

STRAWS--AN INTERESTING SYMPOSIUM

FROM ROOSEVELT TO BRYAN

To the Editor of the New York World: I voted for Roosevelt and his policies, but never again can I support the republican party. Bryan is good enough for me to vote for if I live until next fall.

H. SARTORIS.

New York, August 3.

LLOYD'S INSURANCE

Editor Philadelphia North American: Your editorial in today's North American, "Insurance Against Bryan," tries hard to throw dust in the eyes of the public. Lloyd's insurance against Bryan's election is simply a wager, and the fact that the man who takes the Bryan end must have an insurance interest, makes it none the less so. Now, if Lloyd's rate has been "more than doubled within a week," it simply shows that Bryan's chances of election are improving and Lloyd's "odds" are decreasing.

E. M. HUNT.

Radnor, Pa., July 28.

WILL RETURN TO THE FOLD

To the Editor of the New York World: As a gold democrat I voted against Mr. Bryan in 1896 and again in 1900, but this year I shall return to the fold and give him my support, for the following reasons:

First—Because the Democratic party is pledged to true tariff reform.

Second—The guarantee of bank deposits, which I regard as the most popular and one of the best planks in the entire platform.

Third—Because of Mr. Bryan's attitude on the Philippine question.

Fourth—Because Mr. Bryan is a man of the people—splendid in his moral and religious ideals.

S. A. TALBOT.

New Haven, Conn., August 5.

INDEPENDENCE PARTY WILL NOT HURT BRYAN

To the Editor of the New York World: Your editorial of Thursday morning as to the possible effect of the Hearst party on the presidential election must be of interest to every one. But I do not share your opinion that this movement will be Mr. Bryan's undoing. On the contrary, I believe it will make him all the more solid with the average voter, for what greater handicap could a candidate have than to be in any way identified with this one-man concern? And this too from a former admirer of Mr. Hearst. Four years ago I wished him success in his race for the presidential nomination, but I now see the danger to which I was exposed.

W. S.

Asbury Park, N. J., July 31.

VIRGINIA MAJORITY WILL INCREASE

The following is from a Washington dispatch to the Louisville Courier-Journal:

"I look for Bryan to carry Virginia by a larger majority than that by which the state usually goes democratic," said Representative James Hay, who was here today. "I believe Bryan will be elected. It looks to me that the stars in their courses are fighting against Taft. I can not see how he can win unless conditions change. It may be that we shall see a democratic landslide this fall, although I am not counting on that. I think there will be a hard fight, but I believe Bryan will be elected."

Mr. Hay took occasion to express his opinion of stories sent out from Richmond and the White Sulphur regarding so-called democrats who are going to vote for Taft.

"In every single instance," he said, "and I believe there is no exception to this, these men have never voted for Bryan. The state will go democratic overwhelmingly."

HE WILL VOTE FOR BRYAN

To the Editor of the New York World: My earliest vote was cast for the second term of Abraham Lincoln; since then I have voted for General Grant, for Peter Cooper (which was a sympathetic vote, as the Cooper Institute gave me my first start in life), for Rutherford B. Hayes, for James G. Blaine, for Benjamin Harrison, twice for W. J. Bryan and at the last election for Theodore Roosevelt. I mention these former votes to show that party ties have no attraction and sit very lightly on me. I shall vote for W. J. Bryan against Taft. First, because of the way the two candidates were nomi-

inated. Taft was nominated by the office-holders—big-sticked by the president of the United States.

If the rank and file of the republicans had had their voice in the matter Governor Hughes would have been their candidate today. Bryan was nominated by the people, despite the bosses of his party and the whispered cajolery of the monetary interests.

Second—Because of the platforms—the republican, shifty and evasive, saying one thing and meaning another, ignoring the cry of the plain people and walking arm in arm with the same influences that produced the panic with its consequent pinched times; the democratic, outspoken and demanding the things nine-tenths of the people of this country are striving for, and meaning every word it says.

Third—The stand taken by the two candidates on the publicity of campaign contributions. The electors have a right to know in advance of the election, not afterward, what influences are at work electing the head of the country.

Fourth—Because I like a man who is sure of himself. Mr. Taft goes to Oyster Bay to have his speech of acceptance revised. Can any one imagine Mr. Bryan asking any one to revise either his acceptance or inaugural speech?

Fifth—I want to see the people rule.

RYERSON W. JENNINGS.

Philadelphia, July 23.

GREEK MINISTER ON BRYAN'S OPINIONS

The report that Mr. Coromilas, the Greek minister to the United States, said that "the opinions of Mr. William Jennings Bryan carry great weight in Greece," created a sensation in Washington. Some of the hot-headed and illiberal republicans declared that the Greek minister had paralleled the Lord Sackville-West incident of 1888 and suggested that he should be given his passports.

