

Roger Urged as Running Mate

[From the Chicago Tribune, May 9.]

Roger C. Sullivan as President Wilson's running mate this fall was the bomb that exploded with a loud crack in democratic circles yesterday.

Mr. Sullivan admitted to a reporter for The Tribune that he had had some correspondence on the subject. He said, however, that he was not taking the proposition seriously—yet.

Notwithstanding the biscuit man's jocular attitude toward the suggestion, it was ascertained that his close friends are in dead earnest. They have told Mr. Sullivan that he can get the nomination for vice-president if he goes after it, and that, in their opinion, it would be good politics for the democratic leaders to make such a choice.

Meets Requirements, They Say

The argument that has been put up to the "man who nominated Wilson at Baltimore" is that he meets all the requirements of a vice-presidential candidate on the democratic ticket at this particular time.

They have insisted to him that he has, first of all, the proverbial barrel with which a vice-presidential candidate is supposed to be possessed as the prime requirement.

They also have told him that he is the "logical" man for this place, coming from Illinois, the "pivotal" state, having a large following among the Irish voters and in a position to corral a large number of German-American voters, who otherwise would not support the democratic ticket.

President Wilson, they contend, will be able to get along fairly well with the purely American native and the Protestant vote, while Sullivan could bring to the ticket a large element of the hyphenated electorate.

Quotes "Uncle Joe"

While Mr. Sullivan was being interviewed on the proposition, one of his closest political associates (not John P. Hopkins) remarked:

"In the language of Uncle Joe Cannon the democratic convention could go a d— sight farther and do a h— of a sight worse."

Sullivan, also, his boosters said, has demonstrated to President Wilson that he and his friends control the democratic organization of Illinois. Mr. Sullivan has been named chairman of the Illinois delegation to the St. Louis convention. The man he wants will be named the Illinois member of the resolutions committee. Some Illinois delegate might be made chairman of the platform committee at St. Louis.

Stuck to President

Mr. Sullivan, they go on and say, has remained loyal to President Wilson during the four years in which

the Sullivan people have been given no recognition at Washington in a patronage way. He has kept his forces in line for Wilson when they were gnawing the bark off the shade trees because of no patronage. On top of this he made it plain at the outset of the Illinois presidential primary that the Illinois delegation to St. Louis, if controlled by him, would be a unit for the renomination of President Wilson.

Sullivan and Secretary Tumulty are the closest kind of personal friends. Sullivan's card gets an immediate response from Mr. Tumulty at the White House or the executive offices.

Within the last few weeks the biscuit man has been a caller at the executive office at the foot of Pennsylvania avenue, and his reception has been very cordial.

It even has been whispered among the insiders that it was Mr. Sullivan's request at Washington that resulted in James Hamilton Lewis being shelved for temporary chairman of the St. Louis convention and former Governor Glynn of New York being selected for the keynote solo.

BRITAIN BLOCKS RED CROSS WORK

A Washington, D. C., dispatch dated May 11, says: From former President Taft, chairman of the American Red Cross, the state department today received a letter which promises to precipitate another controversy with Great Britain, this time over the admission of Red Cross supplies to Germany.

This possibility is strengthened by a statement from attaches at the White House that the administration will take up the Red Cross complaint and press it vigorously with the British government.

One Shipment in Seven Months

The present situation Mr. Taft outlines as follows:

"Since the beginning of the war the American Red Cross has invited contributions of money and supplies with which to aid the wounded and suffering of all the belligerents. We have found no difficulty in sending supplies to the entente allies. We have had to obtain permits from Great Britain for the shipment to the Red Cross of the central powers.

"Until September, 1915, there was substantially no delay in the granting of these permits by Great Britain. A permit was granted for only one shipment since that time—in January of this year.

Limits Further Shipments

"We are now in receipt of a communication from the British government announcing that it does not intend to permit any further shipment

unless it is a shipment to our own hospital units in a territory of the central powers. We are able to maintain no hospital units in any of the belligerent countries.

"The authorities of the American Red Cross believe that under the Geneva convention, to which the United States and all belligerent powers are signatories, the United States has the treaty right to insist that articles serving exclusively to aid the sick and wounded in the form of hospital supplies, shipped by the American Red Cross to the Red Cross of the central powers, shall not be declared contraband, but shall be allowed safe conduct to their destination.

