

The Pensacola Journal

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CALL TO ORDER OF REPUBLICANS IN CONVENTION

City is All Agog Over Gathering That May Name a President.

VICE-PRESIDENTIAL MYSTERY UNSOLVED

Caucuses of States Held and New York, Indiana and Iowa Keep Hands Off—Speaker Cannon Arrives and Has Finger in the Platform Pie.

Chicago, June 15.—The eve of the republican national convention finds Chicago on the tip toe of anticipation. Tonight the streets are ablaze with lights, flag day has brought forth a wealth of color on tall buildings and in open air, marching clubs in fantastic regalia, parade the main thoroughfares—crying "Taft, Taft," or "Knox, Knox," and there is that universal pandemonium which befits the night before a national convention.

The force of the invading army is now here, leaders and followers, delegates, and rank and file, marching clubs, and glee clubs, bands and drum corps. The heat of the delegations from the far south came in tonight.

But, while the din proceeds without, the final preparations of leaders proceeds within. Their plans are well laid, probably with greater precision than has ever been known before a national convention has met, and unless the unexpected happens or the spectre of stampede rises from its grave, the convention of 1908 will establish a record for the methodical execution of well established plans.

CONVENTION OPENS TODAY. Tomorrow will see the convention assembled within the vast coliseum building, with the first flow of convention eloquence from the veteran senator, Julius Caesar, Burrows, which will give the first opportunity to greet some favorite with ear-splitting and bewildering demonstration. It will no doubt break all records for volume and duration. After the preliminary gathering tomorrow there will be a period of suspense of practically two days, during which time the committees will meet, and organization be perfected, so actual nomination of the president is not liable to occur before Thursday.

STATE CAUCUSES HELD. Business today had been divided chiefly between canvassing the states for the selection of officers and representatives of various committees, platform, credentials, national committee, etc. Causes today left little room for doubt, that the Taft forces will be in substantial control of the organization, when the full committee is assembled.

Among the more important state conferences of the day, were those of New York, Indiana and Iowa. As each has some bearing on the perplexing question of the vice-presidency, each of these gatherings brought forth odd negative conclusions of declaring not to be in favor of any candidate or the vice-presidency. Ohio because the Taft leaders did not wish to be in the attitude of dictating; New York because the advocacy of Sherman, or Low, or any other New Yorker might impugn loyalty to Governor Hughes; Iowa because the state wants Doliver to remain where he is, in the senate, and thus avoid the hard-kari of state politics; Indiana because long distance persuasion has not induced Mr. Fairbanks to change his attitude towards first and second places on the ticket. Other state caucuses were equally fruitless in solving the vice-presidential mystery.

CANNON ON THE GROUND. Speaker Cannon remained in Chicago all day, and although he is keeping away from the noisy centers of the convention enthusiasm, he took a most active part in conferences on the platform. His unexpected advent here last night for the express purpose of having a voice in the document which may shape future legislation has led to a renewed consideration of some detail planks, notably those on injunctions and trusts. The feature of the trust plank, which is said to have attracted the speaker's solicitude, is one which inferentially would exempt certain organizations, including labor and farming organizations, although such exemptions in general law are said to have been pronounced unconstitutional by the supreme court of Illinois, some 15 years ago.

The name of ex-Governor Herrick, of Ohio, is the latest brought forth as chairman of the national committee to manage the coming campaign. The vice-presidential situation has continued in its puzzling position, it presents a new aspect for almost every hour of the day, but at no time has it shown a disposition to become less complicated.



THE CONVENTION.

Senator Doliver today, as for some time past, has been the center of speculation, and it is generally admitted that there will be no solution until he is either nominated, or entirely eliminated from the equation. In the early hours this morning it looked as if the Iowa man was out of the race, but when, soon afterwards, news came from the White House that the candidate for second place must come from Iowa, the boom was given a renewal of life, and the senator's friends are willing to say that his nomination is assured.

Speaking of the report that Roosevelt had expressed a desire that the nomination be given to either Senator Doliver or Governor Cummins, of Iowa, for vice-president, Congressman Hepburn, of that state, tonight said that in conversation with the president last Friday, the subject of vice-presidential nomination had been discussed, and his impression from the conversation was that the latter had no particular desire that Doliver be a candidate, and moreover that he had no desire to express a preference in the matter.

