

Turning the Best Government Into Socialism.

Following is an abstract of a speech made by Senator James E. Watson, of Indiana, at Topeka, Kan., on the night of January 29, on the occasion of the celebration of "Kansas Day" by Kansas Republicans in attendance, to the number of a thousand, at a state dinner, marked by tremendous enthusiasm.

"No thoughtful person can scan the horizon of the future without trembling at the approaching power of socialism. Like the pests of Egypt it has appeared in our very kneading troughs and has shown its hydra-head in high places in this and every other land.

There are persons in the councils of the President who have used the war as a pretext for the spread of the doctrines of socialism and who have been far more interested in establishing these theories than in winning the war. He was everywhere surrounded by near socialists and unfortunately they enjoined his real confidence.

There are now over three hundred publications in the United States advocating the doctrine of socialism. A large number of our theoretical college professors are bowing at the shrine of socialism, and they are teaching the youth of the land who come to them for instruction doctrines which, if adopted by the majority of the people would inevitably overthrow our republican form of government.

These people frankly say that they are opposed to our form of government and that they intend to overthrow it just as soon as they acquire sufficient power. They ought rigorously to be suppressed. During the war we used all the means at the command of the government to search out those who were hostile to our flag, or uttered treasonable sentiments. There is no reason why the same means should not be used in the time of peace as in the days of war and for the same purpose.

Without Necessity.

Government ownership of railroads, telephones and telegraphs is socialistic. Without a shadow of necessity for such action, the national administration took over the cable lines after the armistice was declared took them over under the law authorizing them to be taken over as a necessity of war. Patriotism was used as the most convenient disguise under which to fasten upon the country the policy of government ownership. It was done without any reference whatever to Congress, without any investigation by any committee or any hearings of any body.

They took over the telegraph lines upon statements made by Secretaries Baker, Daniels and Burleson that they believed in government ownership of these utilities and that this was the proper time to adopt the policy. Utter inefficiency of government management of these utilities is well known. The frightful breaking down of the postal and mail fa-

cilities of the country under the Postmaster General should have been a sufficient warning to those who entrusted him with his new power that he was inevitably bound to fall in this larger field of endeavor. I am in favor of turning back these properties to private management at the very earliest opportunity, and, unlike the railroads, this can be done without any further legislation respecting them for their condition is entirely different from that of the transportation system of the nation when it was taken over.

The Republican party stands for the principal of protection, the policy that has enabled the country to reach the industrial supremacy and the financial primacy of the world. We need this policy now as much as at any time in all the history of our land. More than forty millions of men first and last left the pursuits of peace in Europe and donned their country's uniforms. Instead of being producers they became consumers. Instead of being our competitors they became our customers. Instead of entering our markets to sell what they produced, they came into them to buy what we produced and under the imperious demands of war they became the best buyers our producers ever enjoyed. What war demands war must have, have at once and have regardless of price. Therefore, under the mighty stimulus of war, with a consuming capacity known to no other force or agency, our entire production was transferred from a peace basis to a war basis. The producer had before him an assured market at almost any price he might demand; this meant ever increasing cost and ever rising wages until prices have soared than ever before.

Tariff an Essential.

Now, these wages cannot be maintained without a protective tariff, for the millions of men in Europe will soon cease to be our customers and again become our competitors. This cannot be done with high wages for every student of political economy well knows that the wages paid the laboring man is the highest barometer of the nation's success and the surest token of the nation's prosperity. The laboring man is entitled not only to a living wage, but to such a return of his effort as will enable him to own a home, to care comfortably for those dependent upon him, to have about him the comforts and conveniences of life, to enjoy the privileges afforded in this land of equal rights and equal opportunities, and to play his part in upbuilding this government of free and equal men. This cannot be done under any system of free trade as has been demonstrated over and over again in our country.

Yet we have the lowest tariff in all our history with which to meet the tide of foreign commerce. The Republican party wants most unequivocally to announce its intention in this nation at the very earliest opportunity.

The Plague of Socialism in United States.

There is a great deal of truth in what Representative M. Dies, a Texas democrat, said in Congress recently.

The best thing you can do for the farmers of this country is to let them alone and quit spending their money and taxing the eternal life out of them. I wish the farmers of this country and the taxpayers of our land might have a return of the old democratic and republican theory that government is not created to support the people, but that it is a creature to be supported by the people.

The great mistakes we are making, is that we are practicing hypocrisy upon the people. We are leading them to believe that the government can support them and lift them by their boot straps out of their financial difficulties, when, as honest men, we should say to them that all that the government can do is to protect their life and their liberty and tax them to support the government.

I will tell you what you have done, and I hope you will take it in good part: You have taken the fairest and best government ever known among men and you are making it into the most despicable socialism. You took the American people at a time when they believed they could support themselves and their government, and you are teaching them hour by hour and day by day to expect that their government shall support them. Instead of telling our magnificent army, when the boys are coming back from France and are being demobilized, to go back to their jobs and engage in their former industries, you are leading them to believe that the government shall take it upon itself as a duty to support them.

You are tearing down the greatest government, the greatest democracy,

the world has ever seen, and you are building up in its stead the poorest and most despicable socialism that history can record.

