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### Omaha-Where the West is at its Best

#### DEMOCRACY'S BID FOR VOTES.

To say that the platform adopted by the democrats at New York is a declaration of principles does not state the facts. When a compromise plank on the klan is adopted by a bare majority of one vote in a count of 1,083 6-20 it speaks for itself as being anything but a principle. It is not even a decent straddle. Similarly, the vote on the League of Nations plank indicates a lack of sincerity that is amazing when it comes from the councils of a party that is expected to enunciate clearly its stand on what it considers the issues that are uppermost in the minds of the people.

That part of the platform which deals with the republican party was framed and adopted without friction or great effort. Taking a text from "Pat" Harrison's keynote speech, Mr. Cummings and his associates on the framing job merely wrote in lurid language the uttermost of denunciation, and let it go at that. No one connected with the administration from president down is overlooked, all coming in for the unstinted abuse and criticism of their political opponents. This, of course, was expected.

When the real issues, the League of Nations, the klan, and prohibition, were approached, the spirit of the drafting committee sank. No matter what the sentiment or conviction of any member might be, fear of the outcome sat above judgment, and only a compremise was sought where a ringing expression indicative of a firm stand for principle would have denoted true courage.

Once again the democratic party has sold it soul, this time to William Randolph Hearst. The promise of Hearst to support the nominee of the convention if it would throw over the Leagne of Nations was too glittering a prospect for the lesser breeds who have again come into control of the party. The high courage of Woodrow Wilson was never the courage of his party. With his death there went out the last spark of party greatness. The heights to which Wilson led his party were too dizzy for those who now control its destinies. The white light that beats upon real leadership frightens and cows them. They prefer the lower and safer ground of little souls, who content themselves with barking and with criticism. A referendum on the League of Nations is perile sidestepping.

The Ku Klux Klan is peculiarly an issue within the democratic party. The home and the backbone of the democratic party, the south, is also the home and the backbone of the klan. The following of both in the southern states is about equal. Owen of Oklahoma, speaking for the southern viewpoint, said there were many splendid citizens in the klan. This view will not satisfy the anti-klan democrats of the

The party will enter the campaign badly bent on the League of Nations issue, and split wide open on the klan issue.

A new Mr. Bryan was present at the exciting session on Saturday night, a Mr. Bryan bent on compromise. Heretofore, the Peerless Leader has stood unswervingly for the principle he might at the moment champion, and he has chosen his principles fearlessly. We have seen him standing toe to toe with his opponents in Nebraska, swapping wallops when he was but a local issue. We saw him go to Chicago, and sweep an entire party away from its long time moorings and move it bodily to a new berth. Free silver, prohibition, imperialism, fundamentalism, Mr. Bryan never trimmed and never traded. On the klan issue he pleaded with the utmost eloquence and fervor-for a compromise. In his heart of hearts, Mr. Bryan has one view. Either he believes the klan is right, or it is wrong. But he begged the convention to adopt a platform that straddles, and the convention by a vote of 542 3-20 to 541 3-20 decided for Mr. Bryan, who compromised because "winning is not wicked."

Tariff, taxation, transportation, labor, agriculture are dealt with at length in the platform. As the speeches in and out of congress forecast, the promise is made that if the democrats return to power they will repeal the Fordney-McCumber tariff. which means a return to free trade, with its blessings of idleness and depression. The Esch-Cummins act is to be remodeled, if not repealed. The railroad labor board is to be abolished. Taxes are to be still further lowered. Agriculture will come in for special favors, although no explanation is given why bills to help the farmer were so strenuously opposed by democrats at the late session of congress.

An entirely new conservation policy is promised, especially in the matter of reclamation. This will be good news to the farmers on irrigated lands, who saw their hopes go down when Key Pittman damned the stream of legislation by thrusting in a speech at the last moment, and so killed the reclamation bill. Senator Pittman, by the way, helped to draft the platform. He ought to know what the farmer wants, as well what he did not get.

