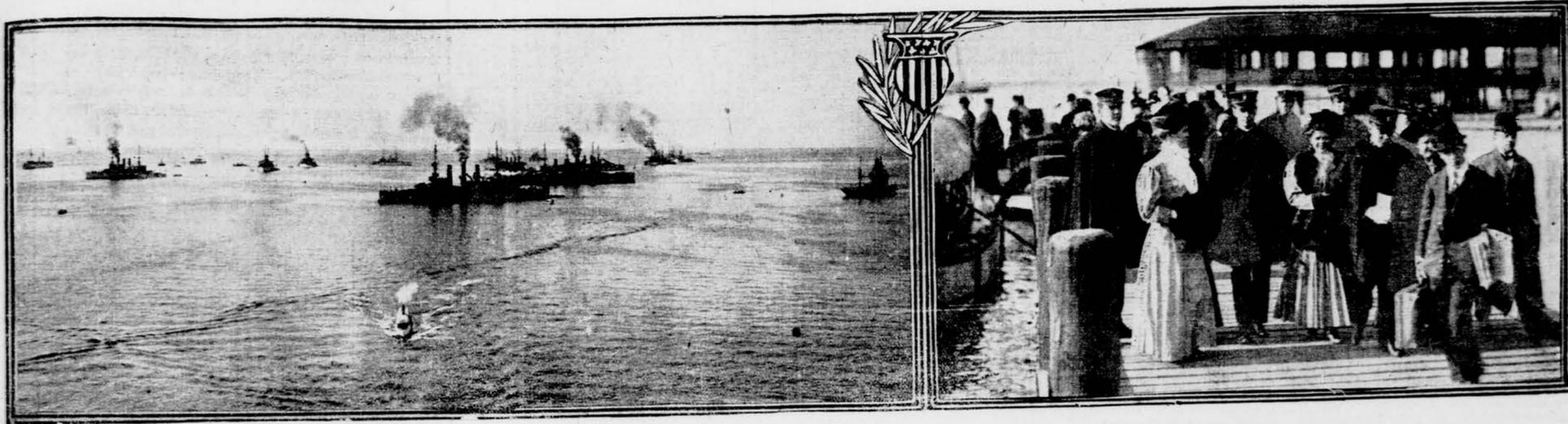




BATTLESHIPS READY FOR CRUISE TO PACIFIC.



THE ASSEMBLED WARSHIPS AT HAMPTON ROADS.

GROUP OF OFFICERS AND THEIR FRIENDS.

(Photographs by the Pictorial News Company.)

DEMOCRATS SELECT

DENVER AND JULY 7.

BID OF \$100,000 WINS THE NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Alluring Cash Offer Brings Success to Colorado's Capital—Louisville Chief Competitor.

[From The Tribune Bureau.] Washington, Dec. 12.—The Democratic National Convention will meet at Denver on July 7, 1908. This decision was reached to-day at the meeting of the Democratic National Committee, to which money talked louder than politics.

Denver offered \$100,000, payable in four equal payments in ten, thirty, sixty and ninety days. This was aside from the free use of the convention hall, Louisville, which until to-day had been the favorite, offered only \$30,000 and the promise that the convention would mean Kentucky's electoral vote. St. Paul offered no cash, but a strong argument, based on the remarkable votes polled by Governor Johnson in the last two elections, that the holding of the convention in the Twin City would result in Minnesota going Democratic.

Chicago, through James Hamilton Lewis, offered a convention hall free and \$25,000 in cash. Some of the ablest politicians in the committee strongly opposed Denver. They argued that in 1896 and 1900 the Democratic party had split with the East and selected W. J. Bryan for its leader. In 1904 the party had split with Mr. Bryan and allied itself with the East under the standard of Alton B. Parker. Now the party was about to return to Mr. Bryan, but it should, in so far as possible, minimize the split with the East by selecting an Eastern city for its national convention, instead of going to the very heart of the Bryan country to nominate its candidate.

But money talked louder than all the political arguments, and the advocates of Denver merely reiterated the statement that "\$100,000 is a nice little bunch of money," and their argument prevailed.

"I don't believe you will need anything like \$100,000 to meet the expenses of the convention," said Senator Taylor, speaking in favor of the capital of his state, "but if there is any left over you will know what to do with it," and his remark elicited hearty applause.

