CANNOT SEE THE VICTORY

Herdman Democrats Laugh at Claim that Bryan-Metcalfe Men Won.

SAY LATE CONVENTION WAS THE POINT

Will Afford Other States Chance to Lead on Presidential Proposition and Save Nebraska from Embarrassment.

"Heads I win and tails you lose," seems to have been the slogan of the Bryan-Metcalfe democrats in the contest over the dates of the state and delegate conventions, settled Tuesday at Lincoln; at least this is the natural inference after listening to a few of the "regulars" or so-called Herdman men discourse upon the subject.

"The World-Herald, I see, says in its blazing headlines that Bryan's wishes were followed by the executive committee," remarked a very prominent "regular; "but in view of what has been done and said within the last few days, I am not exactly able to reconcile this. The ultra Bryan men—rather the Metcalfe men, for this is not a fight on Bryan so much as it is on Metcalfe—said no longer ago than last week that they 'fully expected the convention for the nomination of delegates to the national convention to be held early in April,' and that they 'fully expected' it simply means of course that they wanted it. Now, the committee fixed the date for June 1, which is about as late, under the rules of the party, as it can be held, since the national convention comes off July 6. How they construe that into a victory is beyond me. It has every earmark of a very flat turn-down.'

The ultra Bryan men have picked out four candidates for delegates-at-large to the national convention, whom they style "the big four." They are Bryan, Metcalfe, W. H. Thompson of Grand Island and W. H. Oldham of Kearney. All save Mr. Bryan went in this capacity four years ago to Kansas City. The other fellows want Lee Herdman instead of Metcalfe.

Each Side Cock Sure.

The Bryan men are confident in their belief that they can elect this slate. Their opponents are just as confident that it cannot be done. The Metcalfe men in this connection recall that four years ago the same opposition manifested itself and was downed and "will be downed this year, for they can't beat us," they assert. The truth of the matter is there seems to be no opposition among the "regulars" to Oldham, Thompson or Bryan.

"We have no objection to Mr. Bryan as a delegate-at-large; in fact I think he ought to go and be the chairman of Nebraska's delegation; we have no objection to Mr. Oldham or Mr. Thompson, but Mr. Metcalfe will never go if we can help it; he will not get a single delegate from Douglas county unless he is able to lick us good and clean and I don't believe he is," said an active "regular."

"I object to being called an anti-Bryan or 'Herdman' man simply because Mr. Herdman is one of us; we are anti-Metcalfe men. Mr. Metcalfe has projected himself into this fight and we are going to beat him. He and his friends rely on the outstate vote to save them, but I believe they are missing their calculation," added this man.

The Metcalfe men in Omaha are just as certain and velement in their expressions that Mr. Metcalfe will win out.

But a bigger principle was at stake in the executive committee meeting at Lincoln. What the "regulars" went in for was not so much one convention or two conventions as it was for a late delegate convention, which they got, it will be observed. The point was, the "regulars" say, to give New York and other states time to hold their conventions and assert themselves on the presidential proposition and give Nebraska a chance to follow.

Time to March in the Ranks.

"We have been in the lead long enough," sarcastically remarked a "regular," "and we thought it would be a good thing to let some other state do part of the 'leading' and give us a chance to follow. I regard this as a great victory, for it gives Mr. Bryan's state a good opportunity to back up gracefully. I think there is no question but that New York will meet soon and declare for Parker, and that other states will follow closely on, so that by the time June 1 rolls around Nebraska will find itself pretty lonesome not to act with the majority. The World-Herald may see victory in this for the Metcalfe wing, but I'll be blamed if my vision is that keen."

As to the late date of the state convention, this partisan thinks it was a mistake, for it will place the candidate for governor at considerable disadvantage.

One of the Metcalfe men who professes to see victory in the smoke of Tuesday's battle, stacks it up like this:

"Herdman's original idea was to have the state and delegate conventions held jointly, so that he could control the delegates from the county conventions for the state in the selection of delegates for the big meeting. He figured on trading as the modus operandi, and there is no question but that, could he have won his point, this would have been a potential means."

Save the coupons on page 2.

LOWRY BUSY ON NEW LINE

President of the Soo Says He Will Complete Winnipeg Road This Year.

