

THE CAMDEN CHRONICLE

H. D. Niles and
E. N. McDowell

Published every Friday at 1109 No. Broad Street, and entered at the Camden postoffice as second class mail mat. Price per annum \$1.50.

Camden, S. C., June 18, 1920

THE NOMINATION OF HARDING

(From The New York Times.)
Upon a platform that has produced general dissatisfaction, the Chicago convention presents a candidate whose nomination will be received with astonishment and dismay by the party whose suffrages he invites. Warren G. Harding is a very respectable Ohio politician of the second class. He has never been a leader of men or a director of policies. For years a portage or foraker, he rose to a subordinate office by favor of "Boss" Cox, of Cincinnati. Beaten by Judson Harmon in the contest for the Governorship in 1910, he has never shown independent strength in his own State save when he was named for Senator in 1914, having a majority of a little more than 100,000 over his Democratic competitor; and outside of Ohio he has only such strength as he now derives from his place at the head of the Republican ticket. Senator Harding's record at Washington has been faint and colorless. He was an undistinguished and indistinguishable unit in the ranks of Republican Senators who obediently followed Mr. Lodge in the twistings and turnings of that statesman's foray upon the treaty and the covenant.

The nomination of Harding, for whose counterpart we must go back to Franklin Pierce if we would seek a President who measured own to his political stature, is the fine and perfect flower of the cowardice and imbecility of the Senatorial cabal that charged itself with the management of the Republican convention, against whose control Governor Beckman so vehemently protested. Rejecting Leonard Wood, probably the strongest candidate with the people the party could have chosen, because they knew he would never be dictated to by them, they favored Governor Lowden until Borah served upon them his notice of a veto of that nomination. Borah was commanding and truculent because he knew that he had to deal with a group of white-livered and incompetent politicians. If Republican leadership had not fallen into the hands of pigmies these chief men at Chicago would have told Borah to bolt and be hanged, just as upon the issue of the league they would have defied Johnson to do his worst. But they ran like a frightened flock, surrendered everything. Mr. Lodge finally throwing off all disguises and standing out as the open foe of the covenant of the league of nations, even with his own reservations. What has befallen the Republican party of the caryatids, the party of sixty ears ago, when it was possessed of moral purposes, or of forty and thirty years ago, when it could still profess to have them and find believers?

Where are its leaders that can be compared to Morrill, Seward, Hale, Platt, of Connecticut; Oliver P. Morton, Sumner, Blaine, Conkling and a dozen others who rose to high places in the party councils? And, if the question be not too unfeeling, where and what are its principles, if any it have? Party control, exercised by a group of Senators, is divided between Lodge on the one hand and Borah and Johnson on the other. None of them radiating would have come within hailing distance of the foremost rank of party chiefs in the brilliant days of Republicanism. And for principles, they have only hatred of Mr. Wilson and a ravening hunger for the office. Governor Coolidge for Vice President really shines by comparison with the head achievement, he is known to the party and to the nation. When the police force of Boston went on strike he showed himself to be an au. He met that menace to the public safety with courage and determination, and the nation rang with praise of him. It is fortunate that not a word is to be said against the character of either candidate. They are irreproachable. But that does not compensate for the lack of achievement, for the colorlessness of the candidate for first place, or for the manner in which his nomination was brought about. It will be felt and said everywhere that the Democrats at San Francisco have received from their opponents at Chicago the gift of a splendid opportunity.

THE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE
(Charleston News and Courier.)
The Republicans have nominated an utterly uninspiring candidate, a man about whom four-fifths of the American people know practically nothing, a man of whom millions of voters have never heard. Of all the men who sought the nomination, Senator Harding of Ohio is, with the possible exception of Sprout of Pennsylvania, furthest from being a national figure. The people knew Wood, they knew Lowden, they knew Johnson, they knew Hoover, they knew something at least about Coolidge. They did not know Harding or anything of any consequence about him; and when the news of his nomination was flashed over the country the first question asked by the crowds about the bulletin boards was, "Who is Harding, any way?"

A man without magnetism, a man without the precious gift of personality, a man with no record of positive achievement to his credit, a man who is a total stranger to four-fifths of the American people, a man whose opinions regarding the great questions of the times are known to scarcely anybody, a man whose mind has hitherto made no impress whatsoever upon the public mind and who has exerted no influence upon the national life—It is with a candidate of this sort landing upon a platform as colorless and uninspiring as the candidate himself, and that the Republican party goes before the people in this momentous election year of 1920.

