

MONTANA TAKES LEAD IN NEW PARTY'S FORMATION WHEN SENATOR DIXON OPENS BIG CONVENTION

HERE HE IS



Philadelphia North American.

IMPRESSIVE IS THE SIGHT WHILE DELEGATES GATHER

Chicago, Aug. 5.—The first session of the first national convention of the new party, of which Colonel Theodore Roosevelt is sponsor, was held today in the Coliseum and while the setting was attended by all the usual ceremony of a national political assemblage, the actual proceedings were suggestive of a love feast.

Not a dissenting voice was raised in the session. The question of negro representation from the south had caused friction earlier in the day in the national committee, but on the floor of the convention there was no echo of this fight. The delegates were at times explosive in their enthusiasm. Many state delegations came into the hall singing and shouting in their delight at the birth of the new party and left the building three hours later in the same happy frame of mind.

Although green hands were supposed to be at the helm, the machinery of the convention worked smoothly and efficiently. There was no roll call of delegates, but the delegate section of the floor, accommodating nearly 100 persons, was entirely filled. The alternate section also had its full quota.

Leaders Enthusiastic.

When the proceedings began the galleries had few empty seats. The convention leaders were enthusiastic tonight over the showing in the Coliseum and asserted that no better-looking, more substantial set of delegates ever was seen on the floor of a national convention.

Work of the national committee on contested delegate cases caused a delay of nearly three-quarters of an hour in the assembling of the convention. The delegates amused themselves with songs and yells composed for the occasion, while a band near the flag-draped steel rafters, and a Grand Army fife and drum corps on the stage vied with each other in playing patriotic airs.

Acclaim for Beveridge.

There was a great cheer as Senator Dixon, national chairman of the party, rapped for order. This was repeated later when the call for the convention was read and there even was greater enthusiasm when former Senator Beveridge of Indiana, was presented as the choice of the national committee for temporary chairman. The formal

ity of electing Senator Beveridge was not necessary and amid renewed acclaim he was escorted to a place on the stage and handed the convention gavel.

Senator Beveridge then made his keynote speech. He spoke for more than an hour and a half, expressing some of the advanced ideas of government adopted by the new party and paving the way for the even more progressive proposals to be made tomorrow to the convention by Mr. Roosevelt. The temporary chairman was given the closest attention throughout. Once he mentioned President Taft, in connection with his approval of the Payne tariff law, and instantly there came a storm of jeers and groans from the crowd. Every few minutes Senator Beveridge was interrupted by applause and cheering.

The former senator from Indiana made a most courteous presiding officer and when a premature motion to adjourn was made, he begged pardon of the delegate for not recognizing him at the time, promising him recognition later in the session.

The standing committees were appointed in the usual way and just before the proceedings were brought to a close, James R. Garfield of Ohio moved the appointment of a committee of 15 to invite Colonel Roosevelt to appear before the convention tomorrow at noon. The motion was carried with a whoop and with due ceremony the colonel formally accepted tonight.

Colonel Roosevelt, not being a delegate, did not attend the opening session. He spent much of the afternoon motoring.

Many Women Delegates.

A decided feature of the convention was the large number of women delegates. This brought forth cheering when the temporary chairman reached that part of his speech advocating suffrage. A big yellow banner inscribed "Votes for Women," was hung from one of the balcony rails. Massachusetts gave one of her women delegates a place on the resolutions committee.

Tomorrow's session of the convention promises to be one largely of speech-making, with Colonel Roosevelt's "confession of faith" as the center of interest. The adoption of a

platform and the nomination of presidential and vice presidential candidates will come Wednesday, followed by adjournment that evening.

The various committees of the convention held sessions tonight at the Coliseum and at the headquarters hotel.

One form of demonstrative approval adopted by the delegates was an imitation of the call of the bull moose, a long "mo." The head of a bull moose was one of the prominent decorations in the hall and many of the delegates' songs were in praise of the moose. The red bandana also had its prominent place in the proceedings. Almost all of the delegates were equipped with them and when they were waved the floor was a sea of red.

