

# REPUBLICANS GROWN DESPERATE ALREADY

## And Last Night Indulge in Much Personal Abuse,

### Meyer Being Attacked at the First District Meeting,

### While Lee Launches Into a Tirade Against McEnery,

### Speakers at Both Rallies Blaming the Democracy Even for Cor- ner's Office Scandal.

A mass meeting of the Republicans of the Eighth and Ninth Districts was held last night at Lafayette Avenue and St. Claude Street. A handsome stand had been erected, which was decorated with United States flags and festooned with incandescent lights. A band helped to draw the crowd and bonfires blazed about the street. There were several hundred people present, including women and children.

The meeting was called to order by F. R. Tanneret, Chairman of the First District Congressional Committee, who appointed T. Sidney Weber as Chairman of the meeting.

L. P. Bryant was introduced as the first speaker. He said that he would be willing to meet General Adolph Meyer at any time and anywhere and discuss the issue of the campaign with him. General Meyer was drawing \$5,000 a year and spending \$20,000. Where did he get the money? If a clerk exceeded his salary in his living, his employer inquired into where the money came from. General Meyer worked for the people. Why did not the people find out where General Meyer got his money? He denied that General Meyer was in any way responsible for the selection of New Orleans as a site for the marine dry dock. He gave a history of the manner in which New Orleans had been awarded the choice.

At this juncture a lot of children in front of the stand raised a lot of noise and Mr. Bryant asked the lone policeman detailed at the meeting to silence them. When the policeman forced the children back Mr. Bryant told him to give the little ones another scare and maybe they would be good.

Mr. Bryant then renewed his talk about the dock. He said Republicans had deepened the water at the mouth of the river. Republicans selected New Orleans as the site for the dock.

"Republicans did it all," said Mr. Bryant. "Adolph Meyer was not even a blind dog in the race."

Mr. Bryant charged directly that General Meyer's brother had bought land about the dock site before the public had an inkling as to where the site would be. The implication was that the family had profited thereby. He also made other personal charges against General Meyer.

Mr. Bryant accused the Democrats of Louisiana of stifling an antitrust law at the last meeting of the Legislature. He said that the trusts of New Orleans furnished the campaign funds of the Democratic party. The New Orleans Railways Company furnished the ties, he said, for the Democratic mass meeting.

Mr. Bryant said that there were some honest Democrats, but that he "had read of Democrats who stole money and jewelry from a dead man." This was a hit at the scandal in the corner's office. He claimed that the Democratic Party was the friend of the trusts. He said that the Democratic press blue penciled the truth.

He tried to make capital out of the fact that Governor Heard had called out the militia to suppress rioting in the recent street car strike. "He should have known that when only 5 men out of a population of 325,000 responded to the call for extra police," said he, "that it was a case for New Orleans to settle and not a case to call out the country troops to shoot down the people of the city like dogs." He charged Governor Heard with staying away from the street car burn and engaging rooms in the St. Charles Hotel, adjoining those of President Pearson, of "the street car trust."

He spoke at considerable length, ending the appointment of suitable commissioners at the polls to secure valid votes were counted as cast. In conclusion he said that there was but one Democrat in Louisiana—Hon. Don Caffery, Ex-United States Senator.

The next speaker was a remarkably precocious young gentleman, who was introduced as the "youngest Republican on the platform." The young man was O. E. Weber, son of T. Sidney Weber. He is but 12 years of age, but is an orator already. Master Weber said:

"Ladies and Gentlemen and Fellow-Citizens: I am not down on the bills for a speech to-night, but having been asked by the Honorable Chairman of this meeting to make a few remarks, I consider it my duty as a good Republican to comply with his request. I want to say to you at the outset that owing to my neglecting to pay my poll tax—and perhaps to other causes also—I shall not have the pleasure of voting for my friend, the Hon. Oliver S. Livaudais, for Congress at the coming election."

"I regret this very much, indeed, for it would have been a very great pleasure, and source of much gratification to have been able to cast my ballot for him. I trust there may be but few Republicans of mature years in this assembly who have been equally indiscreet. If perhaps (there are, to them) I would say: 'Do not let it occur again.' It is a sacred duty which you owe to your party and to yourselves to pay your poll tax and to register."

"I am told there are quite a number of misguided Democrats in this audience to-night—good men, who have been sadly deceived, and led astray by bad Democratic bosses. My advice to these good people is: 'Wake up, friends, cast the pebbles from your eyes, cast the cobwebs from your thinkers and think and reason for yourselves. Determine to shun the false, seek the light and do the right. The Republican ranks are open to you, and we will be glad to extend to you the right hand of fellowship. Come, now is the accepted time, work with us for prosperity, vote with us for prosperity and do yourselves the honor of assisting in making your city prosperous, your State prosperous and your country prosperous."

