

19th Annual Kansas Day Club Banquet

Section 2, Pages 31 - 39

These records contain the program and addresses for the 19th Annual Kansas Day Club Banquet.

Creator: Kansas Day Club

Date: 1910

Callnumber: Manuscript Collection 597

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 444477

Item Identifier: 444477

www.kansasmemory.org/item/444477



19th Annual Kansas Day Club Banquet

-4-

that wise men have championed its cause, that progress has been its watchword in the past will not avail it now. It is true that some are secretly doubting, and others openly criticizing the motives and attitude *toward these questions. Educated as we have been by a strenuous and impulsive administration,* of the present administration, we have grown accustomed to manifestations of great activity. Carried away by flaming advance notices of a continuation of past policies, we have confidently expected the same degree of excitement to continue. In this expectation we have been disappointed, and this fact has tended to lessen our faith in the present administration. And the desire of the President to be true to the Party's promises and effect needed reformatory legislation has made it necessary for him to enlist the sympathy and cooperation of certain influential leaders in Congress. This imperative policy has indicated, in the minds of some, a complete alignment between the President and certain men, supposed agents of special interests, and an antipathy to other men, supposed champions of the people. But the assuring and convincing messages of the President during the past month have rebutted this foolish assumption, and fully restored our faith. And whatever our beliefs and sympathies in regard to the so-called insurgent movement, which the terrifying correspondents would have disrupted the Party, we should recognize the great responsibilities of President Taft, and the delicate position in which he is laboring, and be broad enough to commend the dignified course he has pursued, and the unselfish devotion he has shown in his endeavor to carry out the wishes of the Party and serve the nation.

We young Republicans are proud of our political parentage. We are proud of the Party's past. We are hopeful of its future. We are firm in the belief that a patriotic, determined, and capable President has recommended a broad and wholesome system of legislation, that a more

19th Annual Kansas Day Club Banquet

-5-

or less warring Congress will cooperate in its enactment, that a ready and thankful people will gladly receive its benefits. We believe this period of testing will again prove the merit and worth of the Republican Party.

19th Annual Kansas Day Club Banquet

U.S. Rupe Treaty PATRIOTISM AND PARTY TREATY

Patriotism, - love of country, devotion to the land that bore us, is now urged upon us as higher and paramount to every other emotion that sways the human heart.

' The tho't cannot be expressed in loftier or more comprehensive terms than by Cicero who says, " Dear are parents, dear are children, dear are friends and relations, but all affections are to all men are embraced in country alone". The Greek, the Roman, the Frenchman talk about Fatherland and we are beginning to copy them, through to my ear, the English Mothercountry, is far more tender and true. Patriotism is a much abused word and has been used to express almost every feeling to which the human heart is heir. I believe with the De Tocqueville, that there are two kinds - that of instinct and that of reason. The former was possessed by the American Indians and consists in a love for old customs and old traditions. The latter is patriotism in its highest form and consists in an honest desire to perpetuate the meritable policies and institutions of one's country, and may only be possessed when one is fully conscious that the responsibilities of the nation to some extent rests on him. " There is no such thing as abstract patriotism," says Burke, and this patriotism consists in a devotion to certain political principles.

A man who is a ^{love} slave to a party is neither patriotic or wise. But he who has no political creed and cares not for the great political problems yet to be solved, is derelict to his highest duty as a sovereign citizen. Parties are organizations to control legislation; principles are fundamental truths, which guide one to right action. Parties are only a means to an end; principles are an end within themselves. Parties are factors; principles are ideals. Parties are instruments with which men work; principles are causes born of conscience and conscience is God. Parties are sometimes organizations to gain power and control spoils. Principles are immortal and on their solution the fate of our nation rests.

I worship no idols. Yet I am a firm believer in certain political principles which have stood the test of ages. I wish to compare briefly the policies of the Republican party with those of the opposition.

