

COWHERD MERCILESSLY FLAYS HADLEY IN HIS ADDRESS TO MISSOURI DEMOCRATIC EDITORS.

Ground Cut from Under Republican Candidate by Convincing Exposure of Barren Record and Deceptive Claims.

Bursts of Enthusiasm Excited by Brilliant and Patriotic Defense of Democratic Administrations.

Hadley, Trust-Buster and Liquor Law Enforcer, Personally Selects Sewer Trust Magnate and St. Louis Brewer to Manage Campaign.

Old Anheuser-Busch-Stiefel-Niedringhaus Brewery Bought Election of 1904 Recalled—Hearers Amazed.

Grandest Meeting and Banquet in History of Democratic Press Association.

St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 25, 1908.

The meeting of the Democratic State Press Association in St. Louis today was the largest and most enthusiastic in its history. Editors were present from all sections of the State, and the room in which the meeting was held was crowded until the seats provided were not sufficient for those present. The address of welcome was delivered by Mayor Wells of St. Louis, who gave to the newspaper men the record of the Democratic administration in that city, showing that it had, according to the record of the Census Bureau at Washington, placed St. Louis in the front rank among the 189 largest cities in the union.

Mayor Wells also stated that while he had not voted for Bryan either in the election of 1896 or 1900 because his conscience directed otherwise, he would this year enthusiastically cast his vote for the Nebraskan.

Joseph B. Shannon of Kansas City briefly addressed the newspaper men concerning his recent visit to Pittsburgh, Rochester and other eastern cities. He produced facts to show that the business depression and poverty in those cities has never before been equalled, far exceeding as it does the worst condition experienced in the central and western states. He said that when his trip began he feared that Bryan would again be defeated, but after viewing eastern conditions and talking with all classes he was convinced that Bryan would be triumphantly elected in November.

Democratic Banquet.

The climax and principal feature of the meeting in St. Louis today was the enormous banquet at the Planters Hotel. This, the largest dining hall in St. Louis, was filled with six hundred editors and Democratic leaders. Eloquent and stirring speeches were made by Hon. John H. Atwood head of the speakers' bureau of the National Committee; Hon. Charles W. Knapp, editor of the St. Louis Republic, and Mayor Kern of Belleville, Illinois. The audience was enthused from beginning to end. A like spirit of confidence has never before been exhibited in a Democratic campaign.

Hon. W. S. Cowherd, Democratic nominee for Governor, literally riddled Herbert S. Hadley, the Republican nominee, in a speech that will become historic as one of the finest specimens of oratory, convincing logic and high minded dissection of the barren record and claims of his opponent. Mr. Cowherd never for a moment descended to such base language or method as those employed by Mr. Hadley in his opening speech, but he left no possible excuse for any Democrat to vote for Hadley, who he said boasted as a trust buster and the enforcer of the liquor laws, with Walter S. Dickey, head of the sewer pipe trust, his personally selected manager from Kansas City, and Otto F. Stiefel, the famous brewer, who pledged a part of the wine cellar slush fund of 1904, his leader in the city of St. Louis.

The text of Mr. Cowherd's speech follows, and after that will be found the speech by Hon. Charles W. Knapp; also, a statement about the proven forgery of the Cleveland article on Taft, which the Republican National Committee has circulated throughout the United States with Bryan's speech at Topeka on Guaranteed Banks, which speech is said to be in more demand than any other document of the campaign.

"I am glad to greet here this evening so many Democratic editors of Missouri. You are the men who make or mar the fortunes of the politician. You bear the brunt of every political battle, and when the Democratic press of Missouri is aggressive and enlisted in a fight there is no longer a doubt of the outcome of the contest.

"Our Republican opponents opened their campaign at Springfield last Saturday. It was advertised in flaming posters rivaling those of Ringling Bros.' circus, glaring from every billboard in Southwest Missouri. The Republican press informed us prior to the opening that at least 25,000 Republicans would sing Hosannas to Mr. Hadley when he took the platform. The meeting was held in a city of 40,000 people, in an auditorium that by actual count contained 1,340 seats, and they were not all filled, so that this magnificent gathering of 25,000 Republicans dropped to less than 1,500, and the campaign that was thus haltingly opened is rapidly becoming uninteresting and blind; it is already beginning to receive only that pitiful consideration the strong always show to the afflicted.

