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NATIONAL TICKET FOR HEARST MEN

Independence League Grows Ambitious.

VERY LIKELY TO DROP BRYAN

Strength of Third Party Insures Republican Success.

LEAGUE'S GROWTH RAPID

Fusion Suggested in New York With Independents Dictating to Democrats—Yellow Editor Plans for Presidency in 1912.

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—(Special)—The National committee of the Independence League will meet in Chicago on Washington's Birthday. At that time a call will be issued for a National convention, which will select candidates for President and Vice-President. In many of the Northern states, full state and local tickets will be placed in the field.

Republican politicians, who have watched recent developments with interest, declare this means that they will have a walkover—practically every Northern state that might by any possibility be considered doubtful. Up to a few days ago it looked as if the League would do nothing except endorse the nomination of Bryan by the Democratic National Convention.

League's Strength Growing.

Within the past few days, however, there has been renewed activity all along the line by the League men, and the boast is made that the new party will have a platform and a ticket peculiarly its own.

There are two explanations for this: one is that Hearst has definitely broken with Bryan; the other is that the League leader regards Bryan's defeat as a certainty, and wants to be in a position to make trouble for a "conservative" candidate.

At the present writing, the position of the League is as follows:

In New York State, it is entitled to a place on the official ballot, owing to the fact that it polled over 30,000 votes for Hearst in its column in November, 1906.

In Massachusetts, not only are the League men on the ballot, but they are fighting in the courts to establish their claim to second place, which would give them one-half of the election patronage, a very valuable asset.

In California and Illinois, there are Independence League organizations of more than a year's standing.

Hearst Is Undecided.

Organizers who have been at work recently claim to have established an organization of Independents in these states:

Indiana (where a state committee was formed), Iowa, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Wisconsin, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Delaware, Tennessee, Georgia, Colorado and Texas.

Outside of Indiana, where a largely advertised meeting was held in Indianapolis, the work of the League organizers has attracted but little newspaper notice. A number of men are on the road now, however, and the claims is made that by the time the "National committee" meets, most of the states will be represented by men of standing in their community.

Whether William Randolph Hearst will head his party's ticket or not, is a problem that has not yet been solved, except perhaps in the inner circle of the Leaguers. The general impression is that he will run as usual, although some of his advisors tell him that it would be better to let some one else be defeated this year and then get into the lime-light in 1912.

Democrats Are Apprehensive.

Local Democratic leaders recognize that the advent of the League into National politics means personal disaster, and they are doing the best they can to avert it.

In 1907, an off year, the Leaguers polled 150,000 votes for two practically unknown candidates for Judges of the Court of Appeals. If they can hold even 50 per cent of this for a third party ticket, it means that the Democratic nomination for Governor will be an empty honor.

Realizing this fact, an effort has been made of late to induce Hearst to arrange a fusion with the Democrats; he has to one-half of the state offices and patronage.

At the coming election the voters of New York State will select a Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney-General, Controller, State Treasurer, a State Engineer and Surveyor, 51 Senators and 159 Assemblymen, besides a number of Judges in New York and Kings County, and minor officials throughout the state.

Scheme to Divide Spoils.

The original proposition was that the ticket should be headed by a Democrat, and the other offices divided equally, Hearst to have first choice of position.

A second suggestion was that Hearst should name four of the candidates, the Democratic convention to first select the three offices it desired.

Another proposition was that Hearst

should pick the gubernatorial candidate, with the privilege that he be limited in his choice to the state officials now in power, who were elected by the Democratic-Independence League fusion of 1906.

Some of the Hearst men propose a fusion on the basis of two years ago. At that time the Independence League named the aspirants for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and Secretary of State, without any suggestion on the part of their Democratic allies.

It is an interesting fact that since that time Hearst has been deserted by both Lieutenant-Governor Chanler and Secretary of State Whalen. In fact, his only ardent supporter in the state administration today is Attorney-General Jackson, nominated as a "sterling Democrat" by State Chairman "Flingy" Conners, of Buffalo.

Jackson Making Demands.

Jackson naturally thinks that Hearst should support him for Governor, and he has not neglected to say so. His friends point out that his office is filled with Independence League men.



William Dean Howells, American novelist, III with slight attack of influenza in Rome.

WHY FLEET WILL GO TO THE ORIENT

Uncle Sam to Protect Entity of China.

ULTERIOR MOVE BEHIND CRUISE

United States Will Take Hand in Far Eastern Question.

WARNING TO THE JAPANESE

America Will Object to Gobbling of Manchuria by Mikado—Hay's Note to Powers Basis of Diplomatic Concern in This Country.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—(Special)—The question of preserving "Chinese territorial and administrative entity" has suddenly assumed new importance in the eyes of the diplomatic world in connection with the cruise of the American battle fleet to the Pacific—especially since it became an assured fact that the fleet is to proceed to the Orient soon after reaching San Francisco.

Several months ago it was stated that certain interests closely in touch with commercial affairs in China professed to be informed that the real significance of the fleet's movement to the Pacific had to do with affairs affecting the Flower Kingdom, and that in "this affair statement of the case would be justified. All the well-informed have been aware that there was something—if nothing more than a remote contingency—aside from the practice features of the cruise involved. A popular impression has been that the immigration question was behind it all. The immigration question now is practically settled, but there is to be no change in the programme of sending the fleet under Admiral Evans to the Far East.

and that in naming receivers for the Brooklyn banks which went up a few months ago he provided comfortable berths for a number of friends of Hearst.

Lieutenant-Governor Chanler is now anxious to be promoted and to stay at Albany. His Presidential boom has "busted," and he is willing to have the support of Hearst. So is Secretary of State John Whalen, the only son pure labor man elected on the peculiar combination ticket, which adds particular luster to the administration of Governor Hughes.

Whalen has recently been working up a Gubernatorial boom. Up to date he has not met with great success.

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