

FILENE ANSWERS MR. WANAMAKER

Noted Boston Merchant Appeals to Business Men With Logic for Wilson.

STABILITY WHAT WE NEED

Full Measure of Prosperity Cannot Be Realized Until Country is Satisfied With Genuine Tariff Reform.

(Edward A. Filene is president of Edward A. Filene & Son, Boston, Mass., one of the largest retail dry goods stores of the country. He is a former president of the Boston chamber of commerce, member of the National Council of Commerce, National Civic Federation, National Newspaper League, Cleveland chamber of commerce and a member of a score of clubs and other organizations; is the author of many articles on business, civic, labor and industrial relations.)

To the Merchants and Business Men of the United States:

John Wanamaker's appeal to you in the New York Herald of Oct. 4, calling for a continent wide rally to the support of Mr. Taft on the part of the merchants and business men of the country, has no doubt received your serious attention. It has seemed to me that those of us in business who believe Mr. Wanamaker's position is mistaken should make known our positions and the reasons for our firm belief that the business of the country will be best served by the election of Governor Wilson to the presidency.

There is every reason to believe that we are on the eve of abundant prosperity, and in my opinion one thing likely to prevent the setting in of such a period would be the re-election of President Taft and the one thing that would make prosperity most certain would be the election of Governor Wilson. This opinion is based upon my belief that for the business world nothing else is so important as stability.

Stability is impossible with Mr. Taft as president; there has been no feeling of stability during his administration. It is not that the president is a disturber of conditions or that he is not sufficiently careful of the business interests of the country. The absence of any feeling of stability during the Taft administration has been and is due to a widespread belief that there are certain reforms which the great body of people want and that the general feeling of unrest will not materially lessen until those reforms are accomplished.

President Taft's re-election would not create any feeling of assurance that there would be a satisfactory solution of the tariff question. By a satisfactory solution I mean a removal of unjust and unnecessary taxation.

Entirely apart from his veto of tariff legislation the mere fact that the president signed the Payne-Aldrich tariff bill and later declared that it was the best tariff bill ever written, has made it impossible for the public to have any considerable confidence that they may expect real relief from him.

Roosevelt's Record.

Upon this matter Mr. Roosevelt's record is not much better than that of Mr. Taft, nor is his present position on the tariff much more promising than that of the president. The agitation for reform began while President McKinley was still in office and had then reached such proportions that the country in general approved of the advanced position McKinley took in his Buffalo speech. It increased steadily during the seven and a half years in which Roosevelt was president, but he made no attempt to give the people any relief from tariff exactions. He does not now offer any definite tariff program. These things lead me to believe that his election now, like the re-election of Taft, would mean four years more of tariff agitation.

With Wilson elected one may reasonably expect a satisfactory solution of the tariff question. His expressions on this matter show a full conception of the country wide demand for tariff reform, a thorough knowledge of the ways in which tariff laws are made and a determination to secure as promptly as possible the much needed legislation. At the same time Governor Wilson has shown that he recognizes as a fact the intimate relation which tariff has been made to have to the structure of business in this country and that he would keep this fact in mind in handling tariff legislation.

Governor Wilson's election would mean and would be taken by the country at large to mean that we would have very early in his administration a revision of the tariff which would give the country the relief it is demanding and which at the same time would be made carefully and with a view to preventing business disturbance.

Until this is done, or at least until the country feels sure that it is to be done, there cannot be that stability which is so necessary to the fullest development of an era of prosperity.

Truth About Prosperity.

Certainly the facts do not warrant Mr. Wanamaker's conclusion that a Republican administration insures prosperity and that the periods of trade depression which the country has seen from time to time have been due to Democratic tariff revision. Mr. Wanamaker's appeal is based largely on the theory that Democratic tariff revision was responsible for the hard times of 1893. In the face of the facts no au-

Woodrow Wilson's Message to the American People

Sea Girt, N. J., Oct. 19, 1912.

To the Voters of America:
I am glad to have an opportunity to state very simply and directly why I am seeking to be elected President of the United States. I feel very deeply that this is not an ambition a man should entertain for his own sake. He must seek to serve a cause, and must know very clearly what cause it is he is seeking to serve.

The cause I am enlisted in lies very plain to my own view: The Government of the United States, as now bound by the policies which have become characteristic of Republican administration in recent years, is not free to serve the whole people impartially, and it ought to be set free. It has been tied up, whether deliberately or merely by unintentional development, with particular interests, which have used their power, both to control the government and to control the industrial development of the country. It must be freed from such entanglements and alliances. Until it is freed, it cannot serve the people as a whole. Until it is freed, it cannot undertake any programme of social and economic betterment, but must be checked and thwarted at every turn by its patrons and masters.