Abuse Is Weak Defense.

We are told that Mr. Hadley's speech is to be the keynote and the chart by which all other Republican orators are to be guided. I trust that this is true, for the Democracy of Missouri can never be diverted from political principles by a tirade of abuse and a flood of misrepresentation.

"Mr. Hadley deliberately avoids the issues of the campaign; he barely mentioned the presidential candidate in connection with his eulogy of Mr. Roosevelt, and devotes practically his entire time to praise of himself or denunciation of me. He raises a swarm of gnats and hopes to divert us from that old Republican elephant he is trying to hide in the jungle. Democrats will not this year be diverted. We will shoot that old elephant hide so full of holes that even Doctor Hadley will not be able to draw from that fertile fancy where he keeps his record a salve to heal the wounds.

"Mr. Hadley wants to know what Democracy has done in thirty-one years of untrammelled rule. I answer him, it has made Missouri the first State in the West; it has built up our magnificent school system; it has built and maintained our great eleemosynary institutions; it has made life safe and property secure in every corner of the State; it has reduced taxes from 50 cents to 17 cents, and with this constantly reducing rate paid the twenty-one millions of debts that was the only monument left from the years of Republican rule.

Democracy's Honorable History.

"It has honestly accounted to the people for every cent passing through its hands, and of \$100,000,000 that it handled not one dollar was lost to the Treasury of the State. But Mr. Hadley wants to know whether I repudiate former Democratic administrations. I answer no. From Woodson to and including Folk there has not been a Democratic Governor whose administration has not been a credit to the State, and who has not at the close of his term deserved the plaudits due to faithful service.

"He talks of corruption under Democratic officials. Has he forgotten that the reign of corruption in St. Louis that startled the country was under a Republican Mayor, and it was a Republican Council that fixed a price list on legislation? This disgraceful condition was broken up by Democratic officials, and the people of St. Louis, without regard to party, showed their appreciation of that situation by turning the Republicans out and installing the present honest and efficient Democratic administration.

"He talks of corruption in Legislative halls. It is true a Democratic Lieutenant-Governor betrayed his trust and only escaped the penitentiary by turning State's evidence. But of the corruption there exposed only one man was convicted, and he was a Republican Senator, John A. Lee, the Democrat, has gone to a well-merited obscurity, and in the con-

tempt of all honest Democrats is now receiving, at least in part, the punishment he so richly deserved; but Senator Sullivan is still a power in the Republican party, and bearing in one hand the record of his conviction of soliciting a bribe, and carrying in the other the credentials from his party as a delegate to the National Convention at Chicago, he sat by the side of Mr. Hadley to name the presidential nominee for his party.

"There are dishonest men in all parties, and now and then every party is liable to make a mistake in the selection of its candidates. The difference is this: We punish our scoundrels, they promote theirs.

Republican Interferes in Peril.

"Mr. Hadley exhibits an earnest desire to make the St. Louis primary an issue of the campaign. I here serve notice on him, we Democrats can settle our own family disputes, and the Republican brother that breaks in between the warring members of our family is likely to receive a jolt on both cheeks. He can make no issue with me over the primaries in St. Louis.

"There may have been illegal voting in several wards, but the returns so far gathered indicate that Mr. Hadley's percentage of fraudulent votes was about as great as anybody else's. The returns further show that on the Democratic side such votes were about equally divided between my leading opponent, Mr. Ball, and myself. But I observe in the Globe-Democrat of September 26 that in Precinct 7 of Ward 22 Mr. Ball was credited with 104 votes, I was given 3 and Mr. Hadley 24. The canvassers find thirteen men who admit

according to the reports published in the St. Louis papers, disappeared with \$26,000 of his employers' money. When caught he returned most of the money and escaped punishment for his crime. He is now posing before the people of this State as a purifier of elections and is the man selected because of his remarkable proficiency in election methods to prepare the data on which the investigation of the St. Louis primary is being made.

"Mr. Hadley wishes to know whence came the \$35,000 for my preliminary campaign. I will answer him. It came from that same inexhaustible storehouse whence he draws the proof of the great things he has done for the people of Missouri. It exists only in Herbert Hadley's imagination, and has for its proof only the statement of this modern Munchausen and the mouthings of a discredited political boss.

"I answer him further, that no corporation, no saloon or no brewery ever contributed one cent to aid me in the fight for the Democratic nomination. Can he say as much? But since he desires to enter into the question of campaign contributions, I would like to call his attention to a little history in Missouri.