The big Coliseum, transformed in a few weeks from the battleground of the republican national convention to

the meeting place of the national progressive party, was thrown open shortly before 11 o'clock today, but it was nearly an hour after that time before the first of the delegates began to arrive. They filtered in slowly at first, in ones and twos. Then came the big phalanx of delegates from Pennsylvania singing "We'll hang Bole's Penrose to a sour apple tree, as we go marching on."

The scene, except for the lack of a jam in the galleries, was almost identical with that of the republican convention.

California, a pioneer state in the Roosevelt movement, was promoted to a prominent front row position at the right of the stage.

The hall was gaily decorated with flags and bunting. Large canvas portraits were a feature of the decorations.

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KEYNOTE OF PROGRESSIVISM ABLY SOUNDED BY BEVERIDGE

Chicago, Aug. 5.—"The first words of the constitution are: 'We are the people,' and they declare that the constitution's purpose is 'to form a perfect union and to promote the general welfare.' To do just that is the very heart of the progressive cause," declared Albert J. Beveridge, temporary chairman of the progressive convention, in calling that body to order today.

Mr. Beveridge told in detail the purpose and program of the progressive party. "Above," he said, "will only strengthen it, ridicule only hasten its growth, falsehood only speed its victory."

"Knowing the price we must pay, the sacrifices we must make, the burdens we must carry, the assaults we must endure—knowing full well the cost—yet we enlist, and we enlist for war, for we know the justice of our cause, and we know, too, its certain triumphs."

We stand for an intelligent co-operation instead of a reckless competition. We stand for mutual helpfulness instead of mutual hatred. We stand for equal rights as a fact of life instead of a catchword of politics. We stand for the rule of the people as a practical truth instead of a meaningless pretense. We stand for a representative government that represents the people. We battle for the actual rights of man.

"To carry out our principles we have a plain program of constructive reform. We mean to tear down only that which is wrong and out of date; and where we tear down we mean to build what is right and fitted to the times. We hearken to the call of the present. We mean to make laws fit conditions as they are and meet the needs of the people who are on earth today. That we may do this, we found a party through which all who believe with us can work with us; or, rather, we declare our allegiance to the party which the people themselves have founded.

"For this party comes from the grass roots. It has grown from the soil of the people's hard necessity. It has

Wild Enthusiasm Reigns at Opening of the Meeting in the Coliseum and Cheers Greet Name of Theodore Roosevelt --Governor Johnson May Be Colonel's Running Mate.

Chicago, Aug. 5.—(Staff Correspondence.)—Senator Dixon as chairman of the provisional national committee, called to order the first convention of the new party today. Thus Montana's voice was the first one heard in the formal counsels of the new organization. Mr. Dixon received a hearty ovation as he rose and was cheered again as he concluded his brief address in a review of the history of the new movement.

Then came Beveridge's keynote speech. It was a thriller, eloquent, scholarly and profound. Nothing could more forcibly present the contrast between the old party and the new than the contrast between Beveridge's virile, vigorous speech and Root's vain and vapid keynote at the June convention. One was crisp, alive and pertinent, the other dull, dead and evasive. Beveridge concluded dramatically, quoting a stanza of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." Then twenty thousand voices led by the band took up the grand old song and thus was christened the new party. It was an incident never to be forgotten.

Bienberg of Montana was honored today by being named on the committee to invite Colonel Roosevelt to address the convention Tuesday afternoon.

A notable figure in the convention is General John Hugh McDowell of Tennessee, confederate and long-time democrat. He is the father of Speaker McDowell of the Montana house of representatives. General McDowell called at Montana headquarters today to ask if his son had come to the convention. He hoped to find him here, but there was nothing doing.

The political sensation today is the appearance of a page-long editorial in all Hearst papers, condemning the national democratic platform and urging Wilson to repudiate it. The editorial was cabled by Hearst from England. It is predicted that Hearst will quit Wilson if the latter does not repudiate the Bryan platform.

Chicago, Aug. 5.—Governor Hiram W. Johnson of California seemed agreed upon tonight as the vice presidential nominee of the national progressive party to make the first fight of the new political organization with Colonel Theodore Roosevelt. Early in the evening Judge Ben B. Lindsey of Denver, a former democrat, had been agreed upon as permanent chairman of the convention.

