

# ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ADMINISTRATION

Speech of Hon. John M. Morehead in the House of Representatives June 16—Platform Pledges Enacted Into Law—Vigorous Answer to Congressman Pou's Speech—Raps Referee System.

(Continued from last week.)

I want to submit to the candid, thinking and patriotic people of my State that in a Republican form of government, necessarily controlled by parties as ours is, that the best results that is, the best government for all of the people—can be secured only in the Nation and in the State by having two strong, aggressive parties, facing each other, controlling keenly for the mastery, so that when one party fails of its trust, a moderate degree, that party can be immediately displaced and another put at the helm. A strong, aggressive party of opposition is absolutely essential for good government. It is the only way to correct the shortcomings or faults of the ruling party. A Republican party to-day is guilty of are due to the fact that it does not perform its functions as a party of opposition.

So in North Carolina to-day the Democratic party has been guilty of many breaches of faith with the people. Within the last few years an increase of crime, its failure to enforce the law, its desertion of the great and fundamental principle of self-government, and its general incompetency have been due largely to the fact that its leaders have felt they were secure in power and that there was no fear of Democratic defeat and Republican success. The present Democratic administration in North Carolina and its predecessors would both have given far better government if the Republican party in the State had been standing on guard with enough soldiers to step in and take charge at the first betrayal of trust by that party.

I submit that this proposition is true and that it is fundamental. This being so, then should not every man who is a patriot before he is a partisan, in my State, join hands in wiping out the twin evils which I have pointed out above and which have tended to make the State hopelessly Democratic and the South hopelessly solid?

I submit that it is the duty of every citizen to lend his efforts to accomplish and bring about those conditions which will insure the best results from party government, no matter whether that party for the time being shall be the Democratic or the Republican party. It was this great basic truth that President Taft had in mind when he appealed to the people in the South who believed in Republican principles to align themselves with that party and make it a bold, progressive party; when he declared that the doors should be opened, and that the referee system should no longer block the way. I submit that no President ever uttered a more patriotic appeal, or one with a higher sense of duty and friendship to the South and to all of its people when so doing. Mr. Pou, instead of criticizing the President, should be patriotic enough to stand up and applaud his utterances and uphold his hand in this respect, and so should all Democrats and all Republicans, North and South, as American citizens.

Now, Mr. Chairman, another one of my North Carolina colleagues, Mr. Webb, of the Ninth District, has within the last few days delivered a speech in this House, which also purports to be a reply to my remarks.

That District is one of the strong cotton-mill districts of the State. Mr. Webb denies that the cotton-mill industry of his District is in a prosperous condition, and attempts to show that it is actually suffering rather than being helped by the Republican tariff law, and contends that, if the Republicans can not pass a tariff law that will be more conducive to the success of the cotton-mill industry, then there is no reason why a Republican should be sent to Congress from that District.

Mr. Webb overlooks the fact, or at least fails to be frank enough to state, that the high price of raw cotton has caused a temporary depression in the cotton-mill business, and he also fails to point out the fact that this is not an unmixed evil, inasmuch as this high price of cotton is one of the elements that is contributing directly to the wonderful prosperity of our farmers and indirectly to the prosperity of all other classes. I admit, frankly, that the present tariff law is not just what I would have had it be as respects the cotton schedule as it affects the South.

In short, the cotton schedules are more favorable to New England than to the South; but I submit that, if the South would send Congressmen to Washington who believe in the great American doctrine of protection, then we would be able to have every schedule of the tariff as favorable to the South as to any other section of the country. Why should the National Republican party force the benefits of protection upon a section that insists upon sending Congressmen to Washington who declare that they do not want protection and who further declare that it is iniquitous and robbery?

Mr. Webb pours out copiously his larval sorrow over the depression

in the cotton-mill industry, and then adds, How can a "near" Republican help cure this condition? My answer to his is, How can a free-trade Democrat who votes against protection of all kinds and under all circumstances help this condition? It is true that some mills to-day are running on short time, but if we had Democratic free trade there would be twice as many mills running on short time or not running at all.

Mr. Webb comments upon some letters which I have recently written to cotton-mill men in the State and boasts of the fact that, out of all the cotton-mill men in the State, there have been five who have sent to him copies of their replies to me, in which they express their disappointment at the present depression in the cotton-mill business.

