

of triumph has come, I feel that the song of victory should be sung by one whose heart has been in the fight.

"John W. Kern has been faithful every day of that sixteen years. It has cost him time and money and the wear of his body and mind and he has given cheerfully.

"Four years ago, when the foundation was laid for the present victory, it was John W. Kern who stood with me, when we took the last stronghold of the predatory interests and forced publicity of campaign expenditures."

Bryan then reviewed Kern's work, and said: "Now he is in the senate, where he can make a senator look as big as a senator should to the American people. He is now leading the fight in the senate to purge that body of Senator Lorimer. What better man could we have on this occasion?"

Wild shouts of "Parker, Parker" went up from the New York delegates and from the galleries, but Bryan continued:

"My friends, when I now contrast—"
Here the disorder and cries of "Parker, Parker" and yells and jeers from the New York and other delegates became so great that the chair had to rap for order.

"I can contrast both candidates without impeaching Mr. Parker's character, or good intent," continued Bryan. "Not every man of good intent can sound the keynote for a progressive campaign. We would not invite a republican to be temporary chairman of our convention. We have many democrats who vote the ticket, yet are not in sympathy with our principles.

"I spoke for the candidate and platform in 1904, although not satisfied with either."

Here the Parker shouts started again, but Bryan continued:

"I assume that no friend of Judge Parker will contend that he was entirely satisfied with the candidate or platform in 1908. This convention must take up the challenge thrown down at Chicago by a convention controlled by predatory wealth, or it must submit to the same control.

"We need not believe that what is done in a national convention is done secretly. We always act under the eyes of the representatives of the press who know why and who told us to do it. We do not presume that those at home can be deceived. The people at home will know that the influences that dominated the Chicago convention are here and are here more largely at work than they were at Chicago. I appeal to you to so act that the democrats of this country can say democrats are true to the people and that they can't be frightened by your Ryans, or bought by your Belmonts."

This was a signal for a wild outburst from both galleries and much of the audience.

"If the candidate selected by the committee were unknown, we would judge him by the influences back of him," Bryan went on. "We know who the candidate is and we know the men who appointed him. Eight years ago he was chosen by the men who decided it would be good politics to try and trade with the men who had defeated us in the two previous campaigns.

"The country has not forgotten that that convention was influenced by the promise of large contributions from Wall street. It won't forget that after Wall street alienated the party's support, it threw the party down.

"They have not forgotten that it is the same man who is backed by the same interests that is being forced on this convention to open a progressive campaign with a paralyzing speech. A speech is not so many words. It is the man and not the words.

"We have been passing through a great educational age and the democratic movement has been sweeping everything before it around the world. In Russia, emancipated serfs have a voice in the government. In Russia, slaves have secured a right to a voice in this government. In Turkey, the citizens have influence in the molding of their laws. China now is a republic. While the outside world has been marching along in the direction of complete freedom, we have kept step. In every state the fight has been waged.

"The man I present has been the leader of the progressive cause in his own state. I challenge you to find in sixteen years where Mr. Parker has rendered any efficient aid for the progressive cause.

"This is the situation we have to meet. The democratic party has been the leader in this fight until its action has been stimulated by a host of republicans to imitation."

Bryan's effort was drowned out time and again by hostile shouts from both the galleries and the big eastern delegations.

"We are now in sight of the promised land again. Democracy has been the pillar of fire to arouse the people and I pray now that the time has come that you do not rob the right of the people to govern themselves."

As Bryan concluded, John W. Kern pushed his way down the aisle and was recognized by Chairman Mack. Kern was plainly nervous as he stood waiting, while cheers and jeers went up from galleries and floors.

"Mr. Chairman," began Kern, "I desire a hearing here. I desire to state my reasons for not desiring to enter this contest for temporary chairman. I believe that after forty years of service to the party I have earned the right to a hearing by a democratic convention. I am from the state of Indiana, which will shortly present a candidate in the person of Governor Marshall. I desire to take no part in the convention that will hurt Mr. Marshall's interests. I have for many years been the personal friend of the man who has been named by the national committee. We met years ago in Europe. We have kept our friendship inviolate. I enlisted under his standard in St. Louis and went through the battle with him. I took the standard of a losing cause in Indiana that year and became a candidate for governor. I went down to defeat, but not an inglorious defeat. Last year, amidst a heated contest, Judge Parker came to Indiana to aid me in my contest.

"I believe Judge Parker is as earnestly desirous of democratic success as I am. There are only a little over 1,000 delegates here, but there are seven million democrats between the oceans. They are looking with aching hearts towards us, listening for the words that will give us victory.

"I am going to appeal for that kind of harmony that would bring victory, for that kind of harmony that will change gloom to shouts of gladness. My friend, Judge Parker, sits before me in this convention, he representing the national committee, I not another faction, thank God, but another section. If my friend will join with me here and now in the selection of a man satisfactory we can withdraw in favor of that distinguished New Yorker, who has brought more honor to the state of New York than any other candidate, Senator O'Gorman, Senator Culberson of Texas, Senator Luke Lea of Tennessee, Henry D. Clayton of Alabama, ex-Governor Campbell, ex-Governor Folk of Missouri, or Senator Shively of Indiana. I think we can restore harmony to the party."