Many of the delegates and visitors at the New York convention who cheered for 10 minutes at the mention of Woodrow Wilson are "dry" leaders and workers. Have they forgotten that Woodrow Wilson vetoed the Volstead act, and that his political last will and testament proposes modification of the Volstead act to allow states to decide for themselves how they want the Eighteenth amendment enforced?

#### COMPARING THE KEYNOTES .- VI.

One reads in vain the speech of Senator Harrison, looking for commendation or mention of the league of nations. Expressing the pious wish "that we had in the White House the spirit of him whose heart of gold melted in the sympathies of the world," the senator leads one to think he is going to extol the Treaty of Versailles, but he does nothing of the sort. He laments:

"How different were the foreign policies of our government under Woodrow Wilson and under the Harding-Coolidge administration. It is the difference between a keynote and a keyhole policy of statesmanship. In the good old democratic days we did not send spies to peep in, but diplomats to sit in; not observers without authority, but representatives with credentials."

Surely, Senator Harrison must have heard of the trip John Lind made to Mexico. Contrast that gumshoeing expedition with the mission of General Dawes to Paris, or the influence of the American diplomats at Lausanne. But Senator Harrison bewails the outcome of that convention, which brought peace and a new national life to Turkey. So long as only Greece was being licked, it did not matter who was doing the licking, according to the senator. Would he have voted for an appropriation to send an army to help put down the Turks? He voted against a bill to help the farmers in the middle west, but he weeps many tears over Armenia.

Representative Burton at Cleveland covered the situation very fully, and touched the spot accurately when he said:

But the beginnings of peace must be in Europe itself. No nation of the New World can solve the problems of the Old. It is necessary that a calmer spirit prevail, that peace and not power be the goal; and that co-operation based on the consciousness of common interest akin to that which exists among the 48 states of the American union should be recognized as essential. Unfortunately that which seems to be most desired in the settlement of discordant claims in Europe is not an impartial friend

And the New York convention acquiesced in the Harrison policy. It cheered madly for Wilson, but it also cheered the speaker who ignored the capstone of Woodrow Wilson's life work.

It would be interesting to have some sort of declaration from Senator Harrison which of the contenders he would have our country favor with its great power. He proposes to rehabilitate German industry at the expense of American workers, by lowering the tariff on German-made wares, but he does not say if France is right or wrong, and that is a question that might well be asked of him, in view

#### LABOR HAS TOO MANY "LEADERS."

While one group of labor warns the democratic convention that the choice must be McAdoo, and another insists with equal vehemence that Smith is the man to name, a third division is planning to go to Cleveland to put a "nonpartisan" nomination back of Robert Marion La Follette.

This is an interesting and fair presentation of the situation so far as organized labor is concerned in the political campaign. The chances are that union labor will remain as it always has been, divided between republican and democratic parties, according to the personal views or leanings of its members. A few union men are socialists, and these are ready to follow the action of the Conference for the Promotion of Political Action, which is the high sounding title of a group that is preparing for the Cleveland gathering on Friday.

The C. P. P. A. is presided over by William H. Johnson, president of the International Association of Machinists, who is a socialist of long standing Its chief support comes from the Federated Shop Crafts, who are a distinct division of railroad labor, or were before the disastrous strike of 1921. Between this body and the "Big Four" brotherhoods there is little love lost

"Big Jim" Holland, who spoke for Al Smith at New York, is a staunch supporter of Samuel Gompers, as well as a strong adherent of Tammany.

Just as well to keep these things in mind when listening to the fulminations of any so-called leaders who are now telling what labor is going to do in the coming campaign. Intelligent working men long ago found out that their real hope for success and improvement lay along economic lines, and they know that the economic policy of the republican party is the one that has kept the furnace fires burning, smokestacks belching, and wheels turning in the factories. No bread lines have been formed or soup houses opened under republican ad-

The democrats will name their candidates, regardless of what labor may say, and the Cleveland conference on July 4 will proceed just as its promoters have calculated. Whether La Follette will accept its nomination is yet to be determined.

