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## BRYAN TO DEMOCRATS

**Calls Down the Colorado Bourbons Who Propose To Go It Alone.**

## THERE MUST BE UNION

**The Idea of Colorado Democrats That Populists Must Join Democracy Not Endorsed.**

### Some Interesting Letter.

The political situation in Colorado is just now full of interest—especially to Nebraskans. A few days ago a meeting of prominent silver democrats was held in Denver. Among them were some of the most influential and active men in the state—the leaders of Colorado democracy. They unanimously adopted a resolution in favor of nominating straight democratic tickets in that state and against fusing or combining with any other party in the campaign of 1898.

To understand the real significance of this move by Colorado democrats a study of the election returns from that state is important. In 1894 the vote on judge of the supreme court stood, republican 90,845, populist, 76,487, democrat 9,634. In 1896 Bryan had 161,353 votes to McKinley's 26,271. But on the state ticket in 1896 the democrats fused with the silver republicans with a democrat for governor and their entire fusion ticket was elected over the populists. The vote for governor was as follows:

Adams, (dem. and silver) 87,456.  
Bailey, (populist), 71,683.  
Allen, McKinley rep., 24,111.

Five of the present state officers are republicans and three democrats. Last year the silver republicans and McKinley republicans combined on a candidate for judge of the supreme court. The populists nominated Judge Gabbert, a very strong candidate. When the democratic convention met it rejected the suggestion of Judge Gabbert, who had formerly been a democrat and put up a candidate of its own. It was discovered that its nominee had formerly been a Cleveland democrat, and so much dissatisfaction was the consequence that he withdrew. When the votes were counted Gabbert had 68,888 and the republican 64,947.

It would appear on any basis of computation that the populists in Colorado were largely in excess of the democrats. This action on the part of leading democrats is therefore a little difficult to understand, except on the theory that they have the governor and believe they will be able to elect him this fall. But if one may judge by their statements as reproduced further on they believe that the democratic party there will absorb the populists and other bi-metallists. They think union for the battle of 1900 is necessary and the only way to secure that union is by uniting in the democratic party, which they claim must furnish the candidates and the platform for the next presidential campaign. This seems rather strange talk from western democrats—at least it will seem so to western populists. Upon the question thus raised by Colorado democrats the following private letter from W. J. Bryan to the democratic national committeeman there will be read with great interest:

### BRYAN'S LETTER.

Fayette, Mo., March 20, 1898.

Hon. C. S. Thomas, Denver, Colo.

Dear Mr. Thomas—I have not had time to write you since the three addresses were issued by Senators Jones and Butler and ex-Congressman Towne, but avail myself of a moment's leisure today to say that so far as I have been able to learn, the position taken by the three national committees is quite generally indorsed by the rank and file of the three parties. If there is any opposition anywhere it will manifest itself in those states where the silver sentiment is so strong that one faction may hope to control the local offices by defeating the other faction.

To some it may seem immaterial whether our forces win by united action or one wins over the others, but it seems to me that a survey of the whole country ought to convince any impartial friend of bimetalism that divisions now weaken us for the battle of 1900. Where the parties agree upon the paramount issues, but have different tickets, the contest is likely to arouse partisanship and personal feeling which will make future co-operation difficult.

Co-operation requires some sacrifices upon the part of parties and individuals, but certainly some sacrifices may be reasonably expected from those who believe that the gold standard would ultimately entail upon the human race "more misery than all the wars, pestilences and famines of the past." In the presence of a conspiracy such as we have to meet, all our differences should be forgotten and all guns turned toward the common enemy. "Divide and conquer" is the motto of our enemies; it has always been the motto of the shrewd and well organized few. The privileged classes are necessarily in a minority, but they have won many victories by stirring up dissensions among the many who desire equal rights to all. Where the gold democrats are numerically strong they will insist up-

on ignoring the Chicago platform, but where they are numerically weak they will profess to accept the platform but will propose every plan that is calculated to bring success to the platform. I am confident that the friends of bimetalism will be earnest enough to put the triumph of the cause above every personal ambition and above any mere temporary party triumph. Our people should remember the parable of the good Samaritan. The neighbor—although of a different party name—who gives aid in the hour of danger and distress is the real friend and more to be considered than the enemy who makes the attack or the pretended friends who refuse assistance.

I find our platform growing stronger all the time, and have no doubt of silver's triumph in 1900 if our forces will stand together. Yours truly,  
W. J. BRYAN.

