## The Commoner.

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pealing to the selfish fears of committee members, had been used effectively by the reactionary managers in forming their line-up for Guffey's defense.

Debate over tine ise then extended to the committee, Mr. Bry "being the first to speak. He held that the national committee should be responsive to the wishes of the party voters, an attitude very different from that taken by the reactionary combine, which considers committee affairs nobody else's business.

As Mr. Bryan proceeded he warmed up, and in gesture punctuated his allusions to Guffey by bringing down his fist in Guffey's direction.

He said he would dispose of the legal quibbles; in a word, that this was a great big issue and not one of legal technicality. At the Denver convention Colonel Guffey had been ousted as committeeman for party disloyalty and the action of the state committee in putting Guffey back after the death of James Kerr was a slap at the Denver assemblage.

It was ruinous to the democratic cause, Mr.

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George W. Greene, Rhode Island; R. E. L. Mountcastle, Tennessee; R. M. Johnston, Texas; Thomas H. Brown, Vermont; J. Taylor Ellyson, Virginia; John T. McGraw, West Virginia; A. J. Daly, Alaska; A. J. Michelson, Arizona; Gilbert J. Waller, Hawaii; A. A. Jones, New Mexico-30.

For Palmer-James Weatherly, Alabama; Alva Adams, Colorado; Willard Saulsbury, Delaware; Martin J. Wade, Iowa; Robert Ewing, Louisiana; Edward F. Goltra, Missouri; P. L. Hall, Nebraska; Robert S. Hudspeth, New Jersey; Josephus Daniels, North Carolina; Harvey C. Garber, Ohio; M. A. Miller, Oregon; B. L. Tillman, South Carolina; E. S. Johnson, South Dakota; Frank K. Nebeker, Utah; W. H. Dunphy, Washington; Joseph E. Davies, Wisconsin; John E. Osborne, Wyoming; E. A. Newman, District of Columbia-18.

Adoption of the original McGraw motion to seat Guffey followed without a roll.

Following the action of the national committee in seating James M. Guffey by a vote of 30 to 18, Congressman Palmer announced that since the Pennsylvania fight had assumed its present shape he would be a candidate for election as committeeman by Pennsylvania's delegation to the national convention, and would consider no compromise offer. He said:

"The national committee's action in recognizing Colonel Guffey as the Pennsylvania member was due to two considerations.

"First, sympathy for an old associate who was recognized by his fellow-members as making his last political appearance; and

"Second, a strict and technical interpretation of the rule adopted at the Denver convention providing that vacancies on the national committee shall be filled by the state committee. Six members of the national committee publicly stated in the meeting, in explaining their votes, that they sympathized with the members of the organizers in Pennsylvania, and would have been glad to seat me were it not that they believed the state committee had exercised its power when it originally selected Guffey to fill the Kerr vacancy. This shows that a majority of the national committee are with us on the merits of the controversy which has agitated Pennsylvania, and that they believe as we do, in honest, clean party management, without republican affiliations.

"Mr. Bryan's argument that upon the eve of a presidential campaign it is extremely hazardous to give the country notice that the democratic party condones the offenses of the Donnelly-Hall-Guffey annex to the republican machine, met with the sympathy of a large majority of the committee. But a sufficient number felt bound by the strict interpretation of the rule to save Colonel Guffey's place for the present. "Today's developments make no difference in the situation in Pennsylvania whatever. The primaries next April will show an overwhelming majority of delegates to the state and national convention against the Guffey-Hall-Donnelly ring, and our fight to clean house in the democratic party in Pennsylvania will be carried to the finish. "I have no doubt that the national committee's acceptance of Guffey, under all the circumstances and against the wishes of a large majority of the democrats of Pennsylvania, will simply operate to further inflame the minds of the decent people of our state against the continuance of the kind of organization politics which has disgraced our party and our state in the past.

committee as a part of the plan of rcorganization.

"That national committee has performed its last duty and will pass out of existence when the national convention meets. A. Mitchell Palmer will be a candidate for membership on the new committee, which will conduct the campaign and manage the national affairs of the party for four years. That election will be by your delegations to the convention. If they choose him, he will be seated, and his rights and yours can not be defeated by a technical objection without the slightest merit."

After discussing the low state to which the democratic party had fallen in Pennsylvania under the old machine, Mr. Guthrie says:

"The representatives of the 'old leaders' say that unless their demands are conceded there will be two conventions, and that no matter how badly beaten they may be at the primaries, they will put up a ticket and endeavor, through the aid of the Dauphin county court, to seize the democratic column on the ballot and thereby defeat the real democratic candidate, thereby giving the republican machine another victory in the state and weakening the democratic majority in congress.