In practically every speech that I make, I put at the front of what I have to say the question of the tariff and the question of the trusts, but not because of any thought of party strategy, because I believe the solution of these questions to lie at the very heart of the bigger question, whether the government shall be free or not. The government is not free because it has granted special favors to particular classes by means of the tariff. The men to whom these special favors have been granted have formed great combinations by which to control enterprise and determine the prices of commodities. They could not have done this had it not been for the tariff. No party, therefore, which does not propose to take away these special favors and prevent monopoly absolutely in the markets of the country sees even so much as the most elementary part of the method by which the government is to be set free.

The control to which tariff legislation has led, both in the field of politics and in the field of business, is what has produced the most odious feature of our present political situation, namely, the absolute domination of powerful bosses. Bosses cannot exist without business alliances. With these politics is hardly distinguishable from business. Bosses maintain their control because they are allied with men who wish their assistance in order to get contracts, in order to obtain special legislative advantages, in order to prevent reforms which will interfere with monopoly or with their enjoyment of special exemptions. Merely as political leaders, not backed by money, not supported by securely entrenched special interests, bosses would be entirely manageable and comparatively powerless. By freeing the government, therefore, we at the same time break the power of the boss. He trades, he does not govern. He arranges, he does not lead. He sets the stage for what the people are to do; he does not act as their agent or servant, but as their director. For him the real business of politics is done under cover.

The same means that will set the government free from the influences which now constantly

control it would set industry free. The enterprise and initiative of all Americans would be substituted for the enterprise and initiative of a small group of them. Economic democracy would take the place of monopoly and selfish management. American industry would have a new buoyancy of hope, a new energy, a new variety. With the restoration of freedom would come the restoration of opportunity.

Moreover, an administration would at last be set up in Washington, and a legislative regime, under which real programmes of social betterment could be undertaken as they cannot now. The government might be servicable for many things. It might assist in a hundred ways to safeguard the lives and the health and promote the comfort and the happiness of the people; but it can do these things only if its actions be disinterested, only if they respond to public opinion, only if those who lead government see the country as a whole, feel a deep thrill of intimate sympathy with every class and every interest in it, know how to hold an even hand and listen to men of every sort and quality and origin, in taking counsel what is to be done. Interest must not fight against interest. There must be a common understanding and a free action all together.

The reason that I feel justified in appealing to the voters of this country to support the Democratic party at this critical juncture in its affairs is that the leaders of neither of the other parties propose to attack the problem of a free government at its heart. Neither proposes to make a fundamental change in the policy of the government with regard to tariff duties. It is with both of them in respect of the tariff merely a question of more or less, merely a question of lopping off a little here and amending a little there; while with the Democrats it is a question of principle. Their object is to cut every special favor out, and cut it out just as fast as it can be cut out without upsetting the business processes of the country. Neither does either of the other parties propose seriously to disturb the supremacy of the trusts. Their only remedy is to accept the trusts and regulate them, notwithstanding the fact that most of the trusts are so constructed as to insure high prices, because they are not based upon efficiency but upon monopoly. Their success lies in control. The competition of more efficient competitors, not loaded down by the debts created when the combinations were made, would embarrass and conquer them. The trusts want the protection of the government, and are likely to get it if either the Republican or the so-called "Progressive" party prevails.

Surely this is a cause. Surely the questions of the pending election, looked at from this point of view, rise into a cause. They are not merely the debates of a casual party contest. They are the issues of life and death to a nation which must be free in order to be strong. What will patriotic men do?

Woodrow Wilson

thority, however eminent, can reasonably ask that we accept the theory.

Now, according to facts, the panic which was commonly known as that of 1893 might very properly have been known as that of 1890 or 1891, because it was under the McKinley tariff bill, which became a law on Oct. 6, 1890, that the first signs of this disturbance appeared.

On Nov. 17, 1890, Barker Bros., bankers, of Philadelphia, suspended with liabilities of \$5,000,000, and the clearing houses of both New York and Boston voted their certificates to banks in need of assistance. There were other big suspensions and failures in this year and the next.

In 1892, while the country was still under the Republican administration and a Republican tariff law, strike after strike broke out as a result of the workmen's attempt to resist reductions in wages, and these strikes culminated in the great Homestead strike and riot. In other words, the panic of 1893 was well under way when Cleveland came into office.

Under the same tariff law in 1893 there were more than 15,000 failures in the United States, involving losses amounting to \$346,000,000.

On the other hand, after the Democratic revision had gone into effect in 1894 the number of failures fell to 13,000, and the amount involved fell to \$173,000,000, or less than half. In 1895 the number of failures was nearly 1,000 less, and the amount involved remained about half. There were more failures than this in 1911 under Taft (13,441).

