

LARGEST CONVENTION IN RECORD OF DEMOCRACY OF NEW MEXICO NAMES FERGISSON FOR CONGRESS

(Continued from Page One.)

included a tribute to the Democratic party and to President Wilson, which brought cheers from the delegates and spectators.

Richardson Presents Gavel.
Secretary Adolph P. Hill then read the convention call and Chairman Paxton was about to present the committee's recommendation for the temporary organization, when Judge G. A. Richardson of Roswell, who presided at the convention, presented to the convention the gavel used at that convention and which was the gift of the city of Clovis. The gavel will be made a permanent part of the furniture of future Democratic state conventions, to be handed on from permanent chairman to the chairman of succeeding conventions.

The Temporary Organization.
State Chairman Paxton then presented the committee's recommendation for the temporary organization which was endorsed by unanimous vote on motion of Judge Richardson of Roswell, as follows:
Temporary chairman, Hon. E. C. De Baca of Las Vegas, lieutenant governor of New Mexico.
Temporary secretary, Hon. W. B. Walton of Silver City.
Interpreters, Plafelito Baca of Las Vegas, Camillo Padilla of Santa Fe, and M. U. Vigil of Albuquerque. M. U. Vigil was unable to serve, because of the critical illness of his daughter, and Dennis Chavez of Albuquerque was named in his stead.
C. Motion of Mr. Padilla of Santa Fe, Antonio Lucero, U. T. Neal of Roswell and J. L. Burdette of Grant county were appointed a committee to escort the lieutenant governor to the chair. Mr. Lucero presented the temporary chairman and Mr. Paxton the gavel, during a storm of applause for the popular presiding officer of the state senate.

Mr. Padilla of Santa Fe, Judge Richardson and Howard Ernest were named to escort Secretary Walton to the platform and Mr. De Baca proceeded with the delivery of the keynote speech.
Mr. De Baca, a fluent and pleasing speaker, was frequently stopped by applause. His opening tribute to President Wilson brought the convention to its feet in a full minute of cheering. And his exposure of the old tariff-would argument brought another long period of combined laughter and applause. His closing tribute to Congressman Ferguson brought a great demonstration from the delegates.

THE KEYNOTE SPEECH BY LEUTENANT-GOVERNOR DE BACA
The lieutenant governor said:
As the representatives of the Democratic party we are once more gathered together to renew our faith and allegiance to the principles of our great party of the people and, I am happy to say, to rejoice in its triumphs and achievements. We are also gathered for the purpose of placing in nomination the winning candidate for representative in congress and for member of the corporation commission at the forthcoming election to be held on the 3rd of November.

Some people might be curious to know upon what grounds we base such a positive assertion; but, my friends, there is no mystery connected with the prediction; the answer is very simple and logical: our candidates will win because the party has kept the faith and it deserves to win for having kept the faith.
After the glorious success of the battle of Baltimore for the choice of a champion to lead us in the political fray and to carry us to victory; when the standard of Democracy was placed in the hands of the great American, that undoubted Democrat, that Christian gentleman, Woodrow Wilson, a great wave of confidence swept over the land, and we all felt that victory would be achieved at the polls and, more important than all, we felt confidence that the faith would be kept, and today we are proud to proclaim a record of achievements and fulfillment of promises, such as have never been equaled in the history of our country.

In the two short years that the Democratic party has handled the reins of government we have witnessed a complete regeneration—a new birth of the old Democratic ideals of the founders of our nation; a complete change from monarchial ideas, monopoly, privilege and bossism, to freedom of competition, of opportunities and to an era of equal right to all.
We have witnessed the removal of that grand old barrier used to decelerate the unthinking and to keep in line the partisan fanatic; that breeder of monopoly—the so-called protective tariff, and upon the readjustment of the new conditions we will see the complete return of free opportunity and competition with its beneficial effects. We are already feeling the benefits of Democratic policies and enough things have happened to open the eyes of many of those who were heretofore living under the illusion that Democratic success meant ruin and calamity for the country and the destruction of our industries, especially here in New Mexico, the stock industries. But what are the results? Do you remember the wool bugaboo? Do you remember the prophecies of dire calamity that were to befall the great New Mexico industry if the Democratic party went into power and the wool tariff was removed from the shrine of its fanatic idolaters? What has become of the argument? Where, oh, where is that caricature representing Ferguson for the act of assassinating poor New Mexico's little lamb? We notice the Republicans are not exhibiting that cartoon this year, and they are not going to, because the Democratic party has kept the faith. We have witnessed the enactment

of a new monetary law establishing a system that will protect, at the hands of an honest administration, the all important item of circulation; effecting a change from a system that could be used to make panics to order, into a truly safe and sane method of life-giving circulation. While this law was pending before congress I heard one of our bankers predicting calamity and ruin if the bill should become a law. That same banker studied the bill and his eyes were opened a little later, and I had the satisfaction of hearing his expressions of approval and confidence, and we all know that the whole country is jubilant because of the enactment of this legislation and congratulate themselves that the country went Democratic in 1912.

