthly in seventeen States; protected members of labor organizations in fourteen States, and protected the union label in twenty-eight States.

Any party that has done as much as that deserves the workmen's votes and we therefore urge our countrymen to vote for Taft and Sherman, the Republican candidates for President and Vice-President, who are pledged to continue the work of the party which has been so well maintained.

Not many men have a chance to decline a seat on the Supreme Court bench. Mr. Taft did it twice. It was when he was Governor of the Philippines. President Roosevelt insisted. Mr. Taft pleaded that the Philippines needed him more than he did the Supreme Court justiceship, and that his departure from the islands might bring a revolt. The President let him have his way.

There is so much music in the air that you can't hear the Democratic harmony.

did not scruple to bring the tally to measure up to their notions of what they thought it should be, either by force of arms or taking liberties with the ballot box.

A blacksmith, as big as Mr. Taft, was complained against during a certain election for his bullying tactics in behalf of the gangsters. Mr. Taft had the man pointed out to him. He strode to meet the fellow, who willingly enough advanced half way. Taft's right fist was abruptly removed from where it was hanging by his side to a point directly under the blacksmith's left ear. The blacksmith immediately sought a reclining posture on the ground, and as his friends dragged him away, Mr. Taft dusted off his hands and remarked: "Now, let's see what the trouble is here!" Two or three little instances of this sort of militant good citizenship brought a measure of prestige to him and aided in inculcating the lesson in good government which the young law student was zealously trying to teach.

MR. TAFT AS A NEWSPAPER MAN

When he left Yale there were still steps to be taken to complete the mental equipment of Mr. Taft with that education which, as he has said of a student, should be "as thorough and as useful as he himself wishes to make it." Judge Taft, his father, notwithstanding his commanding social and professional position, was not a man of large means. William had to go to work. It was rather necessary that he should in order to foot the cost of his legal training, which he began immediately in the Cincinnati Law School. To quote him again there was "that spur of necessity to enter upon a life of work without the temptation to lack of effort and idleness which a competency always creates."

With his disposition there was no risk that however amply endowed with wealth Mr. Taft would ever have been a dawdler, a waster of time and opportunity. But he had to go to work, he needed the money. So he got a job as reporter on the Times-Star, of Cincinnati. The courts was his assignment. He went the rounds for the Times-Star for nearly a year. He was a good reporter, too; so good, in fact, that his work attracted the attention of Murat Halstead, then editor of the Commercial Gazette, who dangled a lure before his eyes in the shape of an offer of \$25 a week. William took it.

The chance this experience gave him to study and understand the psychology of a newspaper man's mind and the fundamentals of the profession of collecting, writing and printing news accounts in good part for the excellent terms upon which Mr. Taft, the public officer, and newspaper men always have stood. He understands them. He tells them no lies, deals out no evasions. He trusts them and they know they can trust him implicitly.

It was not necessary for the President to go on the stump to put ginger into the campaign.

Bryan appeared with what he described as a sure cure for their distress. But he made an entirely erroneous diagnosis of the case. He asked the people to believe that their hardships were all due to our monetary system, and that if they would allow him to tinker it after his own notions the mills would resume, there would be plenty of work and high pay and the country would fairly wallow in prosperity. Some of the people—but fortunately only a few, comparatively speaking—believed him, and it was that belief which prompted the presentation to him of the bimetallic pen in St. Paul. Thanks to the saving common sense of the people, that pen remains unused to this day.

Had Mr. Bryan been entirely frank in 1896 he would have explained to the workmen that the grinding hardship which then beset them was due, not to anything whatever in our monetary system, but entirely and directly to the iniquitous Wilson-Gorman tariff act which he himself had helped to place on the statute books two years before. His pretense that the industrial distress which overpread the country at that time was due to the gold standard was the shifty attempt of a political trickster to dodge the responsibility for the effects of a law which he helped to enact. The people saw through it, and the trickster was ingloriously defeated.

The principle of free trade which Mr. Bryan was instrumental in placing in operation by means of the Wilson-Gorman act of 1894 is one of the bases of the Bryan campaign of 1908. He misrepresents conditions and their causes now just as he did twelve years ago, and brazenly proposes as a cure for existing ills the very nostrum which produced them in aggravated form when his party was last in power. That his campaign of false pretense should succeed is possible only on the insolent assumption that public intelligence has moved backward, not forward, since his last attempt to fool the people.

WOMEN VOTERS FOR TAFT.

The women in the States where women vote do not have a party of their own, with a Joseph's coat pattern of everything all the nice women think ought to go in it—not at all. They line up on the Republican and the Democratic sides and fight fair in the regular way. The third parties do not appeal much to women somehow. Even the Prohibition party is not strong in the woman suffrage States as compared to others and considering the fact that women do vote. The State committees of both great parties have their women chairmen and committees and all work together with great ease. The Republicans will get the major part of the woman vote this year. One woman gave a reason the other day—perhaps it wasn't a good reason, but it may have some weight, too. She said: "Bryan is too great an usurper of woman's great privilege—to talk all the time—we don't like it."