

MR. CLARK'S CRITICISMS

Louis F. Post in The Public: One of the Hearst papers attributes this language to Speaker Clark:

"I lost the nomination solely through the vile and malicious slanders of Colonel William Jennings Bryan of Nebraska. True, these slanders were by innuendo and insinuation, but they were no less deadly for that reason."

It may not be true that Mr. Clark has used this language. We hope he has not, and trust that no one will accuse him of it without better authority. But the idea thus offensively expressed, that Bryan accused Clark of making a treacherous bargain, must have lodged in the latter's mind or he could not have expressed himself as he did in his convention letter to Senator Stone. The fact is, however, that Mr. Bryan made no accusation of bad faith against Mr. Clark—neither directly nor by innuendo or insinuation. The utmost that can be inferred from what he said as in any way reflecting upon Mr. Clark, was that Mr. Clark was the unconscious factor in a plan "to sell the democratic party into bondage to the predatory interests of this country;" not that he had been false, but that he had been duped. And this was true. Mr. Clark's manifest innocence of the bargain relieves him of all possible imputations of bad faith; but it added nothing to his qualifications for the presidency in times like these. Mr. Bryan would have been basely disloyal to all that he represents in public life if he had allowed a personal friendship or obligation to blind him or silence him. It is better by far to be called "ingrate" by self-seeking friends than to be traitor to a people's cause.

Speaker Clark and his friends don't seem to realize that the very nature of their assaults upon Bryan goes to prove that Bryan performed a public duty in securing Wilson's nomination. They put all their emphasis in Clark's behalf upon his having earned public preferment by long and unbroken service to the democratic organization, right or wrong; they put all their emphasis in criticizing Bryan, upon Clark's past service to him as the presidential candidate of his party. The whole Clark campaign, so far as his managers have made it public, was a campaign for personal reward. To that end their demands upon Bryan were to redeem personal obligations which they wrongly assumed that he incurred through the support Clark had given to him in three presidential campaigns, and which Bryan rightly insisted were not in the nature of personal obligations at all. This animus, which permeated the Clark campaign and broke out at the end in spasms of ridiculous indignation, points to the inherent weakness of Mr. Clark's candidacy—the weakness upon which Mr. Taft's managers had shrewdly counted in their solicitude for Mr. Clark's nomination.

THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS

Pittsburgh Post: The nomination of Woodrow Wilson for president by the democratic national convention on the forty-sixth ballot is a clean-cut victory for the progressive sentiment which has been so vigorously asserting itself in all parties. As between Governor Wilson and any of the other leading candidates at Baltimore—including Champ Clark, Governor Harmon, or Representative Underwood—Governor Wilson unquestionably was by far the more representative of progressive ideas. The nomination of Speaker Clark, his most formidable competitor, would have been one of those tactical blunders for which the democratic party has become, justly or unjustly, famous. The affiliations of Clark in the convention were not of the

sort to inspire confidence. Furthermore, as Colonel Bryan pointed out in his reply to Clark, the latter and his friends at no stage of the proceedings gave the slightest aid to the progressive forces but grouped themselves with the Tammany-Wall street crowd at every opportunity. The prompt and unhesitating stand Governor Wilson's leaders took on the progressive side at the very start unquestionably had much to do with Col. Bryan's decision that Wilson was the proper man for the progressives to unite upon. The fate of Champ Clark as a presidential candidate was sealed, in other words, when his adherents supported Parker for temporary chairman.

It goes almost without saying that Governor Wilson could not have been nominated had it not been for the magnificent generalship of Colonel Bryan, who was the head and front of the progressive forces from the opening to the close of the convention and whose matchless vigilance, sagacity, experience, combined with rare courage, did more than anything else to give the progressive cause the final victory. He was beyond any question the dominating personality of the convention. His support of Governor Wilson was a fine spectacle in view of the fact that if he had used his powers he could certainly have secured the nomination for himself. He is the favorite of the democratic rank and file as Colonel Roosevelt is of the republican rank and file.

The consolation of those who would like to have seen Colonel Bryan the nominee is this, that nobody can now say he waged this splendid battle for progressive principles with any selfish motive. In the impressive speech he made resigning his leadership to Governor Wilson he declared with perfect truth that his testimony for the party in the coming campaign will be free from all accusation, of self-interest or bias.

MRS. CHAMP CLARK "DONE WITH DEMOCRATIC PARTY"

Washington, July 3.—After Governor Wilson's nomination at Baltimore, Mrs. Champ Clark, speaking to the newspaper men said: "I am gravely and grievously disappointed. For twelve years I have shared my husband with the democratic party. The party has been my only rival. I am done with it. The junior member of the firm of Clark & Clark is done. I have known for all these twelve years that William Jennings Bryan was a false friend to my husband. I have warned him over and over again. Mr. Bryan is too selfish, too self-centered to be a friend to anyone. He has thus, under the cover of this false friendship, been Champ's foe. He even went so far as one time to go into Mr. Clark's own district in an endeavor to defeat him. Mr. Bryan has his candidate in Mr. Wilson; let him elect him."

PRECIOUS ATTRIBUTES

"Why are diamonds so highly valued?"
"I suppose," replied Mr. Growcher, "it's because they are made of carbon, which is the equivalent of coal, and at the same time look like ice."
—Washington Star.

HOW HE LOST OUT

Wichita (Kan.) Beacon: Champ Clark lost out at Baltimore because he let practical politics obscure moral vision.
To him the nomination was everything; the principle was subordinate to personal ambition. Like many other weak men he lost sight of the moral issue, and tied up to Tammany

hall. He was willing to do business with anyone who could nominate him. He can't understand yet what happened to him. The moral sense of the country is keener than Mr. Clark's moral sense; the country understands! The country sees no

treachery in Mr. Bryan's attitude to Clark. Bryan quit Clark when Clark gave himself away. If Clark had been the Bryan type or the Wilson type he would have been nominated, but he showed the white feather the first day.

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