

NATIONAL SILVER PEOPLE'S MEETING.

The Opening Session of the Convention a Very Harmonious One.

Newlands Temporary and St. John Permanent Chairman.

A Committee Appointed to Confer With the Populists—No Doubt Entertained That the Silver Delegates Will Indorse the Nominees of the Chicago Convention.

ST. LOUIS, July 22.—The National Silver people meeting in the Music Hall of the Exposition building had a smooth path to travel to-day. It met, listened to an able address by Representative Newlands of Nevada, its temporary Chairman, and a still more taking speech by William P. St. John, the ex-national banker of New York, which finally captured the convention. It appointed a committee to confer with the convention of the People's party, and started on the preparation of a platform and of the inevitable address to the American people. Thirty-two States were represented on the floor of the convention by about 250 delegates. No sort of doubt is entertained that the National Silver convention will indorse the nomination of Bryan and Sewall after waiting a decent time to obtain a report from their Committee on Conference with the Populists.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONVENTION.

The Meeting of the Silver Men a Harmonious One.

ST. LOUIS, July 22.—The conditions governing entrance to the Silver convention were almost as rigorous as those of the Chicago convention, although the demands for admittance were so few that at 11:55 o'clock there was no one in the galleries but the band, and on the floor scarcely more than 200 persons, including visitors.

Temporary Chairman Newlands and Representative Towne of Minnesota, one of the bolting Republicans, appeared and took seats on the platform, accompanied by slight applause. They were soon followed by W. P. St. John, the ex-New York banker, slated for Permanent Chairman, who was not recognized by the people present, and so received no recognition.

Among the delegates who began to enter the hall in squads at noon were a number of ladies, the Colorado delegation alone containing six, whose gowns were of the latest patterns and hats were of the smartest variety. They took front seats. Senator Pettigrew of South Dakota, another of the Republican bolters, arrived at 12:05 o'clock and joined Messrs. Newlands and St. John on the platform.

At 12:35 o'clock Chairman Dr. Mott of North Carolina and Secretary of California came on the platform, and at 12:50 o'clock Dr. Mott called the convention to order, announcing that the proceedings would be opened with the reading of the call for the convention, which was accordingly done.

At this time there were probably 400 delegates in their seats and two score spectators.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN NEWLANDS.

At 12:35 o'clock Dr. Mott introduced Hon. Francis G. Newlands, Representative in Congress from Nevada, as the Temporary Chairman, who addressed the convention in substance as follows:

"The National Silver party meets to-day to determine what course will best advance the cause which we have at heart. The Republican party has declared for the gold standard, and silver is denied its time-honored use as redemption money, and has become simply the material upon which is stamped a gold promise. And so our greenbacks, our treasury notes and silver certificates, instead of being money have been turned into gold debt, and the primary money of the country is confined to the limited amount of gold, approximately \$500,000,000, which an adverse balance of trade is constantly depleting with all the attendant ills of continued hoarding.

"The Democratic party has declared for the free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for international action, and it has nominated a candidate of unimpeachable character, of exalted ability, of inflexible integrity, of high purpose, who has never faltered for a moment in his devotion to the cause of bimetallicism. The party proposes, also, to guarantee the country against further industrial disturbance and any agitation for further changes in the tariff law, except such as are necessary to make up the deficit of revenue. The latter announcement is particularly gratifying to many of us who believe that the silver question and moderate protection are twin issues.

"A simple question is now presented to sincere bimetallicists throughout the country, and that is whether they will permit differences as to non-essential issues to divide them—thus insuring the defeat of the common cause—or whether, preserving their independence of conviction and action as to non-essentials, they shall accept the brilliant leader whom the Democracy has named and, uniting all the silver forces wherever organized, into one invincible army, march to victory in November next.

"It is not intended to pay debts with 50-cent dollars, or to drive away gold or to debase our currency. Our purpose simply is by increasing the coinage and use of silver and by giving it equal privileges with gold to raise its value, and, by diminishing the strain on gold, which gold monometallism has caused, to take away its unjust appreciation, and thus, by pulling up the value of silver and pulling down the value of gold, to restore the old ratio so that sixteen ounces of silver will be worth in bullion as well as in coin one ounce in gold.

"The total stock of silver coin in the world is \$4,000,000,000. The total stock of gold coin is approximately the same,

and if the total stocks of silver and gold were each melted into a solid mass the silver mass would be about sixteen times as great in weight as the gold mass.

"But let us remember always in this contest that union is strength, and that the motto of our opponents is now, as it has always been, 'Divide and conquer.'

Mr. Newland's references to the declarations by the Democratic platform for the free coinage of silver and the qualities of the Democratic candidate were received with much favor by the delegates.

