

PRESIDENT PAYS RESPECTS TO GOMPERS.

Addresses Letter to Senator Philander C. Knox—Discusses Labor Question at Length—Labor Leader's Statement Makes Plain a Puzzling Plank in Bryan's Platform—Remedy Analyzed—Declares it is a Sham—"Ephraim Feedeth on Wind"—"I Will Do Everything in My Power for the Wage-Earners of the Country Except to Do What is Wrong."

Washington, Oct. 21.—Campaign literature was crisscrossed today by a letter from President Roosevelt addressed to United States Senator Philander C. Knox of Pennsylvania, in which Mr. Roosevelt pays his respects to Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor. Speaking at Philadelphia on Tuesday, Senator Knox took issue with Mr. Gompers on the question of the attitude of organized labor in the present campaign, and the president's letter of today is in support of Mr. Knox's view. Mr. Roosevelt says:

PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

My Dear Senator Knox:—In your admirable speech of yesterday, you speak of the action of Mr. Bryan and certain gentlemen claiming to be the special representatives of organized labor, in the interest of the wage-earners, to secure the support of laboring men for Mr. Bryan in consideration of his agreement to perform certain acts nominally in the interest of organized labor, which would be really either wholly ineffective or else of widespread injury not only to organized labor, but to all decent citizens throughout the country. You have a peculiar right to speak on the labor question; for it was you who, as attorney-general first actively intervened in the support of the government on behalf of the rights of labor when, for the first time in the history of the government, you, speaking for the department of justice, intervened in a private lawsuit which had gone against a locomotive fireman who had lost an arm in coupling cars, and by your intervention secured the support of the government in a construction of the safety appliance act which made it a vital remedial statute, and therefore has secured to hundreds of crippled employees and widows of employees compensation which they would not have otherwise obtained.

GOMPERS' LETTER.

The daily papers of Oct. 13 contain an open letter from Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, appealing to workmen to vote for Mr. Bryan. In that letter are certain definite statements which interest the American public, and which are those to whom Mr. Gompers makes his appeal. These statements warrant all you have said in your speech, and they would warrant you in asking Mr. Bryan to say publicly whether Mr. Gompers states correctly the attitude of his party and himself on a subject that is of vital concern to every citizen, including every business man, as well as every farmer and every laborer who looks to the courts for the protection of his rights.

Mr. Gompers in his letter asserts that the judiciary of this country is destroying democratic government and substituting therefor an irresponsible and corrupt despotism in the interest of corporate power, and he further makes clear that the means by which he believes this alleged despotism has been set up in the place of democracy is by the process of injunction in the courts of equity.

Mr. Gompers in his letter states that his appeal to the Republic for remedy against the injunction was denied, and he then goes on to state not only that the Democratic party promise remedy, but that he has already asked Congress.

His words are: "Labor's representatives then went to the Democratic party. That party made labor's contentions its own. It pledged its candidates for every office to those remedies which labor had already submitted to Congress."

The last sentence in this quotation indicates very definitely the specific remedies to which Mr. Gompers understands Mr. Bryan's party has pledged itself.

DEMOCRATIC LABOR PLANK.

The plank reads as follows: "Questions of judicial practice have arisen especially in connection with industrial disputes. We deem that the parties to all judicial proceedings should be treated with rigid impartiality and that injunctions should not be issued in any cases in which injunctions would not issue if no industrial dispute were involved."

This is the plank which promises the "remedy" against injunction which Mr. Gompers asked Mr. Bryan's party. In actual fact it means absolutely nothing, no change of the law could be based on it, no man without inside knowledge could foresee what its meaning would turn out to be, for no man could foresee how any judge would decide in any given case, as the plank apparently leaves each judge free to say when he issues an injunction in a labor case whether or not it is a case in which an injunction would issue if no party were not involved. Yet this plank is apparently perfectly clear to Mr. Gompers and in his letter to justifies his indication beyond question that he is not uncertain as to what he means. He asserts that he has the requisite inside knowledge. His statement that Mr. Bryan's party (for it was Mr. Bryan who dictated the platform) pledged itself to those remedies which labor had already submitted to Congress is a perfectly clear and definite statement.

The "remedy" which Mr. Gompers has already submitted to Congress is matter of record and the identification of his "remedy" against injunctions in labor disputes is easy and certain. This "remedy" is embodied in house bill No. 74 of the first session of the Sixtieth Congress, the complete text of which is hereto appended. The gist of this bill, as can be seen by referring to the complete text, is this:

BILL ANALYZED.

First after forbidding any federal judge to issue a restraining order for an injunction in any labor dispute except to prevent irreparable injury to property or property rights it specifically provides that "no right shall be carried on business in any particular kind or at any particular place, or at all, shall be construed, held, considered, or treated as property or as constituting a property right."

