PARTY PROMISES KEPT, SAYS TAFT

President Says Business Enterprises Must Be Made to Conform to Law.

NEW TARIFF IS DEFENDED

Wool Schedule Represents Only Failure of Downward Revision Policy — Interior Waterways to Be Improved.

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filling a great position and doing his duty with absolute fidelity. For that reason, Mr. Taft will be renominated and reelected."

Governor Fort, of New Jersey, said:

"There is room in the Republican party for advanced thinking. Senator Dolliver, Senator Nelson and Senator Beveridge are not thoughtless men. They know their people and they are familiar with conditions in the Middle West. They are only a little in advance of the rest of us. But they are no more so than was Lincoln in his Springfield speech in 1858."

President Taft said:

Mr. President, Gentlemen of the Republican Club and Fellow Guests: The birthday of the man whose memory we celebrate tonight is an appropriate occasion for renewing our expressions of respect and affection for the Republican party and our pledges to keep the part which it plays in the history of this country as high and as useful as it was during the Administration of Abraham Lincoln.

The trials which he had to undergo as President, the political storms which the party had to weather during the Civil War, the divisions in the party itself between the radical anti-slavery element and those who were most conservative in observing the constitutional limitations, are most interesting reading and serve to dwarf and minimize the trials through which the Republican party is now passing and restore a sense of proportion to those who allow themselves to be daunted and discouraged in the face of a loss of popular confidence though to be indicated by the tone of the press.

In what respect has the Republican party failed in its conduct of the Government and the enactment of laws to perform its duty? It was returned to power a year ago last November by a very large majority, after a campaign in which it made certain promises in its platform and those promises it has either substantially complied with or it is about to perform within the present session of Congress.

Party Promises Reviewed.

Let us take up these promises in order: In the Republican platform of last year, upon which the campaign was made, appears the following plank in regard to the tariff:

"The Republican party declares unequivocally for the revision of the tariff by a special session of Congress to be held following the inauguration of the next President and commends the steps already taken to this end in the work assigned to the appropriate committees of Congress, which are now investigating the operation and effect of existing schedules. In all tariff legislation the true principle of protection is best maintained by the imposition of such duties as will equal the difference between the cost of production at home and abroad, together with a reasonable profit to American industries. We favor the establishment of maximum and minimum rates, to be administered under the President under limitations fixed in the law, the maximum to be available to meet discriminations by foreign countries against American goods entering their markets, and the minimum to represent the protection at home, the aim and purpose of the Republican policy being not only to preserve, without excessive duties, that security against foreign competition under which American manufactures, farmers and producers are entitled, but also to maintain the high standard of living of the wage-earners of this country, who are the most direct beneficiaries of the protective system. Between the United States and the Philippines we believe in a free interchange of products, with such limitations as to sugar and tobacco as will afford adequate protection to domestic interests."

We did revise the tariff. It is impossible to revise the tariff without awakening the active participation in the formation of the schedules of those producers whose business will be affected by a change in the law. This is the inherent difficulty in the adoption of revision of a tariff by our representative system.

Revision Is Downward.

Nothing was expressly said in the platform that this revision was to be a downward revision. The implication that it was to be generally downward, however, was fairly given to those who upheld a protective tariff system defend it by the claim that, after an industry has been established by shutting out foreign competition, the domestic competition will lead to the reduction of prices so as to make the original high tariff unnecessary.

In the new tariff there were 654 decreases, 220 increases and 1150 items of the dutiable list unchanged, but this did not represent the fair proportion in most of the reductions and the increases, because the duties were decreased on those articles which had a consumption value of nearly $5,000,000,000, while they were increased on those articles which had a consumption value of nearly $6,000,000,000. Of the increases, the consumption value of those affected, which are of luxuries, amounted to nearly $900,000,000, while the increase not on articles of luxury affected but about $300,000,000, as against decreases on about $5,000,000,000 of consumption.

And I repeat, therefore, that this was a downward revision. It was not downward with reference to silks or liquors or high-priced cottons in the nature of luxuries. It was downward in respect to nearly all other articles except to cotton, which were not affected at all. The revenues were falling off, there was a deficit promised, and it was essential that the revenues should be increased. It was no violation of the promise to increase the revenues by increasing the tax on luxuries, provided there was downward revision on all other articles.

