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The Pot and the Kettle.

Certain Republican politicians are crying hard times and seeking to discredit Mr. Wilson's administration by the cry. Democratic politicians, on the other hand, are just as industriously working to prove that times are good. The Republicans will find a concern somewhere that through bad management or for other causes has kicked the bucket and is laying it on the Wilson administration. Then the Democrats will find one that is unusually successful for some reason and whoop that up as a proof that times are good. It is like a contest between the pot and the kettle as to whose shade is the most popular. The fact that Mr. Roosevelt has stooped to this kind of stuff has discredited him to some extent in the eyes of many sincere admirers, even those not of his own party or parties as the case may be. On his attitude the Winston Journal remarks:

"Colonel Roosevelt has fallen back on the calamity cry of the little Republican politicians throughout the country and takes the position that prosperity cannot exist during a Democratic administration."

"This is the same Mr. Roosevelt whose occupancy of the Presidency was chiefly signalized by the panic of 1907, and the ensuing depression, from which the country was only emerging when his successor was installed in office."

"During the panic, when Mr. Roosevelt was in the White House, there was organized in every section of the country No Meat Clubs. Money was so scarce and meat was so high many people throughout the land boycotted all forms of meat and were forced to a vegetable diet. The people of this nation have not been forced to any such boycott under the Wilson administration. There is abundance everywhere."

"You remember, of course, the scrip days of the Roosevelt administration. In those never-to-be-forgotten days people who had good hard money in the banks couldn't draw it out. Checks were no good. Depositors were given scrip instead of the money, which had to be hawked around and finally exchanged on discount. Remember those dark days back in 1907? Well, the next time a little wobbly-four Republican says anything about alleged business depression in the year 1914, just hark back to Republican rule and scrip."

All this is belittling conduct in men of large caliber who ought to be thinking, not of party advantage and clap trap arguments regarding surface conditions which are likely to exist, and will exist, which ever party is in power, until the fundamental conditions which cause hard times in years of absolute plenty, are ferreted out and remedied, but of the underlying causes that make such occasions in all administrations. As long as our whole industrial fabric is built upon the restrictive ideas which continually narrow instead of broaden the basis of opportunity and enterprise, we will be subject to spasmodic frights, psychological depressions, real panics, suffering and hard times, though the land burst with its products and the essentials of plenty, peace and prosperity be always at hand. That system of political economy which teaches that hard times come from making an over-production of things good to eat and wear while half the population has not enough of either, must be torn up root and branch. In its place must be found the reason that keeps the great industrial masses from buying them because of insufficient returns from their own labor. More and more the people are becoming too enlightened to be caught by the old political catch words that mean nothing. Right along this line we notice an interesting editorial in the Gastonia Gazette, whose editorial writer is Mr. S. J. Durham, a former mill man and a lawyer. Mr. Durham is thinking beyond the political clap trap that the distinguished Colonel and his fellow politicians are putting out. He says:

"It is a condition that is not going to be met and the problem solved by changing surface conditions, but only by some very fundamental changes in the industrial structure. It is believed that our banking laws will have a very decisive bearing upon this problem. The bonds being broken that bind so many laborers to single tasks and make their competition so bitter among themselves, and the opportunity being made easier for them to launch upon independent and successful enterprises of their own will have much to do with the solution of the problem."

"It is hoped that our statesman and our agitators even will give more attention to feasible changes of the structure of our industrial fabric that will tend to result in the laborers' emancipation and less to those things that have come to be generically termed 'betterment movements,'

that serve mainly to keep industry annoyed."

Mr. Wilson has turned the attention of the country toward the light, and if he is not swamped by the snaky politicians and pork barrel congressmen and pie hunters of his own party he will be able to at least demonstrate during his administration that the way to lasting prosperity is the widest latitude of freedom and opportunity of the masses, instead of the coddling the monopoly organized forces that dominate, restrict and dam up the energies of a great country for the sake of the inner circles. Already to some extent the idea of protection, the great humbug of the age, has been pricked. As Mr. Durham says, the currency bill looks in the right direction. Peace instead of war is about to be shown to be the normal condition between people. Honor and righteousness are taking the place of the club. And when the president gets his trust bills through he will demonstrate to the country that while the most ultra anti-trust legislation, yet proposed, has been passed it has not done a whit of good—that other things must be done to abolish monopoly. While it will show this, it will also make more dangerous the vaporings of Roosevelt and Perkins on this subject, and their program, namely, regulation by commission, will have to be tried before we can start on the real remedy, which is the abolition of the monopoly of natural resources. This is one of the "structural changes" which must come about, when most of the other troubles will disappear.

Bound For the Scrap Pile.

That good old lady, the Union Republican, living still in the last century, says:

Here's a nut for Democratic free traders to crack. Custom receipts of the fiscal year just ended show some of the effects of the new Democratic tariff on American manufacturers.

Foreign merchandise to the amount of \$224,000,000 more than framers of the Underwood tariff law anticipated has arrived. Exports have dwindled proportionately. And yet the American workman is expected to throw up his hat and shout at such a condition when every dollar's worth imported means that much less for him to do.