(Periods have been used for amendments.)
The Republican party was formed for the sole purpose of preventing the extension of human slavery. It struck the shackles from four-million slaves and made them free, and caused freedom to reign supreme from lakes to gulf. It enacted a protective tariff, which has made us the greatest manufacturing nation on earth, and has given to the laboring man contentment and rest. It has created a great navy which places us on an equality with Europe and insures us protection and peace. It gave us a national banking system. It created a currency which circulates throughout the world on a equality with gold. It restored specie payment. It inaugurated the homestead system, thus giving homes to the homeless and causing the desert to give way to growing fields and waving grain. It made provisions for the widows and orphans of those who followed the flag thro' long and weary marches, who suffered the privations of war and finally offered up their lives that this nation might live. It built the Pacific railroad and connected Boston Harbor to the Golden Gate. It has developed the internal resources of our country and proved to the world that we are creators as well as imbibers, sowers as well as reapers. It compelled France to depart from Mexico, and drove tryant Spain from Cuba. It created the interstate commerce commission and has been the pioneer in the prosecution of great and greedy corporations, who have been wearing crowns of gold bought with money picked from the 'pockets of the needy'. It has is building the Panamal canal. It has successfully fought two wars and has never yet allowed the American flag to fall in dishonor. It carried the flag of civilization from bleeding Kansas westward across the Kansas prairies, still westward across the burning sands and savage wildernesses of the Rocky Mountains. It carried it on thro' the Golden Gate and planted it, to remain forever, midst the isles of the Pacific.

The Democratic party has opposed nearly all of these policies. They have been a party of dreamers, but theirs is not the ploughman's hand nor the gleaner's husbandry. We have brought about a state of prosperity unequalled in history, with the opposition in power there has been chaos in the business world, restlessness in the heart, Abarchy in the street.

19th Annual Kansas Day Club Banquet

Our party comprises within its fold the best blood of the nation. From "Our first great Chirf" down to our late martyr President whose soul was borne upward by the prayers of millions while the angel chorus was singing "Nearer My God To Thee," ours has ever been the party of the people. We are not sectional. We are greater than Puritan, greater than Cavalier, for in the depths of our universal policies the faults of both are lost. We are not perfect, but at least, are dwelling on the mountain tops. We are indeed a chosen party. Ours is a glorious heritage. Our fathers charged the bayonets of aristocracy at Nasaly and Marston Moore. But party cannot live on past glory. When life ceases decay begins. Whoever sits down will sleep, and whoever sleeps will perish. We demand that our party shall cling to principles worthy of our past and prophetic of our future. We are simply beginning that triumphant march which shall lead us sweeping onward and upward to that grandeur, which will last when dynasties have decayed and kingdoms have perished. I already behold the sunburst of that coming day, when the stars and stripes shall float as the world's emblem of liberty and our country shall stand as, 'the enlightener of the nations, the beautiful pioneer in the progress of the world.' We are just beginning to occupy that place in the world's history, which other nations have dreamed of, but have never yet realized. Our mission is not yet ended, not until life, vigor and health pervade every part of our country, not until we have produced a nation of homes where abides prosperity and love, not until ignorance shall become a crime and every American citizen shall become an educated American citizen. Not until the ballot is held sacred and party is made subservient to principle. Not until labor and capitol are more firmly cemented together, and labor occupies a position of thrift, prestige and respect. Not until our country shall stand as the unchallenged protector of the world's liberty, the accepted arbiter of the world's disputes; Not until we realize that the air of America will not support two flags. When the blood of the sons of the North, and the sons of the South, the cowboys of the West, and the aristocracy of the east flowed down San Joan hill in one common stream, it was prophetic that henceforth class, sectional and industrial wars should be unknown. Not until America is a country where man is free. A country where peace prevails between man and man. A country where art, literature and music thrill and inspire the human heart with faith, and hope, and love. A country in which no exile sighs, no prisoner mourns. A country without vice or crime, without the widow's wail, or the orphan maniac's yell will our mission be ended. And, as I look, life lengthens joy deepens, love canopies the earth, and over all in the great dome, shines the eternal star of "Human Hope". And to these worthy principles of the past, to our still grander mission of the future, "it summons to its banners now and henceforward the ardor and patriotism and conscience of American manhood, the enthusiasm of youth, and wisdom of its maturer years." Down thro' the long vista of the ages when the Goddess of Civilization shall sit as the Supreme Queen of the Universe, with her right hand she shall point to our American Republic as the protector and defender of Civilization. Her left hand shall enclose a scroll and on it will be inscribed these words.

