

TOOK AN ACTIVE PART IN URGING JUDGE PARKER'S NOMINATION SHOWED NO INTEREST IN HIS CAMPAIGN AFTER THE CONVENTION.

That is the lesson of 1904. Judge Parker's nomination was forced on the Democratic Party by those who had no interest in electing him; their only purpose was to make a Republican victory easy, and that lesson ought not to be overlooked at this time when Wall Street is repeating the tactics of 1904.

If Mr. Hoover is a suitable man for the Democrats to nominate; if he stands with the people on the questions now at issue, he will not allow the World to offer him at auction to the party that bids highest for him. If he is the man whom the Democratic Party needs to guide it in its work of protecting the people from the greed of monopolists and profiteers, he will not keep silent while the World parades him as a conservative which, translated into every day language, means a reactionary.

If Mr. Hoover is the kind of a man the World pictures him to be, he can not be nominated except by Wall Street influence, for the rank and file of the party would not for a moment think of taking a non-committal candidate on a platform dictated by the World.

And if the World were to succeed in securing the nomination of such a candidate by such influences as it is able to command, Wall Street would desert him as soon as the convention was over, and chuckling at its success, proceed to elect the Republican candidate.

In 1904 Wall Street succeeded in controlling the Democratic Convention and its candidate was defeated—any candidate would have been defeated whom it could nominate.

In 1912 Wall Street tried to play the same trick on the party. It was not interested in Mr. Clark; there was not a thing in Mr. Clark's record that could give Wall Street any reason for liking him. Wall Street, finding that it could not get its first choice, Mr. Harmon, or its second choice, Mr. Underwood, threw its support to Mr. Clark, not that it had any special interest in seeing him nominated but because it thought it could use him to retire Mr. Wilson and then take advantage of the demoralized conditions to bring out some Wall Street favorite and use him to overthrow Mr. Clark. Then Wall Street would have proceeded to support the Republican ticket.

The situation is the same now as in 1904 and 1912. Wall Street has no interest in the Democratic Party; it has no thought of supporting a Democratic candidate. Its Democratic candidate was defeated in 1904 and its candidate would have been defeated in 1912, no matter what his name, if Wall Street had been allowed to pick out the man. And so this year, Wall Street will disgrace the candidate if it nominates him and then desert him after it has disgraced him.

If Mr. Hoover wants the Democratic nomination he had better notify the World that its support is a handicap to him, and take the people into his confidence. If he frankly states his views on public questions and those views please the Democrats, they will consider his claims, but he has not a ghost of a show as the tongue-tied candidate of newspapers that have forfeited their influence with Democratic voters by their connection with the reactionary element of the party.

W. J. BRYAN.

#### "THERE'S A REASON"

When you read the military program advocated by Senator Wadsworth of New York, you can understand why he opposes woman suffrage. The mothers and wives have more interest in their homes than they have in munition plants.

#### SECRETARY HOUSTON PROMOTED

Secretary Houston has been promoted from the Department of Agriculture to the Treasury Department—it is counted as a promotion because it ranks higher in the place that it gives him at the President's council table. It was confidently predicted by newspaper men that Mr. Leffingwell of New York was to have the place, but fortunately the President went west for a secretary and the country is to be congratulated that the honor was conferred upon so worthy a man as Secretary Houston. The United States has a man at the head of its finances who is big, broad, level-headed and UNFOOLABLE. Wall Street can't deceive Secretary Houston and it can't scare him. He helped to establish the Federal Reserve System and the Farm Loan System. He is prepared for the important work that now devolves upon him.

W. J. BRYAN.

## The World as a "Warwick"

Many politicians have been described as "Warwicks;" many editors have claimed credit for bringing out candidates for positions high and low but it is doubtful whether our political history furnishes an example of anyone so ambitious as to seriously offer his services as a "Warwick" to three parties at once, and yet the owner of, a writer on, or somebody connected with, the New York World aspires to this distinction, and he does it in such a jaunty, off-hand way that a stranger might imagine it his regular occupation. He takes himself seriously too. It is, of course, a little risky to ridicule a big undertaking because it must be remembered that those who announce great inventions are usually laughed at and that great discoverers are generally the joke of their day.

But, without inviting a rebuke for seeming levity, let us examine the job that Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ of the World has tackled. Here is the telegram sent to a number of the prominent people throughout the country:

"The World has published an extended editorial unqualifiedly endorsing Hoover for the Presidency as the Democratic candidate on a platform that would represent the historical principles of the Democratic party, as an independent candidate on a platform of progressive liberalism or as the Republican candidate on a platform representing the kind of government which Mr. Hoover has exemplified in his public career. Will you not kindly wire the World your opinion of Hoover as a possible president? Kindly state your personal politics. The World."

The above telegram was doubtless sent to Republicans as well as Democrats (and possibly to the friends of "Progressive Liberalism" also) as the World asks those who reply to kindly state their personal politics. As further evidence that the World was no respecter of persons but freely lavished its confidence on all alike, it may be added that the New York Tribune received a copy of the inquiry from one of its correspondents.

