

## "Deserve to Win" Program Attracting National Attention

The plan that The Commoner and the progressive Democrats throughout the country have under way, of making the Democratic party deserve to win and then organize, is attracting considerable attention from some of the members of the Democratic National committee and others who seem to think that the party could be organized from the top down. The plan that The Commoner is working on recognizes the privates in the ranks as the source from which all power in the party comes.

The present Democratic National committee was selected to conduct the recent presidential campaign. The national committee and the national chairman chosen to conduct the presidential campaign of 1924 will be selected by the voters who write the platform and nominate the candidates of that year. National committees do not determine the issues upon which a campaign should be made but a committee can render great service to the party and to the people by helping to rally the Democratic hosts of the country around the legislative program that represents the ideals and aspirations of the masses of the people.

We reproduce below some interviews, press dispatches, editorial comment, etc., which have been called out by the "deserve to win" movement that The Commoner and the progressive forces throughout the country have under way.

### MR. BRYAN EXPLAINS PARTY NEEDS

Below is an interview given by Wm. J. Bryan at Miami, Fla., and carried by the United Press, under date of January 30.

"I am advising the election of progressive committeemen as the terms of reactionary members expire. I mean those who are in sympathy with progressive sentiment.

"Prohibition must be accepted as the permanent policy of the country. No one can be counted as progressive who is reactionary on the liquor question. Progressives must also oppose Wall street schemes for the exploitation of the masses. Policy as well as principle compels our party to oppose Wall street. The Democratic party cannot hope to compete with the Republican party for the support of the predatory interests.

"If we win recruits it must be from the progressive element of the Republican party. If the Democratic party is not willing to champion the interests of the plain people it has no reason for existence. So long as the leadership of the party in the Senate, House and national committee is in the hands of those who are reactionary on any of the great issues we cannot hope to have the confidence of the voters.

"I do not emphasize international questions because I expect them to be disposed of in a short time. Permanent party alignments will depend upon the way domestic questions are treated by the party leaders. As the leaders speak for the party, it is important that they reflect the real sentiment of the party."

### PARTY TO BE REORGANIZED

(The following interview was sent out by the United Press, under a Lincoln date of Jan. 20.)

Reorganization of the Democratic party, as contemplated by the Bryan wing, will be carried out through intensive work in every political vicinity of the country, from the county upward, according to Charles W. Bryan, brother of William J. Bryan, and associate editor of the Commoner.

Bryan declared that an educational campaign would be launched shortly in conjunction with a series of national and state legislative programs, which would be embodied if possible in the platforms of county, state and national conventions, to be called later. He said no date or place had been fixed for the first national meeting.

Regarding the report that the proposed reorganization was intended largely to eliminate the "Tammany element" from the party, Bryan said that elimination of any faction would depend solely upon the attitude of its members.

"We have been developing plans for the last thirty days to have the Democratic party deserve to win the support of the progressive forces of the country," Bryan said. Mr. Bryan's interview in full follows:

"While I have not had an opportunity to read the New York story referred to, it probably grew

out of the plans that we have been developing during the past thirty days to have the Democratic party deserve to win before organization of the progressive forces of the country was commenced.

"The plan under way, which is developing with enthusiasm and dispatch, includes the drafting of a national constructive legislative program, a state legislative program and a municipal legislative program representing the consensus of opinion of the progressive students of government throughout the country embodying the necessary plans for bringing about permanent peace, curb the piracy of the profiteers, eliminate the extravagance of governmental administration and restore people's rule.

"The legislative programs outlined are now being developed with the advice and through the suggestions of students of governmental needs and will shortly be presented for the consideration of the people. The thinking men and women of the country will be organized around these legislative programs, and those participating in this work of rehabilitating the party will be pledged to carry on the work of education in support of these programs; they will pledge themselves to embody if possible these legislative programs in the platforms to be adopted in county, state and national conventions; they will pledge themselves to select as delegates to county, state and national conventions men and women who believe in the principles enunciated in these legislative programs and will pledge to nominate for state and national offices men and women who will vote and work to carry into effect these constructive legislative programs.

"State meetings will be held to discuss and extend the educational and organization plans outlined above. The work now is already under way in every state in the union and will shortly be extended to every county in each state. The matter of eliminating any particular element or faction will be largely a matter of the attitude of such men. The national meetings will be held to complete the physical organization of the progressive forces after the educational work is well under way. The selection of leaders of state organizations and the national chairman to have charge of the physical organization of the progressive forces throughout the country will be determined at the state and national meetings called for that purpose. The exact time and place of these meetings have not been determined and will depend upon the organized opposition, if any, to people's rule in the Democratic party and of making the party platforms and party organizations represent the aspirations and needs of the people of this country."

### "CAST TAMMANY OUT," IS SLOGAN OF BRYAN MEN

(From the New York Times, Jan. 18.)