Woolens Are Single Failure.

The one substantial defect in compliance with the promise of the platform was the failure to reduce woolens. Does that defect so color the action of the Republican party as to make it a breach of faith leading to its condemnation? I do not think so. Parties are like men. Revisions are like the work of men—they are not perfect. The change which this tariff effected was marked by a change downward in the rate of duties and it was a recognition by the party that the time had come when instead of increasing duties, they must be decreased, when the party recognized in its platform and in much of what it did, that the proper measure of protection was the difference in cost in the production of articles here and abroad, including a fair profit to the manufacturer. There was a dispute as to what that difference is, and whether it was recognized in the change of all duties downward.

Particularly was this the case on the materials that enter into the manufacture of paper and paper itself. The reduction on print paper was from $6 to $3.75, or about 37 per cent.

There was a real difference of opinion on the question of fact whether the new duty correctly measured the difference in the cost of production of print paper abroad and print paper made here. This affected the counting-room of the newspapers of the country and invited the attention of the newspaper proprietors who had associated themselves together like other interests for the purpose of securing a reduction of the tariff. The failure to make a larger reduction showed itself clearly in the editorial columns of a great number of the newspapers, whatever their party predilection.

Time Needed for Proof.

The amount of misrepresentation to which the tariff bill in its effect as a downward revision bill was subjected has never been exceeded in this country and it will doubtless take the actual operation of the tariff bill for several years to show to the country exactly what the legislation and its effects are. It is, perhaps, too early to institute the fairest comparisons between the Payne-Aldrich bill and the Dingley bill, which has been in operation now for six months and figures are at hand from which we may make a reasonable inference, first, as to whether it is a revision downward, and second, as to its capacity for producing revenue, for it must be borne in mind that the passage of the law was demanded not only for the purpose of changing rates in their effect upon the industries of the country, but also for the purpose of increasing trade and revenue, and the success of the measure is to be judged by its results in both these respects.

The Bureau of Statistics is authority for the statement that during the first six months' official operation of the Payne law, which has just ended, the average rate of duty paid on all dutiable imports was 21.9 per cent ad valorem. The average rate of duty paid on all imports for the six months for the four preceding years under the Dingley law was 24.3. This would show that the reduction in the Payne law is 2.94 per cent of the value of the goods, or the reduction below the previous tariff rates is 12 per cent, showing a downward revision to this extent in those goods which are dutiable.

Free List Lengthened.

But this is not all. Under the Payne law 51.6 per cent of the gross imports for the last six months have been entered free, while under the four years preceding for the same six months the free list amounted to 45.46 per cent of the total importation, so there was not only a reduction of duty on dutiable imports of about 12 per cent, but also an enlargement of about the same percentage of the free list.

For the production of revenue the Payne law is even more an improvement on the Dingley law. During the six months that the Payne tariff bill was in force from August 6 to the night of February 6, the customs receipts amounted to $166,062,856.54, while the Wilson-Gorman tariff the semi-annual monthly average was $13,857,937.63. Under the Dingley tariff the monthly average was $21,270,973.86, while under the Payne tariff the monthly average has been $27,677,142.75, or 100 per cent greater than the monthly average under the Wilson tariff, and 26 per cent greater than the monthly average under the Dingley tariff.

Of course as the country increases in population the customs receipts increase, but even considering the population, the increase in the tariff receipts has been marked. Under the Wilson tariff the annual average customs receipts per capita were $2.38; under the Dingley tariff, $3.23, while under the Payne tariff they are $3.71.

Deficit Will Be Eliminated.

For the six months that the Payne tariff has been in force the total receipts, both from customs and internal revenue, have been $328,890,211.91, while the disbursements have been $332,783,283.08, showing that the expenditures exceeded the receipts by only $8,884,051.17, with no collections yet from the corporation tax. For the corresponding period last year the expenses exceeded the receipts by over $40,000,000. The showing indicates that under the present customs laws the deficit will be promptly wiped out, and that to meet our internal expenditures we shall have ample revenue.

I, therefore, venture to repeat the remark I have had occasion to make before, that the present customs law is the best customs law that has ever been passed, and it is most significant in that it indicates on the part of the Republican party the adoption of a policy to change from an increase in duties to a reduction of them and to effect an increase of revenues at the same time.

