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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1900.



For President—
WILLIAM MCKINLEY.
For Vice-President—
THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

REPUBLICAN RALLY.

Congressman Thos. H. Tongue Speaks to a Large and Appreciative Audience.

The audience that gathered to hear the speech of Hon. Thos. H. Tongue, congressman from this district, Monday evening, filled Houston's opera house, and gave close and undivided attention to the utterances of the distinguished gentleman on the prevailing political issues. He was frequently interrupted by applause, showing the interest and approval of his hearers. Though his voice is not strong, his enunciation was clear and distinct, and his well woven chain of argument was forcefully presented and appealed strongly to the logic and reasoning of his audience. The address was preceded and followed by inspiring songs, appropriate to the occasion, and the speaker was introduced by H. F. Murdoch, who as chairman of the county central committee, presided.

Mr. Tongue began by calling attention to the past eight years, during which we have had both democratic and republican legislation. He compared the four years under Cleveland with the four years just closing under McKinley, and asked his hearers to judge between them. Those associated with Cleveland's administration are now the champions of Bryan, and Cleveland, personally, has the credit of having stood between his Bryanized associates and the people in preventing even more disastrous legislation than that which was experienced. The country need not judge by promises but by the recent practices of the two parties. The republican party has redeemed every pledge and courts the closest scrutiny of its acts. It has fulfilled its promise to repeal the Wilson law and maintain the monetary standard. It promised to enter on the construction of the Nicaraguan canal, and though there have been and are many obstacles in the way, a bill looking to that end has already passed the house and at the next session will pass the senate and become a law by the signature of the president. No undertaking means more for the development of the Pacific coast.

The speaker dwelt at considerable length on the calamities and hardships endured under the Cleveland

administration and the rapid improvement in the cattle, wool and other markets and all lines of industry and business with the advent of republicanism. He showed the growth of the volume of money in circulation. He said that 2,100,000 people have money in saving banks alone now, who had no money on deposit during Cleveland's reign. He quoted Bryan as saying that the republican party places the dollar above the man, but as a matter of fact, there never was a time when the dollar was so low and the man so high as now. Allusion was made to Bryan's free silver promises and predictions four years ago. Contrary to the facts, Bryan said prices would go down under the gold standard.

Cleveland once said we were confronted by conditions, not theories. The past eight years have presented conditions very forcefully. Four years ago working men were hunting employers, and now employers are hunting men. Compared to the hardships under Cleveland, attention was directed to the improvements made possible in the last few years.

Four years ago democracy pleaded guilty to neglect and endeavored to attribute the blame to Cleveland, though, in reality, Cleveland's associates, now Bryan's allies, were the ones at fault.

Bryan ordered the free silver plank into the Kansas City platform, which was done at the instance of his threat to go there and turn his vocal organs loose on the convention. But now he refuses to discuss silver, the paramount issue in 1896, and declines to be interviewed on the question as to whether he would, if elected, favor paying national obligations in silver. All he would say in his New York speeches about silver was his complaint that the republicans were trying to thrust the money question into the campaign.

Bryan sneers at the full dinner pail. But those who suffered from four years of democratic experiments cannot appreciate his ridicule. Better and more good food and clothing, better houses, more health, comfort and culture are arguments that cannot be successfully controverted by sneers. The laborer and farmer have been prosperous, and when they are prosperous every line of business is prosperous.

The paramount issue now seems to be whether we shall be loyal to our country or to Aguinaldo. Bryan doesn't seem to consider what he will do for us, but what he will do for the Filipinos. The opposition complains that we are forcing a government on and the ownership of the Filipinos. But it is a question of sovereignty, not of ownership of men. The speaker showed how all our territory had been acquired either by force or purchase, and without consulting individual inhabitants. He showed that out of every 400 Filipinos, 399 welcomed American sovereignty over the islands. While Bryan is lamenting with the comparatively few rebellious Filipinos about the "consent of the governed," down in the southern states democratic leaders force government con-

trary to the wishes of the majority. To be in a measure consistent, Bryan should urge an application of "consent of the governed," to all the states of this country.

Mr. Tongue gave a detailed explanation of the part Bryan took in ratifying the Paris treaty, by which possessions of the islands and the responsibility of governing them were conveyed to us. To be ratified, the treaty had to secured two-thirds of the vote of the senate. Democrats saw that the silver issue was dead and that they must have a new issue, which they expected, in some manner, to gather from the disposition of the treaty. Gorman was the foremost leader in opposing the ratification, and had he succeeded, an issue would have grown out of the question of what should be done with the treaty. Then Gorman would very likely have been the democratic nominee for president and usurped the place of Bryan. This drift of affairs appeared to Bryan, and so he hurried to Washington and urged his democratic associates to ratify the treaty. Accordingly they did this, though there would have been insufficient votes to ratify had there not been, two days previous to the voting, an attack on American soldiers in the Philippines, which unwarranted slaughter of our men prompted a speedy alliance of the necessary two thirds. Thus Bryan urged a ratification of the treaty and now opposes it. To excuse himself, Bryan explains that he wouldn't have registered opposition had the Bacon resolution been adopted. But this very resolution met the opposition of his closest political associates and was defeated because it dealt with the question ambiguously and conveyed no definite idea as to when or how the islands should be finally disposed of. Though Bryan is encouraging the insurgents, he is unable to say what he will do with the possessions in the event of his election, aside from announcing that he will try to establish a stable government. And a stable government is exactly what the administration is now trying to establish and would have established ere this had it not been for the sympathy and aid accorded the insurgents by Bryan and his allies.

Mr. Tongue closed by referring to the trusts, for the cure of which Bryan claims to possess the only effective specific. The only legislation ever enacted to suppress trusts came from republican hands. During Cleveland's term, when every branch of the government was democratic, no effort was made to curtail the power of trusts or restrict their growth. The speaker called attention to Croker, Jones, Clark and other heads of iron-clad trusts, who were giving their money and energy to the support of Bryan.

Mr. Tongue talked fully two hours, during which time he covered the present field of political controversy quite thoroughly and in a very logical and interesting manner. At the close, cheers were given for the republican standard bearers and subsequently for the speaker of the evening.

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