A permanent organization was then undertaken, committees being named by calling the roll of States. Some of them which were represented failed to respond, so that it was impossible to tell how many States were in the convention.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE READ.

After naming the Committee on Credentials the temporary Chairman suggested that the State delegations get together and select their representatives on the several committees, and Mrs. Pierce of St. Louis was escorted to the platform. She carried a small flag, and, waving it, said: "Americans, under the folds of our grand old flag, I salute you." She then recited the Declaration of Independence.

The conclusion of the recitation was marked by a wild outburst of applause, while the band played "Red, White and Blue."

A vote of thanks was given Mrs. Pierce.

It was finally agreed that the State delegations should hand the names of the members of the different committees to the Chairman.

TELEGRAM FROM TELLER. Chairman Newlands then read the following telegram from Senator Teller: "The money question overshadows all others. On its rightful determination depends the prosperity of the people and the perpetuity of republican institutions. All questions must be subordinate to it. A vote for Bryan and Sewall is a vote for industrial and financial independence of the American people from foreign domination and rule, and they should have the support of all opponents of the gold standard."

Then sentiments contained in the telegram were vigorously applauded.

A motion to take a recess caused some discussion. Judge Scott of Nebraska suggested an adjournment until to-morrow at 10 a. m. There was no necessity, he said, of being in a hurry in this matter. It took the Republican party a whole week in this city to marry Grover Cleveland, and the Democratic a week in Chicago to get a divorce from him. A recess was finally agreed to.

ST. JOHN PERMANENT CHAIRMAN.

More of the delegates were in their seats promptly at 4:30 o'clock, and quite a sprinkling of visitors were in the galleries. At 4:50 o'clock Chairman Newlands dropped his gavel and the delegates, Mr. Williams, a delegate from Nebraska, moved that a committee of three be appointed to invite the delegates to the Populist convention to take seats in the gallery for the afternoon, the Populists now being in session. It was unanimously adopted.

The Committee on Rules reported recommending that the rules of the present Congress be used.

The Committee on Credentials reported no contests, and suggested that any portion of a State delegation present in the convention could cast the full vote of the delegation. The report was adopted.

The Permanent Organization Committee, through its Chairman, reported W. P. St. John of New York as Permanent Chairman. As his name was mentioned the convention cheered vociferously. Hon. Charles A. Towne of Minnesota was named as Vice-President of the convention and again the delegates cheered. Robert E. Duffendorfer of Pennsylvania was named as Secretary.

In concluding his report Colonel Bradshaw briefly eulogized Mr. St. John. The report was adopted with a cheer.

Newlands then introduced Mr. St. John as Permanent Chairman.

Mr. St. John spoke at length on the money issue, concluding with the assumption that the convention would prevail upon the patriots attending the Populist convention to indorse Bryan and Sewall.

The effect of the speech upon the delegates was most happy, nearly every sentence being followed by enthusiastic manifestations of approval. When Mr. St. John concluded many New York delegates rose to their feet and cheered.

The next business the Chairman announced was the appointment of permanent committees.

Baker of California moved the appointment of a committee consisting of one from each State to meet a similar committee from the Populist convention to take up the question of the differences between the two parties, for the purpose of coming to some rational agreement, to the end that the nomination of Bryan and Sewall might be ratified by the two conventions.

Olmstead of Oregon, speaking for the Populists and as one of the leaders of the party of the State, seconded the motion, making the suggestion that each State delegation select its representative on the committee.

A delegate asked if anyone knew that the Populists were ready to confer with the silver party.

Mr. Olmstead, speaking for the Populists, again responded that they were ready to meet the silver men anywhere, and he urged the silver men to meet the Populists half way.

Some desultory discussion resulted as to the propriety of the silver men making the first advances.

Mr. Olmstead again addressed the convention, stating that the two conventions were called to meet here to consolidate the free silver forces of the campaign. The Populists being the older party, and having always stood for free silver, it would ill become their dignity, he thought, for them to take the first steps.

Mr. Porter from Virginia and a delegate from Ohio seconded the motion, and urged that the great end of united and harmonious action be kept in view.

A delegate from Illinois offered a substitute for Baker's motion that each State delegation select a member of this conference committee, and that the Populists' convention be notified of the action, with a request that a similar committee be appointed by that body.

A delegate asked if it were the intention to await the report of the proposed committee before proceeding to name Bryan and Sewall.

Cries of "No."

"What's the use of appointing a committee then?" he asked. But no one answered.