DO NOT LIKE BRYAN, BUT—

The feeling in the national committee recalled that prevalent in the Republican National Committee when it met just previous to the last Republican national convention. The things said by Republican committeemen about Theodore Roosevelt at that time would not have looked well in print, and yet every committeeman predicted his nomination. So, to-day, the things said by the committeemen about Mr. Bryan would not do to print, but they practically all concede his nomination. Indeed, few Democrats can be found who regard Mr. Bryan as likely to be elected, and yet they all say, with a sort of hopeless air: "I guess we'll have to nominate him."

Of course there were some efforts to conduct side shows during the meeting. For instance, ex-Senator R. R. Kenney, of Delaware, earnestly advocated the nomination of Judge George Gray, and yet when it came to the point of offering in the meeting a resolution declaring it to be the sense of the committee that all delegates to the next convention should go unaccompanied by Mr. Kenney lest his courage and sagacity in his seat.

Chairman Conners of the Democratic State Committee of New York tried to do some work in the interest of Lieutenant Governor Chanler, but he did not actually get up steam until the committee meeting had adjourned, and although he advocated the Kenney resolution he did not say anything about it in the meeting.

Charles d'Antremont, Jr., who held the proxy for Minnesota, talked of the voting ability of Governor Johnson with some show of enthusiasm, but even he, when pressed for his real opinion, conceded that Mr. Bryan would be the party nominee.

A screaming farce was conducted during the executive session this afternoon. After having voted to hold the convention at Denver, simply because of the size of the purse which Denver hung up before the hungry Democratic donkey, a motion was made that all money in excess of the actual expenses of the convention be rejected, and the proposition was actually seriously discussed for more than an hour. Then a motion to lay it on the table carried, with scarcely a dozen votes against it.

PUBLICITY RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

Before deciding upon the time and place of the convention the committee adopted this resolution, offered by Perry Belmont, the treasurer of the committee:

Resolved, That the Democratic National Com-

Continued on second page.

CHOICE PLEASES BRYAN.

Nebraskan, Though, Had No Preference on Convention City.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 12.—William Jennings Bryan expressed pleasure to-day at the news of the choice of Denver for the Democratic National Convention.

"Personally I had no choice," he said. "Any place between Boston and San Francisco would have been satisfactory to me. I would not want it to go to the Philippines or Porto Rico, but anywhere else is all right."

When told of the date of the convention, Mr. Bryan said he believed the committee was wise in selecting a date following the Republican convention.

MURDER WITNESS SHOT.

Attempt to Kill Augustus Rose, Summoned in Jefferson Case.

Mount Holly, N. J., Dec. 12.—Augustus Rose, of Burlington, who is expected to be a witness in the Jefferson murder trial, was shot by an unknown man on the outskirts of Burlington to-day. The weapon was fired at close range by some one in hiding in the shrubbery and who made his escape. The bullet struck a rib over Rose's heart and glanced from the body. It is thought that he will recover.

At the inquest Rose's sister testified that after the train had struck the body of Mr. Jefferson, which had been placed on the railroad tracks by the murderers, she saw three men run toward the blacksmith shop which, the police officials state, was the rendezvous of the three men who were arrested yesterday on suspicion of having killed Jefferson.

There is excitement in Burlington over the attempt to kill Rose. A posse has been organized and the country is being searched for the man who fired the shot.

NEW POSTOFFICE URGED.

Commission Tells Senate New York Conditions Are Deplorable.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The commission appointed to examine the postal facilities of New York City, consisting of Senator Scott, Representative Bartholdt and Postmaster General Meyer, reported to the Senate to-day that the postoffice accommodations in New York are deplorable, inadequate and outgrown.

An appropriation by Congress for a new postoffice building is recommended, but in the mean time it is advised that an appropriation be made and authority given to the postmaster at New York to rent temporary additional quarters near the present main office, at an expense not exceeding \$100,000 annually.

Various plans are presented for hastening the construction of the postoffice stations at the new railroad terminals.

RUN AWAY IN PAJAMAS.

Four Boy Prisoners with Diphtheria Escape from Hospital.

Four boy prisoners suffering from diphtheria, and clad only in their pajamas, escaped in the bitter cold of early yesterday morning from the Willard Parker Hospital at Sixteenth street and the East River. They had been removed to the hospital from the House of Refuge on Randall's Island during an epidemic of diphtheria at that institution and were confined in a second story ward.

To guard against the escape of the boys remaining a detail of twelve policemen were sent by Captain McDermott to the hospital last night. The escape was made at 2 o'clock in the morning. As the boys had no friends in the hospital Superintendent Joseph P. Byers of the House of Refuge thinks they were aided by friends on the outside who had clothing ready for them. It is now feared they may spread the disease.

