

IN THE PUBLIC EYE

JOHN WORTH KERN



John Worth Kern, selected by the Democratic convention at Denver as Bryan's running mate in the national campaign of this fall, is conceded to be the leader of the Indiana Democracy.

Mr. Kern has run several times for governor, and each time he was said to have reunited the warring factions of the Democratic party and to have won over a large Republican following, but each time he was badly defeated. He was elected city attorney in Kokomo in 1871 and served several years. He was elected reporter of the Indiana supreme court, but was defeated for reelection. He served two terms in the state senate and one as city attorney of Indianapolis, but some Republican always happened to come along to oust him.

This does not imply that Mr. Kern is a weak or an unpopular man in his state, for he is neither. Democracy was on the down grade in Indiana when he was coming to the front, and was only kept from dissolution by the phenomenal strength of United States Senator Voorhees, the "tall sycamore of the Wabash," who managed to have a Democratic legislature elected just in time to re-elect him to the senate when his term expired. Since he dropped out of politics just before his death, a little over ten years ago, Democracy in Indiana had been practically wiped off the map, and Mr. Kern has had no more show than would a Democrat in Michigan.

He is a graduate of the University of Michigan, and for a time practiced law in Kokomo, but later moved to Indianapolis, where he has since lived. He has a high reputation in his native state, and is a man of considerable personal magnetism.

WINFIELD SCOTT HAMMOND



Winfield Scott Hammond, the man who placed the name of Gov. Johnson in nomination for the presidency, is a member of congress from the Second Minnesota district.

Hammond is the official Johnson nominator. This thing of nominating Johnson may almost be said to have become a habit with him. He nominated Johnson at the Minnesota state convention one time, and to the surprise of a large number of people who thought they knew something about the game of politics the country editor was nominated. To the surprise, too, of an even larger number of people, he was elected. When his term was out Congressman Hammond arose before another state convention and nominated him again. This time the outcome was not so unexpected.

When the Minnesota executive made up his mind to let his name go before the Democratic national convention it was suggested to him that he permit some eloquent orator, some spellbinder of the Bourke Cockran type, to make the nominating speech. But Mr. Johnson balked.

"Out there in St. James, Minn.," he said, "there is a plain-spoken sort of chap who does my nominating just about the way I like to have it done. I have had some experience with his brand of nominating, and I don't know that I have a single objection to make to it. And I reckon, when I have any more nominating to be done, I'll just let Win Hammond do it, for he's my mascot."

Hammond lives in one of the string of towns up in Minnesota that seem to have been christened by some pious persons in the intervals between prayer meetings and Epworth league sessions. He lives in St. James. Gov. Johnson lives in St. Peter, and when he left there it was to St. Paul. Congressman Hammond is Massachusetts-born, a Dartmouth graduate and when he came west in 1884 he taught school for six years. Then he began the practice of law. He is on his first term in the house, having defeated James T. McCleary, a Republican of national note, in a district that was always considered unalterably Republican.

LEVIN IRVING HANDY



Levin Irving Handy of Delaware came into the limelight at the Denver convention after an absence of years, because of his selection by the managers of Judge George Gray's presidential campaign as the man to place the Delaware Jurist before the delegates as a candidate for president.

Besides being a politician and an orator, Mr. Handy has been a newspaper writer, a lecturer and a school teacher. In 1898 and 1899 he was the entire congressional delegation of the state of Delaware in the lower house of congress, and for a little while he was the whole delegation in both houses, during the brief period in which both seats in the senate were vacant. After serving one term, Handy was defeated for reelection by a Republican and retired to private life.

Mr. Handy was born in Maryland 46 years ago, and was educated in the public schools. He taught school in his native state and in Delaware, was school superintendent of a county in the latter state for several years, and later became an editorial writer on Every Evening, a Wilmington daily newspaper.

In preparation for the recent crisis, apparently, he became a public lecturer, and for a number of years delivered lectures throughout the country upon assorted topics, calculated to appeal to the patrons of the local lyceum lecture courses in town and city. From 1892 till 1896 he was chairman of the Democratic state central committee of Delaware.

Having been one of the earliest men to urge the selection of Judge Gray as the Democratic presidential candidate, and one of the strongest supporters of that movement in its moments of sunshine as well as its hours of despair, he was selected by the judge's personal representatives to get whatever glory comes of the opportunity to make the speech formally placing his candidate's name before the convention.