The act has furnished to the executive the power to apply the maximum and minimum clauses in order to prevent undue discrimination on the part of foreign countries and thus securing additional concessions in respect to the impositions on our foreign trade.

This act has done justice to the Philippine Islands by giving them free trade with the United States.

More than all this, the new tariff act has provided for the appointment of a tariff board to obtain impartial evidence, upon which, when a revision of the tariff shall seem wise, we shall have at hand data from which can be determined with some degree of accuracy the difference between the cost of producing articles abroad and the cost of producing them in this country.

The great difficulty in the hearing and discussion of the present tariff bill was the absence of satisfactory and credible evidence on either side of the issues as to low or high tariffs. The importer on the one hand and the manufacturer on the other were present to give their fallible judgments, affected by their own pecuniary interests, as to the facts under investigation. Men who were struggling to find the truth were greatly perplexed by the conflicting testimony.

The tariff bill authorizes the President to expend $25,000 in employing persons to assist him in administering the maximum and minimum clauses and to assist him and other officers of the Government in the administration of the tariff laws. I have construed this to mean that it may use the board appointed under this power not only to look into the foreign tariffs, but also examine the question with respect to each item in our tariff bill, what the cost of production of the merchandise is, and what its cost is abroad. This is not an easy task for impartial experts, and it requires a large force. I expect to apply to Congress this year for $250,000 to organize a force through which this investigation may go on and the results be recorded for the use of the executive and Congress when they desire to avail themselves of the record.

Data Will Aid Revision.

In this way, any subsequent revision may be carried on with the aid of data secured officially and without regard to its argumentative effect upon the question of raising or lowering duties. Taken as a whole, therefore, I do not hesitate to repeat that the Republican party has substantially complied with its promise in respect to the tariff, and that it has set itself strongly in the right direction toward lower tariffs and furnished the means by which such lower tariffs can properly and safely be fixed.

An investigation by the tariff board of the sort proposed will certainly take a full two years or more. Meanwhile, the operation of the present tariff promises to be consistent with the prosperity of the country and with the furnishing of sufficient funds with which to meet the very heavy but necessary expenditures of carrying on our great Government.

The Republican National platform contains the following:

"We favor the establishment of a postal savings bank system for the convenience of the people and the encouragement of thrift."

A bill has been introduced to establish a postal savings bank. The great difficulty in the bill seems to have been to obtain a proper provision for the management and investment of the money deposited. The great advantage of a postal savings bank is the encouragement to thrift of those whose fear of the slippery ways of any depository except a Government depository tempts them away from saving. A Government promise to repay seems to be specially effective in leading people to save and deposit their savings. The machinery of the Postoffice Department, with its 60,000 postoffices and 40,000 money order offices, offers an economic and far-reaching machinery in places remote from banks, and among people who fear banks, who, but for this opportunity, would not save, but spend. The low interest offered, that of 2 per cent, prevents such postal savings banks from interfering with the locality where interest rate of interest always is in excess of 2 per cent.

Amendment Means Defeat.

In the present stage of the Senate bill, there have been inserted amendments drawn apparently for the purpose of having money deposited as savings in Government postoffices to be invested through the locality where it has been deposited, in the state and National banks, and so deposited as to make it impossible for the trustees of the fund appointed under the law to withdraw money for investment in any other form.

I regard such an amendment as likely to defeat the law. First, because it takes away a feature which ought to be present in the law for its maximum efficiency. If the law provided that the trustees to be appointed under the law for the funds thus deposited, could meet the financial exigencies of the Government by the purchase or redemption of the Government bonds, or other bonds, the measure would certainly be within the Federal power, because the postal banks would then clearly be an instrument of National convenience in borrowing money. We have now about $500,000,000 of 2 per cent bonds with respect to which we owe duty to the owners to see that the money may be taken from them without reduction below the par value thereof, because they were forced upon National banks at this low rate in order that the banks might have a basis of circulation. This implied obligation of the Government to the postal savings bank funds would easily enable it to meet.