"To prevent them from having the shadow of an excuse for holding a 'rump' convention, we have offered to unite with Mr. Ritter and his committee in a joint call for a convention, the roll to be made up under joint supervision, placing on it the names of those shown to be elected by the official certificates and no others and to be called by a temporary president also jointly selected, and leave to the convention thus organized the decision of all questions. Further than this, we can not and will not go. We will not surrender the power we now have to secure an honest declaration of the result of the primaries.

"The suggestions made to us would lead to a restoration of the old system of dictation and control, with the old 'leaders' concealed behind new names, but exercising the same power.

"This would leave the party more hopelessly divided than before.

"It is for you to say whether you will rule or be ruled. When you have asserted your rights and established your power, you can choose for yourself without dictation from any one."

## ANOTHER REPORT

The Washington correspondent for the Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal, sent to his paper this dispatch: There was some excitement in the executive session of the committee while the Guffey case was being considered. Col. Guffey had been elected by the so-called regular democratic committee of Pennsylvania and Mr. Palmer secured his title a year or two later at the hands of a fusion committee. It is well remembered that at the Denver convention in 1908 Mr. Bryan threw the Pennsylvania delegates, headed by Guffey, out of the convention hall and when he started in to fight the colonel there was no surprise except among those interested in finding democratic "discord" whenever possible. No sooner had the first name of the rolls been called than Mr. Bryan was on his feet. Alabama had elected James Weatherly to succeed Committeeman Tomlinson, deceased, and Mr. Bryan moved that the national committee accept the action. He wanted to set a precedent in such cases so that, when the Palmer-Guffey case was considered, it would be necessary for the committee to consider Guffey as a contestant along with Palmer and not as the sitting member.

Bryan continued in effect, that the committee should condone offenses of predatory wealth with which Guffey has been affiliated and whose representative he is. He threw in for good measure his opinion that Guffey is not a democrat.

In accepting Guffey, Mr. Bryan added, the committee would be placing itself in a position where it would be said of it that it accepts a representative of the pecial interests rather than a man (Palmer) s ported by all the democratic congressmen from his state and the majority of the party members of his state's legislature.

Willard Salusbury, of Delaware, and C. H. Williams, of Mississippi, followed with pleas for the seating of Palmer.

Guffey's claim was upheld by a number of committeemen, among them Brown, of Vermont; Green, of Rhode Island, and Wood, of Michigan, paid Palmer compliments, but said they could not bring themselves to overlook the legal merits of Guffey's case. The big reactionaries, who had greased the machinery for Guffey, sat back and said nothing.

On, roll call the Daniels substitute motion to seat Palmer was defeated 30 to 18.

The division of the committee on the question of seating Congressman Palmer as national committeeman for Pennsylvania was as follows:

For Guffey-Guy B. Tucker, Arkansas; Nathan Cole, jr., California; Homer S. Cummings, Connecticut; T. Albert Jennings, Florida; Clark Howell, Georgia; Simon P. Donnelly, Idaho; Roger C. Sullivan, Illinois; Thomas Taggart, Indiana; Urey Woodson, Kentucky; E. L. Jones, Maine; J. Fred C. Talbott, Maryland; John W. Coughlin, Massachusetts; Edwin O. Wood, Michigan; F. B. Lynch, Minnesota; C. H. Williams, Mississippi; J. Bruce Kremer, Montana; Eugene E. Reed, New Hampshire; Norman E. Mack, New York; William Collins, North Dakota; W. T. Brady, Oklahoma; "Colonel Guffey is no longer a political factor in Pennsylvania. His own friends have thrown him over. The plan will now be to put forward a new man, on the specious plea of harmony.

"Such a subterfuge can receive no consideration from right-thinking democrats. Its acceptance would admit that this is a factional fight, which it is not, and would also return the organization to the hands of the men who really control Colonel Guffey against the public interest.

"We have cleaned house in Pennsylvania, the people are with us, and we shall insist to the end that the organization shall be put in harmony with that popular sentiment."

State Chairman Guthrie issued a statement tonight, addressed to the democrats of Pennsylvania. He says:

"At the primaries to be held April 13 next you will be called upon to decide whether you will complete the reorganization of your party and take to yourselves the control of its affairs. The national committee, actuated by sympathy or controlled by the baldest technicality, has refused to seat the member selected by the state Chairman Mack sustained a point of order against this on the ground that the action of the Alabama committee was final. Mr. Bryan appealed from the decision of the chair and the committee went into executive session. The chair was sustained on this motion by a vote of 33 to 13. The vote by states was as follows:

Ayes—Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wyoming, Alaska and Hawaii.

Nays-Colorado, Delaware, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, Wisconsin, District of Columbia and New Mexico.

Josephus Daniels, member from North Carolina, then moved to seat Mr. Palmer, who began a speech in support of the Daniels motion. In the course of it he charged Col. Guffey with having withdrawn C. Larue Munson from the com-