

**The San Francisco Call**

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compliance with their request.

**M**R. BRYAN agrees with Mr. Taft that the tariff bill rushed through in the closing hours of the special session of congress, at the behest of the democratic majority in the house of representatives, might be described as manufactured "for politics only." Mr. Bryan's chief quarrel is with Chairman Underwood of the ways and means committee, who failed to fulfill the ideals of the Nebraska man because

he "is not a thorough going tariff reformer." In the Commoner Mr. Bryan goes on to say:

The second mistake of the session has already been mentioned—the putting of a tariff on wool. The tariff on wool is the keystone of the protectionist arch, and those who do not know it have yet to learn the A B C of the tariff question. Every speaker on the tariff will be confronted by the tariff on wool if he attempts to attack the principle of protection, and he must do so at the expense of congress, he must do so at the expense of party principle. The mistake can be corrected at the regular session by a new measure making free wool the basis of the reduction, but this is not likely so long as Mr. Underwood's influence is paramount in the committee.

This is radical doctrine, and it serves to indicate what the country might expect if the advanced wing of the democratic party should come into power, but it need not be denied that Mr. Bryan occupies the historical and logical position of his party. Free raw material is the first article of the democratic party creed, and the compromise offered by Underwood was merely the result of a bargain with the insurgents. That is to say, it was a "tariff for politics only."

The fact is, the democratic party is split wide open on this question of untaxed raw material, and the sentiment in the party in favor of stiff duties on primary products is strongest in the south, from which the nominee will expect to get his most important support. The tariff debate, which is certain to come during the regular session of congress, will turn chiefly on this controversy.

**F**RANKLIN MACVEAGH, secretary of the treasury, sees no cause for the prevailing weak tone in the New York stock market. The country is prosperous and the crops, if not a bumper, are at least rather better than average. The weakness in the New York stock market is not reflected in other centers. Pacific coast securities hold their own in the San Francisco market without showing the slightest sign of weakness. Secretary MacVeagh is quoted:

The nation has now got itself into the frame of mind where, unless all cereal crops, from wheat and corn to hay and potatoes, are bumper, it will be abused. This year the fine prospects of a bumper cotton crop are belied by the gloom induced by the approximate 15 per cent shortage in the cereal crops, which will be above the average. The fact that the country is seemingly prosperous agriculturally, and is likely to remain so, seems to have been entirely overlooked.

The banking situation, from the reports that I hear, is sound enough, and the national treasury is on "easy street."

California is no longer interested in the cereal market to any material extent. Our interests run to semitropical products, and for these prices are good and the crops large. The hop growers have been making independent fortunes this year and only the grape industry is depressed.

The industrial future of California lies in the spread of irrigation, and the Call desires to impress this fact on the financial powers in San Francisco. Whether justly or unjustly an impression prevails in some parts of the interior that San Francisco bankers are unreasonably prejudiced against the bonds of irrigation districts. For example, L. L. Dennett of Modesto, addressing a meeting of merchants the other day in Stockton, is quoted by the Mail of that city on the subject of the supposed opposition to these bonds:

At the request of the irrigation districts, the last legislature passed the various laws which had been suggested by the representatives of the banking interests, removing, so far as possible, the features which it had been claimed by the banks interfered with the sale of irrigation bonds. Although this act embodied the suggestions made by the representatives of the banking interests, it is now known that some pressure was brought to bear by those interests to defeat the passage of the act, and also, after the act was passed, to persuade the governor to veto it. The reason of such opposition we can only surmise, but that there does exist a systematic, concerted action to discredit these irrigation district securities has been clearly demonstrated. It is also certain that this influence emanates from San Francisco; but it is admitted, at the same time, that such bonds are absolutely safe securities, and that there is no real objection to the acceptance of these securities, except possibly the low rate of interest.

We do not know on what evidence Mr. Dennett bases his charge or whether there is any such evidence, but it is unfortunate that impressions of this sort should gain acceptance in the interior.