Secondly, if the funds are to be arbitrarily deposited in all banks, state and National, without the careful supervision over the state banks and a panic were to come, it is difficult to see how the Government could meet its obligations to its postal savings bank depositors, because with every bank and every investment of the funds of the postal savings banks would be beyond the control of the Government and we should have a financial disaster greater than any panic we have heretofore met. A provision that when the money is not needed to invest in Government bonds or to redeem the same, it may be deposited in National banks in the neighborhood of the place of deposit, would avoid the danger of a panic and will strengthen a banking system which is an arm of the Federal Government.

I sincerely hope that before the measure is hammered into its final shape, it may take on these characteristics, which shall give it a constitutional validity and sound financial strength and usefulness. Those who believe, however, that the adoption of these two necessary characteristic features of the bill will put the party in the position where it cannot fairly escape the charge that it is not in good faith in seeking the passage of a postal savings bank act, and is not seeking, therefore, to comply with the promise of the Republican platform in that regard.

Railroad Bills Under Way.

On the subject of railroads the Republican platform said:

"We approve the enactment of the railroad rate law, and the vigorous enforcement by the present Administration of the statute against rebates and discriminations as a result of which the advantages formerly possessed by the large shipper over the smaller shipper have subsequently disappeared, and in this connection we commend the appropriation by the present Congress to enable the Interstate Commerce Commission thoroughly to investigate and give publicity to the business of the interstate railroads. We believe, however, that the interstate commerce law should be further amended so as to give railroads the right to make and publish traffic agreements subject to the approval of the Commission, but maintaining always the principle of competition between naturally competing lines and avoiding the common control of such lines by any means whatsoever. We favor such National legislation and supervision as will prevent hereafter the future overissue of stocks and bonds by interstate carriers."

A bill to carry out these declarations has been introduced in both Houses and Senate and is now being considered before the appropriations committee of these two bodies, and there is every hope that the bills thus introduced will present substantially the same shape as introduced, will be enacted into law.

Promise Is Exceeded.

Indeed, this railroad measure goes further than the promise of the platform, for, while it subjects the issue of stock and bonds to the restrictive supervision of the Commission and prevents further watering of securities and forbids the acquisition by a railroad company of stock in a competing line, it also puts very much more power into the hands of the commission for the regulation of rates and it facilitates in every way the ease of supervision by the Commission of the books and records to ensure a compliance by the railroad with the rights of the public and of the shipper.

The bill was prepared by the Attorney-General, after a full conference with the Interstate Commerce Commission, with representatives of the shippers and representatives of the railroads, and while it was not the result of an agreement between all parties in interest it was drafted with a view to meet all the fair objections and suggestions made by every one of them.

The platform further says:

"The Republican party will uphold at all times the authority and integrity of the courts, state and federal, and will ever insist that their powers to enforce their processes and to protect life, liberty and property shall be preserved inviolate. We believe, however, that the rules of procedure in the Federal Courts with respect to the issuance of the writ of injunction should be more accurately defined by statute, and that no injunction or temporary restraining order should be issued without notice except where irreparable injury would result from delay, in which case a speedy hearing thereafter should be granted."

Injunction Bill Discussed.

A bill to carry out exactly this promise has been introduced into both the Senate and House and will doubtless come up for consideration and passage. The bill does not go as far as Mr. Gompers and the Federation of Labor demand, but it goes as far as the Republican convention was willing to let it go, and it is so drawn as to make an abuse of the issuance of injunction without notice very improbable. It requires that no injunction shall be issued without full notice and hearing, unless to prevent irreparable injury, and that in such cases the court shall make a finding from the evidence adduced, pointing out what the injury anticipated is, and why irreparable and why there is not time to give notice, and after the injunction shall be issued without notice it is provided that such injunction shall lose its force at the expiration of five days, unless a hearing is had.

The platform also promised statehood to Arizona and New Mexico, and the bill providing such statehood has passed the House and has been favorably considered by the committee of the Senate, and there seems to be no reasonable doubt that this promise will be fully kept.

Conservation Policy to Be Carried Out.

The Republicans in their platform spoke further as follows:

"We indorse the movement inaugurated by the Administration for the conservation of natural resources; we approve all measures to prevent the waste of timber; we commend the work now going on for the reclamation of arid lands, and reaffirm the Republican policy of the public distribution of the available areas of the public domain to the landless settlers. No obligation of the future is more insistent and none will result in greater blessings to posterity. In line with this splendid undertaking is the further duty, equally imperative, to enter upon a systematic improvement, upon a large and comprehensive plan, just to all portions of the country, of the waterways, harbors and Great Lakes, whose natural adaptability for commercial traffic by way of the land is one of the greatest gifts of a benign providence."

