

whisper, "the only order now is the vote by roll call of states."

James at last recognized Senator Stone and the Missourian said:

"I don't arise to enter into any controversy with Mr. Bryan or any other man. Any delegate has a right to speak as he pleases in obedience to the instructions of his constituency. The responsibility is his, not mine. So far as Speaker Clark is concerned, I—"

Here Congressman Palmer of Pennsylvania demanded the regular order, but was bitterly rebuked by James, who said:

"You didn't demand the regular order on Mr. Bryan and fair play demands that Mr. Stone be heard. Your point of order is not well taken."

Stone, continuing, called attention to the fact that Clark's democracy had never been questioned.

"And in all of Bryan's campaigns," he said, "he never had a more loyal supporter than Clark."

Following is from the Associated Press report: An Oklahoma delegate asked to explain his change of vote from Wilson to Clark, saying: "My name is Giddings of Opulent, Okla. I have always followed the leadership of the Nebraskan, but I don't like to sit here and hear aspersions on my fellow-democrats. I think it is time to call a halt in personalities and stand on principle. I want to go back to Oklahoma with a clean record."

Here a delegate cried from the floor: "You may go back, but you will never come back."

Mr. Giddings defended his record as a democrat and asked if Bryan could do the same.

"I ask this convention," concluded the Oklahoman, "to turn upon Mr. Bryan a paraphrase of a statement of his own: 'Thou shalt not press down upon the brow of democracy a crown of _____.'"

Here a yell interrupted. He tried to finish, but an uproar drowned his voice.

"You shall not press down upon the brow of democracy a thorny crown of anarchy; you shall not crucify us upon a cross of selfishness," shouted Giddings, and left the platform.

The poll of Oklahoma proceeded and showed the vote unchanged, Clark 10, Wilson 10.

The squabble had taken more than half an hour and had accomplished nothing.

The roll calls continued until the nineteenth ballot, when former Governor Francis of Missouri tried to get a recess until 8:30. This was defeated by the Wilson men. The convention continued until the twenty-sixth ballot which was as follows: Total, 1,088; Clark, 467½; Wilson, 405; Underwood, 112½; Harmon, 29; Marshall, 30; Bryan, 1; Foss, 43.

At 11:05 o'clock Saturday night the convention adjourned by general consent until 11:00 o'clock Monday morning.

At the instance of George Fred Williams and Fred T. DuBois, Clark managers, Speaker Clark hurried from Washington to Baltimore, and after a conference with William R. Hearst and others, Mr. Clark issued the following statement:

"Today, in the national convention, an outrageous aspersion was cast upon me and through me upon the democratic party by one who, of all men, ought to be the last to besmudge or betray his friends, or his party. So far as I am personally concerned, it is enough to say that the charge which reflects upon my personal or party integrity is utterly and absolutely false. I might afford to forget myself, but I am, by the choice of the democratic majority of the house of representatives, the ranking official democrat in national public life. I can not be false or corrupt without reflecting upon my party in the most serious way.

"Any man who would enter into an alliance with any selfish interest or privileged class of this country to gain the nomination for the presidency is unworthy of the presidency and of the speakership of the house. If I have not entered into such an alliance then the democrat, however distinguished, who wantonly charges me with this act is a traitor to the democratic party and to his professed friendship to me.

"I am not here to plead for a nomination or to attempt to influence any man's support. Let every man proceed in this convention according to his convictions and the expressed will of his constituents. I ask no undue consideration from any man, be he friend or foe, but I demand exact justice from every democrat either in this convention or throughout the nation. With William J. Bryan and his charge made in the convention today, the issue is proof or retraction. I shall expect him to meet that issue.

"CHAMP CLARK."

(See Mr. Bryan's explanation, page 15, this issue of The Commoner.)

There was considerable talk of Mr. Clark remaining in Baltimore until Monday and going before the convention in person. He returned, however, to Washington Sunday evening.

Senator William J. Stone of Missouri gave out for publication a letter which he had written to Mr. Clark pledging him continued support and urging him to remain a candidate before the convention until a nomination was made.

At the same time Mr. Clark's managers gave out Mr. Clark's reply to Senator Stone which was as follows:

"Replying to the communication of my supporters, forwarded to me by you, I want to say that in ordinary circumstances I would be the last to encourage any movement which might tend to create a deadlock in a democratic national convention and thereby, perhaps, injure the standing of our party in the estimation of the country. I believe that I am speaking the exact truth when I say that no personal interest would weigh with me for one moment as against my lifelong devotion to our party. If a majority of the delegates had not declared their preference for me as their candidate I would not entertain your proposal. The fact, however, that they have done so on eight successive ballots created exception which surely merits careful and conscientious consideration.

"It is undoubtedly true that the custom of our party was violated when the convention refrained from ratifying by a two-thirds vote the expressed wish of a majority. This was done, according to my understanding at the instigation of Mr. Bryan, who successfully solicited the co-operation of others in an effort to prevent such ratification. Mr. Bryan set forth his reason for pursuing this course in his speech, explaining his own change of vote. He declared that I was a candidate at the primaries of Nebraska as a progressive, that upon that understanding he was appointed a delegate and instructed to vote for me at the national convention. This is queer. I am regarded to-night and have been regarded for years as a progressive by the democrats of Nebraska and by Mr. Bryan. What has since convinced Mr. Bryan that though, in his judgment, a progressive only two months ago, and even only a week ago, I am not a progressive now? Have I suddenly proved faithless to the principles which I have upheld steadfastly for twenty years? No. Have I been recreant to my trust as speaker of the house of representatives? No. Mr. Bryan cites no act of evidence for his assumption. He withholds his vote from me because he will not participate in the nomination of any man who depends upon the New York delegation."

