

BYRAN CORNERS ROOSEVELT.

PRESIDENT AND CABINET SPEND DAY IN REPLY.

The Demand of Proof of Charges Against Haskell Has Thrown Republican Administration Into Turmoil—Roosevelt's Rejoinder is a Mass of Evasions.

Washington, Sept. 23.—President Roosevelt tonight, following upon a prolonged conference with members of the cabinet at the White House, prepared and gave out his reply to William J. Bryan, the Democratic candidate, relative to W. R. Hearst's charges that Gov. Haskell, treasurer of the Democratic committee, had represented Standard Oil interests both in Ohio and Oklahoma. Mr. Bryan had demanded proof of the charges, promising that in the event of their substantiation, Gov. Haskell would be eliminated from the campaign.

Dismissing the Ohio case, which involved an allegation of attempted bribery, with the explanation that he had made no direct charge against Gov. Haskell as regards that particular instance, President Roosevelt takes up the matter of the Prairie State Oil and Gas company and argues that Gov. Haskell's action in stopping legal proceedings begun by the attorney general of Oklahoma demonstrates conclusively that he was controlled by the great corporation to which the Oklahoma company was subsidiary.

After contrasting Mr. Bryan's denials of Gov. Haskell as against Judge Taft's repudiation of Foraker in connection with the Hearst charge against the Ohio senator, the president proceeds to declare that Gov. Haskell's "utter unfitness for association with a man anxious to appeal to the American people on a moral issue" has been abundantly shown by other acts of his as governor of Oklahoma. The president condemns Gov. Haskell's conduct in connection with various matters as disgraceful and scandalous, and calls especial attention to what he describes as "prostituting to base purposes the State university." This fresh charge against the governor rests on an article in the Outlook, from which the president quotes, and which, he says, forces the conclusion that Gov. Haskell is unworthy of any position in public life.

The later portion of Mr. Roosevelt's deliverance is devoted to criticism of Mr. Bryan's plea for regulating the trusts, which he characterizes as a measure that sounds more radical than any advocated by the Republicans, but which in practice would not work. Concluding Mr. Roosevelt declares that no law-defying corporation has anything to fear from Mr. Bryan "save what it would suffer from the general paralysis of business" which would result from Democratic success.

The president spent almost the entire day in getting the letter in shape. An hour was given this morning to making a rough draft of it, which was submitted to Secretary Garfield and Postmaster General Meyer, both of whom made suggestions as to portions of the communication. About 3 o'clock this afternoon all the members of the cabinet now in the city, Secretaries Wilson, Straus, Wright, Metcalf and Garfield and Postmaster General Meyer, met with the president in the cabinet room at the executive offices for a conference on the subject, which lasted until 5 o'clock. Two hours more were required to make certain minor changes before Secretary Loeb gave it to the press. Deeming the reply too long to be sent by wire, the method of communication Mr. Bryan had employed in his challenge to the president, it was forwarded by mail to the Democratic candidate at Lincoln, Neb.

Fully Equal.

Aunt Mandy is an old colored woman who for years has done washing for several East Orange families. She has had several matrimonial experiences, and when her last husband died one of her customers attempted to console with her.

"I was very sorry to hear of your husband's death, Aunt Mandy," she said.

"Ya'as, ma'am," said Aunt Mandy. "He was a pow'ful good man."

"What did he die of?"

"Ah, really don't know, ma'am."

"You don't know! Gracious! Couldn't the doctor tell you?"

"Ah didn't have no doctah, ma'am," said Aunt Mandy. "He jes done died a natch'ral death."

It wasn't long, however, before Aunt Mandy had another husband.

"I hear you are married again," remarked her patron one day.

"Ya'as, ma'am," giggled Aunt Mandy. "Ah was done married las' Sunday."

"And is your new husband equal to your last?"

"Ya'as, indeedy, ma'am," said Aunt Mandy. "He's jes as equal if not equaler."—New York Times.

Cholera continues to spread in St. Petersburg, the provinces of Russia, and in the Philippines.

REPORT ON COTTON.

Census Bureau Statistics on Consumption of Staple Show 445,635 Spindles Idle Throughout the Year.