Parker sat silent in his chair, his jaw set firm and making no move to answer the speaker. The convention was in an uproar, but it seemed plain that Parker had decided not to withdraw or enter into any compact that would bring victory to the progressive forces.

At last the tumult began to quiet down slightly, and Kern began anew. But while his lips were observed to move, it was some minutes before he could be heard.

"You men can not expect victory if you humiliate the man who led your forces four years ago. You may put him to the wheel, but when you do you bring pain to the hearts of six million loyal democrats. You may kill him, but you do not commit homicide when you kill him—you commit suicide. I appeal to the leader of the New York delegates who holds the democracy of that state in the hollow of his hand. What response have I? If there is to be no response, then we will lay the responsibility right where it belongs. If this is to be a contest which I prayed to God might be averted between party men then we can not beg the question. If this fight is to go on, then there is only one man who can lead this fight. I mean that great American, W. J. Bryan. The leader must be worthy of the cause. I have tried to get harmony, but seem to have failed. I now ask that your leader for sixteen years, the man that the people love, shall be the candidate against Judge Parker in my stead."

As Kern sat down, Bryan stepped to the front and raised his hand for silence.

"Mr. Chairman," he said, "I have tried to get the committee to agree on a progressive. When it did not agree, I went to Congressman Ollie James and asked him to be the leader in this fight. He said that he could not accept the responsibility. I went to Senator O'Gorman and begged him to lead this fight for the people. I stand ready to support any progressive, but if none will assume the responsibility, I stand ready now to accept and permit this democratic convention to say whether the people still stand

for that for which we have fought for sixteen years."

Theodore E. Bell, of California, was recognized by Mack, but he could not be heard for more than a minute. Bell was temporary chairman of the democratic convention at Denver four years ago. He said he stood today for just the same kind of democracy that he did at Denver. He admitted that Bryan was responsible for his selection as temporary chairman and insisted that he place the stamp of approval on his democracy.

Bell said that it was a matter of keen personal regret to find that he could not be in accord with Bryan or Kern. He declared that as much as he regretted breaking with his old friends, he would have to support Parker for the temporary chairmanship.

Bell declared that in voting for Parker he did so believing that he did not represent any sinister methods in American politics.

The delegates in opposing camps were alternating in crying for Parker and Bryan and the din was so deafening that hardly a word that Bell said could be heard by the delegates.

"Parker's democracy," said Bell, "has stood the severest test to which any human being's principles has ever been subjected. It received the approval of Mr. Bryan in 1908, when he permitted Parker to speak on the Pacific coast in his behalf."

Bell continued to speak amid disorder both from the floor and the galleries. Mack kept up a constant tattoo on the table with his gavel, but was unable to get more than a semblance of order at any time during Bell's speech.

James Ross of Columbus finally had the sergeant-at-arms instructed to quiet the galleries. Mack tried to quiet the people, but he only seemed to add to the tumult.

John J. Fitzgerald of New York was recognized, but before he could begin to speak, Senator Shively of Indiana moved to close the nominations and the convention proceeded to ballot. Mack ruled that Fitzgerald had the floor.

Delegate Gebhart of New Jersey jumped to his feet, mounted his chair and yelled derisively:

"Fitzgerald! Fitzgerald is Cannon's and Tammany's man."

A yell of approval and denunciation followed.

"New York has presented a conspicuous democrat," began Fitzgerald, to an accompaniment of boos and hoots.

Judge Parker aided in the preparation of the platform on which Mr. Bryan ran four years ago. He loyally supported Bryan in the campaign.

Here the pandemonium in the building became so great that nothing could be done. Colonel Martin was shouting at the top of his voice, threatening to clear the galleries. Mack was pounding with his gavel and a score of delegates were exchanging threats and seemed on the verge of fist cuffs.

A Texas delegate added to the confusion by shouting:

"Oh, you conspicuous New York, who voted for and with Cannon."

The reference seemed to infuriate Fitzgerald, who demanded that Mack interfere. The national chairman called a police sergeant from the rear of the hall and directed him to go to the aid of the sergeant-at-arms and his assistants in clearing the aisles. After a few minutes of disorder, Fitzgerald managed to say:

"Judge Parker is an honorable man. This situation has been forced upon us. He has no alternative but to stay in this fight. We will let this question go to a vote of this convention and we will honorably abide by the result."

Mack here directed that a vote be taken. Senator Lea, of Tennessee, jumped to the platform, protesting:

"I will not stand for this," Lea shouted. "I protest against this gag rule. We will not have Chicago tactics repeated on this floor. For the welfare of the party, I demand that all who desire be given an opportunity to be heard on this proposition. Its decision may make or break our party."

Bryan likewise jumped to the front, rising to a point of order. He had a big palm leaf fan in his hand, which he waved to secure order.

"Our conventions are conducted according to rules," he began. "The chairman announced that the roll would be called while persons were standing ready to speak and seeking recognition. As no limitation was placed on speeches, the chairman has no right, on his own motion, to close the debate."

Some one shouted, "Sit down," and Roger Sullivan rushed to the front demanding of