

party approval, just as it received republican approval in the Nebraska convention held on the same day that the democratic convention was in session. It merely happened that Bryan advocated county option at a time when the issue could be advantageously utilized by political opponents. It was an excuse for opposition, nothing more, and the result of the next election in Nebraska will probably show that the victory over Bryan was purchased at the expense of the party.

Bryan had thought of the future of democracy. He sought a campaign issue on which to return the democrats to power in the state. He opposed those who would stand still. He believed that the present Nebraska liquor law was not such an excellent statute that the party could afford to stand on it for another campaign. His opponents, on the other hand, as is nearly always the case when politicians seek to promote the welfare of private interests at the expense of the public purse or public morals, advocated a standpat policy. They saw only the temporary victory over Bryan and overlooked the possibility of party defeat at the polls. They have placed themselves in the unenviable position of being allied with the liquor interests in their state and have demonstrated that they are leaders of the type that the people have long been seeking to destroy. They have checked progress, but that they have checked it permanently no one who understands the temper of the American people will for a moment concede.

Bryan's defeat does not mean that either he or the principle for which he stood is politically dead. The Nebraskan will fight on; more than that, he will continue to exercise influence, and wide influence, in the democratic party. His followers are legion, and whether or not they are numerous enough to force him again into recognized leadership, their voices will be heard through him for many years to come. And eventually—please mark this well—Nebraska will have county option.—Woman's National Daily, St. Louis, Mo.

**MR. BRYAN'S COURAGE**

Probably no other man in the history of American politics has so persistently survived defeat as has William Jennings Bryan. His peculiar faculty for holding the confidence and affections of so great a following despite the repeated repudiation of his economic views by the nation is itself a tribute to his personal integrity and moral worth.

But Mr. Bryan never went through a defeat which tested his qualities as that which he suffered this week in the Nebraska democratic state convention. Not even his high ambitions and keen disappointments in national politics were so well calculated to give a true measure of Bryan the man as the virtual repudiation of his views on a moral issue by his own neighbors and party co-workers.

The North American takes deep satisfaction in recording that Mr. Bryan emerged from the test with renewed claims to the respect of the American people.

This paper has never been one of those that impugned Mr. Bryan's courage. We have always conceded and defended his high moral qualities even while questioning his judgment.

But there have been many who not only assailed his political and economic doctrine, but who impeached his moral courage.

Mr. Bryan is temperamentally and by the force of circumstances a great agitator. Because of this supreme talent and the passionate devotion it aroused in his vast following, he has seemed to some critics to be a mere demagogue, always seeking to

ride on the wave of popularity whichever way it rolled.

Thus Mr. Bryan earned in some quarters a reputation for being a trimmer.

That he is not was so clearly demonstrated in his course with respect to local option and the Nebraska democrats that the charge can hardly ever be leveled at him again.

Mr. Bryan must have known for a long time that the state convention would repudiate his leadership on his proposal for county option. The signs have been clear for weeks or months.

But Mr. Bryan had fixed convictions on the subject. It was to him a great moral question as well as the application of the principle of local self-government. He did not sulk or run away. He did not try to dodge the issue. He met it squarely and went down to defeat, insisting on the righteousness of his position.

The chairman of the convention had in his speech warned Mr. Bryan that the convention would refuse to follow his leadership. The chairman added:

"When this convention shall have adjourned our differences, I am sure, will be forgotten, and we will all fall into our accustomed places, the



A shaft of granite, marking the landing place of the Pilgrims at Provincetown, Mass., was dedicated, President Taft assisting.

Locomotive engineers have demanded an increase in wages of from 15 to 18 per cent.

The United States supreme court will pass on the Kansas bank guaranty law in November.

The independent judiciary ticket carried Tennessee in the primaries by 25,000 majority.

Port Huron, Mich., has adopted the commission form of government.

Thomas M. Bradbury was nominated by the democrats of Missouri to be railroad and warehouse commissioner.

