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degree to disturb the country's equanimity or jeopardize its future. On the whole, indeed, while unmistakably progressive in its tenor, it is decidedly conservative in its text and its promises."

The same paper also says: "In Bryan the democratic party has a candidate who is likely to poll a million more votes against Taft than Parker polled against Roosevelt. Even then he may fall short of election. But the republican party will have a fight on its hands—a fight from start to finish, and one that will tax its resources to the very limit. That, at any rate, is the cool, candid judgment of this newspaper."

The Birmingham (Ala.) Age-Herald says: "It is a popular ticket, a vote-getting ticket, and every foe of the party that has filled the land with special privileges and private monopoly will get in line to support to the utmost until the day of ballots the ticket that bears the honored names of William J. Bryan and John W. Kern."

The Portland (Ore.) Journal says: "If Mr. Bryan is only an 'opportunist seeking votes,' he at least is not afraid to tell the people what he believes in and what he thinks is good for them."

The St. Louis Republic says: "We have but one kind of democrats and they are all for Bryan and Kern."

The Jacksonville (Fla.) Times-Union says: "No political platform of any party will contain a clear cut declaration against any of Mr. Bryan's principles. No republican campaign orator of prominence will dare to take a stand against them. This does not prove they are right, but it proves they are popular and the man with views his antagonist does not dare openly to oppose has the next thing to the certainty of election."

The Lynchburg (Va.) News says: "And why this unprecedented record of Mr. Bryan?—the reason for it all? There are many reasons—the chief of which we believe resides in the faith that the people have in the man's singleness and purity and patriotism of purpose—in the sincerity of his desire to advance the common weal—to uproot wickedness and vice and shame and crime in the high places—to prove a democrat in deed and act and achievement as well as in word, by striving manfully to the end that one day the federal government will be so administered as to produce the greatest good and the greatest benefit to the greatest number—to wipe class preferment from the statute books of the nation, and to preserve in all its solemn force and integrity, the federal constitution as the ark of American covenant. Because, we say, of this conviction on the part of the democrats of the nation, Mr. Bryan has been again chosen to stand in the fore as the representative of their political beliefs and ideals."

Concerning newspaper comment the New York Evening Post, distinctly anti-Bryan, says: "So far as the first comments of the independent press have reached us, they bear out what we said yesterday—that the defenses against Bryan are weakened. Here is the World, for instance, finding comfort in the fact that the 1908 platform is much better than that of 1896. Others, like the Times, are taking up the old fight against Bryan and the party to which they would like to adhere; but nothing like the zest and vigor of the 1896 campaign, or even that of 1900, is to be expected. The mere radicalism of Bryan can terrify no one; our currency and our standard of value are not imperilled. Where is the danger to which any one can point as menacing the overturn of our institutions, unless it is promptly met? The risk to the supreme court? Ask any lawyer of note what he thinks of the appointments to that tribunal during

the last republican administration, and if he states his opinion frankly the argument against Bryan becomes weak indeed. In no direction can one point and say, here our national honor and good faith will be betrayed if we have Bryan in control."

The Sioux City (Ia.) Journal (rep.) says: "There was another element that seemed to be in Bryan's favor a few months ago. There had been a panic in republican times."

The Osceola (Wis.) Sun says: "The Sun has heard expressions from scores of republicans in this vicinity, and the majority of them appear to be of the opinion that with a wise choice for a running mate for Bryan and a platform built along right lines, the democratic party this year has a chance such as it has not had for years and is not liable soon to have again to wrest the control of the government from the republicans. The Sun is a republican newspaper; it believes that William H. Taft is well fitted to be the standard bearer of the republican party and that the government will be safe in his hands, but it realizes that unless the sentiment in other sections of the country is radically different from what it is in this immediate locality, the g. o. p. has in this year of grace, 1908, the fight of its life on its hands."

The Buffalo (N. Y.) Times says: "President Roosevelt got his reform ideas from Mr. Bryan and the democratic platforms which Mr. Bryan was largely instrumental in framing. This is well known to all the people. Mr. Bryan stands today as the champion of the people in demanding a government of, for and by the people; a government that will take control of the interests of the people from the hands of the special privilege crowd."

The Davenport (Ia.) Democrat, which has heretofore opposed Mr. Bryan, declares for him, saying: "Mr. Bryan's character has been the subject of repeated approving comment. This is what makes him a leader; what holds the confidence of the public in him like a magnet. The people know that he can be trusted to do what he feels is right; and to oppose what his conscience tells him is wrong. Few men have the ability to champion their convictions with such courage."

The Kansas City Star (rep.) does not like the proceedings at Denver and says: "The democratic party was never completely Bryanized until now. The Fairview 'farmer' has been nominated on his own terms. The party, so far as its convention proceedings are concerned, stands for nothing that does not come from Lincoln, Neb. At last Mr. Bryan has demonstrated to the country what is meant by 'imperialism.'"

