

next national newspaper conference meets, some time next year and at the Madison University, it will be participated in by newspaper men of public spirit and moral stamina as well as professional "training," and be reported and commented upon in a candid spirit by the newspapers of civic pretensions.

Let us hope, and with reason, that an awakening among newspaper men, corresponding to that among newspaper readers, will meanwhile have taken place.

Let us hope, and with reason, that the spirit of boastfully claiming for money-making newspapers a public virtue they manifestly do not possess and possibly cannot in the nature of things acquire, will by that time have given way to something like the inward *conviction* which religionists hold to be the absolutely necessary pre-requisite to genuine *conversion*.

## EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

### POLITICAL DISINTEGRATIONS.

Boston, Mass.

Perhaps the impressions of one who has felt that Colonel Roosevelt was a necessity of his time, a moving force for radicalism in his party, and on the whole to be preferred either to Mr. Taft or a conservative Democrat, may have some interest for the readers of *The Public*. Wilson is for me an entirely satisfactory candidate, and Mr. Bryan seems to me to occupy the greatest post of any public man in the United States, to be entitled to the warmest gratitude of his party and the country.

Most of the former Roosevelt men whom I meet here in Boston, in New York and elsewhere, are now for Wilson; and some of these men by no means feel that Roosevelt even now is solely a self-seeker. An extremely radical Bostonian who did what he could to have Roosevelt nominated at Chicago, told me the other day that he was for Wilson because Roosevelt had again declared himself a protectionist. A New Yorker of my acquaintance who has been an enthusiastic Roosevelt man, and who still believes Roosevelt far more patriot than self-seeker, went to Baltimore in the interest of Wilson, and is today his active supporter. I met a Republican from Florida a few days ago, once a strong Roosevelt man, and still a believer in the Colonel's essential honesty of purpose, who expects to vote for Wilson. A Socialist friend writes me from St. Louis in answer to my expression of satisfaction with the nomination of Wilson, declaring his pleasure over the result at Baltimore, though with the natural qualifying expression of distrust for both old parties. I met at breakfast on the eve of the Baltimore convention a New Yorker whose name is familiar to most of your readers, a business man, man of letters and active worker in the better kind of politics, who was warmly urging Wilson's nomination, and who, although an old friend of Roose-

velt's and long associated with him in various activities, made in a few words the ablest and most temperate arraignment of the Colonel I have ever heard. This is the sort of thing I encounter wherever I go, and as a matter of fact, I have found but two or three of my acquaintances among Roosevelt men who still stand by the Colonel.

As to Massachusetts, if Foss is renominated, as he should be, he will almost certainly be re-elected, and I find few who have any fear that Wilson will not carry the State by at least a handsome plurality. Pellettier's criticism of the courts was in the main more than justified, for they undoubtedly attempted to crush the street car strike by indiscriminate severity in which was reflected the current conservative view as to the rights of wage earners. But Pellettier's criticism would have come from him with a better grace had it not been the almost immediate accompaniment of his announced ambition for the gubernatorial nomination. It is doubtful whether he would bring strength to the State and national ticket, while Foss would undoubtedly run well on his record, and help Wilson.

EDWARD L. VALLANDIGHAM.

## NEWS NARRATIVE

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of *The Public* for earlier information on the same subject.

Week ending Tuesday, August 6, 1912.

### The Roosevelt Party.

Delegates to the national third party convention, organized under the leadership of ex-President Roosevelt, assembled at Chicago on the 5th. [See current volume, page 728.]



Senator Dixon called the convention to order. He introduced ex-Senator Albert J. Beveridge of Indiana as temporary chairman, and Mr. Beveridge was placed in the chair without opposition. After Mr. Beveridge had taken the chair and delivered his address, committees were appointed and the convention adjourned for the day. On the 6th, a large portion of the day was spent in listening to the address of Theodore Roosevelt, who was introduced by the chairman as "the guest of the convention." He was received with enthusiastic demonstrations lasting an hour. At the close of his address the report of the committee on credentials was adopted without opposition. The temporary officers were then unanimously made permanent, and the convention adjourned to the 7th.