"I shall not state as testimony the vagrant mouthings of disgruntled Republicans, but I will give as my authority the sworn testimony of reputable men taken before an investigating committee of the Missouri Legislature, and the finding of facts as reported by a committee composed alike of Democrats and Republicans.

Should Have Reversed Words.

"With all the enthusiasm of a new convert to respectability Mr. Hadley

his obligations to the men that bought him his office. Section 7176 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri prohibits a corporation from subscribing money to the campaign fund of any political party, and makes such conduct work a forfeiture of the charter of the corporation so offending. It further provides that the suit to forfeit the same may be brought in any court of the State by the Attorney-General. The Legislature of Missouri, by resolution, inquired of Mr. Hadley why such suit had not been brought against the brewery company that contributed \$2,500 toward his election, and Mr. Hadley responded that the facts did not in his opinion bring the case within the language of the law.

First Aid to the Brewery.

"This, notwithstanding that the president of that brewery himself swore that \$2,500 was contributed by the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association; that it was paid with the check of that company, and the committee found that \$2,500 was contributed by that association, and so distinctly reported, and the check showing the same was in evidence before them. In the light of these facts it is amusing to witness the attempt of Mr. Hadley to make campaign contributions an issue and pose as a political purist.

"Mr. Hadley says he owes his nomination to the people of Missouri alone. This statement is equalled in history only by the 'Nine Tailors of Tooley Street' who resolved that they were the people of England.

"Mr. Hadley knows full well that he was not nominated but appointed by a little coterie of political bosses who at the dead hour of the night

result of that testimony he, Herbert Hadley, reduced insurance rates in Missouri. If Mr. Hadley found that these companies were criminals, what right did he have to compromise the crime? If the evidence showed they were not criminals, by what form of persuasion did he reduce the rates? If Mr. Hadley made an agreement with any insurance company in the State to reduce its rates, let him take the people of the State into his confidence and publish the contract that there was made.

"If he did not have a contract, but had even the slender hold of a stipulation from attorneys, let him present the written instrument. If he does not, we are justified in charging in his own imagination, and was another of the 'dreams' with which he is trying to deceive the people. The facts are that the records in the office of the Insurance Commissioner of Missouri will show that from 1903 to 1904 the rates of insurance were reduced 2 per cent; from 1904 to 1905 the rates were reduced 5 per cent, and from 1905 to 1906 there was another reduction of 5 per cent, and from 1906 to 1907 there was another reduction of 5 per cent; so that for four years prior to the time that Herbert Hadley sought to take the testimony in the controversy with the companies, rates have constantly been reduced; and yet, with a mendacity unequalled, this Bombastes Furiosus claims credit of \$800,000 because the companies, after defeating him in his suit, followed the plan they had formerly pursued.

Claim is Patently False.

"Mr. Hadley's attempt to take to himself the credit of the reduction in passenger rates brought about by the recommendation of a Democratic Governor and the passage of the law by a Democratic Legislature is too patently false to need refutation. It might be pertinent, however, to inquire why it is that if he claims for himself the credit for that reduction he has not likewise reduced freight rates in accordance with the laws passed by the same legislative body. His answer in his speech would appear to be that he had decided in conference with the railroad attorneys that they should enforce a part of the law and ignore a part of it, and that a Democratic Railroad Commissioner, John Knott, refused to enter into an agreement to ignore the law upon the statute books, and for this recognition of the obligations of his office he faces Mr. Hadley's denunciation.

