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EDITORIAL

## ROOSEVELT HAD HIS BAUBLE.

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**E**VEN so keen a watch-dog of plutocratic interests as the New York *Sun* has fallen into the error of believing, and it proportionally shivers in the belief, that Theodore Roosevelt “triumphed at Saratoga.” Fact is that Saratoga proved Roosevelt to have been muzzled by the Plutocracy; and, to the extent that it could, the Plutocracy has eliminated the bull-in-a-china-shop of Roosevelt from the critical campaign that plutocratic interests are facing in this State, besides the land at large.

As in a map the lines are clear. Roosevelt aspired after the governorship. The temporary chairmanship of the Saratoga convention was to be the first step of the ladder; the next was to be the permanent chairmanship; the nomination for Governor was to follow. Defeated by the “Old Guard” on the State Committee for temporary chairman, all the fighting brutality of the vainglorious bully came to the surface. Well might the Plutocracy tremble at the fighting attitude he then struck, and the threats that he growled. The net result of the trembling and the growling was the “New Haven Conference,” where Roosevelt and Taft met.

The issue of the Conference was what happened. The irate Roosevelt bull was handled well. He was promised salve for the mortification suffered by the defeat at the hands of the “Old Guard”: he was to defeat them in turn by being furnished the needed delegates to elect him temporary chairman. He was promised more, that is, more salve; he was to appoint the Committee on Platform and he was to nominate the head of the ticket—all salves and baubles, seeing all that mattered little: the Republican ticket was defeated in advance. The blockish bull accepted the baubles upon condition of his not being the gubernatorial candidate; he sacrificed his larger ambition to his lust for revenge on the “Old Guard”; and, by doing so he virtually eliminated himself. The certain defeat of the ticket set up by a convention

“dominated by Roosevelt,” will be a vastly more heavy blow to Roosevelt’s aspirations than the defeat of Roosevelt himself as an “independent candidate” for Governor ever could be.

Bad must be the plight of plutocratic interests if such a mouthpiece of plutocratic interests as the *Sun* looks and acts sore all over at the happenings at Saratoga.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official website of the Socialist Labor Party of America.  
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