



BIMETALLISTS MEET IN CONVENTION

Making Ready to Sever Party Ties and Traditions.

DELEGATES IN EARNEST.

Representatives Present From All Parts of California and Neighboring States.

RUMORS OF A SILVER PARTY.

The Old Organizations Are Rather Severely Handled by the White Metal Advocates.

The non-partisan silver convention, resulting from a call issued by a meeting of white metal advocates that met at the Palace Hotel on June 20, convened yesterday afternoon in Metropolitan Hall. Delegates were present from all parts of California, as well as from neighboring States.

George W. Baker, chairman of the Bimetallic League of San Francisco and one of the prime movers in the gathering, opened the convention with a brief address, in which the objects sought to be attained were outlined. He said in substance:

"As chairman of the Bimetallic League of San Francisco it becomes my duty to call this meeting to order and to review the objects for which we are assembled. It is well known to all of you that the great question before the American people today is one of finance, before which all other issues sink into insignificance. This question has reached out until it has made itself felt in every part of our country. It means the lining-up of the industrial classes against the banker and bondholder—the sharks of a corrupt and all-grabbing financial system, that if persisted in will drive the country into absolute ruin.

"We know that if the people have a chance to be heard in this matter of grave concern to every true son of America that they will repudiate the acts of the sharks of Wall and Lombard streets and declare for an American policy, of American birth, and founded upon the principles of American Government—sound money.

"We know that we have a powerful and treacherous enemy in the field, one that will not hesitate at any means, honorable or otherwise, to defend the crime which was committed against this republic twenty years ago. We know that the common people—the people who are making the wealth of this nation—are to a great extent under the iron heel of the money power.

"This is the reason that seventy-five men met at the Palace Hotel on the 20th of last June and decided to issue a call for this convention. We decided there that recruits were necessary to make this great fight in defense of the rights of the American people, and that the best way to get these recruits would be to call a meeting and talk the thing over. For this object we are here today.

"We are not here as partisans. There are members of all parties in attendance. We are here not as Republicans or Democrats or Populists, but as bimetallics. Party lines here have been broken and behind us we have left party names and conditions. We have gathered together a crowd of men determined to be right on this great question, whatever it may cost in party traditions and ties. We come from the workshop, the farm, and the forum, resolved to face this question and to look it squarely in the eye.

"We want a sound-money man in the White House, and we are going to have such a man. If he cannot be found in either of the old parties, then we will land one from the Bimetallic League. We do not seek political preferment or the spoils of office. This is not our mission. What we do want is the money given us by the founders of this republic—the currency of Washington and Jefferson. That is sound money, honest money, and good enough for America for many years to come.

"If the thousands who are with us in principle will come forward and assert themselves the battle will be easily won, and the eternal vigilance is the price of liberty we must organize early and watch late. The country must be defended from the grasping moneyed oligarchies of the Old and New World.

"We hear from the press—not the press of California, to whom all honor is due for the stand which it has taken on this question—that we are under great obligations to Morgan and the Rothschilds for coming to the rescue of the United States Treasury. Protection for the treasury of the United States, indeed!

"Who protected it during the dark days of our great war? We carried on the greatest conflict at arms that the world has ever seen and bore our flag to victory on the credit of this Nation.

"Some one in the New York Herald said recently that we were under great obligations to the bankers for favors shown the Treasury Department. For one I am opposed to turning the treasury of this country over to any three-ball game under the sun of heaven. The bone and sinew is entitled to some protection, instead of turning its efforts into the coffers of Wall street.

"We believe in gold and silver as money. We believe that silver was stricken down by an arch conspiracy, and we seek to restore it to its proper standard. We may, and probably shall meet with reverses, as did our forefathers of old, but right will ultimately prevail."

fornia had been used to furnishing Nevada with Senators she should allow the Nevada delegates to vote.

The motion to allow outside delegates to vote was finally carried amid a storm of applause.

Chairman Baker then appointed the following committee:

Resolutions—H. I. Willey (chairman), San Francisco; Green Majors, Alameda; A. L. Hart, Sacramento; W. C. Cressler, Modoc; J. Clunie, San Francisco; Colonel Cochran, San Francisco; J. H. Eudd, San Joaquin; E. L. Colton, San Joaquin; J. C. Green, San Francisco; Frank J. Moffitt, Alameda; W. C. Price, Alameda; Mayor S. S. Wright, Fresno; Julian Sonntag, San Francisco; Ed Reddy, Inyo; M. K. Haura, Fresno; E. M. Gibson, Alameda; George A. Koch, Mariposa; George T. Wagner, Alameda; Thomas C. Welch, Orange; D. E. McKinley, Sonoma; H. A. McCraney, Sacramento; William S. Edwards, San Bernardino; J. A. Plummer, San Joaquin; Mayor Orr, San Joaquin; T. S. Phelps, San Mateo; W. S. Staley, Sonoma; Hon. J. L. Davis, Alameda; N. W. Spaulding, Alameda; Ben Morgan, Berkeley; R. Guy McClellan, Alameda; H. L. Austin, Fresno; C. W. Cotran, Stanislaus; Frank Short, Fresno.

