McLEAN DESERTS DEWEY?

Stated Positively in Columbus that the Admiral's Candidacy Is to be Gradually Abandoned.

Special to The New York Times.

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio, May 4.—John R. McLean, brother-in-law of Admiral Dewey, has abandoned the latter in his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for President and has jumped on the front seat in the Bryan band wagon. This declaration was made here to-night by W. S. Thomas, Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, and was called forth by requests Mr. McLean sent to the meeting at Columbus yesterday afternoon, of the Democratic State Central Committee, to fix the time and decide upon a place for holding the Democratic State Convention.

Lewis Bernard of Cincinnati, McLean's trusted lieutenant, was there, armed with a letter from Mr. McLean himself, which he showed to the committee members. In it there were two requests made of the committee. The first was that some week other than Dewey week in Columbus be selected for the State Convention meeting. The second was that Webster P. Huntington, who resigned the editorship of The Columbus Press-Post because of its editorial "flop" to the support of Dewey for the Presidential nomination, be named for the temporary Chairmanship of the convention. Both of these requests were acceded to.

In addition to this Mr. Bernard, speaking with authority, made the positive declaration to the committeemen, that Mr. McLean would not be a candidate for and would decline election as delegate at large to the Kansas City Convention. The reason given was that Mr. McLean did not want to have it appear that he or any other man the Bryanites might be suspicious of aspired to be sent to Kansas City from Ohio.

Mr. Thomas stated that no misconstruction could be placed on McLean's action. It is taken to mean that the Dewey candidacy is to be abandoned. The plan is to let the people gradually forget the matter. Mr. Thomas said: "Ohio is for Bryan first, last, and all the time."

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