Washington, Sept. 23.—The census bureau's report shows a total of 4,575,438 running bales consumed in the United States during the year ending August 31, last, compared with 4,984,936 for 1907. The total stocks on August 31, 1908, were 1,233,628, of which 596,432 bales represent manufacturers' stocks and 637,196 in the hands of other holders. The total number of the spindles was 27,845,531, compared with 26,939,415 last year. There were 27,399,896 spindles in 1898 which consumed some cotton and 445,635 were idle throughout the year. The total present spindles are classified as 22,914,561 ring and 4,930,970 mule.

Of the total there were 10,092,960 active spindles and 2,256,613 bales consumed in what are known as the cotton growing States, in which States there were 658,489 bales held on August 31, of which 118,188 were in manufacturers' hands.

The number of cotton consuming spindles was 25,811,681 for 1906.

The statistics of cotton taken, consumed and of stocks are for all establishments using raw cotton, including cotton mills, woolen mills, hosiery and knit goods establishments, those engaged in the manufacture of mattress and the like; statistics of cotton consuming spindles include those which consumed cotton only during the year and do not include those which consumed cotton mixed with other fibres. The totals of the table include 6,596 bales of foreign cotton in 1908, and 8,665 in 1907 consumed by manufacturers in the cotton growing States and 100,866 bales in 1908 and 131,873 bales in 1907 consumed by manufacturers in all other States. The statistics of both domestic and foreign cotton are in running bales, gross weight.

The full report, distributed by States, detailed statistics and other data regarding the cotton industry in this and other countries will be ready for distribution the latter part of October. The statistics in this report for 1908 are preliminary and subject to slight corrections in the final report.

GOULD FAMILY TROUBLES AILED

Wife of Howard, Allowed \$25,000 a Year, Wants \$120,000.

New York, Sept. 23.—In the Supreme Court today Judge Giegerich, after hearing motions in the Howard Gould divorce case, adjourned the hearing for counsel fees and alimony for Mrs. Gould until October 1. It was brought out during the argument between counsel that at present, Mr. Gould is paying his wife \$25,000 a year, while she demands alimony of \$120,000 a year and \$15,000 counsel fees.

Mr. Gould's counsel, in moving for a month's adjournment, argued that Mrs. Gould, who has no children, would undergo no hardship receiving \$25,000 a year, which is half as much again as a justice of the Supreme Court receives. In reply, counsel for Mrs. Gould said the plaintiff has struggled along as well as she could and as long as she could, and now, after the lapse of all this time, it is very necessary that she be provided for at once.

"The defendant is investigating suits brought against her by divers persons," said Mrs. Gould's attorney. "She is being hounded by agents of the defendant and shadowed wherever she goes by his spies. Life is made miserable for her, and, as our papers will show, she has recently been made the victim of a rank conspiracy to blacken her character by the defendant. Perjured testimony has been given by witnesses. If \$25,000 is once and half again as much as a Supreme Court judge receives it is six times less than the defendant spends yearly on one of his yachts. Here is a man with an annual income of \$600,000, who is giving his wife the petty sum, in comparison, of \$25,000, and in the meantime is stirring up trouble for her all over town."

Judge Giegerich granted a delay until October 1.

Immediately following the temporary disposition of this action the case of Helen Kelly Gould against Frank J. Gould for absolute divorce was called before Justice Giegerich in the same court room. The proceedings were brief, the court merely fixing October 2 as the date for a hearing on the motion.

The Greenville News says Maj. Earle pledged his word voluntarily, before the recent primary election that should Cansler, of Tirzah, be elected railroad commissioner, he, Earle, would resign. In the face of this threat Greenville, Earle's home county, gave Cansler three thousand majority out of a vote of a little over six thousand.

William Howard Taft, William Randolph Hearst and William Jennings Bryan are booked to take up a lot of the time of the people during October. —New York Mail.

HASKELL RAKES TEDDY.

GOVERNOR OF OKLAHOMA EXPOSES PRESIDENT'S HYPOCRISY.

