

## Press Opinion on Governor Wilson's Nomination

**New York World:** Woodrow Wilson will be the next president of the United States. But he will be more than that. He will be the first president of the United States in a generation to go into office owing favors to nobody except the American people and under obligations to nothing except the general welfare. No political boss brought about his nomination. No political machine carried his candidacy to victory. No coterie of Wall street financiers provided the money to finance his campaign. He has no debt to pay to corrupt politics or to corrupt business. He was nominated by the irresistible force of public opinion, and by that alone. He stands before the country a free man.

**New York Press:** The nomination of Woodrow Wilson, in our judgment, is the most judicious the democrats could have made. By all practical tests he was their best chance, and they took it. If Mr. Roosevelt makes an aggressive campaign as a candidate on a third ticket Mr. Wilson would naturally have a better chance to hold progressive democrats from going to the colonel than any other man who was prominent in the canvass for the Baltimore nomination. In force of appeal to radicals of his party probably only William Jennings Bryan could surpass Wilson. This is not to say that Roosevelt could not take democratic radicals away from Wilson. It is our opinion that he could—that he could take them away from Bryan himself. But to count Bryan out as having been a possibility this year we think Wilson would lose to Roosevelt, if the colonel should run, fewer democrats than any other man ever considered by the Baltimore convention from first to last.

**Hartford Courant:** To hundreds of thousands of democrats of a different kind—the old-fashioned kind—this success of Mr. Bryan's doctrine and Mr. Bryan's man at Baltimore is not merely disappointing and unwelcome, but alarming. They see in it a calamity to the party and an ugly menace to the country. We think we know what most of them will do when November comes around. Mr. Taft stands immovably for the constitution and the laws. He stands for the important, essential things Dr. Woodrow Wilson stood for before his sudden conversion to radicalism. And Mr. Taft is the only candidate who does stand for them; and the other name of Mr. Taft this year is the republican party; and we are only making a plain statement of fact when we say to conservative citizens this year what Frederick Douglass used to say to other citizens in other years. The republican party is the ship; all else is the sea.

**Boston Post:** The next president of the United States was named by the democratic convention at Baltimore, and his naming was made unanimous. He is known the country over as Woodrow Wilson, and he will be known in history, we fully believe, as one of the very great American chief executives. The democracy has risen to its finest opportunity in the finest way. It has chosen as its leader, after long and earnest deliberation, a man of great ability; of sane progressiveness; of genuine faith in the people; of strong magnetism; of splendid campaigning powers; of honor and honesty, and, most happily, with a record for accomplishments in the public interest second to that of no statesman in this country.

**New York Sun:** The three concrete facts of importance that emerge from the prolonged chaos at Baltimore are, first, the nomination of the candidate really desired by the majority of the party; secondly, the displacement of Col. Bryan of Nebraska as the principal figure in the party's affairs, and, thirdly, a new alignment of the democracy as the representative of political ideals and purposes widely differing from those which have constituted its historic position. No candidate of any party since politics began ever won in convention his nomination more fairly and honorably than Governor Woodrow Wilson. He is nominated, if ever a candidate for president was, for the sole reason that he is the choice of a majority of the democrats of the United States.

**New York Herald:** Hats off to the governor! He has won and only congratulations will go to him today. His work is cut out for him. He may not know it; but he is "on his way," and

that way is the way of a radical of the radicals. During the preliminary campaign he was a conservative-radical in the east. But he was a radical-radical in the west, and but for the west he would not have been nominated at Baltimore. Henceforth the chips must fly even over the fence into the backyards of the "interests." There must be no cuddling up to Mr. Ryan or Mr. Belmont or Mr. Morgan. There must be no olive branches to Col. Harvey or Col. Watterson or those other colonels in the army of publicists who have so arduously striven to carry the party's burdens and write the party's proclamations. Governor Wilson was nominated not on the strength of the speeches he made in the east, but of those he made in Texas and other wild and woolly states where his ideas fairly sizzled. The conservatives took him on his merits as a radical-radical, and they of course are prepared to step aside.

**Boston Advertiser:** Whether such a man will make the strongest possible candidate for president may be a matter for doubt. The widespread belief in the instability of Wilson is a thing with which the democrats must surely reckon, in their coming campaign. His sudden repudiation of the support of the very interests which brought him into politics, which made him governor of New Jersey, and which launched him as a candidate for the democratic nomination, created a notably unfavorable opinion against him. His past writings show him as occupying positions wholly irreconcilable with those which he now avows, on current political issues.

**Albany Journal:** Of the candidates that have been in the running, Woodrow Wilson is nearest like Mr. Bryan. Therefore Mr. Bryan's support would naturally have gone to him in the first place if the Nebraskan had been willing that anyone but himself should be nominated. The deadlock might have developed in any case. Mr. Bryan's maneuvering made it certain. And he could have but one object in working to produce it, which was to create a condition that would precipitate a stampede of which he would become the beneficiary. As it is, his plan has failed. He has succeeded only in so dividing his party against itself that a coming together of the factions is out of the question.