The action in Colorado has also stirred up the national democratic committee, whose chairman has also written a letter dealing even more directly than Mr. Bryan with the effect of their action. The following is CHAIRMAN JONES' LETTER, Democratic National Committee, Office of the Chairman.

Washington, D. C., March 19, 1897.

Hon. Caldwell Yeaman, Denver, Colo.

My Dear Judge—I am very much disturbed to see by the papers that an informal meeting of a number of democrats of Denver, among whom I notice your name, adopted a resolution "refusing absolutely to combine or fuse with any other party in the state." You are aware that the republican central committee and their golding democratic allies—Fairchild's committee—have been distributing documents, papers and pamphlets all over the country since the election of 1896; that they are organizing their followers everywhere; that chambers of commerce are actively at work now in their behalf, and that it is absolutely necessary that we should be organizing for 1900 by all means within our reach. In fact, I regard the approaching struggle as the skirmish line of 1900. To win in that election it is necessary that we have the hearty co-operation of all classes of bimetalists in the country. Without this I see no chance for success.

Hence I issued an address, copy of which I inclose, some time since, which was unanimously indorsed by the democratic congressional campaign committee. I believe this policy to be absolutely essential to success in 1900, and I confess my deep regret at seeing a disposition among Colorado democrats to take the opposite course and to drive from us exactly that class of men who must come with us to make success possible. We cannot take the ground that we can drive thousands of men off in Colorado and receive their assistance in states where it is absolutely necessary to have them to win, because the course pursued in one part of the country will be felt all over the country. No state has a greater interest in the success of bimetalism than Colorado, and it seems to me that the democratic party of that state should have as deep an interest in the success of bimetalism in 1900 as to be willing to bring about the best possible state of feeling among all classes of bimetalists. Grant, for the sake of argument, that you can make a decided partisan success in your state by pursuing the course indicated in the newspapers as being laid out by the meeting to which I referred, that will certainly not compensate for the losses which we will sustain in other states as the result of this action, and which will probably cost us the presidency.

I know your high standing, your deserved popularity and influence among your people. I sincerely hope that you will think calmly and deliberately over this matter, and that you may see your way clear to join in the movement which we all believe to be absolutely essential to success, and try to bring into hearty co-operation all classes of bimetalists. I believe that the chief hope of the republicans for success in 1900 is in preventing co-operation among bimetalists, and that our chief reliance for success is in cordial and earnest co-operation. If we have this co-operation it must be in every state; it must be general to be effective. Very sincerely yours,  
JAMES K. JONES, Chairman.

The attitude of the democratic mind in Colorado and the reasons it gives for its action will also be of genuine interest to all populists. Mr. Thomas, who is a man of national reputation and author of a number of magazine articles and pamphlets on the subject of bimetalism, thus announces his views:

### VIEWS OF MR. THOMAS.

He said: "I am in full sympathy with those democrats who believe that as the party now stands as the official representative of bimetalism, equal taxation, government control and issue of all forms of currency, non-governmental interference by injunction and the vindication of individual right and personal freedom, all who sincerely believe in these great principles and honestly and earnestly desire their success, should and will come in to the party and aid in its triumph. I also share the conviction that as long as fusion is possible, different organizations will exist for the sake of fusion. Indeed good party government and the simplest rules of discipline suggest unity of action wherever success is to be achieved, and no compromise or fusion is entirely satisfactory. Hence those who contend for straight party action are logical and consistent. They rightly agree that if we are to win in 1900 we must do so with one ticket, one party and one platform, and that the work of unification should begin at once.

"But obedience is the first essential

to party discipline and we must as party members give heed to the counsels of those high in authority. Senator Jones and Mr. Bryan have official custody, so to speak, of affairs democratic and their horizon is national. Whether right or wrong, they urge upon us the necessity as well as the duty of co-operation in 1898, and their requests are entitled to careful and respectful consideration."

It will be observed that Mr. Thomas puts his future action on the basis of party "obedience" and not of public welfare or principle. Populists will be inclined to smile at this. They are not accustomed to place the course of their political conduct on the basis of "obedience" to any one in their party, no matter how high in its councils. They believe the advice of such a person should be followed so far as it presents sound argument and not authority as its backing. This summary of the democratic view west of us would not be complete without presenting part of Mr. Yeaman's reply to Chairman Jones, which is as follows: MR. YEAMAN'S VIEWS.

We are thoroughly in accord with the sentiment expressed in the address of the national populist committee that "there are but two sides to this mighty and portentous conflict."

