

Texas Invites 1916 National Democratic Convention to Dallas

Texas Claims That Dallas Is More Accessible Than Denver, Where the Convention Met in 1908, and That Dallas Is Better Able to Handle the Convention Than Kansas City Was.



Untouched Photograph of Dallas Sky Line—No Longer Cowboy Land

HENRY D. LINDSLEY, chairman of the Texas national Democratic convention committee, which proposes to bring the 1916 national Democratic convention to Dallas, has had a varied experience in climbing life's ladder. Beginning as a cashboy in a Dallas department store and being by advancing degrees stenographer, schoolteacher, farmer and banker, he has accumulated a large fortune and has, although still a young man, retired from active business life and is devoting his energies to the study of and participation in municipal development.

Governor **James E. Ferguson**, or "Parson Jim," as his intimates call him, had his first public office when elected to the office he now holds. He is a stockman and banker and a strong advocate of labor unions.

Waging a Mighty Battle.

Texas is waging a mighty battle for the convention. The banner Democratic state claims recognition for the southwest. The committee is heralding broadcast the statements that "Texas has elected more Democratic presidential electors than any other state; let the next Democratic nominee be given that honor in Texas." "Texas constantly Democratic" and "Texas majorities are twice as large as other states."

Aside from the claims that Dallas has adequately and satisfactorily accommodated larger conventions, the Texas committee is advancing the fact that Dallas is the fifth city in the country in point of telegraph and telephone facilities and is on the direct main line of travel between the eastern and west-

ern coasts. Texas claims that Dallas is more accessible than Denver, where the convention met in 1908, and that Dallas is better able to handle the convention than Kansas City was.

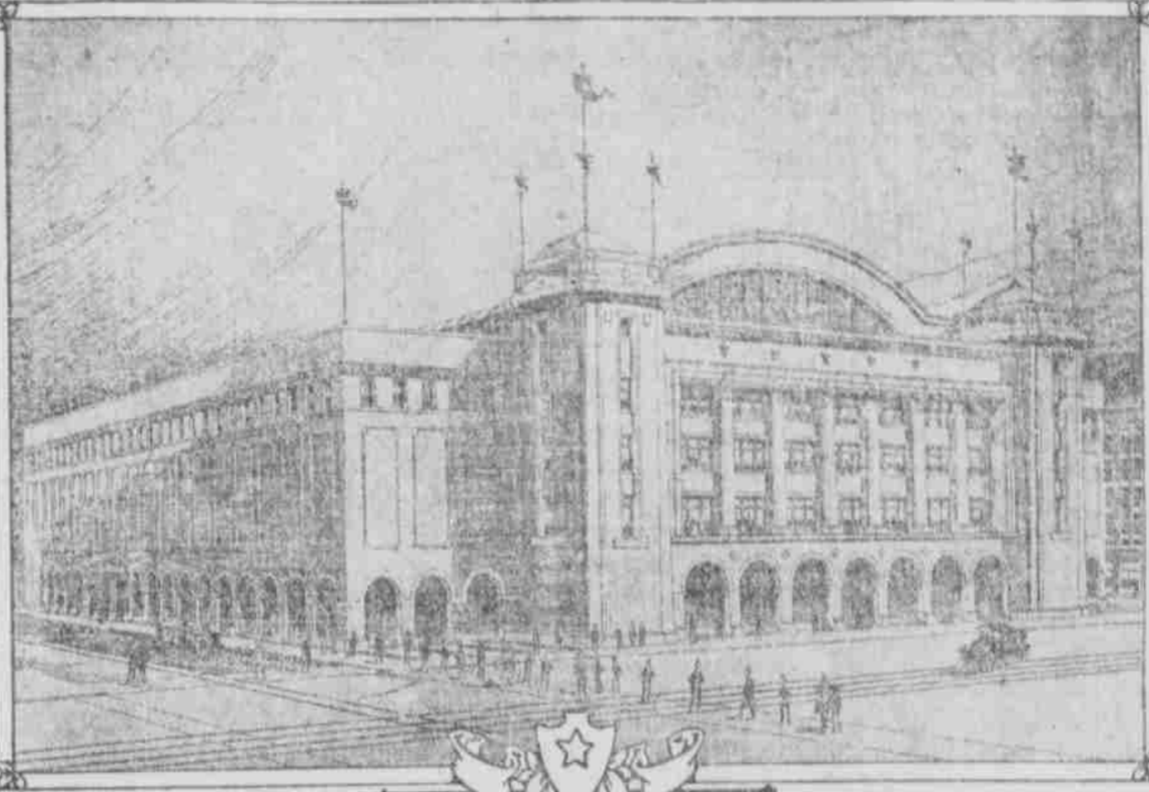
South Solid For Texas.