Denies Each and Every Charge Made Against Him and Lays Bare the Collusion Between the Roosevelt Administration and Standard Oil Trust—Federal Officials Helped the Trust Plunder Oklahoma.

Guthrie, Okla., Sept. 23.—Gov. Chas. N. Haskell tonight issued a statement to the Associated Press in reply to President Roosevelt's letter to Wm. J. Bryan, dealing with four specific charges against Mr. Haskell, namely: that he is subservient to Standard Oil; that he vetoed a child labor bill; that he dealt extensively in Creek Indian lands and that he had allowed politics to dominate in the removal of members of the faculty of State university and the appointment of others to succeed them.

Gov. Haskell took up the four charges as dwelt upon by President Roosevelt in turn, dealing with each in a characteristic manner.

The Prairie Oil and Gas company charges Gov. Haskell declared to be a "joke on Roosevelt's stupidity," asserting that he had done nothing which would confer upon the Standard Oil subsidiary company more authority than it already possessed under a franchise granted by Secretary Hitchcock.

"I assert that it is fair to me to assume that if my case was to be dignified by an all-day cabinet meeting that beyond question Mr. Hearst and his campaign associate, President Roosevelt, left no stone unturned to blacken my character. That being true, they certainly raked Ohio fore and aft concerning the Ohio Standard Oil cases of 1899 and finding absolutely nothing reflecting on me, the president tried to waive his charge of last Monday aside by saying he will make no allusion to that. He drops this subject because his original statement was untruthful and he must know from what he knows and tried to find in Ohio that I spoke the truth when I said that I never in all my life had an interest in, connection with nor service for that company.

"I say the president knows now that my statement is true and I regret that he tries to brush it aside without doing me candid justice. Were I to adopt the character of language so commonly used by the president I would spell it in fewer letters than 'falsehood.'

"Mr. Roosevelt, I hope to speak in Ohio soon. May I hope to divide the time with some partisan of yours or Prince William, who will defend your action in this instance?"

"President Roosevelt comes to Oklahoma and finds a substitute for his Ohio failure, does he, in the case of the State against the Prairie Oil and Gas company, which he complains I compelled to be dismissed!

"Yes, I did have it dismissed. We all know that the Prairie company is a Standard Oil offspring, and don't forget the president claims to have known this also, and I charge that the political allies, Hearst and Roosevelt, both know that I acted properly.

"First, the Prairie Oil company got its franchise in our State, not from me, but from Roosevelt's secretary of interior, long before statehood began, and had its main line built and operating, and congress in our statehood bill was careful to declare that our new State, when organized, must respect all such vested rights and existing franchises. That was all I did and the federal courts stood ready to call me down if I violated the Roosevelt territorial franchises.

"Now, Mr. President, why did your secretary of the interior grant what you knew to be a Standard Oil pipe line franchise in our then helpless territory and fasten it on our new State by a permanent statehood bill? Will Mr. Hearst or the president please answer? I will also remind the president that the company tried to enlarge its rights so as to include a gas as well as an oil privilege. This I defeated, and even last year Mr. President, your secretary of interior tried to help the Standard Oil to get gas privileges against my protest by actually granting them a franchise to lay an interstate gas line also. I notified the secretary that with statehood your days of giving valuable franchises in our State had passed and I would resist laying the pipe only after you yielded and cancelled your unlawful act.

"I again assert that my act in that case was not only required by what federal authority had been unable to do, but that the public interests of our own people, based on conditions growing out of your original special favor to the Standard Oil company in granting that franchise, required me to pursue that policy in the case you criticize.

"The president comes to the local affairs of our State and assails me for vetoing a child labor bill.

"True, I did so, simply because the bill went too far and included things not desired by our people. Union labor

representatives approved my veto. I hope the president will survive this veto of a local bill and permit us to run our local affairs.

"The president complains that we removed certain professors from our State university, our three State normal schools and preparatory school in violation of civil service rules. That is, the president, in his usual impetuosity and reckless disregard of others, misstates the facts. Less than one-fifth of the faculties are changed. All changes were for good cause other than politics and done by boards of regents and not by the governor. The president complains that there are several suits pending against me to reclaim Creek Indian land. The president should have gone further and said that I was not a dealer in Indian land and only came in as a subsequent purchaser and was only incidentally a party without personal interest at all, and especially he should have said that it is quite apparent that those who are being sued in those land cases appear to be, and apparently are, the victims of political chicanery, which the president can better explain than I.

