

The Historical Society

ROOSEVELT AND FAIRBANKS

Demonstration Following Nomination of Candidates so Great That It Beggars Description.

"The quiet, undemonstrative, popular opinion which has given the republican party a platform upon which all republicans can stand with no dissenting vote here, or any place, has long anticipated the action of this convention in adding to the national republican ticket the name of Senator Fairbanks, of Indiana."—Senator Dolliver, of Iowa.

Chicago, June 23.—Senator Dolliver of Iowa nominated Senator Fairbanks of Indiana for the vice presidency. As he mentioned Fairbanks' name the delegates rose to their feet and cheered. Senator Dolliver said:

Gentlemen of the Convention: The national republican convention now nearly ready to adjourn, has presented to the world a moral spectacle of extraordinary interest and significance. It is a fine thing to see thousands of men, representing millions of people, fighting in the political arena for their favorite candidates and contending valiantly for the success of contradictory principles and conflicting doctrines. Out of such a contest, with its noise and declamation, its flying banners, its thunder of the captains and the shouting of the truth often secures a vindication and the right man comes out victorious. Sometimes, however, wisdom is lost in the confusion, and more than once we have seen the claims of leadership swallowed up in contention and strife. We have the honor to belong to a convention whose constituency in every state and territory and in the islands of the sea has done its thinking by quiet firesides, undisturbed by clamor of any sort, and has simplified our responsibilities by the unmistakable terms of the credentials which we hold at their hands.

At intervals of four years, I followed the banner of James G. Blaine through the streets of our convention cities. (Continued on Page 2.)

"Telegraph the world that the republican party was the first organization that beckoned the laboring man to his feet and made him know the quality and equality of his true self."—Geo. A. Knight, of California.

Chicago, June 23.—In the name of the west, George A. Knight of California seconded the nomination of Theodore Roosevelt. He said:

Gentlemen of the Convention: Geography has but little to do with the sentiment and enthusiasm that is today apparent in favor of the one who is to be given all the honors and duties of an elected president of the United States of America. However, the Pacific slope and the islands (those ocean buoys of commerce moored in the drawy tropical sea), send to this convention words of confident greeting with discreet assurance that your judgment will be endorsed by the American voter and our country continue its wonderful progress under republican rule.

The time is ripe for brightening up Americanism, to teach with renewed vigors the principles of individual liberty for which the minute men of the revolution fought; the Lincoln liberty, an individual liberty for the man, not a black man alone, any man, all men; the right of labor in the exercise of freedom unmolested and be paid for his individual toil and with it build his cottage home. From the press, the pulpit, the schoolhouse, the platform and the street let the true history of our country be known, that the young men and women of America and many old ones, may know what a price has been paid for the liberty, peace and union they enjoy through the devoted patriotism of our silent heroes of the past. Deprivation and sacrifice already endured for many years before the old bell in the state house was given the voice to speak the glorious sentiment of the age and proclaim liberty throughout all the land, and they were made the instruments by which the principles productiveness of our national grandeur were set as jewels in our public's coronet. What we prayed for, fought for, bled for and died for we want cared for.

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"We of the South believe in Roosevelt, and in his ability to meet every issue, at home and abroad, triumphantly. The North and South, once divorced in sorrow, through him and because of him, have been again drawn together in the bonds of old affection."—Harry Stillwell Edwards, of Georgia.

Chicago, June 23.—As a son of the south, and for the south, Harry Stillwell Edwards, the noted novelist and politician, seconded the nomination of Theodore Roosevelt in the name of the south. His remarks received the earnest attention of those assembled and were greeted with prolonged applause. He said:

It is eminently fit and proper that a Georgian should on this occasion second the eloquent speaker from New York, that the voice of the motherland should blend with the voice of the fatherland to declare that the destinies of America shall for four years more be entrusted to the great son born of the union of the two empire states.

I do not belittle the influence of a father when I say that if the iron in a son's nature be derived from him, the gold is coined from the heart of the mother whose lap has cradled him. And because I believe this, because the lesson at the mother's knee is the seed that son is to stalk toward heaven and opens far up its auxiliary blossoms in the morning light, because the lofty ideals of manhood are rooted deeper than youth, because that which a man instinctively would be has been dreamed for him in advance by a mother, I claim for Georgia the largest share in the man you have chosen your leader.

