

# INCIDENTS AT FAIRVIEW

As soon as it was announced that Mr. Kern had been nominated this telegram was sent:

"Hon. John W. Kern, Denver, Colo.—Your nomination gratifies me very much. We have a splendid platform and I am glad to have a running mate in such complete harmony with the platform. Stop off and see us on your way east."  
"WILLIAM J. BRYAN."

At 9 o'clock Friday morning a large number of Lincoln people accompanied by a band, boarded special motor cars and visited Fairview. The crowd comprised republicans as well as democrats and was intended to be a non-partisan greeting to a neighbor. Mr. and Mrs. Bryan greeted their visitors and Mr. Bryan delivered the following address:

"Ladies and Gentlemen and Neighbors: It is very kind of you to come out to indicate your good will at this time when great honor has come to this family, and I want to express for Mrs. Bryan and myself gratitude and appreciation for these evidences of your friendly interest and good will. The esteem of one's neighbors is a priceless asset to any one. The honors of public life often come through circumstances for which the recipient is not entirely responsible. There are sometimes waves that carry into office those who have little expectation of being elected, and carry out of office those who have every reason to expect a continuance of public favor. I may recall two of such within the memory of all of us. You will remember that in 1890 there was a great democratic tidal wave that swept into office many who at the time of their nomination had little expectation of success. Four years later there was another tidal wave, a republican wave that swept out of office a great many democrats and into office a great many republicans, who hardly expected to succeed. Circumstances are potent in the political success of people. Therefore you cannot build securely upon honors that come without necessarily much effort or merit on your part. But the affections that are formed between man and man, strengthening day by day, and knitting the past more closely together as the years go by, these are permanent—these are more significant.

"I want to say to you, my friends, that we appreciate the cordial friendships that have been growing up between us and our associates in this community during the last two decades, and it is generous and gracious on your part to come at this time to increase that gladness of this day. I do not know what the future may have in store for us; a kind Providence conceals from us the book of fate. We learn each day what each day is to bring forth, and we must be prepared for whatever comes, but I will say this to you, that I appreciate the generous good will and the affection that so many of the American people have shown more than I could appreciate any office that could

come to me. I would rather have the love of those who know me than any other thing on earth (long applause and cheering, the band playing 'Dixie' and several cheers and tigers being given by the crowd.)

"I am not going to make you a political speech. I kind of wish I could go through this campaign without making any political speeches here at home (applause) because I hate to say anything that could cause the least bit of antagonism in this community, but it may be necessary after a while (laughter) for me to say just a few words that would indicate my political leanings (laughter and applause). It may be necessary for me to discuss platform utterances and to discuss principles, and I want to ask forbearance of republican friends if I do not always express myself in the language that they would use if they were speaking on the same subject.

"But I want to assure you now, before the campaign opens and before I have to make a political speech, I want to assure you now that whatever I may say on the subjects that divide us, whatever arguments I may advance in support of those policies which to me seem best for the country, I want you always to know, and never to forget, that I believe that the things that bind us together as citizens are more important and more numerous than our political differences. I want you to know that however earnest I may be in the presentation of my political ideas, I recognize at all times the equal right of every other citizen to hold opinions, and as I respect you no less for candidly stating your views, I hope you will think none the less of me if I candidly state my views when occasion calls for a statement. I like to believe that every American citizen prefers the triumph of that which he may believe to be right if he is in fact mistaken. And my friends, building on this basis, we can be both earnest and charitable, for if we love our country more than we love our party, if we desire the triumph of justice more than the triumph of erroneous opinions we are prepared for either victory or defeat, for if we win, we know that the victory can only be permanent if it is a deserved victory and if it results in the advancement of the common weal, and we know that if defeat comes it can only be temporary if we are in fact right and those who win are wrong, and thus believing in the omnipotence of truth, we are prepared to meet each other upon an honest footing, discuss our differences honestly, but submissively to the will of the people, and pray that whichever party wins, the country's good will be preserved.

"My father was a devout man. He did not leave so much in the way of money, and I am not sure but it was better for me that he did not, for I believe that great wealth is more often a curse than a blessing to the young who inherit it. A prospective fortune large enough to remove one from the necessity of toil is more apt to par-

alyze one's energies than to be a source of inspiration to him. But while my father did not leave me a fortune, he left me something that has been worth more to me than all the money of any millionaire could have been. He taught me to believe that every righteous principle would triumph. He told me when a boy that I could afford to be in the minority, but that I could not afford to be wrong on any question; that if I was in the minority and right, I would some time be in the majority, and that if I was in the majority and wrong I would some time be in the minority. I say to you, my friends, that that advice given me by my father has been worth more to me than any amount of money could have been, and I believe that it is a principle that we should imbue in the minds and hearts of all, confident of the triumph of righteous cause. If evils come, let us have confidence in the intelligence and the integrity and the patriotism of the people. I am an optimist. I believe the world is growing better. I believe that the great movements for the uplifting of society are going forward with resistless force. We cannot stop the triumph of the truth. We may accelerate it; we may retard it; we cannot stop it.

