AIN HOBSON SPOKE TO LARGE AUDIENCE

arson Hobson spoke in
urday afternoon to the
al meeting yet held in
either side, during the
over two hours, and
elved, and enthusiastic-

eeting was hurried
an automobile with the
Travis, chairman of the
ocratic Central Commit-
r Matlock of Eugene.

Eugene Speech.

re eight o'clock, the
the Hobson meeting in
court house was packed
eat crowd that has as-
political meeting in Eu-
r. Bryan campaigned
in 1896, and hundreds
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re were counter attrac-
niversity and at the Op-
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ned out to see Hobson.
g Hobson, L. M. Tra-

rt:

member yet the troubled
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n Hobson's Talk.

said in part as follows:
to exercise the highest
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then, could policies result
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ending that prosperity
in case of the success of
should be resented by all
who realize that an un-
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, and the one privilege
him to hold his head up,
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umble his station in life,
a free man.

ncerned in this meeting
t question of self govern-
he experience of man-kind that human liberty to be permanent and enduring must have definite instruments known as Constitutions. In England, the Magna Carta, the Bill of Rights, and the declaration of Rights, constitute such an instrument. In America, our whole form of government was determined by the instrument known as the Constitution. We should teach our children to look upon the constitution as the most sacred of secular documents. It is Constitution establishes a dual form of government, that of state government and of a federal government, where the state governments have control of state affairs and have a just voice in the federal government which controls common affairs, an orderly means is provided for changing this Constitution by Amendment, but from the ouiset beginning with Washington, our wisest, and most patriotic men have warned against changing this Instrument in any other way.

It is a most dangerous thing for the Secretary of State and the President of the U. S. to advocate, as they have advocated publicly, the extension of the powers of the federal government, through interpretation and construction, instead of through amendment of the constitution. Action that would be more dangerous because the President appoints the Judge that would do the constructing and interpreting. The Constitution provides for three co-ordinative branches of government,—legislative, to make the laws; judicial, to interpret them; and executive, to enforce them. Each branch is supreme in its own clearly defined sphere. All our wise statesmen have warned against the grave danger of the encroachment of one branch upon the domain of the others. In time of war the danger comes from the legislative branch, which has a tendency to encroach upon the other two. But in time of peace the danger is from the executive encroaching upon the other two, and from the judicial, encroaching upon the legislative. There has been, during the present administration, more than in any other administration, flagrant cases of executive encroachment and usurpation, but the most dangerous usurpation has been that of the judiciary, in injunction cases, until we have come to have a common saying that we are getting to a "government by injunction." It is not necessary to discuss the technicalities of this question, with which effort is being made to hide the great question itself. It is known of all men that there has been exercised and is danger of being exercised abusive extension of injunction. The beginnings of government by injunction were exercised and established by the present nominee of the Republican party.

In all countries, where there are even the beginnings of self-government, the agencies or instrumentalities, are always great parties. Where policies, or "My Policies," are the policies of individual men, they indicate a departure from the true method of affecting popular government. In all countries at all times, where self government has made considerable progress, there are always two great parties, and never three or four. Unless one of the two great parties is approaching dissolution, it is utter folly for a citizen to go off into a third party. At this juncture, to join the various smaller parties in the field, is like pawing the air. The true way, is to get inside of the one of the two great parties more nearly in accord with the ideas entertained, and try to have those ideas prevail through that party.

The great line of division between the two parties in all countries is the difference of attitude toward the participation of the masses of the people in the work of government; which has been slowly coming down from Emperors and Kings and Classes, toward the people. One school of thought would have the government come more slowly, and tend to conserve more the government of the past, and from this school of though is built the conservative party. The other school of thought, on the other hand, has more trust in the people and would more rapidly carry the government down toward the people, giving the masses a more liberal share in the work of government, and upon this school of thought is founded the democratic party. At this juncture, the Republican party in America is the conservative party, and the Democratic party is the liberal party. Neither party has all the virtues, nor all the wisdom. The conservative party, broadly speaking, is at its best when liberal, and the liberal party is at its best when conservative. The wisest position being more nearly in the medium line between the two, and in this way, it is well, best for the two parties to be maintained in nearly equal strength, and to alternate in holding the reins of government. It is bad for a party as well as for the country, to have to succeed itself many times without a change. In England, it is logical for the conservative party to be in power, more than the liberal party. In America, on the other hand, it is logical for the liberal party to be in power more than the conservative party. With the swift changes now going on in the world and the need for readjustment of laws and institutions accordingly, it is logical for the liberal party to be in power, I should say, at least, two-thirds of the time, and up to the civil war, this proportion prevailed. We are now far enough away from the civil war, having had no foreign war since then, in which southerners, stood shoulder to shoulder with northerners in the defense of the country, and the time has come to get back to this normal proportion.