The childhood of the good woman who bore him was cast here where the Atlantic flows in over the marsh and the sand. There she first built her home in the greatness of God. Womanhood found her within the uplifting views of the mountains in a land over which the Almighty inverts a sapphire cup by day and sets his brightest stars on guard by night. And there, fellow-countrymen, the soul of your president was born. Those of us who know and love him catch in the easy flow of his utterance, and feel in its largeness of thought and contempt of littleness the rhythm of the ocean on the Georgian sands and the spirit of the deep. In his lofty ideals and hopefulness, in his fixedness of purpose and unchanging rock-ribbed honesty we hear the mountains calling. In his daring, his impulsive courage, his unconquerable manhood, we see his great brother, the Georgia volunteer, in the hand to hand fights of the Wilderness, the impetuous rush up the heights of Gettysburg and the defiance of overwhelming odds from Chattanooga to Atlanta. We look on him as a Georgian abroad, and if in the providence of God it may be so we shall welcome him home some day, not as a prodigal son, who has wasted his manhood, but as one who on every field of endeavor has honored his mother and worn the victor's wreath.

Coming into the position of the martyred McKinley, the youngest chief magistrate that has ever filled the presidential chair, without the privilege and advantage of preliminary discussion and consultation, he gave the country a pledge that he would carry out the policies of his predecessor. It was a master stroke of genius, applauded alike north and south. His (Continued on Page 2.)

"Pennsylvania, with the approval of her judgment and with glad anticipation of victory in her heart, following a leader, like the chevalier of France, is without fear and without reproach, seconds the nomination for vice president of Charles W. Fairbanks, of Indiana."—Governor Pennypacker, of Pennsylvania.

Speaker Cannon Waved a Tattered Flag, Whereupon Delegates Sprang to Their Feet, Marched About the Hall and Sang "The Star Spangled Banner"—The Speeches!

Chicago, June 23.—The swift and sure current of public opinion for the second time in the history of republican conventions today resulted in the selection of a national ticket without a dissenting vote. Theodore Roosevelt for president and Charles W. Fairbanks for vice president received every vote in the convention.

Rousing Demonstration. Regardless of the fact that the nomination of one had been assured for months and the other for days, the announcement of the choice was accompanied by a resounding demonstration which attested the candidates' popularity. The cheering was led by figures known through the breadth of the land and was echoed by a mighty throng of enthusiastic men and radiant women assembled in the Coliseum to witness the crowning feature as well as the close of the national convention that marks the semi-centennial of the republican party in the United States.

Ten Thousand Present. No less than 10,000 men and women participated in the ratification of the party program, and the consequent roar of cheering and hand-clapping was deafening. It was a tumultuous, unbounded demonstration. Hats were tossed into the air, state emblems were waved, flags—beautiful, tri-colored, shimmering, silken flags—fluttered from every hand as though stirred by a gale.

The Tattered Flag. When Governor Black of New York made his speech nominating President Roosevelt to succeed himself as president, for 25 minutes after the great throng told its approbation of the convention's choice for president. While the demonstration was at its height, Chairman Cannon stepped to the front of the stage. Held in his hand was a banner which was waved in 1860 when Lincoln was nominated, and which has been used in every convention since. The flag showed the wear and tear of many similar contests.

Greeted Fairbanks. At the conclusion of every seconding speech the performance was repeated and the speakers themselves were generally applauded.

When Senator Fairbanks had been nominated for vice president there was no diminution in the demonstration. Voices were hoarse, but the noise and cheering was just as unanimous as it was in filling the first place on the ticket.

Galleries Were Filled. When the convention was called to order today the galleries were filled for the first time.

It was exactly 10:30 o'clock when Chairman Cannon rapped for order. Prayer was pronounced by Rev. Thaddeus Snively, rector of St. Chrysostom's church, who invoked divine blessing on the great body amid a most impressive silence.

Roosevelt Nominated. Cannon then announced the order of the day and instructed the secretary to call the roll of states for nominations for president. By an agreement, Alabama, the first state on the roll, yielded to New York. This was the signal for an outburst of applause. In the midst of the cheering Former Governor Black made his way to the platform, and, after the usual introduction, commenced his address, placing in nomination Roosevelt. Black's

address was electrifying at times and he was frequently interrupted by bursts of applause.

