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Ex-Senator Long of Kansas is howling because the people eliminated Taft electors in his state by a majority vote of some forty thousand in the recent primaries. The people also eliminated Long some time ago. The trouble with stand-patters like Long is that they do not desire the people to rule. By the way, the result in the Kansas primaries, held since the republican and progressive conventions, does not show any decadence of Roosevelt's popularity with the republican masses. In a straight fight between Taft and Roosevelt forces the latter carried the republican primaries by as large majority as Kansas has ever given for the republican ticket at a general election. The chances are Mr. Taft will have a hard time to carry a single state in the Union at the November election. The people are in earnest and determined. They do not propose that such sentiments as are voiced by stand-patters like Long against the ability of the people to rule shall have the least shadow of endorsement.

destruction, Roosevelt appeared as the only republican who could beat the radical Bryan. He was nominated without opposition and was elected.

The history of his magnificent achievements in inaugurating measures against trust abuses was set out in a former article in this series. At the end of his term he enjoyed universal confidence and popularity. Had he desired to succeed himself he could have done so without effort. He declined, however, and backed the candidacy of Mr. Taft. The latter had been intimately associated with Roosevelt in his administration and had carried out his policies with fervor and ability. Roosevelt had a right to think that Taft, as his successor, would faithfully continue the policies of trust reform and round out the work he had so laboriously begun. Like many men, Taft proved a good lieutenant but utterly failed as a general. At the first battle he capitulated. And Roosevelt says his support of Taft was the biggest mistake he ever made.

So much for the history. It was necessary for a full understanding of the subject at hand.

Taft is a candidate for re-election backed by the Harriman-Rockefeller interests. Roosevelt is a candidate against him and has the support of the Perkins-Morgan interests. Herein the subject becomes one for careful consideration, for it is plain enough that both these combinations are in politics with the same aim—party success to accomplish a selfish end.

In correctly analyzing this apparently anomalous situation it is necessary to first examine the proposal of the different platforms in order to see what remedies they offer for trust abuses.

The democratic platform declares for laws that will make it impossible for trusts and monopolies to exist. It needs no argument to show that both of these combinations would oppose that. Their life depends upon it. It denounces the efforts already put forth by the republicans, under Roosevelt, to control the trusts as an unwarranted encroachment on the rights of the states. It would first dismember and scatter the trusts and then subject commerce to the sole control of the several states. When it is considered that practically all large corporations are engaged in interstate commerce, operating in nearly every state in the Union, that the transcontinental railroads cross every state between the Atlantic and Pacific, it will be readily seen that the enforcement of democratic states' rights doctrines would result in subjecting corporations operating in many states to so many modes of regulation—to so many different laws and so many degrees of control and regulation, depending upon the temper of the people in the different states—as to render operation uncertain and unprofitable, if not utterly ruinous.

The republican platform is ambiguous in its trust declarations, but adheres to the doctrine of laissez faire. Non-interference is its burden.

The progressive platform declares for effective control of trust operation by the federal government, by compelling all corporations engaged in interstate commerce to take out federal charters under a national law providing for strict regulation. Thus it proposes to do away with trust abuses without hindering legitimate operation.

In the pre-primary and convention campaign of 1912 four horns of a dilemma presented themselves to the trust bosses: to force the nomination of Taft and continue abuse; to accept the radicalism of La Follette, yield themselves up to the commerce-destroying policy of Wilson, or to submit to just and effective control under Roosevelt.

Upon the question as to which horn of this dilemma it was wisest and safest to embrace the Harriman-Rockefeller and Perkins-Morgan interests split.

The Harriman-Rockefeller people took the ground that exploiting interests were strongly entrenched in politics and government to force the renomination of Taft. Roosevelt had been out of power three years. The interests had been busy all that time discrediting his policies, questioning his motives and working to negate his influence. In the New York state convention they had plucked his plumage, thus illustrating his deceiving power, and the third-term prejudice could be worked against his candidacy. The radical La Follette, though well accredited, had not yet his national position firmly fixed. Like Bryan in his early history, he was very popular on the platform, his sincerity stood unquestioned and his fine sentences provoked uproarious applause, but as a national politician he was yet a negligible force and could be easily out-manipulated for the nomination. The chances were good that Clark's candidacy would outstrip Bryan and Wilson for the democratic nomination. However, if that failed, there still remained that other weapon, the electoral college, which had twice proven effective in turning a three-million popular majority for Bryan into a republican victory. Moreover, the democrats had been in power through the last Cleveland administration. They had gone in clamoring against privilege, against protective tariff and trust abuse, but their performances had fallen so far short of their threats that the trusts had gotten on very well under them. That mild application of democratic policies, and the Wilson tariff, had not injured them.

