

private hands the vast railroad and other interests which are now and hereafter may be under government control. The senate of the United States will have a very large voice in the matter. That is the reason why the big interests are determined to select one of their own men as senator from Nebraska this year. It will not matter to the big interests whether the man be a democrat or republican. Jay Gould said he always contributed to the campaign fund of two candidates in every campaign, so that if either should be elected he would have a friend at court.

Which democratic candidate will the big interests select as their man in Nebraska? Which one of the republican candidates will the big interests choose as their man? I must not answer this question. If I should make the charge that one of my opponents has been or will be selected by the big interests, then my statement might be regarded as biased, for the reason that I am a candidate for senator. But I feel it my duty to call attention to the activity of the big interests in his Nebraska senatorial contest, and I ask both democrats and republicans to do a little investigating on their own account. Nebraska is an agricultural state. The producers should not permit the profiteers to choose a senator from Nebraska at this time. If the big interests shall put over both a democratic nominee and a republican nominee of their kind at the primary, then all the shouting in November will be done by the corporations, and none by the common herd. It will be easy for both democrats and republicans to discover the corporation favorites in this senatorial race if they will only get their eyes half way open.

EDGAR HOWARD.

BRYAN FOR GOVERNOR

The democratic party of Nebraska has a chance to redeem itself. It has been carrying a heavy load the past few years what with the Mullen and Hitchcock machine and its betrayal of the people to the special interests. But the spirit of true democracy is not yet dead in Nebraska. There is still a chance for the progressive democrats to assert themselves. The chance will be at the primaries August 20, when once more the two contending wings of the party will clash. Jefferson county has always given a good account of herself at the polls, although betrayed at times elsewhere by the back-door politicians.

Two years ago Jefferson county cast its vote for Charles W. Bryan for governor and against Gilbert M. Hitchcock for senator. The chance is again at hand to vote for Mr. Bryan and give him a chance to be elected governor, and once in the office, to clean up the special interest gang who seek to exploit the people through control of the state government. Mr. Bryan is a clean, vigorous fighter, absolutely incorruptible and unafraid. It is a rare chance the people have to place a man so big in brain and character as Mr. Bryan in the office of governor, and the chance should not be allowed to pass.

We have had some very little men in the office of governor of this state, quite too much in the recent past, and it is time for a change—time to place a man in the governor's chair who is big enough to fill the office, who will not be pulled around by a string jerked from Omaha; who has progressive ideas, whose sympathies are with the people and who is adroit enough and experienced enough to completely overwhelm the cohorts of selfishness when they come in hordes to the state legislature and to the state house expecting favors, something they have been able to secure very easily in the last few years, to the disgrace of the democrats of the state. It is time for a house-cleaning in the party—Mr. Bryan has offered to do the job; fellow democrats, let's gladly give him the chance.—Fairbury Journal.

BERGE FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL

George W. Berge has permitted his name to be placed upon the primary ballot as a democratic candidate for attorney general. He is one of the ablest lawyers of the state. He is a progressive, has been right on all moral and economic issues, and should receive the support of the people of the state who desire to help President Wilson protect the home folks from the war parasites.

HOWARD FOR U. S. SENATOR

Lieutenant-Governor Howard, who is a progressive democratic candidate for United States senator, is making a vigorous campaign in favor

of specific legislation, state and national, to curb all profiteering. He has the interest of the masses at heart and has fought their battles in Nebraska for the past twenty-five years. With Lieutenant-Governor Howard in the United States senate, the common people of Nebraska would have an able champion of their cause.

The Hastings Convention

The Nebraska state democratic convention, which was held at Hastings, July 30, was an unusual affair. The democratic party machinery in Nebraska, which is almost entirely in the hands of the reactionary element of the democratic party under the leadership of its national committeeman, Mr. Mullen, encountered a disagreeable surprise. After calling the convention, making all the arrangements for the convention, selecting the temporary chairman and arranging the program, they encountered such stiff opposition in the selection of a platform committee that although their motion authorizing the chairman to appoint the committee prevailed, and the platform committee appointed by them represented the reactionary element of the party, the platform finally presented was very unsatisfactory to the reactionary element who secured temporary control of the convention.

The first contest in the convention between the reactionary and progressive forces was over the manner of selecting the platform committee. The reactionary element offered a motion to authorize their chairman to appoint it. The progressives offered to substitute a motion permitting the delegates to select their own committee. On this motion the reactionary element won by a majority of six votes of the thousand delegates. The contest, however, demonstrated to the reactionary element that they would be in the minority if they attempted to endorse Governor Neville or Senator Hitchcock by name and that they would be in a minority also if they attempted to make no reference to the question of woman's suffrage and prohibition.

Hon. W. H. Thompson, Lieutenant-Governor Edgar Howard and Hon. I. J. Dunn led the fight for the progressives and are entitled to credit for the victory.

We publish below an accurate account of the convention as it appeared in the Lincoln State Journal.

MACHINE GETS BADLY BENT

[From The Nebraska State Journal, August 2.]