"The Republican Party, always has been and always will be the laboring man's friend, and the labor vote will prove to you on Tuesday next that they know it, and are grateful. To every voter present, I appeal most earnestly and most sincerely to vote for Oliver S. Livaudais on Nov. 4. Do this and you will have no cause for regret. Some day I hope to come before you in my own hall, and I want you to send me to Congress, but for the present I want you to oust Mr. Adolph Meyer and send Mr. Livaudais to Washington in his stead. I thank you for your kind attention."

Rufus Rutz began an appeal for the laboring vote of the ward. He had hardly begun to speak when the lights went out. He claimed that the Democratic Party was no friend of labor. Incidentally, he also abused General Meyer. The lights were out throughout the speech of Mr. Rutz. When he had concluded they were restored.

Chairman Tanneret said that the lights might have gone out from accident, they might have been tampered with by a low-down Democrat, or the Railways Company might have caused them to be cut off on purpose to break up the meeting.

H. C. Ferrel was the next speaker. He dwelt upon the necessity for two parties and the fact that the negro had been eliminated from politics. He talked ward boss, and urged the people to throw off the shackles.

A. D. Piaggio, of the Sixth Ward, made a lengthy address, expounding well-known Republican tenets.

Mr. O. S. Livaudais, the candidate of the party for Congress, was introduced, but made no attempt to speak, owing to fatigue consequent upon illness in his family, and the illness of the hour, Mr. Livaudais said Mr. Weber would speak Thursday evening in the Seventh Ward. Mr. Livaudais was given a warm welcome, and thanked the gathering for its courtesy.

The meeting adjourned after hearing an address from Benjamin Armbruster.

Second Congressional District had a rally meeting in the Eleventh Ward last night, in Pythian Hall, at the corner of Magazine and Seventh Streets. There was the usual brass band and the usual skyrocket as a factor precedent, and when the meeting was called to order by B. J. Thilborger, President of the Eleventh Ward Club, about two hundred men were in the hall.

Louis P. Bryant and Candidate Lee were the star speakers. They were especially inflammatory as to their appreciation of Democracy and of Democrats. Mr. Bryant spoke for nearly two hours, and most of his talk was a tirade of abuse.

The meeting opened at 8:15 o'clock and adjourned at 11:15.

Major Hero, in his opening remarks, said that the meeting was to advocate the principles of the Republican Party, which has brought prosperity to the United States. Louisiana has been unfortunate in having been ruled by a little star-chamber Government, and it is to be hoped that she will, under Republican rule, take her proper rank in the sisterhood of the Republics.

E. W. Condon, of the Tenth Ward, was the first speaker. He said that he had been a Republican for thirty-four years. He was glad to see so many ex-Democrats now in the ranks of Republicanism. Public officials and political parties are not judged by the promises they make on the rostrum, but by their actions when they get in power. Owing to the peculiar condition of public affairs, it is the bounden duty of the people of the Second Congressional District to elect a Republican to Congress. Race issues once divided the political status of Louisiana. At present, however, that question has been eliminated. The Republican Party and the Republican statesmen in the days of the past guided the ship of state through all its trials and through all its troubles until the United States became the grandest country in the civilized world. The press got tired of the rottenness of the Democratic Party and demanded that at last a white Republican party was necessary to save the State from the corruption of the Democratic Party.

Mr. Condon "touched upon the shortcomings" of "his Democratic friends" and "their faults of omission and commission," and next pointed in glorious colors the benefits of Republican principles, dwelling especially upon the feature of protection to American industries and to American labor. The Democratic party promised that protection, but never gave it. He charged that the Governor of the State and the Executive and Administrative officers violated their oaths of office when they called out the militia to coerce the workmen of this city into going back to work after they had quit work, for an honest day's pay for an honest day's labor; and to protect the thugs, assassins and cutthroats whom the railroad company had imported from St. Louis and Chicago to intimidate the laborers. In that emergency Hon. Robert E. Lee, the Republican candidate for Congress in the Second District, spent many anxious days and nights, as President of the Labor Council, to find a way for the relief of the oppressed workmen. He has earned the suffrages of the people for his noble conduct and he ought to be elected in November.

The speaker mentioned W. S. Parkerson's name in connection with the settlement of the strike, and paid him a glowing tribute which was received with loud applause.

In conclusion, Mr. Condon urged his hearers to vote for Robert E. Lee, who always has had their interests at heart and loved their welfare as his own.

H. Dudley Coleman was introduced by Mr. Hero as an old, trusted and tried Confederate soldier, and an old and tried Republican, who is always ready.

