

CONTESTS TO BE FOUGHT ON CONVENTION FLOOR

CONVENTION LACKS OLD TIME PUNCH

Prohibition, Women Folks and Absence of Bosses All Share in Blame.

SAME OLD BIG CROWDS

But Enthusiasm Thus Far Is Kept Below Surface in Chicago.

By a Staff Correspondent of THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD.
CHICAGO, June 6.—The old times, Jenkins Henshaw for instance, say there's something missing. Jenkins Henshaw started in attending Republican conventions in the Grant region. He came as a delegate then from Winnebago Falls. He hasn't been a delegate since, but just as regularly as four years roll over his head he turns the running of his planning mill over to John Whipple, his son-in-law, and responds to the shrill trumpeting of the elephant.

Jenkins says he recalls conventions that were conventions. The other old timers corroborate him. They acknowledge that this one promises to be the widest open, the least bossed and the most progressive (Jenkins calls it radical) convention the party ever has had. And wise as he is he cannot pick the winner. It's the first time the old boys ever has admitted such inability, and he doesn't like it. He goes as far as to say that "More'n likely it'll be some up and coming young fellow, with a college education and who wouldn't have amounted to much in the old days but that's about as far as Jenkins will go."

But Jenkins is only one of the many who are standing around the lobbies and strolling up and down the Coliseum who dolefully shake their heads and mutter "There's something lacking." Maybe it's the absence of the old guard bosses. Maybe it's because the old days have passed, along with the old fellows who used to come down with their fists that would stand without hitching. Maybe it is the rise of measures over personalities. Maybe it's the women folks, and maybe it is due to the Eighteenth Amendment. Anyway, they all agree that this is an entirely new sort of convention, where precedent surrenders to expediency.

A "Kids' Convention.

Never has there been a greater crowd. And never have the crowds been pepperier or as young. It's a young man's convention. Here the kid smoking his first cigarette seems to know as much as the Jenkins Henshaws, and it's wonderful to see the erstwhile superior old boys strolling up to the youths and demanding to know who's doing who. Frank Hitchcock's going to brace if he finds that Wood cannot get past the 400 mark; who's going to win the chairmanship battles; what Will Hays' has in the back of his cranium; what the meaning of the renewed Hoover excitement; whether Hank Allen of Kansas will get out of nominating Wood or whether he wants to, and so on, and so on. Of course the kids know no more than the old boys, but then it's most gratifying to the former.

But there are no grotesque bands swirling up and down Michigan Boulevard or the Royal Mich. according to the old-fashioned Chicago's Greenwich Village. Now and then an enthusiast lets off a bit of repressed steam by puffing a few sour notes on the bugle. Occasionally, some chap is unable to keep the peace emits a cheer and every so often this or that delegation or committee or club starts singing the praises of Wood. Lowden, Hoover, Allen, Johnson or Sturdivant. And the fire line that of the ringing of the iron tire ring back home in Bagdad Corners. Everybody within hearing gets up or straightens up and shuffles out to see whether something body taken the lid off or something.

Were it not for the congregation of colored brethren who hold forth down in the Coliseum in gorgeous raiment and wild hilarity, this gathering might as well be a huge gathering of bank clerks or Woodmen of America or manufacturers. From daybreak to midnight and around the clock to daybreak again the crowds shuffle around, buzzing, murmuring, chattering, whispering and mumbling behind their hands. Down opposite the Coliseum somebody has painted a huge elephant whose trunk is lifted in the contour of an interrogation mark. That drawing symbolizes the atmosphere here to-day. There are a million questions asked to every answer found.

No Gay Night Parties.

The gay night parties have given way to grim night conferences and hickers and roll logging. The croch light parades have been superseded by decorous evening strolls along the lake. Alleged State leaders have come in with nothing in their pockets except their hands and thousands of dollars and there's no place to spend the money. The old vest pocket delegations are no more. Time was when a few dollars judiciously spent or transferred meant a quart of oil upon the swift machine. The machines run even swifter now as the dollar has lost much of its value, for there's no place to spend it and the average delegate wouldn't borrow a postage stamp just now for fear a detective lurks at his elbow. The contest hearings have made money a topic taboo and every stranger looks like a spy.