Is it your intention to help the people? No. You will not help the people unless you tell them that the government has but one duty to the citizen, and that is to protect his life and property and give him an equal and fair race in this world. And you are teaching him that the duty of the government is to keep him. My beloved country! I do not know; we are losing the greatest republic the world has ever seen. Talk about international democracy! It is being swamped amidst nebulous phrases and unintelligible jargon. Would to God the President of the United States would get on the Tennessee and come home and preserve this republic rather than meddle longer with the politics of Europe. We are casting the lot of the people of America, the peace and destinies of our country into what? Into the hotchpotch of the quarrels and poverty and woe and destruction of Europe.

There is not anything new to be said. Human nature is just the same as it was when our fathers made this republic. The President of the United States, representing what has been the greatest republic the world has ever seen, may speak of justice, and of the league of nations, and the end of the sorrows of mankind; but the best hope of this republic and of this people upon our own shores, defending the constitution of our fathers, protecting the liberties of the people and independent self-government, a representative democracy. And I wish, O God of Nations, that our President would come back home and that we might leave upon this hemisphere a great democracy, unentangled and unengaged with all the European broils that exist abroad today.

Here's one of a few thousand examples of that promised "efficiency and economy" befitting a democratic administration" promised in the first Wilson platform. Camp Humphreys, near Washington, was established on a sight covered by a forest. The trees were cut down by the soldiers, and for the most part burned. Then

wood was purchased at Alexandria, Va., at \$15 a cord, for fuel, and hauled from Alexandria in trucks hired at \$25 a day over roads so difficult that one load a day was about all that could be neglected. At this price it is believed that the average original fuel value of the trees cut down and destroyed was \$500 an acre.

COAXING YOU TO SMILE.

What He Could Do.

"Anything I can do for you?" asked a surgeon as he passed the bed of a smiling but badly wounded soldier. "Yes, doctor; perhaps you can tell me something I'd very much like to know." "Fire away," replied the doctor. "Well, doctor, when one doctor doctors another doctor, does the doctoring doctor the other doctor like the doctor wants to be doctored, or does the doctor doing the doctoring doctor the other doctor like the doctor doing the doctoring wants to doctor him?"

"When Did I Die?"

In the case of George S. Carter against Sarah Jane Eberspacher at White Plains, N. Y., an attorney's papers stated that "Nathaniel and John W. Lawrence appeared in this action by Joseph W. Middlebrook, who is now deceased."

In a letter to the attorney, Mr. Middlebrook, who lives at Dobbs Ferry says:

"It not infrequently has happened that I have learned from other things done by myself of which I was not aware, and I have therefore been led to doubt the accuracy of human statement. The above statement is so far at variance with my knowledge and understanding that I am prompted to bring it to your attention and to advise you that I most seriously question its accuracy. In fact I would prefer that it be not embalmed in the solemn record of such an august body as the supreme court of Westchester county.

"Will you therefore take appropriate steps to correct what seems to me a manifest error or advise me of the time and place of my demise?"

Obedying Orders.

Out at Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, is a soldier who is thankful that his name is Kelly if it had not been, he would still be in France. There is a story in the way Kelly got home.

In an overseas company there happened to be two Kellys, one wounded and the other with no ailment except a well-developed case of homesickness. Orders came to send the wounded man home, and the healthy man by some mistake received them. He stood not upon the order of his going and asked no questions. As a result he came to West Reed in due course of sailing.

The doctors at the hospital looked him over and told him that he was the healthiest specimen that had ever been ordered to report at that institution.

"Sure thing," said Kelly, "I'm just obeying me orders."

His Nearest Relative.

A recruit in one of the cantonments when called upon for examination was asked:

"What is your nearest living relative?"

"What you mean, 'relative,' mister?" returned the recruit.

"Oh, I mean your nearest living kinsfolk."

"Wal, that's my aunt wou're talking 'bout."

Several other questions were answered satisfactorily, when there came:

"In case of death or accident, who shall be notified?"

"My mother," immediately from the selective.

"But you told me just a few minutes ago that your aunt was the nearest living relative that you have' objected the officer.

"You asked me who my nearest livin' kin was, didn't you? Wal, Aunt Liz—she lives just two miles from where I been living; mother lives five.

Our Free Trade Don Quixotes.

Samuel Gompers says he is going to try to prevent unemployment in the United States through competition with cheaper production by organizing unions and thereby raising wages in Europe and Asia. A democratic free trader will travel a long way to avoid resort to old-fashioned Washington-Lincoln protectionism which puts a handicap on imports equal to the difference in cost of the labor factor in production at home and abroad. The Democratic objection to the tariff method of protecting the American standard of wages and living is that it is a common sense scheme that will actually work. Don Quixote never sailed forth on a more futile mission than that of trying to lift the labor standards of the 1,400,000,000 people of the rest of the world to that of the hundred million in the United States. However, as a remedial measure it sounds good, and as it will eventually not work it has the merit of being characteristically Democratic.

Evening Telegram and Headlight.

We have made arrangements with The Evening Telegram, the leading and thoroughly reliable evening newspaper of Portland, whereby the Evening Telegram and Tillamook Headlight can be obtained for 12 months for \$5.00. This offer is good only up to and including March 10th. This is a good opportunity to obtain a fine daily newspaper and the best and leading county newspaper of Tillamook County for a small amount of money. Send in your subscriptions to the Headlight at once.

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