Mr. Coleman said that the choice of the Republicans of the Second District is a vote-getter, Robert E. Lee has been selected from the Second Ward, the home of his political opponent, Robert C. Davey; and the most the Democrats can say about Lee is that he is a renegade. Mr. Coleman said that the same epithet was used against himself in 1888, and yet he was elected to Congress on the Republican ticket. Robert E. Lee is a leader of workmen and a workman himself, and he knows what is suited for the political and for the material welfare of his fellow-laborers. He believes that if it is fair that capital should combine, it is also fair that labor should combine. It is unnecessary to cite and compare the platforms of the Democrats and of the Republicans. Did not the Democratic Congressman, again a candidate, often vote with Republicans? So what's the use of discussing platforms?

Mr. Coleman advanced several reasons why the Second Congressional District should send a Republican to Congress. The main reason being that there are so many industrial enterprises in that district.

The Congressman who will be elected next Tuesday must be a Republican, because he will be in political harmony with the composition of the House and Senate, and with the National Administration.

Mr. Coleman indulged in some war talk of the Confederate and Yankee kind, and alluding to prejudices that followed that great struggle, asked that all prejudices be set aside and that a solid vote be given to Robert E. Lee, the man who works with his hands, and earns his bread by the sweat of his brow.

Wm. P. Lucker, of the Twelfth Ward, took up the rumor that Candidate Lee was not the unanimous choice of the Republican Party, and that Lee had to hold up the Committee and force them to "give up the glue."

Mr. Luck said that Robert E. Lee was the unanimous choice of the Convention, and that there were, and are now, ample funds to conduct the campaign.

The speaker went into a long explanation and criticism of election methods, and wondered how it was that the names of Republican clerks and commissioners of election that were sent in recently were not, in many instances, the names given to the Supervisors of election three weeks ago. He believes that the Democrats do not intend to be fair and honest in the coming election. The speaker "warmed up the boys" by telling them to stand no tomfoolery at the polls, and to be there at 6 o'clock in the morning and stay there, if necessary, until 6 o'clock the next morning.

He concluded with words of praise for Candidate Lee.

L. P. Bryant, of the Seventh Ward, First Congressional District, corroborated Mr. Luck's statement relative to the practices of the Democrats at the polls.

Mr. Bryant paid a special and highly vituperative tribute to the local press, and said, among other things, that the Democratic papers dare not publish what is said at Republican meetings.

On the subject of trusts, Mr. Bryant characterized the street railway merger in New Orleans as a trust, which, after capitalizing the enterprise at \$80,000,000, tried to curtail expenses by reducing the time and the wages of the laboring man.

He reviewed the strike situation and said that the Governor of the State made no attempt to hear the workmen's side, but hobbled with Parkerson and the railroad magnates.

Mr. Bryant continued in his "hot talk" and concluded with an appeal to all present to go to the polls on Nov. 4 and stay there and do their duty.

ROBERT E. LEE

was acclaimed for several seconds as he stepped forward to speak. He said:

"At last we have ceased the Democracy into the field. On last Sunday they took that old petrified fossil that has been holding office since the days I carried my father's dinner to him in Leeds Foundry, and they take to him to Hahnville and make him say this about us:

"As for the Lily Whites, they were trying to vitalize the corrupt corpse of the Republican Party in Louisiana with serum taken from corrupted Democrats, but the vitalizing force had only so far produced a non-descript candidate, whose only claim to notice arose from the fact that he had betrayed the first and only trust ever reposed in him by the Democracy."

"In that statement he falsely and maliciously lied. I was a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1898 that eliminated the negro from politics, so that the white man could fight the white man in this State. As regards corruption, that could be found in past Democratic administrations, and it is there now. I told them in the beginning of this campaign that it was to be conducted on a higher plane. They would not meet our orators in joint debate. Robert C. Davey has not the moral courage to face me in joint debate. I told Governor Heard about the rottenness in the New Basin Canal and Shellrock, and that the Secretary was betting the people's money at the races.

"I know I will poll more votes than Robert C. Davey. They, knowing this, tampered with the lists I had furnished Jere Gleason. The other day they robbed a corpse. Now, what chance would I have with such ghouls—I, a living legislator. Most of the speakers of the Democracy are old parasites that have been living on the State for years. St. Clair Adams said the other day: 'I am a Democratic sprig chicken.' I told him, 'That's all right, Adams; but the minute you begin to crow off goes your neck.'

"The Democrats can't talk sensibly on tariff and reciprocity. They haven't got a leg to stand on. Davey don't know the first thing about reciprocity."

"If we had reciprocity with Cuba, it would mean that every one of the thousand and more sugar mills that would be needed in Cuba would be manufactured in the city of New Orleans."

"About trusts, J. Pierpont Morgan is the father of all trusts. He is the creature of Grover Cleveland, who brought him out to float the 2 per cent bonds when there was nothing in the United States Treasury."

"Now, coming back to local politics, all I want next Tuesday is to get a square deal. Help me to get a square deal, and if I succeed in going to Congress, whatever you ask of me that I can grant will be yours for the asking."