Thus far the Johnson Californians have done their share in restoring the old flavor and color to the eve of the convention. Last night Mayor Rolfe of San Francisco and Senator Frank P. Flint arrived in town with a band and 500 folks who are willing to try swimming across Lake Michigan under water if it will do Hiram Johnson any good. They came decorated with medals and regalia and popped a rose. They were staging a song that had to do with "Hiram, Hiram, he doesn't have to hire 'em." The band played it and the men and women sang it. Mayor Rolfe welded the hat on M. H. De Young, the San Francisco publisher, kept the crowd together until it reached Senator Johnson's rooms.

But aside from "Ha, Ha, Ha, Hurray," Holizer's band, which fares forth from some obscure hotel up in the loop district every time the police become careless, and a local aggregation known as Kelly's sheet from Brass Orchestra, that rushes up and down the lake front on the dead run playing "Massa in the Cold, Cold Ground," the convention has not been very musical yet.

DRYS' ADD HUMOR TO THE CONVENTION

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"Look here, old timer," sneered a disclaimer, "next thing you will be doing is claiming that Gov. Stubb has something on St. Peter or somebody." "I'm not saying all that," replied the Kansas, "but Stubb is a young man yet."

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There are 12,249 seats in the Coliseum that folks can occupy, and there are about twenty-five cards of seating to occupy each seat. Central Park would be crowded were everybody to be given a ticket to this convention. Some one has figured that there are no more than about twenty-five cards of seating to occupy each seat. Central Park would be crowded were everybody to be given a ticket to this convention. Some one has figured that there are no more than about twenty-five cards of seating to occupy each seat.

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Or a visitor comes into a hotel lobby and motions to his friends. Twenty or thirty men are gathered around, to be informed that So and So has just heard of a place not far away where you can get anything you want, provided it's liquor. Sometimes So and So has reliable information and sometimes the fellows come back hoping nobody ever speaks to So and So again, for they found his information to be a snare and delusion and the guaranteed staff nothing except a very flat brand of second rate cider.

One of the days when you could get the low down over a couple of sordid or Pilsener and no more. The old enemies united by whiskey. Maybe those enemies of the Eighteenth Amendment are right. Maybe that is what the matter with these pre-convention nights. But there are just as many who are here to say that it is not such a bad thing after all.

Any way, all the candidates and the delegation leaders are sidestepping the prohibition issue. Senator Francis of Maryland is the only prominent politician here who says he's for the wets and will keep on being for the wets and that if he were President he'd do whatever he could to let the matter of drinking liquor or not drinking liquor rest with each individual citizen of these United States.

Mayor Thompson is seeing to it that no delegate leaves Chicago without having seen the town. He has taken headquarters in the Congress Hotel, installed guides and a thousand dollars worth of cigars therein and has a fleet of motor cars outside waiting to take delegates up and down and around Chicago. The packers are giving luncheon to delegates and corps of Chicago boosters are walking up and down assuring everybody that the only place to live and enjoy doing it is Chicago.

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FUND DISCLOSURES NOT FATAL—HILLES

Chairman Does Not Believe They Eliminate Wood or Lowden.

By a Staff Correspondent of THE SUN AND NEW YORK HERALD.

CHICAGO, June 6.—Charles D. Hilles, who was chairman of the Republican National Committee in 1912, the year of the famous Taft-Roosevelt contest, expressed the opinion to-night shortly after arriving on the New York State special that the investigations of the Senate Committee on Expenditures would not necessarily affect the situation or be considered to have utterly destroyed the availability of Lowden and Wood, the acknowledged leaders in the 1920 race.

"As a matter of fact," said Mr. Hilles, "if we are to consider that Wood and Lowden are to be eliminated, I think the leaders will also wish to scratch Johnson, as well because of his leadership in starting the investigation. But I remember in 1912 we had a Senate investigation of the expenditures of the Taft and Roosevelt pre-convention campaign. True, it was made after the convention had nominated Taft, but we heard little of it in the campaign and I do not think it was a factor in the result that fell."

"It was shown in that investigation, as I recall it, that the Roosevelt expenditures had been in the neighborhood of \$140,000, and that those for Taft were not less than half that amount. Col. Roosevelt himself testified before the committee, which was headed by Senator Clapp, of Minnesota."

Mr. Hilles is of the opinion that in the event that the three leaders are really found to be out of the race, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, Gov. Henry J. Allen and Gov. Calvin Coolidge will fight it out for supremacy. He expressed the belief that Butler had grown in strength materially and that if the Americans of the Butler managers as to support in the West and South were borne out in later ballots there would be an excellent chance of naming New York's favorite son.

