BRYAN BY HIS DIPLOMACY

HEALS THE FACTIONAL FIGHTS AND

SOLIDIFIES DEMOCRACY.

He Found the Adherents of Various Men and Things at Each Other's Throats and Brought Them Into Harmony

The National Committee Placated Harrison by Dismissing Devlin and Altgeld by Attending His Meeting.

Then, in a Masterly Speech, the Western Orator Captures the Meeting and Brings Peace and Harmony to All.

BY LANGDON SMITH.

CHICAGO, Ills., July 20.—At the Sherman House to-day the National Democratic Committee met in special session to adjudicate troubles, to harmonize discordant elements, to reorganize committees, to formulate plans for financing the coming campaign and to pass new rules.

As an incident of the meeting the committee during the day received the resignation of Silver Republican Teller, of Colorado; Populist Allen, of Nebraska; ex-Governor Altgeld, and George Fred Williams, from the Ways and Means Committee. These resignations will be acted upon later, and it is thought that an entirely new committee will be formed.

And while this was going on there were many things happening on the outside calculated to provide much food for thought for those who have new ideas for the conduct of the party in the coming Presidential campaign.

In various parlors at the Palmer House were gathered the devotees of bimetallism—the National Bimetallic League and the Ohio Valley Bimetallic League—scheming to guard silver against any slight.

Last of all, and when the day's work was done, the faithful followers of 16 to 1 met at the Auditorium, and with W. J. Bryan proceeded to become enthusiastic, with flourishing hands and limber phrases.

Bryan Placated the Factions.

All day long Mr. Bryan had flitted from meeting to meeting and from conference to conference as a bee from flower to flower. When he arrived at 8 o'clock in the morning he was confronted with the prospect of an outright split in the ranks. He read half a dozen telegrams, shook half a dozen hands, took off his old alpaca coat and prepared for business.

In a nutshell, he was confronted with all sorts of warring factions. He found the New York committee of the Chicago platform apparently ready to bolt if they should be excluded from the pow-wow.

He found Altgeld kicking at the traces over the prospective turning down of Devlin, the National Committee press agent, who had taken sides with the ex-Governor in his fight with Mayor Harrison.

Down at the Auditorium O. H. P. Belmont was scheming to sidetrack silver in favor of what he termed "more attractive issues."

But they all clung to Bryan.

In fact, early in the day Bryan found himself suffering from too much friendship. He followed the line of least resistance and tried to placate everybody.

Warned Against Harrison.

Early in the day friends of Altgeld warned Bryan that the Harrison Democrats, while protesting good faith, were planning to sidetrack him. They urged that Harrison should have welcomed the delegates, and that it was his duty to come out flatfooted for Bryan.

But Bryan only laughed.

"Why," said he, "this is only wash day, and we have not begun to work on the laundry yet. It will all come out in the ironing. If there are any spots on the Democratic clothes after we get through we will find them at ironing time."

Whereupon the emissaries dropped, filled with a great joy.

Harrison sat in his office across the street and played political cards all day in the effort to induce Bryan to stay away from the 16 to 1 meeting of the Altgeld faction in the evening.

In fact it was openly asserted during the day that Harrison and his City Hall were trying to bury the Chicago platform with a gold spade. They did not come out in an effort to sidetrack the silver cause, but if by some means it had been sidetracked their tears would not have caused washouts on Randolph street.

The Day Ended Happily.

But the day ended smoothly and happily in an amalgam of factions. That is to say, at the finish Altgeld was hanging to one of the Bryan arms and Harrison to the other. The New York silver people were hanging to one coat-tail and O. H. P. Belmont to the other.

While all of these unruly children of Democracy may refuse to roll their political hoops in each others' yards, they all dote on Bryan—that is, so far as the trained eye can see.

The crowd which gathered in the lobby of the Sherman House in the morning was full of undercurrents and threatenings. Secret consultations were held and schemes of action were decided upon.

Edwin Sefton, Chairman Jones's private secretary, appeared on the scene to protest against any scheme of reorganization.

Others were there with grievances.

Said Hon. Ben Tillman, of South Carolina: "I understand that this committee is to turn down Senator Teller and Senator Allen and to reorganize the Ways and Means Committee. Any slap at Senator Teller and Senator Allen is a slap at me. They are as good Democrats as I am, sir. They did their pro rata of hard work in the Bryan campaign. I shall keep one eye and one ear open, sir, and certainly if I see any sign of turning them down I will protest, sir."