The national Democratic committee is composed of one man from each state and territory. Twelve of those committeemen declared themselves for Dallas upon receiving that city's invitation, which the Texans regard as a happy beginning. A total of thirty-two have indicated that they will vote for Dallas, according to the Texas committee.

Texas believes that their state is more nearly representative of the entire country than any state in the Union. They claim that the population of their state being homogeneous the Democratic party in meeting in Texas will not only accord recognition to the banner Democratic state and the ever faithful solid south, but will meet in the most truly American section of the United States. In support of this Texas is pointing to the cordial reception which the north, east and west have given the thought of meeting in Dallas. The national committeeman from Massachusetts has stated, "Nothing but good could come from such a meeting in Dallas," and this seems typical of the comment from other sections. The south is lining up solidly for Texas and seems to consider that when this gathering meets in Texas it will plainly show the rest of the world at war that every remnant of sectional feeling has disappeared in this country.

Weather.

Of course, one of the greatest diffi-



BUILDING IN WHICH CONVENTION IS INVITED TO HOLD ITS SESSION

culties of Texas will be to correct the widespread impression of Texas weather in July. The Texans have adopted two plans toward that end. They first have secured a great number of ex-

pressions from men of prominence who are familiar with July weather in Dallas and in Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago, Baltimore and other previous convention cities. These expressions

are in favor of Dallas largely because of the easier circulation which the air levels in Dallas and also the lack of humidity. The Texas committee will also submit statistics to the national

Democratic committee, secured from the United States weather bureau at Washington, which show that the average humidity in Dallas in July is from five to fifteen degrees less than it is in previous convention cities and that the breeze velocity is from two to five miles an hour greater. As the greatest factors affecting summer comfort are humidity and breeze, they expect these weather bureau statistics to correct the more or less general impression that Dallas has unusually warm weather in July. The explanation of the superior bodily comfort probably lies in the steady breeze from the east stream, which averages twelve miles an hour in Dallas during the summer.

Texas Says Dallas Has Handled Larger Conventions and Can Easily Satisfy the Democrats

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Big Conventions Well Cared For.

It is believed by the well informed that Dallas can take care of the Democratic convention satisfactorily. Dallas has a jagged sky line, plenty of hotels and has successfully entertained many large national conventions. The Shriners have met twice in Dallas, and the Texas committee has a certificate signed by all the past imperial potentates of the Shriners, who are from all parts of the country, which states that these men believe Dallas can easily measure up to the occasion. Statistics which the committee has indicate that the last Shriners' convention had as large an attendance as past Democratic national gatherings. A certificate that the Elks were satisfactorily accommodated and were comfortable when their national convention met in Dallas in July, 1908, has been sent to the Dallas delegation by past grand exalted rulers of that order.

Another evidence of Dallas' ability to handle large crowds to which the Texans are pointing is the state fair of Texas, which is located in practically the heart of the city. This fair, which is the largest permanent show place of its kind in the country, each year brings a floating population of 25,000 to 125,000 people in daily attendance at Dallas and explains how that city was able to satisfactorily handle the national meetings of the Elks, the Shriners, the Associated Advertising Clubs of America and other organizations. The coliseum, in which these conventions met, seats 10,000 people and can be enlarged to accommodate 25,000. As a matter of fact, the railroad and the street railway facilities of the Texas city are probably unequalled by a city of its population (130,000) in the country.

"Texas Always Wins."