In his letter to Judge Gadsden, after giving activity and political acumen of the opposition, democrats are confronted with the imperative necessity of formulating some plan by which bimetalists shall become united in one or the other of the several distinct organizations. It appears to be natural and logical that the best results can be achieved by and through the democratic party, whose national conventions will present to the voters of the nation the platform and candidates upon which all must eventually unite.

We believe higher ground is taken when all who are actuated by a common aim are brought and concentrated under one political organization for the achievement of their purpose, even though such consolidation should be temporary. It is, therefore, proposed to invite all who are in harmony with the democratic party in its deliberations, its nominations and in its campaigns. We believe this to be the highest and most practical plan of fusion. It may not be just what you and the chairmen of the other national organizations find yourselves presently able to accomplish, but that your efforts in that direction and will eventually result in such national co-operation and consolidation must be manifest. Very sincerely yours,  
CALDWELL YEAMAN.

## AT MADRID.

Minister Woodford in Conference With Premier Sagasta.

MADRID, March 31.—Beyond the fact that a few policemen and a couple of civil guards stand outside the American legation, there is absolutely no sign in Madrid of the tension between Spain and America. So far as the general public is concerned, the matter is little discussed, even the press being generally hopeful of a peaceful settlement.

The note Minister Woodford presented is practically a repetition of the one presented in September, which, in the interest of humanity, asked Spain for an immediate cessation of hostilities in Cuba. Upon Spain's reply to this matter hinges the conference held at the presidency this afternoon, at which Senator Sagasta, the premier; Senor Gullon, the foreign minister; Senor Moret, the minister for the colonies, and General Woodford were present, and at which it had been hoped a decision would be reached.

The conference was of an hour's duration and the ministers continued in deliberation after the United States minister withdrew.

The conference adjourned to 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon. United States Minister Woodford seemed pleased with the report and every indication points to a settlement.

"Both governments are absolutely agreed as to the desirability of a settlement," said a diplomat, "but the tension is so great that it would only take a little further strain to spill the hawser."

## A "MUSQUITO FLEET."

Formation of Another Squadron Determined Upon.

WASHINGTON, March 30.—It was disclosed for the first time by one of the naval orders issued yesterday that the department had determined upon the formation of an additional new fleet, to be known as "the musquito fleet," to be composed of tugs, steam yachts and other small vessels which may be obtainable and which are to be used as a sort of mobile defense of sea coast cities. It was further developed in this connection that the naval militia of the several states is to be called upon to man this auxiliary fleet.

The fact that Admiral Walker sailed from Nicaragua to the state department announcing his departure for home revives the speculation as to the likelihood of one of the brightest officers of the navy, active or retired, being placed in charge of the entire naval operations, including the fleet under Captain Sampson, Commodore Schuyler's flying squadron and any auxiliary lines of defense that may be established.

## SPREADING THE NEWS

Populists of Oregon Gathering Information About Populism In Nebraska.

## FOR USE IN OREGON CAMPAIGN

Some Interesting and Instructive Comparisons Made by C. Q. De France.

### Cost of Maintaining State Institutions.

In reply to a request from Hon. J. Gadsden of Portland, Ore., Mr. Charles Q. De France of the governor's office has compiled some interesting information concerning the populist administration in Nebraska. The contest in that state will be close and the populists are depending largely upon the excellent record being made by Nebraska officials to aid them to victory. Much the same condition exists in Oregon that existed in Nebraska before the "change." Extravagance has prevailed in almost every department of the state government.

In his letter to Judge Gadsden, after stating the history of the state and that the republican party had been in control from 1867 to 1897, Mr. De France makes comparisons of the expense of conducting the state institutions under the republican party and under the populist party during 1897. In his letter he says:

"Accompanying this letter is a table showing the per capita expense in the different state institutions by semi-annual periods from 1892 to 1897, inclusive. Even the most cursory study of this table will disclose an interesting story of republican extravagance and mismanagement. The number of inmates in most of the institutions has increased since 1892, which naturally tends to reduce the per capita cost. Officers' salaries, unless reduced or increased by legislative enactment, remain the same whether 100 or 200 inmates are maintained in an institution, and the per capita cost varies inversely as the number of inmates increases or decreases.

"This is not true of board and clothing, fuel and light, employes' wages and other items of maintenance, which increase directly, though not fully in equal proportion, as the number of inmates increases. Taking into consideration this matter of increase in number of inmates to be cared for, and making due allowance therefor, it is not a difficult matter to show the saving made to the taxpayers of Nebraska by the present fusion administration.