At the conclusion of Black's remarks the convention and 10,000 spectators engaged in a demonstration such as has never been seen in any convention in the country, an endorsement such as has never before been given any candidate for honors, political or otherwise, in America.

Beveridge Speaks. Senator Beveridge was recognized by the chair for the purpose of seconding the nomination. The Indianan, who was given a hearty welcome, delivered a powerful address in which he reviewed the administration of President Roosevelt, pointing out the various notable features of his stewardship.

George A. Knight of California had the convention with him from the first word of his very pointed address to its concluding sentence. The Californian's speech seconding the nomination of Roosevelt was one of the features of the day.

Seconding speeches were made by Harry Stillwell Edwards of Georgia, ex-Governor Bradley of Kentucky, Joseph B. Cotton of Minnesota and Harry C. Cummings, a colored delegate from Maryland. Each address was followed by rounds of applause, especially that of Cummings, whose grasp of national affairs was made evident in his well-defined speech.

Roll is Called.

The roll was called and the unanimous vote of all delegations recorded for Roosevelt. Pandemonium broke loose following the announcement that the 994 votes of the convention had been cast for Roosevelt. After the demonstration nominations for the vice presidency were called for. Alabama again yielded her place at the head of the list, this time to Iowa, and Senator Dolliver, taking the platform, nominated Fairbanks in an eloquent endorsement of the candidate's qualifications.

Governor Pennypacker of Pennsylvania delivered an address seconding the nomination of Fairbanks. He was attentively listened to and enthusiastically applauded at the conclusion of his address.

Ex-Senator Carter of Montana and Chauncey Depew followed in seconding speeches and the great popular demonstration which greeted the unanimous nomination was an enthusiastic tribute to the Indiana statesman whose name was thus joined with Roosevelt's. The usual resolutions of thanks to officers of the convention and to the committees on arrangements were adopted and the great body was adjourned.

FORMAL NOTIFICATION.

Number of Western Men on Notification Committee.

Chicago, June 23.—The formal notification to President Roosevelt of his nomination will be made July 27, at Oyster Bay. Speaker Cannon will be chairman of the notification committee. The notification of Senator Fairbanks will occur a week later at Indianapolis. Ex-Secretary Root will be chairman of the vice presidential committee.

The committee of notification to the president includes S. J. Kline of Oregon, J. C. Lewis of Washington, Weldon B. Heyburn of Idaho.

"Gentlemen, I nominate for President of the United States the highest living type of the youth, the vigor and the promise of a great country and a great age—Theodore Roosevelt of New York."—Frank S. Black, in his nominating speech.

Chicago, June 23.—With the grace of a finished orator, ex-Governor Frank S. Black delivered a speech nominating for president of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt of New York. His speech follows:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Convention: We are here to inaugurate a campaign which seems already to be nearly closed. So wisely have the people sowed and watched and tended, there seems little now to do but to measure up the grain. They are ranging themselves not for battle but for harvest. In one column reaching from the Maine woods to the Puget sound are those people and those states which have stood so long together, that when great emergencies arise the nation turns instinctively to them. In this column, vast and solid, is a majority so overwhelming that the scattered squads in opposition can hardly raise another army. The enemy has neither guns nor ammunition, and if they had they would use them on each other. Destitute of the weapons of effective warfare, the only evidence of approaching battle is in the tone and number of their bulletins. There is discord among the generals; discord among the soldiers. Each would fight in his own way, but before assaulting his republican adversaries he would first destroy his own comrades in the adjoining tents. Each believes the weapons chosen by the other are not only wicked but fatal to the holder. That is true. This is the only war of modern times where the boomerang has been substituted for the gun. Whatever fatalities may occur, however, among the discordant hosts now moving to St. Louis, no harm will come this fall to the American people. There will be no opposition sufficient to raise a conflict. There will be hardly enough for competition. There are no democratic plans for the conduct of the fall campaign. Their zeal is chiefly centered in discussion as to what Thomas Jefferson would do if he were living. He is not living, and but few of his descendants are among the democratic remnants of today. Whatever of patriotism or wisdom emanated from that distinguished man is now represented in this convention.