The boys from the House of Refuge at Willard Parker Hospital now number eleven. An epidemic of diphtheria among six hundred prisoners in the House of Refuge began five weeks ago, and 75 of the boys were taken down with the disease. Superintendent Byers has sent two probation officers who knew the boys to try to find them.

MAINE IN VERNAL BLOOM.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Biddeford, Me., Dec. 12.—Spring has hit Maine. The mild weather has caused the buds on the trees to swell. Full blown dandelions are in the fields and a handful of blueberry flowers were picked on the outskirts of town to-day. It is the warmest December on record here. The teem are anxious about a crop.

HARVARD GRIP LAID TO LOW SHOES.

[By Telegraph to The Tribune.] Boston, Dec. 12.—A severe epidemic of grip at Harvard University is laid to the wearing of low shoes by the students. Forty students are in hospitals.

AFTER ALL, USHER'S THE SCOTCH that made the highball famous.—Adv.

NO KNOX BOOM HERE.

THE CHEERS FOR HUGHES

More Enthusiasm for Governor Than Senator at Penn. Dinner.

There was no mistaking the genuineness or the spontaneity of the continued applause which greeted James M. Beck last evening when, in the face of some seven hundred persons in the grand ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria gathered to eat and shout in honor of the Keystone State, he said, in proposing a toast to the President of the United States: "Within twenty-four hours the present occupant of that office has put behind him the most splendid temptation that civic preferment could offer in any country. I think, then, that not only to the President of the United States but to Theodore Roosevelt we can all drink a health."

The demonstration that followed was the most remarkable of the ninth and biggest dinner given by the Pennsylvania Society of New York. The speaker, who had been drafted to the toastmastership in the illness of Allan C. Bakewell, the president of the society, had to pause in his remarks when he referred to President Roosevelt's announced declaration that he would not again be a candidate for his present office, so great was the volume of cheering which greeted them.

"Within the very walls of Jericho," as Mr. Beck, himself a native Pennsylvanian, said, this fluent speaker had laid special emphasis upon the service contributed to the nation by Senator Philander Chase Knox, the junior Senator from the Keystone State, but Mr. Beck's evident attempt to stir up sentiment for the Pittsburgh statesman's aspirations for the Republican Presidential applause was greeted with a perfunctory response. It was notable in comparison with the applause which greeted the introduction of Governor Hughes, whom Mr. Beck praised for his thorough unselfishness and disregard for self-advancement in connection with his public services.

GREETING TO GOVERNOR HUGHES.

There was a sharp outburst of handclapping, followed by three hearty cheers, for the Governor of New York, with cries here and there of "our next President" when Mr. Hughes started to address the Pennsylvanians. He was the second Governor of a commonwealth to address the gathering in an evening, the first being Edwin S. Stuart, the Governor of Pennsylvania, who was the guest of honor, and whose honor, as Mr. Beck said in introducing him, had never been impugned in all his years of public service. Governor Hughes came down from Albany to extend the greetings of the State of New York to the executive of a sister commonwealth, and confined his remarks to matters concerning the proper administration of his office. He said:

"I have come here to-night to welcome to the city of New York the distinguished Governor of this tribute. It is a privilege which I esteem most highly, and for the sake of the recognition of his individual character and service, and to represent to our community the appreciation on the part of New York of the notable contribution of men of rare intelligence and power which she has received from her sister state."

When the Governor of Pennsylvania meets the Governor of New York there is no room for bombastic praise of the wealth and resources of their respective commonwealths. They do not even vie with each other in comparing the magnificence and costliness of those seats of government at Harrisburg and Albany. Each does each appreciate, with sympathetic consideration of those administrative problems which are common to both, and with interest, outwishes the differences in origin and analysis traces the course of our development. But we are not here to glorify in the states of our birth which of assistance to the states of their native states, and in these associations they reweave the fabric of our commonwealth. But we are conscious that wherever we turn, whether to the north, south, east or west, we find in each commonwealth notable his purpose of pride and inspiration—and with an affection for the states of our birth which of assistance to the states of their native states, and in these associations they reweave the fabric of our commonwealth. But we are conscious that wherever we turn, whether to the north, south, east or west, we find in each commonwealth notable his purpose of pride and inspiration—and with an affection for the states of our birth which of assistance to the states of their native states, and in these associations they reweave the fabric of our commonwealth. 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