The old Republican system reminded me quite often of that dreadful and fatal disease, apoplexy. As we all know, apoplexy is the sudden paralysis of voluntary motion usually caused by a rush of the circulating fluid—blood—to the brain and pressing upon it. Under the old Republican system every time the great interests needed a panic in their business all they had to do was to call a rush of the circulation medium into the coffers of Wall street and cause national apoplexy. But under the Democratic system there will be no rushing of money of the country into Wall street vaults, but will be distributed wherever it may be necessary to alleviate financial evils and thus keep the body politic in health and motion. Under this system there will be no panics save for natural reasons but none can be made to order by the moneyed interests as long as an honest administration is at the helm. The country is jubilant and satisfied because Democracy has kept the faith.

Democracy promised the nation that it would save it from the dangerous course of imperialism; that which the late Republican administrations had sunk it. We notice from the Washington dispatches that the committee on insular possessions has already agreed upon a plan of more home-rule for the Philippines and on a promise of independence as soon as ability for self government is demonstrated. The Democratic party has kept the faith and it deserves to win.

The Democratic party is pledged against subsidies, and in the face of the protests and howlings of the big shipping monopoly has revealed the free toll section of the law, thereby abolishing an unfair subsidy and abolishing the pledged honor of the nation Hay-Pauncefote treaty. The Democratic party has kept the faith and honor of America, and it deserves to win.

The Democratic party has removed, by a satisfactory treaty, the blot placed upon the character and honor of the nation, by what the El Paso Times has very properly and truthfully termed "The Rape of Columbia," committed by the Republican administration under Roosevelt. He calls the treaty a submission to a demand for blackmail. We deny it. It is simply restitution.
We have witnessed the elimination of the lobby from the halls of congress; the perfection and operation of the income tax, the direct election of senators by the people; the passage of the industrial employes arbitration act which has already prevented a strike of eastern railway employes and the extension and development of the parcel post; the divorcement of the government from the alliance with New York financial interests in international affairs, etc.

And what of the policy of "watchful waiting"? We certainly hope that war has come to an end in Mexico as a result of our "watchful waiting." But whether it does or not, we know that the Wilson and Bryan policy has kept us from plunging into a disastrous and costly war ourselves where we have no right to interfere; above all we rejoice and pride ourselves because the author of "watchful waiting" has inscribed in the hearts of the people of the world and especially of those of the western continent the high and holy principle that accession to governmental power by means of violence and assassination is a great wrong against civilization and will not be recognized by the great American colossus; meaning at the same time the installment of the peaceful rule of the people and the crushing of brutal forces in governmental affairs—reason and justice against the sword—the "Woodrow Wilson Doctrine"—the grandest act of this administration—the thing that will place his author side by side with Jefferson, Lincoln and Monroe in the history of America!

The Democratic members of congress have been having a tail-dog tussle with the apologists of monopoly over the administration's anti-trust bill. But the Democrats were told lately that the Democrats were determined to keep up the fight until hell freezes (which means of course until the coming of winter in Washington) and the Republicans inform us that the Republicans rather than be cooked in Washington will cease their filibuster on behalf of monopoly and permit a vote to be taken in the near future. This goes also to prove the truth of the saying that "every man has his price."
I could keep on reciting to you the glorious achievements of our national administration, but time is flying and I must touch upon our local struggles.

While our local administration has, under terrific disadvantages, succeeded in bringing about many reforms for the good of the people, I regret to say that our achievements have not had the same abundant success locally that we have had nationally. But for this failure the party is not to blame, for those Democrats that you selected

to office in the state have been just as loyal, as efficient and as honest as those that hold the helm in Washington. (As to myself, while I was elected together with the other gentlemen I do not consider myself as an active member of the administration; I am merely on deck—a sort of "watchful waiting"). Partly, the fault lies with the people in their choice of a constitutional convention that made an apportionment in the legislative district minority in the vote of the commonwealth was enabled to make a two-thirds majority in the legislature. And right here let us consider the great, the important necessity of the rule of the people. Here we have the spectacle of a state where its legislature turns up two-thirds majority, while they have a minority in the popular vote. Can the people rule in New Mexico under our constitutional legislative apportionment? There is no other explanation to such an anomalous condition save the fact of a most unfair apportionment, made especially for the purpose of depriving the rule of the majority and perpetuating, as long as possible, the rule of the old guard.

