

DEMOCRATS ACCLAIM PRIMARIES NO MORE

Party First Ignores Then Re- pudiates Plank.

ONE-TERM IDEA DIES TOO

1912 Textbook of Bourbons Del- icately Avoided in 1916 When Wilson Is Renominated.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Wash-
ington, May 8.—Little probably will
be heard from now on of the once
loud and persistent agitation for
presidential primaries. Obviously the
major political parties feel some dis-
appointment over the workings of
the system.

The presidential primary has been
ignored and then repudiated by the
democratic party, which was the only
one of the major parties to recognize
it in a national platform. In 1912
the democratic national convention
at Baltimore, which nominated Gov-
ernor Woodrow Wilson of New Jer-
sey for president, wrote into the na-
tional party platform this plank:
"The movement for presidential pri-
mary election should be more
promoted through legislation in each
state which will give the voters the
preference of the electors for
national candidates at the presi-
dential primaries."

Republicans Remain Silent.
"We direct that the national com-
mittee incorporate in the call for the
next nominating convention a re-
quirement that all expressions of
preference for presidential candidates
shall be given and the selection of
delegates and alternates be made
through a primary election conducted
by the party organization in each
state where such expression and elec-
tion are not provided by state law.
Committees who are hereafter to
constitute the membership of the
democratic national committee and
whose election is not provided for
by law shall be chosen in each state
at such primary elections, and the
service and authority of committee-
men however chosen shall begin
immediately upon the receipt of their
credentials, respectively."

The republican national platform
of that year was silent on the ques-
tion, although many of the states in
which republicans were in control al-
ready had adopted presidential pri-
mary laws.

In 1916 both parties in national
convention ignored the question just
as it appears the states controlled by
the respective parties had done in
the intervening four years. Since that
primary plank was adopted by the
democrats at Baltimore in 1912 there
has been practically no widening of
the presidential primary system.

One state, Minnesota, has repealed a
presidential primary law and an-
other state, Indiana, has adopted such
a law. When the democrats met in
St. Louis to renominate Woodrow
Wilson in 1916, two or three issues
raised by the 1912 platform had be-
come exceedingly delicate, which
probably accounts for no reaffirma-
tion of the primary declaration of
four years before.

One-Term Plank Repudiated.
In the first place the party was in
a grasp of the national administra-
tion, which was seeking the renom-
ination of its chief after a campaign
devoted mainly to avoiding any con-
troversy in the states, either primary or
otherwise. Furthermore there was
an embarrassment in referring to
the plank of the democratic campaign
textbook of 1912 on which was writ-
ten the plan declaring for primaries.
On the same page also appeared this
declaration made by the same con-
vention:

"We favor a single presidential
term, and to that end we urge the
adoption of an amendment to the con-
stitution making the president of the
United States ineligible for re-elec-
tion and we pledge the democratic party
of this convention to this candidate."
It is history that "the candidate"
of this convention did not stand for
the single-term principle, just as
he threw down free tools for the Pan-
ama canal, and has been ready ever
since to forget presidential primaries
in campaign year.

In the present campaign the re-
publican party has availed itself of
all the primary machinery available
in the states for nominating presi-
dential candidates, although it might
be said, perhaps truthfully, that re-
publicans are not any "crazier" about
the system than its original advo-
cates of record—the democrats.

The democrats, however, have gone
further in this campaign and through
such personages as William B. Egan,
McAdoo, son-in-law of the president
and himself a presidential candidate,
have passed out the mandate to the
party in several primary states to
ignore candidates and elect only un-
instructed delegates. This is repudi-
ating the now celebrated primary
plank of 1912 with a vengeance, be-
cause it carries with it the recogni-
tion of the old plan of delegate
manipulation as it was then recog-
nized before. If Senator Penrose had
issued such an edict there is no doubt
that the world would have been
an uproar with protests against "boss
rule."

Scheme Held Not Successful.
There is considerable evidence, a
tendency, however, among former pri-
mary advocates in both parties to
agree that the popular voting method
of choosing candidates has not been
a success. It is a noteworthy fact
that up to this time no primary
choice has ever been endorsed by a
national convention.