High above the democratic storm clouds hovering over the New York convention may be seen once more, as always, the battered tip of one certain lightning rod, branded "W. J. B."

Among other elegant samples of laws that are not observed is the one prohibiting the sale or shooting of fireworks before July 3. Young America gets. his first lessons in disrespect for law at a very early

language twisted. When she declared that she was 'married for the last time" she probably mean that his was the last time she married. General Dawes announces that he will give dem-

It is to be feared that Peggy Joyce gets her

axogues no quarter. You have just one guess as to what he will give them. That's the correct answer The fact that Charley Dawes plays the violin

should not influence the New York convention to nominate a saxophone player. Speaking of some presidential "dark horses"

convinces us that their supporters ought to study up on pedigree.

Passing the buck is so much easier than passing needed legislation that buck passing is usually the

Homespun Verse -By Omaha's Own Poet-Robert Worthington Davie

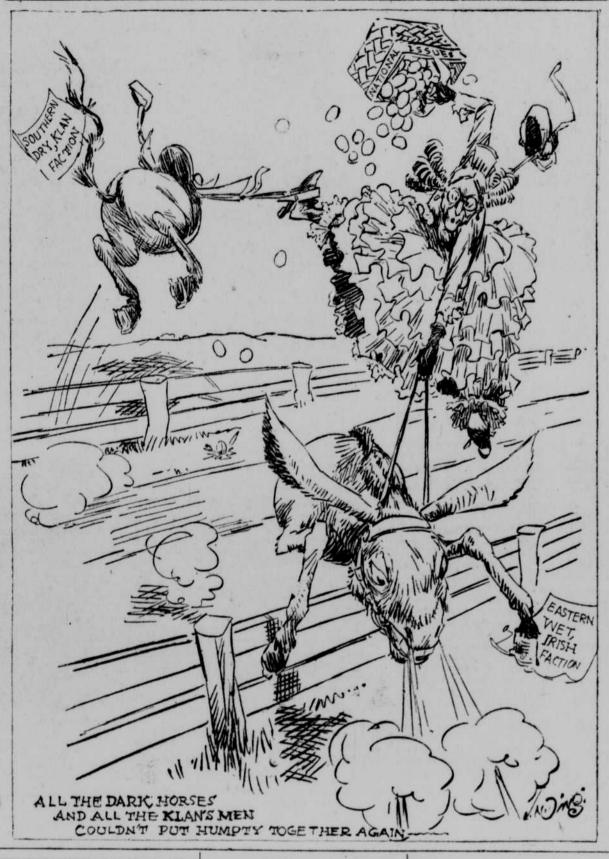
#### WHAT IS PERFECTION?

What is perfection? The craftsman may try To polish his technique and, laboring, die, And reap the reward that so frequently tends To bring forth the words of his rivals and friends, His merit is doubted; his efforts are flouted, And over his bier palliation descends.

Here dwells his apostle-a capable one-Accepting as flawless the work that's been done; There, picking to pieces with critical hands, The rival-by reason a prodigy-stands. Whose word is delusion; -is either intrusion?

O, God give an answer,-wise God who commands! What is perfection? The critical rave Till grass hesitates at the edge of the grave, Till Time the discussion to nothingness cools. And other men come to be prophets and fools.

Those Eggs Which Were to Have Been "Hard Boiled" Will Now Make a Better Omelet



#### "From State and Nation"

Democracy and the Klan. m the New York Herald-Tribune.

ued to yawn the other day while another official spellbinder denounced the hated enemy. Senator Walsh did not talk the unmitigated claptrap that fell from the lips of Senator walsh did not talk the unmitigated claptrap that fell from the lips of Senator walsh did not talk the unmitigated claptrap that fell from the lips of Senator walsh did not talk the unmitigated claptrap that fell from the lips of Senator walsh did not talk the unmitigated claptrap that fell from the lips of Senator walsh did not talk the unmitigated claptrap the political and religious liberty therein contained."

