

SOME ECHOES OF THE LATE UNPLEASANTNESS

Things Significant and Insignificant--But All Interesting

AS MR. MURPHY SEES IT

(From the New York Times.)

Tammany Leader Charles F. Murphy let it be plainly understood yesterday that he had no apologies to make for the serious defection from William J. Bryan which the returns plainly showed to exist in the Tammany ranks. According to a friend of the Tammany chieftain, whose statement was evidently inspired, Mr. Murphy told the Nebraskan outright on his first campaign tour through this state not to pin his faith too strongly to Tammany's performances on election day.

While Mr. Murphy and Tammany leaders who visited the Wigwam yesterday joined in a concert of lamentation over the deplorable growth of independent voting, some of the wise ones found it difficult to keep their faces straight at the plaintive cry of independence. Among these latter there was no effort made to conceal the fact that the Taft-Chandler business men's league with its secret backing was carefully nursed along by some one high up in the councils of Tammany hall, and that it was the medium by which no end of vote swapping went on. Mr. Murphy vigorously denied that he had been a party to any swapping of votes, or that any practices of that kind had been carried on with the connivance of his district leaders or of organization men.

"The days of deals of that kind are past," said the Tammany chieftain with dignity. "I might intimate that the figures handed in to me by the district leaders clearly foreshadowed a poor showing for Mr. Bryan, though I had no idea he would run as badly as he did."

Mr. Murphy declined to give out the leaders' forecast of the Bryan vote, on the ground that the figures had been submitted confidentially.

"What do you think about the governor's re-election?"

"I don't see that any comment is necessary," said Mr. Murphy. "He was swept into office on a Taft landslide. That should be plain to everybody."

Mr. Murphy was asked what he thought of the outlook for the mayoralty election, in view of the poor showing of Tammany hall in the election just over.

"Oh," said Mr. Murphy, "Tammany will be all right when we come around to that. We won't be idle from now until then. We have our faces set toward the future always, especially when there is a city election close at hand."

"THE WORST CURSE THAT EVER BEFELL THE PARTY"

The Tammany Times, published by the Tammany Publishing Company of New York, devotes much of a recent issue to the denunciation of Mr. Bryan. The following is the leading editorial in the Tammany Times:

Another presidential election has passed into history and for the fourth time in succession, the democratic party has been overwhelmed. The results of last Tuesday's disaster are not due to any shortcoming on the part of the democracy—they are due solely to the incubus of Bryan and Bryanism.

The man from Lincoln—the greatest misleader in the history of the party—proved too great a handicap for the patient democratic donkey. He—the ass, not Bryan—could not carry Bryan's past—his present and the possibility of his future. He—Bryan, not the ass—could not gain the confidence of the business people—he could not get their votes, nor those of the laboring element, nor of the negroes, nor those of the unemployed.

And now that he—Bryan, not the ass—is eliminated from the possibility of another nomination, it behooves the democracy to turn to some other man—to a real leader—to some one whose love of country and party outweighs his desire to lecture at so much per. At the same time, the party owes thanks to him—Bryan again, not the ass—for unifying it—solidifying it immutably on one question—that it must be rid now and forever of Bryan himself. On that one point all democrats agree.

The man to whom all democrats now turn—the man to whom they look to lead them out of the wilderness of republican pluralities—the

man who ran more than 100,000 ahead of Bryan in his state—is John A. Johnson, of Minnesota. Had the Denver convention nominated Johnson he would have carried his own state, Ohio, Indiana, the Dakotas, Wisconsin and Michigan, and above all, New York state. Johnson's was a new personality—a magnetic one—not dented with the scars of past defeats—not bruised by the avalanche of ballots which had twice engulfed Bryan, not the ass. But the westerners at Denver wanted the stuffed prophet of Fairview. They had their wish. Having had their own way, it is to be hoped that sanity will now return to them—that the mesmeric passes of the Lincolnite have lost their strength—that they will heed political reason, rather than sectional enthusiasm based upon a total misconception of what the people want and whom they will not take at any time, place or on any terms.

In Minnesota, in Ohio, in Indiana, in Colorado, the state ticket ran ahead of Bryan by pluralities of all kinds and sizes. Had Johnson headed the ticket, Chandler would have been elected in New York, Robertson in Connecticut, and Missouri would not have gone republican.

But be that as it may, Bryan is down and out—a bitter taste alone remaining and if the campaign of 1908 was productive of nothing else than the elimination of the worst curse that ever befell the party, then all democrats can say "thank God!"