Taft could, and must, be renominated and elected. They concluded to fight and take their chances.

There was yet another view as logical and illumined, but less dangerous. Trust abuses had reached so oppressive a state that public sentiment was all but universally in favor of checking them through the powers of government. During the past few years this had been repeatedly and unmistakably illustrated at the polls in the overwhelming defeat of trust-controlled congressmen and senators and the election of successors pledged to the support of measures against trust abuses. Wherever the people had opportunity of expression it was emphasized that they would have no more trust domination. This sentiment was directed not only squarely against special privilege but against Taft. He had utterly failed to satisfy the demands of the people. Under Roosevelt the people had fairly gotten hold of the government. Remedial measures like the interstate commerce law, the amendment strengthening the Sherman anti-trust law, the pure food act, the department of commerce and labor law, measures for forwarding work on the Panama canal, and the law regulating hours of labor for railroad employees, had all been put into operation. The Northern Securities case had been prosecuted by the government to a successful conclusion. Postoffice and public land thieves had been caught and punished. The sugar trust had been found practicing custom frauds and was brought in to answer to the courts. Standard Oil and Tobacco had been forced to answer for violation of the Sherman law. Corporations had been forbidden to contribute to campaign funds. The Cannon machine had been shattered and trust control in the senate reduced. All this had proven popular. The people felt they were in a way to control the government. At this juncture Roosevelt retired and Taft assumed administration. Much was expected of him. The great hope was that he would vigorously prosecute the work in hand until abuses generally were corrected and the control of government became firmly anchored in the people. He had been elected upon his solemn promise of tariff revision downward and energetic prosecution of crooked business. In both of these he had utterly failed. The people were thoroughly aroused and Taft was their chief target. Under these circumstances there was absolutely no hope of his re-election even though the party machine succeeded in steam-rolling his renomination. This view was held by four-fifths of the people of the nation and the Perkins-Morgan combination adopted it.

There were these alternatives left: The election of a democratic candidate pledged to absolutely destroy monopolistic operation, or,

To accept the candidacy of Roosevelt, agree to take out a federal charter, submit to strict control under it, relinquish iniquitous practices and conduct business in future on fair and square grounds.

It was plain enough that to attempt to further control political affairs to its unjust advantage was futile. To bear the burden of the enforcement of democratic interstate destructive policies would entail great financial loss, while the election of Roosevelt and the enforcement of his policies would leave them intact, in the field, shorn only of their power to do evil, still able to conduct an honorable business in a legitimate and profitable way. Therefore,

The Perkins-Morgan interests turned to the support of Roosevelt with as strong motive of self-interest as prompted the Rockefeller-Harriman interests to champion the candidacy of Taft.

The difference was this: The first had no hope for the success of Taft's candidacy from the first and sought refuge from what it believed utter destruction by supporting the Roosevelt policies. The latter believes it can force the election of Taft and perpetuate its abuses and is willing to take its chances.

The Perkins-Morgan interests are behind Roosevelt without a promise, or without hope of protection further than will come to all legitimate enterprises through the fair application of trust remedies clearly set out in the progressive platform.

WHY DOES PERKINS SUPPORT ROOSEVELT?

Is Perkins supporting the candidacy of Mr. Roosevelt? Yes, there is no question about that.

Does not that, in itself, prove that Mr. Roosevelt is standing in with the Morgan interests, while pretending to fight all big crooked business? Do you think such fellows would support Roosevelt unless they had some understanding with him for protection? Such questions as these are being asked by the enemies of Roosevelt and answered by these same enemies in the affirmative. When they answer that way they turn their backs to the crowd and wink at each other, but the rank and file fail to discern the cunning trick, because they accept the charge on its plausibility instead of digging in for the truth.

It is a common trick in politics to send out plausible poison for the destruction of opponents instead of relying on facts to defeat them. That is especially true when facts are entirely lacking.

