

TAFT'S RECORD AGAINST TRUSTS

Sherman Law Enforced Without Fear or Favor

EXCELS HIS PREDECESSORS

Both in Civil and Criminal Prosecutions Taft Administration Breaks All Records—Legal Accomplishments of Five Predecessors Compared.

TAFT'S ANTI-TRUST RECORD

Under the last five administrations prosecutions under the Sherman anti-trust act have been brought as follows:

	Civil Suits	Criminal Cases	Total
Under Harrison, (Three years) ...	4	3	7
Under Cleveland, (Four years) ...	5	2	7
Under McKinley, (Four and one-half years)
Under Roosevelt, (Seven and one-half years) ...	18	25	44
Under Taft, (Two years and 11 months) ...	22	40	62

* One property seizure. The ratio of prosecutions, allowing for length of time in office, of the Taft administration as compared with the records of its four immediate predecessors, is approximately as follows: Taft over Harrison, 9 to 1 Taft over Cleveland, 12 to 1 Taft over McKinley, 30 to 1 Taft over Roosevelt, 4 to 1

President Taft's administration has broken all records for prosecutions brought and won under the Sherman anti-trust law. Without fear or favor it has brought to the bar of justice corporations and persons engaging in illegal combinations in restraint of trade, the ultimate purpose of each combination being to create a monopoly and to raise the prices on its products. In two years and eleven months of his administration President Taft has caused to be brought four more civil suits and fifteen more criminal prosecutions than Mr. Roosevelt brought in the seven and one-half years of his administration.

Until Mr. Taft became the president the administration of Mr. Roosevelt held the record in both particulars. Thus President Taft, who was Mr. Roosevelt's right arm during his last administration, kept his pledge to the American people to uphold and maintain the policies of his predecessor in punishing the criminals and undesirable element in the big business of the country.

In the Republican national platform of 1908 reference was made to the prosecution of evil trusts and monopolies as one of the great accomplishments of the Roosevelt administration, and the platform declared that the Sherman anti-trust law had been a wholesome instrument for good in the hands of a wise and fearless executive. In his speech of acceptance Mr. Taft pledged himself to the enforcement of this law. How faithfully he has kept this promise the record of his administration shows.

Problems Confronting Taft. Stripped of controversy as to the exact meaning of certain language of the Sherman anti-trust act, the questions that had to be determined by those in administrative authority and those who judicially determine their acts, were, first, how effective the law was to reach the great aggregations of formerly competitive producers and dealers, individual and corporate, who, through inter-corporate stock-holding mergers, consolidations and otherwise, had acquired so great a control over a particular line of industry as to enable them to dominate it, and to exclude or admit competition as they might choose upon their own terms.

Secondly, to determine whether that construction of the law was correct which had been given to it by some of the judges of the circuit court in New York in the tobacco case, and in the opinions of some of the justices of the Supreme Court in other cases to the effect that any combination, which in any respect operates to restrain to any degree a pre-existing competition in interstate commerce, was necessarily condemned by law.

In the three years of the Taft administration all of the sixteen cases left pending by the previous administration have been disposed of except two, which have been argued and submitted to the Supreme Court of the United States and are now awaiting decision. Of the remaining cases, the Standard Oil case was argued early during the present administration, and, after an appeal, decided entirely in favor of the government. The same was also true of the tobacco cases with the ultimate result of the disintegration of that big trust into fourteen separate and distinct corporations. This, it is believed, will effectively prevent a continuance of the monopolistic conditions complained of.

During the Taft administration, up to February, 1912, twenty-two civil suits have been brought and forty criminal indictments found under the Sherman law, making in all sixty-two proceedings. As a result there were fifteen indictments, and eleven of these involved eighty or more defendants; eight out of twelve defendants were convicted on one indictment after trial by jury and their conviction confirmed by the court of appeals, and thirteen criminal prosecutions are still pending.

A brief review of the cases brought under the anti-trust law during the administration demonstrates clearly its value to the American people in their protection of that equality of opportunity which is declared by the platform of the Republican party to be the right of every citizen.

Reference to a few of the anti-trust cases brought by the Taft administration give an excellent idea of the harshness some of these illegal combinations entail upon consumers. In the prosecution of a case against a number of individuals who attempted to corner all the free cotton remaining of the crop of 1903, it resulted in a raise in the price of that commodity to the spinners, prevented some from making any purchases, and was, therefore, restraining interstate commerce.

In like manner the government took cognizance of the pooling of the wire industry with the result that nine indictments were found in New York against eighty-three persons engaged in that business. It was an illegal restraint of trade, and when the court proceedings had been finished various defendants were fined in amounts averaging \$1,000 each, with the exception of the supervisor of the pool, who was fined \$45,000.