In 1912 the same democratic con-
vention which adopted the presiden-
tial primary plank repudiated the
popular choice, Champ Clark of Mis-
souri, and chose Woodrow Wilson of
New Jersey. It is delicate matter
to mention even to this day, but
Theodore Roosevelt appears to have
had more of the delegates chosen
primary to the first Chicago conven-
tion of 1912, but the convention did
not see fit to nominate him.

In 1916 Mr. Wilson pole-vaulted the
primary and the republican conven-
tion, after a campaign in which the
primary had figured to only a small
degree, chose Charles E. Hughes of
New York, who had the primary in-
crement of only one state, Oregon,
with ten votes in a convention seat-
ing almost 1000 delegates.
In the coming national conventions
it is therefore a certainty that neither
party will go on record with reference
to the primary.

BRYAN IS PARTY PROBLEM

(Continued From First Page.)

case of the nomination of Alton B.
Parkier.
Mr. Bryan's position will furnish
one of the most dramatic situations
in the convention and recalls the
long-time feud that has existed be-
tween the president and the Ne-
braskan, and which was not le-

sened when Mr. Bryan said, "God
bless you" to the president in re-
signing the office of the secretary of
state, and the president said, "The
same to you" both with their
tongues in their cheeks and their
fingers crossed. It is recalled that
President Wilson expressed the
sincere wish that "Bryan could be
knocked into a cocked hat." The wish
was full-hearted and expressed with
that literary effectiveness for which
the president is noted.

Others Echo This Wish.
Just above the democratic organiza-
tion and the adherents of many candi-
dates for the office which President
Wilson holds are echoing the wish.
With the hearty cooperation of Gov-
ernor Edwards these democrats are
seeking to have the wish accom-
plished and a valuable prize would be
given to the person who can furnish
the formula for accomplishing it.
The result of this "mass desire" is to
make Mr. Bryan the outstanding
figure in the coming democratic con-
vention.

From persons close to Mr. Bryan it
is possible to tell just what the
Nebraskan is aiming to do.
In the first place, Mr. Bryan wants
to be president of the United States.
He admits that his faith in democracy
is based on the willingness of a ma-
jority of the voters to agree with
him, yet he avows his insistent faith
in democracy which errs to this ex-
tent but which he believes is bound
finally to be corrected. Mr. Bryan,
in good health, looks forward to a
ripe old age.

"Bourbonism" Means Drink.
Accordingly, he optimistically be-
lieves the time may have come when
the voters will awaken to the fact
that they have committed errors
equal to the number of times they
have rejected him and that right and
wisdom are bound to triumph. If
the voters of the country are still
wandering in error and decline to ac-
cept Mr. Bryan as their leader, the
Peerless One proposes to do the next
best thing, he wants to write the
party platform. He says he demands
the right to write the platform from
what he regards as the best of his
present tendency to conservatism
and "Bourbonism." "Bourbon" to Mr.
Bryan, is the cause of drink.

In addition to writing the platform,
if he cannot be a candidate, he will
seek to name the candidate. In doing
so he may not be able to select his
own choice, but hopes to exert the
veto power as he did at Baltimore
when he foiled the ambition of Champ
Clark.
He will be against any possible
third term for President Wilson and
he will be especially opposed to any
one whom the conservatives or the
"sweet" elements favor.

Bryan Still Has Kick.
When Mr. Bryan emerged from the
retirement which his resignation from
the cabinet entailed he showed that
he still possessed a kick and those
who confidently believed he had been
knocked into the proverbial "cocked
hat" were wakened with a jar. Accord-
ingly, the "cocked hat" process
is again in course of application, ac-
companied by the realization that if
it is not brought about Mr. Bryan
may do to the democratic party this
year what Mr. Wilson did to the re-
publican party in 1912.