On permanent organization—J. H. Tingman (chairman), Los Angeles; W. E. Rogers, Kern; Dr. R. Brown, Sacramento; Hugo Hornlein, Sacramento; M. T. Campbell, Siskiyou; A. L.

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Judge Thompson said:

"No attempt should be made at this time to switch delegates from either of the old parties. If we do this the convention will be false to its call, which declares it to be non-partisan. Let us do the work for which we were called together, and not overstep the limits of our obligations. To educate, propogate and agitate on the silver question is the object of this convention as I understand it. Let us see to it that we attend to this duty."

The committee then adjourned.

FOR THE PLATFORM.

The Sub-Committee Appointed by the Committee on Resolutions.

At the evening session of the committee on resolutions it was decided after some discussion to take no further action at present than the appointment of a committee to draft a preamble and resolutions that, when finally accepted by the convention, shall stand as a platform or declaration of principles.

Delegate McCraney moved for the appointment of the committee, and Chairman Willey named the following gentlemen to serve: Judge J. H. Budd of Stockton, General Robert M. Beatty of Nevada and M. M. Orr of Stockton.

It was suggested, and approved by all, that the preamble and resolutions to be drafted by these gentlemen should be brief and pointed and couched in as plain and simple language as may be. The committee itself was heartily in favor of this, and thus promises to result from their labors a statement that shall be noted for its

strength and clarity than its number of words.

Green Majors acted as secretary pro tem of the committee. After the sub-committee had been appointed the main committee adjourned till this afternoon at 1 o'clock.

NEVADA IN REVOLT.

Uncompromising Attitude of the Delegates From the Sagebrush.

The Sagebrush State has sent down a list of delegates that have not forgotten

Warner, Sonoma; W. R. Pond, Yolo; George W. Grayson Jr., Butte; J. F. Edoff, Alameda; John Moore, Colusa; Major James Kip, San Francisco; A. Meyers, Alameda; B. K. Collier, San Francisco; R. B. Snell, Alameda; Thomas Eger, Fresno; Dr. W. B. Wall, Orange; Hugh Davis, Lake; W. D. Hetman, Alameda; William Farby, San Francisco; W. L. Dickenson, Merced; E. P. Jones, San Francisco; R. M. Beatty, Nevada; C. C. Powning, Nevada.

On credentials—Lyman Bridges, Alameda; M. A. Hurley, Calaveras; M. M. Muller, Fresno; G. E. Foster, Kern; D. E. Alexander, Sacramento; Dr. Hudson, San Joaquin; Robert McKilloan, Alameda; Martin Eoughton, Sonoma; Fred Kirkland, Sacramento; P. C. Hyman, San Francisco; Captain Charles M. Leary, San Francisco; F. R. Casey, San Francisco; P. H. Medley, Stanislaus; Major M. Biggs Jr.

C. C. Powning of Nevada was introduced to the convention as "the old Nevada warhorse." He was escorted to the platform by a committee appointed by the chairman composed of Messrs. Clunie, Willey and Sonntag.

Responding to an invitation for a speech Mr. Powning said that he was not much of a warhorse, but that he was proud to hail from the grand silver State of Nevada. He declared that whatever other states might do, Nevada would vote for no man that did not stand for the restoration of silver, in a ratio of 16 to 1, first, last and all the time.

Following Mr. Powning's address came a discussion as to the disposition of resolutions offered to the convention. Some were in favor of referring all resolutions to the committee without reading in open convention. Others held for a reading, to be followed by a five-minute discussion, of each resolution. It was finally decided to read all resolutions in open convention, and then submit the same to the proper committee without debate.

after adjournment the delegates formed in line and led by a brass band marched to the Occidental Hotel, where headquarters are located.

The committees on credentials and resolutions went into session at once, the former to receive the credentials of delegates, and the latter to discuss the feasibility of forming a permanent silver party in California.

Judge E. M. Gibson addressed the committee at length. He said that he came to the convention as a Populist, but announced his willingness to join hands with Clunie, Phelps and others in the formation of a new party. In his opinion the time was ripe for such a move.

Timothy Guy Phelps followed Judge Gibson. He said:

"I am not in favor of the formation of a new party. The people are not yet ready for such a party. We know that, in an examination of this question, they can come to but one conclusion, viz: that the reformation of silver is the only feasible financial policy. The most that we can hope to accomplish in this convention is to educate the public on this most important topic and to induce them to recognize it as a living issue in the affairs political of this country.