A delegate from Kansas, Mr. Shinn, expressed the opinion that it was not

wise or expedient for the Silver convention to force themselves upon the Populists. There was really no difference between the two bodies (cries of "mistake"). He believed that the convention would do its duty.

Mr. Shinn tired the convention, and was frequently interrupted, but he stated that he would speak until he had finished. But he was mistaken.

Some one made the point of order that he had spoken more than once to the motion, and the point was sustained by Chairman St. John, who directed Mr. Shinn to take his seat.

Mr. Warden of Wisconsin pleaded for expedition of business. "Let us appoint the committee, adopt a platform, nominate a candidate and go home," he said. (Applause.) He wanted the Conference Committee appointed first, and learn whether or not it was the wish of the Populist convention that the Silver convention appoint a full committee of conference to meet a similar committee appointed by it.

Mr. Foster of Missouri, a member of the committee appointed by the National Committee last night to consider the subject of conference, reported that as a result of their inquiries it was ascertained that a committee should be appointed. Many of the Populist leaders had expressed the opinion that the conference committee should be appointed. He wanted the convention to go ahead regardless of conventionalities, and without regard to whether or not somebody else had stolen its platform of principles or had forestalled it in the movement which it had started.

The previous question was opposed on the motion of the delegate from Illinois, which was accepted by the author of the original motion, and it was agreed to.

The roll of States was then called and the members of the committee selected. After the committee had been made a delegate asked the Chair what the committee would confer about.

Chairman St. John said he had no other information than had the question, but he inferred as the committee was composed of level-headed men and had but one object, it would rise to the occasion.

On motion of a delegate from Minnesota, at the unanimous request of the delegation from that State, it was agreed that hereafter the proceedings of the convention be opened by prayer.

At 6:45 p. m. the convention adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning. The Committee on Conference effected an organization by selecting Mr. St. John as Chairman and A. D. Wedderburn of Maryland as Secretary. A motion was made that the Chairman and Secretary prepare a letter to be sent to the Populist Convention at its session this evening, formally notifying that body of the appointment of the committee, and requesting the appointment of a similar committee by the convention to meet with them. Nearly an hour was spent in discussing matters of detail in reference to the order of procedure, and finally an adjournment was taken until 10 p. m., at which time it was hoped that the request of the Populist Convention would be announced.

THE PEOPLE'S PARTY NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Progressed No Further Than a Temporary Organization.

No Opposition to Senator Butler as Chairman.

Southern Delegations Freely Express Their Intention to Bolt in Case the Convention Indorses Bryan and Sewall for President and Vice-President, at Least as to the Latter.

ST. LOUIS, July 22.—The course of the People's party meeting, as foreshadowed by the first day's proceedings, will not be very smooth. The convention progressed no further to-day than a temporary organization, the youthful Senator from North Carolina, Marion Butler, being made Temporary Chairman. Threats uttered the night before and repeated with emphasis in the early morning by the "middle of the road" men, that they would force a test vote by antagonizing the selection of Mr. Butler by the National Committee with the nomination of Judge G. D. Jones of Missouri—a straight out anti-Bryan man—all evaporated into thin air before the convention met. Senator Butler's speech was for harmony, but unmistakably indicated a leaning toward a separate Populist ticket and a separate platform.

Before the Temporary Chairman had entered upon his opening speech certain of the Southern delegations freely stated their intention to bolt if the Chicago nominees were indorsed. They privately spoke of the absolute necessity of maintaining the People's party organization intact in their respective States, so as to control the State officers. One of the most outspoken of these Southern recalcitrants said he dared not go home to his State if he carried with him an indorsement of a Democratic ticket by a Populist convention. He frankly admitted that if he and those who were acting with him could not prevent the indorsement of Bryan, their irrevocable purpose was to kill off Sewall to give place to a Southern Populist, and thus to so confuse the electoral votes for Vice-President as to throw the election into the United States Senate, where they would have matters their own way.

With all these difficulties ahead, the People's party moved very slowly. The Committee on Credentials, apparently for the purpose of gaining time, protracted its deliberations over the utterly unimportant contested cases, none of which could affect results.

At 2:15 p. m. the convention took a recess until 8 p. m., and when it then re-assembled some one had failed to make the necessary arrangements for turning on the electric lights. Under such circumstances the transaction of business was impossible, and nothing further was done.

At 8:53 the convention adjourned until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

CONVENTION PROCEEDINGS.

Only a Temporary Organization Elected by the Populists.

