

OUR NEW YORK LETTER

Weekly Letter on the New York Situation by Hon. Henry M. McDonald.

New York, Sept. 10.—Editor Independent: During the past week the following people's party state ticket has been selected for the state of New York: Governor, Alfred J. Boulton of Brooklyn. Mr. Boulton, who is exceedingly prominent in labor circles, having filled at different times the principal offices connected with the Federation of Labor, was in 1903 the candidate, upon the citizens union ticket, for county clerk for Kings county. In a total vote of 210,396 (a vote greater than that polled for justice of the supreme court in Nebraska the same year) Mr. Boulton ran about 7,000 votes ahead of Mr. Low, candidate for mayor, who received 101,251 votes in Kings county; the larger vote received by Mr. Boulton than that polled by Mr. Low indicates the former gentleman's great popularity. I believe that no stronger nominee could have been named for the head of the ticket.

Mr. Charles J. Spaulding, the nominee for lieutenant governor, is a leading merchant of Buffalo, N. Y. Mr. Orsen L. Drew, nominee for secretary of state, is an attorney of standing of Rochester. Mr. Drew has always been very active in radical movements, and secured for the liberal democratic ticket in his ward alone over 300 votes in 1902. Mr. Louis Manz, nominee for comptroller, is a leading optical manufacturer, also of Rochester. Mr. Manz has always been prominently identified with the people's party. The nominee for treasurer, Mr. Frank S. Rose, is prominent in labor circles, being the president of the Iron Moulder's union of Albany. Mr. John F. Gaffney of Utica, nominee for attorney general, is a leading attorney in that city, having for several years served as city judge. Mr. Simon G. Levy of New York city, nominee for state engineer, is a business man of standing, who has for more than twenty years been prominently identified with the single tax organizations of New York. Edward N. Heath of Buffalo and Augustus Babcock of Binghamton, nominees respectively for chief judge of the court of appeals and associate judge of that court, are attorneys of ability and extensive practice in their respective cities. William A. Coakley of New York city, one of the electors as large,

and a gentleman of great influence in labor circles. Marius G. Martyn, the other nominee for elector at large, is a furniture manufacturer of Jamestown, N. Y. Mr. Martyn is a gentleman of the highest reputation in business circles. The remaining thirty-seven electors, representing the several congressional districts in the state, are gentlemen of excellent standing, every one of whom, owing to the esteem with which he is regarded in their several localities, will attract votes to the people's party ticket. Great credit should be given to Mr. M. A. Palliser of this city, Judge Samuel Seabury of the city court of New York, and Mr. J. W. Forrest of Albany to whom the selection of the state ticket was entrusted, for the great wisdom they have displayed in making up the ticket.

During the past week the organization of the different counties throughout the state in the interest of the people's party, has been vigorously pressed. The greater portion of the counties have already been organized, and in many counties organization by assembly and election districts, is now being actively undertaken. In fact, every possible preparation is being made for a vigorous, active and efficient canvass of the state. I am well justified in saying that measured by membership and resources, the people's party of the state of New York is doing much more in the way of careful canvass than either the republican or democratic parties.

Referring to the condition of the democratic campaign in the state, I may say that the vote in Vermont on Tuesday last greatly discouraged the democratic managers, both at national and state headquarters. These gentlemen had fully expected to keep the republican plurality in Vermont below 25,000. Great was their chagrin when the Wednesday morning's papers announced that the republican plurality was 32,500, being 244 votes greater than that obtained by McKinley over Bryan in 1900.

Respecting the feeling at national democratic headquarters, I think I am justified in saying that at least three-fourths of the democratic executive committee have given up hope of electing Mr. Parker. There is no enthusiasm whatsoever over the candi-

date. The much heralded convention of democratic editors, who Mr. Joseph Daniels, chairman of the committee of arrangements for the convention, states number 5,100 throughout the United States, and to all of whom an invitation to attend the convention at the expense of the national committee was given, assembled to the amazing number of from 74 to 231, according to the reports of different New York papers. A banker friend of mine, with whom I am well acquainted, told me that he had been a spectator at the banquet, at which Colonel Watterson of the Louisville Journal, and other leading democratic editors spoke, and that "it was the greatest frost that he ever knew; that there was an utter lack of enthusiasm, and that he (by the way a democrat) was thoroughly convinced that Parker would be very badly beaten by Roosevelt.

Although early in the campaign, the democratic managers are showing some indication of a panicky feeling. For example, they have hired an additional floor in the building which the national committee occupies, apparently for the sole purpose of having desk room to which they can assign Bryan men who are inclined to support the people's party, but whose financial condition is such as to lead them to consent to be placed on the democratic headquarters' pay-roll, on the understanding that they will be only called on for nominal services. I am glad, however, to say that the democratic managers have not in this way succeeded in capturing any Watson men of influence. As a further indication of alarm on the part of the democratic magnates, I may say that although a semi-official announcement was made some twenty days ago to the effect that Judge Parker would not deliver any speeches in the campaign, the party managers are bringing great pressure upon him to deliver a dozen or more speeches, the majority of them in this state. He is also being urged to open headquarters in New York in order that he can give close personal attention to the campaign.

As further indicating the feeling of hopelessness on the part of the democrats, the New York Times of this morning closes an editorial in which the absolute necessity of the nomination by the democrats of a strong can-

didate for governor is urged with the words, "let us at least save New York." The fact is, Judge Parker is today a much weaker candidate than the day he was nominated. His nomination was a blunder, since he is a gentleman who lacks stamina and initiative besides the men who were most active in securing his nomination and who are now closest to him in managing his canvass, very greatly discredit his candidacy in the minds of many thinking people. His speech of acceptance of the nomination was weak and showed him to be a man without decided opinions of his own upon public questions of the highest importance.