"Party ties are strong, and it seems to me that a break in the party lines at this time would be inopportune. If either of the old parties should declare for the restoration of silver, that party will get my vote."

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LIVES SACRIFICED BY NEGLIGENCE.

An Intoxicated Youth Caused the Gumry Hotel Disaster.

OVER A SCORE KILLED.

Scenes of Horror and Death After the Explosion of the Boiler.

NOBLE WORK OF RESCUERS.

Ex-Governor Routt Stated That the Terrible Wreck Was Due to Dynamite.

DENVER, Colo., Aug. 19.—Additional details of the terrible disaster at the Gumry Hotel, shows that without one moment's warning the boiler in the basement of the structure on Lawrence street, near Seventeenth, exploded shortly after midnight this morning and with terrific force tore away the entire rear portion of the building, demolishing the rear and side walls and reducing the place to one mass of confused timbers, bricks and debris, which shortly after took fire. So far as have been recovered, eight bodies are at the city morgue and ten more are known to be buried beneath the ruins. Altogether seventeen people are missing, and the loss of life will not be definitely known until order is restored from the confused mass of ruins. The killed are:

R. C. Greiner, assistant superintendent of construction at the State Capitol, and his wife, who acted as clerk of the destroyed hotel; George Burt of Denver, a conductor on the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad; Fred Hubbard of Lisbon, Iowa, a guest of the hotel; F. J. McClosky of Longmont, Colo., guest; Will Richards of Denver, elevator-boy, and an unknown woman and child about 3 years old. The only means of identifying the body of the woman is by a gold band ring with the initials "H. B." engraved thereon.

The missing, and supposed to be still in the ruins, are: The latest obtainable information regarding the most terrible catastrophe that is recorded in Denver's history, clearly shows that a 17-year-old boy, Elmer Pierce, who was temporarily placed in charge of the boiler, was directly responsible for the accident. With the boiler almost at a red heat he injected cold water into the tubular affair, causing an immediate explosion. Strange to say and by a miracle he escaped unscathed, and to-night was being hunted by an angry crowd of people who would have dealt with him had he not been apprehended. He seems safe, however, as no clue has been unearthed as to his whereabouts. The story of suffering amid the ruins is agonizing and even repulsive. Few people other than firemen, the hastily summoned rescue corps and policemen, remained near the scene to witness the exhuming of the horribly burned human masses and distorted remains.

M. E. Letson, who was the first live man taken from the ruins, had an experience that at which all mankind can marvel. He slept on the third floor, and when found was encased in a conical-shaped mass of mortar and bricks that barely allowed his freedom of movement. Chief Roberts of the fire department first discovered him, and rapidly began the removal of the tons of material that seemed to rest directly upon his body. In agonizing and heart-rending appeals he begged an instrument to end his life. The rescuers worked with a will, and in two hours had succeeded in displacing enough plaster and bricks from the apparently lifeless body to allow a removal. With most gracious thanks the man was removed to the County Hospital, and though his lower limbs were horribly contused, he will survive his terrible ordeal. He had been imprisoned for ten hours.

No words could portray the scene around the ruins late this afternoon. Women and children, maddened by terrible suspense, hurried to and fro in anxious inquiry concerning loved ones that are missing. Strong men, hard at work amid the ruins, quaked at the sickening smell of roasting flesh, and turned with pallid countenance from the scene. Never before has such absolute wreckage and ruin devastated any portion of the State.

About 10 o'clock in the morning a woman's hand protruded almost unnoticed from among a pile of laths, brick and other material. With the precision of a trained corps of life-savers attention was turned by the rescuers to the delicate member that almost beckoned for help. When the work of removal of the debris from her body commenced it was discovered that she was dead. Lying beside her in lifeless, yet tender affection, was the corpse of a small child, innocent looking even in death. Bravely on worked the firemen, superintended by Mayor McMurray of this city and Police Commissioners Hogle, Church and Wilson.

About 4 o'clock in the afternoon coffee and sandwiches were served to the indefatigable rescuers by prominent ladies of the city who volunteered their services. Aldermen Leet and Ross were begrimed with smoke and dirt from their labors in attempting to render all possible aid. At 5 o'clock the body of an unknown man was uncovered and it was immediately taken to the city morgue, where it was later thought to be that of F. J. McClosky. Half an hour later the remains of Gen-

to them than anything else and to begin striking hard and sturdy blows for the

Continued on Fifth Page.



CHAIRMAN GEORGE W. BAKER OPENING THE CONVENTION AT METROPOLITAN TEMPLE. [Sketched by a "Call" artist.]



Robert M. Beatty, Who Will Be One of the Leading Speakers To-Day. [From a photograph.]



Senator William H. Sharon of Storey County. [From a photograph.]