In accordance with this plank, measures for the conservation of the public domain, for the reclamation of arid lands, according to their greatest utility and the vesting of power in the executive to dispose of coal, phosphate, oil and mineral lands, and of waterpower sites in such way as to prevent their monopoly and control by corporations, trusts or combination, have already been introduced, and will, doubtless, in a form approved by Congress, be made into law. The subject has attracted the widest interest and its importance is becoming more and more impressed upon the American people.

Rivers to Be Improved by System.

The river and harbor bill, which has just been reported by the rivers and harbors committee of the House, has been framed with a view to complying with the plank of the platform which I have above quoted. It has taken up the plan for the improvement of the Ohio from Pittsburg to Cairo, and a project to be carried out in a certain number of years and it has treated similar projects for improvement of the Missouri from Kansas City to St. Louis, and the improvement of the Mississippi from St. Paul to St. Louis and of the same river from St. Louis to Cairo, and, by continuing contracts and regular appropriations, these projects will go on until they are completed. This is a change from the previous plans, and is the result of an extended popular agitation in favor of such a system.

Expenses Kept Within Income.

Following the panic of 1907, the Government revenues fell off and the expenditures continued as before, leaving a deficit for the years 1907, 1908, and 1909. There was, however, no deficit in the whole Administration of Mr. Roosevelt, when the expenses are compared with the revenues. Indeed it will be found that under the operation of the Dingley bill, which covers most of his Administration and the first six months of the present Administration, the surplus on the whole was about $250,000,000. At the beginning of this Administration, however, it was perfectly evident that the expenses increasing and revenues decreasing, there would be a considerable deficit, and this the Republican party, with its majority in Congress and the responsibility placed upon it, has proposed to meet by reducing expenditures and increasing revenues.

I have already shown what the increase in revenues has been. The present Administration, in estimates for the year ending June 30, 1911, cut them some forty odd million dollars below the actual appropriations of the year before, and now it is proposed to appoint a joint commission consisting of Congressmen, Senators and members appointed by the executive, who shall examine the organization of the various departments and bureaus, and, by the elimination of duplication, the construction of bureaus and the increase in efficiency of the individual civil servant, shall reduce the regular permanent cost of governmental operation.

Anti-Trust Law Enforced.

With respect to trusts the Republican party spoke as follows in its platform:

"The Republican party passed the Sherman anti-trust law over the Democratic opposition and enforced it after Democratic dereliction. It has been a wholesome instrument for good in the hands of a wise and fearless Administration. But experience has shown that its effectiveness can be strengthened and its real objects better attained by such amendments as will give to the Federal Government greater supervision and control over, and secure greater publicity in the management of that class of corporations engaged in interstate commerce having power and opportunity to effect monopolies."

Since this plank was adopted prosecution of the tobacco trust and the Standard Oil trust, begun in the last Administration, have gone on and have resulted in decrees in the Court of Appeals of the Sixth and Eighth circuits which are now pending on appeal in the Supreme Court. The decrease in each case tear apart the congeries of subordinate corporations, which, united by holding companies, make up the trust in each case, and enjoin individuals from a further maintenance of the illegal combination of such corporations to carry on the business for which it was organized.

Law Will Not Be Relaxed.

It has been said that the Republican party made a promise so to amend the law as to emasculate and soften the application of the trust law in its interdiction upon business as conducted by the greater corporations, but I find nothing in the programme to justify such a construction. The Republican anti-trust law that those engaged in modern business, especially of manufacture and transportation, shall pursue the policy with respect to their competitors of "live and let live," and that they shall not use the business of their concerns to frighten exclusive patronage from customers and the elimination of smaller concerns from competition, and thus control output and fix prices.

The Attorney-General has prepared a bill which he thinks, and I think, will effect the means of easily doing so to those who wish to pursue a lawful interstate business under the protection of a Federal charter, which while it will subject the business of the concern to the closest scrutiny of Government officers, will save the business from harassment by state authorities and will give it that protection which its peaceful pursuit of its business as a Federal corporation will necessarily secure it.