This year the people are greatly in earnest and are looking for facts, not theories.

Let us enter into the examination of this subject without prejudice. It is highly important that we arrive at a just and right conclusion. The issues this year are of graver import than any before joined in the history of the nation.

Large operations are good for the country if conducted along right lines. Hundred-million-dollar corporations are necessary and desirable in forwarding hundred-million-dollar development projects. Without such combinations of capital the tremendous transportation systems of the country would have been impossible. Without the extension of these the splendid material development in the United States during the past twenty years could hardly have been accomplished in five hundred years, if at all. A long time ago Adam Smith laid down a principle in economics which has not yet been assailed. It is this: The possible prosperity of the individual depends entirely upon the increasing wealth of society. When development is greatest, society wealth increases fastest, and, barring artificial hindrances, the individual has the best chance to prosper. It is upon this ground that Roosevelt holds to the principle that big business should not be destroyed, but should continue that great development enterprises be speedily forwarded and the wealth of society rapidly increased.

What has been said of transportation systems applies as well to great irrigation projects, and to large manufacturing and productive enterprises generally.

The trouble, then, lies not in great combinations of capital, but in their crooked alliance with national legislation and administration through which they rear artificial obstacles in the way of equitable distribution of wealth thus created, and are allowed to maintain them, to the great hindrance of individual enterprise and at the expense of the consumer.

It is commonly believed, and the writer thinks justly so, that it has been the rule in the past with both the Harriman-Rockefeller interests and the Perkins-Morgan interests to exercise their great power in politics in such way as to enable them to unjustly exploit the people in the interest of abnormal and exorbitant private profits.

This was especially true before the ascendancy of Mr. Roosevelt to the presidency. During the administration of Mr. McKinley large business interests, through the manipulation of Mr. Hanna, gained a firmer hold on the country than was possible before or since. Time now has moved away far enough from the tragedy of McKinley's death that a fair view may be had of the effect of his administration without being much obscured by the high estimate in which the man is, and will always be held by reason of his pure life, his good motives and the sad circumstances of his assassination. He was elected upon the sole issue that the prosperity of the country had been mostly forwarded by big operation and that continued prosperity depended upon the rapid growth and development of big business. That view had been commonly accepted by the people as evidenced by his large majority at the polls. And the strong leaning of his administration toward big business met with hearty popular approval in his re-election.

The public mind had come to a state of full appreciation of the benefits of rapid development, in increasing wealth of society and advancing the opportunity for individual prosperity, but the fact of the abuses of big business had not proven oppressive enough to arouse general alarm. The issue was one purely of dollar diplomacy against the field, and dollar diplomacy won.

The candidacy of McKinley was backed alike by Standard Oil, Steel, Harvester and Tobacco. During his first administration Morgan developed into the greatest financier of the world because of his success in bringing big business closer into combination through absorption and trust organization with interlocking directories. By this method competition was largely overcome between big business, resulting in larger profits and increased power, so much so, indeed, that trust combination quickly became the rule. It was an easy step, then, to monopoly so complete and powerful as would control the markets, crush individual enterprise, regulate the supply to the whim of greedy manipulation, dictate prices to consumers without regard to cost of production, and enter generally into the field of exploitation.

By the end of McKinley's first administration exploitation had become the rule to such extent as to be generally felt, and some demand was raised for legislation which would check trust abuses. In the front of this agitation were Bryan, La Follette and Roosevelt. Bryan had swept the democratic convention off its feet and gained the nomination for president. Roosevelt loomed high on the political horizon as a candidate in the republican convention against McKinley. By the interests Roosevelt was looked upon as "unsafe" and dangerous, and they hurried to reach an understanding for the nomination of McKinley, by putting Roosevelt on the ticket for vice-president. By this time Roosevelt had gained great popularity. The effect of this coup would be to strengthen the candidacy of McKinley and at the same time place the dangerous ambitions of Roosevelt beyond the hope of realization. For history had proven that the vice-presidency was but a grave for presidential aspirations. As a rule presidential ambition sunk in it and was heard of no more.

