

# Work at Baltimore Makes Third Party Unnecessary

Walter Cain in Memphis News-Scimitar: Washington, July 6.—Mr. Bryan has succeeded in "running" the democratic party. Fresh from Chicago, where the all-powerful firm made up of big business and privilege, after having concocted a nice little harmonizing platform and set upon a most harmless straw nominee, he landed in Baltimore and without consulting anybody, started out immediately and forthwith to tear to pieces the most harmonious program of procedure that ever an inside cabal concocted for blinding the representations of a free people.

Days before the date for the convention assembling, a number of national committeemen wisely counseled for such patriots as August and Perry Belmont, Thomas F. Ryan and their several attorneys, had come together and determined upon a most superior brand of harmony. It was harmony spelled all out in upper case letters, and they made it look most alluringly enticing to the casual reader. They picked out a suave gentleman by the name of Parker, who eight years before had been named for president by enemies in the main of real democrats, and declared that he must be chairman. Later the platform was to be written to fit his keynote speech, and Charley Murphy and his Tammany hall and the interests whom the program was intended to score would do the rest.

They had not finally determined upon a candidate, but would do so later on very harmoniously and at the proper time. How harmonious it all looked and how serene for the patriot behind its formation! But right then it was that the "marplot," as Stanchfield, of New York, later called him, began his interference. He said he didn't want harmony. He opposed smooth sailing. Calm and safe breezes didn't appeal to him. So he at once started something. He opened the cave of the winds and a cyclone burst forth. He began to toss thunderbolts all around in the most reckless fashion. Audacious beyond all reason he let a bomb loose under the temporary chairmanship nomination and the explosion fairly rent the air.

## PARKER'S VICTORY SHALLOW

Parker landed in the seat that had been fixed for him, but he didn't look the same when he sat down. He needed arnica applications and lotions and his anatomy was a big sore from one end of his harmonious cadaver to the other. A great many delegates thought that Bryan had been needlessly cruel and said so, but hoped that he would thereafter be good. Was he? Not for a minute. He came right along with a loaded resolution to the effect that Thomas Fortune Ryan and August Belmont, sitting delegates from Virginia and New York respectively, and whom the harmony forecasters had selected to finance the coming campaign, were high-binders and grafters and democrats in such bad standing that to touch them even was sure disease and probable death.

He declared that the democratic party to deserve success must be as clean as it professed to be and that it couldn't come thus clean with such pollution in its midst. He advocated a purgative for the party and thus and thereupon again shocked the forerunners of perfect harmony. His resolution prevailed, but many of those who voted for it, believing that it meant nothing in fact and would not seriously hinder the harmony outlook, thought that Bryan ought to have gone out and quit when he failed to put Parker out of business.

## NEBRASKAN OBDURATE

The Nebraskan was obdurate, however, and kept going right along. Having had the resolution passed, he must very unharmoniously demand that the convention live up to it. Had Mr. Bryan agreed to permitting that the bosses run the democratic party, agreed to acting with them in carrying out a program of deceit, agreed to making a league with Tammany hall in the name of political decency and a covenant with big business in the name of popular government, he would have been a hero of the hour, merely for the hour. He would have been publicly hailed as the greatest statesman by the

bosses, who would secretly have held him in contempt for his hypocrisy and by the people who later would have cursed his memory when they awoke to find that even he had betrayed them into the hands of their enemy.

Rather than to do this Mr. Bryan created a disturbance. He compelled men to go on record to their political death. He had forced the interests that have manipulated parties for years, out into the open, and rendered their work ineffective by making it public.

He focused public attention, for the first time in history, upon the scaffolding, the men behind the scenes, the real machinery of a convention, rather than upon the painted actors, the artificial landscapes and all the other pleasant things that have hitherto been supposed to be the most important part of the show.

## HARMONY DRY ROT

And far worse than all else, he made men think. He has shown that what parties have been calling harmony is dry rot. He has made men discontented with their lot, and when men become discontented, they act, they progress. He rendered it impossible for the democratic party, as it has been constituted for years, to win the coming election. He also made it impossible for the republican party to win. He has, however, made it possible and altogether likely that the people will win.

It takes a real man to "destroy" a party, almost single-handed, and out of the pieces re-create a force for popular government. But it begins to look as though Mr. Bryan about succeeded in doing it.

You, my many readers, may not believe me, but sometimes a disharmonizer, or deharmonizer, as you may prefer, can appear grand. And surely, as this man rode the storm of his own raising, he took on majestic proportions. It was soon found that instead of having been driven into silence by the preliminary bout, he held the scepter as a ruler. He never temporized, he never tendered any compromise with the self-constituted harmony makers; he talked as one conscious of the rectitude of his attitude and spoke a language that all who heard could understand. No longer the "boy orator" dealing in glowing phrases, he dawned upon the convention a giant who could not be cowed and whom abuse could not swerve. Before the balloting had begun, he had put through a second resolution, deferring the adoption of the platform until after the nomination had been made; then he himself wrote the platform and dared the assembled enemies of progress to name a man who would not fit to the splendid proportions demanded. Insulted, derided, attacked personally when in his seat as a delegate, he never lost sight of his purpose and never wavered in his endeavors.