The Washington (D. C.) Star says: "Mr. Bryan had earned the nomination. He had met all rivals and repelled to all democratic critics. In the main he stood to his guns, and his enemies have gone down before his steady fire. Moreover, he played in great luck. Wall Street, which is the poorest of politicians, took the field against him, financing the opposition in many quarters and addressing itself particularly to the south, where Mr. Bryan has always been strongest. This proved to be a large help. Judge Parker's defeat meant inevitably the return of Mr. Bryan to leadership. He himself was the first to see that and to move accordingly. The party had rejected the so-called sane and safe policies, and the Bryan policies were clearly entitled to another try. Such was Mr. Bryan's reasoning and it followed that the Bryan policies called for their author as their champion. Thus has it been demonstrated again that revolutions do not go backward. The old democratic party is a thing of the past. It could not be resurrected under Judge Parker in 1904,

nor this year under the suggestion of the name of Judge Gray. The new democracy means Bryan, and he is appropriately its leader. Now that both parties have presented their men for first place it is in order to congratulate the government on the high character of the presidential candidates. Both Judge Taft and Mr. Bryan are in the best sense of the term good citizens. They have lived clean lives and no taint of reproach is possible in either case. Whatever happens in November, the next president will be a man of whom the American people may be proud personally, regardless of differences of policy and doctrine."

The Chicago Record-Herald (rep.) says: "Pages have been written on the vicissitudes of Mr. Bryan's remarkable career, his rise and growth, his 'resurrection' as masterful leader four years ago, when his own nomination was out of the question, and his steady and sure reconquest of the overwhelming majority of the democratic party. His nomination at Denver was foreseen weeks and months ago, and it can surprise no one. Even the confirmed anti-Bryanites in the party have regarded it as inevitable. Inevitable it has been, not because of any scheming and intriguing, but because Mr. Bryan reflects and voices the sentiments of the rank and file of the present democracy. Mr. Bryan is to the bulk of his party what Taft as a candidate is to the republican progressives. He is the natural leader because he has been consistently 'radical,' because he is identified with the side of advance and not with that of uncertainty of stagnation or reaction. He may not reunite his party; complete harmony may even now prove impossible in democratic ranks; but there is no manner of doubt that a popular referendum would have given Bryan the same decisive preponderance that the roll call of the delegates showed on the first and only ballot. The majority rules in government, and it must and does rule in representative conventions. The Denver nomination is therefore thoroughly honest politically and creditable to the party and its leading men. It is recognition of facts and qualities that have given Mr. Bryan his position of authority and influence within the democratic party."

The New Orleans Picayune says: "Bryan's leadership will be accepted by every democrat who wants to see the republican yoke taken from the shoulders of the American people. Apparently the republicans have come to the end of their row, with appropriations of more than a billion dollars of public money on the heels of the worst financial panic the country has suffered in twenty years. The Picayune accepts Bryan as the nominee on the announcement that he has abandoned the silver standard of fifty-cent dollars and regards the government ownership of railroads as too radical a remedy for railway corporate domination."

The Memphis Commercial-Appeal says: "The standard of party is once more intrusted to the great defeated, to the man who has been victorious in defeat. It is not to be denied that the man thus signally honored by his party must be a remarkable character, a commanding personality. There are many able men in the democratic party, but all of them had to give way to Bryan. As soon as it became known that Bryan would accept the nomination, it was all over but the shouting. The democrats of the union took the stand that they did not care who was nominated, provided it was Bryan. Twelve years have passed since the Commercial Appeal congratulated Mr. Bryan on his first nomination and extended to him its best wishes. Today we extend our congratulations to one who is known all over the world. He has fulfilled the promise

of other years. He has become one of our great Americans, and we trust that through him democracy will come into its own again."

Fort Worth (Texas) Record: "The democratic party has passed through a stressful period of twelve years, during which time it has been rent into factions and torn by divisions which rendered success impossible. At Denver it happily emerged from that state of disorder into a condition of restored harmony and aggressive purpose. All its past differences are buried and forgotten. It faces the country again in its old-time fighting form, with closed ranks, strong arms, high hopes and common purpose. It remains now for good generalship to win the victory which the party deserves and the country needs."

In reply to inquiries, the New York American received statements from newspaper editors as follows:

The Arkansas Democrat (Little Rock, Ark.)—We will enthusiastically support Bryan. We approve the platform in toto. The Democrat has always supported Bryan.

The Illinois State Register (Springfield, Ill.)—We will support William J. Bryan for president and are heartily in accord with the platform adopted on every plank. The State Register heartily supported Mr. Bryan in both 1896 and 1900.

The Clarion Ledger (Jackson, Miss.)—We approve every plank in the democratic platform, and every nail in the plank, and will take great pleasure in supporting William Jennings Bryan and his running mate, John W. Kern, just as we supported the ticket in 1896 and 1900, and just as we would have done four years ago if he had been the nominee of the party.

The Morning Tribune (Tampa, Fla.)—The Denver platform reiterates and holds inviolate the basic principles of democracy and will have the unswerving support of the Tribune, which supported Bryan in 1896 and again in 1900. Our hat is off to Bryan and Kern. We sum it thus: No trust tariff; equality under the law; Bryan and Kern.

The Star (Wilmington, N. C.)—We will support Bryan for president, though preferring Johnson or Gray before the nomination. We approve of the Denver platform. We loyally and enthusiastically supported Bryan in 1896 and 1900, but believe in this instance he should have given way to a more available man.

The Daily News (Springfield, Mass.)—We shall support the ticket. We approve most heartily of the platform. We supported Mr. Bryan

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