It can be assumed that any party in almost unbroken power, as long as the Republican party has been, would of necessity, need changing. The ills to which a liberal party, long in power, might be subject, would be those of radicalism and the ills to which the conservative party, long in power, is liable, are those of over-conservatism. The question ow before us, is to find out, if the Republican party has these ills and ought to be changed.

There is a natural tendency for a party long in power to become extravagant in expenditures. I realize perfectly well that the cost of government must continually increase, certainly as fast as, and probably a little faster than the increase in population. In the last six years, the population has increased 12 per cent, and I should expect an increase in government expenditure of 12 or 14 per cent or even 20 per cent. The actual increase has been 43 1-2 and today, the appropriations of a single congress have exceeded the billion dollar mark. This appropriation of the last four years, having exceeded $3,400,000,—exceeding the total expenditures of the government during the great civil war. Clearly the Republican administration is guilty of extravagance.

Another natural result of the long tenure in power is bureaucracy,—where the administration increases the number of office holders and employs them in perpetuating itself in power. In the four years preceding the war with Spain, additional employes were added to the government pay-roll, at the average rate of about 1700 a year. During the last four years, it would have been natural to expect a legitimate increase of $2500 or 3000, or even 3500 a year. As a matter of fact, the average has been more than 16,000 a year. President Roosevelt having increased the number of office holders by more than 99,000 at a yearly expense of nearly $70,000,000.00, and he himself, with the members of his cabinet, have set the most pernicious examples of political activity to pervert the purposes of government to procure the nomination of the presidents choice, and then his of the Republican party,—clearly the election and the perpetuation in power administration is guilty of bureaucracy.

It now remains to investigate to see if the Republican party is to suffer from these ills peculiar to the conservative party when too long in power, namely that of being too conservative and reactionary, and of becoming the conservator of special interests that want the government to stand pat so that they can contain the exploitation of the American people.

The legislative branch of the government belongs peculiarly to the people themselves, and should reflect the popular will. This applies particularly to the lower branch of congress, the house of representatives. The party in power has so shackled this house, that it is no longer the will of the people, but the will of the Speaker that prevails. And here a most effective check has been placed upon any movement of the reform.

The upper house of the legislative branch, under a tendency to special interests that are able to gain control through state legislatures, called for a reform in having senators elected by the direct vote of the people. The overwhelming majority of the people in the Republican party, as well as in the Democratic party desire this reform and have registered this desire, but the reactionaries in full control at the Chicago convention, defeated the proposition by a vote of eight to one. It is proposed to curb the excesses of government by injunction by legislative enactment,—the party in power has prevented this. It is proposed to purify the ballot, by publishing campaign contributions, both to the National and Congressional committees before election, but the party in power has prevented such a reform. It is proposed to modify the system of taxation by a more just distribution, through an income tax; the party in power opposes this. It is proposed to revise the tariff by reducing the duties and particularly those on articles controlled by monopolies; the party in power opposes to stand pat, claiming that tariff schedules should be maintained to make up for the difference between cost of production, at home and abroad, and also to allow a reasonable profit to the manufacturer. It should be noted that this is the most socialistic and paternalistic proposition ever made by a great party,—to insure a reasonable profit to any party of the business community. The fact is that the cost of production in America has generally fallen below the cost of production abroad, but still the tariff rates are maintained. It is claimed that these tariff schedules increase the wages paid to labor. It is to be noted that only about 1,000,000 wage workers are employed in protected industries, and it should be noted that these 1,000,000 are paid on an average of $1.30 per day which is below average for the many millions of wage earners engaged in industries not protected. The average railroad worker gets $1.75 per day. It is claimed that a tariff enables an employer to pay more for wages than is paid abroad, the fact is the American workman is the poorest paid man in the world for the work he does. The average American produces about twice as much as the average Englishman in similar industries, and gets considerable less than twice the wages, while the necessities of life have gone on increasing, until it takes an American 225 work days in the year to support his family, with the necessities of life, while it takes an English workman only 205 days. The truth is the employer who pays the employees what he has to pay for their labor, as determined by the labor market, while the price is fixed by the law of supply and demand. The employer naturally undertakes to get labor as cheaply as possible, and with this in view, encourages emigration, not only from Europe, but also from Asia, and dominating the Republican platform, caused the omission of any reference to the exclusion of the Asiatics.