ST. LOUIS, July 22.—The same uncertainty and confusion prevailed about the hour of meeting of the Populist Convention as about the various other matters connected with it. Ten o'clock, 11 o'clock and noon had been publicly given out as the hour, with more or less apparent authority. At the earliest of these points of time there were not fifty delegates in the convention hall, and only a few solitary figures were to be seen scattered here and there throughout the galleries. An hour later there had been accessions that about doubled the number of people on the floor and in the galleries. The hall was practically in the same condition as it was when the Republican Convention assembled in it five weeks ago, except that the pictures of Washington, Grant, Sherman and others had been taken away, and that the place provided for the Chairman and other officials and celebrities on the stage was absolutely unoccupied with tables, chairs or any other part of the necessary outfit. The reason for this nakedness in the most important and conspicuous place in the hall was past finding out.

At 11:30 o'clock the first motion was made in the line of providing accommodations for the Chairman and officers by placing in one corner of the stand a table bearing a large glass pitcher of ice water and a couple of glasses. There, however, it stopped. Soon after this some workmen hung over the railing of one of the galleries a fair sized picture of Abraham Lincoln, draped in the American flag, and the sight of it drew out the first manifestation of applause or interest that the convention had yet given out.

At 12 o'clock there was still no sign of an organization of the convention. The portion of the hall reserved for delegates was then about two-thirds filled, and there were not a hundred spectators in the galleries. Probably one-third of the delegates were in their shirt sleeves, and many women (not delegates) were seated among them.

CONVENTION CALLED TO ORDER.

At 12:15 the members of the Populist National Committee took seats on the platform, and with them were Senators Butler of North Carolina, Ignatius Donnelly of Minnesota, "Cyclone" Davis of Texas, Senator Allen of Nebraska and Governor Stone of Missouri.

At 12:38 o'clock the convention was called to order by Mr. Taubeneck, Chairman of the National Committee, who announced that the proceedings would be opened by prayer by Rev. R. W. M. Smith of the Third Baptist Church of St. Louis.

At the conclusion of the prayer, Governor Stone of Missouri was introduced by Chairman Taubeneck, and delivered an address of welcome.

Hon. Ignatius Donnelly of Minnesota responded to Governor Stone's address of welcome.

The Chairman asked such members of the Executive Committee as were in the body of the hall to step up to the plat-

form. Among those who advanced was Mrs. Mary Ellen Lease, who was warmly cheered.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN BUTLER. Chairman Taubeneck introduced as Temporary Chairman Senator Butler of North Carolina, who was received with three cheers which he characterized as "a cyclone of patriotism."

Two political parties, he said, had held national conventions this year, had adopted platforms and had put forward their leaders, and now another great political party, young but a growing giant in strength, had assembled to speak to the American people at this critical and important hour. (Cheers.)

The Populists were here because there was need of them to be here. The parties that had charge of the Government since the war had succeeded in bringing the nation to the verge of bankruptcy and ruin, and had necessitated the existence of the Populist organization. The two parties had vied with each other in "straddling," but now "straddling" was a thing of the past.

He went on to speak of the transportation question as standing side by side with the money question, and he declared that both these great questions would have to be solved before the country got back to prosperity. The People's party had come into existence to perform a great mission. There was a necessity for its coming, and it was going to stay as long as there was any necessity for it. (Cheers.)

If the People's party were to go out of existence to-morrow the next Democratic National Convention would present a platform on which Bryan would not stand. (Cheers.) The People's party had raised an issue so universal, so great, so important, that it had split both the old parties in



H. E. TAUBENECK.

two. (Applause and laughter.) Now this convention had met to save that issue, or to allow it to go down in defeat. (A voice, "Save it, save it, save it!")

He had faith that this convention would not turn itself into a Democratic annex (loud cheers) or into a Republican annex (more cheers), but would find a way between them that was true and right. What, Senator Butler asked, should this convention do? And he was answered by one of the California delegates, Dagset, "Nominate a straight Populist candidate on a Populist platform without reference to what the Democratic convention has done." (Cheers.)

"While this party lives," Senator Butler exclaimed, "and God grant that it shall never die, because it will be ever needed so long as human liberty is threatened; it must be true to the mission which it was born to accomplish. (Cheers.) If this convention cannot follow its own teachings, it is unworthy to indorse and approve what is right and to condemn what is wrong. No other source is true Populism. If you waver in your principles (a delegate, "We will not do it.") then you have no better than the old parties which you were raised up to destroy. I believe that this convention will do the wise thing. It is not going to split. (Cheers.) If we stand together and go away from here a united band of brothers we will see next November that the millions of organized capital and of gold monometallism are stricken down in this country. We will show you, too, that this young giant of a People's party will come out of the campaign stronger than we go into it." (Cheers.)

Senator Butler spoke for nearly an hour, closing his speech at 2 p. m. He was complimented upon it by Ignatius Donnelly and other persons on the stand.

COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS. When Senator Butler resumed his seat the Chairman directed the Secretary to call the roll of States to name the Committee on Credentials. This was done. The Committee on Credentials follows: Alabama, R. T. Goodwin; Ar-

kansas, J. E. Bryant, California, E. M. Wardell; Colorado, H. T. Sale; Connecticut, Robert Pine; Delaware, Herman V. Hetzel; Florida, J. F. Rhodes; Georgia, John A. Sibley; Idaho, J. P. Clough; Illinois, Charles E. Falmer; Indiana, James A. Williamson; Iowa, E. F. Diana; Kansas, O. L. Smith; Kentucky, W. P. Marsh; Louisiana, E. F. Warren; Maine, N. W. Larmon; Maryland, J. L. Gullford; Massachusetts, Conrad Reno; Michigan, F. N. Vandercook; Minnesota, H. G. Day; Mississippi, W. P. Rathfr; Missouri, Joseph Miller; Montana, J. H. Colderhead; Nebraska, J. W. Edgerston; Nevada, William Westerfield; New Hampshire, J. J. Streeter; New Jersey, William B. Ellis; New York, W. F. Webster; North Carolina, W. F. Kitchen; North Dakota, W. A. Bentley; Ohio, P. J. Fishback; Oregon, A. B. Craft; Pennsylvania, J. H. Stevenson; Rhode Island, Henry A. Burlingame; South Carolina, —; South Dakota, H. S. Valmer; Tennessee, J. H. McDowell; Texas, Harry Tracey; Utah, James Hogan; Vermont, A. J. Bley; Virginia, J. H. Hobson; Washington, W. C. Young; West Virginia, W. W. Hays; Wisconsin, A. A. Worsley; Wyoming, D. I. Kingsbury; Alaska, —; Arizona, Keen St. Charles; District of Columbia, Alexander Kent; New Mexico, D. D. Mills; Oklahoma, E. A. Spencer; Indian Territory, Leo Carter.

On motion of Mr. Donnelly of Minnesota the convention at 2:15 took a recess until 8 p. m. to enable the Committee on Credentials to report.

After the recess was taken the convention resolved itself into an informal mass meeting, and Congressman Howard of Alabama, who will be remembered as having introduced a resolution to impeach President Cleveland, spoke for ten minutes. He made a bitter attack upon the Democratic party, and advocated standing on an independent ticket.

He was followed by other speakers, who urged standing on the People's party issue first, last and all the time.

NO LIGHT FOR THE HALL.

When the Populists got together in convention hall this evening they found themselves in trouble. No provision had been made for lighting the hall. Neither gas nor electricity gave a ray of light. The candles provided by the newspaper correspondents and the telegraph companies for their own use served to make the darkness picturesque. There was a full attendance on the floor and many spectators in the galleries. For half an hour humorously inclined people in the galleries and on the floor indulged in jokes at the expense of the Populists, and jeers and college yells prevailed.

Some attempts at explanation were made from the Chairman's platform, but they were received with derision and hootings. Finally some of the delegates started to sing the national anthem. Others joined, and then the band joined in the chorus, and this produced better humor. The band continued to play, and it was announced from the Chairman's platform that the light would soon be forthcoming.

The real explanation of the trouble was that whoever was in charge of the arrangements neglected to engage service for the evening from the electric light company until late this evening, when it was too late to turn on the current without great risk, as preliminary tests of the circuit were necessary. Some suggestions of adjournment were made, but they met with no favor—the crowd rather enjoying the darkness and the fun, while the band kept up its music "Dixie" and other popular airs—and the crowd shouted and varied the shouting, with cheers and jocular remarks.

This condition of things went on until a particle of light save from the few candles stuck on the reporters' tables and one on the Chairman's table. Some negro melodies were entoned from different parts of the hall. "John Brown's Spirit Went Marching On," and college yells were indulged in, until finally the patience of the managers was exhausted. There was no prospect of the electric lights being turned on, and yielding to the necessities of the case it was announced at 8:50 p. m. that the convention had adjourned until 10 a. m. to-morrow.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE.

The Colorado Contest Settled in Favor of the Regulars.

ST. LOUIS, July 22.—The Populist Committee on Credentials met in the Landell House shortly after 4 p. m. Contests were reported from the States of Colorado, Illinois, Missouri and Wisconsin. It was decided to take up the contests in alphabetical order, and to allow each side half an hour.

The Colorado contest was first heard. Mr. Southworth and J. C. Hackstaff, who are contesting, first stated their case. Mr. Southworth said that he did not contest the regularity of the conven-

(Continued on Eighth Page.)

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