"To those who kept the faith - the Republican Party."

*Periods are used
not semicolons*

19th Annual Kansas Day Club Banquet

J. H. Foster

①

"The Interpreter"

It must be, and indeed, I believe is, conceded by all men that in life there is no point of stand-still; that all existence is either advancing or retrograding. This truism applies with equal force to all life and existence, animate or inanimate, national and political.

No men or set of men, the constituent parts of a political party, can point even with pardonable pride to its achievements in the past no matter how useful for the betterment of mankind or how glorious in a national aspect its record and achievements may have been, and sit satisfied with the past, content with the present and without the greatest anxiety, effort and action for the future, and long survive in usefulness to the country.

No nation, no matter the environments of its birth, no matter the basic principles upon which it is founded, no matter the important part it may have played in the great drama of the world toward the betterment of the conditions of humanity and the advancement of civilization, no matter the high place it may have acquired and held among the nations of the earth, may rest upon the past without advancement equal to the march of time, and expect to hold its place in the affairs of the world.

That man, that political party, that nation that lives upon the past without exerting every effort to correct the present and safeguard the future is on the highroad to ruin, death and decay, and Time that ever marches onward will soon sing a requiem o'er its untimely death.

Such is the history of the world.

Political parties are but the interpreters of the people. As music, poetry and painting are the interpreters of the emotions and beauty of life and soul, so political parties are the interpreters of the conditions, the needs and the requirements of the people of this country, and that political party which correctly hears and interprets



19th Annual Kansas Day Club Banquet

(2)

the voice of the people crying out the conditions, their needs and their desires and needs that cry by giving to them the needful laws and regulations, is the political party of the people and must stand for advancement and the maintenance of the high standard and place this country has so rightfully acquired in such a comparatively short space of time.

The deeds, achievements and history of a political party may rightfully be passed in review in determining the justness of its claims for continuance in power, and in presenting to the people of this country the claims of the Republican party we are proud to point to every page of its history. Born of the plain people of this land to save the disruption of the Union; that mighty mission accomplished through the terrors of a civil war the like of which the world never before saw, and notwithstanding the destruction and devastation caused by the great struggle, under Republican rule peace, prosperity and happiness again smiled upon the country and her people. That onward march continued until the mistake of placing the entire control of this country into the hands of a political party always opposed to Republican doctrine, was made. It is sad to recall the conditions the country fell into during the brief period of control by the opposition. Want, despair, idle labor, lost capital, tramps, Coxey's Army, indeed, the manufactory, the mines, the herds, the forest and the fields, all met the same fate of destruction, until the patriotic citizens of the country composing the Republican party met in convention and at the polls and paid the last sad rites to the dead and dying industries of the country, stamped out repudiation, and a Republican President re-kindled the fires of industry and held aloft the flaming torch of prosperity that has led the onward march of progress to this day.

We are proud of the men who have led the country under Republican rule; proud to point to the sacrifice they made in the interests of the country; proud of Lincoln, Grant, Garfield and scores of others, the history of whose deeds will last forever; proud of our own part and



19th Annual Kansas Day Club Banquet

(3)

of the men of Kansas--who have ever been found in the vanguard of the nation; and proud of him whose whole life was devoted to public service, in times of war as well as peace; he whose birth the Nation this day celebrates and whose life is commemorated by the decoration of patriotic home throughout the land with these little flowers, made more beautiful and fragrant by the love his great heart gave them--the great McKinley. Proud of the strenuous Roosevelt and the examples he set; proud of the present administration, both ~~of~~ State and Nation; and above all, proud of the great mass of sturdy manhood that makes up the rank and file of our great party--a party with such a history, a party with such men, living and dead, a party with such principles commends itself to the patriotic citizenship of America. However, it is not enough that the Republican party in the past has kept time with the public pulse, and has met conditions as they have arisen. The onward march of events awaits no political party nor power.