"We respectfully urge upon the state department the propriety and wisdom of bringing the matter again to the attention of the government, with the hope that it may change the attitude taken by it in the most recent dispatches of March 22 and March 30."

Strings to Polish Relief

London, May 11.—The British government has just announced its acceptance of the plan submitted by Walter Hines Page, the American ambassador, last February, for feeding the civilian population of Poland by an American commission.

The acceptance carries, however, certain rather difficult stipulations for the central powers, namely, that the relief must be applied to that portion of Poland in Austrian occupation and not confined, as Germany desires, to that part occupied by Germany. It is stipulated that the food is to be shipped from the United States in German ships under a neutral flag, and that Germany and Austria agree as part of the scheme to care properly for the populations of Serbia, Albania, and Montenegro.

The foreign office expressed the hope that the central powers will promptly accept the conditions, so as to hasten the beginning of the work. Herbert C. Hoover, chairman for relief in Belgium, will go to Brussels tomorrow and may be able to facilitate the negotiations.

A GROWING INTEREST IN THE PRIMARIES

Discussing the recent Nebraska primaries, the Lincoln State Journal notes the increasing interest in primary elections from year to year. It says:

"Several interesting things are found in the total of the primary vote, which has at last been made up more than two full weeks after the polls closed. One is that the interest in the primary is steadily growing. The following table shows the steady increase in interest in popular nominations since the system was adopted for the state in 1907:

	Primary	Gen. Election
1907	79,008	203,934
1908	98,218	271,491
1909	93,394	207,575
1910	108,081	243,390
1911	128,623	225,380
1912	133,813	259,124
1914	146,958	246,941
1916	192,027	

"One of the stock arguments against the primary in the early days was that the people didn't want it and wouldn't use it. Maybe they don't want it, but there is no doubt about their willingness to use it. One-third of the growth in the last two years is chargeable to Douglas and Lancaster counties. Does this mean that the cities are growing in population faster than the country or that the vote is unduly increased in the large centers by advertising

and by the sharp contests over local offices? This question can't be answered fully until the regular election returns are in.

"On the face of the primary returns the republican party is pretty fairly well united again, and is easily the majority party in Nebraska. In the primary 102,751 republican votes were cast, against 86,887 for the democrats and about four hundred for the progressives. The republican gain over 1914 is 28,258 and the democratic gain is 19,588. The progressives dropped off about two thousand, most of them naturally enough going back to the republican organization. Everybody knows, of course, that party ties are now so loose that the preponderance of republican votes in the primary doesn't necessarily mean that all of them will be cast for that ticket in the election. One of the most striking of all the developments since the primary was started is the growth of independence in voting. All of the figures are encouraging to the republicans, however. If they show anything it is that they are likely to carry the state."

AGAINST PREPAREDNESS

The Kansas division of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union was in session in Topeka when the President spoke there in February. They attended in a body, and the next day adopted the following resolutions:

"That we are unalterably opposed to a large standing army; and to any change in our military system tending to compulsory military service.

"That we, the mothers and fathers of the boys attending the state agricultural college, absolutely refuse our consent that our boys be forced to enlist in any military organization.

"We are opposed to militarism and to preparedness and excessive expenditure of national and state revenues in times of peace and we favor the manufacture of munition and naval supplies that we need by our government. We recommend the stand of our senators and representatives who are opposing the present plan of preparedness and we instruct President McAuliffe to immediately telegraph the above resolutions to our senators and representatives in congress.

"(Signed) Myron Rice, Chairman, D. D. Smith, secretary; J. B. Shields, C. E. Brasted, Roy Schmitt."

BRYAN IN IOWA

"It isn't particularly against Mr. Bryan is it that he should be defeated as a delegate to the national convention of his party by liquor votes? Seems like the party and not Mr. Bryan got the worst of it in that deal."—Marshalltown Times-Republican.

While Mr. Bryan is in Iowa it is a good time to consider this.

The liquor interests of Omaha seem to have triumphed over him and if he goes to the national convention he will go as a visitor. But who believes that the liquor interests of Omaha have really triumphed?

Mr. Bryan three times received more votes for the presidency than President Wilson received. But Mr. Bryan in all that time was not in the way of the enduring regard of the American people that he is today.

Mr. Bryan is making a great fight and a brave fight for fundamental righteousness in American politics, and the fact that the Iowa democracy stands today for what it stands for is in the main his work, as before him it was the work of General Weaver.—Des Moines (Ia.) Tribune, May 12.

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