

hurt. Our quality of democracy is now measured upon the low plane of the men who were instrumental in his defeat and who are not now representative of a progressive democracy. We have been measured and found wanting, no matter what our protestations are. There is nothing that Nebraska could have done more to unhorse Governor Morehead's chances for the vice-presidency nomination, than the defeat of Bryan. Southern states that furnish the democratic votes, and where prohibition is their lullaby, will not be found looking with favor upon a vice-presidential candidate coming from a state that repudiates W. J. Bryan, because he stood for the same kind of government that they themselves enjoy. Had Bryan been selected as a delegate, Governor John's chances would have been indeed rosy. Today they are in the dumps and the governor knows the crowd that placed them there. All along the line there is evidence of the utter contempt of the crowd upon the back of Bryan, to make success possible in the coming campaign for a single Nebraska democrat. Then why should we care.—Riverton Review.

Those who opposed W. J. Bryan as delegate to the democratic national convention in the hope that his defeat would hasten his political death and thus give them added cause for rejoicing, must feel their innate insignificance since the numberless evidences of devotion displayed toward Bryan by truly large democrats of other states who have offered to surrender their delegate privileges to him. Those who entertained the silly belief that they had succeeded in killing Bryan off are ignorant of past history, evidently. With many, republicans in particular, the celebration of Bryan's political annihilation has been a cause of jubilation annually for the past twenty years. And he still lives in the hearts of all but the booze gangsters.—Ulysses Dispatch.

I am for Keith Neville, heart and hand, and will be with him and for him all the way in the approaching campaign, but at the same time I can not join in the chorus of hilarity let loose by the influences which slandered Charley Bryan during the late primary campaign. Charley Bryan is playing the part of a gentleman. He is not crying over the result. The noisy fellows who were engaged in the harpooning business during the primary campaign will make votes for Neville by ceasing their abuse of Charley Bryan. Their post-election jibes never touch Bryan, but they are touching his friends hard enough to make sore spots which may not heal. Horse sense suggests an immediate hibernating of the fellows whose only mission on earth is to damn Bryan.—Columbus Telegram.

The democrats of Nebraska as shown by the vote for senator, are either uniformed or else are insincere. Senator Hitchcock received so large a majority that it would appear that he was the undoubted choice of the democratic host. The vote accorded President Wilson showed that the voters were back of him. How it is possible for one to support both these men is beyond our ken. Hitchcock has opposed the President in every way and manner that he could. Any announcement of a policy from the President was at once opposed by Hitchcock. He joined Senators Stone and Reed of Missouri and others who objected to appointments made by the President and held them up. These senators tried and did take from the President his right to make appointments unless those appointments accorded with their political machine. And now Hitchcock is supported by all the lawless forces that go to make poor government, and now after his long fight on Bryan and his followers, he is putting the soft pedal on, because he will need their votes. We doubt if he gets them.—Upland Eagle.

"What will Mr. Bryan do?" is a question often asked in Nebraska these days. Mr. Bryan will do what he thinks is right and do it just as hard as he can. So what's the use of worrying.—York Democrat.

New York democrats are expressing their disgust over the selection of a bunch of Tammany politicians as a part of the New York delegation to the national convention pledged to support Wilson, claiming that it will lose the party votes. Evidently the "Baltimore idea" still possesses considerable vitality.

THE DEFEAT OF W. J. BRYAN

[From The Omaha Daily News.]

No doubt the defeat of W. J. Bryan as a delegate to the democratic national convention will be heralded by his enemies as an out-and-out repudiation of Mr. Bryan and all his policies.

But as a matter of fact, the vote for Mr. Bryan demonstrates but one thing—that the democratic party in Nebraska is very wet. Nothing more.

Naturally, with the democratic party nominating wets like Senator Hitchcock, Arthur Mullen and Keith Neville, Mr. Bryan stood no chance. He had come into the state for a month, had stood at the battle front of the dry forces in an effort to put the democratic party in this state on the dry side, and the under-taking was too much. That is the right and logical explanation of the result of the election as it pertained to Mr. Bryan.

It is unfortunate for the democrats that Mr. Bryan will not be at their next annual convention as a delegate. Bryan is the man who placed the democratic party in power. He is the man who caused the nomination of Woodrow Wilson instead of a reactionary. To him must go the credit for the party's adoption of many progressive policies. Although unable himself to lead his party to victory, he was able to keep the organization right on the great questions and bring it victory by championing another—Mr. Wilson.

The progressive national leaders say that amalgamation with the republicans can easily be accomplished by each convention adopting a platform prepared by a joint committee and then joining forces with each delegate having half a vote. As there are bound to be some progressives in the republican national convention and no republicans in the progressive convention, thus giving the progressives a majority in the joint convention, it can easily be conjectured how strong an appeal to Messrs. Penrose, Smoot, Barnes, et al., this proposition will possess.