The word "unqualifiedly" (to be found in the first paragraph of the World's inquiry) cannot be passed over without notice. The World's endorsement is no half-hearted affair; it is not given with mental reservations. It is unlimited in its width, depth, height, and fullness. If the World has heretofore qualified its support of any candidate of any party, or approached the candidate with hesitation or timidity, we are to understand that it has turned over a new leaf, so to speak, and assures Mr. Hoover that it is his to have and to hold, in riches or poverty, in sickness or health until death do part.

Next, it is worthy of note that the World cannot suppress its secret affection for the Democratic party. When it comes to the party of "progressive liberalism" it seems to be indifferent to the past, unconcerned about the present and oblivious to the future. Any old platform would seem to be acceptable to the World, if in desperation, it is compelled to organize a new party and lead it to victory over the two old parties. Even the Republican party is to be allowed some latitude as to principles and policies if it will only limit itself to the subjects exemplified by Mr. Hoover's public career.

But not so with the Democratic party; it must sign on the dotted line if it "wants to see George." If Mr. Hoover is to receive the unqualified endorsement of the World he must stand flat footed, unequivocally and unqualifiedly for the historical principles of the Democratic party. He can think as he likes about any principles that any one may want to add to the historical principles but he must swallow the past and shut his eyes to the future.

As Mr. Hoover has the unqualified support of the World and must run on a platform unqualifiedly endorsing all the principles that the Democratic party has stood for during its history, it is evident that the World and Mr. Hoover have for a long time been in close communion, conference or correspondence, for otherwise how can the World know that Mr. Hoover knows what the historical principles of the Democratic party are? Is the word "historical" intended to exclude prohibition and woman suffrage? If Mr. Hoover is as big a man as the World would have us believe—too big for any party and

quite large enough for three—would he be willing to accept a nomination at the World's hands without knowing what kind of a Democratic Platform the owner, editor, or person connected with the World, has up his sleeve? Mr. Hoover may have convictions of his own on public questions and be unwilling to be a hand-picked candidate on a home-brewed platform. Is the World's support so decisive in a small matter like the presidency that Mr. Hoover, big as he is, is willing to run on any platform if only he has the World's unqualified endorsement?

But complications arise as we progress or, if the word progress must now be taken in connection with liberalism, as we advance. While the World seems to regard the polling of some twenty million of votes as a trifling formality, after a man has been found whom it can unqualifiedly endorse, still until our laws are materially changed, it is necessary to consult that numerous body called the electorate. Assuming that that small portion of the public that receives its political instructions from the World is willing to accept its definition of historical democracy, that larger sector of the voting public whose members, because of remoteness from New York or for less creditable reasons, do not read the World, may require enlightenment. Is the World in the position to publish the platform agreed upon by it and its candidate or is it able to assure us that it knows what kind of a platform a Democratic Convention will consider historical?

We have no means of knowing how many inquiries the World sent out or what percentage of those who received them have answered, but it would surely tax the courage of any man of prominence in any party to announce in advance his willingness to support any man for president who is not sufficiently identified with any party to trust his ambition to that party's judgment. Usually the man who is not particular as to what party nominates him finds the members of the party as indifferent to him as he is to them, but, of course, this is the first time that any candidate has ever been put up at auction and offered to the party that bids highest for him. As the case is unprecedented it may not be safe to rely upon precedent. A revolution makes its own precedents, and this may be a turning point in our political history. Hereafter, the nation may be saved the expense and excitement of nominating conventions and elections—the whole matter may be turned over to some successful newspaper which will obtain the necessary assurances from the candidate and, in turn, give satisfactory assurances to the voters and then proceed to conduct the fortunate president (?) elect to the White House.

If the World succeeds in this new venture it will certainly have a scoop on all the papers and politicians in history; it will become as historical as the principles of the Democratic party, but if it fails—aye, there's the rub—some may be cruel enough to recall a story that has often found apt application.

A promoter organized a bank and persuaded a number of retired business men and farmers to become directors, assuring them that they need not devote any time to the bank's business or attend the board meetings—he would attend to everything himself. After some months he called the directors into the bank and informed them that the institution was insolvent. He expressed the keenest regret that misfortune had overtaken them and to emphasize his distress declared that he would gladly allow his body to be cut up and divided among the directors if that would do them any good. One of his farmer directors, a little deaf, raised his hand to his ear and asked what the promoter had said. When the offer was repeated in a louder tone the farmer settled back in his chair with the remark "well, if the offer is accepted, I speak for the gail."

W. J. BRYAN.

#### WHEN WILL REDUCTION BEGIN?

Are taxes to be reduced? If so, where will the reduction begin? The big taxpayers want it to begin with them; the masses want it to begin with them. Where do the candidates stand? Will the Republican candidates please step up and take the public into their confidence. And where do the Democratic candidates stand? And the World's candidate—what has he to say? Don't all speak at once.

Poor Senator Capper! He has destroyed any chance he ever had to being the Republican nominee for president. He has attacked profiteering—that rules him out. See his speech on another page.