

**BURTON'S FATAL MISTAKE**

Congressman Burton of Ohio will make a serious mistake if he permits the republicans of Cleveland to drag him into the coming mayoralty

contest as a candidate against Mayor Tom Johnson. He has won high regard as a member of congress, stands close to Secretary Taft in statesmanship stature, and has a most promising future in national politics. On the other hand, Cleveland under Tom Johnson has become the best, or one of the best governed cities in the United States, and if he is willing to take another term it ought to be given to him. The private street railway interests of the city, however, are working tooth and nail to get rid of Johnson, and if Burton enters the fight it will be rather as the tool of those interests than in response to any large and genuine public need. Whether, then, he should win or lose, the result must prove damaging to his political prospects.—Springfield Republican.

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**The Lewis Stuyvesant Chanler Boom**

For what it is worth and for the information of Commoner readers the following, from the New York Press, is reproduced:

Lewis Stuyvesant Chanler, lieutenant governor of New York, is a pronounced candidate for the democratic nomination for the presidency. His canvass is under way in various sections of the country, and it will be pushed vigorously. Chanler's friends say he is in the race to stay until the finish, and believe confidently that he will be the choice of his party's national convention. Proof that came to the Press last night makes it pretty certain that men of financial and political weight have combined in many states to bring about Chanler's nomination. Many of the interests that were for Judge Parker three years ago are in the new combine, and emissaries are "out on the road" doing missionary work.

Plausible arguments are being advanced for Chanler, and reports from a confidential source are that many democrats of influence, who do not wish to see either Bryan or Hearst nominated, are rallying to the lieutenant governor. The extensive belief that New York in all probability will furnish the next republican candidate for the presidency, also is having an effect for Chanler, as his advance agents point out that he polled nearly 22,000 more votes than Hearst in the last state election and within 35,000 of Governor Hughes' total vote. It had been intended that New York should be the first to make the formal announcement of the Chanler candidacy, but some of his friends in other states were premature, and in Louisiana, Virginia and Tennessee expressions in his favor already have been published.

John Fox, president of the Democratic club in this city, of which Chanler is a member, last night gave out a prepared interview declaring emphatically for Chanler's nomination. It was said at the democratic club that Charles F. Murphy of Tammany Hall, "Big Tim" Sullivan and State Chairman Connors also prefer Chanler. Democrats conspicuous in the financing of the Parker canvass also are mentioned as being among his sponsors.

Mr. Chanler has been invited to speak in Georgia and other southern states and he will visit the south in a few months. None of the democratic leaders in this state, it is learned, is at heart for Bryan's nomination, while many prefer Chanler to Hearst. It is understood that one reason for springing Chanler thus early is to embarrass Hearst, who was responsible for Chanler's nomination for lieutenant governor and who has praised him since in his speeches.

"How can Hearst consistently oppose Chanler?" a local democrat asked last night. "Chanler beat him at the polls and can get many democratic votes outside New York which never would go to Hearst."

Another democrat said that if Hearst were wise and wished to make sure of Bryan's undoing, he would indorse Chanler's canvass promptly and drive Bryan out of the race, for Bryan's friends have contended all along that Bryan would decline to be a candidate if substantial opposition should develop against him before convention time. A conspicuous democrat from the south said:

"We want to win the presidency, and if New York democrats really are on the level for Chanler, and believe he can poll more votes than anybody else in New York, we will nominate him and take another chance, although the last campaign

with Parker of New York at the head of the ticket was a sad disappointment."

Chanler's family ancestors came from the south and his brother, William Astor Chanler, recently purchased a large stock farm in the blue grass section of Virginia. Chanler is a man of wealth, and it is apparent thus early that he will have a well filled campaign "bar" at his command.

"Big Tim" Sullivan was asked by a friend if it were true that he was for Chanler for president. "That's the goods," he replied.

"What, after you were named for chairman of the democratic national committee by Bryan's spokesman, Harry Walker?" was ventured.

"Big Tim" laughed and replied. "Well, I never would be national chairman if I had to wait for Bryan to be nominated again, for Chanler will be the democratic nominee."

John Fox in his interview said that he believed New York was a democratic state and that the democratic lieutenant governor would carry it next year. "The extraordinary run of Mr. Chanler last year under the circumstances, and his straightforward course as presiding officer of the state senate, has given him national importance," he said. "The more he is considered by democrats everywhere the more I find his availability for president is recognized. His nomination seems to be the true solution of the problem now confronting the national democracy."

Mr. Fox then called attention to the fact that Mr. Chanler assisted Governor Hughes in the session of the legislature, upon the principle that "he best serves the democratic party who best serves the interest of the people."

"Great encouragement," he continued, "had come to the democratic party, and especially to its younger members, from Mr. Chanler's course." Then Mr. Fox deftly said that of course Mr. Chanler was in no way responsible for the defeat of the head of the democratic state ticket last year, but that Chanler's election, on the other hand, in his opinion, was proof that "New York is a democratic state when true democrats are given preference, and the issues are genuinely democratic and defined in the platform."

Unhampered, as he would be as the party candidate for president, Mr. Fox said Chanler would carry the state by a good majority. Mr. Fox then told how Chanler's father had selected him for his second in a duel which he was anxious to fight in Reconstruction days, but which never took place.

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