Party Serves as Ballast. It is a sad day for any party when its only means of solving living issues is by guessing at the possible attitude of a statesman who is dead. This condition leaves that party always a beginner and makes every question new. The democratic party has seldom tried a problem on its own account, and when it has its blunders have been its only monuments, its courage is remembered only in regret. As long as these things are recalled that party may serve as ballast, but it will never steer the ship.

When all the people have forgotten will dawn a golden era for this new democracy. But the country is not ready yet to place a party in the lead whose most expressive motto is the cheerless word "forget." That motto may express contrition, but it does not inspire hope. Neither confidence nor enthusiasm will ever be aroused by any party which enters each campaign uttering the language of the mourner.

One Fundamental Plank.

There is one fundamental plank, however. (Continued on Page 2.)

"I desire to second the nomination of that intrepid leader, that potent statesman, that master workman upon the great republic, that tried, trusted and incomparable public servant—the President now; the President to be—Theodore Roosevelt."—Joseph B. Cotton, of Minnesota.

Chicago, June 23.—Joseph B. Cotton of Minnesota seconded the nomination of Theodore Roosevelt in the name of Minnesota and the great northwest. His remarks called forth great applause. He said:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Convention: Responsive to the swelling chorus of millions of voices from all over the republic, we are here to name as our standard bearer the gifted son of the Empire state, who has in his make-up all the resolute spirit and vigor of the imperial west and in whose veins courses the rich, warm blood of the dauntless southland. Nominating and seconding speeches here are of no moment, for his nomination has already been made by the American people themselves. We have only to select his running mate, proclaim the doctrines of our faith and go forth and overwhelm once more the cohorts of a distracted, distempered and dismembered democracy.

Democratic friends in this year of grace are destined to be mere idle dreamers and only seers of visions. Dissentious, they lack faith and have no issue. Why, just now they are trying to let go of the "orator of the Platte" and his fustian "Cross of Gold." They now say that "free silver" is dead because the Almighty put too much gold in the lap of Old Mother Earth. Forsaking their traditions, they no longer champion free trade. They clamor only for a republican revision of the Dingley tariff. Has it come to this, that with Chamberlain of England, they are at last openly become protectionists? They now seem really anxious to keep the American flag where it is, regardless and unmindful of whether the constitution follows the flag or the flag follows the constitution. Truly, can any good thing come out of this democratic chaos. In 50 history-making, creative years what policies, domestic or foreign, fiscal or industrial, expansive or constructive, has the democratic party embodied into

"Joseph G. Cannon, permanent chairman of the convention, was appointed to notify President Roosevelt of his unanimous nomination for the presidency. Elihu Root was chosen to notify Charles W. Fairbanks, of Indiana, that he was the unanimous choice of the republican party for vice president.

"Theodore Roosevelt brings to his party and the nation at the close of his administration the fruits of three years' able and faithful services. * * * He is, above all things, a true, honest, earnest, patriotic American citizen, a leader of unflinching courage."—Harry S. Cummings, of Maryland.

Chicago, June 23.—Harry S. Cummings of Maryland seconded the nomination of Theodore Roosevelt in the name of Maryland and the adjoining section of the country. His speech follows:

Mr. Chairman, Fellow-Delegates of the Republican National Convention, Ladies and Gentlemen:

For the distinguished honor of seconding the nomination of that great type of the American citizen, Theodore Roosevelt, I am profoundly grateful. Fortunate, indeed, is it for this government that it has had during the eight years just passed, a political organization such as ours to meet face to face with undaunted courage and determination the many perplexing questions which have arisen during that period.

Equally fortunate has been our party to have had within its ranks during this crucial period such men as our able, wise and patriotic McKinley of belived memory, and our capable, courageous and aggressive Roosevelt, upon whose youthful though ample shoulders, the mantle of the great McKinley fell.

Whether the questions affected our internal or external relations they have been boldly met and wisely solved. We have carried to the Filipino, the Porto Rican and the Cuban the torch of light and intelligence, relieved them from the burdens and oppression of despotic rule, established civil government among them, and are teaching (Continued on Page 2.)

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