

## Bryan Domination of Democrats Missing First Time Since 1896

From Washington NEA Service.

For the first time in nine presidential elections, the democratic party will have to get along this year without William Jennings Bryan.

The Old Commoner's absence may have no effect on the fortunes of his party, and then again his passing may mark a new era for it. With Bryan have gone most of Bryan's men, and those who remain are no longer a power in the land. Most of Bryanism has gone, too. Many of his best measures are now law and the worst are no longer supported.

Perhaps the most important item from a purely political standpoint is the virtual disappearance of the Bryan idea of carrying elections with the south and west and letting the east go hang.

Al Smith's prospective nomination definitely throws that idea overboard; it means that if the New York governor is nominated the democrats will carry the fight into the great stronghold of the republicans.

The party has been getting away from Bryanism ever since the first Wilson administration. McAdoo attempted to carry on his principles and failed, even while Bryan still lived, to sway that great body of democrats to whom he was Messiah.

If Smith should be elected and turn out a man of broad, liberal vision, so much the better for the party and the country. At the moment, he is neither a crusading radical like Bryan, nor an ultraconservative like Underwood or Alton B. Parker and every informed person knows that a democratic candidate must stand somewhere between these two extremes if he is to stand any chance in 1928.

The democrats were not a minority party until Bryan ran in 1896 and scared Big Business into panic-stricken opposition. In five preceding elections they received a popular vote plurality except for one defeat by 10,000 votes. Then the party went into the hands of the Bryan forces and undertook to array south and west against the northeast. In the last eight elections, from 1896 on, the party has had a plurality just once, except when the opposition split in two. It hasn't had a single majority in New York state.

Some of the party's finest men, honest and unselfish progressives, still hold that it shouldn't truckle to New York and other populous states which haven't been voting the ticket. They are heartbroken at the likelihood of a Tammany man's nomination and would go back to the Bryan system, remembering that Wilson barely won in 1916 by beating the east with the west. They cite the Cox and Davis defeats as proving the folly of compromise.

But the more hard-headed politicians remember that the good old days when the democrats had an even chance were when they had a good chance to carry New York and that governors of New York or New Jersey have been the party presidential candidates who polled its six national pluralities in the last 72 years.

### Preachers as Go-Getters.

James Brett Kenna, Pastor of First Methodist Church Wichita, Kan., in Harper's Magazine.

The church is caught in the occidental, and more particularly American, habit of gauging success by the spectacular. A successful church, like a successful furniture shop, is the one that has the biggest assortment of wares, and affords the biggest incomes.

Forgive me for putting it so baldly. I could have made it several shades balder by adding, "and has the most customers." I did not, because except in my worst moments I do not think of my people as customers.

But all the same a considerable part of my work is not so different from that of the executive charged with the responsibility of getting new customers into a furniture shop. He is a successful advertising manager if at the end of the year he can show an imposing percentage of new customers. In the eyes of my colleagues, official board, and the world in general, I am a successful minister if at the end of the church year I can show an imposing number of new members. If under my direction the membership doubles in three years, I am a wonder and certain to be asked to a new and bigger parish where the salary is more, the publicity better, and the advertising problem stiffer. To that end I must keep in mind every minute when I am in the pulpit that out in front of me are dozens of prospective members. I must plan visitation campaigns and surveys—must, forgive me again, "sell" my institution just as surely and skillfully as the hired man by the local chamber of commerce "sells" his organization. The difference is that he was hired for that express purpose, and I, tradition says, was hired or should have been, for something else.

I am aware that a great many ardent church members will violently resent my stating the matter on any such basis, and that most preachers manage to keep themselves from facing the problem.

### The River Cruise.

From the Aberdeen News. In this day when everything is investigated, probed or surveyed, a group of South Dakota officials are going to float down the Missouri river, to see if the land-hungry, cantankerous ornery, cussed Big Muddy "will ever amount to anything."

Louis N. Crill, secretary of agriculture, who has written vivid pictures of South Dakota's possibilities, will be in the party, and Governor W. J. Bulow, the "skipper" will go along claiming new sandbars for the commonwealth. J. Maugh's Brown, and Dr. E. P. Rothrock, acting state geologist, intend to get the truth about mineral possibilities along its bank.

Time was when the old Missouri was the main highway for South Dakota, and many an oldtimer cussed its quicksands, driftwood, sandbars and treacherous currents in the sulphurous language that was common in that day.

Of late years the river has been sadly neglected and occasionally has retaliated by gobbling up a farm or two during high water. The only craft to sail its waters have

### We Don't Either.

From Life. North: Yes—certainly I understand women. West: What do they mean when they hold out their hand in the car ahead?

Q. What president first kept sheep on the White House lawn? L. M.

A. President Wilson was the first president who ever had sheep on the White House lawn. The number at first was nine and had increased during the administration to 40. They were sold before the Wilsons left the White House.

## Don't Make a Toy Out of Baby—Babies Have Nerves

By RUTH BRITAIN



Much of the nervousness in older children can be traced to the overstimulation during infancy, caused by regarding baby as a sort of animated toy for the amusement of parents, relatives and friends. Baby may be played with, but not for more than a quarter of an hour to an hour daily. Beyond that, being handled, tickled, caused to laugh or even scream, will sometimes result in vomiting, and invariably causes irritability, crying or sleeplessness.