Mr. Chairman, I am a cotton-mill man myself, and I am no more pleased with the present depression in my business than is any one of the five cotton-mill men quoted by Mr. Webb; but I realize that no matter how prosperous the country is, yet it is impossible for every industry to prosper equally at the same time. Indeed, it is unreasonable to expect such a condition.

When cotton suddenly dropped to four cents, under the Cleveland administration, the farmers suffered greatly, but for a while the mills unduly profited on account of buying the raw material at less than it was worth and being able for a while to market the finished product at something like the former prices. Just so now, the sudden rise in the price of cotton has for the present seriously handicapped the mills, because they can not make a profit paying fifteen or sixteen cents a pound for cotton until the general upward trend of prices would enable them to sell the output of their mills at a reasonable increase above former prices.

These apparent inconsistencies and hardships occur every now and then in every business, even under the most prosperous and favorable general conditions. This is fully appreciated by nine-tenths of the cotton-mill men from whom I have received letters. I will read an extract from a letter which I have just received from one of the most thoughtful and progressive cotton-mill men in the State, which shows that he holds practically the same view. The extract is as follows:

"Long Island, June 17, 1910.

"Hon. John M. Morehead,  
Washington, D. C.

"Dear Sir:—Your letter of the 14th at hand. I have received literature from you from time to time, and all of it was well worth reading, but your last argument in urging that we give Mr. McNinch our vigorous support is one of the best reasons I have read on present conditions and why we should support the Republican party. I have believed in a protective tariff ever since I have been able to reason for myself. For the life of me I can not see why any man in the cotton-mill business can believe in free trade or low tariff, and really they do not, but on account of past affiliations they are not able to overcome their prejudices, but are deaf to their own interests and vote the Democratic ticket when they must know that the policies of the Democratic party, if enacted into law, would be disastrous to the cotton-manufacturing business. Some of them are now saying that McNinch can not help mill men of the South that have voted for free-trade policies are not in position to speak of hard times and attribute it to the policies of the Republican party, claiming that times could not be worse, etc. If these Democratic mill men had supported the Republican men to Congress, then, no doubt, we would have some influence.

"In framing the bill we would no doubt have gotten more protection for our products, but as it is—voting, as the South has been doing, for free-trade policies—we have not been in position to ask any consideration from the Republican leaders, for we voted against protection, and why should they be concerned about the South, who have been their political enemies? I am very sorry it has been that way; I have not been of that kind, but have voted for the party of protection. We have been in this section since 188, coming from New Jersey. We were told upon our arrival that all the best people in the South voted the Democratic ticket. We reasoned the matter this way: We believed in a protective tariff when we were North, and inasmuch as we were engaged in the cotton manufacturing business, we could not see why a few hundred miles should change our views on the tariff question. We took up the then seemingly hopeless task of contending for the idea of a protective tariff. At that time we did not have more than three or four Republican (white) voters at our precinct—not enough to fill the offices at the polls. And as late as when McKinley was first elected we had but nine Republicans. In the last election we cast eighty-nine votes for Cox and the Demo-

crats cast forty-seven for Kitchin. This shows you some of the effective work that we have done for the principles advocated by the Republican party in this section of the country. I am going to give McNinch all the strength that I have in a political way from now on to the day of election. I am quite sure we will hold our own in this precinct and should make some gain in the county as a whole—you remember, we carried our county in the last election."

I hold in my hand a copy of the Greensboro Daily News of Saturday, June 18th, which publishes a letter from a cotton-mill man, in reply to one of the cotton-mill men quoted by Mr. Webb, which is as follows:

"Why a Mill Man Will Vote the Republican Ticket.

"To Editors of Daily News:

"Having seen two letters in the News and Observer of June 5th, written in regard to the textile industry of this State and complaining of the mills running short time and shutting down, signed by a Mr. Lattimore, I beg space to make reply.

"Mr. Lattimore said he wrote because he had nothing else to do. If he is out of a job, let him come to the Henderson Cotton Mill, and he will get one; also any others who may want to work, of whom he says there are many. Mr. Lattimore tries to show that the Republican party is responsible for what he misters lack of employment.

"Let me say to you, Mr. Lattimore, that the Republican party is not responsible for the mismanagement of the mill business. At the Republican party by its policies has, and does, provide work for anybody who reasonably wants work. Please look in the Mill News and see the advertisements every week for thousand of hands, and those mills running full time. All you, Mr. Lattimore, or anybody else, have to do is to go to them and go to work.