To this extent and responsibility fell upon the people for the legislative failure; but the brunt of the responsibility falls upon the Republican party; that party of the bosses, for the bosses and by the bosses whose record in the legislature from the damnable usurpation of power in divesting of official authority the chosen of the people, to the outrageous attempt to saddle upon the tax payers a most extravagant county salary bill, condemn it in the eyes of a just people, and will make possible the election of a Democratic legislature in the present year of our Lord, notwithstanding the legislative apportionment.

The struggle recorded on the salary proposition was a memorable one. It was a struggle of the bosses armed with all the power of the majority acquired through the absolute and unscrupulous domination and control of a clear majority of the members of the legislative body, determined to win at all hazards, on the one side, and the back-bone and fidelity to the public interests of the Democratic governor of New Mexico, Wm. C. McDonald, backed by the few loyal Democrats, the few Progressives and some independent Republicans of the house and one of the senate. Four times did the bosses make the assault upon the defenders of the people, each time thinking they had carried the day, and four times were they repulsed. But the fight was a draw, it has to be fought over again. To begin with, it is now back to the people. The people will say on November 3rd by their choice of a house of representatives of the state legislature whether they wish to continue the system of official plunder, and pensions to political bosses and strikers, or whether they wish to run their public affairs in sober business principles.

The tendency of the times throughout the nation is towards a sane business system by copying from private institutions and individuals.

The people of the various counties of the state are complaining and suffering today the tremendous weight of burdensome debts converted into interest-bearing bonds, the result of extravagant salaries paid to county officers in times past. The county of my residence carries a bonded indebtedness of more than half a million dollars, of which three hundred thousand constitute deficits in the county salary fund, and we cannot doubt that the same thing occurs proportionately in the majority of the other counties. It is fully realized and admitted that said indebtedness contributes very materially to make our taxes high, and unless a stop is put to such extravagance, taxes will continue to rise and pile up. High salaries make high taxes and high taxes are the outcome of legislation. The Republican party is the only one responsible for the high taxes in New Mexico; it created them by legislation and extravagance and it controlled the constitutional convention which created useless offices and fixed high salaries. Yet, it is pretended that the future legislature may go the constitutional convention a few points better and fix even higher salaries for county officers than are paid to state officers. I think it is the duty of every patriotic New Mexican irrespective of party, to rally to the side of the people and put his shoulder to the wheel in the determined fight against higher taxes and the best time to begin is right now by fixing the salaries of county officers on a reasonable business basis. Those that have had experience in such matters know that if the state is to be run economically the time to begin to economize is at the start. It is easy enough to acquire extravagance, that is like going down hill, but it is another and more difficult thing to be economic after you have started on a career of extravagance. It would be practically easy to fix reasonable salaries now, it will require heroic work afterwards. My friends, I have no time to dwell upon the fatal consequences of high taxes to a community, but I want you to remember this one single item: if a stranger should come to your doors with a view of settling and investing, and upon due inquiry were told, as is natural, that your taxes are high, he would immediately cease making further inquiries, and pack his trunk, leaving for other shores, no matter how beautiful the scenery of your country, how rich in resources or how unsurpassed in climate. High taxes make people take to the hills and you can not blame them.

The proposition contended for in the memorable struggle of which I have made mention as recorded in the legislature if carried according to the program of the old guard mean exactly this condition and many others. Many of you may not know exactly what the big struggle was about. Mainly it was on the county salary bill. In order to give you a fair idea I cite that portion of the second salary bill (S. B. 104) passed by the legislature, affecting first class counties; all the other bills passed were, with immaterial changes similar to this one.

A first class county was classified in the bill as one, the assessed valuation of which reached four million dollars in 1912. The yearly salaries were provided as follows:
County commissioners, \$800 each; treasurer and collector, \$1,000; assessor, \$1,000; sheriff, \$3,500; with \$1,500 additional for deputy; county clerk, \$900, with \$1,500 additional as district court clerk; probate judge, \$600; school superintendent, \$1,500. The bill contained several provisions for deputies, traveling expenses, etc. The bill passed both houses the latter part of February, 1913 and was returned by the governor with the following veto message:
I return herewith without approval S. B. No. 104, entitled "An Act relative to county officers."