COL. JAMES M. GUFFEY



Col. James M. Guffey, Democratic boss of Pennsylvania, who furnished one of the most sensational features of the Denver convention in his fight with Bryan, less than two years ago was read out of the party down in his own state. But he resolutely declined to stay dead. Anybody at all acquainted with the Pennsylvania's make-up knows that retirement for him will be but temporary, and that he will be shuffling the cards in the political game for a good many years to come.

Guffey is a political fighter for the pure love of the sport. He has held the Democracy of Pennsylvania in the hollow of his hand, so to speak, for more than ten years. He has never asked for an office and could not be induced to take one. He is referred to as an oil magnate in six states, coal king in two, silver mine owner in two and gold mine owner in the eleventh. His wealth goes into so many millions that he probably could not tell off-hand just how much money he has.

In the first Bryan convention in 1896, Guffey was a "sound money" delegate. After Bryan had been nominated, Guffey came back home with thoughts of bolting in his head, but when he found that his rival William F. Harrity, retiring state boss, had already bolted, Guffey turned in and bent every effort to swing his state to the Bryan column. Since that time he has been national committeeman, succeeding Harrity, who had been national chairman.

Four years later Col. Guffey was again a Bryan worker in Pennsylvania. His thousands have always flown easily into the party coffers in time of need, and he is credited with being one of the three heaviest givers of cash to the Bryan campaign in both 1896 and 1900.

Col. Guffey is a fighter and he is undeniably a powerful factor in Pennsylvania politics. Whether he is to be crushed for good by the Bryan steam roller remains to be seen, but those who know him best doubt it. The present feud between the candidate and the boss grew out of the latter's opposition to Pennsylvania's sending a delegation to Denver instructed for Bryan.

PRIMITIVE IRRIGATION METHODS.

Companies Organized Will Improve System in Old Mexico.

St. Louis.—The new irrigation law which was recently passed by the Mexican congress already has led to the inauguration of a number of irrigation projects in different parts of that country. The fact that the law carries an appropriation of \$25,000,000 to be paid in subsidies to those who place land under irrigation, serves as an incentive for the establishment of improvements of this character.

One of the largest of these irrigation enterprises under the new law is being financed by a syndicate of St. Louis men, headed by David R. Francis. His son, David R. Francis, Jr., is



Primitive Method of Irrigation in Old Mexico.

actively interested in the project, and has been spending much of his time in Mexico of late. The concession for this enterprise provides for the use of the water of Lake Chapala for irrigating about 500,000 acres of land adjacent to the lake. The government will pay a subsidy of \$25 per hectare of 2½ acres on all land placed under irrigation. It is stated that a system of canals and ditches will be built to cover every part of the tracts of land that are to be irrigated and that great electric pumping plants will be installed to raise the water out of the lake. The cost of the construction of the system of irrigation will be almost offset by the subsidy.

A number of applications for concessions to establish large irrigation plants under the new subsidy law are pending in the department of fomento of the federal government. Minister Olegario Molina of that department recently signed a contract with Joaquin Redo, a wealthy business man of Matatlan, for the establishment of a system of irrigation in the valley of the San Lorenzo river in the state of Sinaloa. Mr. Redo binds himself to place 25,000 acres under irrigation within ten years from the date of the contract.

Primitive methods of irrigation are in use in many parts of Mexico. Some of these irrigating plants have been in operation continuously for more than 150 years. The water is raised by means of cumbersome water wheels operated by the native peons. The capacity of the buckets on these wheels is small, but a considerable quantity of water is lifted in the course of a day's operation and several acres may be irrigated from one water wheel. The demand for modern pumping plants has increased very rapidly during the last few years, and it is not unusual to see a gasoline engine at work alongside of one of the antiquated water wheels.

WISCONSIN MAN IS CHOSEN.

Lorenzo D. Harvey New Head of National Education Association.

Menominee, Wis.—Lorenzo D. Harvey, who has been elected president



of the National Education Association, has been superintendent of the Menominee school system and Stout training schools since 1903. He has been a teacher or superintendent of schools since 1873, the year following his graduation from Milton college, his work having been at Sheboygan, Oshkosh, Milwaukee and Menominee. Mr. Harvey was born in New Hampshire in 1848 and has lived in Wisconsin 58 years. All his life, excepting five years, when he was engaged in the practice of law and in manufacturing, has been devoted to education at work. He has been president of the Wisconsin Teachers' association and of the library department of the National Educational association and at the head of the superintendence department of the National Education association. He succeeds Edwin G. Cooley of Chicago as president of the association.

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