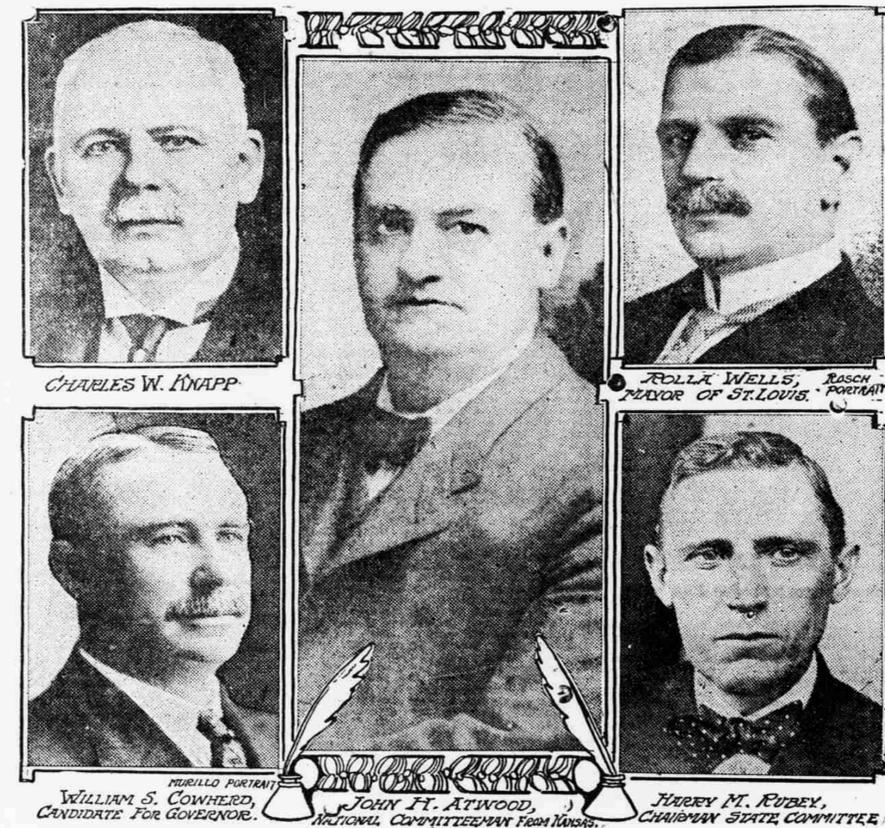
"But, after several columns of boastful claims in regard to his own performance, Mr. Hadley asks me to state what I have ever accomplished that should endear me to the people of Missouri. I have never thought an honorable reputation could be earned by personal boasts. I have ever believed a man's reputation should rest in the mouths of his associates rather than his own, but since Mr. Hadley challenges me to show where I have rendered any service to the people of my community, I shall briefly answer him. We each filled the office of assistant city counselor.

"I challenge him to deny that the record shows more work done at less expense and with better results to the public under my tenure of office than when he held the same position. Upon my record there made I was elected Mayor of Kansas City, and under my administration was inaugurated the system of parks and boulevards that today is the pride and glory of the second city of the State; under my administration then was begun the fight for cheaper gas, that reduced the rate for the people of that community from \$1.60 to \$1 per thousand cubic feet, saving millions of dollars to them during the life of the franchise.

Mighty Deeds Accomplished.

"Under my administration the fight was made against a great and powerful corporation for municipal control of the waterworks system, and though we had to meet every corrupt force in Kansas City, including the Kansas City Star, that is now supporting Mr. Hadley, we won out in the end, and the city owns its waterworks by reason of the fight we made. We paid \$3,000,000 for them. We have reduced water rates 22 per cent, improved the service, given every year free water to the city that formerly cost \$100,000 annually, and now have a plant worth \$10,000,000. Is not that something to have accomplished? But Mr. Hadley says that after the expiration of my term of office I defended a man accused of an election crime. I did, as he has often, defend men accused of crimes. The man I defended was discharged. That contest was not between political parties, but between Democracy and an intolerant society known as the A. P. A., that had captured the Republican party in Kansas City.

"Does Mr. Hadley say to the bar of this State a lawyer should not defend a man in the courts for fear it may affect that lawyer's political future? I answer with Erskine, that when the bar is composed of such cravens, liberty will not long remain with the people. Upon my record in the Mayor's office I was elected to Congress, and Hadley asks what did I accomplish there for the people? I am willing to leave the question of my standing in that body to Joseph G. Cannon, Republican Speaker of the House, or James S. Sherman, nominee for Vice-President on the Republican ticket, and I challenge Mr. Hadley to call upon them for an answer. It is true, a Democratic member in a Republican Congress cannot accomplish much or get credit for even what he does accomplish. But in reply to Mr. Hadley's request as to what I did, I answer I voted and worked against the passage of the Dingley tariff law that today is robbing the people of this State of millions of dollars for the benefit of the protected trusts. How would he have voted had he been able to deceive Missouri Democrats and stood on



Some of the Notable Figures in Great Meeting of Missouri's Democratic Editors.