Colonel Roosevelt had endorsed the recommendation of Judge Lindsey as permanent chairman and the plan had been enthusiastically approved by the delegates. Late tonight, however, Judge Lindsey called in the colonel and had a long talk with him. He said he had been suffering from asthma and did not feel physically capable to take up the work. Under the circumstances, Colonel Roosevelt agreed to release him and it is likely that former Senator Beveridge will continue as permanent presiding officer.

Colonel Roosevelt said, before he left Oyster Bay, that he favored the selection of a southern democrat as vice presidential candidate. The field was carefully canvassed and it is understood that the colonel's suggestion was abandoned only when it became evident that it was impossible to decide upon an available man.

It was said tonight that sentiment among the delegates in favor of Governor Johnson was so strong that his choice as Colonel Roosevelt's running mate virtually was assured, and that the leaders who predicted his nomination were merely voicing the opinion of the convention.

The California delegation adopted a resolution today saying the state could not spare Governor Johnson, but it was said tonight the governor's friends would not insist upon this attitude.

In the event of Governor Johnson's nomination it is planned to have him take the stump in the east while Colonel Roosevelt is campaigning through the west. The governor's ability as a campaigner is said to be a strong factor in his favor.

Teddy Stands Pat.

Colonel Roosevelt stood his ground. In answer to every objection he said he would cling unequivocally to the position he had taken, and that, although it might cost him votes in the northern states, he believed it was to the best interests of the party to proceed under white leadership in the south. He reiterated the statement, made in his letter to Julian Harris of Atlanta, that it was for the white man in the south that the negro must look and declared his position was for the best interests of the negro. It was said tonight that all his associates were finally won over to his point of view.

It is understood that Colonel Roosevelt suggested the action in the Florida and Mississippi cases substantially taken by the national committee. The Mississippi negroes were thrown out altogether on the ground that white delegates were regularly elected. Colonel Roosevelt is said to have protested against the use of the words "white delegates" in the call for the Mississippi state convention. In the Florida cases the contesting negro delegation was thrown out. The negroes protested loudly against this. They were invited to attend the convention as "supplemental delegates" eventually going as "spectators." Then the national committee also decided to bar the white delegates from Florida, there having been some question of irregularity in calling a white and a negro convention separately.

Colonel Roosevelt insisted there should be no negro delegates from the south in the convention and the national committee acquiesced in this view. The cases were taken before the convention committee an editorial, but it was generally believed that this committee would follow the action of the national committee. In

It was urged that such a position would cost the national progressive ticket the support of a large number of negroes in northern states in which their strength was greatly needed. Others felt that, in fairness to the negroes, they should have some representation from the south.

The Contests.

The contesting negro delegates from Florida and Mississippi to the progressive national convention, unseated by the provisional national committee, took their cases before the newly-organized committee on credentials and there was a long and bitter fight tonight.

Before going into the committee rooms, C. H. Alston, representing the Florida negroes, emphatically denied that the southern contests had been promoted by Taft republicans. The committee decided to hold open sessions. W. Frank Knox of Michigan, former republican state chairman, was elected chairman.

James Wickersham, delegate in congress from Alaska, and O. P. Hubbard of Alaska, both of whom said they were regularly chosen as delegates to the republican national convention, but had been "steam-rollered," asked to be recognized as delegates to the progressive convention. The committee decided to seat them and let the convention determine whether they should have votes. There also is a question as to whether the District of Columbia and Hawaii shall have a voting voice in the party councils.

The Ohio contest, involving a local fight in Cincinnati, was passed and the committee plunged into the Florida cases.

H. L. Anderson, provisional national committeeman from Florida and head of the white delegation from that state, flatly charged in his argument to the committee that the Taft organization in the republican party was responsible for the negro contests.

Alston said the white delegates contended that the new party must throw out the negroes in order to get the democratic vote in the south.

"You won't get 10 per cent of the democratic vote," he shouted, "and by

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