Mr. Hilles does not believe there is a possibility of the nomination of Herbert Hoover, because of the bitter feeling toward him on the part of Senator Johnson. "It would be an unwarranted slip at Johnson, which we cannot afford to have made," said Mr. Hilles. "As for Gov. William C. Spruille, his nomination would be too provincial, too much Pennsylvania. In other words, while Spruille is a good man, he has done nothing which could by any stretch of the imagination be considered as making him a national character. On the other hand, Coolidge by his settlement of the police strike in Massachusetts has attracted the favorable opinion of the country."

While Gov. Allen's industrial court has attracted wide attention, it has been on trial for only six months and Kansas, not being an industrial State in the fullest sense of the term, Allen cannot be said to have settled the industrial problem—that is the view of Mr. Hilles. But Butler is well and favorably known in all parts of the country. His ability is conceded and his powers of constructive thought admired.

The former chairman of the National Committee does not see the possibility of any other dark horses than those mentioned entering the handicap. "Cigars to Give Away." A thousand dollars worth of cigars—more than a dollar's worth to a delegate—are being handed out by the Congress Hotel by the Mayor's entertainment committee. The Chicago Boosters' Club has rounded up 2,000 automobiles, so when the delegates get tired of standing in one place hollering for some one to beat them, they can move swiftly to another.

LOWDEN GAINS 65 IN CONTEST DECISIONS

Wood's Votes Are Increased by 18 and Johnson's by 4 by National Committee.

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CHICAGO, June 6.—Campaign managers prepared to-day to renew before the convention credentials committee their contest over delegates decided by the Republican National Committee. Some of the contests may be carried to the convention floor. There are possibilities that virtually all of the 147 contests will be appealed to the credentials committee to be appointed next Tuesday, with prospects of all night sessions on hearings to prepare a report to the convention Wednesday.

The sweep of the Lowden forces in the national committee's decisions, it is believed, will furnish the principal work for the credentials committee. It also fights decisions in red hot segregation races from several States as well as the race question presented from several others. The records and briefs in the national committee's work are now being combed through carefully by the battle lines before the credentials committee.

Although most of the contested delegates seated by the National Committee are unopposed, his awards, according to reported preferences, follow: Arkansas—Lowden, 1; Arizona—Lowden, 1; Florida—Wood, 1; Johnson, 2; Georgia—Wood, 4; Lowden, 11; Louisiana—Lowden, 12; Minnesota—Johnson, 2; Mississippi—Lowden, 1; Missouri—Wood, 1; North Carolina—Pritchard, 17; Oklahoma—Wood, 2; Lowden, 4; South Carolina—Lowden, 11; Tennessee—Wood, 1; Lowden, 1; Texas—Unpledged and scattering, 22; Virginia—Wood, 1; Lowden, 6; unpledged and scattering, 3.

Two Missouri delegates were denied all representation. Pritchard candidates are instructed, but with reported next preference for Lowden, subject to results of yesterday's primary. Chairman Hays gave out a statement to-day declaring it "significant that all contests involving large numbers were disposed of by unanimous and viva voce action."

"Half of the contests had been decided," Mr. Hays pointed out, "by unanimous action and the third day's session was far advanced before there was even a roll call. As I recall there were only four roll calls on contested matters during the week. The diversity of the vote cast, which was 36 to 15 in the Tenth Missouri, 8 to 34 in the Fourth Georgia, 16 to 29 in the Fourth Oklahoma and 26 to 23 in the Missouri district in which both delegations were denied seats, indicated that the vote in each case was on the merits of the contest matter as presented to the committee."

JOHNSON LEADS IN N. CAROLINA

Ahead of Wood in Latest Returns of Primary. Raleigh, N. C., June 6.—Incomplete and unofficial returns from two-thirds of the State, compiled by the Raleigh News and Observer, to-night indicated that Senator Hiram Johnson was leading in the Presidential primary held Saturday. Final totals will not be available until the State Board of Election canvasses the returns, which will probably be after the Chicago convention has named a nominee.

According to the same newspaper Senator Lee S. Overman was re-nominated by an overwhelming majority for State primary, and Cameron Morrison was leading for the Gubernatorial nomination.

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