

HOLY WAR ON KLAN IS HIDING CAPITALIST RIVALRY BETWEEN THE EAST AND THE NEW SOUTH

By JAY LOVESTONE.
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MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, New York, July 1.—The orgy of words that the quadrennial democratic circus has been subjected to in the last four days appears to be over. Sixteen candidates, inclusive of dark horses and dead timber, are now on the auction bloc. Between the raps of chairman Walsh's gavel the winning steed is to be chosen.

The delegates gathered bright and early to listen to Rev. John Roach Straton tell Jesus that "the powers that be are ordained of God," and to pray for their "physical strength to bear their burdens."

Klan Conflict Crucial

Chairman Homer Cummings of the Resolutions Committee soon after came up to make a confession. He told, with some frankness, of "the great differences of opinion" over the "religious issue." Cummings was camouflaging the Ku Klux Klan issue. He told of "the heated, acrimonious discussion" and said, with a tinge of pathos in his tone, "If a committee of 54 could show such feeling, then we began to wonder what would happen if such a question would be put on the floor."

Split Talk in Air

"We began to think what would happen to the party and began to draw closer so that America might have the benefit of the services of our party."

"In all my years of political experience I have never witnessed such a scene as I saw in the committee room at 6 a. m. One of the members rose and recited the Lord's prayer. We all joined. Bryan then lifted up his hands in an invocation for divine guidance and help in the grave crisis."

"I therefore ask that we recess till 3 p. m."

The convention adjourned.

A Nomination Fight

At 4 p. m. Rabbi Wise was put into the prayer for a change of luck in begging the Lord for guidance. The Rabbi failed to line up God for unity. Homer Cummings came forward with the announcement that there would be majority and minority reports on the League and the "religious", the euphonic name for the Klan) issue.

For the first time since the convention was called to order there was complete quietness in the jammed Garden. Everybody expected a fight. Everybody was fully prepared for it, as it is now days that the struggle over these issues has been going on.

Of the two questions the Klan is the serious one. Beneath the surface controversy the battle over the Ku Klux is a tug of war between the Smith forces, drawing their strength mainly from the northern and eastern capitalists and the McAdoo forces, getting their support mainly from the western and southern capitalists. The Smith group has chosen this issue as the best fighting ground for their nominee. With the McAdoo forces the fight is a defensive one. It was forced upon them.

Why the Difference

The why and wherefore of the difference in the attitude between the two groups of ruling class interests is a very complicated one. It is to be explained by the difference in the social, political, religious and economic conditions transmitted and at hand in the various sections of the country.

In the South and in the West big industry is not as well developed, McAdoo states, is, on the whole, less concentrated and centralized. Consequently, the tendency towards the centralization of state power is less marked in this group of states. Consequently the politico-economic conditions in the Southern and Western states afford more suitable breeding ground for the development of an extra-legal, extra-state machinery of the employing class for keeping the working masses in subjection.

Then, of course, there are the religious and social differences making for the greater spread of the tenets of the Klan in the South and West. In this section of the country the non-Catholic and native population preponderate. The ratio of Catholics and foreign-born is far smaller here than in the Eastern and Northern industrial states.

Furthermore, organized labor which is opposed to the dark order hiding itself in white sheets and which has been a source of voting strength

MATTEOTTI WROTE OF FASCIST GRAFT WITH SINCLAIR OIL HEADS

LONDON, England, July 1.—A posthumously printed article in "English Life" and written by Giacomo Matteotti, the Socialist Deputy slain by Fascisti in Italy, proves that the deputy's contentions of terrific grafting among fascist high officials were founded in fact and that his enemies slew him in a desperate and vain effort to save their own positions. Matteotti writes in part:

"The conduct of the Banca Commerciale in regard to the Polish loan is an instance of the unbridled avarice permitted by the Fascisti rulers. Much worse are the actions of the ministry of national economy in its dealings with the Sinclair Oil Company."

"Senator Corbino, minister of national economy, handed over vast spaces of land in Emilia and Sicily containing over 400 square miles of rich oil deposits to the Sinclair Oil Company, which is connected with the octopus-like Standard Oil trust, without safeguards. There are many grave irregularities concerning this concession. High officials can be charged with treasonable corruption or the most disgraceful jobbery."

Matteotti would have brought up his charges in parliament if he had not been brutally murdered on the eve of its opening.

to the big democratic machines in the Eastern and Northern industrial centers, must be considered in this campaign more than ever before. Every vote will count decisively in the November elections.

Likewise, the recent Negro migration northward to the big cities makes their voting strength a matter of importance to the democratic bosses of these municipalities. Boss Brennan of the Chicago delegation is more interested, just now, in winning the Negro votes than in the freedom of religious conscience.

The Klan issue may in the future develop into a splitting issue for the Democratic party. It is not such an issue yet. Today, the sharpness of the differences is aggravated primarily by immediate politico-organizational reasons. McAdoo could as much face the Southern states with a Smith plank on the Klan as Smith could face New York with a McAdoo Klan position.

An Illinois alternate delegate close to his chief Brennan thus summed up the present Klan deadlock: "If it were a matter of principle then we could strike up some compromise, but in politics we can't do it." Expediency rules today.

Of course the above perusal of the situation is only cursory and does not at all pretend to be a thoro analysis of the complex question.

Second Licking May Be Needed to Teach De la Huerta Lesson

MEXICO CITY, July 1.—Rumors are spreading of another revolution to take place right after election day, July 6. De la Huerta is said to be organizing the forces and collecting funds. Accusations are falling on the National Assn. of Landowners.

All the leading generals of the last revolution have been killed, and Gen. Calles, the probable next president, has swung to the right. It wouldn't take the Mexican government more than a few days to wipe out a revolt, unless the United States should support a movement against Calles.