One of the most outrageous cases of combination in restraint of trade, and a notable violation of the Sherman law, was that of the hand-blown window glass industry. Practically all of the manufacturers (eighty-three in number) formed a company which controlled the entire output of hand-blown glass. As a result the price was advanced 100 per cent within less than a year. The indictment of the men responsible, the imposition of fines, and the restoration of the business upon its former lines, was followed by a substantial reduction in the price of hand-blown glass.

The federal government is prosecuting suits against the beef trust and the lumber trust with every promise of victory, as in all of the previous trust cases.

DELEGATES FOR TAFT

On Saturday, March 23, 1912, the number of delegates elected to the Republican national convention pledged to President Taft, were as follows:

Alabama	26
District of Columbia	2
Florida	12
Georgia	23
Indiana	4
Iowa	8
Michigan	4
Missouri	6
New Mexico	7
Oklahoma	4
Philippines	2
South Carolina	14
Tennessee	14
Virginia	24
Total	143
Necessary for choice	539

Taft's Efforts for Peace.

Honesty of intention, stability of purpose and a firm faith in the principles of the party of Lincoln, Grant and McKinley are some of the characteristics of President Taft. Familiar with the horrors of war, as well as the enormous expense that it always entails, independent of the vast expenditures required to keep a great nation upon a constant war footing, the president has persistently sought to promote a world-wide peace of nations by international agreement. Any failure of accomplishment in furthering this worthy cause cannot be charged to the president.

Taft Does Things.

According to the opinion of Representative Roberts of Massachusetts, the New England states are sold for President Taft, because, as he puts it, "he does things." In a few sentences Mr. Roberts gives his views as follows: "When the administration of President Taft is reviewed in the calm light of history, it will be found to have been one of the great periods of accomplishment of the history of this country. Not only has he inaugurated and carried through many valuable principles, but he has seen to it that promises and hopes held out by his predecessor have been accomplished facts."

Hebrew Satire.

The Hebrew satirists in this and past ages have mostly directed their attention to the foibles and follies of the miser, the hypocrite, the profligate and the snob, while the superstitious and pretentious rabbi receives even more castigation than the frivolities of the fair. The following epithet for a judge might easily be recognized as possessing an English origin: "Here lies Judge A— he's done with legal tort, and sleeps as soundly as he did in court." As a matter of fact, the author was Yetteles (1763-1812) but the idea is ubiquitous and eternal.

ADVERTISING IN THIS PAPER FREE

LETTER FROM CUBA.

(Continued from Page 9)

hold their independence and time only can determine the result.

Havana Carnival.

The annual Serpentina Confetti Carnival occurred on four consecutive Sundays in February and March. From our balcony I witnessed three this season.

Calle del Prado, an avenue extending over one mile from the "Malacon" (Sea wall opposite Morro Castle) to include India and Columbus parks, is naturally adapted for this festival. This avenue is two hundred feet wide and consists of a central double promenade lined with seats and bordered by Spanish laurel trees with a carriage drive on either side wide enough for three lines of vehicles.

The Carnival procession has exclusive use of the Prado which covers two lines of carriages and one of autos always passing in one direction up one side and down the other. The street vehicles and horses are decorated with wreaths, roses, bells and streamers—single two to four horse carriages including two to four horse tandems passing at a sharp trot, filled with all kinds and sizes of people. Everybody joins with laughter and good nature, some wearing face masks, others head or whole mask costumes—the variety rich, lavish and elaborate. The ladies particularly seem to vie with each other in presenting elegant and attractive designs. It is said only the homely girls wear the pretty ones *knowing better*. The tops of the carriages are thrown back and provide an extra seat for three higher up.

The procession starts at four o'clock and continues until seven; the sidewalks, balconies and open blind windows are filled with pleasant groups of spectators who join the carriage occupants, in exchanging in a most sociable and laughable manner, the serpentine ribbons and confetti. One readily recognizes the expert from the tenderfoot as these ribbon wheels encircle the heads of a bunch of pretty girls, who before they can escape from the tangle, trail a long stream of these bright colored paper ribbons. The best of jolly pleasures occur aided by music of paper horns, chime bells, guitars, cymbals and frequent songsters.

After this parade follows the marching societies, headed by whirling illuminated transparencies carried over the heads of giant Cubans, followed by lines of four abreast singing some favorite songs accompanied by shrill flutes, sharp drums and a variety of trumpets. Grotesque as well as character maskers fill the air with expressions of enthusiasm for their particular portion of the parade of merry maskers.

A Cuban Cock Fight.