The nomination of Senator Harding is, primarily, the sad product of the predicament in which the Republican party had been placed by the folly and narrowness of its active leadership during the past year and a half. There is no use in going over that long story. Suffice it to say that the Wilsonophobia which has obsessed the party leadership and completely dominated its policy created a situation at the convention which made it impossible for the party to adopt a platform or name a candidate worthy of its traditions. It was forced to compromise with and in large measure surrender to forces within itself which

were and are repugnant to its own best elements. So bitter were the antagonisms that had been aroused by the personalities and by the views of the positive, outstanding men among the candidates that to nominate one of these would have meant a party split. The party was therefore driven to nominating a nonentity of whom the best that can be said is that he has done nothing definite to make any large group of voters angry with him.

Yet it is unlikely that this compromise, this surrender, will succeed in its purposes. We have said that Mr. Harding is almost unknown to the people. So he is; but in connection with his name there exists in the minds of many a vague impression that he is a protege of special interests. Indeed, many months ago, before the pre-convention contests began, Harding was spoken of as the favorite candidate of the Old Guard, and the course of events at the convention would seem to bear this out. By choosing Harding, a purely negative figure of the Republican managers averted an open and immediate break with the radical wing of the party; but even if an open break has been permanently averted, it is impossible for the Harding candidacy to evoke any enthusiasm in that faction and it is highly improbable that he will get its support. He offers and can offer it none of the things that, it seems, it will not warm to him; and the selection of Coolidge as his running mate makes it all the more certain that the bulk of the following of Hiram Johnson will not vote for the Ohio man.

With such a candidate as Mr. Harding and such a platform as that which the Republican party has adopted, the chance of Republican victory lies wholly in the dissatisfaction of the people with the present state of affairs, a state of affairs for which the Republicans seek to hold the Democratic administration responsible. Offering nothing positive themselves, they hope the people will turn to them on the theory that anything would be better than what we now have. They tried much this same game in 1916, making Hughes pussyfoot on most of the issues, suppressing his personality, metamorphosing him into a "bearded lady," as Roosevelt is said to have described him in disgust. And they failed in 1916, although Hughes was a vastly stronger, a vastly abler, a vastly better known figure than their candidate in this race, and although he was far better able to make an effective appeal to the West—the real battleground then, as now—than Mr. Harding can make.

Without question the position of the Democrats has been tremendously improved as a consequence of the Republican blundering which has culminated in the nomination of a candidate who cannot possibly arouse enthusiasm in any quarter. The prospect for a Democratic victory in November has brightened until it is now immeasurably better than it was at this time four years ago. Our hopes, however, must be held in leash until we have heard from San Francisco.

The Democrats have their great chance; their care must be that they do not fling it away as the Republicans would seem to have flung away theirs. To win, or to deserve to win, there are two things which the Democrats must do. Let them adopt a positive, courageous platform, dodging no issue but declaring plainly the party's position on every great question and, above all, championing wholeheartedly the great project of a society of nations, a coming together of the world's free peoples in a co-operative undertaking for the maintenance of world peace upon a basis of justice and reason. That is the first thing.

Then let them nominate a man known to the whole country, a man known as a doer, a man of force and of proved ability, a man whose character, personality and achievements have made an impress upon the nation, a man of positive convictions regarding the great questions before us—a man, in short, like William G. McAdoo or Carter Glass.

Such a platform and such a nomination will lose some votes for the party which it might otherwise have, but the contrast with the alternatives offered by the Republicans would be so great that the Democracy would be bound to gather to itself the respect of the nation and in the end it will not only gain many more votes than will be lost, but it will be strengthened and fortified and built up and renewed, from within and from without, and in all respects made more fit and more ready for the tasks that lie ahead.

William Jennings Bryan strongly urged the Republicans to introduce a plank in their platform indorsing the 18th amendment as interpreted by the Volstead act in an address before a mass meeting of the "drys" of the Republican party in Chicago, Tuesday.

Today at the Majestic see William Farnum in The Adventurer.

Wants--For Sale

GOLD BAR PIN LOST—Set with Sapphires, Pearls and Diamond. Return to Chronicle office and receive reward. 1p

FOUND—One gold pin. Owner can have same by describing property, calling at this office and paying for this notice. 1t

FOR SALE—White Wyandot and white Leghorn chickens. The lot offered at 25c per pound. James D. Zemp at Zemp and De Pass Drug Store. 11 p

FOR SALE—One Dodge touring car in a-1 shape. Will sell at a bargain. Call 210 at Carolina Motor Co., Camden, S. C. 11 pd

WANTED—To rent either an Underwood or Remington typewriter for a short time. S. J. Walters, Cassell, S. C. 1t

LOST GOLD PIN—Set with Sapphires Pearls, and a Diamond. Reward if return to Chronicle Office. 1p

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Camden, S. C.