A break in the Massachusetts delegation from Governor Guild, as a candidate for vice-president, was threatened tonight, led by Dr. Wm. O. Faxon and supported by a number of other delegates. Faxon said he found scarcely any sentiment among other states in favor of Guild, and thought it would be a mistake to place his name before the convention with so little support. This will assist Fairbanks.

COMMITTEEMEN FROM THE SOUTH. Chicago, June 15.—At the state caucuses held today the following were among the members of the committee on resolutions who were chosen: Alabama, Joseph H. Montgomery; Florida, Henry S. Chubb; North Carolina, Spencer B. Adams; South Carolina, John C. Capers.

The new national committee was nearly made up in the caucuses today. The following are among the members chosen today and tonight: Alabama, P. D. Barker, of Mobile; Florida, James N. Combs, of Anacostia; North Carolina, Edward C. Duncan, of Raleigh; South Carolina, John C. Capers, of Charleston.

MISSISSIPPI IN LINE. Jackson, Miss., June 15.—John Sharp Williams, Governor Noel, ex-Governor Vardaman and Senator Kuren will probably be named as delegates at large to Denver at Wednesday's state convention. All favor instructions for Bryan.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. The Journal wants the latest election news up to midnight by wire or phone to-night. Get the reports in as early as possible. We want the Escambia county report particularly get it soon as the last ballot is counted, and a telephone can be reached. The Journal pays all telegraph and telephone tolls and will also pay any reasonable expense that a correspondent may find necessary in order to get in a quick report. What we want is the election news—just as quick as the result is known.

\$2,000 FLETCHER'S MONEY SPENT BY W. O. BUTLER

TAXICAB PLUNGED INTO THE RIVER, KILLING 2 WOMEN. New York, June 15.—Two women and one child were drowned and two men narrowly escaped death tonight when a taxicab automobile became uncontrollable on West 56th street and ran down the dock at the foot of the street into the Hudson river.

Chipley, Fla., Man Said He Had Spent That Much to Good Advantage For Fletcher in Four Important Counties. Chipley, Fla., June 15.—Major W. O. Butler, Fletcher's local campaign manager, made an open statement on the streets late Saturday afternoon, that he has employed 28 men, paid with Fletcher's money, to work for Fletcher, and that he has controlled \$2,000 of Fletcher's money which he has placed in Washington, Holmes, Jackson, and Calhoun counties, to the best advantage for Fletcher.

G. A. R. HAULED DOWN FLAG OF CONFEDERACY

New Yorker Used Flag His Father Fought Under to Decorate Store and Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic Tore it From Fastenings. Ossining, N. Y., June 15.—A Confederate flag flying from the printing office of William J. Physioc, on Main street, was hauled down today by Commander Sumner A. Smith, of Morell Post, Grand Army. Ossining was in gala attire because of the convention of farmers, and Physioc decorated his building in honor of the celebration. He declared today that this flag belonged to his father, a Virginian, who fought under it in the civil war, and that he hoisted it intending no disrespect to the stars and stripes, but to add to the beauty of decorations. Physioc, it is said, was a member of the rough riders regiment during the war with Spain.

VETERANS IN DETROIT. Detroit, Mich., June 15.—National Commander in Chief Charles G. Burton, of the Grand Army, and National President Kate E. Jones, of the Woman's Relief Corps, will be the guests of the Michigan veterans during the encampment which opens here Tuesday.

WISCONSIN VETERANS. Racine, Wis., June 15.—Wisconsin department, Grand Army of the Republic, opens its annual encampment Tuesday. National Commander Burton, of Missouri, is expected to address the veterans at a campfire this evening.

TENNESSEE DEMOCRATS. Nashville, Tenn., June 15.—Tennessee Democrats will meet in state convention here Wednesday to choose delegates to the Denver convention. Instructions for Bryan are apparently certain.

POSTPONE ELKS' MEET. Augusta, Ga., June 15.—The state convention of Elks, set for Tuesday, has been indefinitely postponed. A meeting of the state officers will be held in Macon on Friday.