At Guanabacoa, three miles east of Havana, stands a circular building, open sides under a dome and below a roofed canopy. From the canopy down are ten rows of sharply raised bench seats continued by four rows of folding chairs entirely around except twenty-five chairs in an enclosed latticed reservation over the entrance. A three-foot sloping panelled enclosure with folding inside doors open upon a sanded arena of about thirty feet in diameter. A bar scale with hook at each end to weigh the birds which in their sacks are suspended and classified at the opening of the main. The entire woodwork of the building is painted white with light blue borders.

A bell announces the opening and finish of each fight which continues from eight until midnight. In every case of one being knocked out an officer holds an hour glass in plain view to indicate a finish or limited restoration. During these revivals owners are permitted to sponge their birds with orange water, drying their bills and heads with a silk bandage. These owners are privileged to sit or kneel in the arena and encourage their birds in most ear splitting expressions and grotesque gestures. During the entire scene in each conflict a howling, betting excited audience express their preference in lightning Spanish in support of their favorite.

It would seem that none can equal either the Spaniard or the Cuban in their expressions of enthusiasm or disgust in game amusements and a combination of these two makes the claim an absolute certainty.

The game cocks are fine trim birds of light weight variety about three pounds; proud, defiant and aggressive, of brilliant plumage—red, black, white and spangled, all beautiful, with no two exactly alike. Only dulled natural spurs are permitted. From the moment of facing each other they display a perfect knowledge of the object of the entertainment—directly attacking, diving under, over and around each other, sparring and feigning, to secure a breathing moment, giving no indication of thought for surrounding confusion, but attend strictly to business, without hesitation or apology until the victor has

killed, blinded or disabled his antagonist,—announcing his success by most vigorous crowing, each contest lasting from twenty to forty minutes. It certainly forms one of the most persistent quarrels without significance or justifying cause known in Civil or National history.

A Word to Voters.

Col. C. H. Carmon is making a vigorous campaign for the Republican nomination for the state senate. He was defeated for this place on the ticket four years ago by a small margin. If the Republicans of Livingston county have not given I. M. Lish a life tenure of the office, is it not time that the honor should be passed on to some other worthy and faithful member of the party?

Our candidate is a clean man, an intelligent citizen, a loyal partisan, and we can assure the Republican constituency of the 16th senatorial district that if C. H. Carmon is nominated, no standard bearer in the field will work harder or more constantly to keep the party council fires burning, and maintain the party alignment unbroken. It will behoove the Republican party this year more than ever before to put vigilant and diligent candidates for the legislature in the field; the campaign before us is no dress parade affair. You cannot win hands down this time. Whose ever hat is in the ring will have to pull his coat. The worker will be the winner.

Our man Carmon has this essential qualification. Solomon says "Seest thou a man diligent in business, he shall stand before kings. The spider layeth hold with his hands and lo, he is in king's palaces." Col. Carmon is a man of strenuous activity. His private business bears witness. Give him the nomination, and we pledge you that he will have every Republican in this district by the hand before the 5th of November. There are no flies on Charley, and what is equally important, he has no strings tied to him; no gang can run him. Elect him and he will serve you loyally.

M. C. EIGUS,

Ex-Member of the Legislature, Forrest, Ill.

Louis F. Strawn Announces His Candidacy for State's Attorney on the Republican Ticket.

I hereby announce my candidacy for the Republican nomination for State's Attorney of this county and ask the support of each and every Republican voter at the Primary on April 9th.

I have practiced in the courts of this county since I was admitted to the bar in 1894 and believe I am capable of administering the duties that devolve upon a State's Attorney in such a manner as will meet with the approval of the people.

When I ask the active support of the Republican voters of this county for my candidacy I do so with the feeling that it will be my steadfast aim, if nominated and elected, to conduct the affairs of the office during the next four years in a manner that will bring to me the unqualified approval of the public.

I would like to personally meet every Republican voter in the county, but the difficulty of traveling from place to place, especially in the country, and business affairs constantly demanding my attention, will prevent me from doing so.

To all those Republican voters whom I will not have an opportunity to see personally I ask your fair consideration of my candidacy.

I have lived in the county over forty years. I have practiced law both here and in adjoining counties for eighteen years. I am a Republican both at the primaries and at elections. I am for the nominee of the Republican Party and hope that nominee will be myself. If it is, and I am elected I will give every one a square deal without fear or favor.

Very truly yours,

10-5w LOUIS F. STRAWN.

Election.

Polls at primary, April 9, are open from 6 a. m. to 5 p. m.

You must state your name, residence and party affiliation. The law requires it.

If challenged, you must file the statutory affidavits before you can vote.

See that a judge's initials are on the ballot given you.

Put a cross in the square opposite the name of each candidate (except precinct committeeman) for whom you desire to vote.