If there is any distrust of these securities we hope it will be made to disappear, because their advantageous marketing means more to California than any other single business proposition. It would be a good thing if the bankers and the district people would get together and quit talking at long range.

**S**OCIALISM in Germany is rather a form of protest than a distinct cult. The big vote that the socialist party polls in that country does not necessarily mean that these voters are all convinced believers in that system or polity, but rather that they are in considerable numbers opposed to the dominant policies on which the government is administered. Chiefly they are opposed to militarism, which drains the resources of the empire for the advantage of an aristocratic caste.

Evidence of this state of mind was furnished by the resolutions

**Fickert Is Strong for Both Leaders, but Silent—Sh-h-h!**

**I**t is the end of the campaign and not one word on the real issue has been heard or read from Charles M. Fickert, candidate for district attorney. That issue is Ralph versus McCarthy, the names of the men standing for distinctly different kinds of government. Fickert knows as well what the issue is as does any voter in the city. He knows that who is not for Ralph is against him and his kind of government. Doubtless he knows where he is on that issue, on whose side he stands—but he won't tell. That, Fickert holds, is his own business. He claims and exercises the right to ask other men to vote for him, but no man may ask him where his vote is going on the mayoralty. He declares that he is talking and working for nobody but Fickert—and that is entirely true as far as talking goes. He is a political sphinx, with a vocabulary of just one word—Fickert."

As has become quite clear to the electorate, Fickert has put himself in a position that nobody envies. He is exhibiting himself in the situation of a man trying to ride two horses going in opposite directions. Possibly on Tuesday, and, if not then, certainly in November, he will give an exhibition of a man doing a spread eagle tumble.

Fickert would have the Ralph enthusiasts believe that he is strong for Ralph—strong but silent. Sh-h-h-h!

To the union labor people he shows his obverse. Don't they know where he was in the fight of two years ago? Well, he is the same way now, only he does not think it right to say so. Again—sh-h-h-h!

It is obvious enough that Fickert, flying the McCarthy banner, is yet hunting Ralph support. He sought and got and uses a union labor endorsement. He talks from the platforms of McCarthy meetings and hunts scattered votes with McCarthy—but never a word to his hearers, at least in public, on McCarthy's behalf. He has not paid for that endorsement with a public or published syllable commanding McCarthy or any other man on the McCarthy ticket except Fickert.

Now, this is an evil case for a candidate. He who can not say a word for another on the same ticket with him can not expect any such other to say a word for him. In truth, he must be either ashamed or afraid of the ticket—or both. Manifestly he does not care much about the political company which he sought, and, having found, keeps.

It is due to the Ralph men, whose support and efforts Fickert wants and labors to secure, that he tell them and the city his attitude on the all important question of the campaign. It is very much their business to know what kind of support Ralph, when elected, is going to have from the district attorney's office.

On the other hand, McCarthy and the rest of the McCarthy ticket are equally and even more entitled to know whether or not Fickert is for the kind of government they stand for—whether or not he is for McCarthy. They gave him their endorsement and they give him space and time on the McCarthy platforms. The least he owes them is to come out man fashion and say either that he is with McCarthy and them with all his might or else that he is with them but not of them.

The truth is that Fickert thinks McCarthy will be beaten, but he dares not leave the McCarthy camp for fear of losing labor votes. He dare not declare for McCarthy for fear of losing Ralph votes, without which he can not hope to qualify. Those two horses are pulling wide apart. Poor Fickert!

adopted by a great open air meeting of socialists, so called, held in a Berlin park early this month. It is estimated that nearly 250,000 people attended this gathering, which was addressed by speakers from 10 platforms. These were the resolutions adopted:

The men and women of the working part of the German people here assembled protest energetically against the abominable incitement to war carried on by armor plate and cannon making capitalists and their paid agents. Convinced that the whole colonial policy is only one excrecence of imperialism and of the capitalist desire for robbery which leads to the coarsening of the conquerors and the violent destruction of whole peoples, and that this policy inevitably leads to jealousy and conflicts with other states in which the workmen have to pay the cost, those assembled here protest against these adventurous undertakings. They demand also that in such grave matters the representatives of the people be consulted. They assert that they will utilize all their political and economic powers for the preservation of peace among the nations.

