

# Editorial Page of The Detroit Times

Saturday, September 17, 1910

## It Explains Why Roosevelt Is More Popular Than Ever

Turning to Him the People Are Simply Turning Away from a President Who, by Partisan Zeal, Is Blinded to Their Purposes.

It explains the triumph of insurgency in nearly every instance where Republicans have been called upon to name their preference.

It explains the defeat of Burrows in Michigan and it explains the Democratic victory of this week in Maine.

It explains why Taft has been put down as a failure in the presidential chair, why he will never serve another term as president and why Theodore Roosevelt's following among the people is GREATER THAN IT EVER WAS BEFORE.

Read this letter again and please note where we put the emphasis. We will explain the capital letters later on: Here it is:

Your letters of the 9th are at hand, and I have delayed replying until after the primary elections. The president directs me to express to you and to your friends his deep appreciation of the work which you have done and the powerful assistance which you have extended to the administration from the beginning—an assistance that has contributed much to the legislative and other successes which have been secured. The president recognizes that your efforts have been wholly disinterested, that you have fought sturdily and generously for what you believed to be his interest and the welfare and success of the party. While Republican legislation pending in congress was opposed by certain Republicans the president felt it to be his duty TO THE PARTY AND TO THE COUNTRY to withhold federal patronage from certain senators and congressmen who seemed to be in opposition to the administration's efforts to carry out the promises of the party platform.

That attitude, however, ended with the primary elections and nominating conventions which have now been held, and in which the voters have had opportunity to declare themselves. The people have spoken as the party faces the fall elections; the question must be settled by Republicans of every shade of opinion WHETHER THE DIFFERENCES OF THE LAST SESSION SHALL BE PERPETUATED OR SHALL BE FORGOTTEN.

He recognizes the danger that in certain cases expressions of feeling were so intense as to make it difficult in some instances for factions to come together and work loyally FOR THE PARTY, but, as he stated in his letter to the Republican congressional committee, he believes it can be done and should be done. THE PRESIDENT IS CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL YOURSELVES MEET YOUR LOCAL AND STATE SITUATION IN THIS SPIRIT, AND THAT YOU WILL WRITE TO YOUR FRIENDS AND ASK THEM TO DO LIKEWISE.

The president feels that the value of federal patronage has been greatly exaggerated, and that the refusal to grant it has probably been more useful to the men affected than the appointments would have been. In the preliminary skirmishes in certain states, like Wisconsin and Iowa and elsewhere, he was willing in the interest of what the leaders believed would LEAD TO PARTY SUCCESS, to make certain discriminations; but the president has concluded that it is his duty now to treat all Republicans congressmen and senators alike, without any distinction. HE WILL NOW FOLLOW THE USUAL RULE IN REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS AND STATES and follow the recommendations made by Republican congressmen and senators of whatever shade of political opinion, only requiring that the men recommended shall be good men, the most competent and the best fitted for the particular office.

Only in one instance in this most remarkable letter does President Taft give COUNTRY a look in, and then not until he has first taken care of PARTY.

And there you have Taft.

It has been party FIRST with him in every public document he has written and in every public speech he has made since he took office.

And it is still PARTY, in the face of the stouter kind of rebuke of his administration, which makes it as plain as the nose on one's face that what the great majority of the people want is SOME concern in Washington on the part of their officers for COUNTRY.

Few presidents have been in a better position during their occupancy of the White House to know the real temper of the people.

Taft has spent less time in Washington than any of his predecessors.

He has traveled much and into all sections of the country.

And it is unreasonable to suppose that he is not familiar with the cause of the uprising that has disrupted his party, divided its progressives and its standpatters and found the former on top in the results of primaries and elections.

But in his letter he leaves us to infer that it is all due to the fact that he withheld his co-operation from certain congressmen and senators and denied them their share of the PATRONAGE.

In a confession that he did do this—a confession by the way which comes many months after the facts were well known—in this confession the president of the United States now promises these congressmen and senators that they may have the jobs for their friends if they will only come into the fold and help save the PARTY.