The strenuous opposition of the eastern press and financiers to all propositions that the government manufacture its own guns, explosives and powder is a pretty fair indication of the depth of their patriotic fervor. For weeks they have been insisting upon immediate action in the matter of more guns, more explosives and better equipment all around, but they seem to have a choice as to who should have the profits of this proposed activity, the people or the munitions makers.

The threat of the trainmen on a number of railroads to strike unless given a reduction in the hours of labor, with no corresponding reduction in pay, is a very fair sign that the railroads are not in the hard financial lines they have been picturing themselves as being hampered by. It has been noted that when railroad workers want more pay it is because they believe they are entitled to a share in the prosperity of the roads.

That eminently practical administrator, Former President Taft, is continuing to push with all the vigor at his command his league to enforce peace. In view of the fact that it involves the maintenance of a strong force on the part of the United States to enforce international peace, his plan ought to find a more cordial support in those preparedness quarters, a support that it now lacks.

National insurance through national preparedness is the slogan of one of the societies organized by the manufacturing industries to commit the nation to a big program of large expenditures for a period of years. There is a very general feeling, however, that the premiums ought to be paid by those who will collect the insurance if loss occurs.

It is the impression that General Leonard Wood was not only too self-deprecatory, but that he was rather harsh when he said that the nation, in time of stress, could not depend upon the volunteer system to replenish its army. It will be remembered that Colonel Roosevelt and General Wood came up that route.

As proof of the increasing wisdom of the republican leaders it may be noted that all of them have dropped the "anybody-can-beat-Wilson" line of talk that marked their political conversations during the past year or two.

FUNNY THINGS

We find them in the game of politics as well as in other places. One of the funniest features of the late primary contest was the claim of Senator Hitchcock that Mr. Bryan and his progressive associates were not friendly to President Wilson. Our reactionary friends appealed for votes on the grounds that they were the divinely appointed guardians of President Wilson's interests in Nebraska, and they begged the voters to beware of Mr. Bryan and other false friends of the President.

No finer piece of political comedy was ever played on any political stage. The answer to the claimed friendship of the reactionaries for President Wilson may be found in the figures of the voting in the democratic primary in Platte county. In some of the Platte county voting districts the race between Woodrow Wilson and Robert Ross for the presidential preference vote was very close. In some other districts it was three-to-one against the President. Each of the districts which humiliated President Wilson by casting a majority preference vote for an unknown freak opponent was absolutely under control of the elements which opposed Mr. Bryan and the progressive primary candidates.

How do we know that Senator Hitchcock's friends cast those votes against President Wilson and in favor of the horse-jockey? We know it because of the positive fact that in one township which slapped the President in the face at the rate of 2 to 1, all of the democratic ballots with four lone exceptions were marked in favor of Senator Hitchcock and all his reactionary mates on the ticket.

We do not claim to hold any brief for President Wilson, but we suggest to Secretary Tumulty that if he is committing the interests of the President to Senator Hitchcock here in Nebraska, one glance at the primary election returns from Platte county ought to send the whole presidential family to its knees in recitation of the prayer: "God save the President."

Indeed funny things do happen in the game of politics, but none so funny as the funny doing of reactionary democrats in Platte county.—Columbus (Neb.) Telegram, April 21.

The terrible disasters attendant upon American industries as a result of the enactment of the democratic tariff law are shown in this statement: Exports of wool increased 828 per cent in 1915 over 1913, exports of hides increased 56 per cent; exports of leather and manufactures thereof increased 169 per cent. Most of the increases were in exports to countries not at war and to markets once controlled by the present belligerents.

President Wilson should not be misled into believing that so many of those who hampered him, as senators and congressmen, in his legislative program of last year are for him now because they agree with him on his preparedness propaganda. He should remember that they want to be re-elected and regard his coat-tails as a very handy thing to grab hold of this year.

The next time somebody waves the Japanese menace in your face, point out to him that the American navy is three times as large as that of Japan, not taking into account superiority of guns, and that the task of guarding sufficient troops on board transports would be impossible of accomplishment across 5700 miles of ocean. Besides which, Japan is our friend.

Those republican editors who were asserting last July that the number of idle freight cars was a sure sign of the business depression they said was brought on by the democratic administration policies, have not yet made up their minds how best to explain the fact that there is a tremendous shortage of cars at the present writing.

Secretary of Commerce Redfield, under an act passed in the summer of 1914, maintains trade commissioners or commercial attaches in ten of the leading commercial countries of the world. This is mentioned to show that the democratic idea of increasing foreign business is to first find out something about the markets available.

A machine has been devised which will turn out 1,800 pies an hour. Commendably swift as this is, it would be totally inadequate to supply the demand that would be made upon it if the republicans would surprise themselves by carrying the next national election.