"Mr. Lattimore, the Democratic Congress under the Cleveland administration of 1893 is what drove me to the cotton-mill business. We were getting four and one-half cents per pound for cotton, and when I got to the cotton mill I got twenty-five cents a day, but I was merely a boy then; my father and my grown brother for forty and fifty cents per day. Since the G. O. P. has resumed the direction of the Government's affairs my father has gone back to the farm to raise 15-cent cotton, and I am in the mill getting \$1.50 per day. And there are plenty of boys that get anywhere from \$1.75 to \$2.25 per day. Suppose we don't work but four days of the week we get as much now in one day as we got in a week in those 'good old Democratic days.'

"But you may ask: 'What was the price of meat and flour then?' I don't know; I didn't have the money to buy them then, so therefore I didn't ask.

"You seem to think that you can fool me mill folks by telling us that the Republican party is the cause of all the mills not running full time. We well know that there are mills all over this broad land of ours that are running full, and some overtime; they are advertising for help in this week's Mill News, and see for yourself, Mr. Lattimore.

"If the voters in the country are like those in the mills, you can bet Mr. McNinch will be the next Representative in Congress from the Ninth District. I am certain the farmers will not vote for a Democrat to go to Congress and vote to cut the price on tobacco, cotton, and peanuts. But you say that flour and meat are so high that the farmer can not afford to buy it. If the farmers themselves don't make the flour and meat, pray tell me, Mr. Lattimore, where it is made, and do they not get higher prices for hogs and cattle and wheat than were ever known before? Answer this, Mr. Lattimore.

"Now, Mr. Lattimore, if you are not going to start up your mills, do not try to fool the people by telling them that they can not get work anywhere else, for it won't do you any good, and you know it, Mr. Lattimore.

"Do you think that I would vote for a party that came within one year of disfranchising me? I was just old enough to vote in 1908. I could not have voted had I been six months younger, because my father was unable to provide me with an education, and Democratic State management did not provide the public schools where I lived.

"What I have been able to learn since is due wholly to the system of education provided by the mill district.

MILL MAN.

"Henderson, June 15, 1910.

The facts and arguments stated in these letters speak for themselves and require no further argument on my part in support of the view held by an overwhelming number of the cotton-mill men of my State and of the whole South.

Mr. Webb states in his speech that the operatives of the cotton mills in his district are running on short time, are out of employment, and are trapping the streets looking for work. Indeed, he paints the conditions as appalling. He uses such expressions as a "fearful stagnation," and says that "the greatest industry of the South, the cotton-mill industry, languishes high unto death."

Mr. Chairman, I can not refrain from observing, in this connection, that a Democrat never seems to be so happy or so eloquent as when

picturing hard times and the demoralization of business, and indeed the Democratic party itself seems never to thrive except upon misfortune and calamity.

But, Mr. Chairman, to show that the present depression in the cotton-mill business is not only temporary, but that it is already passing away, and that conditions are beginning to improve, I call attention to the fact that in an industrial paper, the Mill News, a copy of which I have before me, and which is published at Charlotte, N. C., in Mr. Webb's district, there are two solid columns of advertisements from cotton-mill men advertising for help, employees of all kinds, to work in cotton mills, and announcements of improvements and enlargements of mills, and the starting up of new mills. A sample one of two of these advertisements is as follows:

WANTED.—A No. 1 carder for 25-000-spindle mill on fine work. Must be able to get production and cost. No excuses. Must get and keep help sufficient for above results. Address 'Results,' care Mill News."

"Announcement—Starting up New Mill.

"On or about June 1st we will start up our new mill, and will need cotton-mill help in all departments. We expect to start the mill on a good grade of gingham, and all the looms will be new, and of the automatic type. We are now booking applications for help. Our tenement houses are all new and equal to any in the South. All houses are equipped with electric lights in every room. All drinking water is furnished from deep wells, and is guaranteed pure. The health is equal to any mill town in the State. Please address your applications to "PATTERSON MILLS CO., "Roanoke Rapids, N. C."

How can Mr. Webb's district be full of idle men wanting work in cotton mills in the face of two columns of advertisements appealing for more cotton-mill employees? The eloquence and the logic of these advertisements appealing for more labor tell the story and are unanswerable.

But, Mr. Chairman I submit that no matter how great has been or is now the depression in the cotton-mill business, that it is a historical fact that no one industry can long languish in the midst of general progress and prosperity. Besides that the effect of the policies of no party can justly be measured by the present or temporary condition of any one business or industry. It can only rightly be judged by the effect upon the body politic, including every class of our citizens and by every line of industry taken as a whole. If we were to admit that everything which Mr. Webb has said about the demoralization of the cotton-mill business were true, then I submit that it would be simply the exception to prove the rule of general prosperity.