Not ONE word in this letter looking to a getting together for a better condition of things for the country—for a cheaper cost of living, for instance.

Not one word to those faithless representatives but faithful reactionaries who have stood between the people and the demands of the people; so warning to them that unless THEY come back to Washington (where such accidents may happen), with the avowed purpose of doing something for the COUNTRY, patronage will be denied THEM.

Just simply this:

"I've gone and raised particular Ned with the party and I'm sorry for it. I've raised something of the same sort with the country, but I don't care so very much about that."

In the midst of the greatest political conflict, almost, in the history of the country and of parties, our deluded president fails to understand the reason for it.

He evidently cannot conceive of the fact that those whom he invites back into the fold can have possibly put PATRIOTIC PURPOSE before party.

But it is true and the olive branch is extended too late.

The great fight they are waging and winning is for PRINCIPLE.

But Taft, of the old school, slave to party and blinded and deafened in his zeal for party triumph alone, thinks it's PATRONAGE.

## "GOOD OLD DAYS" DISCOUNTED

In country towns like West Liberty there is not much doing this time of year. When the farmers are all busy and they have to be included in the population of country towns—the old town is quiet. But on Saturday evenings, after all the hay has been put up, the threshing over and the fruit canned, our country friends come over. They do some trading, but as much as you would expect, they have come to visit and not to take in the picture show.

Perhaps you did not happen to read the letter President Taft had Secretary Norton write for him to a mysterious somebody in Iowa.

Perhaps you did read it, but even so, we print it here again that you may READ IT again, for it is a mighty significant document in its relation to the present state of affairs in the country.

It explains the triumph of insurgency in nearly every instance where Republicans have been called upon to name their preference.

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## IF MR. CAVE-MAN HAD ONLY KNOWN!



## Insurgent-Standpat War Invades Lawyers' Body

The recent annual meeting of the American Bar association presented

in our day from top to bottom, is

questioning its oldest practices as

freely as its newest, and stands ready

to attempt nothing less than a radi-

cal reconstruction, which only frank

and honest counsels and the forces

of evidence and of corporate theory

which we have outgrown.

It may be said that it is not fair

to pick out for punishment the par-

ticular officer who ordered a thing

done, because he is himself under or-

ders, is a dummy manipulated from

without. I reply that society should

permit no man to carry out orders

which are against law and public po-

licy, and that if you will but put one

or two conspicuous dummies in the

penitentiary, there will be no more

dummy for hire.

"I hear a great many lawyers join

the cry of the business men, that it

is time legislators left business alone,

but the cry is futile, the impotence

which gives rise to it is selfish and

ignorant. Nothing is settled or can

be let alone when it is known to be

wrong, until it is set right.

"We are upon the eve of a great

reconstruction. It calls for creative

statesmanship as no age has done

since that great age in which we set

up the government under which we

live, and which was the admiration

of the world until it suffered wrongs

to grow up under it which have made

many of our own compatriots question

the freedom of our institutions

and preach revolution against them.

"I do not fear revolution. I do not

fear it even if it comes. We have

unshaken faith in the power of Amer-

ica to keep its self-possession. If revo-

lution comes, it will come in peaceful

guise, as it came when we put aside

the crude government of the confed-

eration and created the great federal

state which governed individuals, not

corporations, and which has been

these hundred and thirty years our

vehicle of progress."

"President Wilson bluntly told the

lawyers that they had lost their right

to be considered the counselors of so-

cieties, that lawyers now regard them-

selves as the counsel of individuals

and special interests exclusively, that

before they can again be influential

in shaping and directing the great

Democratic movement they must

again become the "servants of justice."

"Pastor RUSSELL HERE, SUNDAY.

Celebrated Divine Will Speak in

Guard Armory.

When Pastor Russell spoke in the

Detroiter opera house two years ago,

over a thousand people were unable

to gain admittance and the friends

who have arranged for his second