Mr. Clark then quotes at length from the statement which Mr. Bryan read in the convention and continues:

"Although Mr. Bryan's words are shrewdly chosen, to avoid making a direct charge upon me, the implication is plain. It is that if I were elected the president of the United States I would feel myself obligated to those whom he mentions and that I would be under the control of those influences. It would be unbecoming to one holding my political position to express the indignation which I feel at these aspersions upon my character. My integrity has never before been questioned for the simple reason that not once during the seventeen years that I have served in congress have I been subjected to the test of temptation of wrong in any form. But whether I shall become your designated candidate for president or not I am your speaker at this time when your party is in the crucial scrutiny of the country and I can not, in duty, permit the aspersions to pass unheeded. As speaker of the house of representatives, as a life-long democrat, proud of being an American man, I pronounce Mr. Bryan's implicated accusations both false and infamous.

"If I am speaking the truth with respect to this matter, it follows necessarily that the reasons advanced by Mr. Bryan for departing from the time-honored custom of our party in recognizing the voice of the majority are not reasons at all, but the shallowest of pretexts put forward to achieve some publicity which I shall not attempt to divine.

"I beg you then to say to my friends that I accept with deepest gratitude their renewed assurances of loyalty and now declare without qualification that my name will remain before the convention, subject to no dicker, until two-thirds of the delegates ratify or do not ratify the action of the majority."

Monday morning, July 1, the Associated Press printed the following: "I see no reason why we should not conclude the convention with the

nomination of both a president and a vice president," said William J. Bryan late tonight. "The friends of the various candidates have fought out their differences and their loyalty to the men of their choice have consumed more time than is usually devoted to balloting. There is every reason why the progressives should not get together and select a ticket."

Mr. Bryan said he took it for granted that there was no chance for the nomination of either Harmon of Ohio, or Underwood of Alabama, whom he designated as the choice of a reactionary element in the party. He suggested that if the convention could not agree upon either Governor Wilson of New Jersey or Speaker Clark of Missouri, an available man to head the ticket might be found in a list furnished comprising the names of Senator Kern of Indiana; Senator-elect Oille James of Kentucky; Senator O'Gorman of New York; Senator Culberson of Texas, and Senator Rayner of Maryland. Continuing, Mr. Bryan said:

"The antagonisms which have been aroused during the preliminary campaign, antagonisms which had not ought to have been aroused should not prevent the coming together of delegates upon some common ground.

"New York is not necessary to a nomination, and under the circumstances should not be permitted to dictate the nomination. I do not mean to say that the vote of New York would vitiate the nomination if the candidate had enough

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A STRIKING FIGURE

H. E. Newbranch, in the Omaha World-Herald: Mr. Bryan, as the convention was assembling, did not take his place on the floor with the Nebraska delegation. He occupied a chair alone in the rear of the platform, where from time to time, faithful friends, as they espied him, came up to shake his hand and wish him success in the fight he was about to enter. Bryan's face was pale and set in that look of grim, almost ferocious determination, with which those who know him best are most familiar. He was very evidently tired and worn out, almost to the point of physical and nervous exhaustion. He even asked his friends not to shake hands with him, that he might better conserve his strength for the great effort he was preparing.

During Cardinal Gibbons' impressive invocation Mr. Bryan stood with closed eyes. He swayed noticeably, almost alarmingly from side to side, and from time to time his lips were seen to move as the cardinal's prayer went on, as if he, too, were praying, though possibly he was doing more than fixing in mind one of the eloquent periods with which he was soon to try to entrance 30,000 ears.

His was a striking figure as he stood, thin, pale and swaying, his lips silently moving and the sympathy of many who watched out to him, even those who were not in accord with his purposes. It was a scarred and heroic warrior, who was about to go on the field of battle, one of the greatest, bravest and best loved of his generation, and many found that, watching him, their hearts were touched and their admiration compelled even if their judgment was against him.

WILSON THE WINNER

Soon after noon of Tuesday, July 2nd, it became apparent that a nomination in the democratic national convention would soon be reached. The forty-third ballot showed big gains for Wilson. Illinois threw its entire 58 votes to him. Virginia threw her solid vote to Wilson. West Virginia gave her 16 to Wilson. The forty-third ballot stood: Wilson, 602; Clark, 329; Underwood, 98½; Harmon, 28; Foss, 27; Bryan, 1; Kern, 1. On the forty-fourth ballot Mrs. Anna Spitzer, sister-in-law of Champ Clark and one other Colorado delegate voted for Wilson. Then Colorado shifted 8 more to Wilson. On the forty-fourth ballot Wilson had 629, Clark 306, Underwood 99, Harmon 27, Foss 27. While the forty-sixth ballot was in progress, Bankhead of Alabama withdrew the candidacy of Oscar Underwood. Then Stone of Missouri said that Champ Clark had released his delegates. Then with a general rush Woodrow Wilson won the prize and his nomination was made unanimous. The vote on the last ballot stood: Wilson, 990; Clark, 64; Harmon, 12.

The convention then took a recess until 9 o'clock p. m.