Wet But Temperate, Is Province of Quebec.

From a Letter in the New York Times.

The following item, taken from Lesson that this legislation is achieving solution. It is especially remarkable that there are no complaints by the commission on liquors, which goes to Solution the evening paper of Quebec. ards—Colorado and Missouri—and platform.
there was an excellent demonstration The klr

anned.

There are basic reasons why the demonstrated. As for the reaction at klan issue should be more active in the democratic convention than it was in the republican. The klan was organized in the south and directeed from the south. It is, in its origin, the product of democratic terrritory and it is still far more widely or ganized in the south than in the north. In the north its successes are still largely local. In New York City its one stronghold is Suffolk county. widely organized are Indiana and

The issue is accentuated in this democratic convention because of the

#### Abe Martin



Next t' pickin' up a safety razor blade, th' hardest thing is findin' a drink o' water in a hotel. Look out fer long hairs on your shoulders after your wife gets her hair

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ltter personal contest between Mc-large, we do not believe that the his-Adoo and Smith. Klan and anti-klan toric tolerance of Americans for all to the Hon. P. A. Choquette. Adoo and Smith. Klan and anti-klan has become the center of this personal struggle. Inevitably, the condisturbed. We think it would be a troversy has gained in heat and perspective has been lost. The klan has received a fictitious importance out of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relation to its spread or power. Of all relation to its spread or power of all relations are all The republican platform adopted fastening upon the voters the bitter-at Cleveland did not mention the ness and passion of a religious issue.

the same issue, the wickedness of all positive affirmation of what the great republicans, and the attempt fell flat mass of Americans earnestly believe. Then, without warning, the klan A denunciation of the vicious pra-cas mentioned before the convention tices of the klan might have been and the delegates showed clearly coupled with it, but could have added enough where their real interest lies, nothing to the scope of the declara The sudden anti-klan demonstration tion. There was no occasion for included fights over two state stand-elaborating the point in a republican

there was an excellent demonstration of how swiftly and violently the flames of religious hatred can be party. Its capacity for arousing bit-

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That sumrise never failed us yet Colia Thalter

History has a habit of repeating itself. That fractional vote over the kian plank in the democratic national convention reminds us of what happened in Nebraska when a half vote in a republican state convention nominated a candidate for governor. Old-timers who remember the republican convention of 1894 will recall the incident. It changed the current of political events in Nebraska for several years.

One of the most laughable incidents we ever witnessed in political convention under the old system was on the occasion the last convention of republicans held in Lancaster county. It met to nominate a county ticket and select delegates to the tate convention. The fight was over instructing the state delegates for George Sheldon for governor. The machine was against Sheldon, but the rank and file for him. "Bud" Lindsay, the famous colored politician and a big cog in the machine, was opposed to Sheldon. Excitement was running high and the feeling was intense. Then "Bud" took the floor and began: "Fellow republicans, I have been representing the First

ward of Lincoln in republican county conventions for 30

"That's too d—d long!" shricked a delegate.
That was the extent of "Bud's" speech, and the last one he ever attempted in a republican convention.

Old-timers will remember Frank Morrissey, a splendid newspaper man and a democrat who was an important cog in the Omaha and Nebraska machine. Chronic throat trouble had for years prevented Frank from speaking above a husky whis-per. Omaha machine democrats had slated a saloon keeper named Henry Osthoff for mayor, perhaps because Henry had money to spend in a campaign, and also because Henry probably could be easily managed. The city convention was torrid beyond compare.

was put in nomination, followed by demonstrations of approval from those who had been properly inspired by the candidate's goods and wares, and evidences of disapproval on the part of those who were opposed. Angered by the disapproval Morrissey sprang to his feet to protest. Before he had whispered more than a dozen words some anti-Osthoff delegate shouted in a disguised tone of voice:

That's a helluva voice for a democratic convention!" What Morrissey was going to say will never be known, but Osthoff was nominated, and overwhelmingly defeated.