We do not know whether the old lady has the figures right or not, but we know she has her conclusion wrong. In the first place, the Democratic party is not a free trade party. We hope to see it such some day, for free trade is the only natural trade. In the next place, the conclusion that importation of goods from a foreign country can injure the people of the importing country is foolish. The worst it could do would be the mere displacement of some lines of production for others. If the goods imported were given to us gratis, no one would argue that such gifts would be an injury. If they are not sent in as a gift, they must be paid for—perhaps in money first—but finally in real goods produced in this country. Since all international trade is mere barter, the exchange of goods for goods, we are bound to send out enough things to pay for the things we bring in. And since we make a profit on both what we sell and what we buy, our country would eventually be benefitted most by the widest latitude in foreign trade. No nation on earth has ever sold without buying, and never can. Leaving off tariff duties merely tends to displace some lines of coddled protection and to open the way for larger and more profitable lines. Thus, while protection can and does help some favored manufacturers, it injures the country as a whole, while free trade opens up the wider fields of production and thus helps everybody. It is only a question of time till the theory of protection will go to the same scrap heap with the flat earth, the bow and arrow, and the ox cart.

Mr. C. R. Thomas, a candidate for congress in the third district, has retired from the race because, he says, he got the most votes in the first primary and yet when compelled to run over, the committee, in the hands of the friends of his opponent, required him to put up an entrance fee of one thousand dollars. If these high handed methods of executive committees continue it will no be long before they will not only fine a man for running for congress, but they will be wanting to order him to jail for contempt.

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Our Fashion Letter.

Now that the stores are beginning to sell their goods at reduced prices, preparing already for their fall and winter stock, is it not time for you to take advantage of the bargains and buy yourself a new dress?

Just the thing you need to keep your wardrobe in the vanguard of the proper thing to wear at the right and proper moments is my first illustration—a dress of eponge and linen. The waist and tunic are of pleated eponge, which is mottled blue and white. The lower skirt, collar cuffs and girdle belt are of course white linen. Blue cloth-covered buttons fasten the front of the waist and the girdle. With this dress are worn white stockings and shoes of dull blue to match the blue in the eponge.

Many of these new skirts which appear wider at the bottom are made with a yoke or a yoke effect with a long and pleated tunic, the under-skirt having a circular or pleated dounce. A wide sash is often worn with these skirts of silk or of the same fabric if it is soft enough. It is placed high in front and is tied in the back with a dip.

For the evening gown the flounced skirt is very popular. In lace, tulle, or organdy these many ruffled skirts are most alluring and reminders of what our sweet young grandmothers wore.

There is a new gauze organdy made of silk and of the quality of chiffon, with the durability of voile, which is most attractive when made up in these gowns of the crinoline days.

What was considered decollete a short while ago and only suitable for evenings are now thought to be perfectly correct and proper for afternoon and other informal occasions. A dress I saw not long ago had a waist which was composed principally of two pointed pieces of Nattier blue satin draped up to either shoulder, front and back. For an instant I stood aghast and thought



Mottled Blue and White Eponge Combined With White Makes a Costume Serviceable and Smart.

that was all there was to the waist, but lo! over the arms and shoulders was the thinnest of blue tulle, which served the purpose of covering the arms with long and tight sleeves, and to give a coating of conventionality to the waist, as it came up to a puritanically high neckline. The skirt was of black satin, with a long tunic of the black tulle embroidered in gold thread.

The waist which cuts low in front and with which is worn a gullepe or vest is very good this season. The armhole droops very low on the shoulders of these blouses and a full little bishop sleeve or organdy is attached.

The circular redingote tunics are the latest things in long tunics. They are open in front, or buttoned, and sometimes show the underskirt.

Among the new materials which will be shown for the late summer are heavy soft faille silks and a new grosgrain taffeta in wonderful short and changeable effects. This new taffeta has much more weight to it than the taffeta so commonly used this summer.

Vests are a necessity in the wardrobe of even the woman who does not always try to keep up with the latest whims of fashion. Charming ones can be made of cretonne, whose colors blend or artistically contrast with the colors of your suit. This is also used for collars and cuffs on suits. The large figures are sometimes outlined with black in a heavy silk or cotton, which brings out the coloring in a striking manner.

Charming little dresses are made of crepe which have jackets of the same, and the waist sometimes the same and sometimes of organdy. A bit of embroidery in black and red woolen thread is most effectively placed in the corners of the jacket, the collars and the cuffs. If there is a sash of the same, which is often the case this year, this same embroidery is placed on either end. The hat worn with this costume should be of white and trimmed with a band of white, which is also embroidered in these colors.

Net petticoats are a charming addition to the summer lingerie. They are made with very little fullness and are gored a little so that they flare around the bottom. The lower edge is either scalloped or bound and each panel is made daintier by the addition of an embroidered design. A heavy thread of lace is often used to connect the seams.

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