

on the soil, we even fertilize the cemeteries." Dolliver said, "Fertilize the cemeteries! What do you do that for?" His response was, "We thought it might help out in the resurrection."

DOLLIVER'S NEW ALIGNMENT

By SEN. ADDISON PARKER

It was a mid-western senator who on an important occasion literally drove Aldrich from the floor of the senate. That occurred in one of the most famous and tense debates heard in the United States senate—not excepting those of the days of Webster and Calhoun—and the mid-western senator was Jonathan P. Dolliver of Iowa.

President Taft himself had repeatedly stated in the campaign his belief that the party pledge meant a revision downward. Speaking in Des Moines, he said: "It is my judgment that a revision of the tariff in accordance with the pledge of the Republican platform will be on the whole a substantial revision downward."

President Taft, shortly after his inaugural on March 4, 1909, had summoned the congress in extra session to redeem his party's campaign pledge for a revision of the tariff . . . The president's brief message however, contained no recommendation and its silence was ominous . . . The answer to the message was the Payne-Aldrich bill—introduced immediately after the speaker's gavel fell—and instead of revising the tariff downward revised it substantially upward . . . The expected support from the White House did not materialize.

And one day Dolliver, "with his face as white as that of a dead man and trembling with excitement and anger," came to Beveridge and told him that he had learned that Taft had turned against the insurgents and said that he "would not have anything to do with such an irresponsible set of fellows."

In the senate at that time were six senators from the middle west who were not willing to agree to this betrayal of their party's pledge. These were Dolliver and Cummins from Iowa, La Follette of Wisconsin, Clapp of Minnesota, Bristow of Kansas, and Beveridge of Indiana.

DOLLIVER'S PLEDGE OF INDEPENDENCE

These men knew they were taking their political lives in their hands when they challenged Aldrich and the powerful interests that lay behind the Payne-Aldrich bill.

Dolliver said: "From this time on, I am going to be independent. I am going to judgment in the next twenty years and I am going so that I can look my Maker in the face. I do not have to stay in public life. I can take my books, my wife and children, and if I am dismissed from the service for following my convictions, I will go out to my farm and stay there until the call comes." Thus did Dolliver cross the rubicon.

Throughout the long, hot summer these six men conferred and studied the particular schedules assigned to each of them. To Dolliver was given Schedule K, the cotton schedule . . . Dolliver, early in May, had arisen in the senate and thrown consternation into the enemy's camp by declaring that he would "take his orders from his constituency and not from Aldrich." And then he went on and made a statement that ought to be pondered deeply . . . He said: "I want to see an end to the scandal that has accompanied the framing of every tariff bill. It has corrupted American industry and made great enterprises mere adjuncts to political agitation" . . .

Early in June, Dolliver was ready for his frontal attack upon the cotton schedule. "He faced the senate," said Bowers, "in the most magnificent oration of his life. He had mastered every detail of his subject. He spoke as though his whole life had been spent in cotton industry. The old felicity of phrase, the accustomed wit and humor, the familiar satire, the facility in exposition—these entered into the making of the masterpiece.

“But,” said Bowers, “there was something better than all this which was new—a passionate earnestness, the zeal of a crusader, the fierce temper of the Scotch covenanters, the militant revolt of Cromwells Ironsides, and an undercurrent of righteous wrath.”

DROVE ALDRICH FROM THE SENATE

There Dolliver stood in a hostile chamber, pouring forth such a withering fire of facts and figures as to indict the whole system. So devastating was the onset that one by one the members of the finance committee left the floor.

It was then that Aldrich sought sanctuary in the cloak room. Some senator observed aloud that not one member of the committee in charge of the bill was on the floor.

“I do not care 2½ cents to the square yard,” said Dolliver, and hurried on with his ‘blighting analysis’.

“When Dolliver finished,” said Bowers, “there was not a senator or a correspondent in the gallery who did not know that he had heard one of the most memorable orations ever heard in the American senate, and the cotton schedule was a stench in the nostrils of the nation.”

On July 8, the bill passed. It was a triumph for Senator Aldrich, but it paved the way for the revolt of 1912.

The physical strain on Dolliver had been terrific. Less than seventeen months after his famous speech, the great Dolliver was laid to rest in the soil of Iowa, and Beveridge was saying, “Senator Dolliver died for his country as literally as any soldier who ever expired on the battlefield.”

DOLLIVER'S JUSTIFICATION

By EMORY H. ENGLISH

Dolliver came into my life in a personal way one afternoon in the fall of 1901, when he visited me at my news-

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