Put the cross in the square; thus Under the words, "For Precinct Committeeman" (at bottom of ballot), you may write or paste the name of the person for whom you desire to vote for precinct committeeman. Neither a square nor a cross need be placed opposite the name.

If you mark three names for representative in the general assembly, your ballot will be counted as 1 vote for each of three candidates; if two names, as 1½ votes for each of two candidates; and if one name, as 3 votes for one candidate.

Do not vote for more candidates, under any office, than you are directed, on the ballot, to vote for.



"The Man Who Can Be Elected Governor"

J. McCAN DAVIS of Springfield, Illinois

The Big Question

Thomas Jefferson prescribed three tests for a public officer: "Is he honest? Is he capable? Does he support the Constitution?"

In this day when we are about to nominate a candidate for Governor, we must add a fourth question—a question of the greatest practical importance:

"CAN HE BE ELECTED?"

That is the vital question which at this moment confronts the Republican voters of Illinois.

It is the same question which confronted the Republican party of the nation in 1860, when Abraham Lincoln was nominated for President—not because he seemed at the time the "biggest man" of the party, but because he was the one man who could be elected.

"A Republican of the Lincoln Type"

J. McCan Davis has been rightly called "A Republican of the Lincoln Type." He stands for the great principles of the Republican party—the vital things that Lincoln stood for—the principles that make this "a government of the people, by the people, for the people." And, like Lincoln, he stands for no passing whims or impractical fads but for real progress.

Paul Selby is one of the few surviving founders of the Republican party in Illinois. It was Mr. Selby, then an editor in Jacksonville who called the meeting of editors held in Decatur, February 22, 1856, at which the first steps were taken to organize the Republican party. Abraham Lincoln attended that meeting and helped shape its deliberations. Paul Selby, personal friend of Abraham Lincoln, now writes J. McCan Davis:

"As a personal friend and acquaintance for many years past, it is but just that I should say that the announcement of your candidacy for the office of Governor has had for me more than ordinary interest. Without entertaining any feeling of personal prejudice or hostility toward other candidates, as an original Republican and as one who regards the maintenance of the principles of that party and the protection of the rights and interests of the whole people as of the first importance, I feel impelled to express my hearty approval of your plan for a campaign independent of mere factional controversies and divisions which are now imperiling the welfare of both party and people. * * * At the present time both the State and the Nation are confronted by a chaotic condition not unlike that which existed before the days of the civil war, and one which calls for the selection for public office of men inspired by a higher ambition than selfish greed."

Another distinguished original Lincoln Republican now surviving is Judge J. O. Cunningham, an honored citizen of Urbana, Ill. Judge Cunningham was a prominent delegate to the first Republican State convention, held in Bloomington in May, 1856. He was a personal friend of Abraham Lincoln. Judge Cunningham, in a letter to J. McCan Davis, writes:

"* * * Your announcement as a candidate for the nomination for Governor meets my hearty approval. * * * My influence, if I have any, shall be given to your candidacy. I wish your announcement, which I read yesterday, might be in the hands of every voter."

J. McCan Davis Can Be Nominated

The one man now seeking the Republican nomination for Governor who can be elected beyond question is J. McCan Davis. That is universally conceded.

Whether or not J. McCan Davis is to be the nominee of the Republican party for Governor this year depends wholly on the good sense of the country voters—the voters who live outside of Cook County.

Chicago has had the Governorship during twelve of the last 20 years. This year the office belongs to the country.

In 1908, in the primary campaign, for Clerk of the Supreme Court, two Cook County candidates absorbed most of the vote of that county. Mr. Davis received only 7 per cent of the Cook County vote, only one in every fifteen votes cast. But in the country, although there were five country candidates, he received 34 per cent of the vote—one vote in every three votes cast.

This year there are four candidates for Governor contending fiercely for the Cook County vote—virtually four Cook County candidates—while four others are dependent mainly on the country vote.

The Cook County vote seems certain to be split up in such a way that if J. McCan Davis can secure one vote in four of the votes cast outside of Cook County, he will be nominated.

If you want the nominee for Governor to be a country man—a man who will not be dominated by the "interests"—a man who, if nominated, can be elected in November—a man whose nomination will not compel defeated candidates, in order to support him, to retract all they may previously have said about him—a man whose election will mean a united Republican party and a return to the "good old days" of real statesmanship—your only course is to vote for J. McCan Davis.

Do not waste your vote on some other candidate just to pay him a "compliment."

A "complimentary vote" this year for some candidate who has no chance to be nominated, is dangerous. It merely helps nominate a man whom you do not want—a man whose nomination would mean party disaster.

Make your vote count—make it nominate a Governor—by casting it April 9 for J. McCan Davis.