In another group Alderman Francis, the Democratic leader of the Twelfth Ward, was holding forth against the Harrison Democracy.

"Why," said he, "there is not a single important position in the city government which Mayor Harrison has not filled with men who fought Bryan in 1896, openly and above board.

"Among these I will name Corporation Counsel Charles M. Walker, who was an avowed McKinley man; Commissioner of Public Works McGann, Health Commissioner Reynolds and City Engineer John Erickson. The Board of Education is filled with Gold Democrats and McKinley men.

"These will all pull for McKinley in 1900 with all the patronage Harrison has given them."

After Mr. Bryan's arrival at the Sherman House this morning it looked for awhile as though nothing could prevent a compound fracture or a breaking up of the entire party organization.

Factions Are Far Apart.

No two men could be found who would talk alike. As far as silver was concerned, they were in favor of many ratios. In other matters they were equally diverse. All were bitter and importunate. The Altgeld crowd were having a fit over Chairman Gahan's refusal to attend their advertising meeting at the Auditorium.

The various factions accused each other of wanting to sidetrack Bryan, and while the verbal bombardment was at its height Mayor Harrison came in. When asked for an expression of opinion, he said:

"I see no reason whatever to be alarmed over the general situation. I have heard of no bolt, and don't believe there will be any. The regular Democracy of this State will always come out on top.

"They may trample on us, throw mud at us and tumble us into the Chicago River—and, by the way, I cannot imagine anything worse than that—and we will come to the front again, triumphant, and without a stain upon us.

"These men want to do everything for Bryan and allow no one else to do anything. That is the secret of the whole business. Nobody minds anything they say or do.

Bolt, did you say? Oh, no; they wont do it; they cannot afford to do it."

All of this was aimed at Altgeld.

George Fred William. Henry D. Clayton. Frank Campbell.

Will E. Goebel. Rep. J. A. Norton. Senator Cockerill.

Scene in the Sherman House, Chicago, During a Recess in the Convention.

W. J. Bryan.

Carter H. Harrison.

During this time the Mayor indulged in a half hour's mild flirtation with Mr. O. H. P. Belmont, who called with his cane upside down to talk over the situation.

As the session of the committee was behind closed doors, what transpired within was a mater of conjecture. All interests, however, were ably represented.

There were committemen partial to the Chicago platform, to Tammany, to the Radical Silverites of the West, to Altgeld, to Harrison and to the Gold Democrats of the East.

Stone Saved Altgeld.

When the committee went into executive session Chairman Stone had hit upon a way to save Altgeld from the humiliation of a turn-down on the Ways and Means Committee.

He produced the resignations of Senators Allen and Teller and George Fred Williams as members of the committee. This, of course, forced a reorganization, which is to be made with a membership within the National Committee.

During the entire day's session Mr. Bryan sat quietly in his seat saying never a word, but with two proxies in his pocket, and ready for all sorts of trouble.

Among the many small birds that have twittered about Mr. Bryan's ear during the past few months there was one that told him that he is not beloved of Stone, of Missouri.

Stone, of Missouri, shouts for Mr. Bryan, but that is a different anecdote, and has nothing to do with to-day's meeting.

It was known that Governor Stone had formulated many rules that he proposed to sprung upon the meeting—rules which would redound to the glory of Stone.

Mr. Bryan said nothing audible. He whispered a few words to his neighboring committeemen. When the time came to pass the rules all that Mr. Bryan disliked were promptly turned down. Those that were agreeable to him were passed.

Bryan Made Stone Play Ball.

Previous to this somebody had said something about Mr. Bryan's presence being "indelicate," but it is being observed daily that Mr. Bryan is jumping into every arena where he can smile on an enemy.

In the words of an admirer to-day: "We simply took Stone by the neck and forced him to 'play ball,'"

While this was going on Mr. Bryan had made a suggestion to the sponsors of the Auditorium meeting, which he fondly believed would act as oil on the troubled waters.

He suggested that the meeting should be taken out of the hands of the local committee and placed in the hands of the National Committee, with Governor Stone as chairman. The Harrison leaders were willing, but in the Altgeld committee a large sized snag was developed.

"It is our meeting," they said, "we will run it even if Mr. Bryan does not attend."

COMMITTEE ADOPTS THE RULES DICTATED BY BRYAN'S FRIENDS.

