

France, of which, to us, the league was, far and away, the most important feature.

The Republican party accepted the challenge, the country was polled, and the most overwhelming vote recorded in our history was thrown against the President. Hundreds of thousands of Democrats—considering themselves none the less Democrats—joined the Republicans in condemning the pact.

These Democrats did more than this. They voted to put the Republican party in power on a platform with the terms of which they were fully acquainted.

Now, as Mr. Lewis suggests, it is the duty of these Democrats to make their votes good. They must support Mr. Harding in every fair effort he institutes to obey the mandate issued on the 2nd instant. The people, asked to speak, have spoken in the lawful way, and their commands must be heeded. For those who voted to put the Republicans into complete control to turn now on partisan grounds and try to hinder the carrying out of the Republican program fairly interpreted would be both an illogical and an absurd act.—Washington Star.

#### CHAIRMAN WHITE

The denial by Charman White of the Democratic national committee of the report that he will soon resign his office gives an interesting twist to an interesting situation. The report had been accepted as true, largely for the reason that as Mr. White had been hurriedly called to his place and lost his battle, it was easy of belief that he had lost stomach for further service.

Immediately, several names were suggested for the succession, and it was observed that they were the names of men who had been McAdoo boomers at San Francisco.

Look out! at once exclaimed the Cox men and the Bryan men, who fancied they detected a Wall street move to get possession of the machinery of the Democratic party.

The Cox men "have it in" for Wall street. When they consider the size of the Harding pluralities in New York and adjacent states where Wall street influences prevail at times in the political as in the financial world, they find the English language a poor vehicle for conveying oburgation and disgust.

As for the Bryan men, they follow their leader; and their leader's feelings about Wall street are a quarter century old. They date from 1896, when the street made the east "the enemy's country" for Mr. Bryan, and kept it so through his two other efforts to reach the White House. He is still against the street and the street against him in all matters relating to government.

It is too soon to reorganize the Democratic national committee or the Democratic party, and impolite to make suggestions on the subject which arouse suspicions of a sectional and factional character. Whenever Wall street is mentioned, or even suggested, a good many people in both parties see red.—Washington Star.

#### TAXING "COFFIN-NAILS"

For the most part Secretary Houston's proposed revision of our present inequitable tax system seems a step in the right direction, but as a patriot of the 140 per cent test, we beg to protest against the proposed "nailing" of \$70,000,000 by a special tax on cigars. Simultaneously with our entrance into the war the tobacco people started the coffin-nail propaganda, urging that boys going to war were not fully equipped for the service unless trained to roll a cigar in concert with the roll of the drums, and having a supply in stock for every emergency. This propaganda was adroitly tangled up with asseverations of unflinching patriotism that even the churches fell for the camouflage, and one who dared to stand out against the systematized effort to poison all the boys entering the service with nicotine fumes, would have been accounted a fit subject for discipline before the state council of defense for his probable pro-German tendencies. Since it is unfortunately true that hundreds of thousands of the brave boys who went to France to make this country secure from armed Teutonic invasion, fell for the advances of Dame Nicotine, must they now be penalized in perpetuity by having to pay more for cigars than the damthings are worth? And this to make easier the loads of profiteers who piled up fortunes while the boys were fighting their battles across the sea? It is unfair.—Bixby in Nebraska State Journal.

## Some Election Results

Magnificent dry gains were made in practically all the states in the November election. Especially gratifying were the gains made in the wet states, that is, states that were wet at the time national prohibition became operative.

Perhaps New Jersey distinguished herself the most of any of this class of states. She elected a legislature that is certain to repeal the fake beer bill which Governor Edwards signed with much gusto and which probably encouraged him in his statement that he would make the state as wet as the Atlantic ocean. The legislature will undoubtedly pass a strong law enforcement measure.

New York made progress in the election of a governor pledged to use his influence for the repeal of the fake beer bill of that state and to work for the enactment of an adequate dry law enforcement code.

Although Massachusetts voters in a referendum approved the fake beer bill enacted by the last legislature and vetoed by Governor Coolidge, by a small plurality of a little over 8,000, the measure failed by more than 60,000 to secure a majority of the votes cast. The growth of temperance sentiment in Massachusetts is revealed in the vote on license for the municipalities. Last year 225 municipalities voted wet and 116 dry. This year 277 voted dry and 75 wet.

Missouri voters did themselves proud by approving the law enforcement measure by 80,000.

Ohio voters approved a law enforcement code by 275,000.

Wisconsin voters approved the law enforcement measure which carried a provision that the state definition of intoxicants should be in conformity with the definition of the Volstead Code. They elected a legislature that will probably strengthen this state enforcement code.

The voters of the seventh Minnesota congressional district returned Congressman Volstead to Washington in the face of terrific opposition. Volstead's victory is one of the most important achieved on November 2.

Pennsylvania increased the dry membership of both branches of the legislature and increased the number of drys in the congressional delegation, as did also most of the above named states.

The dry law enforcement issue figured prominently in the election in all of these states and the result is a clear indication of strong approval by the majority of the people of bone dry prohibition.—American Issue.