The followers of Colonel William J. Bryan are organizing a large conference of progressive but regular Democrats to be held in Kansas City on May 1, with the avowed object of reorganizing the Democratic party and leaving Tammany and similar elements out.

The slogan at the conference will be "Cast Tammany out!" and by "Tammany" is meant to include Charles F. Murphy, Jim Nugent, the New Jersey boss; Tom Taggart, who just at present is hobnobbing with Mr. Murphy at French Lick, Ind.; Brennan, the Chicago boss; Judge Moore, who organized the campaign for the nomination of Governor Cox in Ohio and later at San Francisco, and in fact all the more prominent and, to Bryan, objectionable leaders of the machine type.

In brief, the wets who dominated the San Francisco convention will have notice served on them by the Kansas City conference that they will not be allowed to reorganize the party with the wet element in control.

In confirmation of the purpose of the Bryan men in the organization to take the lead in a dry reorganization, The Commoner last week had an editorial entitled "Organize!" the burden of which is advice to the rank and file of the Democratic party to support a dry program and relegate the old bosses to the rear.

The reorganization plan seems to be under the direction of Charles Bryan, the publisher of The Commoner and brother of Colonel Bryan.

Charles Bryan always manages the mechanics of the Bryan movements. Colonel Bryan out-

lines the policy, and to brother Charles falls the task of mobilizing the phalanxes behind the Colonel's ideas. In this movement the Bryans will make strenuous efforts to rally the women leaders of the Democratic party at the Kansas City conference.

Colonel Bryan used the same sort of strategy against Senator Hitchcock last summer, when he beat him in the Nebraska primaries and elected himself a delegate-at-large to the San Francisco convention.

Colonel Bryan appealed to the women of Nebraska in behalf of prohibition and morals, and with his victory over Hitchcock, the Republicans of the middle west knew that Bryan would continue his opposition clear through the San Francisco convention, which he did.

Bryan, following the wet triumph at San Francisco in the nomination of Cox, refused to lend a hand in the Cox campaign.

It is understood that Colonel Bryan is not going to take an active part in the Kansas City conference. He has promised President-elect Harding to assist in bringing about world peace, and while he will lend his counsel and moral support to the new plan to read Murphy, Taggart, Brennan, Nugent and Moore out of the party, he is not likely to appear as the leader of the movement, according to the information reaching New York last night.

### WHITE SAYS HE WILL NOT QUIT CHAIRMANSHIP

(From New York Tribune, Feb. 9.)

George White, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, says that he will not call a meeting of the national committee, as requested by forty-nine members out of 106 of the committee. Chairman White was at the New York headquarters of the committee, 366 Madison Avenue, yesterday, and expressed the utmost confidence in his ability to keep the committee's business running prosperously without affording the McAdoo-Woolley-Love men in the committee an opportunity to make trouble.

"Any concerted factional movement at this time to force a meeting of the national committee, in my judgment is inopportune and unnecessary," said Mr. White. "I shall put the request of the forty-nine signers up to the executive committee of the national committee, and shall abide by the decision. Personally I am inclined to let things run along in a natural way for four or five months before calling a meeting of the committee. Apparently the movement for calling a meeting is being engineered by Robert Woolley and Thomas Love, but whether Mr. McAdoo is aiding them is not at all clear.

"Two of the members of the committee who signed the call for a meeting sent me duplicates of their response to the framers of the call, and these two members have called my attention to the fact that in their response they did not ask for a specific date for the holding of the meeting, and apparently they were and are willing to leave the setting of the date to be fixed by the executive committee.

"Mr. Love, of Dallas, Tex., seems to lay stress on my statement of some time back that I expected to resign the chairmanship. My business affairs have changed considerably since last fall. I am in the oil well digging business, and when I made the statement I was much driven with work. Now the oil drilling business is dull and I find I have plenty of time to attend to the business of the national committee.

"I find myself quite fully in accord with the views expressed by Mr. McAdoo in his Los Angeles speech, when he remarked that any national committee chairman should hold office through the campaign and for a long time afterward, and that the choice of chairman should be left to those who were likely to name the candidate in 1924. I find no sentiment among the leaders in Washington for turning in my resignation. I have talked with nearly all of them and there is a fairly unanimous wish that I shall continue at the head of the committee."

It is estimated that Mr. McAdoo's personal choice for chairman of the committee is Robert Woolley, who spends much of his time in New York. The McAdoo men say that Mr. Love is a candidate for chairman and that he has the backing of the southwestern delegates, Bernard M. Baruch, the New York broker and financial advisor to the Wilson administration, is understood to be backing Thomas L. Chadbourne.

Meanwhile Charles W. Bryan, of Lincoln, Neb., brother of William Jennings Bryan, is quietly circularizing progressive Democrats all over the country in the interest of the reform and prohibition element in the party, all with the idea of retiring James M. Cox and Mr. White from the control of the national committee.

The friends of Mr. Bryan say that while he