Fretfulness, crying and sleeplessness from this cause can easily be avoided by treating baby with more consideration, but when you just can't see what is making baby restless or upset better give him a few drops of pure harmless Castoria. It's amazing to see how quickly it calms baby's nerves and soothes him to sleep; yet it contains no drugs or opiates. It is purely vegetable—the recipe is on the wrapper. Leading physicians prescribe it for colic, cholera, diarrhea, constipation, gas on stomach and bowels, feverishness, loss of sleep and all other "upsets" of babyhood. Over 25 million bottles used a year shows its overwhelming popularity.

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### Compensation

Susceptible Policeman (howled over by fair motorist)—My fault, miss. I ought to 'ave stepped back.

Girl—There, now! If you're not just the sweetest constable I've ever struck.—London Opinion.

Dun—the future tense of due.

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### Color War in Edinburgh

Following the refusal of some restaurants to admit Asiatic and African residents, not because of their racial origin, Edinburgh has a color war that has gotten into the house of commons. The secretary for Scotland was asked to take steps, by legislation or otherwise, to stop the discrimination, and he replied that he did not have the power to intervene and did not think legislation along the line suggested would be practicable. A delegation of students representing the Edinburgh Indian association protested recently to the lord provost of Edinburgh, and the members of the organization refused to take part in the recent charity pageant.

### Odd Number

Diner—The price for four pigs' feet is only 30 cents. Why are you charging me 60 cents for just five?

Walter—Because that forced us to kill another pig, sir.

In evil the best condition is not to will.—Bacon.

### Stable Man Showed

#### Grim Sense of Humor

Add to the true but trying stories of the week the case of the young lady who was most anxious to reach her gentleman friend posthaste. Knowing him to be an ardent horseman and confident that he was riding at the moment, she besought the telephone Red Book. With no more information than the fact that he rode a mount named Molly, she proceeded to query academy after academy.

Eventually, success was to be hers. Nearing the end of her list of numbers, her impatient "hello" was answered by a gruff-voiced stable man. "Is this the Park academy?" she asked.

"Yep," answered the voice.

"Well, have you a horse named Molly?"

The answer shocked her into speechlessness.

"Sure," said the gruff one. "Shall I bring 'er to the phone?"—Detroit Free Press.

### Delving Into the Past

Evidence of the antiquity of man, from the caves of Europe and the deserts of the Near East, will be collected this year by an expedition of the Field Museum of Natural History of Chicago, headed by Henry Field, anthropologist. From the caves and anthropological sites of France, Spain, Germany, Austria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, Yugo-Slavia, Switzerland and Belgium there will be brought specimens and artifacts, together with notes, sketches and plaster casts to be used in exhibits in the Field museum's proposed hall of prehistoric man. Mr. Field will also visit the north Arabian desert and the excavations at Kish in Mesopotamia.

### Unusual Duty

It is not often that a fire department is engaged and paid for burning a building, but this was the case at Fryeburg, Maine, when the department supervised the burning of an old building owned by Mrs. Harriet H. Creighton. The building had fallen into decay and was unsightly as well as a menace.

### Still Going Strong

Mrs. Brown—Do you think they are rich?

Mr. Jones—Of course they are rich; they're still using last year's car.

Revenge really is inhuman.



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been government snag boats, and the only trappers it has seen, have been small boys hoping to get a few muskrats.

The Missouri has been suggested as the ultimate solution for the power problem in this state. It has been boomed as a pathway for commerce if it can be made to grow up, and behave, instead of planting sandbars in the paths of boats. Its banks may contain valuable minerals.

As it is the only product that we can remember coming out of the Missouri was when some citizens dug down into the cabin of a sunken vessel near Elk Point, a few years ago and resurrected a supply that a hardbitten river pilot was taking upstream to a frontier post along about 1850. This was quickly put into the channels of trade.

When the cruise is ended we will have a good idea of whether this old stream that is as much a part of South Dakota as the Badlands or the Black Hills, has possibilities or whether it will continue as it is now, a sullen, muddy old river that rears at the touch of a bit, and refuses to serve man's purposes.

**French Labor Auction.**  
(From a St. Etienne, France, Letter to the Baltimore Sun.) Older in its history than the abolished slave markets of the southern states of America, the traditional farm labor auction took place in St. Etienne, France, recently, with young farm girls and laborers standing on a block while excited peasants and land owners bid for them.

The St. Etienne auction, which disposes of several hundred humans every year, is the closest existing link with slavery, although the laborers are only "rented," not "bought." But for one year they are bound to their bidder, bound by traditions not to run away. The provisions of the rental call for good food, a clean place to sleep and suitable clothing.

There was a labor shortage in 1927 and prices were high. Last year a shepherd boy of 14 was sold for 1,400 francs, a rosy cheeked Highlands cowgirl went for 2,000 francs, while a strong backed farm hand was "rented" for 3,000 francs.

The money is paid to the director of the auction. At the end of the year he takes a slice for himself and turns the remainder over to the laborer. Last year there were five bidders for every available farm hand and prices soared.

The demand so exceeded the supply that some of the herd girls put in provisions that their dresses should be embroidered.

For centuries this auction has been on the day after Christmas, at a time of the year when the farms in the highlands of central France are buried under snow and the laborers have finished their work for the year.

### A New Approach.

From Answers. "Well, who's been waiting the longest?" asked the dentist cheerfully as he opened the door of his surgery.

"I think I have," said the tailor, presenting his bill. "I delivered that suit you're wearing three years ago."

### Perambulation.

From Humorist. Householder (in flooded area): Well, what is it?  
Collector (in row boat): Oh, I've called about your fire insurance premium, now somewhat overdue.