

the opposite side from what the enlightened voters of the state declare for? The question is easy to answer. The democratic party in Nebraska will be in the same position that it is in a number of other states that have voted dry when the democratic party failed to take the human side of this great question, viz., the party will be practically out of business in this state. I believe that it is of vital importance to the future of the party in Nebraska that its candidate for governor take his stand on the human side of this great question, both on account of the service that such action will render to the people of the state and on account of placing the democratic party in a position so that after the election, regardless of the result of the election as to the candidates, the democratic party may be in a position to serve the masses of the people in the future as it has in the past.

A report has been published back and forth in the press of the state to the effect that I have stated that it is my intention to demand that every candidate on the democratic state and legislative ticket should state his position on the wet and dry issue. I have made no such demand, and I would have no way of enforcing such a demand if I should attempt it. The report probably grew out of an announcement that I made about sixty days ago for Mr. W. J. Bryan. In that announcement he stated that he was coming to Nebraska to take part in the primary contest. It is his intention to try to prevent the special interests of the state under the leadership of the liquor interest from using the democratic party organization and the democratic party candidates to fight its battles in this state at the coming election. Mr. Bryan recognizes that the fight that he has undertaken will be a fight of some dimensions. He will need all of the help that he can secure. He has appealed to the progressive democrats of the state to file for positions on the state and legislative tickets so that these progressive candidates can take part in the primary contest and help make the fight that he expects to participate in.

Mr. Bryan has not demanded that every candidate on the state and legislative tickets make a public statement as to where he stands on the wet and dry question. It is immaterial how many men file for the various state and legislative positions who do not state their position on the paramount issue of the campaign, but what Mr. Bryan has requested is that at least one man file for each place on the state and legislative tickets who is willing to say where he stands and who is willing to stump the state with Mr. Bryan to prevent the special interests from using the democratic party this year as they are endeavoring to do.

It is not Mr. Bryan's intention to unnecessarily embarrass candidates who may have no opinion, but what he most earnestly desires is to help make the kind of campaign he believes should be made. He is not interested in candidates whose only desire is to ride on the wagon while the contest is being made, but he is looking for men who are courageous enough to help pull the wagon and who are willing to help pull out a real democratic victory in the primaries that will enable the democratic party to pull out a victory in the fall election.

I announced my candidacy for governor with considerable reluctance. During the past two months, while the discussion has been going on pro and con through the press about the possible candidates and issues for the democratic party to consider, I have urged various prominent democrats in the state to become candidates for the nomination for governor, and among those whom I have urged to become candidates are such well known democrats as Judge Edgar Howard, Hon. W. H. Thompson, Judge J. J. Thomas and Hon. I. J. Dunn. They stated to me that owing to the peculiar conditions existing in the state on account of the issues to be considered at the coming election, they expressed the belief that I was the logical candidate and should enter the primary contest as the candidate for governor. I also wrote to Hon. J. S. Canaday and endeavored to interest him in the state contest. He replied that it was not his intention to take part in state politics this year. I was in hopes that one of the above named worthy democrats could be drafted to lead the contest in this state this fall.

If one of the above named democrats had volunteered his services as candidate for governor, I would not have filed as a candidate. Does this look like "dictation" or like "making a condition that no one but myself could meet?" Why don't discontented ones tell the public what their grouch or grievance is? They have none, as I have, and have always had

very friendly personal relations with all of them. Why don't they tell the public what the REAL trouble is? The democratic party will have to draw 20,000 votes from other parties to elect its state ticket. This can be done if the party will take its stand for a platform and a cause that means a better citizenship and a more progressive and prosperous Nebraska.

CHAS. W. BRYAN.

COMMENTS ON MAYOR BRYAN'S CANDIDACY FOR THE NEBRASKA DEMOCRATIC GUBERNATORIAL NOMINATION

- Albion Argus (Dem.): The indications are that Mayor Charles Bryan of Lincoln will be a formidable candidate for the democratic nomination for governor * * * Charles Bryan is a political boss with no peer, and a politician of much experience, but no one denies that he is a man whose hands are clean and he is a fighter from start to finish. The people will find no dove of peace nestling about him, and everyone loves an aggressive leader. * * *

Charles W. Bryan will be a candidate for the democratic nomination for governor at the coming primaries. He will be actively supported by W. J. Bryan, who will campaign the state for about a month before the April primaries. * * * The Argus predicts that he will be a strong candidate and opposing democrats must be prepared to see him successful in spite of their opposition. While he is unequaled as a political boss, he is a scrapper and more practical in politics than W. J. Bryan. He knows politics like an open book and believes that all is fair in politics as in love. Nevertheless he is a clean man personally and morally and shows courage in shouldering prohibition and making a fight for the office when he knows how he has come to be hated by his party associates whom he has antagonized for years. * * * Charles Bryan will start a fight from the beginning and will neither ask or give quarter. The people need not be surprised to see him performing duties as governor of Nebraska after the expiration of Governor Morehead's term of office.