Second, it provides that nothing shall be done or done by two or more parties in connection with a labor dispute shall constitute a conspiracy in restraint of trade, or shall be prosecuted as such unless the thing agreed

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matter of common fairness, not only to labor, but to all citizens alike. On a question of such grave consequence the people are entitled to know where Mr. Bryan stands.

Mr. Taft has repeatedly explained exactly where he stands in this matter of regulating injunctions. Are we not entitled to know with equal clearness exactly where Mr. Bryan stands?

Mr. Gompers' public statements as to what his party promised make it imperative that Mr. Bryan declare himself. This bill, to the principle of which he says Mr. Bryan is pledged, declares that the right to carry on a business in a lawful way shall be not regarded as a property right or entitled to the protection of a court of equity through the process of an injunction, and that the right to such protection, which admittedly now exists under the law, shall be taken away.

The counsel for the American Federation of Labor in his examination before the house on Feb. 5, at which Mr. Gompers himself was present, gave a very frank illustration of what he and Mr. Gompers believed to be the consequences of that provision of the bill which says the right to carry on business shall not be entitled to protection as a property right.

A FRANK ILLUSTRATION

His words are: "Suppose that workmen by some operation or proceedings in the community (let us say by violence or persuasion) reduce three works to a state of utter helplessness, and there was not a wheel moving, nor a process in operation, and this company having no help at all—that would be an interference with his right to do business; and for that I say he has no right to be protected by injunction."

Mr. Bryan in reality pledged to this point of view. Will he definitely say either in writing or in a public address whether he believes with Mr. Gompers that the protection afforded by the courts of equity to the right to carry on a lawful business in a lawful way is despotic power, and that the judges who exercise that power are irresponsible despots?

So far as the second section of the bill is concerned, it is perfectly clear that it would legalize the blacklist and the sympathetic boycott against which have time and again been declared oppressive, unjust and immoral by the best and most eminent labor leaders themselves.

Does Mr. Bryan believe with Mr. Gompers that and that part of the labor movement that agrees with him has the right to legally paralyze or destroy with impunity the business of an innocent third person, against whom he or they have no direct grievance, simply because this third person refuses to join with them aggressively in a labor controversy with the real merits of which he may be utterly unacquainted, because this third person is his enemy and every other employer whom they point out as their enemy, because he refuses, merely upon their pre-emptory order, to excommunicate some other employer by closing all business relations with him?

The injunction plank in the Bryanite platform, may sound vague and hazy, but there is nothing vague or hazy about this bill.

It is more than a bill; it is a program of the most fixed and definite kind; and if Mr. Gompers is correct, this bill, becomes as it were, an appendix to Mr. Bryan's platform or a footnote explaining in detail the briefer and vaguer injunction plank in that platform.

WHERE IS MR. BRYAN?

Does Mr. Bryan accept it as such? Mr. Bryan should state publicly whether he in fact accepts the principle of this bill, which is the official program of Mr. Gompers and those who stand with him.

Mr. Gompers announces publicly that Mr. Bryan's party has made this program its own. Is Mr. Gompers correct in this statement? Either Mr. Gompers is mistaken as to what Mr. Bryan's party has promised, or Mr. Bryan has made this program his own, or Mr. Gompers is correct in this statement.

Mr. Bryan failed in his letter of acceptance to discuss this labor plank of his party's platform. So Mr. Bryan is aware he has failed to discuss it since there should be such discussion as a

purpose is a malicious one and the concerted attempt to accomplish it is a conspiracy in common law, and merits and should receive the punishment due to such a crime."

The commission further states that this boycott can be carried to an extent "which was condemned by Mr. Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America in his testimony before the committee in 1902, and which serves the reprobation of all thoughtful and law-abiding citizens."

DOES BRYAN AGREE WITH GOMPERS?

Does Mr. Bryan agree with Mr. Gompers that all existing legal restraint on the enforcement of every degree of the boycott should be withdrawn; that the industrial excommunication of the innocent merchant who refuses to render unquestioned obedience to the orders of Mr. Gompers should be legalized and encouraged; or does he believe with us, and with Mr. Mitchell and other labor leaders who differ with Mr. Gompers in this matter that the form of the boycott is morally wrong, that labor at war should fight with its enemies and respect the rights of neutrals, that innocent third parties should not be coerced into taking sides in industrial disputes to which they are in no degree parties, under penalty of having their business attacked and destroyed?

TAFT IS DEFINITE.

Mr. Taft is perfectly definite on this proposition.