A NEGRO'S TRIBUTE
To the Editor of the Houston Post: The old adage, "history repeats itself," is as true today as it was ages ago; and is as applicable to the democratic national defeat of November 3, 1908, as it was to the overthrow of the ancient Phoenicians, by their more powerful brethren, the Persians.

History tells one sad but truthful story, and at various epochs in a nation's history, this story is silently, but vividly rehearsed to the very great discomfiture of a nation, and to the discommodity of a nation's unborn posterity.

This story is as old as the ages; yet so very new, until the sound of its recent rehearsal still lives on our ears. And its meaning, like the mental concept of an ever present object, is in the full view of our ever wakeful mental horizon.

So new, until we still hear the echo of the mighty voice of the millions who uttered it. The meaning of this story is the same at all times, under all conditions and to all people and nations. It is the indisputable twice four is eight in the careers of the greatest of mortals.

When told to the Athenians in the overthrow of the constitution of Solon by Pisistratus, when told to the Romans in the assassination of Tiberius in the Forum.

When told to the French in the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo, when told to the British in the expulsion of John Wilkes from the English parliament, when told to this American nation in the defeat of the illustrious Henry Clay, who declared he'd rather be right than president, and when told to this greatest nation of all earth on November 3 in the defeat of William Jennings Bryan, its meaning was clearly the same; untarnished, unchanged.

It meant the same to the Athenians, it meant the same to the Romans, it meant the same to the French, it meant the same to the British, and it meant the same to this American nation.

Its meaning is, and always has been and forever will be, that the man, who by reason of his great intellectuality and natural endowments, combined with his great forethought and

divine inspiration, works out problems, advances ideas, develops unexplored fields of reason and human endeavor, commands positions before unheard of in the name of God and humanity, and thereby, breathes, lives, thinks and moves in an age many years in advance of his present generation, can never realize the heights of his own personal ambition nor rise in the fullness of his glory to his proper sphere at the hands of a people who are so very much less progressive in thought.

The American political sun, William Jennings Bryan, whose Joshua will forever be the American democracy, will never set. Because, like the prophet of old, this nation will in the very near future command the principles which lead to Bryan's defeat, to stand upright in the political horizon until the mighty battle between the people and the trusts be forever ended in the name of an oppressed and outraged populace.

This will not end the story with all its magic, but unveiled of its certain mystery, it will tell the same old truth, that, as Romanism lives, as Britishism lives, and as Americanism lives, so Bryanism will live ever widening and growing in strength and beauty, until it becomes the pride of the nation, and William Jennings Bryan will again and forever appear in the galaxy of public opinion, not as a defeated candidate, but as a living undying statesman, the victim of three defeats, but the champion of the people's cause.

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NEITHER NEW NOR TRUE
It is very easy for a newspaper to adopt a motto, but most of those that do find it difficult to live up to it. The Louisville (Ky.) Evening Post uses this motto: "If new and true, not otherwise." In a recent editorial discussion of senatorial possibilities it refers to Mr. Bryan and the Nebraska senatorship and says:

"Nebraska is, under anything like normal conditions, a rock-ribbed republican state. Mr. Bryan carried the state by a small plurality in 1896 but lost it by an even larger plurality in 1900."

The last sentence of that quotation contains two statements that are neither new nor true. Mr. Bryan carried Nebraska in 1896 by a plurality of 13,576 and a majority of 9,498. In 1900 he lost Nebraska by a plurality of 7,822, and a majority of 3,374. Mr. Bryan's 1896 plurality was not "small" in comparison with the total vote, and he did not lose it by "an even larger plurality" in 1900.

The Louisville Evening Post should either revise its motto or study up on "truth" and "news."

MUSIC TO THE EARS
Normal precinct, the city of Lincoln, the county of Lancaster, the First congressional district of Nebraska, the state of Nebraska—"Tis sweet to hear the watch dog's honest bark bay sweetest welcome as we draw near home."

IN THE PHILIPPINES
The readers of The Commoner will be pleased to know that on election day the Americans in Iloilo, Philippine Islands, expressed their preference respecting presidential nominees. Mr. Bryan received seventy-three votes to nineteen cast for Mr. Taft, and yet the republican papers insist that Mr. Taft's Philippine policies are satisfactory.

A PRIVATE AFFAIR
The New York World is unkind enough to say: "Sincerely believing that Mr. Taft's religion is Mr. Taft's own private affair, Mr. Roosevelt proceeds to discuss it to the extent of a column."