This measure has not met the approval of those who fear too great concentration of power in the Federal Government, of those who deny the right of the Federal Government in such cases to grant incorporation. I believe the act to be constitutional and I believe that, if enforced, it would furnish a solution of our present facilities, but as it was not specifically declared for in the Republican platform, I do not feel justified in asking the adoption of such an act as a party matter.

I have brought it forward, however, as a suggestion for meeting the difficulties which are likely to be encountered in the prosecution of suspected illegal trusts, as a means by which they can put their houses in order and take their places among those engaged in legitimate business.

Division Is Only on Rules.

If the other measures to which I have referred are enacted into law and the party pledges of the Republican party performed, there would seem to be no good reason why the party should not receive renewed approval by the electors of the country in the coming Congressional campaign.

But there are things which many construe as an indication that the Republican majority in the present Congress will change to a Democratic majority in the next. This is based chiefly on the dissensions in the Republican party and upon the severe attacks made by a great many newspapers having Republican tendencies upon the party and its leaders in Congress and in the Nation. I am glad to say that, so far as the legislation which I have indicated above is concerned, there seems to be a clear party majority in both houses in favor of its passage and the redemption of the party pledges. There is, however, a decided difference as to the proper rules for the House of Representatives and in the Senate personnel of the leadership.

It would seem as if these questions were questions that might well be solved within the party lines, but they have been so acute as to require that a call be called in an insurrection and to awaken the country over a controversy between the insurgents and the regulars, so-called. I am hopeful that as we approach the time of battle for the next year the settlement of these differences and questions can be effected without such a breach of the party as to prevent our presenting an unbroken front to the enemy.

Democrats Also Divided.

We among the Republicans may be discouraged when we consider our own dissensions, but when we look to the possibility of any united action on the part of the Democrats for any policy or any line of policies, we must take courage. It was General Grant who said that when he first went into battle he had a great deal of fear, but he overcame that fear by maintaining in his mind the constant thought of how much more afraid his opponent was. And so we, who find ourselves at times given over to the thought that Republican control is at an end, should not forget to consider, not only our own factional strife, but also that of our ancient enemy. If the Democratic party were a solid, cohesive opposition, guided by one principle and following the same economic views, the situation would be far more discouraging than it is.

The Republican party is the party responsible for the Government for the last 17 years. The trouble growing out of the Spanish War and those which have come from the rapid accumulators of fortune. It has fallen to the party to meet, and while they have not yet all had a perfect solution, the record is one of which we have no reason to be ashamed.

Hysteria Attacks Parties.

Mr. Roosevelt aroused the country and the people to the danger we were in of having all our politics and all our places of Government authority controlled in corporate interests and to serve the greed of selfish but powerful men. During his two terms of office, by what almost may be compared to a religious crusade, he aroused the people to the point of protecting themselves and the public interest against the aggressions of corporate greed, and has left public opinion in an apt condition to bring about the reforms needed to clinch his policies and to make them permanent in the form of enacted law.

But as an inevitable aftermath of such agitation we find a condition of hysteria on the part of certain individuals and leaders and of others a condition of hypocrisy manifesting itself in the blind denunciation of all wealth and in the impeachment of the motives of men of the highest character, and by demagogic appeals to the imagination of a people greatly aroused upon the subject of party and honesty in the administration of government.

The tendency is to resent attachment to party or party organization and to an assertion of individual opinion and purpose at the expense of party discipline. The movement is toward factionalism and small groups rather than toward large party organization, and the leaders of the party organization are subjected to the severest attacks and to the questioning of their motives without any adequate evidence to justify it.

No Halt in Pursuit of Criminals.

I am far from saying the Republican party is perfect. No party which has achieved such power as it has achieved for the last 17 years could be expected to consist in its entirety, either in its rank and file or in its management, men of the purest and highest motives, and I am the last one to advocate any halt in the prosecution and condemnation of Republicans, however prominent and powerful, whose conduct requires criminal or other prosecution and condemnation.

It should be well understood that, with the Republican party in its present condition, with the various divisions subject to the cross-fire of its own newspapers and its own factions, any halt or failure on the part of those in authority to punish and condemn corruption or corrupt methods will properly be visited upon the party itself, however many good men it may contain.

Tariff Did Not Raise Prices.