McKinley and Roosevelt were elected and the latter entered into the duties of an office where discretion and initiative were all and where, the interests believed, he would be forced to harmless submission. But, wise as they were, they took not into account the exigencies of fate. In a little while President McKinley was removed by the hand of an assassin, and Roosevelt, "the unsafe," ascended to the presidency.

Roosevelt carried out the McKinley policies during the unexpired term and became a candidate for election on his own responsibility.

His popularity had been amazingly augmented during his tenure as president. He had been preaching the doctrine of strict trust control. Bryan was sure to be the candidate of democracy and he stood for trust

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The Home Circle

Thoughts from the Editorial Pen

Home is a place where a man can do as he pleases—if he is married to the right woman.

When a sick man is able to grumble, growl and wrangle he is able to get up and do his own chores at least.

The average weight of eggs is about eight to a pound, so that a dozen eggs would weigh about one and a half pounds. A pound of eggs contains more nourishment than a pound of meat. There is no flesh food that may be served in so many palatable ways as eggs, nor as easily obtained by farmers. Eggs are a perfect food, containing all the constituent elements of nourishment.

A woman must wear No. 2 boots on No. 3 feet and she must manage to dress well on 75 cents a week, and she must be kind to the poor, and she must go regularly to the sewing society meetings and be ready to dress dolls and make tidies and aprons for church fairs. She must be a good cook, and must be able to "do up" her husband's shirts so that the Chinese washerman would groan with envy.

A good neighbor is always the most desirable of possessions, although in some cases their social value is underestimated. What constitutes a good neighbor is also frequently misconstrued, although the sensible acceptance of the term is, the neighbor who is friendly without being officious, helpful without being superfluously so, and, finally, one who respects the privacy of others' household affairs by a certain degree of formality of manner.

A story is told of a married lady who compared her husband to a handsome piano lamp that he had presented to her. Her husband felt quite flattered until she mentioned the particulars of the resemblance. "Well," she said, "you know, my dear, it has a good deal of brass about it, it is handsome to look at, it is not remarkably brilliant, requires a good deal of attention, liable to explode when half full, flares up occasionally, is always out at bed time and is bound to smoke."

We believe there would be more frugality in the homes if men would give their wives a reasonable amount of money for household expenses and let them have all they can save out of it for their own use, and men, too, would be better off than in the unmethodical and haphazard way in which most homes are run. Women would be more apt to study kitchen economy if they could see a reward ahead. A nation of thrifty men cannot be born of thriftless mothers. Women have need to know more of business, and think more of means to ends than is usual among them.

There is one class of laborers who never strike and seldom complain. They get up at 5 o'clock in the morning and never get back to bed until

10 or 11 o'clock at night; they work without ceasing the whole of that time, and receive no other emolument than food and the plainest kind of clothing; they understand something of every branch of economy and labor, from finance to cooking; though harassed by a hundred responsibilities, though driven and worried, though reproached and looked down upon, they never revolt and they cannot organize for their own protection. Not even sickness releases them from their posts. No sacrifice is deemed too great for them to make and no incompetency in any branch of their work is excused. No essays, books or poems are written in tribute to their steadfastness. They die in the harness and are supplanted as quickly as may be. These are the housekeeping wives of the laboring men.

The Editor's Advantage.

Did you ever stop to think of how many more whacks the editor gets at his victim than any other business man in town does? With the editor the whacking process lasts from the cradle to the grave. When a person is born, even before the preacher gets a chance to baptize him, the editor has congratulated the happy parents and has specified in extravagant phraseology the weight, sex and pedigree of the new arrival. At the christening the editor often manages to squeeze out a personal item of interest to his readers, which is far better than the preacher can do, for he has to charge up his labors to the Lord, who is far harder to get cash out of even than a subscriber. When the victim graduates from the town high school the editor generally expects to reap about a column of good reading matter and often prints a picture. Then if the victim gets married, the preacher gets five dollars and the editor gets twenty-five dollars' worth of surprise for his readers. When Mr. Victim gets sick the doctor gets a faint chance of some day collecting a bill against him, but the editor has some cash news every day, telling the patient's "many friends" how he is getting along. And then if he dies, the editor gets the most valuable news of all. Not that he is ever glad of the misfortune, but the news is worthwhile to him just the same. Maybe the undertaker gets a little more than the editor, but it is the only chance he has had at the victim during his whole career, while the editor has been pulling something out of him all along the line.

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