The resulting spectacle is the com-
bination of such starchy representa-
tives of democracy as Homer Cum-
mings of Connecticut, Gavin McNabb
of California, Tom Taggart of Indiana,
Leader Murphy of Tammany, Gov-
ernor Edwards of New Jersey and
others, collaborating in the light
of the "Knocking Bryan Into
Kingdom Come" or something similar.
Commoner Isn't Worrying.
While this is in progress Mr. Bryan
is going his own way, seemingly un-
disturbed by the course he is creat-
ing. He is well aware that the or-
ganization is against him. He made
that clear at the Jackson day dinner
when he intimated that he was ready
to appeal to the rank and file, and
has been doing it ever since. Having
been elected a delegate to the San
Francisco convention, he will be in
his element on the floor and may be
expected to look into the various can-
didacies, opening them up to see what
makes them go.

The democratic organization has
its work cut out for it in sidetrack-
ing Mr. Bryan. The leaders know
it and they are worried.

Two Sent to Reformatory.
PARCO, Wash., May 8.—(Special.)—
Robert D. Cameron and Thomas Gray
were sentenced Thursday to in-
determinate terms in the state re-
formatory at Moscow. Cameron was
charged with stealing four pairs of
shoes from the Northern Pacific
freight house, where he had been
working, and Gray was charged with
breaking into a room at the Olympia
lodging house. Both men pleaded
guilty.

Thurston Elects Delegates.
OLYMPIA, Wash., May 8.—(Special.)—
Fifteen democrats attended the
county convention today and
elected 20 delegates to the state con-
vention at Spokane, who are unin-
structed and authorized to name their
own slate of delegates. The delegates
are: P. M. Troy, George F. Yantis, E. T.
Steel, Mrs. Julia Waldrip, Mrs. C. A.
Rose, C. A. Rose, H. L. Parr,
H. L. Parr, J. M. Tadlock, A. W. John-
son, R. M. Fuller, L. P. Louette, Fred
Cawady, J. J. Brenner, Robert McNeil.

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academy, 23d and
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derson, Rochester; Wilson Howe, Te-
mino; Dr. E. N. Nugent, Tenino; Ed-
ward Drury, South Union.

GRANGE FAVORS MILLAGE

Orchardists and Ranchers Unan-
imous for Higher Education.

HOOD RIVER, Or., May 8.—(Spe-
cial.)—The Pine Grove grange, com-
posed of East Side orchardists and
ranchers, will vote solidly for the
higher educational millage bill, hav-
ing unanimously adopted a resolution
favoring the measure.
"While we have taken no official
action on the 2-mill elementary edu-
cational bill," says J. M. Taylor, an
officer of the grange, "I have heard
my fellow members express them-
selves in favor of the measure."

PROBERS ARE DIPLOMATS

Inspectors Raise Hopes of Aspir-
ants for Postoffice Job.

Applications for appointment as
postmaster of Portland are being in-
vestigated by inspectors. The in-
spectors have been conducting their
inquiry very quietly and have about
completed their work. There are 22
social interviews with the inspectors,
and each of the 22 will have a per-

fect vision instantly.

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can always be sure of getting it is to entrust your eyes to
a firm whose goods and methods have been proven perfect
by a long and reliable record.

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keeps the skin soft and cool, impart-
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tion and itching in cases of rash,
prickly heat, mosquito or other in-
sect bites; it is delightfully soothing
and refreshing. It is prepared scien-
tifically and unadorned with powder,
tints of white, flesh and brucine.
Santipic is easily procured at most
drug and department stores. If you
cannot procure it, send 50 cents, with
dealer's name, to the Eschcott Lab-
oratories, Portland, Or., for a full-size
bottle, postpaid.—Adv.

The inspectors must be born diplo-
mats, for each applicant after being
interviewed feels that the inspectors
have given most favorable considera-
tion to his case.
Two or three of the applicants
gathered from what the inspectors
said that they will rank right up in

the top list. Anyway, the manner in
which the inspectors are going about
their investigation and the thorough-
ness with which they are cross-
examining applicants have convinced
the latter that the appointment will
be on a merit basis and not through
political pull.

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of famous makes—worth up to three times
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All sizes from 1 1/2 to 9, and widths from
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out a doubt they are the most wonderful
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tunity to secure such purchases—this
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