

Imagination of the "interests" had been stimulated. They had begun to see things at night.

Mr. Bryan said "Boo!"

Mr. Bryan said "Boo!" when he attacked the choice of Parker as temporary chairman. The convention elected Parker, and Parker, much to the delight of the commoner, made his inaugural address, supposed to be the keynote of the convention, a lurid attack on Mr. Roosevelt. Had Mr. Roosevelt been the one thing in the world dangerous to a democracy, Mr. Parker could not have advertised it better. Childlike innocence was never like this! Ollie James attacked somebody. Who? Mr. Roosevelt. Orators rose and fell in philippic frenzy. Directed against the menace of Mr. Taft? No, Mr. Taft's name was mentioned so seldom, and when with so kindly an indulgence, that it might well have embarrassed Mrs. Taft, who came over from Washington one day to sit in the gallery; the man attacked was Roosevelt!

Mr. Bryan said "Boo!" when he refused the chairmanship of the committee on resolutions—a sop thrown to him—and told the committee that he could, if not pleased with the progressiveness of the platform, take his objections to the floor of the convention and therefore to the voters of the country.

Mr. Bryan said "Boo!" when he suggested to the resolutions committee that candidates should be chosen before a platform was adopted.

Mr. Bryan said "Boo!" in large, black-faced type when he offered to the delegates a resolution which made the convention declare itself opposed to the nomination of anyone under obligation to Morgan, Ryan, and Belmont. This time the "gang" was so demoralized that it began to vote furiously, hectically, and with almost feminine hysteria against the resolution. Before they knew it many went on record as being in favor of nominating a man under obligation to Morgan, Ryan, and Belmont. They voted in anger and begged to change their vote when they saw the trap. They had rushed forward to a challenge like wolves, they tumbled back like sheep covered with gooseflesh. The creep of delight which must have traveled up and down Mr. Bryan's spinal column must have made life seem worth all the abuse men have given him. There they were—Ryan and Murphy and Belmont and the "gang." It must be said—no other words will fit—it can not be held in—Mr. Bryan had their goat!

Mr. Bryan said "Boo!" when, after Mr. Murphy had risen from the New York delegation on the tenth ballot and announced a change of eighty-one votes from Harmon to Clark, he changed his own vote from Clark to Wilson, and took the occasion to explain, in a way that the delegates and the country would understand, that no man should be nominated by accepting the support of the "gang." It is supposed commonly that Tammany goes to conventions to get promises from candidates—written if possible.

Mr. Clark felt hurt. He came over from Washington in the evening. His managers were rushing up and down the corridors of one of the hotels with their wives. The wives cautioned each other in loud whispers not to tell anybody. The speaker of the house rehearsed a dramatic speech in a room which had a transom spilling every word into the hall. The scenery had been set to have him appear on the floor of the convention, walk up one of the aisles, and crush the foe. His manager, former Senator Du Bois, evidently believed that this would cause a stampede—but the convention adjourned before the plan could be put into execution. Clark had come to town; he had prepared a coup; he had a drama up his sleeve. It ended in a few sticks of newspaper interview!

All night long the Clark delegates were "whipped in" and stiffened; they were taught to hate Mr. Bryan. Next day, after their "secret" conference held on the roof garden, they walked about the hotel corridors with hollow eyes, and quoted what Mr. Bryan had said about Mr. Clark long ago, or told with trembling lips of how Murphy had once given Bryan all the warmth of his soul, and cried out in agony over the scandal of Mr. Bryan taking money from a newspaper syndicate. They knew him at last—wrecker of democracy! He had been stripped of his sheep's clothing—traitor to his party! Some of them, late Monday afternoon, in the second week of the deadlock, paraded an insulting banner before him and laid violent hands upon the commoner, from which the police had to rescue him. But Bryan was happy!

Friendships broke when Mr. Bryan said "Boo!" The Maryland delegation, with a defection from Clark, sat with red-tense or white-taut faces, daring not to look at each other lest

democratic blood be shed. Kansas delegates jumped in their chairs as one man, and as one man demanded to explain a defection to Wilson, and then demanded the right not to explain it, and asked for a roll call, and then did not want one, and talked back to the chairman, and were told by the sergeant-at-arms that they would be put out of the armory, and there were shrieks of glee from the galleries, who hoped it would happen, but knew that it would not. John B. Stanchfield of New York, defending some part, or all, of the New York delegation, added to the brilliance by another fling at Mr. Roosevelt, the defeated candidate for the nomination of the Chicago coliseum, with whom he accused Bryan of being in league, a phrase which is conventionally used in connection with a person older, if not so distinguished in evil doing as Mr. Roosevelt.

Mr. Bryan had said "Boo!" And they sent for extra detachments of police!

Mr. Bryan's "Boo!" made delegates leap out of their sleep—when they found time for any—with a shriek.

Mr. Bryan was bound the country should know what went on in the democratic convention; in the process of accomplishing this he made a monkey of it. The "Boo!" made the convention do every last thing which a democratic convention should not do. The convention attacked Roosevelt instead of Taft. That let the cat out. At the name of a Third Party (capital T, capital P) it almost leaped from its shoes. It was so disturbed by the "Boo!" that it allowed Charlie Murphy to slip into the family group, just as the bulb was pressed, and then to appear in the center of the picture of the harmonious family democracy beside such men as Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, Grover Cleveland, and August Belmont. The effect of the "Boo!" in the midst of delegates who, in spite of his title to the honor, had formally rejected his leadership even as a chairman. He was no longer the man who by oratory swayed a gathering off its feet; he was no longer a man who had the emotional following of his party. Hisses greeted him. Hate looked at him out of the eyes of those who saw in him an obstacle. Yet from first to last, sitting in the seat of a delegate with his palm-leaf fan, without a tremor in his finger throughout the long and fierce battle, with a little of his consciousness of power playing at the corners of his mouth, and with the light springing up in his eyes as the few who came to greet him touched his shoulder, Mr. Bryan was the figure of a master. A seasoned veteran, or perhaps an inspired genius, he rose occasionally and punctuated the course of the democratic convention without a mistake of strategy. When the power of the people was needed, Bryan called aloud. His voice then became the voice of a magician! Those who hated him feared him; those who feared him hated him; those who reviled him reviled a figure of stone. For some understandings he was too large. Men of small motives, small manners, and small morals not only do not understand men larger than they. They can not understand such men.