On the contrary Secretary Taft has expressed himself, as encouraging the coming in of the Chinese, and President Roosevelt has recommended to Congress that Japanese be naturalized, and receive the franchise in America. Furthermore, the manufacturers do not hesitate to close down their plants, and curtail the demand for labor. When a tariff is maintained, after an industry grows large enough to fill the home market, in order to get the benefit of this tariff, the manufacturers combine together to form a trust, and then at once, the industry ceases to expand,—the steel trust, having curtailed $100,000,000.00 of his plant, the year after the trust was formed, making enormous profits in the home market,—the manufacturers caring little for the foreign market, and turning their attention to maintaining their position in the market, through the control of the government. If the tariff were not thus artificially maintained, such industries would go on expanding, to gain the markets of the world, increasing the volume, while its percentage of profits declined, thus giving the benefit of lower prices to home consumers, as was intended by the fathers of protection. The curtailment of the plant with the formation of the trust, reduces the demand for labor and tends to place the working men, as well as the consuming public, at the mercy of the trust, whereas the expansion of the plant to win the markets of the world would increase the demand for labor, and thus cause an advancement of wages along with a reduction in the cost of living, which cost of living has become so great under existing conditions. The export articles which are sold abroad are sold in many cases cheaper than at home, the competitors of our home workmen, and instead of protecting by protecting our foreign competitors. The whole system is vicious as a policy, filling the treasury to overflowing at times and producing extravagance to extravagance, and producing inadequate revenues at other times tending to cause deficits, with the necessity of causing the issuance of bonds, and the reduction of the credit of the government, and a tendency to produce panic and depression. As a question, it has come no longer to be a protection, but actually a curtailment, dwarfing the industries themselves. They only produce multi-millionaires in so short a time, that it is bad for the multi-millionaires themselves, while it keeps on hand always an enormous corruption fund, to control the press and "educate" the public in error, and to buy the floating vote and debauch other institutions themselves and yet whether it is proposed to raise the tariff, they tell us to wait until after election, and if past experience is repeated such a revision would be upward instead of downward. Thus on every count we find the party in power guilty, while the liberal party, not in power, has come out squarely for all these legitimate reforms now demanded by the people,—a checking of centralization by construction and interpretation, curbing the tendency toward executive and judicial usurpation, particularly in the matter of injunction, demanding economy and efficiency in the administration of government, and the restoration of the House of Representatives to the control of the people, the election of United States senators by the direct vote of the people honesty in election through the publication in advance of campaign contributions and the guarantee to the people, where the government is concerned, in banking, against the loss of their honest savings. All of these legitimate reforms are conservatively planned and carefully outlined in the democratic platform, on which stands a man unsurpassed in mentality, of absolute honesty, and of perfect devotion, who for years has been the very exponent of these reforms, while on the other side, we have the Father of Injunctions, standing on a platform that rejected all of Mr. Roosevelt's reforms, Mr. Roosevelt having made a deal at Chicago, whereby Roosevelt was given the selection of his choice for his successor, and in turn the reactionaries and the standpatters were allowed to write the Republican platform and to select the Vice President.

My countrymen, can you doubt which to select? When you go in your booths on Noember 3, 1908, vote for true reform and for the greatest reformer of modern times, the Honorable W. J. Bryan. The trusts have purchased the great newspapers, and have spent millions in "educating" the people to distrust Mr. Bryan, but even these great papers can not find anything against the character of Mr. Bryan. My countrymen, vote as honest men, and for your country, and let not these tools of special privilege influence you.

Captain Hobson left on the 12:30 train this morning for Medford, where he will speak this afternoon, and at Grants Pass tomorrow night.

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BLANCHE DEERING, Violinist

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