Selfishness, greed and oppression will work itself into all institutions unless a strong, masterful and reliable hand is at the helm to root out as it appears and prevent its reappearance in some other form. New conditions and surroundings in a fast moving age like the present are constantly appearing, presenting new and difficult problems to be solved, and the political party that meets these conditions as they arise will continue to be the party of the people. It is a fast moving train that keeps pace with time. In the midst of all the prosperity and happiness this people are now enjoying there are problems to be solved and they must be met at this time. Conditions have arisen that require new action to be taken--conditions are arising that threaten the just rights of the people which must be stamped out and new regulations for the future provided.

This country needs a law that will justly and rightfully protect every industry in every section of the country, framed along the underlying Republican principles of protection, and so adjusted as to oppress no man or class of men nor unduly protect any particular line



19th Annual Kansas Day Club Banquet

(4)

or lines of industry. This result may be accomplished through the medium of a commission whose duty it shall be to ascertain the facts, advise or put in operation such a schedule as shall accomplish the result, or by any other method so long as the result is obtained.

The great mass of consumers of this country who pay transportation charges on nearly every article of the necessities of life need protection against exorbitant freight rates. One section of the country needs protection against discrimination in freight rates in favor of some other section. The small shipper needs protection against discrimination by transportation companies in favor of the larger shipper. These protections must come either by giving to the commissions, both interstate and state, not only the power, but the duty of regulating the rates and manner of shipment so as to avoid this evil. And further by making any order of such commission operative until set aside by a higher power, and then such commission so clothed with such power and impressed with such duty must act, must be up and doing or the regulation must come in some other appropriate and efficient manner. Some regulation also to compel transportation companies to handle with despatch the business of the public must be had.

The great evils of unlawful combinations in restraint of trade needs the serious consideration of the country. We must not permit competition in trade to be destroyed or even hampered. Just to ^{the} ~~that~~ extent that competition is injured in any way, just that much are American institutions weakened. These aggregations of wealth combined in corporations must be looked into and safeguarded. The business they engage in and carry on must be understood and scrutinized by proper officials of the State, and above all a summary manner of preventing the continuation of unlawful combinations must be devised. These corporations owe their very existence to the State. It is given them in an easy, almost informal manner. Provide a way of taking their



19th Annual Kansas Day Club Banquet

(67)

existence from them in the same simple way and you will have them under control. By some means these evils must be controlled and aggressive action should be taken.

Kansas is proud of being among the first states to provide protection for the man who deposits his money in banks against loss by failure of the banks, but that is not enough. The banking business of the country should be so regulated and controlled that banks will not fail. A system of banking can be so arranged that stringencies in money in any particular section can be averted and a re-occurrence of the experience of 1907 avoided.

These are some of the conditions and requirements of the country. The political party that is alert and looking to the country's welfare can hear the pless and cries and the petitions from the bone and sinew of the people in all parts of the country, for a correction of these evils and a guaranty against increasing oppressions. Will the Republican party hear and interpret the voice of the people now coming from every direction? The Republican party that has at all times in the past met all conditions as they have arisen may be trusted now. The people are the masters and their will must be obeyed. Their rights at the hands of the Republican party must be protected as against the so-called corporate interests. These patriotic people throughout the land must be heard by the Republican party. No one-man rule shall obtain, and free exercise of independent judgment must not be stifled in legislative halls under Republican rule.

There is another voice of the people emanating in the short grass country of the West, local and small at first, that has now assumed proportions until it is heard from all parts of this great Commonwealth--that is the cry for the Honorable R. J. Hopkins of Finney County for Lieutenant Governor.