The second significant thing about the convention was its nominee.

Wilson is fifty-six years old. He has spent a lifetime in teaching; he is the "schoolmaster" that they call him. But that in itself is significant. A man who has been but three years in politics is a new kind of candidate for the presidency!

With this fact one may be startled and anxious, or with this fact one may be inspired and hopeful. It depends upon Wilson. The rank and file of democracy wanted him. They believed him efficient. He had a short record, but they liked it.

That was the final significant and vital thing about the struggle in Baltimore. The nomination was made by pressure from without. Until the convention met many of the rank and file and many of the delegates who represented them did not know that after all Woodrow Wilson was the man they wanted. They learned it little by little; they found expression for the idea; they forced their point.

Wilson's fight before the convention was won not by revolution; it was won by evolution. In it, demonstrations and sensations did not count. Votes came in ones and twos, then in dozen lots—at last the avalanche. Whatever Mr. Bryan thought of it, he had beaten the "gang" to a frazzle, and he still wore the smile of the sphinx.

#### THE TWO PLATFORMS

To the editor of the Philadelphia Public Ledger: Sir—in the interest of intellectual

probity permit a comment on "The Two Platforms on the Tariff."

The "republican" is made by its beneficiaries. The "democratic" by those who say that the "tax on 'woolens' is collected at the druggist's and the undertaker's."

The "democratic" rests on the dictum of Lecky: "That increase of taxation is a corresponding restriction of liberty." As to the "republican," it is a fundamental principle of justice that one can not be judge, advocate and jury in his own case. Yet Root, the lawyer, violated this when he co-operated on the republican committee with Lippitt, the Rhode Island manufacturer. Root, shielding himself, perhaps, behind a lawyer's technical ignorance of political economy, ignored the cause of our present business "unrest," that a tariff makes the government a party to a commercial contract.

Lippitt, the senator-successor to the arch-priest of protection, Aldrich, \* \* \* is true to his kind; for he "wrote the 'cotton' clause in the AldrichPayne tariff," and by an "additional thread" added largely to the duty on the "present clothing" of the working classes.

Penrose is spokesman for the "woolen men," who have substituted bayonets for "soup kitchens." One asks, if at the "terrapin supper," probably paid for out of profits from selling water to thirsty children in the mills, there blazed on the wall: "Mene, mene, tekell up-harsin," or, the later command: "Forbid them not." \* \* \*

The "republican" platform, like protectionist France, proclaims: "Liberty, equality, fraternity;" but it is "Liberty to die; equality in misery, and commingling in the grave."

The "democratic" platform proclaims, with Lord Derby: "I was born a free man, and, by God, a free man I will die."

ONE OF THE PEOPLE

Atlantic City, July 4, 1912.

#### GOOD NEWS FROM NEW YORK

Rochester, N. Y., August 24.—The democratic general committee of Monroe county (Rochester) met today to designate candidates for county officers and delegates to the state convention, subject to the action of the primaries to be held September 17. The progressive element of the party, opposed to the one-man power of Charles F. Murphy, was in full control of the meeting. A test vote on a Murphy and an anti-Murphy candidate resulted in the defeat of the Murphy-Dix element by 79 to 43. A full county ticket was named and fifteen delegates to the state convention. George P. Decker, a leading progressive democrat, was named for congress.

The committee adopted the following resolutions ratifying the action of the Baltimore convention:

Whereas, The democratic national convention at Baltimore has nominated for president and vice president those distinguished democratic governors, Woodrow Wilson of New Jersey and Thomas Riley Marshall of Indiana, whose progressive administrations of the affairs of their respective states, have drawn the attention and won the approval of the entire nation, and,

Whereas, The national convention, when presenting to the voters of the union these eminent representatives of the progressive sentiment of the time, also adopted a clear, definite and comprehensive declaration of the progressive principles upon which the democratic party invites support.

Resolved, That the democratic party of Monroe county here represented through its regular party organization, indorses and ratifies the nominations of Wilson and Marshall, approves the platform of political principles adopted at Baltimore and pledges to such candidates and platform its loyal, earnest and vigilant support; and,

Resolved, That the democratic party of Monroe county, through this organization, congratulates William Jennings Bryan upon the signal service which it was his privilege to perform for the party and the nation, in leading the fight at Baltimore to separate the democratic party from all possible control or influence by corrupt bosses and special interests, and that it also congratulates James A. O'Gorman, senator from New York, upon his part in the same invaluable service, and,

Resolved, That the democratic party of Monroe urges upon the democracy of the entire state of New York the necessity at this crisis in the party's affairs in the state of nominating a state ticket and adopting a platform which shall be in harmony with the leadership of Woodrow Wilson and William J. Bryan and shall express the same progress in state affairs which the national democratic party has shown in the nation.

The name of ex-Congressman James S. Havens, who won the memorable fight for congress two years ago in this district against George W. Aldridge, was indorsed as Monroe county's candidate for governor to succeed John A. Dix.

The names of Wilson, Bryan and Havens were greeted with enthusiastic demonstrations.