**Boston Globe:** Woodrow Wilson fits the era. No better choice could have been made. He was the logical selection. His opinions are well known, his qualifications are explicit, his character is unassailable, and his achievements such as warrant his promotion to the office of president of the United States.

**Boston Journal:** Bryan, by sheer force of strategy and by daily demonstration of the crookedness within the party, dictated the nomination. In the very act he showed the danger of trusting for reforms to a body so poisoned with corruption. The demonstration was nation-wide. It is one the people have learned word by word. The nominee himself has had a marvelous career in politics. Two short years ago the head of a university; immediately after, the head of a great state government, following a campaign in which he won his own fight against the New Jersey machine, and now, by virtue of his fight against the bosses in New Jersey and by the grace of Bryan's backing, the nominee for the presidency. It is the most striking rise in politics since Bryan made himself the nominee, sixteen years ago.

**Rutland Daily Herald:** The fact, recognized, by everybody, is that the logic of the situation called for the nomination of a man who, while commanding the respect and confidence of conservative democrats, might be expected to attract the radical element in his party. Woodrow Wilson meets both requirements. His record as governor of New Jersey is an asset. In respect to character, ability and training, he measures up to the office for which he has been nominated. It is a pleasure to say in this connection, that the Vermont delegates seemed alive to the importance of nominating a strong man like Wilson. Aside from two or three ballots cast for the New England candidates, which was the natural and proper thing to do from the standpoint of local feeling, they were consistent Wilson men throughout the contest.

**New York Tribune:** As a scholar and man of intellectual cultivation Mr. Wilson measures

well up to the personal standards sets for American presidents. But his long detachment from actual politics may prove embarrassing to him as a candidate. As an historian it may not have seriously damaged him to advocate the free introduction of Chinese cheap labor and to exalt the Chinaman above the immigrant from Poland, Hungary or Italy. But as a candidate for office his historical indiscretions will leave many stings.

**Lowell Courier-Citizen:** In Woodrow Wilson the democratic party has nominated unquestionably the strongest candidate that offered. No other nomination was so certain to take the wind out of the Roosevelt sails. No other could have been similarly satisfactory to the sanely progressive element in the party itself. In selecting him the party has chosen with wisdom far surpassing its usual record; and, unless signs change totally between now and November the prospects for a democratic victory are flattering. From what one hears casually from republicans—including not only many who were for Roosevelt, but also many who were bitterly against him—it may be said without fear of overstatement that probably no democratic candidate ever nominated has stood so good a show of attracting republican votes.

**New York Press:** Woodrow Wilson is a free trader. He is the sort of free trader that, if able to put cherished views into actual practice, could be the most dangerous of all to American industries and American wage-earners. The scholastic free trader. The academic free trader. The sentimental free trader. The proposition in a book applying to things that do not exist, to men that do not live, is as clear as daylight to the scholastic free trader, the free trader who never had to make an article and sell it against the article made by somebody else.

**New York Times:** In the nomination of Woodrow Wilson the democratic party regains its ancient estate of worth, of dignity, of power. It escapes the thralldom of little men and ignoble leaders. It takes as its chief a man of that manlike quality which befits the presidential office. The nomination of Governor Wilson will unite the party. There is not a democrat who can find a sound and sufficient reason for withholding his vote from such a candidate. Search for the taints and blemishes, the imprints of subserviency to the selfish and the predatory, of which we have heard so much, and you will not find one of them upon Governor Wilson. No bargain or understanding with Mr. Murphy or with Wall street, nor with any interest, brought about his nomination. He does not owe his nomination to Mr. Bryan, nor will he be in the slightest degree under Mr. Bryan's control or guidance; he is too firm, too self-reliant, some would say too obstinate. We believe Mr. Wilson's nomination to be in the highest degree fortunate for the country. It invites, we may almost say it commands, the return of prosperity. It bids our half-famished industries take their fill of the vitalizing nourishment of activity. It quickens the sluggish currents of trade and enterprise. It does these beneficent things, first, because in the last three months we have cast out so many devils, and second, because whatever may befall on election day, a gentleman will be in the White House during the next four years, a man of sanity and balance, a man sincerely desiring the welfare of the American people, a man of sobriety and principle, not a savage or a visionary. It is the ideal condition, with a candidate on either side under whose administration the country would be content.

**New York Evening Post:** His nomination falls happily, it comes to him with his party united, and is received with the most gratifying tokens of good-will even from those who have been politically hostile to him. That it means a vivifying of the democratic party, a campaign conducted with dignity and on a high intellectual level, and, in case Wilson is elected, something like a new era in our politics, is universally agreed. To have got such a felicitous ending to the long hurly-burly at Baltimore, is matter not only for rejoicing, but for renewing faith in the good sense of the American people. Say not the struggle naught availeth when our turbulent democracy delights to honor a man like Woodrow Wilson.

### REAL MEAN

Mr. Hearst says that "Mr. Bryan succeeded in disrupting the democratic national convention (at Baltimore) which began in harmony, etc." Yes, it was real mean of Mr. Bryan to oppose Judge Parker and still worse to introduce that awful harmony-disturbing resolution against Morgan, Ryan and Belmont.