Fairbury Journal (Dem.): The possibility that C. W. Bryan may be the democratic nominee for governor of Nebraska is sending shivers down the spines of the special interests in Nebraska, and their followers. Mr. Bryan is a brother of W. J. Bryan and it is our opinion that this relationship is a handicap rather than a help to him in his public life. Charles W. Bryan has attributes and talents all his own, wholly apart from his famous brother, as some have discovered who have met up with him in political scimmages. Mr. Bryan would make an ideal governor for several reasons, particularly because he has no entangling business relations, is capable, brainy, active, unafraid and a natural leader of men and measures.

Charles Bryan has filed as a candidate for the democratic nomination for governor. Out of all the turmoil and unrest a good man comes to the front. When he becomes governor of this great state there will be consternation in the camp of his enemies in the state house.

The "Bryan political machine" consists of Mr. Bryan, who has no offices to give out, no financial schemes to work with a "divvy" to friends, not even an ambition to hold office. The people need not be afraid of that kind of a "machine."

St. Paul Phonograph (Ind. Dem.): Hon. C. W. Bryan, at present mayor of Lincoln, and one of the prominent democrats of the state, accepted a filing made in his behalf by about 125 of his friends, for the nomination of governor, on the democratic ticket, subject to the wishes of the voters of that party at the primary election to be held in April. Good for C. W. Bryan. There may be better men in the state for that office, but there are none that will say that C. W. Bryan is not a first-class man for the place, except those who are opposed to any man who stands for clean politics; and just watch the number of the small bore politicians get up on their hind legs and screech at Mr. Bryan, and we will wager a good deal that they do not know what they are hollering about. The Phonograph does not expect to take a very prominent part in the primary campaign. We expect to vote for the best man and let our readers follow the same course without any advice from us, providing a good, clean campaign is carried on by all candidates and their supporters. * * *

What can be said against C. W. Bryan? He is a brother of W. J. Bryan. Some * * * try to make people believe that is an awful thing. They tell you that Mr. Bryan does not

amount to anything, that all he is is a result of the training and teaching of his brother, and in the same breath they condemn the brother. It is a well known fact that C. W. Bryan is one of the cleanest men, both politically and morally, in the state and it hurts the gang that are back of the human leeches * * * to see such men get into office. * * * To the democrats of the state who believe in good, clean men in office it means that they have a fight on. We are not particularly in love with Mr. Bryan, but we can not help loving him for the opposition he is sure to have. * * * We look for people who do not approve the big brewery combine controlling our political party to get in the game and nominate Mr. Bryan and then * * * we can elect him.

Holdrege Progress (Ind.): The most important political event of the week in Nebraska is without doubt the entrance of C. W. Bryan into the primary contest for the democratic nomination for governor. Contrary to the hopes and expectations of Mr. Bryan's enemies he comes out in support of President Wilson, and apparently has no criticism for the President unless his statement against private profit out of the preparedness program may be interpreted as such. Late utterances of the President concerning government manufacture of munitions point rather to agreement between himself and Mr. Bryan on that point. Mr. Bryan will represent those democrats who believe that the prohibitory amendment should have the party endorsement. Mr. Bryan is a man of progressive ideas of government, and if nominated by democrats will command the respect and support of thousands of republican voters. Nebraska democracy led by an out-and-out prohibitionist would be a novel situation, but the signs are that it would be good politics.

Columbus Telegram (Dem.): * * * We will suggest the name of the one man above all others best qualified by his personality and his record to lead the progressive faction of the democratic party as its candidate for governor, either at the primary, or at the November election. * * * There are many who might fill the bill, but one better than all others, we believe. His name is Charles W. Bryan, and that name is a synonym for all the good principles advocated by progressive democrats in Nebraska. If the progressive democrats can give Charles W. Bryan the party nomination at the primary he would be supported at the November polls by many reactionary democrats, and by twenty thousand progressive republicans.

* * * Since the above article was placed in type good news comes from Lincoln that progressive democrats have filed a petition in behalf of Charles W. Bryan, and that he officially consented to stand as a candidate for the nomination for governor. This is indeed good news to all progressives and anti-corporation democrats.

* * * He (Mr. Bryan) did not offer himself as a candidate until earnestly urged to do so by other progressive democrats who had been favorably spoken of by the democracy of the state for that honor. Mr. Bryan is in no sense a dictator, but he is a fighter. His candidacy means a sure dividing of the sheep and the goats in the democratic ranks in Nebraska. He will be opposed by every democrat who is obligated to the big special interests. He will be supported by the free democrats in Nebraska. By "free" democrats I mean the kind who are not hog-tied by the big interests which seek to do the governing in Nebraska. * * * Charley Bryan will be nominated, because in Nebraska there are more free democrats than the hog-tied kind.

Riverton Review (Dem.): Charles W. Bryan has taken the bull square by the horns and has announced himself a gubernatorial candidate on the democratic ticket. He stands for a dry Nebraska and calls for others on the democratic ticket to come stand beside him. That the wet and dry issue is the all important one in this state so far as party politics is concerned, is true. Both the democratic and republican parties have submitted to brewery domination and control until today they find themselves unable to talk out loud for fear of bringing down upon their heads the merciless lash of the booze interests. It is this condition that has caused thinking men to declare that they are in this war to the end. Charles W. Bryan knows just the kind of a wild fight he is getting into. He knows the very men and the very influences he will have to meet, but he is unafraid. He knows that the cause of moral rectitude and moral lib-