
NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article, on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before, continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Tuesday, September 6, 1910.

Republican Insurgency.

At the primaries in Wisconsin on the 6th inst., the Insurgent movement under La Follette's leadership swept the State. By 5 to 1, according to the early reports, Senator La Follette was nominated for re-election, carrying all the Insurgent candidates for Congress and State offices with him. Standpaters claim the legislature, however, and predict La Follette's defeat in that body. The democratic Democrats of Wisconsin abandoned their party for La Follette, leaving so small a remnant of the other kind of Democrats that the Democratic party in Wisconsin loses its right to a place on the official ballot at the election.

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In Michigan, where Insurgency was supposed to be hopeless, Senator Burrows (Standpat) was defeated by Charles E. Townsend (Insurgent) by 40,000. In New Hampshire the progressive Republican, Robert P. Bass (brother of John F. Bass of Chicago, and a State senator), was nominated by a large majority, but the Standpat candidate for Congress, Sulloway, was renominated. Insurgent sentiment was expressed at the Vermont election, where the Republican plurality is reported as the smallest, with two exceptions, since 1870.

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Roosevelt's National Speaking Tour.

Arriving at Osawatimie, Kansas, on the 31st, ex-President Roosevelt (pp. 825, 826) made an address in connection with the celebration of the 54th anniversary of the battle of Osawatimie between Missourian raiders and local settlers, the latter under the leadership of John Brown. The celebration began on the 30th with Joseph G. Waters of Topeka as orator of the day. Mr. Roosevelt's address on the 31st was in dedication to the city as a park of the woods where the battle of August 30, 1856, was fought.

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In this address Mr. Roosevelt went farther than before in specific political statement as well as in generalities. Specifically he declared for—

Revision of the tariff; not by its friends or enemies, but by a commission of experts.

Workingmen's compensation laws for injuries, child and women's labor laws, industrial education in the common schools, and sanitary and safety appliance laws for workers.

Graduated income and inheritance taxes.

The direct primary and a corrupt practices act as steps in the direction of making our representatives more quickly and sensitively responsive to the people.

An army and navy big enough to guarantee peace.

Publicity "not only after election but before election as well," of campaign receipts and expenditures. Prompt removal of unfaithful or incompetent public servants in whatever way experience shall show to be most expedient in any given class of cases.

Government supervision of the capitalization of all corporations doing an inter-State business and of all combinations that control necessities of life.

Forbidding every national officer, elected or appointed, to perform any service or receive any compensation directly or indirectly from inter-State corporations, and a similar provision within the States.

Personal responsibility of officers and directors of corporations for law breaking by corporations.

Revision of the financial system.

Development and use of the natural resources of our land for the benefit of all the people of this generation, but without waste or otherwise to the prejudice of future generations, and no monopolization for the benefit of the few.

Among Mr. Roosevelt's more advanced generalizations were the following:

In every wise struggle for human betterment one of the main objects, and often the only object, has been to achieve in larger measure equality of opportunity. In the struggle for this great end nations rise from barbarism to civilization, and through it peoples press forward from one stage of enlightenment to the next. One of the chief factors in progress is the destruction of special privilege. The essence of any struggle for healthy liberty has always been and must always be to take from some one man or class of men the right to enjoy power, or wealth, or position, or immunity, which has not been earned by service to his or their fellows. At many stages in the advance of humanity this conflict between the men who possess more than they have earned and the men who have earned more than they possess is the central condition of progress. In our day it appears as the struggle of free men to gain and hold the right of self-government as against the special interests, who twist the methods of free government into machinery for defeating the popular will. At every stage and under all circumstances the essence of the struggle is to equalize opportunity, destroy privilege and give to the life and citizenship of every individual the highest possible value both to himself and the commonwealth. Practical equality of opportunity for all citizens, when we achieve it, will have two great results. First, every man will have a fair chance to make of himself all that in him lies, to reach the highest point to which his capacities, unassisted by special privilege of his own and unhampered by the special privileges of others, can carry him, and to get for himself and his family substantially what he has earned. Second, equality of opportunity means that the commonwealth will

