

Democratic Opinion Freely Expressed

F. S. Slater, Canyon City, Ore.—It is clear that the politicians and many editors are exercised over something they expect to happen in the not distant future. What is it? The question, "who shall be the nominees" reveals their fears. In most instances it is being put and answered in the same breath to the self-delusion of the questioner and for the purpose of constructing an argument with which to deceive and divert readers from the real issues. He seeks to divert attention from principle to personality. The question so put and so profoundly discussed by the typical subsidized press need be given but little consideration to expose the motives of many who are propounding it. The real questions, that which they do not seek to discuss, and the one really being considered by the people, is not who shall be nominated, but, "what shall be nominated." The signs of the times point unmistakably to the nomination of principle by the democracy once again instead of the

man. Principle is first every time in the mind of the informed voter these days. Let not the subsidized press deceive itself into believing that it is succeeding now to such a degree as it has in the past in befogging issues. Democrats who experienced the last four campaigns are informed upon what is doing and realize fully what will be attempted in the next national convention. The next democratic national convention shall not be "Parkerized," as was a former one, without a protest from those millions of democrats who have voted consistently in past campaigns, notable campaigns in which Mr. Bryan was clearly the leader of all who participated. Mr. Bryan was not the controlling factor in the vote of those campaigns and is not now. It has been rubbed into representatives of the interests that there is principle controlling that closely aligned vote and they seek every means to divert discussion of the principle. Their most frequently iterated slogan is "Bryanism." This

expression is being worked to a frazzle in the attempt to make personality take the place of principles. They should delude themselves no longer for notice is being served daily upon them and all who would follow them, that the same force that spoke so plainly through late democratic platforms will again find expression and receive the same backing. Mr. Bryan is nothing to that power. He was its implement and it knows how to find another one that will serve its purpose when needed. The platform is already made. The principles of which it is composed are in daily discussion throughout the land. The democrats, the followers of so-called insurgency, many independents and all who occupy the more humble stations and walk in the ranks understand that the issue is, "Shall the big moneyed interests be allowed to continue in the control of our law-making body?" It will require no learned professor to indict upon paper the true democratic platform that is already before the people. And when the time is ripe an exponent of the principles will be placed forward and told in no uncertain terms what will be expected of him. Let those who would attempt to galvanize over our next platform to make it appear something it is not, remember that the millions who voted thrice for principle will vote again; and, since the man will be a secondary matter, a way will be at hand to enforce his compliance with instructions so plainly given. To that end, a lesson lately given by the voice of the people for a disregarded instruction will make for a prompt compliance.

think it wise for Mr. Bryan to again become a candidate but these gentlemen may compel us to take up Mr. Bryan bodily and force him to lead us.

J. A. Russell, Alma, Neb.—I see by the papers the trust papers are busy looking for a trust candidate for 1912 and are very eager to read Mr. Bryan out of the party. They say he has been dead politically now three times, but they will find a real live corpse in 1912. If Wall Street will look back to 1894, then go way back and sit down. If they think they can turn the party over to the trusts they are fooling themselves, the people are doing their own thinking. We have one trust party. We can vote it if we want trusts, the republicans and their tariff trust robberies are making socialists by the thousands and if we can get no relief from democracy we will vote the socialist ticket which will soon be in power unless there is a change soon. The people have been robbed long enough and demand relief. Teddy, with his big stick, was busting trusts for seven years and when he went out of office there was more and bigger trusts than ever before known. He thought he could lead the insurgents back to the fold but it was no go, so Teddy has nothing to say. The people want an income tax. Why don't they call the tariff

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Hyleman Alison Lockwood, Mobile, Ala.—I am only one atom in the mass of American manhood who loyally supports you in the work you have done and are still doing to protect the millions of consuming individuals from the dominating avarice of the special interests. Seed planted in the ground has to germinate and grow before it bears fruit. The splendid work you have done, especially during the last presidential campaign, has borne fruit and will continue to bear fruit until the principles for which we contend are universally accepted as the only just and sound principles in democratic government. It was almost too much to expect that a sufficient number of even the most independent of the thinking class in the dominant republican majorities of the middle west, especially, would break the ties of party associations and help place a democrat in the presidential office. Such a change was necessary, however, to have given you the office in the last presidential election. After that election, however, Mr. Theodore Roosevelt saw that there existed a ferment of dissatisfaction with the doings of G. O. P. owing to the force and effect of Mr. Bryan's eloquence and honesty (or rather the eloquence of truth as presented by him), and he tried to make a tidal wave of it and put himself on its crest, but he is not an honest political teacher and the people have disowned him. Now as to the plans of those gentlemen who recently gathered in Baltimore in the name of the democratic party, but in secret hostility to the national democratic platform, hoping to put the special interests in control—they simply can't do it. We thank you heartily, Mr. Bryan, for the strong and dignified stand you have taken in refusing to stultify yourself and us by your presence at that gathering. "The times are out of joint," but they can't play Hamlet and leave Hamlet out of the play. If these gentlemen fail to move forward in their talk, or even utter an uncertain sound there are plenty of privates in the ranks who will seize the colors and go forward. We do not now

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