Where does Mr. Bryan stand? The citizen who votes for against Mr. Taft on this proposition does so with his eyes open and with a clear understanding from Mr. Taft himself of his position. He has frankly discussed this subject time and again with workmen themselves, both in this campaign and prior to his nomination. He has been willing to express his position clearly and to let the people decide for themselves. He will not go further. His definition of justice to labor does not, as we understand it, include either of the principles contained in Mr. Gompers' program as set forth officially in this bill. Mr. Bryan has assured the public that he does?

Will he state publicly, definitely, categorically whether he accepts the program outlined in this bill, as Mr. Gompers has assured the public that he does?

Mr. Bryan's party platform paid a high tribute to our courts of justice. It stated: "We respect the attempt of the Republican party to raise a false issue respecting the judiciary. It is an unjust reflection upon a great body of our citizens to labor does not, as we understand it, include either of the principles contained in Mr. Gompers' program as set forth officially in this bill. Mr. Bryan has assured the public that he does?"

"The great body of our citizens," to whom this platform refers, are admittedly Mr. Gompers and his followers.

Mr. Gompers, now Mr. Bryan's open and avowed ally, has in the letter here in quoted attacked the federal courts in unmeasured terms, and he has done so because by a long line of decisions, the equity courts have refused to make an outlaw of the businessman; because his right to carry on lawful business under peace of the law has been protected by the process of injunction; because in a word, one of the most vital and most fundamental rights of the business world, the right of a business man to carry on his business, has been sustained and not denied by the processes of the courts of equity. This sweeping attack of Mr. Gompers upon the judiciary has been made in a frank and open effort to secure votes for Mr. Bryan. Are these attacks made with Mr. Bryan's consent?

Do they meet with his approval? Does he endorse them or does he repudiate them?

BRYAN SHOULD SPEAK.

Mr. Bryan has frankly questioned Mr. Taft during the progress of this campaign and very properly so, asking him to make clear his stand on public matters on which the public are entitled to be enlightened. In turn, with equal frankness and with equal propriety, Mr. Bryan should be asked to break a long continued silence and make definite and certain his own position in regard to the matter which concerns not only business men and every decent, law-abiding citizen, whether a wage-worker or not, just as much as it concerns Mr. Gompers and that part of organized labor which stands with him.

There is none of the generalities of vague expression of sympathy for labor which Mr. Bryan has so often employed. Let Mr. Bryan simply come him to the anti-injunction plank of his own platform and tell us publicly, definitely and clearly whether he accepts or rejects the statement of Mr. Gompers that this plank pledges him to the principles of the bill for which Mr. Gompers stands; and whether if elected he will endeavor to have his proposal enacted into law. This is asked honestly in the interest of that large voting public which believes sincerely in

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the promotion of every legitimate right and interest of labor, but which believes also that from the standpoint of the best interest of labor it neither requires nor is entitled to more than justice and that the right to destroy business should not be formally recognized in the law of the land.

PRESIDENT'S CONSTANT OBJECT.

I feel that I have the right to frankly in this matter because throughout my term as president it has been my constant object to do everything in my power both by administrative action and by endeavoring to secure legislative action to advance the cause of labor, protect it from unjust aggression, and secure it to its legitimate results. I have accomplished something, I hope to accomplish something more before I leave office; and I have taken special and particular interest in Mr. Taft's candidacy because I believe that he is the man best qualified for continuing the work of securing for the wage-workers of the country their full rights. I will do everything in my power for the wage-workers of the country EXCEPT TO DO WHAT IS WRONG. I will do wrong for no man; and with all the force within my power I solemnly warn the laboring man of this country that any public man who advocates doing wrong in their interest cannot be trusted by them; and this whether his promise to do wrong is given knowingly that it is wrong or because of a levity or lack of consideration which makes him willing to promise anything without counting the cost of that promise. The moment is to be purchased. Just as I have fought hard and shall continue to fight hard to bring about in the fullest way the recognition of the employee to be amply compensated for injury received in the course of his duty, so I have fought hard and shall continue to fight hard to do away with all abuses in the use of the power of injunction. I will do everything I can to see that the power of injunction is not used to oppress laboring men. I will endeavor to secure them full and equal justice. Therefore, in the interest of all good citizens be they laboring men, business men, professional men, farmers or members of any other occupation, so long as they have in their souls the principles of sound American citizenship, I denounce as wicked the proposition to secure a law which, according to the explicit statement of Mr. Gompers is to prevent the courts from effectively interfering with riotous violence when the object is to destroy a business and which will legalize the blacklist and the secondary boycott, both of them the apt instruments of unmanly persecution.

EPHRAIM FEEDETH ON WIND.

