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It is still a mooted question which the national convention delegate regards as most important—the selection of a candidate for vice-president or catching the next train home.

Perhaps if Justice Hughes were discreetly pressed upon the matter he would concede that the chap who first remarked that "silence is golden," split a little better than fifty-fifty on the proposition.

Senator Cummins is probably convinced by this time that geographical location counts more in a national convention than patient merit or being oftenest on the moral side of great political questions.

The fact that Justice Hughes walked away with the honor without suffering any such financial crimp as was experienced by each of his competitors, without in fact expending a dollar, ought to prove cheering to the American Thrift society.

The republican presidential candidates who can dismiss consideration of their campaign expenses by charging it all up to "good advertising" account, may not be displaying very good business judgment, but they surely have adopted the least painful method of bidding good-bye to their cash.

Up to the hour of going to press no financial statement of receipts and expenditures had been filed anywhere by the Republican league to urge Roosevelt's nomination on the republican national convention. It spent large sums for advertising, but the mystery of whose money it was remains.

If the Colonel has practiced what he preached about preparedness, the front porch of his residence wouldn't have collapsed under the weight of the delegation that had come to urge him to fight on. His creed is that we should prepare for anything that might happen, not for what is likely to happen.

Democrats need not worry because the republicans and progressives found so much to condemn about the administration, in their platforms. A real cause for worry would have been in their finding no fault at all, since that would be strong evidence that the democrats had not lived up to their opportunities.

The general impression was that as George W. Perkins had provided the costumes and paid all the salaries and other expenses he had a right to control the entrances and exits of the actors at the progressive gathering. Whatever may be the opinion of the Chicago appearance, it seems foredoomed to failure as a road show.

Just remember this when some one sneeringly refers to Wilson as "a note writer" president: There are but two ways of dealing with a man or a nation that departs from the letter and the interpretation of the law; is strict upon compliance with that law in a written communication or send an army or navy. Men in the ordinary affairs of life don't send the sheriff until all other methods of conciliation have failed.

(Following are special reports of the democratic national convention at St. Louis, which were furnished by Mr. Bryan to newspapers throughout the country.)

PRELIMINARY SCENES OF DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

St. Louis, June 13.—The air is filled with the usual number of rumors as to what is going to happen. What would a convention be without its prophets of evil, the patriots who scent danger from afar and heroically announce their determination to die in the last ditch before they will permit some unthought of thing to happen? One of the fears that rushed through the hotel corridors, wild-eyed and with streaming hair, was that an effort would be made to insert a prohibition plank in the platform. Men who could not secure mention in any other way seized upon this pretext for getting their names into the papers and the country now knows how stubbornly they would resist the adoption of any plank which contained even a casual reflection upon the business of the benevolent brewer, the philanthropic distiller, and the liberal handed vendor of intoxicating liquors.

It was a false alarm. Careful search has failed to reveal any one with such evil designs upon the harmony of the convention. Peace reigns.

There is a possibility, however, of difference of opinion as to the insertion of a plank on equal suffrage. The delegates from the suffrage states are quite anxious for such a declaration; it would help them in their respective commonwealths. There is also a strong sentiment in favor of such a plank outside of the suffrage states, because the suffrage movement has developed great strength in many states where it has not yet secured a majority. In Iowa it was defeated by less than five thousand at the recent election; in Pennsylvania the vote for woman suffrage was larger than the normal democratic vote, and the cause has a multitude of active adherents in New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Michigan, Ohio, Nebraska and many other northern states. The last democratic convention of Arkansas declared in favor of submitting the question, and the vote in favor of the proposition in the legislatures of several states indicates growth in the sentiment.

The federation of woman's clubs, representing a membership of two and a half million, is committed to vote for women, as is the woman's Christian temperance union and other national organizations.

At Chicago the progressive party declared for woman suffrage nationally as well as in the state, while the republican convention simply endorsed the principle of equal suffrage, but relegated the matter to the states for action. It is not likely that the democratic convention will go beyond the position taken by the republicans, but there is quite a strong sentiment in favor of going this far. It all depends upon the President's wishes however. He is to be the candidate and the delegates are very properly disposed to consult his wishes as to what the platform shall include. Those in favor of following the course adopted by the regular republican convention defend their position on the ground that they really represent the President's attitude. He voted for woman suffrage in New Jersey, but refused to endorse the proposal to submit it as a national amendment.

