

legislation, American shipping engaged in foreign trade, in competition with the low cost of construction, low wages and heavy subsidies of foreign governments, has not for many years received from the Government of the United States adequate encouragement of any kind. We, therefore, favor legislation which will encourage and build up the American merchant marine, and we cordially approve the legislation of the last Congress which created the merchant marine commission to investigate and report upon the subject.

"A navy powerful enough to defend the United States against any attack, to uphold the Monroe Doctrine, and watch over our commerce is essential to the safety and the welfare of the American people. To maintain such a navy is the fixed policy of the Republican party.

"We cordially approve the attitude of President Roosevelt and Congress in regard to the exclusion of Chinese labor and promise a continuance of the Republican policy in that direction.

"We favor the peaceful settlement of international differences by arbitration.

"Combinations of capital and of labor are the results of the economic movement of the age, but neither must be permitted to infringe upon the rights or interests of the people. Such combinations when lawfully formed for lawful purposes are alike entitled to the protection of the laws, but both are subject to the laws, and neither can be permitted to break them.

"The great statesman and patriotic American Wm. McKinley, who was re-elected by the Republican party to the Presidency four years ago, was assassinated just on the threshold of the second term. The entire nation mourned his untimely death, and did that justice to his great qualities of mind and character which history will confirm and repeat.

"The American people were fortunate in his successor to whom they turned with a trust and confidence which have been fully justified. President Roosevelt brought to the great responsibilities thus

sadly forced upon him, a clear head, a brave heart, and earnest patriotism and high ideals of public duty and public service. True to the principles of the Republican party and to the politics which that party had declared he has also shown himself ready for every emergency, and has met new and vital questions with ability and success. The confidence of the people in his justice, inspired by his public career, enabled him to render personally an inestimable service to the country by bringing about a settlement of the coal strike, which threatened such disastrous results at the opening of the winter in 1902.

"Our foreign policy under his administration, has not only been able, vigorous and dignified, but in the highest degree successful. The complicated questions which arose in Venezuela were settled in such a way by President Roosevelt that the Monroe Doctrine was signally vindicated and the cause of peace and arbitration greatly advanced.

"His prompt and vigorous action in Panama, which we commend in the highest terms, not only secured to us the canal route, but avoided foreign complications, which might have been of a very serious character. He secured the tribunal by which the vexed and perilous question of the Alaskan boundary was finally settled. Under his guidance we find ourselves at peace with all the world, and never were we more respected or our wishes more regarded by foreign nations.

Pre-eminently successful in regard to our foreign relations he has been equally fortunate in dealing with domestic questions. The country has known that the public credit and the national currency were absolutely safe in the hands of his administrator.

The platform concludes by commending President Roosevelt's administration without reservation, to the considerate judgment of the American people.

President Roosevelt was renominated for the presidency and Senator Fairbanks was nominated for vice-president.