Slogans which the Texans have adopted are: "The 1916 National Democratic Convention Shall Meet in Texas," "Texas Always Wins" and "Behind Dallas Stands Texas." The Democrats of the country are being told that "if the convention is to be a love feast it should be held in the heart of Democracy," and "if it is to be a family quarrel, as national conventions usually are, let us hold it around the hearthstone of rock ribbed Democracy and not write our platform by the light of an enemy's campfire." The Texas spirit is also seen in the promise made that "The Democrats will receive a more genuine and cordial welcome and more beautiful hospitality when they meet in Texas than they have experienced before in the history of the party."

CONVENTION SONG OF THE TEXANS

At the beginning of time battle songs and battle cries have been a part of political campaigns and political conventions. In the fight which Dallas is making for next year's national gathering of the Democrats the Texans have adopted as their battle song a rollicking tune which has been called, "At the Dallas Democratic Jubilee."

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The chorus of the song is shown on this page. The song has aroused a great deal of enthusiasm over Texas and is being sung this fall at the fairs over the state. Very much the same spirited adoption of this song has occurred as witnessed the "taking up" by the Texans of "Come to Texas!" which proved tremendously popular some ten years ago.

SOME EARLY RESULTS OF THE CAMPAIGN TO BRING THE 1916 NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION TO DALLAS.

Chairman **William F. McCombs** of the national Democratic committee has announced from New York that Dallas is the leading candidate for the convention.

The votes of fifty-three national committeemen decide the location of the convention.

Thirty-two of the fifty-three have indicated that they are inclined toward Dallas.

Twelve have stated that they will vote for Dallas.

One has declared for either Chicago or St. Louis.

The others reserve their commitments until the committee meets.

There are twenty-eight Democratic governors of the United States. Fifteen have declared themselves unequivocally for Dallas and are writing to the advisory committee to further the success of Dallas.

Eleven United States senators are on record for Dallas.

Twelve chairmen of state Democratic committees are for Dallas.

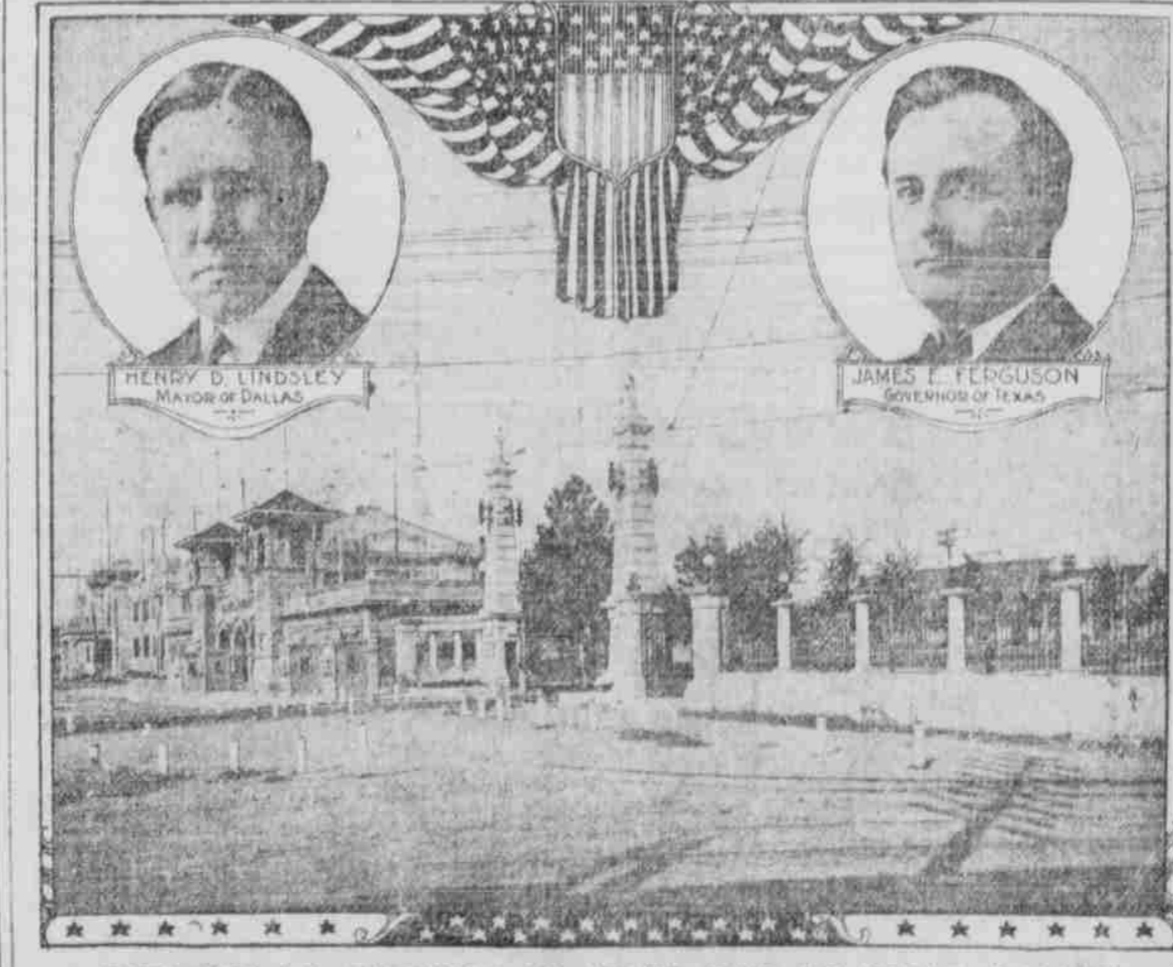
Six justices of state supreme courts are for Dallas.