A distressing accident happened at Hastings, Neb., Tuesday night, only partial details of which have been made public. A fine, brand new twelve cylinder machine owned and operated by Arthur Mullen, Keith Neville and Gilbert M. Hitchcock and containing their hopes and plans, was thrown from the carefully greased track upon which it had been designed to operate, and badly bent. It is yet too early to say whether it can be put in shape again before August 20. Four men are under suspicion of having caused the accident, W. H. Thompson of Grand Island, Edgar Howard of Columbus, I. J. Dunn of Omaha and C. W. Bryan. They have not attempted any alibi. It is understood that it was barely able to return to Omaha on its own power, and is now in the tinkering hands of Mr. Mullen, who is an expert mechanic.

Which is only another way of saying that the democratic state political machine got a fine old mauling at the state convention at Hastings and at the hands of progressive democrats who lacked the power and prestige of having a senator, a governor and a national committeeman as leaders, and despite the fact that the only two big democratic dailies in the state are lined up with the reactionary section of the party. The progressives had no means of communicating with one another before the convention, but they were present in such numbers as to cause a chill to seize upon the machine leaders.

All of these leaders, including the senator and the governor advised the convention to adopt a single plank platform only, that of winning the war, and to leave out all other issues. In this they were aided and abetted by the chairman, J. A. Donohoe of O'Neill, who had been picked by Mullen, his former townsman, for the position.

Senator Hitchcock sent a letter to the convention in which he advised this, and also the specific endorsement of Governor Neville. The chairman gave the same advice as to platform in his speech, and Governor Neville, who was pushed to the front and made the first speaker on the

program, urged that no other issue than that of winning the war be included in the platform, saying that the convention should not permit any economic issues to be injected nor allow scheming politicians to bring forward other things to divert the public mind from the war.

ALL CAREFULLY STAGED.

The whole proceeding was a compliment to the power of Mr. Mullen as a stage manager. He went to Hastings with but one idea, that of endorsing the senator and the governor and declaring that the paramount issue was winning the war. He had everything arranged, the resolutions committee chosen, the platform written, the governor pushed to the front and the latter's opponent, Charley Bryan, tacked on as last speaker. In addition to the program as already given he had Metcalfe follow Neville, with a eulogy of the latter's administration and a declaration in favor of his renomination and election.

After which Mullen got up and read the Hitchcock letter, in which the governor drew some bouquets and the democrats told it was their duty to renominate and re-elect him. The letter also said that no new issue should be injected into the campaign, nothing but war measures. Mullen followed this with a letter from President Wilson couched in felicitous terms, but giving no advice.

To still further buttress the machine against any slip, the unit rule was invoked in Douglas county. In that county a mass convention was held, under an agreement between the Mullenites and the opposition that the delegation should be split fifty-fifty. The committee had recommended that the unit rule be adopted, but it never was done by the convention. No credentials were issued to the delegation until it arrived at Hastings. The Dahiman-Mullen crowd got as many of their men as they could to go to the convention, and all of the others not showing up they proceeded to fill up the delegation with the carpet-baggers, out of a list of 260 names that had been handed in, although the delegation itself was entitled to only 160 votes. In this way they got a majority and then proceeded to vote the minority under the unit rule, where the majority determines how the complete vote shall be cast.

In a number of counties the delegates had been selected by the local bosses, no conventions being held. In spite of all this, Mr. Mullen discovered when he tried to operate his steam roller, that he did not have a majority of the convention.

REFUSED HARMONY OFFER.

All of this machinery had been arranged with the three purposes in view, the endorsement of Hitchcock and Neville and the one plank platform. This was necessary in order that the machine might keep faith with the liquor and other interests to which it owed its supremacy in the party, and to do this the bosses were willing to override any public desire for specific remedies for existing economic evils. If it broke faith it meant the loss of the interests affected by the program the progressives are urging, who wanted the party to stand for certain moral, economic and patriotic issues.

The progressives sent State Chairman Langhorst to see Donohoe and Mullen the night before the convention, with a harmony proposition, to see if the two sides could not get together on a platform. The progressives said that they objected to any persons being mentioned in the resolutions because this would give them an unfair advantage over any opponents they might have for re-election and that it was in opposition anyway to the primary law, which provides that no candidates can be endorsed by the convention. In these negotiations he directly represented the progressive leaders, Thompson, Dunn, Howard and Bryan, but Langhorst reported that Mullen and Donohoe could give no assurance as was desired as to the personnel of the committee, that they had declined a conference on the propositions submitted and would not say whether they would put on any progressives or even anyone the progressives named.

Lieutenant Governor Howard said that he could not believe this to be correct; that he had talked earlier with Mr. Donohoe and that the latter had agreed to place Mr. Thompson on the committee as one of the progressives. He went out and saw Donohoe and came back with the report that Donohoe declined to name Thompson. It was evident that the machine thought itself so strong that it could deny the apparent minority any representation on the committee. Mr. Donohoe also said that if he were allowed to