This action is taken with much regret, some satisfaction and a full realization of the responsibility which it involves. The regret is not on account of the temporary disappointment in the county officers, but also because of my desire to avoid such a disagreement with the legislative branch of our state government. The satisfaction is from the fact that the issue is now clear cut, distinct and definite. With the exception of the changes in the salaries of the officers of Sandoval county, this is practically the same bill as was passed last June, and which I then felt it my duty to disapprove after the most careful consideration. My responsibility as I understand it is to all the people of New Mexico rather than to a few who are especially interested in this legislation. The issue, as it appears to me, shall all of the county officers serve the people for proper and reasonable compensation or shall the taxpayers be compelled to contribute unfairly, in some cases, to those whom they have selected as their servants.
During the constitutional convention and afterwards in the campaign for the adoption of the constitution, it was generally claimed that the salary system for county officers would be a great saving over the old fee system. When the people adopted the constitution, it was with that understanding and belief. The provisions of this bill must, as it seems to me, be a disappointment to them, because, instead of the expenses of the county government being reduced, they will be considerably increased.
In view of the great tax burden under which the people are laboring, and of which they bitterly complain, it seems to me that we are not justified in providing \$40,000 annually for county officers in excess of liberal compensation for the work performed, which is done by this bill. This occurs chiefly in counties of the first and second classes, though there is considerable of it in the third class counties.
Assessors alone, in all the counties, would obtain \$18,000 more than justice and fairness, would give them.
In first class counties \$4,000 is provided for treasurer, which is well known that in four of the six counties in this class the work is practically entirely done by deputies who receive from \$1,200 to \$2,000, leaving a net sum to the treasurer of from \$200 to \$2,800 for bearing the honor conferred by the people.
Sheriffs in first class counties would receive \$3,500 salary, in second class counties \$3,000 and in third class counties \$2,000.
Under the head of jailer, third class counties are allowed only \$400, which is not sufficient to employ a man who can be considered safe for handling prisoners; and at the same time \$400 is provided to pay a deputy district clerk in each of these counties, when it is a well known fact, except during terms of the district court, there is very little work to be done.
The county officers are presumed to give their entire time to the performance of the duties of their offices and in the counties where a competent man is unable to perform all the duties of his office, provision should be made for deputies whose compensation should be distinct and separate from that of the county officers.
I believe this bill is wrong in principle and unfair in the details as they have been worked out. A net salary should be provided, so far as practicable, for all county officers, and compensation in each case should be commensurate with the services performed.
I have the honor to remain, etc.

TWO VETERAN STARS WHOSE DECLINE IS INDICATED BY FAILURE TO HIT



For the first time in eighteen seasons as a big leaguer "Hans" Wagner is below the 300 mark in batting. Evidence of a decline in swatting power also marks the efforts of Napoleon Lajoie, the original "Larruping Larry" of the major leagues. The last official figures show Wagner batting .278, while his American League rival for honors among the veterans has the puny percentage of .321.

Competent judges have declared "Hans" Wagner to be the greatest ball player of all time. Year after year Wagner led the National League batsmen, and was also a base running and scoring marvel. Lajoie's grace in the field surpassed that of any of his rivals when "Larry" was going right. Big league infielders who heard the whistle of Lajoie's hits insist that no man ever clouted a ball harder than the one-time Woonsocket (R. I.) cab driver.

County commissioners, \$700 each; assessor and treasurer, \$3,000 each; sheriff, \$2,500 and traveling expenses, and \$2,500 for deputy; county clerk, \$2,500; probate judge, \$600, and school superintendent, \$1,800. The substitute, though quite liberal, was as quickly rejected as the Democratic amendments by the usual motion.