get from every citizen the highest service of which he is capable. No man who carries the burden of special privileges of another can give to the commonwealth that service to which it is fairly entitled. I stand for the square deal. But when I say that I am for the square deal I mean not merely that I stand for fair play under the present rules of the game, but that I stand for having those rules changed so as to work for a more substantial equality of opportunity, and of reward for equally good service. This means that our governments, national and State, must be free from the sinister influence or control of Special Interests. Exactly as the Special Interests of cotton and slavery threatened our political integrity before the Civil War, so now the great Special Business Interests too often control and corrupt the men and methods of government for their own profit. We must drive the Special Interests out of politics. That is one of our tasks today. Every Special Interest is entitled to justice—full, fair and complete. Now, mind you, if there were any attempt by mob violence or in any other way to plunder and work harm to the Special Interest, whatever it may be, that I most dislike, or to the wealthy man, whomsoever he may be, for whom I have the greatest contempt, I would fight for him and so would you if you are worth your salt. He should have justice. Every Special Interest is entitled to justice. But not one is entitled to a vote in Congress, a voice on the bench or to representation in any public office. The Constitution guarantees protection to property, and we must make that promise good. But it does not give the right of suffrage to any corporation. . . . The absence of effective State, and especially national restraint upon unfair money-getting has tended to create a small class of enormously wealthy and economically powerful men, whose chief object is to hold and increase their power. The prime need is to change the conditions which enable these men to accumulate power which it is not for the general welfare that they should hold or exercise. We grudge no man a fortune which represents his own power and sagacity, when exercised with entire regard to the welfare of his fellows. But the fortune must be honorably obtained and well used. It is not even enough that it should have been gained without doing damage to the community. We should permit it to be gained only so long as the gaining represents benefit to the community. This, I know, implies a policy of a far more active governmental interference with social and economic conditions in this country than we have yet had, but I think we have got to face the fact that such an increase in governmental control is now necessary. No man should receive a dollar unless that dollar has been fairly earned. Every dollar received should represent a dollar's worth of service rendered. The really big fortune, the swollen fortune, by the mere fact of its size, acquires qualities which differentiate it in kind as well as in degree from what is possessed by men of relatively small means. . . . We are face to face with new conceptions of the relations of property to human welfare chiefly because certain advocates of the rights of property as against the rights of men have been pushing their claims too far. The man who wrongly holds that every human right is secondary to his

profit must now give way to the advocate of human welfare, who rightly maintains that every man holds his property subject to the general right of the community to regulate its use to whatever degree the public welfare may require it. But I think we may go still further. The right to regulate the use of wealth in the public interest is universally admitted. Let us admit also the right to regulate the terms and conditions of labor, which is the chief element of wealth, directly in the interest of the common good. The fundamental thing to do for every man is to give him the chance to reach a place in which he will make the greatest possible contribution to the public welfare. No man can be a good citizen unless he has a wage more than sufficient to cover the bare cost of living, and hours of labor short enough so that after his day's work is done he will have time and energy to bear his share in the management of the community, to help in carrying the general load. We keep countless men from being good citizens by the conditions of life with which we surround them. . . . In the interest of the workingman himself we need to set our faces like flint against mob violence just as against corporate greed; against violence and injustice and lawlessness by wageworkers just as much as against lawless cunning and greed and selfish arrogance of employers. If I could ask but one thing of my fellow countrymen my request would be that whenever they go in for a reform they always remember the two sides and that they always exact justice from one side as much as from the other. I have small use for the public servant who can always see and denounce the corruption of the capitalist, but who cannot be persuaded, especially before election, to say a word about lawless mob violence. And I have equally small use for the man, be he judge on the bench or editor of a great paper or wealthy and influential private citizen, who can see clearly enough and denounce the lawlessness of mob violence, but whose eyes are blind when the question is one of corruption in business on a gigantic scale. . . . We must have—I believe we have already—a genuine and permanent moral awakening, without which no wisdom of legislation or administration really means anything; and, on the other hand, we must try to secure the social and economic legislation without which any improvement due to purely moral agitation is necessarily evanescent. What we need is good citizens. The prime problem of our nation is to get the right type of citizenship; and to get it we must have progress and all our people must be genuinely progressive.

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One part of the Osawatomic speech has since been interpreted as a suggestion for a third party—a Nationalist party. This part of the speech was as follows:

I do not ask for over-centralization, but I do ask that we work in a spirit of broad and far-reaching nationalism when we work for what concerns our people as a whole. We are all Americans. Our common interests are as broad as the continent. I speak to you here in Kansas exactly as I would speak in New York or Georgia, for the most vital problems are those which affect us all alike. The national