

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