The National Committee meeting was called to order at 11:45 o'clock. Bryan seated himself in a rear chair. His clothing was wet with perspiration.

William J. Stone, of Missouri, a slender man, smooth in face and tactics, took the chair. His address was perfunctory, being entirely without animus or ginger.

After the usual roll call of States Committeeman Johnson, who had in charge the report upon Press Agent Devlin, who was accused of aiding Altgeld in his Mayoralty contest, came to the front and handed a document to Chairman Stone.

The report convicted Devlin of taking sides against the regular organization. Devlin was turned down unanimously and the reorganization of the Press Bureau recommended.

Neither Mr. Altgeld nor Mayor Harrison attended the meeting, although both had proxies. Mayor Harrison went to his office and remained there, although he had emissaries at the Sherman House, ready to notify him if Altgeld should appear.

CLARK HOWELL SAYS SOUTH WANTS BRYAN.

Chicago, Ill., July 20.—"I cannot say how it is with the East," said Clark Howell to-day, "but the West, like the South, is most undoubtedly for silver and at the Chicago platform ratio. There are many reasons why the Democracy in the South should be committed to the cause of silver. One of them is that Populism at the present time is dead, absolutely dead, in the South. But should the Democratic party now repudiate its affirmations, Populism would awake like a Phoenix from its ashes.

"The middle-of-the-roaders have always taunted their moderate brethren, saying: 'Oh, you are being used. After the Democratic party has captured your organization and broken up your party it will go back on its promises, laugh at your protestations and leave you in the slough.' But Mr. Bryan is a guarantee to the Southern Populists that silver will not be repudiated and our promises will be kept."

Mr. Howell is a Nationalist before he is partisan.

"I believe," said he, "that the President should be given men enough and money enough to end that affair in the Philippines. He is our President and this is our war, and we should stand solidly behind him until the Philippines are pacified.

"We may criticise the future action of Congress in their disposition of the islands, but as to the insurrection there is but one course—men and money enough to finish the matter up."

WAR ON TRUSTS IS THE WATCHWORD OF WILLIAM J. BRYAN.

Bryan's speech was of course the event of the evening at the Auditorium meeting. He said in part:

"In speaking in Chicago I am embarrassed by the fact that the advocates of the Chicago platform are divided into two camps. It is not my business to establish a secret service in order to ascertain what Democrats are most devoted to the principles set forth in the last party creed.

"All Chicago platform Democrats look alike to me, and instead of trying to drive any professed believer in that platform out of the party my aim is to so impress upon all Democrats the importance of the triumph of Democratic principles that all local differences will be lost sight of in the determination to restore the Government to the foundations laid by the fathers.

The Money Question.

"In the brief time that I shall speak to you, I desire to condense what I have to say upon three subjects into a few brief propositions.

"First, President McKinley, by sending a commission to Europe to secure international bimetallism, confessed the gold standard to be unsatisfactory.

"Second, the failure of the commission to secure international bimetallism proves that bimetallism can be restored only through independent action.

"Third, the gold standard is maintained to-day, not because the American people desire it, but because a few English financiers, by controlling the policy of England, control through the Republican party the financial policy of the United States.

"Fourth, if the increased production of gold in the Klondike and the importation of gold from Europe have increased the volume of money and improved times, it is evident that more money makes better times, and times could be still further improved and the improvement made permanent by the restoration of bimetallism, which would make silver as well as gold available for coinage.

"Fifth, if it was not more difficult to maintain the parity between gold and silver when the supply of silver was increasing, it must now be easier to maintain the parity since the supply of gold is increasing.

"On the trust question I suggest the following propositions for your consideration:

"First, the trust is a memace to the welfare of the people of the United States, because it creates a monopoly and gives to the few in control of the monopoly almost unlimited power over the lives and happines of consumers, employes and producers of raw material.

"Second—The President appoints the Attorney-General, and can, if he desires, secure an Attorney-General who will enforce the anti-trust laws.

"Third—The Attorney-General can recommend sufficient laws if present laws are insufficient.

"Fourth—The Attorney-General can recommend an amendment to the Constitution if the present Constitution makes it impossible to extinguish the trusts.

"Fifth—The Republican party is powerless to extinguish the trusts as long as the trusts furnish the money to continue the Republican party in power.

John P. Altgeld.

Thomas G. McRae.

71ST AND 69TH GAIN REWARDS FOR SERVICE.