"In short, the president and Mr. Hearst picked the wrong man and are now driven into ward politics rather than surrender like men.

"The president assumes that all Oklahoma are grafters just because his territorial associates justified that name; that all ex-railroad contractors are bad just because Paul Morton needed his protection; that we all in Oklahoma violate the civil service law just because Mr. Roosevelt removed the best United States marshal we ever had, the only reason being he voted for a good Democrat instead of a bad Republican and then the president appointed his cousin to fill the vacancy.

"As to the reports of labor on a child labor bill, and my work in the interest of labor, Mr. President, please remember, with me it's doing things. With you it's talk only. You are the same president who threatened to turn down our constitution because it provides a jury trial in certain contempt cases. Don't forget, Mr. President, I flatly dared you to make that objection. But as the price of your approval you did compel us to cut out the prohibition of removal of personal injury cases against foreign corporations from State to federal courts and several other good provisions that would benefit humanity and curb special interest. Not content with your own threats against our constitution, you sent Secretary Taft here to speak in our campaign a year ago to induce the people to vote to turn down the best constitution ever written. We remember that we preserved Mr. Taft's speech. It differs widely from his speeches of this year.

"Knowing all these things, the president must pardon us for thus taking issue with the occupant of the high office we all respect. Let us hope that in the future he will appreciate and preserve its dignity and not try to reflect upon the character of a humble citizen. We fail to concede his false position when he knows it is false.

"C. N. Haskell."

Early Leap Year Story.

A mismatched family's troubles were being aired in the supreme court, room 1, says the Indianapolis Journal.

Judge McMaster listened to the man's story—He was the plaintiff and had charged his wife with cruel and inhuman treatment. He was a small man, and his wife—well, there were at least apparent grounds for the charge. After the plaintiff had finished his testimony Judge McMaster decided to ask a question.

"Where, Mr. Trouble, did you meet your wife, who has treated you this way?"

"Well, judge, (somewhat meekly,) you see it's this way; I never did meet her. She just kind o' overtook me."

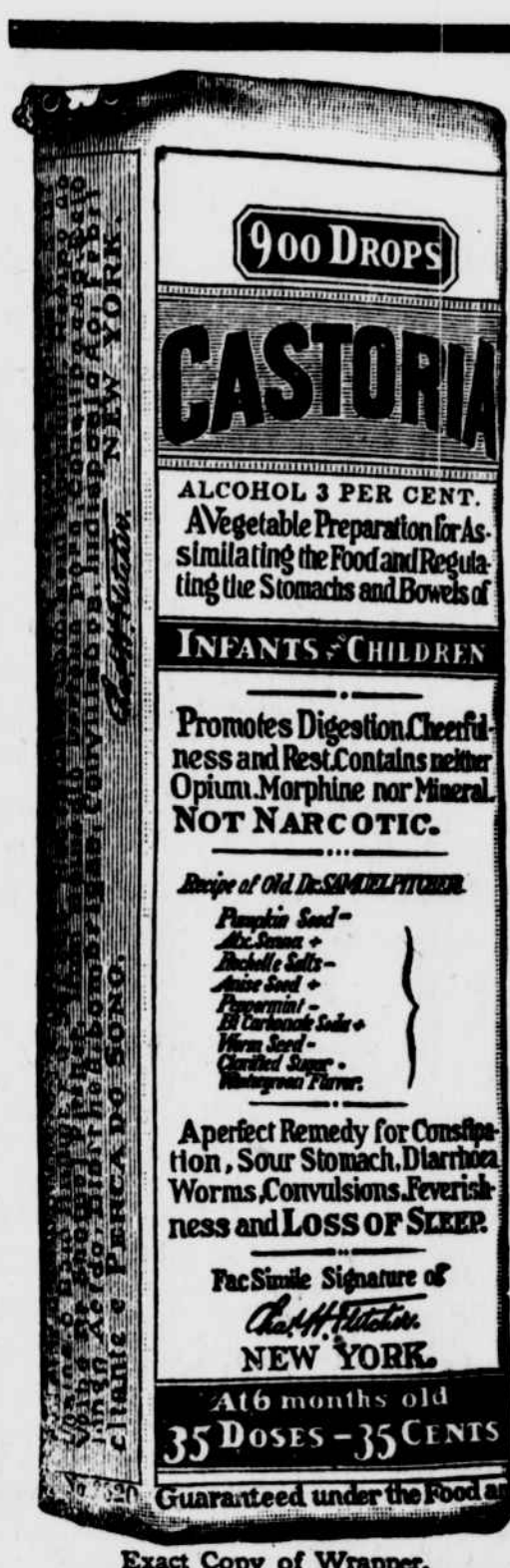
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It is strange after all the instruction the courts have received from the President they persist in deciding against him. Will they never learn what's what and who's who?—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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Time to Curtail.