A race question arose in the committee on credentials on the 5th relative to the admission of

Negro delegates from Southern States. In Florida, a convention called without distinction of race had excluded Negroes from its deliberations, whereupon another convention was called which named Negroes as delegates to Chicago, where the delegations from both conventions were excluded by adoption by the national convention on the 6th of the report of its committee on credentials. From Mississippi also there were two delegations—an all white delegation elected by a State convention, the call for which had been to whites only, and a mixed delegation from another convention called regardless of race or color. The former, known as "the Fridge" delegation, was seated by the committee on credentials whose resolution was adopted by the convention without opposition as follows:

Resolved, That we regard the Fridge delegates as entitled to seats in this convention, but disavow that part of the call containing the word "white." We approve the position taken in the letter written to Julian Harris of Georgia by Theodore Roosevelt.

Consequently, although there are Negro delegates in the convention from north of Mason and Dixon's line, there are none from south of it.



There were 18 women delegates in the convention and 5 women alternates. They were escorted to the convention by a procession of equal suffragists carrying banners inscribed with demands for votes for women. Following is the list of the women delegates as reported by the local press:

New York—Mary Dreier, Mrs. William Grant Brown, Mrs. Robert H. Elder, Pauline Goldmark, Mrs. Clara Schuler.

Massachusetts—Mrs. Elizabeth Scott Child, Alice Carpenter, Mrs. Elizabeth Towne, Helen Temple Cook and Mrs. Grace A. Johnson.

Illinois—Jane Addams and Mrs. Mary J. Wilmarth.

Colorado—Josephine Roche and Dr. Maude Sanders.

Utah—Mrs. Charles Adams.

Tennessee—Mrs. J. W. Pumphrey.

California—Mrs. Isabella D. Blaney.

Michigan—Mrs. M. Evelyn Fritzenger.

Following are the women alternates:

New York—Frances Kellor, Clara B. Morrison and Madeline Z. Doty.

Colorado—Mrs. Dudley Dorn.

Utah—Mrs. Joseph Smith.



### The Roosevelt Party in Illinois.

Republican politics in Illinois, with Governor Deneen as the principal candidate and the Progressives opposed to him, were as a rule so involved as to cause a general demand upon Mr. Roosevelt from Illinois that he give his influence to the policy of a complete third party ticket in Illinois from top to bottom, and Roosevelt was reported on the 31st as having sent word to his followers in Illinois that there must be no com-

promise with Deneen. Accordingly the Illinois State convention of the new party, which met in Chicago on the 3rd, required of delegates this pledge:

We, the undersigned, hereby subscribe to the calls for the National and State Progressive Party conventions and pledge ourselves to support in the election next November the candidates of the Progressive Party in State and nation and the platform adopted by the Party in State and national convention assembled.



Charles E. Merriam, temporary chairman of the State convention, sounded the keynote of secession from the regular Republican organization, State as well as national. In his opening speech he said that—

it is proposed to form an entirely new party, abandoning the old organization and bringing together elements from both of the two old parties. Under these circumstances nominations made by either of the old parties are in no sense binding upon those who wish to enter into the new.

Mr. Merriam argued for the Initiative, Referendum, Recall, election of United States Senators by direct vote, "gateway" amendments to the State Constitution, woman's suffrage, a minimum wage for women, limitation of working hours in continuous industries, and conservation of water power and other natural resources of the State.



Speeches were made by Governor Johnson of California, James R. Garfield, Gifford Pinchot and Raymond Robins, all of whom are delegates to the national convention.



The State platform demands, among other things—

The Initiative, Referendum and Recall.

Amendment of our Constitution to give to the people instead of the courts the final decision of what is for the public welfare under the police power in Constitutional decisions.

The short ballot.

Ratification of the Constitutional amendment providing for the direct election of United States Senators.

Pending the adoption of this amendment, the passage of a law by the next General Assembly providing for a popular vote upon candidates for the United States Senate, binding upon members of the legislature in accordance with the Oregon plan.

Such changes in the State Constitution as will make necessary amendments possible and without the proposed makeshift of limiting the number of proposed amendments to three.

The adoption of the Minnesota and Wisconsin method, under which the voter in a primary may express his first and second choice for candidates, and providing that if a candidate be not nominated by a