

WHO TOOK PLANK OUT OF BULL MOOSE PLATFORM

Despite the present gathering of the Bull Moose here, the great mystery of the missing plank or who snagged a piece of the party's platform has not been solved.

The plank in question was the trust one, which came out flatly for federal regulation of the trusts.

It first was passed unanimously by a sub-committee of a sub-committee of the committee on resolutions. It then was passed unanimously by the sub-committee, and, after some debate, also by the resolutions committee.

It was late at night when the resolutions committee passed the plank, and the news was flashed out over the Associated Press wires.

About half an hour later Oscar King Davis, chairman of the Bull Moose national committee, appeared at Associated Press offices and asked that the trust plank be taken out of the platform in the news dispatches.

Oscar King was all fussed up about it—red in the face and excited. The Associated Press at first refused to take the plank out, but at last listened to O. K.'s piteous pleadings and sent out a kill.

The next day carbon copies of the entire platform, as passed by the resolutions committee, were sent out to all news agencies and Chicago newspapers.

And the trust plank was not in that platform and did not appear even to have been in the carbon copies.

What happened to that plank?

What leader ordered Surgeon Davis to operate on the platform and remove it? Why did that leader order the operation? These questions are among life's little mysteries.

Col. Roosevelt was asked about the missing plank yesterday. He said he could not talk politics while here.

Senator Dixon was asked about it. He said that he did not know what had become of the plank.

Oscar King, the surgeon, was asked about it. He looked vague and said that he "did not recollect."

Other Bull Moose leaders were asked about the missing plank, and each and every one of them subsided into a moist state of bad memory.

Somebody sneaked that plank out of the Bull Moose platform; but who did it, and why, seem likely to remain mysteries.

Still, there rises before one a picture of the Hon. George W. Perkins, late partner of J. Pierpont Morgan, but now treasurer of the Bull Moose party.

J. Pierp. is a collector of Old Masters, and will go to any length to get them. Can it be that his former partner is a collector of platform planks and will go to any length to get them?

O. K. Davis said today that Roosevelt and Dixon ordered the plank out and that it got to the press associations by giving them the wrong copy. He admits the clause was adopted by the convention, but says it was because