"But if I were to talk too long on principles like these I might be tempted to apply them to conditions and to the issues, and that is not my purpose this morning. A great honor has fallen to us. The voters of a great party have made me their standard bearer. I need not tell you that I did not buy this nomination. I need not tell you that I had no way of coercing people. Why, my friends, I have no way of coercing the people who live about me—no way of coercing the people of Normal or of Lincoln or of Lancaster or of Nebraska, much less the people of the United States. It is not for me to say whether they have acted wisely at Denver or not; I am glad that the responsibility is theirs, not mine. This I know; I appreciate it because it has been a free will offering presented by some six million of my countrymen. We are going to do the best we can to present to the public the issues of this campaign. We are going to meet you as we can, and then we are going to believe that whatever the result is on election day, and it is going to be good, and if it is for us, we will feel that we are going to be permitted to put into practice the principles which will be presented; and if it is against us, we will know that we can learn by the manner in which our opponents apply their principles whether they were right in advocating them or we right in opposing them.

"You have come out at the beginning of the campaign. Come out just as often as you will. And there is one thing about it; the pleasure of success will be moderated by the fact that it will take us from you, and the sorrow of defeat will be softened by the fact that it will leave us with you."

## MR. BRYAN TO LABORING MEN

On the evening of July 17 a delegation from the Lincoln, Neb., Central Labor Union visited Mr. Bryan at Fairview. Mr. T. C. Kelsey delivered an address, reading the resolutions adopted by the Central Labor Union and pledging support to Mr. Bryan. After the presentation of the resolutions Mr. Bryan addressed the delegation as follows:

"I am very grateful to you for this generous expression of confidence and this pledge of your support. The resolution is the more pleasant to me because it comes from you, among whom I have lived for now a little more than twenty years. Among the testimonials that have been given by neighbors and friends, there are none that I prize more highly than this voluntary proffer of your support—this expression of your confidence and of your good will.

"It is true that our platform endorses a number of remedial measures, and I am in hearty sympathy with the platform endorsements. There is not a line in that platform's declaration in favor of the laboring men that does not have my most cordial approval.

"This is not the time or the place to elaborate upon those planks. There is one plank there that I was very anxious to have in the platform; it was in the platform of eight years ago; the plank that proposes a new cabinet position, a department of labor, with a secretary at

its head. I have for many years believed that the great body of our population known as wageearners ought to be represented in the counsels of the chief executive. I have long believed that you ought to have a representative of the toilers in the shops and factories, a representative sitting at the president's table, sharing in his deliberations, and speaking forth there on those questions in which labor has an especial interest. And I am very much gratified that that plank is there, and that the party has made this promise, if entrusted with power, to give to labor that high honor to which it is entitled.

"I think, too, that it is very important that we should have an amendment to the anti-trust law, that will draw a distinction between those who associate themselves together for mutual benefit—a line between those and those who associate themselves together in an industrial corporation for the purpose of monopolizing some article of commerce. There is a distinction so broad between these two classes of organizations that it seems to me everyone ought to be able to see it, and that distinction ought to be drawn by law. I am glad that that is in the platform.

"I am glad that there is a provision in there in regard to a trial by jury in cases of indirect contempt. It is now something like thirteen years ago, I believe, since I first had

occasion to discuss that subject. It was after I went out of congress and before I was nominated for the presidency the first time. A bill was before the senate, and as I recollect the history of it, it was about like this. It was reported back from the committee of the senate, and in the form in which it was reported the judge could permit a jury. When I read that report I at once criticised it and said that the bill should not provide merely that the judge might permit a jury, but a jury should be demanded as a matter of right by the accused, and my recollection is that Senator Allen of this state introduced an amendment to that effect and it was adopted, and that went through the senate by so unanimous a vote that no one called for the roll. It is now more than twelve years since that time, and yet the influences which have been opposed to this legislation have been so strong that up to this time that measure of justice has been defeated. I am very glad that in our platform there is a provision demanding a trial by jury in cases of indirect contempt.

"I am glad, too, that we are able to agree upon an injunction plank that was satisfactory to the leaders of the laboring men and the members of the resolutions committee. I was much gratified, and I think the form in which the party's position is stated upon that subject ought to be satisfactory to all. You will find that there is no attempt to interfere with the

(Continued on Page 9)