There being no contest over first place; the speculators have to content themselves with predictions as to the vice-presidency. Governor Major of Missouri has his own delegation and friends among the delegates of a number of states. Governor Morehead, of Nebraska, has the instruction of his state for this position, his vote at the primary being practically the same as that cast for the President. His friends are at work among the delegates. Roger Sullivan, of Illinois, has a boom, but while he is quite popular with those who like him, his candidacy has not yet gathered enough force to make it a menace to the President's hope of re-election. At this writing there does not seem to be any doubt as to Vice-President Marshall's re-nomination.

Senator Stone will be chairman of the committee on platform. As chairman of the committee on foreign affairs in the senate, he has been in close touch with the President in all international matters, and being one of the most

experienced politicians in the party he is splendidly fitted for the work that lies before him.

Fortune favors the democrats in the fact that their convention, coming last, they are in position to take advantage of the mistakes made at Chicago. The party in power usually holds its convention first, and the democratic national committee fixed June 14 as the day for the opening of this convention. The republicans, however, thought it would be a manifestation of confidence to put their ticket in the field first. It was the action of the enemy, therefore, that gave to the democrats an advantage that they would not have dared to claim. Thus do chance and circumstance play their part in the affairs of men. If the republican committee had it to do over again with a knowledge of what has happened it would not attempt to forestall democratic action.

W. J. B.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN GLYNN'S EPOCH-MAKING SPEECH

St. Louis, Mo., June 14.—The convention is open; it was opened with a keynote speech which lifts Temporary Chairman Glynn into the ranks of the foremost orators of the country. It had everything necessary to make it an historic utterance. In thought it fitted into the needs of the hour; it presented the issues as they are now before the American people. The republican platform criticism of the President's foreign policy furnished the speaker a text, although the numerous cases with which he illustrated his line of thought showed extended research. He defended the President's course in the maintenance of neutrality by an overwhelming array of facts and precedents. He called as witnesses all of the prominent republican officials and all the great presidents. He showed how, from Washington down, the nation's most illustrious executives have dealt as President Wilson has with violations of our nation's rights. He showed how nearly all of the great nations of Europe have at times interfered with our shipping, attacked our war vessels, killed our officials and invaded our country and how, instead of settling our grievances by war we had settled them by negotiation, "just as the President of the United States is trying to do today."

He piled precedent upon precedent and cited the course pursued by president after president. The concluding phrase, "just as the President of the United States is doing today" appealed to the audience with increasing force, and it is sure to become one of the popular phrases of the campaign.

He has spiked one of the big guns of the enemy. When his speech is read throughout the country, as it will be, the democratic speakers will have all the authority they need for the silencing of republican criticism. To make a republican orator ridiculous it will only be necessary to draw ex-Governor Glynn's speech upon him and ask him how Grant settled the Virginius case when a Spanish commandant shot the captain, thirty-six of the crew and sixteen of the passengers; how Harrison settled the Baltimore case when a junior officer was killed and sixteen sailors wounded in the streets of Valparaiso; how Lincoln settled the burning of St. Albans; how the Alabama claims were settled; how Van Buren settled the Carolina case; how John Adams treated the 2,300 violations of the neutrality law by France; how Washington dealt with the 400 cases where France and England seized our ships.

In all these cases, the answer is that the presidents then in office did not go to war to settle these cases; they settled them by negotiation, just as the President of the United States is trying to do today.

While the chief merit of Governor Glynn's speech lies in the unanswerable argument advanced in support of the President's position on neutrality, it covered all important issues involved in this campaign. It enumerated the remedial measures enacted during the past three years, including tariff legislation, anti-trust legislation and currency reform and it did not omit preparedness. It is a compendium of information and argument and will in itself supply sufficient material for campaign speakers throughout the country. It began with Americanism and ended in a eulogy of the President.

All in all it was an epoch-making speech, and satisfied the audience as convention audiences