"The following table shows the total cost of maintaining the penal and charitable institutions of Nebraska by years, from 1892 to 1897, inclusive, together with the number of inmates each year and the per capita cost. In 1896 the fiscal year was changed to end November 30 instead of December 31, as has been the custom theretofore. The total cost for maintaining 2,548 inmates for eleven months in 1896 was \$365,217.97; but for purposes of comparison I have added one-eleventh to that sum in making up the cost in 1896.

Year	Number of inmates	Total cost	Per capita cost
1892	1,940	\$431,945.05	\$222.20
1893	2,131	487,526.48	228.72
1894	2,354	436,173.55	185.62
1895	2,519	428,154.16	169.97
1896	2,548	398,412.60	156.37
1897	2,448	375,927.80	153.57

"Speculative losses or gains are, of course, usually looked upon with disfavour by thinking people generally; but there is no better way of judging the future than by the past; no better way of telling what might have happened to Nebraska in the year of our Lord 1897, if under republican rule, than to compare what was done that year by populists and democrats with what was done by republicans in years previous. A simple calculation in proportion will show that if it cost \$431,945.05 to maintain 1,940 wards of the state one year under republican rule, the cost in 1897 under a similar system of mismanagement for maintaining 2,448 such persons would be \$545,837.88, or the sum of \$113,892.83 more than it actually did cost. It is surely not going beyond the confines of reason to say that the actual saving in 1897 resulting from honest, economical administration in this penal and charitable institution, is fully \$150,000, thus leaving \$22,500.28 to be accounted for by reason of the increase in inmates.

"Whatever may be the reader's deduction on this score, the bare fact remains that it cost \$35,857.43 more to maintain 1,940 persons one year under a republican administration than it did to maintain 2,448 persons during the year 1897, under the present state administration. And the table shows that each year under complete republican control it cost more to maintain fewer persons than it did to maintain a larger number under populist management in 1897."

In another place in his letter referring to the rise in the price of state warrants, Mr. De France says: "During the year of 1896 state warrants were selling at a discount of 3 to 7 per cent., notwithstanding the fact that Nebraska's state bonded indebtedness was only \$468,267.55. Today brokers are quarrelling with each other over them, trying to prevent any further rise in the price, which is 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 per cent. premium. In 1896 a republican treasurer mismanaged the state's finances, and worse, he embezzled \$555,790.66, and is now under sentence of twenty years' imprisonment in the state penitentiary. From January 7, 1897, up to date, a populist treasurer applies his "wild-eyed" notions of finance and matters in general to the conduct of his office, and notwithstanding the enormous decrease in the state's money by reason of the defalcation of Bartley, the republican state treasurer, Mr. Meserve, the present treasurer, by his efficient management, has caused state warrants to rise from 93 to 101 1/2%."

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## DRAWING TO AN END.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The issues of peace and war hang in the opposing scales of a balance so nicely adjusted that even the events of a few hours may irrevocably determine the result.

It is expected by the President that a full and final answer to the note of this government will be received within a few days—perhaps within a few hours. Upon its receipt the negotiations, regardless of results, will terminate and the correspondence will be sent to Congress with a message. The note of the President is in the nature of an ultimatum and upon its acceptance or rejection will depend peace or war.

It is understood that the President will not send a message to Congress in relation to making an appropriation for the relief of the suffering people of Cuba until the answer of Spain is received to the note referred to. It is hoped by him that nothing will be done in Congress of a precipitate character until the pending negotiations are terminated.

## INDEPENDENCE OR WAR.

Only those to whom is given the gift of prophecy can forecast the result. There are, however, conditions of fact requiring no prophetic powers in their recognition, which are of value in these hours of waiting. Neither Congress nor Cuba will give assent to any conclusions which do not include the removal of the Spanish flag from that island. No plan of larger autonomy, no solution which leaves Spain even nominal sovereignty, will be accepted. No settlement which does not yield absolute independence in name as well as fact can possibly be adopted. The decision—and it must be made at once—therefore lies with Spain. It does not seem possible that it can arrive at one admitting absolute independence without revolution at home, and even a hopeless war with the United States must be preferable to that. If it cannot, then, at the utmost, in three days make such a complete surrender, the President cannot hold Congress in check and war must be the inevitable result.

## SENATE DELAYS.

On Assurances From the President No Positive Action Is Taken.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Again today were the galleries of the Senate crowded to the doors. Not an inch of space was left in any of the galleries, and the corridors were packed with disappointed hundreds, who vainly sought seats from which they might listen to the proceedings.

The Senate committee on foreign relations failed to reach an agreement at its meeting on any of the Cuban resolutions before it. It referred the whole matter to a subcommittee, and then adjourned.