FOR SALE—Two tons Nitrate Soda on hand now. \$80.00 per ton. J.B. Zemp. 1 tp

SODA FOR SALE—Two or three cars arriving next week. See John Whitaker, Camden S. C. 10t

FOR SALE—1919 Ford Sedan—five passenger, in good condition will be sold cheap. Apply to H. S. Porter, at Moseley Mercantile Co., Camden S. C. 11 pd

AUTOMOBILE, TRUCK AND TRACTOR OWNERS ATTENTION—We are in a better position than ever before to attend to your repairs, etc. All of our mechanics are men of several years experience and work under Mr. Ernest Frietag. We are adding daily to our equipment of modern tools and machinery. Your business will be appreciated. W. O. Hay's Garage, South Broad Street, Camden, S. C. 10-13p

LOST—One black Shetland pony. Strayed from home last Thursday night. Notify S. H. Chewning, Camden, S. C., and reward and expenses will be paid. 1pd

FOR SALE—One blue Ford Speedster car for sale. See W. G. Fundeburk, 411 DeKalb Street, or Hermitage Cotton Mill, Camden, S. C. 11-12pd.

FOR SALE—Pigs of all ages. Apply to Henry Smyrl, Canterbury, S. C. 9-12

FOR SALE—Sweet Potato Plants, \$1.50 per 1000, express collect. \$1.75 1000, goshpald. All varieties prompt shipment. Dorris-Kensy Plant Co., Valdosta, Ga. 10-13pd.

FOR RENT—Two front offices over the Men's Shop. Apply to J. H. Burns, Camden, S. C. 9 tf

FOR SALE—Million Porto Rico and Nancy Hall potato plants. We are shipping carload a day. Rush your orders. Now is the time to put out plants for early eating. Only \$2 per 1000 by express. J. E. Gillis, Rembert, S. C. 7tf

FOR SALE—Five room house on Hampton Avenue. Price on application. J. A. McDowell, Agent.

FOR SALE—Laths for sale. Apply Henry Savage, Camden S. C. tf.

PAINT—Save money on your paint bill. Ask about the Southern Cotton Oil Co's line. Wm. King, at Oil Mill, Camden, S. C. 2tf.

LOANS—on improved real estate, easy terms. E. C. vonTresckow, Camden, S. C. 45

FURNITURE REPAIRING—And upholstery shop is now located at 523 Market Street. All work is guaranteed. Dibble Hunter, proprietor, Camden, S. C. 10-13pd

VELVET BEANS—For sale at \$2.00 per bushel. Fine as stock food and wonderful soil renovator. W. J. Hendrix at Pine Farm, Camden, S. C.

WANTED—Second hand organs. Address Box 228, Walter Parke, Camden, S. C. 51t

AGENT WANTED—For Wortham Hair Preparation. See or call at Madam K. E. Belton, 1713 Gordon Street, Camden, S. C. 20t

WANTED—A double entry Bookkeeper, Camden, S. C., man or woman. Apply in own handwriting. Drawer 262, Camden, S. C. 8tf

FOR SALE—Farm of B. B. Treasold, located on Liberty Hill road, containing four hundred eighty nine acres, about three hundred acres cleared, balance in wood and pasture land. This is one of the best farms in Kershaw County, and can be bought during the next thirty days at an attractive figure. L. A. McDowell, Agent.

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R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO., Winston-Salem, N.C.

More than five thousand signatures were obtained to a petition circulated in Oregon Tuesday asking United States Senator Hiram W. Johnson, to repudiate the platform adopted by the republican national convention at Chicago, and to announce himself as an independent candidate for the presidency, according to a telegram sent to Senator Johnson by W. P. Adams, Portland attorney.

Major Gen. Lee and Wood, in a signed statement Tuesday characterized as "a vicious and malicious falsehood," a declaration by Nicholas Murray Butler, that a "motley group of stock gamblers and mining promoters, munitions makers and other like persons" backed the general's campaign for the Republican Presidential nomination.

Made it Too High.

In our last weeks paper we mentioned the fact that the Bank of Langoff had increased its capital from \$25,000 to \$50,000. Through an error the figures read from 25,000 to 550,000.

Letters From The People

Thanks His Friends.

Editor Chronicle: I desire to use this opportunity to thank my friends throughout the county who have publicly and privately urged me to stand for the House of Representatives this summer. In view of the many requests that are coming to me urging this course, I wish to say that I shall give the matter a thorough consideration and announce my decision a little later on.

Mindel L. Smith.

Couring, tomorrow at the Majestic Charlie Chaplin in "A JITNEY ELOPEMENT."