This is a platform in which all good citizens, whether socialists or otherwise, might heartily concur, and it is evident that the wide prevalence of such opinions must be taken into account by ambitious rulers who would otherwise be disposed to hurry their people into war. It is the growth of this sentiment all over the world that gives impetus to the peace movement.

**N**one of his public addresses Saturday, Mr. Taft treated of the admitted evil of the law's delay which has become a crying reproach to the administration of justice in America. It is a favorite theme with the president, and no man speaks on the subject with higher authority. He urges the young lawyers to bring constant pressure to bear on the legislature to cut short judicial procedure and expedite justice, and he points out the results that have followed on the neglect to press these reforms when he says:

If you will examine the statistics you will blush as Americans that we have not shown ourselves more adaptable to the issue which has arisen here with respect to whether crime shall be punished and have not made a machinery that has accomplished the purpose.

The tendency of legislation ought to be toward giving the judges more power, and then making the judges responsible. There is no difficulty about making the judges responsible, either. I know it is proposed to make a short cut, and cut his head off without any reason, just because the people wish it, under the theory of a judicial recall. I agree that the movement has foundation on the basis which I have stated, namely, that the courts have not fulfilled the function that they ought to fulfill; but I do not agree that, therefore, they ought to kill the court, and that is what I think you are doing if you make every tenure of office dependent on an election.

In fine, if the lawyers will not take hold of the situation and do their duty as Mr. Taft tells them they should, the people will find a remedy that may prove worse than the disease. The prevailing and justifiable discontent with methods of judicial procedure will compel the people to seize the first weapon that lies near at hand. This is the inspiration of the recall movement as it affects the judiciary which, impelled by popular resentment over the law's delay and hairsplitting refinements, seeks to cure the malady by the rough and ready remedy of clubbing the patient to death.

This resentment may be natural, but the remedy proposed would not cure the law's delay and it would disastrously impair the judicial and impartial state of mind which the man on the bench should bring to the consideration of controversies submitted to him for adjustment. There should be, as Mr. Taft says, some means to deal with judges who misbehave, but this should take the form of some simple method of impeachment by which the man attacked would be given a fair, orderly and expeditious trial on presentation and calm consideration of the evidence.

**Whole City Resents a Vile Attack on Rev. D. O. Crowley**

**M**AYOR McCARTHY must have lost his head when he gratuitously and wantonly slanders a priest whose name is a household word in San Francisco for piety, philanthropy and all good works—when he publicly charges such a man as Rev. D. O. Crowley with wrongdoing and expresses doubt that he will get to heaven.

This charge was made by McCarthy at a meeting in Friday night. He is quoted as saying on that occasion:

My opponent has not yet given an accounting for \$228,000 worth of flour intended for relief in the Mission. Some day Ralph and Father Crowley may do it—when he and Crowley go to heaven, if they ever do.

Plainly, this is the wild and foolish talk of a man frenzied by the imminent prospect of defeat, stung by popular repudiation of his candidacy, angered because the object of his attack exercises his privilege of citizenship and supports the mayor's opponent. McCarthy is verbally running amuck.

The author of this vicious calumny would be indeed fortunate had he Father Crowley's standing in this life, let alone his chances for the life hereafter. Through many years of service to God and humanity this clergyman has come to enjoy a singular regard among his fellow citizens, people of all creeds and of no creed at all.

No man living in this city has done more to alleviate the condition of the poor, to cheer and comfort the afflicted or to advance our standards of morality. Everywhere he is respected, trusted and beloved. Who strikes at him wounds the hearts and stirs the wrath of many thousands that believe in him to the uttermost.