Mr. Wanamaker is silent regarding the Republican panics of 1873 and 1897.

In view of the facts, then, is Mr. Wanamaker justified in his appeal? Do not the facts prove quite the opposite of his contention?

There is another matter, in my opinion very important, for us as business men to keep in mind, and that is the bearing of the coming election upon the development of a better basis of credit. The Republican tariff and Republican policies have fostered great concentrations of capital in monopolies and trusts.

Upon this great question also Governor Wilson is entitled to our support. Mr. Roosevelt favors the recognition of monopolies as inevitable, and this is logical, as he favors a controlled continuation of the conditions under which they have developed. Mr. Taft is against monopoly, but he is for a continuation of the laws which have brought them into being. Governor Wilson, alone of the candidates, has taken a consistent position for the preservation of the individual in the business world, he alone of the candidates is pledged to legislation which will prevent such financial confederacies as now control the business and credit of the nation.

Therefore, being convinced that prosperity now awaits only stable conditions and a proper basis of credit, I am firmly of the opinion that we, as business men, should work and vote for Governor Wilson.

EDWARD A. FILENE

YOUR GROCER BILL AND YOUR BALLOT

It Costs \$5.50 For Week's Necessaries; \$4 In 1904.

The housekeeper and the wage earner can see at a glance from these figures what the "high cost of living" means under a monopoly tariff:

ACTUAL RETAIL GROCERY PRICES BEING THE AVERAGE PAID IN NEW YORK, JERSEY CITY AND NEARBY CITIES IN 1904 AND NOW:

	1904	1912	Quantity required per week in average family of five persons	Cost per week	1904	1912
Butter	27c	37c	2 lbs.	\$0.54	\$0.74	
Lard	12c	15c	1/2 lb.	.06	.08	
Coffee	17c	20c	1 1/2 lbs.	.25	.30	
Tea	40c	50c	1 lb.	.40	.50	
Eggs	23c	50c	3 doz.	.69	1.50	
Sugar	6 1/2c	6 1/2c	5 lbs.	.32	.32	
Cheese	14c	20c	1 lb.	.14	.20	
Prunes	8c	12c	1 lb.	.08	.12	
Flour	63 1/2c	63 1/2c	7 lbs.	.44	.44	
Potatoes	30c	35c	1 pk.	.30	.35	
Codfish	10c	14c	1 lb.	.10	.14	
Milk	68c	11c	1 qt.	.68	1.10	
				\$4.00	\$5.50	

[1904 figures from United States bureau of labor; 1912 quotations from averaging current prices of a score of retail stores.]

Can strict economy reduce the quantity of these staple articles required, for a family of five who wish to maintain the boasted "American standard of living?" Let the high protectionists try to do with less if they will.

But let them reflect that it is costing them \$1.50 a week more than it did eight years ago for \$4 worth of necessaries for the table—27 1/2 per cent increase in the span of two presidential terms of Republican "prosperity."

Have YOUR wages, Mr. Voter, kept pace with this advance?

Do YOU see any reason for paying a tariff tax of 35 per cent on eggs or 23 per cent on beef or 63 per cent on sugar?

Food—food alone—costs the average family now 42 1/2 per cent of the total family expense.

The average cost of food per family in the United States has risen as follows:

1900	\$314
1904	347
1912	485

President Taft vetoed bills reducing the tariff on all such necessities of life.

A vote for Woodrow Wilson is a vote to insure an honest revision of the tariff and a reduction of your grocer bills.

The whole business of politics is to bring classes together upon a common platform of accommodation and common interest.—Woodrow Wilson.

YOUR SPOKESMAN, NOT YOUR MASTER.

Here are the closing words of Woodrow Wilson's address which brought to their feet the great audience in Carnegie hall, New York, on the night of October 19:

It is not merely a matter of candidates. I should be ashamed if I supposed that it was a matter of the wisdom or the discretion of individuals. I do not believe in government that depends upon the ability and discretion of a few individuals. [Applause.]

If I am fit to be a president it is only because I understand you. [Applause.] And if I do not understand you I am not fit. If I am not expressing in this speech tonight the aspirations and the convictions of the men who sit before me I beg that they will not vote for me. I DO NOT WISH TO BE THEIR MASTER; I WISH TO BE THEIR SPOKESMAN.

I rejoice to say that as I waited for your gracious applause to cease I realized that in that sentence I summed my whole philosophy and my whole desire. I thank you for your attention.

[From the New York Times, Oct. 23.]

NOT ELIGIBLE.