There is a wide difference between the two incidents. In the Cleveland-Harrison campaign of 1888 Lord Sackville-West, then British minister, wrote a letter advising a man named Murcheson, living in California to vote the democratic ticket. President Cleveland at once sent the indiscreet minister his passports. Mr. Coromilas merely mentioned the fact that Mr. Bryan's opinions carried great weight in Greece, which can not be regarded as an attempt to interfere in our election.

It is well known that the opinions of Mr. Bryan carry great weight in most countries. Our own president, though a republican, has regarded some of them so favorably as to adopt them as his own. They are the "stolen political clothes" of which so much has been said. Surely, the president can not be offended by the remark of the Greek minister.—Buffalo (N. Y.) Times.

A REPUBLICAN TARIFF REFORMER FOR BRYAN

To the Editor of the New York World: He (Taft) remained in the hall until after the address of President Wyndham R. Meredith. Then he hurried to the golf links, where Senator Bourne of Oregon, was waiting for him with a club and a look of stern determination on his face.—Evening Sun, August 4.

Senator Bourne is not the only republican who will be waiting for Mr. Taft with a club, in the shape of a Bryan ballot, which will be administered with a look of stern determination next election day. I have been a republican voter and have voted for every republican president from Grant to Roosevelt inclusive, but if I live my vote for president next November will be cast for Mr. Bryan. The principal issue before the country today, in my opinion, is tariff reform, and as my party is side-stepping this vital issue by indefinite promises of reform some time in the future by its friends, by which I suppose is meant those eminent tariff reformers Uncle Joe Cannon, Sherman, Payne and others of the same belief, I have determined to take my chances with the democratic platform this time.

W. W. T.

Brooklyn, August 5.

A FIRST VOTER FOR BRYAN

To the Editor of the New York World: What chance has W. J. Bryan of being our next president? Six or even two months ago I thought he had no chance at all, but I believe he will grow stronger every day from now until

election, and is sure to win. I am twenty-one years old and will cast my first vote this fall. I am a republican by birth, but I believe this fall people will vote for the best man, who is surely Mr. Bryan. God called Abraham Lincoln for a great crisis. He is calling Mr. Bryan for the high office of president in the present great crisis. I have been impressed with the number of new voters who will cast their first vote for the sturdy commoner. I am glad that Hearst is not supporting Bryan, as his support would only weaken Mr. Bryan's chances.

E. G. R.

Hornell, N. Y., July 30.

BRYAN—ROOSEVELT—THE COURTS

To the Editor of the New York World: In 1896 Bryan was damned by all the Little Brothers of the Rich for saying, in referring to the "switch" of one of the justices of the United States supreme court in the income tax case, that "we could not be expected to know when a man would change his mind."

Compare with the mild tone of this statement the direct charge by the president in this morning's papers that the power of the Standard Oil influenced a nullification of a verdict of a lower court; also the statement of Justice Goff from the bench that "the practice of rushing into court and obtaining an injunction restraining the police authorities from the performance of what they believe to be their duties before they can be heard is fraught with grave abuse in the administration of the law."

More power to Roosevelt! More power to Goff! And by the same token more power to the man from Nebraska.

G. F. BLAISDELL.

Brooklyn, July 24.

NOT A FORCED CANDIDATE

To the Editor of the New York World: This is a democratic year. Bryan is the choice of all the people of independent opinions. He was not selected, recommended or forced on the convention by the big stick and "my policies." He was nominated by the sentiment of the people. Mr. Taft is not the man whom the majority of the people want or admire; even not very enthusiastically for him. He is the man of "Teddy and my policies," and we are tired of the ruling of the "Big Stick" and the republican elephant entirely.

Since the independent party was organized I voted their straight ticket. I was with the Independence league when Mr. Hearst made fusion with Murphy, and next year also with Parsons, but since he is against Mr. Bryan I ignore him. I am loyal to Mr. Bryan and his principles, and will do my best to make my fellow friends and fellow trade union men cast their votes for Mr. Bryan.

AARON LINDENBAUM,

Secretary of the Amalgamated Wood Turners' Union, Local 65.

New York, July 27.

"FRIENDLY ADVICE"

To the Editor of the Philadelphia North American: Permit me to give you a bit of friendly advice: Do not attempt to defend or excuse the republican platform, for so herculean a task as the defense of that document challenges and defies the combined abilities of republican editors and campaign orators. The wisest thing the republican party could do would be to drop it altogether and go through the campaign without a platform.

The hearts of the people of the city and state are with you in your fight against gang misrule, and you are to be commended for your stand with President Roosevelt in his battles to obtain a "square deal for every man;" but, if you condone or attempt to defend and excuse the doings of the Chicago convention, you are not true to the principles you profess to believe in.

I have been an independent voter, with republican inclinations; but next November I intend to vote for Bryan and Kern.

HOWARD B. SEITZ.

Rohrerstown, Pa., July 15.

To the Editor of the Philadelphia North American: Through the columns of Friday's newspapers an anxious public notes that "Judge Taft Waltzes." To further relieve a distress of mind will you kindly inform us whether he turns handsprings?

STRENUOUS.

Sunbury, Pa., July 17.