A cablegram from Rome carried by the Associated Press says: "Notwithstanding the extremely strained relations between the vatican and the Spanish government the recall of Marquis De Ojeda, the Spanish ambassador to the vatican, has produced a great sensation in Rome. The vatican in a semi-official communication says the recall of the ambassador proves that the program of Premier Canalejas was not arranged with the hope of accord, but with a desire for fight and the communication adds he will have it. Vatican officials take the darkest view of the situation not only in Spain but in Portugal as well. They are of the opinion that the extreme parties in both countries, aided by foreign elements are trying to overthrow the respective monarchies with the object of uniting the Iberian peninsula under republican rule."

An Oklahoma City dispatch says: "William Macklin Cross, better known as Bill Cross, died here at 6:30 this morning, following his nomination on the democratic ticket in the primaries yesterday for state auditor, an office he has held under the present administration. Cross had lived in Oklahoma since the

leader in his and the subordinates in theirs, to fight for our platform and our party."

But Mr. Bryan has a more exalted conception of public duty than mere party regularity. He did not accept the dictum to fight for a platform which he believed to be morally deficient.

In a declaration issued two days after the convention he called upon the democrat and republican voters alike to put up candidates favorable to county option.

The local question involved has little bearing on the case. If Mr. Bryan's position on the county option were the reverse of what it is, his exhibition of moral courage would command the same respect.

It is several years since the North American expressed the belief that, notwithstanding a recent seemingly overwhelming defeat of Mr. Bryan, he would continue to be a potent factor for good in public life.

Nothing that he has done has more justified our confidence than his defiance of party traditions, even in the face of losing leadership that is dear to him, when this week he stood manfully for a moral issue and against all pleas of expediency or personal political advantage.—Philadelphia North American.

opening of the country in 1889. He was the first secretary of state, and has been prominent in the political life of the state for the last fifteen years. He was a candidate for congress in 1902. Tom P. Smith of Muskogee has been appointed by Governor Haskell to finish the unexpired term."

Representative William Sulzer has announced his candidacy for the democratic nomination for governor of New York.

Thirty negroes and seventeen white men are dead as a result of a pitched battle between whites and blacks near Palestine, Texas. The war started as the result of the killing of a white man by a negro.

Newspaper dispatches say that Senator Crane of Massachusetts has suggested to Secretary Ballinger that he resign. Mr. Taft was in sympathy with the suggestion. The secretary said he would not retire.

Postmaster General Hitchcock has returned from Europe in improved health.

The democrats of Kansas nominated the following state ticket: Governor, George H. Hodges; lieutenant governor, Lot Ravenscraft; secretary of state, Ray L. Taylor; auditor, Jonathan S. Miller; attorney general, T. F. Morrison; treasurer, B. M. Dreiling; superintendent of instruction, D. M. Bowen; superintendent of insurance, Northrup Moore; state printer, F. W. Boyd.

Lee O'Neil Browne is again on trial in Chicago in connection with the Lorimer bribery charges.

Dr. Crippen, charged with the murder of his wife in England, will be returned for trial.

A Kansas City dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald says: "Representative Victor Murdock closed his primary campaign last night with a speech delivered from the balcony

of the Y. M. C. A. building in Kansas City, Kan. He spoke of Speaker Cannon and the national house of representatives, dwelling at some length on the purchases of submarine boats made by the United States. Men who controlled congress, he said, purchased eight submarines when the naval committee had asked for only four. 'Let me tell you of Lilly,' he said. 'Lilly was a congressman from Connecticut. One day on Pennsylvania avenue he said to me: 'Great heavens, what will the people do with this crowd if they ever get on to them?' He went on the committee of naval affairs. There is a boat company that manufactures submarine torpedo boats. The navy department asked for four torpedo boats, but congress gave it eight. Lilly thought there was something wrong and he began to watch. A special committee was appointed and it developed

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