Gov. Wilson has not joined the Knights of Columbus. Gov. Wilson will not join the Knights of Columbus. Even if he wished to join that organization he could not. He is not eligible.

We say this for the information and comfort of Thomas E. Watson, of Atlanta, Ga. In its issue of Oct. 13 the Times said that Gov. Wilson joined the New York chapter of the Knights of Columbus at dinner in celebration of Columbus day on Saturday evening. Joining the Knights at a dinner commemorating the discovery of America is not exactly the same thing as entering the membership of the organization. If Mr. Watson of Atlanta, being invited to dine at a friend's house, should linger with the gentlemen at the dinner table for cigars and conversation, he might thereafter join the ladies, but that would not make him one of them.

Yet Mr. Watson, totally misunderstanding and misinterpreting the report of the Columbus day dinner, permitted himself to be scared quite out of his wits at the notion that Gov. Wilson had become a Knight of Columbus, with all that implies, and he thereupon made the important announcement that he could no longer support the governor's candidacy. We hope he will be reassured, be calmed, soothed and quieted when he learns that his worst fears cannot be realized. We suppose that it is only in wholly pagan countries that political campaigns are free from these little incidents.

Nothing is more unfortunate, nothing is more unwarranted than to think of politics as a contest of classes, as made up of interests in competition with one another and in hot opposition to one another.—Woodrow Wilson.

LANG'S
PHONE 2

Suggestions For This Week:

- Saratoga Chips
- Fresh Mackerel
- Sweet Mixed Pickles 25c per qt.
- Seeded Raisins
- Cleaned Currants
- Citron
- Shelled Almonds

PHONE US YOUR WANTS

HIGH GRADE
GROCERY

FOR

Lowney's Chocolate



Home Made Candies

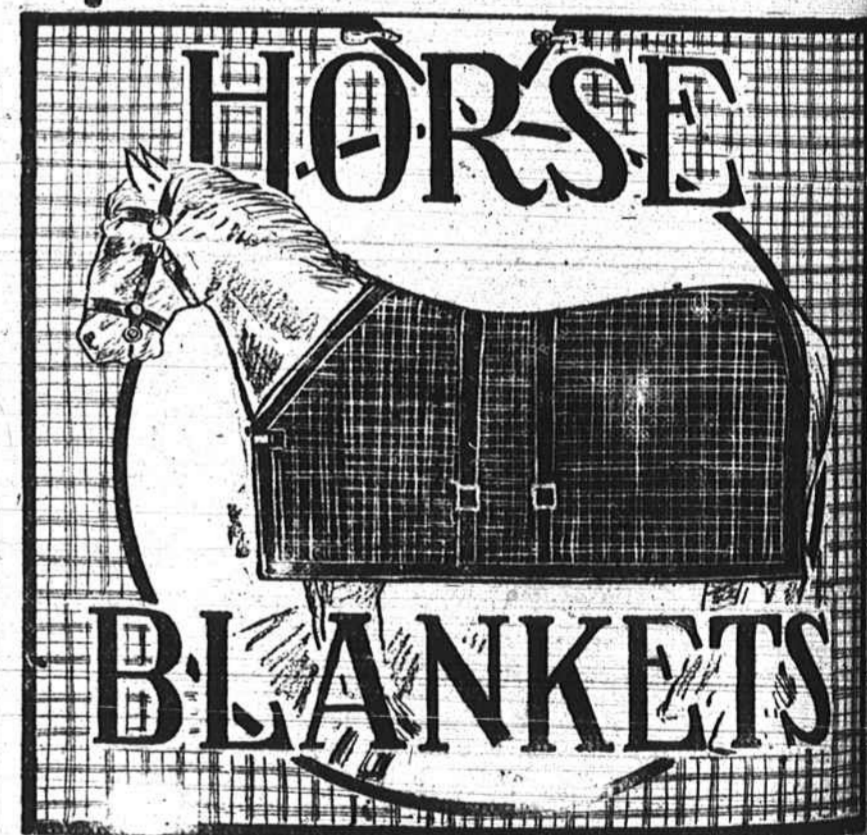
Celery

All Kinds of Fruit

Call at

Camden Candy Kitchen

Phone 78



Run a Mile

On a cold day, then sit down out of doors for half an hour without an overcoat and you will not leave a horse unblanketed after driving.

You will take into consideration not only the discomfort, but the loss this means from the injury by exposure. With hundreds of dollars invested in horses, a few dollars invested in blankets bring big returns, to say nothing of the appearance of the horse when the blanket is on and when it is off.

It pays to buy good blankets not only on account of the better protection they afford but also because you get more service for your money.

We have carefully selected the best blanket values on the market today and from every standpoint and it will pay you to buy them.

A. D. KENNEDY