An honorary committee of 1,000 Texans from every section of the state is working for Dallas.

An advisory committee of 10,000 prominent or representative men in other states is nearly completed, having as members such valuable helpers as Hon. Luke Wright of Tennessee, John Burke, United States treasurer, John Temple Graves of Georgia, Irvin B. Cobb, war correspondent and writer.

Texas commercial organizations, aggregating in membership 100,000 business men, have passed resolutions indorsing Dallas.

The New Orleans chamber of commerce has taken the lead out-



ENTRANCE TO GROUNDS OF STATE FAIR OF TEXAS, DALLAS

WHERE THE DEMOCRATS HAVE MET

First National Convention 1832

1832, May 26.....	Baltimore	1876, June 27.....	St. Louis
1835, May 29.....	Baltimore	1880, June 22.....	Cincinnati
1840, May 5.....	Baltimore	1884, July 10.....	Chicago
1844, May 27.....	Baltimore	1888, June 6.....	St. Louis
1848, May 22.....	Baltimore	1892, June 21.....	Chicago
1852, June 1.....	Baltimore	1896, July 7.....	Chicago
1856, June 2.....	Cincinnati	1900, July 4.....	Kansas City
1860, April 23.....	Charleston	1904, July 6.....	St. Louis
1864, June 18.....	Baltimore	1908, July 7.....	Denver
1868, Aug. 29.....	Chicago	1912, June 24.....	Baltimore
1872, July 9.....	New York city		
	Baltimore		

1916 . . . Dallas?

DALLAS FIRST IN THE FIELD

Dallas, Tex., was the first city to invite the 1916 national Democratic convention to meet within its confines and is waging a lively fight for that honor. An active organization composed of 150 bankers, business, professional and public men, with Henry D. Lindsley, mayor of Dallas, as chairman, and Governor James E. Ferguson as one of its hardest workers, is carrying on the fight.

Texas invites a scrap, and its senators, congressmen, its commercial organizations totaling 100,000 members, every mayor, every city, town and hamlet, are intensely interested in the success of Dallas and have constituted themselves a determined army in the campaign being waged. Thus, it may be said to be the biggest state, it is characteristic of Texas people that they usually go whole souled and in a big way into a proposition of this kind or not at all. A committee of 150, which is directing the campaign, is assisted by an honorary committee composed entirely of Texans, the membership of which totals 1,000. Supplementing this fighting force is an advisory committee of 10,000 members from all sections of the country. This latter list includes twelve United States senators, fifteen governors and a great number of national representatives and men of prominence both in private and public life.

The business and public men of Dallas and of Texas have pledged \$100,000 as a cash contribution to the funds of the national Democratic committee should the convention meet in Dallas and have pledged a coliseum seating 25,000 people and answering every convention requirement.

DALLAS WINS!