Capt. William F. Meeks, Who Fought at San Juan, Gets a Captaincy of Volunteers in the Philippines.

Capt. John J. Kennedy Will Go to Manila as a Regular Lieutenant at the Head of 50 Men of His Regiment.

Another officer of the Seventy-first Regiment has been rewarded by the Government for brilliant conduct during the Cuban campaign. He is Captain William F. Meeks, of Company I.

Captain Meeks received word from Washington yesterday that he had been appointed a captain in the volunteer army, and would receive orders in a few days to take charge of a company in some regiment destined for service in the Philippines.

In the battle of San Juan Hill, Captain Meeks, who had a brilliant record in the National Guard, led his company into the thick of the fight and received praise from regular army officers for the assistance he rendered.

When the troubles of the Seventy-first were at the bitterest point, Captain Meeks and Captain Anthony J. Bleecker, of Company B, issued a short statement giving to the public the facts as they existed during the three days' fighting around San Juan. This statement was resented by the officers upon whom it was supposed to reflect, and at the instance of Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, Captains Bleecker and Meeks were court-martialed. They were formally reprimanded for a technical violation of a State guard regulation forbidding officers to discuss regimental affairs publicly.

Lieutenant-Colonel Smith was afterward publicly accused of conduct detrimental to the honor of the militia by Governor Roosevelt.

Captain William F. Meeks.

Long Ill with Fever.

After the Cuban campaign Captain Meeks was for a long time ill with malarial fever, contracted at Santiago, and he has only recently recovered his strength. The newly appointed volunteer captain, who will help to end things speedily in the Philippines, comes of fighting stock, an ancestor having been a colonel in the Revolutionary war, and two uncles having been officers in the Union army during the Rebellion.

Captain Meeks, in order to go to the Philippines, resigns the position of private secretary to Commissioner Lantry, of the Department of Corrections, which pays $2,000 yearly. A captain's pay is $1,800. Few officers in the Seventy-first are more popular, and his departure for his new command will be made the occasion for a demonstration by the brave fellows who served under him in Cuba. His appointment was made upon the recommendation of General Francis V. Greene, former colonel of the Seventy-first.

Another officer of Company I, of the Seventy-first, Hilden Olin, was recently appointed a second lieutenant in the volunteer army, and is now at Plattsburg barracks with the Twenty-sixth Infantry.

Captain John J. Kennedy.

Captain John J. Kennedy, of Company C, Sixty-ninth Regiment, has been appointed by the President a first lieutenant in the Twenty-seventh United States Infantry in recognition of his services during the war with Spain. The men of Company C are overjoyed at the good fortune of their popular commander and they are so pleased with the way he acted toward his company at Huntsville that fifty men who served under him will enlist in the regular army and ask that they be assigned to the Twenty-seventh Infantry, and, as many as possible, to Captain Kennedy's company.

Duncan Elliott a Lieutenant.

With the announcement of honors to Captain Meeks and Captain Kennedy comes the news of Duncan Elliott's appointment to first lieutenant, Twenty-sixth Infantry, U. S. A. The news was a surprise to the club friends of the well-known young society man, who had supposed that with his service in Cuba under General Lacret, Duncan Elliott's expressed desire had been satisfied, and that he had abandoned military life.

The clubman's domestic troubles led to his seeing service in Cuba. On May 22 Mrs. Elliott, who, as Sally Hargous, was a favorite in New York and Newport society, obtained a decree of separation. At that time Elliott declared:

"I will join the volunteers and prove my manhood to my wife and friends."

CORPORATIONS *MUST ARBITRATE* LABOR DISPUTES.

The Journal Will Direct All Its Energies Toward Securing the Passage of a Law to Prevent a Recurrence of the Riots of the Last Few Days.

ALL corporations are creatures of the State. They are made by the State, have their powers from the State, are responsible to the State and are subject to control by the State.

Corporations which enjoy public franchises, which are given monopolies of the transportation of men and goods on and over the public thoroughfares, are held by the State in closer subjection, under more immediate control, than other corporations. At least, there are more laws for their control. They are not generally enforced.

One of these laws orders that employes shall not be compelled to work more than ten hours a day. That law is not enforced.

Another law provides for a Board of Arbitration to which labor disputes **MAY** be referred for settlement. That law is a laughing stock in the land. Who ever heard of a corporation referring or agreeing to refer a dispute as to wages and hours of labor to a Board of Arbitration? It is to laugh.

