The Passing of Bryan

Bryan and Nebraska

The "Passing of Bryan" is an old theme, so very aptly put to music by Mr. Henry H. Seiberling, in which there is carried into the public mind the idea that the brewers have finally come to have his alliance. His followers are legion and the most of them are faithful. If he has failed to number among his followers the "soldiers" of the local party, it is because the "soldiers" of the local party were slow to pronounce judgment. But Bryan seems to have lost much of his power as a party director in Nebraska, and there is no doubt that this will please large numbers of Democrats in other parts of the country. For with all his personal popularity and strength he has been the protector of his party, and there is an eager desire to be rid of his leadership. Such being the condition the most will be made of the Nebraska, a dearth which is encouraging to the larger revolt. But there may be several chapters left of that old story. "The Passing of Bryan." And they may be excitingly painful to those who have been Democrats. — Chicago Record-Herald.

Speaking of Waterloo

William Jennings Bryan never measured higher in the love and trust of his fellow citizens than when he fell from the right, and yet was overwhelmed in the democratic convention of his state.

It was a fair assumption, from the evidences at hand, that the people of Nebraska are ready for Bryan. The liquor argument is to be resolved by voters who have been castigated for some years in the divided forces of prohibition. Upon this Bryan bases his local option plank. His as usual was outspoken. He made his views unreservedly known. He is for the defeated convention, he was, as ever, fearless.

The proposition fell; but it carried no down payment. The state is the liquor argument. Bryan and populists have declared for it. Democratic resistance is apparently in the hope of the party. There is no question of the divided forces of prohibition. Upon this Bryan bases his local option plank. His as usual was outspoken. He made his views unreservedly known. He is for the defeated convention, he was, as ever, fearless.

If we were compelled to guess, we would incline to the view that the defeat of the Bryan democracy met a Waterloo on last Tuesday. — Denver News.

Not Decisive

Defeat is not a new experience for Hon. William Jennings Bryan. There have been more or less notable occasions and has survived them. The fact remains that he will be unable to survive that administered to him by the democratic convention of his state last night.

The nominal result, of course, is to depire him of the leadership of his party in Nebraska. It is his leadership that had retarded for eight years of twenty years and through which he had acquired and retained national leadership, despite frequent reverses.

The local option is the same to win. They tire of Bryan. They desert his standard, and the wonder is that Bryan has been able to retain his hold upon the votes of the years of his success. The defeat at the polls. He couldn't have done it had he not placed principle above personality and party itself and had not the vast majority of the "common people" of his party beyond the principles that he advocated and the sincerity of his purpose.

He was an advocate of principles. He was sincere in the advocacy of the one presented to his state. Bryan won to its party. Bryan lost the election of several states as sound party convention, but after his defeat he went into the political enemies in Nebraska the opportunity they were looking for to overthrow him. The issue was the exact opposite of the one issue. Bryan was the act of his advocate is political. Both挪 to come into play. This has not been changed, when those same practical politicians of the same state and the same principle that the will of the people. It was that he has developed into a loser. History, especially political history, has a natural habit of repeating itself. Bryan is defeated, but not whipped. He will continue to fight for the principles that he believes in and a large one, in the democratic party. His followers are legion and the most of them are faithful. If he has failed to number among his followers the "soldiers" of the local party, it is because the "soldiers" of the local party were slow to pronounce judgment.

Mr. Bryan and Nebraska

While Mr. Bryan has, admittedly, been decisively worsted in his attempt to commit the democracy of Nebraska to the cause of local option in the matter of the sale of intoxicating liquors, the vote is another particular national significance necessarily attaches to the issue.

The truth is, the matter is, local option, or home, rule, is pretty fair democratic doctrine, we think, and for the reason that in no remarkable performance when he invoked it and endorsed it. The mere fact that the democracy of Nebraska has not done that means that the democracy of the other states will do likewise. Time and again the democracy of Georgia has incorporated local option in its platform; democracy of Indiana has incorporated local option in its platform; and democracy of Alabama has seen its guide line reaffirmed its allegiance to the same. Purely local option is necessarily as unimportant as is the concept of "local option" in its national aspect is concerned, Mr. Bryan's recent stand for local option will as likely strengthen the hands of those who say the least of it. Indeed, it is conceivable that Mr. Bryan might be said to have added the good opinion of Nebraska—even his home state—in order more surely to establish himself in the good opinion of those who think that clinging to local option as the true of true

Curiously enough, the Nebraska situation is far complicated by the fact that the republicans will surely adopt a local option plank identical with that so long held to be democratic gospel in the south, and back to which the prohibition south is steadily waking. That will not commit national Republicanism to local option.

As we have said, however, we do not regard the Nebraska incident as anything more than a Nebraska incident. If Mr. Bryan is disqualified for further national use, it is not because of his stand on the local option issue in Nebraska. His disqualification must have some other basis. We may assume that position or undertook to commit the democratic party to the exact measure of local option to the wrong. But the fact is Bryan, may not or the democratic dog, and a large portion of that dog is of local option.

While the effort to "get rid of Bryan" is in progress, it may be true that the situation, perhaps, if it were conducted along reasonably sensible lines. — Washington (D. C.) Herald.

Becoming Defeat

No defeat ever became Mr. Bryan better than the one he has just suffered in Nebraska. At large it was a moral—case of the liquor traffic and the party which Bryan had sustained it. He accepted his leadership in all his succe....