#### DISCREDITED IN NEBRASKA

"Pinhead management" in politics will not work toward success any more. When a party management begins operations by cutting out, ignoring and driving away a large portion of the party's members, the defeat is inevitable. That was the attitude of those who wiggled into control of the Democratic party in both the nation and this state. The theory upon which they labored (in vain) was to do it alone. But it can't be done. If there is no conciliating policy, there is no solidity. The Hastings Democrat has a pretty correct vision of the late situation when it said in its last issue:

"Keith Neville and his anti-progressive gang of political pinheads imagined they could win a party victory in Nebraska without the aid or consent of progressive Democrats. Instead the most overwhelming and humiliating defeat in the history of Nebraska democracy. Never were men delegated at the head of party affairs in Nebraska who exhibited such littleness of ability, managerial incapacity, narrowness in party vision and lack of respect for party decency."

"If the Democratic party is ever again to attain supremacy in state government the Democrat boldly states it must be purged of all such leaders who are responsible for its present discredited and demoralized condition in Nebraska."—F. L. Whedon in Kearney Democrat.

Reorganizers are going to reorganize the Democrat party. That is—what it left of it, is again to have the breath of life breathed into it. Some say that Cox is to furnish the breath. Others, that McAdoo is to be the man, but the facts are, that the corpse will remain dead until the full responsibility for the task is turned over to one—W. J. B. He is the only one who will be able to even start a pulse beat.—Blue Hill, Neb., Leader

#### MR. BRYAN'S ARMY RECORD

The following letters are self-explanatory:

Lincoln, Neb., Nov. 10.—To the Editor of the State Journal: The article appearing in yesterday morning's Journal, contributed by S. S. Warren, relative to Bryan's resignation during the Spanish war, cannot go unchallenged. Not only is the article misleading but the truth has been trifled with to a very great and damaging extent.

Before criticizing Nebraska's foremost citizen, the cleanest politician, and in my humble judgment the greatest statesman of the twentieth century, it would be well to be in possession of these facts: Colonel Bryan's regiment left Fort Omaha July 18, 1898, arrived at Jacksonville, Florida, July 22, 1898. The regiment was in camp in the southland from July 22 until December 30, 1898. During this period there was not a land or naval battle fought in Cuban waters, the naval battle on July 3 having practically ended the war with Spain.

I wish to state there never was an opportunity for Bryan's regiment to participate in any real battle with the Spaniards. I will also state that the protocol which was the preliminary treaty of peace was signed long before Bryan thought of resigning. On the 12th of August preliminary terms of peace were agreed upon at Washington, the French minister acting in behalf of Spain. On December 13 or 14, 1898, Bryan resigned as colonel of the Third Nebraska, his reasons for doing so are not for me to criticize, he probably preferred to be where he could do the most good. Immediately after resigning, Mr. Bryan went to Washington and hastened the ratification of the peace treaty. The war with Spain being over, his services in the army were no longer required.

Had Mr. Warren heard Bryan's farewell address to the "boys," he would not indulge in such unjust criticism. Bryan was not a coward, as Mr. Warren infers in his article.

On December 30, 1898, the Third Nebraska embarked for Cuba for garrison duty and remained in Cuba until April 7, 1899. While in Cuba, our cartridge belts were empty, we never had occasion to use a ball cartridge. However, we had target practice occasionally.

Having served as a private in Bryan's regiment, I am able to furnish the above dates and facts. In what regiment did Mr. Warren serve? Respectfully,

A. B. WOELLHAF,

Company C, Third Neb. Vol. Inf.

My Dear Mr. Woellhaf: I am greatly obliged to you for your defense. My political enemies are still active and I have to rely on friends to protect me from misrepresentation. I have a very pleasant recollection of my association with the boys of the Third Nebraska Infantry and am willing to leave my reputation in their hands. With good wishes. Yours truly,

W. J. BRYAN.

#### GIVE THE PHILIPPINES THEIR FREEDOM

Manuel Quezon, president of the Philippine senate, says that the Filipinos want a government administered by Filipinos. We believe the United States should give it to them. Americans have given them order, security, peace, schools, sanitation, and virtual freedom, assuming all the burdens and all the risks.

If that is not satisfactory the quicker the situation is corrected to their satisfaction the better for the United States. A government administered by Filipinos means full responsibility. They must manage their own army and their own defense.

When the United States withdraws it withdraws. It gives them full freedom, but does not guarantee it. We cannot be held responsible for acts over which we have no control. If the free Filipinos get into trouble they can get out of it or remain in it. That will be an understood bargain. If they go from King Log Stork that will be strictly their own affair.—Chicago Tribune.

#### WILL CONFER

A Marion, O., dispatch, dated Dec. 11, says: William Jennings Bryan will confer with President elect Harding Friday, December 17, it was announced today. Senator Harding said that he had invited Mr. Bryan among other Republican and Democratic leaders selected to confer with him, and that the date had been fixed to coincide with Mr. Bryan's presence in Marion to speak at the laymen's meeting of the Marion presbytery.