From the St. Louis Republic.

voting for Mr. Ball, eleven who claim to have voted for me and nine for Mr. Hadley; so while Hadley's vote was swelled by 60 per cent of fraud, mine was reduced by about 300 per cent. I note also in the Second precinct of the Fourth ward that Mr. Hadley is credited with twenty-six votes, and the canvassers find only two men that admit voting for him.

"The Democrats of this State understand that in every booth Republican judges and clerks were serving by the side of Democrats; they understand full well that if there was fraud the Republicans participated in it, and they know further that no man upon their ticket owes his nomination to a majority received in the city of St. Louis.

"Mr. Hadley has made himself the sewer through which the slime daily put forth in the columns of the Globe-Democrat is to be given to the people of the State. He has gathered up the interperate utterances of local politicians smarting under defeat and tried to build a case by calling it testimony.

Hard to Reconcile G. O. P.

"Mr. Hadley will find it is equally difficult to disturb the Democracy by trying to reopen old wounds as it is to unite the Republicans in behalf of the ticket in whose selection they had no voice. Over all the State the Democrats are lining up with splendid harmony and going forth confident of victory, all the more aggressive because of the earnest fight that was waged in the primary campaign, and over all the State the Republican party is dead or sleeping, because it takes no interest in the ticket appointed for it by the bosses. It is well, however, for the Democracy of the State to understand that the investigation in St. Louis is being made upon the data prepared under the direct supervision and control of John B. Owens, a former express messenger, who a few years ago,

announces that this election will come to him without the taint of illegality, or it will not come at all. He had better, if he desired to be truthful, reverse the sentence and announce that it will not come to him unless with the taint of illegality.

"When did Mr. Hadley reach this plane of political purity? When did he refuse to accept an office because of the tainted source from which it came? In the investigation of the election of 1904 it was proven that shortly before that election was held, at a meeting in the cellar of a well-known St. Louis brewer, Mr. Niedringhaus, chairman of the Republican State Committee, announced that he needed \$25,000 to carry Missouri for the Republican ticket. I do not need to call the attention of the people of this State to the fact that \$25,000 spent in the closing hours of a campaign is spent for no legitimate purpose, but can only be successfully used as a corruption fund. Upon this plea, the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association gave its check for \$2,500; its president subscribed \$10,000 more, and Otto Stiefel, owner of another brewery in St. Louis, and Mr. Hadley's most ardent supporter, and practically the manager of the St. Louis end of his campaign to-day, guaranteed \$6,250 more, and so the \$25,000 was raised to purchase success for the Republican ticket, and standing on the foul eminence of an office bought for him by the money of the breweries of St. Louis, Mr. Hadley denounces the brewery influence and sales of purity in elections and campaign contributions. As he turns to the country the mask that denounces the breweries he smiles beneath it at his friend Stiefel, and arranges the meeting at which he, as Mr. Stiefel's guest, is to be led through the streets of St. Louis that the saloonkeepers seeing him in such excellent company may know the drift of his sentiments.

"It must be said to Mr. Hadley's credit, however, that he recognized

in Jefferson City made up a ticket for the Republican party and, by virtue of a political machine, drove every man from public life who dared to oppose their dictation, and Herbert Hadley himself, in servile obedience to their demands, compelled one of his own assistants to resign the position which he held because he insisted upon his right as a Republican to submit himself to the voters of that party as a candidate for public office.

"I shall not follow Mr. Hadley through the volume of fiction evolved from the recesses of his own imagination, which he calls his record. I remember, however, a few years ago a suit was brought by Attorney-General E. C. Crow against certain insurance companies, and as a result of that suit the Supreme Court found these companies guilty of the offense of deliberately forming a trust to maintain the prices to be charged for insurance, and a writ of ouster was issued against them.

Companies' Guilt Was Admitted.

"Later on the court revised its judgment and permitted the companies to continue in business in the State upon the following condition: First, they were to pay into the treasury, each \$1,000 in fines for their past offenses, and the court held jurisdiction over them, in case they should again do business in this criminal way, that the writ of ouster at once should issue.

"Under this decision \$99,000 was paid into the treasury of the State. Now, if Mr. Hadley found any insurance company was again violating the law, all he had to do was to call the attention of the Supreme Court to this fact, present the evidence and have the company driven from the State, whose laws it had violated. But he tells us that, under authority of a commission, he took testimony against certain companies, and as a