When a dispute arises it is settled by the law of the strongest. Justice has no more to do with it than a dispute in Wildest Africa.

Citizens, who have given away monopolies of transportation, have to walk to and from their labor; citizens, who observe every law, are clubbed in chance melees; citizens, who pay taxes for the preservation of public order, find their streets turned into battle grounds; citizens find themselves outraged on ever hand. These citizens have nothing to do with the merits of these disputes. They suffer because the corporations refuse under any circumstances at any time to consent to arbitration.

In behalf of the workingmen it must be said that they are at all times willing to abide by the decision of a fair and impartial Board of Arbitrators.

There is but one solution for this outrageous state of affairs. Workingmen, and citizens not workingmen, have suffered at the hands of these corporations which are enjoying splendid monopolies, because they have not insisted on their rights.

There is one way to prevent a recurrence of the scenes of the last few days in Brooklyn and Manhattan. THE LAW OF THIS STATE SHOULD PROVIDE THAT ALL DISPUTES BETWEEN CORPORATIONS ENJOYING PUBLIC FRANCHISES AND THEIR EMPLOYES IN REGARD TO WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOR SHALL BE SETTLED BY ARBITRATION.

THE JOURNAL NOW ANNOUNCES THAT IT WILL BEND ALL ITS ENERGIES, USE ALL ITS ENDEAVORS TO INCORPORATE THIS PRINCIPLE IN THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

It is yet a long time till the candidates for the Legislature are to be chosen. It is still longer till the Legislature meets.

There is still time to consult the highest legal authority and put this general principle into the concrete form of a legislative act.

The Journal will do this.

At the proper time the Journal will take means to bring about the organization of all citizens in the State who are in favor of such a law, will put every candidate on record on this most important question, and will make it one of the great issues of the campaign.

The Journal invites correspondence on this subject from citizens not only of this State, but of every other State of the Union.

ALL LABOR DISPUTES BETWEEN CORPORATIONS ENJOYING PUBLIC FRANCHISES MUST BE SETTLED BY ARBITRATION.

SOCIAL REFORMERS SAY "ARBITRATE."

Committee of the Club Reports on Causes of the Strike.

The committee of the Social Reform Club appointed to investigate the causes of complaint on the part of employes of the Metropolitan Street Railway makes this statement to the public concerning the causes of the present strike:

"The main cause of the trouble appears to lie in the alleged non-observance by the company of the law constituting ten hours as a legal work day for street railway employes in cities of 100,000 and over.

"This law forbids the exacting by employers of 'more than ten hours' labor, including one-half hour for dinner, to be performed within twelve consecutive hours.'

"Statements of individual motormen recently interviewed by the committee, as well as an article written by a former employe of the company, which appeared in the Outlook of February 18 last, are to the effect that this law is habitually violated by the company.

"Furthermore, no allowance is made by the company for blockades (so frequent in Broadway and in the downtown streets), nor for the delays caused on the electric lines in Winter by the ice and snow. The Ten-Hour law, they say, was passed not more in the interest of labor than in that of the public safety, placed in jeopardy from the tired and overworked condition of men whose profession requires the utmost alertness of body and nerve.

"In addition, the men complain that, owing to the method of payment by the trip, they are very often unable to earn a full week's pay. The nominal rate of payment is $2.25 per day, but it is only under the most favorable conditions that this amount can be earned.

"The employes also complain that they are held accountable for all damage done to the cars while in their possession, and that the company refuses to entertain evidence tending to show that the injury was unavoidable on the part of the employes, or without fault of the employes.

"Another grievance of the dissatisfied employes lies in the reception, or more properly non-reception, of their committee sent to lay the causes of their complaint before the president of the company.

"The charges as they stand we consider of sufficient importance to merit investigation by the State Board of Arbitration or some other body of equal competence, and in the absence of such investigation we would invite the public at least to suspend its judgment as to the responsibility for the strike.

"One thing we cannot but regard as disappointing, namely, that the Metropolitan Traction Company, in dealing with this first serious disturbance among its employes, should have failed to avail itself of those methods of settling labor disputes which are being more and more adopted by fair-minded men.

"JAMES K. PAULDING,
"W. FRANKLIN BRUSH,
"CHARLES B. SPAHR,
"E. W. ORDWAY,
"ERNEST H. CROSBY,
"Committee of the Social Reform Club."

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