By the way, Douglas county lost a lot of its flavor when Clontarf precinct ceased to be an important factor in conventions and election returns.

When the newspapers of a recent date asserted that a re-cent session of the Rhode Island legislature lasted 24 hours, thereby making a record for continuous session under call, it reminded us that the present generations of newspaper correspondents have not studied political history. A bit more than 33 years ago we were reporting a legislative session at Lin-coln, having the senate end in charge. On one occasion we ate, slept and had our being in the senate chamber for \$6 hours while that body was under call of the senate. That Rhode Island session was merely a few hours of recreation in

WILL M. MAUPIN.

should be of interest to those who have at heart true temperance: "At the opening of the criminal nightly." urt this morning (May 6), his Honor

on of the court "Thereupon the members of the bar revived an old custom and, to mark

The democratic convention continklan by name, but it included this for which the facts of the nation's
ued to yawn the other day while another official spellbinder denounced

at Cleveland did not mention the less and passion of a religious issue.
dinary fact that there are no cases
the property of the facts of the nation's on the court docket, and it is all the
more remarkable that it should be so

Rather Too Drastic. The bootleggers' union is meeting the members are heartily in favor of prohibition there is considerable Judge Choquette presiding, the clerk announced that the docket was entirely clear. There was absolutely Roanoke (Va.) Times.

A Western Furnace for Western Fuels.

VESBY STANDARD

## Illinois Central System Dollar: Where It Comes From and Where It Goes

Because railway statistics are confusing to many, we have attempted to tell the story of the receipts and expenditures of the Illinois Central System for 1923 and 1922 in terms of the cents which make up a dollar; that is, to show the source from which the Illinois Central System obtained each dollar it received in 1923 and 1922 and how it paid out each dollar it received, as follows:

WHERE THE DOLLAR CAME FROM	CE	NTS
	1923	1922
Transportation of freight (1923-60,519,065 tons, av	ver-	
age distance per ton 266.89 miles; average revenue	per	
ton per mile 0.884 cent. This compares with 0.891 c	ent	
average revenue per ton per mile received in 1922		73.65
Transportation of passengers (1923-37,872,078 pass	en-	
gers; average distance per passenger 26.96 mi		
average revenue per passenger per mile 3.072 cer		
This compares with 3.035 cents average revenue		
passenger per mile in 1922)		
		15.58
Transportation of mail		1.37
Transportation of express	2.10	2.19
Sources related to freight service, such as demurrage		
storage, and special service		0.41
Switching service	1.04	0.97
Sources related to passenger service, such as operat	ion	
of parlor cars, excess baggage, etc	0.65	0.61
Hotel, restaurant, dining and buffet service	0.51	0.53
Station and train privileges and miscellaneous		0.39
Rents of equipment, road, buildings and other proper	rty.	
joint facilities and miscellaneous income		2.23
Income from corporate investments	3.11	2.08
	-	
	100.00	100.00
WHERE THE BOLLAR WENT		
WHERE THE DOLLAR WENT		NTS
	1923	1922
Maintenance of tracks, roadbed, buildings, bridges		
	14.63	13.63
Maintenance of locomotives, freight and passenger c		
and other equipment		17.17
Train, station and switching operations, and other tra		
portation service	25.27	24.96
Traffic agencies, compilation and issuance of tari	ffs.	
miscellaneous traffic expenses		1.44
Hotel, restaurant, dining and buffet service		0.57
Fuel		7.97
Salaries of clerks and other general office employes		1.27
		0.23
		0.13
Legal expenses		0.18
Legal expenses Pension department expenses		
Legal expenses Pension department expenses Salaries of general officers	0.18	0 11
Legal expenses Pension department expenses Salaries of general officers Valuation expenses	0.18	
Legal expenses Pension department expenses Salaries of general officers Valuation expenses Miscellaneous general expenses	0.18	0.32
Legal expenses Pension department expenses Salaries of general officers Valuation expenses Miscellaneous general expenses Depreciation and retirement of equipment	0.18 0.09 0.35 4.62	0.33
Legal expenses Pension department expenses Salaries of general officers Valuation expenses Miscellaneous general expenses Depreciation and retirement of equipment Loss, damage and casualties	0.18 0.09 0.35 4.62	0.33
Legal expenses Pension department expenses Salaries of general officers Valuation expenses Miscellaneous general expenses Depreciation and retirement of equipment Loss, damage and casualties Rent of equipment, leased lines, joint facilities and n	0.18 0.09 0.35 4.62 1.97	0.33 4.72 1.77
Legal expenses Pension department expenses Salaries of general officers Valuation expenses Miscellaneous general expenses Depreciation and retirement of equipment Loss, damage and casualties Rent of equipment, leased lines, joint facilities and recellaneous rents	0.18 0.09 0.35 4.62 1.97	0.32 4.72 1.77
Legal expenses Pension department expenses Salaries of general officers Valuation expenses Miscellaneous general expenses Depreciation and retirement of equipment Loss, damage and casualties Rent of equipment, leased lines, joint facilities and medianeous rents Interest on bonds and other interest charges	0.18 0.09 0.35 4.62 1.97 nis- 3.10 7.28	0.33 4.73 1.77 2.43 6.95
Legal expenses Pension department expenses Salaries of general officers Valuation expenses Miscellaneous general expenses Depreciation and retirement of equipment Loss, damage and casualties Rent of equipment, leased lines, joint facilities and n cellaneous rents Interest on bonds and other interest charges Dividends on capital stock	0.18 0.09 0.35 4.62 1.97 nis- 3.10 7.28 4.22	0.32 4.72 1.77 2.42 6.95 4.44
Legal expenses Pension department expenses Salaries of general officers Valuation expenses Miscellaneous general expenses Depreciation and retirement of equipment Loss, damage and casualties Rent of equipment, leased lines, joint facilities and n cellaneous rents Interest on bonds and other interest charges Dividends on capital stock Taxes		0.32 4.72 1.77 2.42 6.95 4.44
Legal expenses Pension department expenses Salaries of general officers Valuation expenses Miscellaneous general expenses Depreciation and retirement of equipment Loss, damage and casualties Rent of equipment, leased lines, joint facilities and n cellaneous rents Interest on bonds and other interest charges Dividends on capital stock Taxes Balance available for enlarging and improving	0.18 0.09 0.35 4.62 1.97 nis- 3.10 7.28 4.22 5.61	0.32 4.72 1.77 2.42 6.95 4.44 6.89
Legal expenses Pension department expenses Salaries of general officers Valuation expenses Miscellaneous general expenses Depreciation and retirement of equipment Loss, damage and casualties Rent of equipment, leased lines, joint facilities and n cellaneous rents Interest on bonds and other interest charges Dividends on capital stock Taxes	0.18 0.09 0.35 4.62 1.97 nis- 3.10 7.28 4.22 5.61	0.11 0.32 4.72 1.77 2.42 6.95 4.44 6.89
Legal expenses Pension department expenses Salaries of general officers Valuation expenses Miscellaneous general expenses Depreciation and retirement of equipment Loss, damage and casualties Rent of equipment, leased lines, joint facilities and n cellaneous rents Interest on bonds and other interest charges Dividends on capital stock Taxes Balance available for enlarging and improving	0.18 0.09 0.35 4.62 1.97 nis- 3.10 7.28 4.22 5.61	0.32 4.72 1.77 2.42 6.95 4.44 6.89

This statement is made for the purpose of keeping our patrons informed about the Illinois Central System. Similar statements were published in 1922

Constructive criticism and suggestions are invited.

C. H. MARKHAM. President, Ilinois Central System.