But there is another account against Messrs. Bryan and Gompers in this matter. Ephraim feedeth on wind. Their proposed remedy is an empty sham. They are seeking to delude their followers by the promise of a law which would damage this country solely because of the vicious, immoral purpose that would be shown by putting it upon the statute books, but which would be utterly worthless to accomplish its avowed purpose. I have not the slightest doubt that such a law as that proposed by Mr. Bryan would if enacted by Congress, be declared unconstitutional by an unanimous supreme court unless indeed Mr. Bryan were able to pack this court with men appointing for the special purpose of declaring such a law constitutional. I happen to know that certain great trust magnates have announced within the past few weeks in answer to the question as to why they were openly or secretly favoring the election of Mr. Bryan, that the laws that Mr. Bryan proposed, including especially this law, would be wholly ineffective because the courts would undoubtedly throw them out and that the promises to enact them would therefore safely be discharged.

AS TO INJUNCTIONS.

On July 2, last, the special counsel to the Central Association of Building

Trades of New York, Edward J. Gavegan, submitted to that association an opinion on the matter of injunction, an opinion which was openly endorsed and approved the same day by the Central Association of Building Trades of New York. In this opinion in discussing proposals to do away with or modify the power of issuing injunctions in industrial disputes, Mr. Gavegan said that the proposal to favor defendants in industrial disputes above all others "would be class legislation and in the nature of special privilege and special privilege is the bane of the workingman. Special privilege is what creates powerful special interests. What the wage-worker wants and all he wants, is equality before the law. It is playing into the hands of the special interests to enact laws which are certain of annulment by the courts, even when they are intended in good faith for the betterment of the workingmen. The special interests would rather see 1,000 favorable but unenforceable new laws enacted for the wage-earner than to have him learn the full power of a single existing remedy. The remedies so far suggested and made public cannot be expected to do any good if the system furnish any needed relief. Labor representatives should concentrate and use their influence for the enactment of general measures calculated to protect and not to destroy the remedy of injunction."

A SCATHING CONDEMNATION.

This is admirably sound common sense, the opinion of the counsel to a great labor body, endorsed and adopted as its own by that labor party. It is a scathing condemnation of the proposals vicious and chimerical, to which Messrs. Bryan and Gompers are committed. They promise what would be in the highest degree detrimental to the interests of the general public if it could be performed and what, as a matter of fact, could not be performed. I believe both in the patriotism and the intelligence of the workingmen, the laboring men of America. Therefore, I do not believe they can be misled by their own deep hurt as Messrs. Bryan and Gompers seek to mislead them. I do not believe they will permit Mr. Gompers to deliver them like chattels to Mr. Bryan in exchange for a sham. Sincerely yours,

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

P. C. Knox, United States Senator, Valley Forge, Pa.

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When a man or woman finds coffee acts badly with them, causes indigestion, heart palpitation, kidney or bowel irregularities or unbalanced the nervous system, and common sense dictates that coffee be left off, they will not turn to a coffee substitute "fixed up" by some dollar chasers who know absolutely nothing of the science of dietetics. On the contrary, just as one would seek the most skillful physician when ill, these people turn to the food drink—Postum—because they know it to be the one and only cereal coffee made by food experts of undoubted skill and trained experience.

As an illustration, one of these imitators of Postum announces that no "worthless bran" is used in making its imitation of Postum. That statement alone is prima facie evidence of the dense ignorance of such people.

In making Postum the wheat is milled so as to separate the thick outer coat and use it because it is the part of the wheat which carries the most valuable rebuilding elements, the phosphates which Nature uses to join albumen and water in the human body to rebuild the soft gray filling in the nerve centres and brain. That's the only way to rebuild the nervous system, broken down by coffee.

The ignorant imitator does not know this nor does he know why

in making Postum the browned whole wheat berry is ground and blended with the heavy bran coat.

Remember, Postum is not a "substitute" for coffee. There is no true "substitute" for coffee. Coffee is a thing by itself, it has no "substitute." Postum is a thing by itself, a pure food drink heavy in nourishment. It has its own cereal fragrance and its own flavour, incidentally much like the snap of coffee, but it is not a "substitute," it stands alone, it is Postum and nothing else.

One awful example of the ignorant imitator, intimates that "one cup" of the imitation will suffice. This is aimed at Postum's advice to use Postum to days and observe the change. New cells in broken down nerves cannot be rebuilt from "one cup" no matter what imitators may claim.

The rebuilding elements of the kind Nature requires and which are found in Postum must be furnished to the body at least 10 days and better 60 days to make sure.

Ignorance and pretense may flash their tinsel for a time and offer prizes to reward people who purchase imitations but neither the ignorance nor the prizes will rebuild broken down nerve cells, and ultimately the public finds it out and the imitators join the army of derelicts and failures.

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