The members of the committee, who saw the president to-day, assured the other members that the Cuban situation will come to a head in a very few days, and that Congress would be informed. The utmost limit placed upon the time when the matter will be settled, one way or another, was stated as one week, while others thought it might be within forty-eight hours.

The committee considered that it would be unwise, in view of negotiations now on to precipitate matters at this time. It was said that Congress need not take action to hurry the administration in view of what had been learned by members.

The President received this morning a cablegram from Minister Woodford at Madrid in which he confirms the published report that he had had an extended conference with Premier Sagasta yesterday. No definite conclusion was reached as the minister desires to place the matter under consideration before the queen regent and the other members of the ministry. The conference was adjourned until to-morrow.

Observe the date at which your subscription expires, marked on this issue of your paper, and if you are in arrears make a remittance.

## HOUSE GETTING IN LINE.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—When the House met, Mr. Bailey the Democratic leader, presented, as a matter of privilege, a resolution recognizing the independence of Cuba. A perfect whirlwind of applause overwhelmed the House from the galleries. Mr. Boutelle made a point of order against it, and Mr. Bailey, in speaking of the point of order, declared that he had no purpose to raise disorder in the House. He believed he had a right to make it. Mr. Bailey said the House had a right to decide this question and accept the responsibility.

Mr. Bailey cited a precedent in the Fifty-third Congress, when on a similar question, the speaker of the House and the Republicans all voted against a ruling of Speaker Crisp, holding that an Hawaiian resolution offered by Mr. Boutelle, while in order, must go to a committee and was not privileged for immediate consideration.

The Democrats and the galleries repeatedly applauded him. Mr. Boutelle replied, detailing the circumstances of the precedent, but contending that the ruling was erroneous.

Mr. Hull, chairman of the military affairs committee, who is at the head of radical Republicans, arose to rally his followers against the resolution at this time. He announced amid a storm of applause that he was willing to go as far as any one in aid of the struggling patriots of Cuba, but he wanted everything done in an orderly way. He declared that he sympathized with a proposition for a declaration of war.

## RALLYING REPUBLICAN FORCES.

While this was going on Republicans were whispering in groups, the conservative leaders were circulating among them urging them not to allow the Democrats to take the initiative.

When Mr. Terry of Arkansas was urging that the question of privilege should be submitted to the House for a decision, the confusion became so great that Mr. Simpson of Kansas raised a laugh when he made the point of order that "the speaker's reconcentrated were out of order."

Mr. Hopkins, who presided at the Republican Cuban caucus, supported the point of order made against the Bailey resolution. He claimed that it was not a question of personal privilege or one that affected the House. It simply called for an expression as to the patriots in Cuba. The resolution should go to a committee. He was not willing to be carried off his feet to overturn the rules of the House. He hoped that Republicans would take the same view.

"When?" asked a Republican member. The chair announced that he was ready to rule and Mr. Bailey said his side was ready. He made a long decision quoting precedents. Many Senators came over and listened to the debate.

Mr. Reed said the question of war and independence did not constitute a question of privilege and would not, he thought, at any time except in times of great excitement. The Speaker sustained the point of order and Mr. Bailey appealed from the decision.

A STRICTLY PARTY VOTE. Speaker Reed, after the appeal, stated that he had no doubt but that the ends which were sought to be arrived at in the resolution would be secured in an honorable and satisfactory manner. Mr. Bailey said he had no doubt the remark was intended to stiffen the backbone of the Republican members.

On laying the appeal upon the table the standing vote showed 178 to 137. No Republican was seen voting in the negative. The roll call followed amid a great deal of confusion. The parties were solidly aligned as in the standing vote. The appeal was laid on the table by a vote of 179 ayes to 139 nays.

The resolution, which was offered by Mr. Bailey, is as follows: "Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives, that the long struggle by the Cuban people against the forces of arms and the horrors of famine has shown them worthy to be free; and

"Second, the United States hereby recognizes the independence of Cuba as a free and independent state."

Representative Adamson of Georgia has introduced a resolution recognizing the republic of Cuba and authorizing the President to accredit to it a minister of this government. Representative Mahaney of New York introduced a joint resolution recognizing the Cuban republic as a free and independent state and welcoming her "to the sisterhood of republics in the Western world."

Representative Todd of Michigan introduced a resolution declaring a state of war exists between the United States and Spain.

There has been a great deal of discussion among the Republicans since the Bailey resolution was introduced and voted upon. Many of them received assurances from the leaders that there would be action in a short time.