Unfounded and scurrilous attacks upon a political antagonist San Francisco has learned to expect from McCarthy, especially when he knows he is losing. He has said many things about Ralph as false and slanderous as this, but heretofore he has not dared abuse such men as Father Crowley. At the close of this campaign he appears to have let his vainglorious egotism, his wholly selfish ambition and greed of power get away with him, whatever judgment and common sense he ordinarily commands.

Of course, this wild and wicked accusation will not hurt Father Crowley—he stands too high to be hit by any shaft of maddened malice. Mud won't stick on a reputation that shines so clear. It is not even necessary for Father Crowley to defend himself. He may even smile his familiar kindly smile and let the evil blow pass unnoticed. But an aggrieved and outraged community can and will—it must—bring to bear upon the source of venomous libel an active resentment.

Father Crowley's friends and admirers, those who believe in him and look upon him with grateful affection, may do for him much that he would not think of doing for himself—and they will do something this time.

It is a shameful and cowardly thing to attempt causeless injury upon a man who never did anybody an injury in his life, who has given all his life to doing good and practicing a practical kindness, who never in all his life asked or accepted anything for himself. Be sure that this vile insult will recoil upon the head of Father Crowley's calumniator.

**Persons in the News**

**A**VALAH B. WILSON, for four years assistant manager of the St. Francis hotel, has tendered his resignation to Manager James Woods. Wilson will leave at the end of the week for a two weeks' stay in the southern part of the state. Mrs. Wilson, his mother, will accompany him. It is likely that Wilson, who is well thought of here, will occupy himself here in some other capacity than to return to his home in the east.

**M**RS. AND MRS. JOHN F. NEYLAN are from town from Sacramento, where he is a member of the state board of control. They are at the St. Francis.

**J**AMES F. ZITT, a brewer and business man of San Diego, is at the St. Francis with Mrs. Zitt.

**L. E. WAIRD**, electrical engineer, is registered at the Hotel Turpin from Sacramento.

**A. C. MILLS** of New York was among the arrivals of yesterday at the Palace.

**JUDGE W. H. GILBERT** of the United States circuit court is at the Fairmont.

**ARCHIBALD GRAY**, a business man of Portland, Ore., is at the Palace.

**H. E. O'BRYAN**, a real estate operator at Monterey, is at the Stewart.

**JOSEPH D. RIDDLE**, an oilman from Hartford, is at the Stewart.

**A. H. HEWITT**, the Yuba City attorney, is at the Turpin.

**R. Z. FULLER**, a hotel man of Dutch Flat, is at the Turpin.

**Abe Martin****YOUNG MEN WANTED****U. S. NAVY****A CHANCE TO VISIT ALL THE POINTS OF INTEREST IN THE WORLD****NO PLOWING**

What's worse than th' feller that asks a question an' then don't pay any attention t' th' answer? What would you rather do somebody ef go fishin'?

**Vest Pocket Essays**

By GEORGE FITCH

**FRIENDS**

**F**RIEND is a man who is willing to share his time, his money and his conversation with you.

There are many kinds of friends. Some friends exist for revenue only and some are protective to a high degree. A true friend is a better defender than a battleship and as a convenience has a national bank beaten all around the compass.

Friends are useful in a multitude of ways. They are a great assistance on smoking cigars, in waiting for ducks and in digesting dinners. A great many men find it impossible to support a large heavy bar in an expensive saloon without the aid of several friends. Friends can be sworn at with comparative safety, and the man who loves to tell disagreeable truths in an offensively frank manner would not live long if he were compelled to practice upon strangers instead of friends.

Friends are blood relatives of predestination. Both are great thieves of time. As a rule, friends love most dearly to steal the bright and cheerful evening hours which should be spent in reading good books. It is a common thing for two or three friends to hold up a perfectly respectable business man and take four or five hours away from him, including the hour in which the last streetcar leaves the downtown district.