I have stated in the course of my remarks that the tendency of the times in the matter of official salaries is towards the adoption of a sane business system by copying from private institutions and individuals, but we can also copy from other less plunder-ridden communities.
Take, for instance, commercial and bank cashiers and accountants, men especially trained and fitted for a work that requires true efficiency, mental strain and conscientiousness; very seldom find one who gets more than \$2,000 a year, and the great majority of them get \$1,500 and less. These are considered good salaries. The same can be said of employees in the railroad offices and departments and in a very large per cent of all the departments of the government.
Let us consider now, the earnings of railroad work on the road: You remember the late threatened strike of the engineers and firemen. This dispute was raised by a demand of the men for higher compensation. Now, you all know the kind of work an engineer has to do and what he has gone through in order to equip himself for the work, and how every minute of his life is dependent upon a thread. A few days ago I was making some inquiries about what wages they were contending for. I found that an engineer working nine hours a day Sundays and holidays included, living more than half the time away from home and having to bear the corresponding extra expenses, was getting \$132 a month or \$1584 a year and that if the total amount of his demand for increase was allowed he would earn \$1692 per annum. Do you find any comparison between the work of an engineer and that of our average official? You certainly note the big difference between the business compensation and the official pension.

But let us now compare the Republican salary bill upon the enactment of which they insisted and persisted, and are now preparing themselves to renew the fight for, with the salaries of other less graft-ridden states. I have here a few statistics gathered at random from several other states, by taking usually some of such counties as conform to or outclass our first class counties.
Maine—Treasurer, from \$300 to 1,500; sheriff, \$800 to \$2,500, only three counties exceeding the maximum.
Kansas—Clerks and treasurers, 20,000 to 25,000 population, \$1,000; sheriff, \$2,000.
Idaho—Sheriff, \$500 to \$2,000; assessor, \$800 to \$3,000; treasurer, \$500 to \$2,000; school superintendent, \$1,000 to \$2,000.
Montana—On counties of not less than \$2,000,000 valuation: Sheriff, \$1,800 to \$2,500; clerk, \$1,200 to \$2,000; treasurer, \$1,500 to \$2,000; assessor, \$1,000 to \$1,500; school superintendent, \$600 to \$1,200.
Wyoming—First class: Sheriff, \$1,800; treasurer, \$1,500; county commissioners, \$200 and \$500 per diem; clerk, \$1,800; school superintendent, \$900.
Washington—First class: Clerk, \$2,000; treasurer, \$2,200; sheriff, \$2,800; superintendent, 2,000; assessor, \$2,200.

West Virginia—Each county classified separately. Sheriff and ex-officio treasurer, \$1,100 to \$4,500, this last one being where population exceeds \$6,000; clerk, \$1,200 to \$2,000.
Iowa—On 20,000 to 25,000 population: Clerk, \$1,400; sheriff, \$3,000; treasurer, \$3,500.
Massachusetts—Sheriff, \$300 to \$2,000. Suffolk county with a larger population than New Mexico, pays \$2,000 to its sheriff.
As will be observed, not one of the states cited pays county salaries like those proposed to by the Republican party in New Mexico and hardly any reach even the McCoy bill. Why should the old ruinous system be continued in New Mexico at the expense of tax payers. Why should these men, because they hold political jobs, be entitled to three or four times more salary than expert accountants, gov-

ernment employes and officers of like, or higher grade in other states, and railroad engineers? Are they more competent? Do they work more? These questions will be answered negatively by every man, woman and child in New Mexico. The fact is there are some who hardly know the interior of their offices; others that would not do a scratch of a pen because they do not know how to handle one.

Now, I want it understood that I am not against the county officers; a good many of them are my political friends, many are personal friends and I surely am not at enmity with a single one. Nothing would please me more than to see them all prosper and be contented, and I feel satisfied that a good many would be satisfied with good business salaries. I sincerely sympathize with them in the disappointment and inconvenience to which they have been subjected by those who would forget their duty to the people by persisting on something that is unfair; but this is not a personal question and we, as a party championing the rights of the people, are bound to do a plain duty.

In the course of our deliberations you will hear recited to you, by men better qualified than I to do justice to the subject, the achievements of our congressman, that untiring, faithful and splendid worker in behalf of his constituents, of whom it has been truthfully said that he is the lone representative of New Mexico in the house, senate, before the president and all the departments at Washington—Harvey E. Ferguson.

I thank you very cordially for bearing with me so patiently.
The Convention Committee.

At the conclusion of the address the convention committees were named on motion of Antonio Lucero, secretary.

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ended and amended by Judge Richardson. The committees are credentials, rules and permanent organization, resolutions and an advisory committee, one member from each county, the last named committee being charged with recommending to the convention a candidate for the state corporation commission.
The committees follow in the order as named by counties:
Credentials—Dennis Chavez, John T. McClure, H. A. Fernandez, W. W. Nichols, Geo. H. Smith, J. W. Armstrong, Ramundo Harrison, W. B.

(Continued on Page Five.)

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