

CORPORATION CONTRIBUTIONS.

Judge Alton B. Parker Believes
N. Y. Life Insurance Co. Not
The Only Guilty Party.

HAS POOR OPINION OF MC CALL

Declares That Men Like He Have No
Political Convictions That They Let
Stand in Way of Their Interests.

Epsom, N. Y., Sept. 17.—Former
Chief Justice Alton B. Parker, last year
the Democratic candidate for president
of the United States, today referred to
the charges made by him in the presi-
dential campaign last fall, that corrup-
tion funds were being used in aid of the
Republican campaign. To a correspon-
dent of the Associated Press who called
at Rosemont, Judge Parker's home,
and asked him if he had anything to
say in relation to the statement made
by Vice President George W. Perkins,
of the New York Life Insurance com-
pany, before the legislative committee
investigating the insurance business, to
the effect that President John A. Mc-
Call of that company had raised a sum
of \$100,000 of Euopean capital to
aid in the Republican national campaign
fund, Judge Parker said:

"Yes, I believe I ought to say, now
that there is no political excitement to
attract the public attention that the
President of the New York Life was not
entitled to support. The effect of
other great life insurance companies,
such as the Equitable and the Mutual,
also contributed from the policyholders
funds for campaign purposes last year."

"What has been proved in the case of
the New York Life will probably be
true in the other cases, that fact of
exist and honest and able come back by an honest committee will un-
doubtedly bring them out for the public
good."

"Were there an investigation of rail-
road manufacturing and other corpora-
tions, their insurance officers would be
among the culprits, not the only cul-
prits. Insurance officers who put their hands
into the treasury and took out money
belonging to widows and orphans to
help secure a partisan triumph."

"That their acts were unusual and
not for the purpose of corruption, I am
saying. They intended to have his
money used, as it was, in corrupting the
electorate. Mr. Perkins makes the
point that John A. Call, the president
of the New York Life, is a Democrat.
Apparently he would have the public
assume that he was personally and
wrongfully contributed these funds—
the company's share probably as a
member of the underwriting syndicate—
It was evidence of political virtue rather
than misconduct."

"The truth about it is, and I say it
without fear of contradiction, that men
like McCall have no political con-
victions that stand in the way of their
personal advantage. Such men desire
the triumph of that party which will
better serve their personal financial in-
terests and will—for contributions past,
present and future—continue to protect
their interests by tenant legislation
and by means of an exemption of law
which shall be tenderly blind to all their
offenses."

"That party they espouse in the bound-
room and contribute to it of the money
they hold in trust and, occasionally, a
little of their own. The underlying
principle of their party is that the
people into parties have no effect upon
upon such men. Their own inquiry is,
Will the party organization in its hour
of triumph remember our generosity
and respond to our demands? Of
course, the organization does respond
to the demands of similar contribution
next time and the expectation is not in
vain. Last year was not the first time,
such contributions had been made be-
fore in national, state and municipal
elections."

"The officers responsible for these
mild and treacherous contributions
have received the reward in unfeigned
management of life insurance corpora-
tions; in unembarrassed rates
on the public through trusts—con-
demned by both common and statute
law; in refusal to punish criminally
the efforts of persons of influence
violating the law; and in statu-
tory permission to manufacturing cor-
porations to levy tribute on the peo-
ple."

"There can be no hope of checking
the unlawful aggressions of officers of
political organizations so long as
men thus form a quasi-particularistic
with the organization of the dominant
political party. For in the hour when
the administrative official seeks to pun-
ish the offender, he is rebuked by the
head of the organization of the major-
ity of the contributions of the cor-
poration."

"There is, however, something worse,
if possible, than the escape of such
offenders from justice. It is the grad-
ual demoralization of voters and the
dulling of the public conscience caused
by the efforts to make these vast sums
of money procure the ballots they were
intended to procure, corruptly and oth-
erwise."

"It is not my purpose to claim that
the Democratic party, subjected to the
temptation which has overcome the
country during the last year, would
have acted differently. Merely
advantages should not be sought
from the disclosures made in this in-
vestigation. But the facts should be
diligently sought that the people may
become so aroused that they will insist
upon legislation to prohibit such an
offense for officers to contribute cor-
porate funds for political purposes and
purposes."

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this world I owe all to my wife. From
the day I first knew her she has been
an inspiration, and the greatest help-
mate of my life."

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