In brief, the voters of the country are coming to know that Judge Parker is absolutely a weak man, and if elected president, would give the country an administration dominated to a great extent by what may be termed political rounders of the Hill, Taggart, Sheehan and McCarren stripe. The plain people of the country want nothing of this kind, and consequently will, in my judgment, give Mr. Parker a million or more less votes than Mr. Bryan in 1900. This million or more votes will be cast for Watson and Tibbles, whose ability and sincerity, together with the clear cut statements of the people's party platform, making for the interests of the people as they do, command the respect of the voters of the land, and will consequently more and more successfully appeal for their franchises.

During the past week the people's party ticket for the state of Connecticut has been completed—the nominees being in all instances men of ability and high character. As indicating the drift of sentiment in that state, Henry C. Dissell of West Hartford for many years a member of the democratic state committee of that state, has come out for the people's party national and state tickets.

The people's party in New Jersey hold a convention at Atlantic City today, at which a full state and electoral ticket will be nominated. I am told that the managers of the party in that state have already obtained an enrollment of over 100,000 radicals.

Your readers will therefore see that the work of organization and canvassing is now being pushed vigorously throughout the east.

H. M. McDONALD.

Bigelow's Sermon

Cincinnati, Ohio, Sept. 11.—At the Vine Street Congregational church, today, the pastor, Herbert S. Bigelow, discussed the Scriptural injunction to take no thought for the morrow. Mr. Bigelow said in part:

"If one were going to preach a sermon on the duty of forethought and thrift, on the duty of taking thought for the morrow, he could hardly do better than use these same illustrations.

"Behold the fowls of the air! They do sow and they reap and gather into barns, and not a lazy sparrow of them waits for a father's dole of food.

Consider how the lilies grow. What marvelous industry is theirs! Gathering jewels from beds of muck and weaving them, with threads of sunlight, into garments of white and gold!

"Take no thought for the morrow? The squirrel is wiser, munching his winter's store. The ants would laugh at that philosophy. You could not teach it to the bees.

On the wood pile, picking his way from chip to chip, was a great, green worm. One of the children raised a stick to strike him, exclaiming, 'He eats the cabbages!' But the father said, 'Wait! I think he is the cousin of the silk worm and is going somewhere

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to build a house.' So they put him in a glass jar to see what he would do. They next morning they beheld a wondrous sight.

"Already this toiler had half covered himself with strands of silk, and reaching out in all directions to the sides of the jar were threads like guy ropes holding his building in place. There was no sound of hammer, and no motion that the eye could see. Yet a mighty work was in progress. The jar presented that appearance of purposeful confusion such as one sees about the works of man, when beams and rafters and scaffolding and ropes and cranes make a hopeless tangle. Thread on thread, a line here and a line there, ropes and props and supports, a veritable maze of them, and out of this seeming disorder the structure grew, as though there were an intelligence there which knew the reason for every thread and a million unseen hands to do the work. 'In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread.' This was not a curse invented for men. It is a beneficent law which embraces the universe.

"What did Jesus mean? Doubtless he meant that man ought not to labor, save in the way that the birds and the lilies labor. And how is that?

"Consider the lilies, how they grow. They do not grow pale spinning for others. They toil, but their toil is not a curse. You see no anxiety in their faces because they are not afraid of going to the poorhouse. You see no arrogance and no hatred because there is no slavery among them. They do their work in peace and fill the world with beauty while they live. So with the birds. They build houses and gather food. The difference between man and the birds is not that man works while the birds are idle. The difference is that all birds work, but among men, some live in idleness and others do double work.

"If Jesus lived in these days he would see that much anxious thought for the morrow is due to hard conditions and not to greed; and seeing this, he would urge men to remove the occasion for anxiety and greed by making social conditions just.

"Use in beauty, joy in work, Pride that will not stoop to shirk, Conscience that sustains the pride— These let us scatter far and wide.

Till at last in fellowship We forget the master's whip, And join with ant and bird and corn In hailing every work-day morn."

Those Eastern Cranks

The description given to an Associated Press correspondent of the New York cranks seems to have caused a good deal of editorial comment in the plutocratic press. An article in the Baltimore News brought the following from a local populist there:

"To the Editor of the News: In your editorial 'Mr. Tibbles and New York Cranks' you suggest that the candidate for the vice presidency of the people's party would have checkmated the cranks in their financial onslaughts by proposing to them his financial program for the nation.

"Very witty, to be sure. But suppose Mr. Tibbles should retaliate by proposing that the democrats state their own position on the money question before criticising his?

"So far as known up to date, the democrats stand as follows on the money question:

1. For the gold standard and bond issues (Cleveland).
2. For free coinage of silver, or bimetalism (1896 and 1900).
3. For the proposition that the money question is 'settled' (1904).

"Which one of these is the real democratic position?

"Again, the populist position on the money question (which is that the government should issue all the money, without the intervention of banks) may be 'cranky,' but it compares quite favorably with the Cleveland program, which consisted, in a nut shell, of the following:

"1. To issue bonds in order to get gold; then to pay out the gold for greenbacks. This process repeated ad infinitum.

"2. Incidentally, to pay a 'premium' or 'velvet' to the bankers on each transaction.

"If the populist position on the money question is absurd enough to cause mirth, surely the Cleveland plan would meet with great approbation in a lunatic asylum, and that is where any business man who attempted to run his business on such a plan would be put by his friends.

"THOMAS O. CLARK.

"Baltimore, Aug. 30."

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