

Bryan For Our Next President

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long enough, he will tell you that in the event of Bryan's nomination, "the only question which concerns him is who the Republicans are going to nominate," an express admission on his part that he has been voting the Republican ticket for the past number of years, and now in the name of all that is good and true, what sort of Democracy is this?

And now as to Mr. Bryan's twelve years' talking, I would rather listen to Mr. Bryan any number of years, than have to listen to one of his critics for the shortest space of time conceivable.

The great daily newspapers of the cities are chartered corporations, and the same men who own these corporations own and control many other corporations, and are of course political enemies of Mr. Bryan.

If William J. Bryan is made our President, we will have a man of spotless character at the head of our nation. He will come South for members of his Cabinet. The white man of the South will still have control of our State governments. The negroes will not be appointed as they are now to many of the best positions of the South.

So let us one and all that love truth, honor and justice put our shoulders to the wheel of political fortune, and not only elect Mr. Bryan at our next election to the Presidency, but go to our homes with a full purpose of accomplishing this righteous act in November next.

An Appeal to the Young Democracy of the South

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than an agency for the brokerage of federal offices; but the Western Democrats have not had for years the steadying influence of federal patronage to bind them to their brethren of the East and South. Of course there are in the Western States many Democrats of the old type, men who are conservatively progressive, but the party organizations are largely controlled by the radicals.

Now this year's campaign should be fought by the Democrats along conservative lines and not by trying to outdo the radicalism of Roosevelt. The conservative Democracy is the Democracy of the South, where American blood is freest from foreign influence, and the South should control the Democratic National Convention, which it is able to do if it will actively assert itself. Many Southern Democrats believe, or profess to be-

lieve, that the only way to get rid of Bryan is to nominate him and let him be defeated a third time, but this is an unmanly course to pursue, and besides Bryan will never stop running, and he has many years of active life before him. We might as well take the bull by the horns at once. Will the South never be emancipated? Are we never to think for ourselves? Never to assert independent ideas of our own and stand by them? Are our leaders all "mollycoddles?" Our older leaders waged for years a struggle for existence against the greatest odds a liberty-loving people ever faced, but the days of reconstruction are over and most of the marks of that period are gone. Why pursue a policy of obstruction and negation any longer? Why not claim the recognition which is our due? The South must look to the rising generation of college-bred men, trained in the study of economic and political problems, to mould its opinions and exert its influence in the councils of the nation.

Let the South go to Denver unshackled and dictate to the National Democracy the nomination of a man who embodies its ideals. Is Bryan such a man? Bryan, "the peerless" leader, who has twice led his party to defeat? Bryan, the great tribune of the people, who between campaigns expounds his doctrines to the masses at fifty cents a head? Bryan, the "Jeffersonian Democrat," who preaches paternalism? Bryan, the "great party leader," who picks up the crumbs that fall from Roosevelt's table and cries out, "You stole that loaf from me!" Oh, that we had a Bryan who was great enough, and magnanimous enough, and self-denying enough to say: "Fellow Democrats, I, whom you have twice honored with your suffrage for the highest office in the land, realize at last that I have divided the party for twelve long years, that I represent issues on which all those who call themselves Democrats can never be united, and therefore I conceive it to be my duty to step aside and make way for another. I hereby sacrifice the ambition of my life on the altar of party unification and pledge my earnest support to the candidate of your choice."

But we are asked, "If not Bryan, who is there to nominate?" It is absurd to say that the Democratic party has in it only one man who is fit for the office of president. When that day arrives it will be time for the party to go out of existence. Mr. Bryan knows that there are other men available, and that is why he is afraid to have a free expression and dis-

cussion of the question at Denver. Hence the Herculean efforts put forth by him in the several states to have the delegations instructed in advance. We want no cut-and-dried convention, but we demand a representative Democratic assembly that can take into consideration the best interests of the party and nominate the best candidate.

Conditions are ripe for a Democratic victory, provided the right man is nominated, for Taft does not give promise of conducting a strong campaign when thrown on his own resources. His speeches so far has not helped his cause, and he will have to make many more speeches before the campaign is over. Conceded to the Democratic ticket the solid South and Maryland, no candidate can be elected president without 76 additional electoral votes. The only states, outside of the South, carried by Bryan in 1900 were Colorado, Idaho, Montana, and Nevada, with a total of 13 electoral votes. Is there any reasonable ground for supposing that Bryan will make a gain of 63 electoral votes over those he got in 1900? In addition to the solid South, a Democratic candidate to be successful must carry the states of the upper Mississippi valley, and Delaware and New Jersey, or if he loses Illinois he must carry New York. Now is there any chance for Mr. Bryan in any one of these four states? His followers claim a fighting chance in Illinois, but that state without New Jersey would not elect him.

The most available candidate and the candidate who is most in harmony with what the South stands for is Governor John A. Johnson of Minnesota. Governor Johnson is a man who achieves things. Neither a doctrinaire nor a dreamer, he has to his credit a long list of progressive measures put into successful operation. He stands for definite measures carefully thought out. He is a thoroughly progressive Democrat without the least touch of radicalism or demagogism. He believes in tariff reform, in government regulation but not in government ownership of railroads, in the limitations imposed on the federal power by the Constitution, and in just and equal enforcement of law. He has twice been elected Democratic governor of a state normally Republican, and he is immensely popular throughout the Northwest. He can carry the middle West and Northwest and he stands for what the South believes to be the essentials of Democracy. What better candidate do we want?

The world is undergoing transformation. In the far east there are 800,000,000 people waking from centuries of lethargy to become a world power. On the steppes of Russia the toiling millions are rising with dreams of constitutional liberty. In America the patriotism and intelligence of the greatest people on the earth demand the divorce of government from plutocracy and paternalism. The pessimist finds much in the present situation on which to base his lack of faith in our institutions, but the conditions which afford him opportunity for exultation will be dissipated by future events.

The turn of the optimist is near at hand. The tempest is raging now, but when the winds have spent their force the troubled waters will again be smooth. Ours is a new country. Our West has been created within the memory of men still living. Our development knows no parallel in history. Out of the present industrial and political chaos will come order. The yeomanry of the land struck for liberty at Bunker Hill. They brought the ship of state through the awful night of civil war. They are responding to a new call of duty and through them will come the reclamation and regeneration of the nation.

It will not come from the extremist who does not believe in government. It will not come from the theorist who believes commercial progress is wrong. It will not come from those who deny the property rights of others. But it will come through the sober common sense of those toilers who create the wealth so essential to our prosperity as a nation and as individuals. It will come, not through excitement, anger or hate, but after a calm study of the true conditions and a fearless determination to arrive at what is best for all the people.

The true grandeur of the nation will assert itself; if not today, then tomorrow. An enlightened and quickened conscience has issued the American doctrine—Equal rights to all; special privileges to none.—*John A. Johnson.*

Using the Patronage

Federal officeholders will cut a big swath in the national convention, and those from the Western and Southern States seem to be able to dominate the situation. This attempt to perpetuate power by using the government patronage is a danger to free institutions, and independent Republican voters are becoming indignant.—*Pulaski News-Review.*