We shall be called upon to respond to the charge, in the next campaign, that the tariff, for which we are responsible, has raised prices. If the people listen to reasonable arguments, it will be easy to demonstrate that high prices proceed from an entirely different cause, and that the present tariff, being largely a revision downward, except with respect to silks and liquors, which are luxuries, cannot be charged with having increased any prices.

But this will not satisfy our Democratic friends from arguing, on the principle of "post hoc propter hoc," that because high prices followed the tariff, therefore, they are the result of it. And we must not be blind to the weight of such an argument in an electoral campaign.

The reason for the rise in the cost of necessities can easily be traced to the increase in our measure of values—the precious metal, gold—and possibly in some cases to the combinations in restraint of trade.

The question of the tariff must be argued out. The prejudice created by the early attacks on the bill and the erroneous representations of its character must be met by careful presentation of the facts as to the contents of the bill and also as to its actual operation and statistics shown thereby.

I believe we have a strong case if we can only get it into the minds of the people.

Defeat Will Test Democracy.

Should disaster follow us and the Republican majority in the House become a minority in the next House, it may be possible that in the Democratic exercise of its powers the people of this country will see which of the two parties is the constructive party, which is the party of arduous deeds done and which is the party of words and irresponsible opposition.

I only want one more word. From time to time attacks are made upon the Administration, on the ground that its party pretends to create a panic in Wall street and to disturb business. All I have to say upon that subject is this: That certainly no one responsible for a Government like ours would foolishly run amuck in business and destroy values and confidence just for the pleasure of doing so. No one has a motive as strong as the Administration in power to stimulate and strengthen business confidence and business prosperity.

Business Must Conform to Law.

But it does rest with the National Government to enforce the law and, if the enforcement of the law is not consistent with the present methods of carrying on business, then it does not speak well for the present methods of conducting business, and they must be changed to conform to the law.

There was no promise on the part of the Republican party to change the anti-trust law except to strengthen it, or to authorize monopoly and a suppression of competition and the control of prices, and those who look forward to such a change cannot now visit the responsibility for their mistake on innocent persons.

Of course, the Government at Washington can be counted on to enforce the law in the way best calculated to prevent a destruction of public confidence in business, but that it must enforce the law, goes without saying.

Hughes Good Party Asset.

I am glad to be present and meet your distinguished Governor, whose name is such a power before the people of this state and of the country that to lose him as a candidate for Governor by his voluntary withdrawal is to lose the strongest asset that the Republican party has in the state to enable it to win at the next election.

TAFT WANTS BRIBERY PROBED

Executive Confers With New York Leaders on Scandal.

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—President Taft, sitting for an hour and a half today in conference with Republican state leaders, said little, but heard much concerning the latest scandal—the Allds-Conger bribery case at Albany—and, departing, confided to intimates that "the situation looked very bad."

The President thus, passively, at least, waded into the troublous whirlpool of New York State Republican politics, brought to an acute stage of late by charges of bribery by one State Senator against another.

The conference was held at the New York residence of Lloyd C. Griscom, ex-United State Ambassador to Italy, but recently elected president of the New York Republican county committee, succeeding Herbert Parsons. Besides the President and Mr. Griscom there were present Timothy L. Woodruff, chairman of the Republican state committee; Senator Depew, Governor Hughes, James W. Wadsworth, Speaker of the State Assembly, and Otto Bannard.

Discussion centered almost solely on the Allds-Conger case, involving the following leading proposals: Whether the party should investigate to the limit, or if possible, smother it. The consensus of opinion appeared to be to probe to the bottom regardless of results.

There had been a rumor that a demand had been made for the resignation of State Chairman Woodruff. Mr. Woodruff, asked about this, said:

"We talked about nothing but the Allds case. No call was made upon me to resign and you can quote me as saying so. I will not say that I shall conduct the next campaign, but I shall be chairman until the next state convention."

Train Crew Blamed for Wreck.

ROSEBURG, Or., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—The board of inquiry as to the cause of the wreck of the Shasta Limited, No. 11, near here Friday morning blames the night yard crew for the accident. In cutting the helper engine off from No. 221, the through freight switchman forgot to set the brakes, therefore two cars ran away down the track, causing the wreck.

Roseburg Revival Opens Today.