AUTO RACES WEDNESDAY. Boston, Mass., June 15.—A great automobile racing meet will be held Wednesday at Readville track as a feature of the Bunker Hill Day celebration.

A DOG WARNED GIRL AGAINST TERRIBLE CRIME

Two Negroes Attempt to Assault Young White Girl at Gulfport.

LYNCHING MAY OCCUR THIS A. M.

Crime Was Attempted in Back Lot of Residence While Family Were at Dinner Yesterday—Both Negroes Were Captured.

Special to The Journal. Gulfport, Miss., June 15.—While the Luzenberg family of this place, were at dinner today, Miss Luzenberg was sent to the rear of their lot which is a suburb of Gulfport, by her mother, to find a hen nest. Calling her dog, Miss Luzenberg obeyed, and when quite a distance from the house and looking among the bushes for the nest, the dog gave her warning that a strange person was near, by growling low and angrily.

Upon looking up to see what had attracted the attention of her pet, Miss Luzenberg saw two burly, black negroes, who were within a few feet of her, and who had been unobserved till then. One negro, Kid Taylor, beckoned her to come to him, and as she turned to flee, he tried to seize her. She escaped his clutch, being too quick for him, while his companion, Charlie Tompson, was being entertained by the pet dog. Both negroes pursued Miss Luzenberg, who ran to the home of Night Officer Howard nearby, and woke him up as she ran in the gate with her cry for help.

Howard arose hastily, saw what the trouble was and fired at the negroes who had stopped and were about to run. After the first shot Charlie Tompson surrendered to the officer. Kid Taylor continued his flight and escaped into the nearby woods. Officer Howard brought Tompson to the city and placed him in jail. With the bloodhounds of Sheriff Dickworth and a posse of deputies, he returned to the scene of the attempted assault, where the dogs were put on Taylor's trail, who was captured in the woods, about an hour and a half afterward by good work on the part of the hounds.

He was brought here and placed in jail with his accomplice. Excitement is very high at a late hour tonight, and there is some fear of lynching, though Sheriff Dickworth has the jail guarded with deputies as a precaution against an attack. Every effort will be made to try the negroes speedily.

CAMPAIGN IS FINISHED; ONLY THE VOTING REMAINS

RESISTED AN OFFICER; WAS SHOT TO DEATH. By Associated Press. Huntsville, Ala., June 15.—Joe Gibson, a cotton mill operative, wanted on a charge of assault with intent to murder, was killed today by Deputy Sheriff Miller. Gibson resisted arrest and drew a pistol, but the officer fired first.

LOUISIANA WILL NOT CONSIDER PROHIBITION

By Associated Press. Baton Rouge, La., June 15.—Louisiana will not become a prohibition state during the term of the present assembly. This was decided tonight by the house of representatives, when that body, by a vote of 58 to 47, indefinitely postponed the consideration of the Doussan bill, providing for the referendum on state-wide prohibition.

MOBILIANS IN NASTY SQUALL

Society Favorite Takes Party for Bay Trip in Pleasure Yacht and Runs Into Storm—Host and Guests Out All Night. Mobile, Ala., June 15.—Saturday W. M. Marshall left the city with Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Monk, Jr., Miss Moore, Miss Grace Rockwell, Miss Catherine Monk and Dr. Henry Goldthwaite, on his new yacht Lillian H., bound for Palmetto Beach. They were caught in a squall and experienced a rough night. The yacht returned tonight, minus a yawl and an anchor, after having drifted until daylight when they put into Week's Bay.

The boat came very near being beached several times and the wind blew a gale, the seas running very high. They anchored for some time until the cable parted, when they were forced to put the yacht's head up to the wind and put the engines at their best to keep from going ashore.

The yacht struck two other squalls during today. The women of the party will long remember their exciting experience. The staunch craft proved a splendid sea boat and rode the waves like a duck.

AFTERMATH OF SHOT WOMAN POWERS PARDON THEN HIMSELF

Democrats Will Severely Criticize Gov. Willson for Clemency—Old Howard-Baker Feud May be Reopened With Howard at Liberty. Frankfort, Ky., June 15.—Gov. William Willson will be the object of criticism from the Democratic press in this state for pardoning Caleb Powers and James Howard. Following the lead taken by Henry Watterson, in the Courier-Journal, the bitterest denunciation is expected to be poured forth on the head of the Republican governor.