With lard selling at 12 cents wholesale, ribs 11 3-4c., fat back at 10c., and flour at \$5.40 a barrel, how the cotton producer is going to make both ends meet with 9 cents cotton is a puzzling proposition.

The situation is one for serious consideration; but there should be very little difficulty in arriving at the correct answer, which is curtailment.

And now is the time to curtail.

In these columns we have already told our readers that we believed the stringency of the times was due largely to a fear on the part of the eastern and European money centres that the bottom rail was about to get on top.

Let us be misunderstood, we will briefly explain again. The sudden and unexpected rise in cotton a few years back lifted the South out of debt and put the farmers where they could make a profit. That if this condition should continue the cotton raising section would soon become independently rich, was too plain to warrant dispute. It was equally plain that if the South should become rich it would be at the expense of revenues previously enjoyed by other sections of this country or other parts of the world. There was nothing more natural then, that there should be a world-wide campaign looking to the restoration of former conditions.

With the joining of the issue, the people of the South began to fight, and with the progress of that fight, all concerned directly and indirectly are pretty familiar. As to who has the best of it at this particular writing, it is not altogether certain who has the advantage. The figures quoted above indicate that the advantage is against the cotton producer; but that is not altogether certain. On the contrary, we believe the cotton producer has made distinct gains, and if he will only continue in the pursuance of as wise and conservative policy as he has been pursuing he will certainly win.

Curtailment is the thing.

There has been a restriction of consumption. The restriction has been largely legitimate, as the result of stringency brought about through a combination of complications. This restriction has also been encouraged in various quarters. As the result of restricted consumption of manufactured goods, there has been restricted production. This restricted production has been necessary. In the case of hundreds of mills they had to either restrict their production or go into bankruptcy.

There is absolutely no just reason to complain against our local mills, and it is doubtful as to whether there is just ground to complain against the spinners anywhere. It is well not to forget that fact.

It would have been silly for the mills to spin when the public would not buy. Those mills that have been piling up surplus stocks on borrowed money have only been adding to the weakness of the situation. Goods that are forced on the market are always cheaper and the forced goods fix the present price of the goods that cannot be forced.

But after all there is a brighter side to the whole situation. It is easy

enough to dam the creek for a time; but the dam must eventually either overflow or break. In either case the current must resume its normal volume, and in the latter case the normal volume is preceded by a flood.

We have an idea that there is to be a flood in the present instance. The stringency that has been on for so long, cannot last always. The world is compelled to have cotton. It can wear its old clothes for a time; but when it gets to putting on new clothes, there must necessarily be a lining up of the situation. The demand will be strong enough to make prices what they ought to be.

There should not be too much banking on future higher prices, however. Every farmer should begin to make his future plans to fit the present situation. It must not be a matter of bluff; but of actual performance. Now is the time to put real good land in oats, wheat and other crops that will reduce the cotton acreage.

We are not advising that this action be taken for the purpose of reducing the acreage to raise the price of cotton. To make the plan really effective, every farmer must go in with the determination of doing the best he can with all other crops, regardless of the price of cotton.

Now is the time to curtail.—Yorkville Enquirer.

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