I also have a copy of the Charlotte Observer of June 19th, one of the leading daily newspapers of my State, and published in the largest town in Mr. Webb's Congressional District. That paper—a Democratic paper—is so impressed with the general prosperity of the State, as shown by the local and county newspapers from mountain to sea in giving a picture of what is actually going on in each community, that it devotes nearly a column editorial to commenting upon the State's progress as indicated by its exchanges. That editorial is as follows:

"Moving Onward.

"Any man or woman who is so fortunate as to be a citizen of North Carolina and to feel any particular pride in the State will find little excuse for pessimism in this present year of grace 1910. True, rains and threatened floods may cause uneasiness in various sections, and market conditions may not be all that could be desired in many lines, but such shadows only serve to emphasize by contrast the really bright prospect which beckons our people. A very brief list, taken at random from the Observer's exchanges of a single day, will afford a concrete demonstration of the soundness of the optimistic viewpoint.

"The Thomasville Davidson calls attention to the excellent condition of the Daldson County schools, a condition which the county named is by no means enjoying in lonely isolation. The Fayetteville Observer features a report of the library committee of its city which shows that the institution, though but eighteen months old, is in the best possible condition; this, too, is typical rather than exceptional. The Thomasville Times records the fact that a new church and dozens of new homes are in process of erection in the chair town. Schools, libraries, churches, homes—what more substantial evidences of growth could be asked? Changing the viewpoint to things somewhat more material, the Raleigh papers bring word of united effort by citizens of the State capital to secure improved union depot facilities, and it may be remarked that effort of this character seldom fails to make the desired impression upon the railroad companies. Our Hickory contemporaries carry stories of contracts awarded for new streets and cement sidewalks, as well as of plans

for a public park. The Rocky Mount Echo describes the activities of the civic department of Rocky Mount's Women's Club in taking up the question of cleaner back yards and improvement in sanitary conditions generally. Wadesboro is reported to be wide-awake as never before; Hendersonville is to have a new daily paper; bridges are being planned for Fender County which will bring its farmers half a day closer to the Wilmington markets. Mountains, piedmont, and coast all have the same story to tell.

"Did space allow the list might be extended until every county in the State should be represented by an item of one sort or another but those cited are amply sufficient to indicate the direction in which the tide is setting. The old fable which is built around the mutual interdependence of the body and the members exactly applies in this situation. North Carolina is a unit to the extent that whatever directly helps one county indirectly helps all the rest. Charlotte is properly interested in a deeper channel for Wilmington; Wilmington is not indifferent to the increase of textile industries to be seen every year in and around Charlotte. Bound together by such ties the entire Commonwealth faces the brightest prospect it has ever known, and this is but the dawn."

Here we see, from the extracts made by the Charlotte Observer from the representative newspapers all over the State, a picture of wealth and growth and progress, substantial and widespread, in every community and with every class of our people. And yet in the face of this the professional croaker continues to croak for campaign purposes. When we see an individual who has this disease we call him a dyspeptic. There fore a fitting designation for the Democratic party would seem to be a "political dyspeptic," in capable of enjoying the good things before it and thereby incapable of seeing or appreciating them.

WITH THE EDITORS.

After the politicians at Wrightsville got surfeited with politics, they can then get cooled off in the surf.—Wilmington Star.

If there is not a little fight in the Republican State Convention, it won't be the fault of the Greensboro News.—Lincolnton Times.

The Republicans may have their wrangles in the primaries, but it is all over when the convention is over.—Durham Herald.

County politics in Harnett is getting to the front now. There are nine candidates for treasurer and six for sheriff—a contest for every county office but clerk of the court.—News and Observer.

Alfalfa is said to be a cure for snake bite. It will hardly take the place of the old-time and common remedy in these diggings for some time to come—anyhow not until more of the former is raised and moonshine liquor is less getable.—Charlotte News.

## BETTER THAN SPANKING.

Spanking does not cure children of bed-wetting. There is a constitutional cause for this trouble. Mrs. M. Summers, Box W, Notre Dame, Ind., will send free to any mother her successful home treatment, with full instructions. Send no money, but write her today if your children trouble you in this way. Don't blame the child, the chances are it can't help it. This treatment also cures adults and aged people troubled with urine difficulties by day or night.

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