## HE NEVER STOPPED

Old-time friends joined with old-time enemies in criticism and denunciation, but he never stopped. When he arrived in Baltimore, he was committed alike to Clark and Wilson. After Tammany had cast its vote for the former, after the foul touch of Tammany had shown through a fair record as a splotch, he hesitated not for a moment to leave Clark to the ruinous friends who had taken him up and proclaimed Wilson his preference. At the time Clark was far in the lead, and his nomination was apparently assured. Bryan called a halt, and the Clark progress came to a dead stand. In the meanwhile, the busy wires over countless miles, into every hamlet, were carrying the story of the convention's proceedings. The people became interested, then enlightened, and from every state, delegations were bombarded with telegraphic demands that they dishonor not their commissions. Every delay, every adjournment, brought from without warnings to the constituent units of the convention. It was not a fight merely for the nomination of Woodrow Wilson; it was a fight for a nomination for Woodrow Wilson which would be without the aid of Tammany Hall and Belmont, Morgan, Ryan and big business generally. This required many more votes than the accustomed two-thirds. There were few who believed Bryan could win. He had overplayed himself, they insisted, and the forces behind Clark and the others would eternally block the scheme. But

those who doubted knew not the forceful fighting capacity of truth.

The unawed determination of the conservative leaders, the chasers after harmony, at any price, or with any surrender, had not yet become acquainted with the developed Bryan. The adjournment over Sunday gave to prejudice a pause. Delegates hearing from home stopped to think. They began to wonder if, after all, there was anything patriotic in the sort of harmony Bryan had been so ruthlessly destroying. Most men are honest when face to face with themselves, and the fact that it is better to be honest than to be dishonest, and delegations are merely men. When Monday morning came, the harmonizers were still defiant. They believed themselves strong enough to yet destroy Bryan by defeating Woodrow Wilson. They believed further that they could yet agree upon a man who would represent the old order and be able to elect him over such an opponent as Taft. The miserly and molecular Belmont was incautious enough to swell up his puny chest, and in response to Bryan's contemptuous characterization, gave out an interview in which he said: "I was a democrat when Bryan was a populist." That was to establish his party regularity and standing. But the creaturelet was lying when he made the declaration. He has long been a democratic barnacle, but never has been a democrat. He has been a brigand, a bandit, a holder-up of big projects for the graft and loot that followed. But a democrat—never. Or if he was a democrat, then under the new definition made at Baltimore of a democrat, he is one now no more forever.

## PARTY COMES CLEAN

The old party has come clean. It has disappointed its Baileys and its Ryans, Belmonts and Murphys, its Hearsts and Wattersons, has antagonized to the death finish the cohorts of privilege, has declared war on money bags as munitions of destruction to the people, and with a candidate who is a leader, who will lead the principles that bespeak an era of equality amongst men, and justice, and fair dealing, and punishment for malefactors without respect to grade or caste, the people's rule, enters the campaign with fullest confidence. The candidate is honest and the platform is honest, and both will show to the public's liking. Woodrow Wilson is a student, an author whose fame is worldwide, a statesman, wonderfully gifted in executive ability, of integrity unimpeachable, close to the people whom he shall be chosen to serve, and with a purpose, lofty and pure, to dedicate his best efforts to the great task. He comes well equipped in experience and capacity. The enemies he has made will make others more afraid by misdeeds to come under his ire. In the light of his splendid vindication, how pitiful now appear the Wattersons, and Harveys, and Jim Smiths, and the episodes with which they were associated. He will wear his greatness becomingly, and make a head of the government that will bring the government close to those who constitute it, rather than those who loot it.

There should be no bitterness amongst democrats. Champ Clark has been a serviceable man in an important place, and lost because he had not the force of inner courage to promptly take his place beside the true leader of dominant and righteous sentiment, rather than temporize with representatives of interests which have been outlawed in the nation's heart. The misfortune which so suddenly and abruptly terminated his presidential hopes will prove a warning that the ambitious of other generations will do well to heed. Mr. Underwood lost nothing. He was unknown to the masses of the people two years ago, and entered the contest late. He has done most exceedingly well his part as chairman of the most important congressional committee; is young, happily constituted for public service, and his future is sure to hold political promotions for him. Parties are by no means always ungrateful, and the fact is one upon which he may confidently build rosy hopes for his coming years. His early telegram of congratulation to Governor Wilson was gracefully expressed and showed no rancor. All democrats should now follow his lead and begin at once to build for the victory which next November will make the people rejoice and the angels sing. Governor Wilson's nomination will make a Roosevelt third party unnecessary, and to it every honest republican who believes in progressive principles may rally without any compromise of self-respect or any disloyalty to high ideals.

Mr. Bryan succeeded in what he set out to do: He made a third party unnecessary.