Thomas Lowry of Minneapolis, president of the Soo line and also of the Twin City Rapid Transfer company, arrived in Omaha over the Illinois Central yesterday, in his private car.

In speaking of the plans of his company for the coming year Mr. Lowry said:

"It is our intention to complete the line now building from Emerson, Minn., to Winnipeg. At present we have about 100 miles of the new line completed and the rest probably will be finished this year.

"Nothing will be done in the way of building a line into Nebraska to tap the wheat fields of this state and afford an outlet for Nebraska wheat into the Minneapolis market this year. So far as the Hill merger case is concerned I have nothing to say."

Mr. Lowry is on his way to Colorado Springs, where he goes to visit his daughter.

Goes from Bad to Worse.

Always true of constipation. It begins many maladies, but Dr. King's New Life Pills cure or no pay. Only 25c. For sale by Kuhn & Co.

Shamrocks given away at Black's.

WILL HONOR THE GOOD SAINT

Catholics Prepare to Celebrate Natal Day of Great Benefactor.

PRETTY STATUE AT ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

Unkindest Cut of All is that Methodists Are Claiming the Immortal Apostle for John Wesley.

St. Patrick's day will be observed in the usual manner at the various Catholic churches of the city. It is announced that Father J. T. Smith will celebrate high mass at the St. Patrick's church, Fourteenth and Castellar streets, at 9 o'clock.

A St. Patrick's day celebration will be given this evening at Creighton University hall, Twenty-fifth and California streets, by the Ancient Order of Hibernians and St. John's parish. The entertainment will begin at 8 o'clock. Rev. M. J. O'Connor, S. J., will deliver an address and Irish music will be rendered.

Apropos of the coming celebration of the natal day of Ireland's patron saint St. Patrick's church, Fourteenth and Castellar streets, has just received and placed in position a beautiful and life-like statue of St. Patrick that is much admired by all who have seen it. The figure is represented as clothed in the robes of purple and gold of the church, which it represents, while the head is surmounted by the preistly miter, beautifully wrought and ornamented with gold and colorings. In the right hand, which is partially extended, is a Shamrock, while in the other is a staff or scepter of ornate design, at the foot of which coil two serpents. The statue has been placed on a pedestal at the right of the alter in full view of the congregation and opposite the figure of the crucified Christ on the cross.

Protestants Claim St. Patrick.

Along with the honorable little knock-about act of George Washington and the cherry tree, the command to "Don't give up the Ship" and other precious bits of history handed down to this matter-of-fact day, and now probed by science and found to be liable to doubt, the good St. Patrick, who shines tomorrow, is said to have been neither a Catholic nor an Irishman. It seems that up-to-date Protestants are filing claims to possession. In Milwaukee the precedent will be set by the Methodist Episcopal church, which will celebrate the day with a union Epworth league meeting and a social in the evening. Ministers of other Protestant denominations in that city are said to endorse this observance as in every way fitting to the saint, whatever may have been his nativity and his creed. Omaha Protestants do not seem to be on the crest of the wave and so far no church celebrations have been announced for the 17th.

The Catholic fathers are quite parsimonious about St. Patrick and deny him to any of the evangelical churches.

"To say that St. Patrick was not a Catholic is most absurd," said one of them. "When he lived there were no Episcopalians, no Methodists, nothing but the Catholic church, so it would have been impossible for him to have belonged to any of these. It is possible that St. Patrick may not have been born in Ireland, but he became an Irishman, and is nothing else now."

Save the coupons on page 2.

TO PREPARE FOR BIG RALLY

Improvement Clubs Meet at City Hall and Plan for Saturday Night Affair.

Tonight at 8 o'clock in the Board of Education assembly room in the city hall a meeting will be held by the Civic Improvement league preparatory to the improvement rally which is to take place Saturday. The Thursday night meeting will be the first evening meeting to be held by the league, and much important business, it is said, will be transacted. All committees will be expected to report.

E. G. Routzahn field secretary of the American League for Civic Improvement, with headquarters at Chicago, will be the speaker at the rally Saturday, which is to be held under the auspices of the Omaha Civic Improvement league and of the Federation of Improvement Clubs. He has 200 lantern slides showing streets and lots in various cities before and after improvement.