Electrician of Birmingham Fatally Wounds Woman Who Infatuated Him. Birmingham, June 15.—Luther Burchfield, aged 21 years, a journeyman electrician, Sunday afternoon shot and fatally injured Mrs. Melveth Van Hooser, wife of a railroad engineer, but separated and then turned the pistol on himself and sent a bullet through his body, inflicting a fatal wound.

He visited the home of Mrs. Van Hooser, near South Highlands, and after calling the woman to the door, began firing at her. There was a struggle and another woman appeared on the scene and was shot at. After Mrs. Van Hooser fell to the floor, wounded twice in the abdomen, the young man walked into the front room of the house and sent the bullet through his body, intending to strike his heart.

Two years ago Burchfield met Mrs. Van Hooser at a local skating rink. There was an infatuation and the young man paid much attention to her, but against the will of his parents. His infatuation for the woman brought on the tragedy today. The home of Mrs. Van Hooser is at 712 South Twentieth street, just at the foot of Pearson Hill on South Highlands, and being on a prominent thoroughfare, the tragedy caused considerable excitement.

Polls Will Open at 8 O'clock This Morning and Close at Sun Down.

JOURNAL WILL GET REPORTS TO-NIGHT

Chief State Interest Centers Around Gubernatorial and Senatorial Campaigns and Clerk's Race Is Chief Contest in the County.

Last night the finishing touches of the campaign of 1908 were all put on and nothing now remains for the state and county candidates but the battle of ballots today.

The campaign has been a vigorous one, though in that respect it has not been notably different from all other Florida campaigns. The senatorial and gubernatorial contests have been the chief features of the fight this time, and the circuit clerk contest in the county has been the chief county race.

In order to assist those who are interested in making calculations on the vote today in this county for senator, congressman, governor, railroad commissioner, clerk of the circuit court and superintendent of public instruction, the following figures are reproduced from the official vote in the first primary as printed in The Journal of May 23:

First Primary Figures. For senator: Beard 1182, Broward 678, Fletcher 662, and Lamar 599; total for senator, 3,121. For congressman: Griggs 766, Kehoe 1456, Mays 532 and Stephens 159; total for congressman, 2913. For governor: Browne 375, Christ 1052, Stockton 1478; total for governor, 2905.

For railroad commissioner: Dunn 1055, Irving 238, Jackson 387, Salomon 710; total for railroad commissioner, 2390. For clerk of circuit court: Brown 759, Johnson 285, MacGibbon 909, and McMillan 1216; total for that office, 3269.

Superintendent of public instruction: Bell 950, Cook 1490, Wilson 735; total for the office, 3175. If as many ballots are cast today as in the first primary, the winner for clerk of the circuit court will receive more than 1600 votes and the winner for county superintendent of schools more than 1588 votes.

Polls Open at 8 a. m. Under the election law, the polls should be open this morning at 8 o'clock, and clerks and inspectors are expected to be there and have everything ready for the vote by that hour. They will close at sundown.

Immediately after the close of the polls the clerks and inspectors will eat their supper and the count of ballots will then begin. The ballot is short in this primary and it should not take long to complete the count. In fact, all of the city precincts should be complete by midnight and those of the country precincts that are on or near a telephone or telegraph line, should be reported by 10 o'clock.

BLIND TOM DIES POOR

Black Musician Passes Away After Years of Existence on Charity. By Associated Press. New York, June 15.—Blind Tom, the famous negro musician, marvel of three generations of players, died Saturday in Hoboken, N. J., where he was living and had been for years in retirement and subsisting on charity. Thomas Wiggins is the name given in his burial certificate, but the surname was one which the famous pianist adopted. He was born a slave near Columbus, Ga., about 1850. In early childhood Tom, who was born entirely blind and more than half idiotic, showed himself readily imitative, frequently stealing into the house of his master to reproduce on the pianoforte pieces he had heard played by others.

In 1861 Blind Tom became so proficient on the instrument that he was taken to New York and exhibited as a phenomenon, and later was widely heard in the United States and Europe.