ROSEBURG, Or., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—Roseburg tabernacle is completed. Two evangelists, C. Fenwick Reed and Clay Grant, arrived here today and will begin services tomorrow. These two well-known speakers were met at the train by various ministers.

Would-Be Teachers Pass Exams.

ROSEBURG, Or., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—Teachers' examinations were held in Roseburg for Douglas County this week. Out of 62 applicants only four failed. Six applied for state papers, the rest for county papers.

When telegraphs were first employed the speed of transmission was only four to five words a minute.

REPUBLICAN LEADERS IN NEW YORK CONFER ON IMPORTANT QUESTIONS OF PARTY POLICY.

Over-Eating Worse Than Starvation

Seven Deaths Arise From This Cause to One of Lack of Food.

A Trial Package of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets Sent Free.

An English medical observer claims that for one death to starvation there are seven from over-eating.

His investigation is appalling and leads one to believe that among the Anglo-Saxon race over-eating is a national crime.

This investigation proves over-eating to be the cause in ten cases out of twelve of dyspepsia, indigestion and stomach trouble.

These diseases bring on decay and decline of the other organs and death ensues because of inability of the system to furnish proper nourishment to the dying and afflicted parts.

When one over-eats, one exhausts the gastric fluids, throws undigested food into the intestines where it creates poison and germ life and is finally absorbed in a putrid state or thrown from the system in a decaying form.

Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets will overcome the ill effects of gluttony and irregular eating. They will digest an abnormal amount of food and will not leave the stomach until everything has been digested.

A single one-grain ingredient of these tablets will digest 3000 grains of food and in this proportion is seen how even gluttony can be overcome or at least its most harmful effects removed.

Make up your mind to try Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets for one week. Take a tablet after each meal and upon retiring at night. Every druggist carries them in stock; price 50c. If you have a druggist friend ask his opinion. Send us your name and address and we will send you a trial package free by mail. Address F. A. Stuart Co., 150 Stuart Bldg., Marshall, Mich.

CLEARANCE SALE

Swell Suits and Overcoats for Men
Nobby Suits for Boys—all less than cost

MEN'S SUITS and OVERCOATS

Never before have we presented such a fine assortment of Suits and Overcoats.

And we do not exaggerate when we state that at no other store can you obtain such rich bargains.

You'll find here all the fashionable shades; also the new weaves in stripes and checks.

At the following low prices they're astonishingly big values, so better get in line and make your selection early:

$15.00 values now $11.75
$20.00 values now $14.35
$25.00 values now $18.75
$35.00 and $40.00 values now $25.00

BOYS' SUITS—4 TO 14 YEARS

Bring in the little man and let him try on one of these fine Suits. They'll give him that smart appearance so often seen in every well-dressed boy. The fabrics are plain serges, fancy cassimeres, thibets, cheviots and tweeds.

$ 5.00 Suits reduced to $3.75
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$ 7.50 Suits reduced to $5.00
$ 8.00 Suits reduced to $5.75
$10.00 Suits reduced to $7.00

Salem Woolen Mills Clothing Co.

Grant Phegley, Mgr. Outfitters to Men and Boys Seventh and Stark Sts.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Effects its wonderful cures not simply because it contains sarsaparilla, but because of its peculiar combination of more than twenty great specifics.

If urged to buy any preparation said to be "just as good," you may be sure it is inferior, costs less to make, and yields the dealer a larger profit.

Get Hood's Sarsaparilla today in usual liquid form or tablets called Sarsatabs.

Let Me Send You A Treatment of My Catarrh Cure Free

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I Will Take Any Case of Catarrh, No Matter How Chronic, or What Stage It Is In, and Prove, ENTIRELY AT MY OWN EXPENSE, That It Can Be Cured.

Curing catarrh has been my business for years, and during this time over one million people have come to me from all over the land for treatment and advice. My method is original. I cure the disease by first curing the cause. Thus my combined treatment cures where all else fails. I can demonstrate to you in just a few days' time that my method is quick, sure and complete because it rids the system of the poisonous germs that cause catarrh. Send your name and address at once to C. E. Gauss, and he will send you the treatment referred to. Fill out the coupon below.

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This coupon is good for a package of GAUSS COMBINED CATARRH CURE, sent free by mail. Simply fill in name and address on dotted lines below, and mail to C. E. GAUSS, 7419 Main St., Marshall, Mich.

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