

TAFT WINS FIRST ROUND.

ROOT ELECTED TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN.

First Day of Convention Was Filled With Excitement and Roosevelt Men Contested Every Point—Taft Leaders in Complete Control and Steam Roller Runs on Schedule.

Chicago, June 18.—Against the threats, charges and bitter invective of the Roosevelt forces, Taft supporters in the Republican national convention today put through the first portion of their programme by electing Senator Elihu Root of New York temporary chairman. In spite of the fact that Victor Rosewater, chairman of the national committee, consistently ruled out of order every motion made by the Roosevelt forces, it required more than five hours to reach a vote on the temporary chairmanship.

The roll call was beset with difficulties, but at the end, when the tumult had died away, Senator Root was found to have won by a vote of 558 to 502 for Gov. Francis E. McGovern of Wisconsin, with 14 scattered votes and four not voting.

Tonight both the Taft and Roosevelt forces are claiming this vote indicates that their candidate is absolutely sure to win. The advantage appears to be with the president, however, for while he is sure to lose some of the votes that were cast for Senator Root, it is claimed he will gain, if instructions are observed. Some of the votes were independently cast for McGovern.

Those leaders who have been urging a compromise candidate ever since they arrived in Chicago, pointing to angles in the figures, claim they show that it is essential to name a so-called "dark horse" to save the day for the Republican party.

While Mr. Root was made chairman today and managed to deliver his "keynote" speech, the fighting is to be renewed at 11 o'clock tomorrow when the motion of the Roosevelt leaders to substitute a new list of delegates for those credited to some of the contested States is to be taken up as the unfinished business. No committees were named tonight and none will be until this motion to "purge" the convention of "fraudulent" delegates is disposed of. Today it was defeated on a point of order, but the Roosevelt forces declare that parliamentary practice will not be permitted to stand in their way tomorrow.

The Roosevelt people and the Taft people carried out their programme as announced in advance almost to the letter. The Roosevelt people said tonight they are going to fight every inch of the way.

There were cries of "bolters" hurled at the Roosevelt delegates at times during the session, but the contingency of a bolt again tonight seemed to be far distant.

California, under the leadership of Gov. Johnson, assumed a belligerent attitude almost with the start of the roll call, when the two Roosevelt delegates from the Fourth district, seated by the national committee, were allowed to vote. But they soon found their protest of no effect upon the vote for McGovern.

There is prospect of even more struggle tomorrow, when as "unfinished business" the convention will take up a motion of Gov. Hadley of Missouri to strike from the temporary roll of the convention as prepared by the national committee the names of 92 delegates seated by the national committee in contested elections, and substitute therefor Roosevelt contestants.

It was in precisely this effort, that the whole day was spent. The chaplain had hardly finished his invocation of the divine blessing upon the convention before Gov. Hadley was on his feet objecting to the personnel of the convention itself. This led to a long and intricate parliamentary argument.

Victor Rosewater, chairman of the national committee, upon whose shoulders had fallen the ordinarily perfunctory duty of calling the convention to order and presenting the recommendations of the committee for temporary officers, found himself with an able-bodied man's job of presiding over what seemed likely to be a turbulent and passionate war of factions.

He was not in good voice, and what he said was barely audible at the front of the platform, but the loud-voiced clerks with megaphones did all the necessary announcing, including his ruling on the Hadley motion.

This ruling was to the effect that until the national committee had presented the temporary roll made up from the credentials from the individual States and districts and its judgment upon contests, there was no convention. He held that absolutely no business was in order save the choice of temporary officers. He allowed 20 minutes to each side to present arguments on the Hadley motion.

These arguments were presented by

Gov. Hadley and ex-Gov. Fort of New Jersey on the Roosevelt side and Representative Sereno E. Payne of New York and ex-Representative James E. Watson of Indiana, in behalf of the Taft people. After the arguments were finished, Chairman Rosewater renewed the ruling that nothing was in order but nominations for temporary chairman. He presented the national committee's recommendation of Senator Root and asked for further nominations.

The Roosevelt men made no further opposition to this ruling, and the roll call was begun at 3:15. The name of every individual delegate was called and it consumed three more hours, yet every step of the proceedings was heard with the keenest interest.

The Roosevelt men did the best they could; demanding the omission of the name of every one of the delegates objected to on the ground that he had been improperly seated by the national committee as set forth in the sidetracked motion of Gov. Hadley, but the roll call went on merrily, sometimes amid deafening confusion.

The shifting of the vote brought dramatic sequence of emotion and of applause. Burst of cheers greeted one vote after another. With Oregon's three for Root and the six for McGovern the net plurality for Root stood at 36, but Pennsylvania's 64 for McGovern threw the ballot the other way. Until Tennessee was reached, when Root again appeared with a net plurality of 10, and from then on the margin in Root's favor increased, and with the vote of Patrick Halloran in the Washington delegation, cast for Root at 5:42, amid a storm of cheering from the Taft followers, the total vote for the New York senator reached the necessary 540 and the Taft victory—at least in the matter of the temporary chairmanship—was assured.

Aside from the practical absence of the "rough house" tactics which had been so elaborately prepared for by the heavy police guard and the extraordinary pains of the national committee officers to guard against outbreaks of any kind, there were several remarkable things about the convention. It was desperately serious business from beginning to end. There was absolutely none of that long continued uproar, extending into long minutes, even hours, which has lately become a feature of political conventions. On the contrary there was marked tenseness and an atmosphere surcharged with watchfulness.

Well known leaders came into the hall unnoticed; there was entire absence of tributes of applause by State delegations to "favorite sons." The crowd gathered somewhat slowly and save for the music of the band there was nothing but the undertone of conversation. After Root's election, when he came up to the platform, the welcome to him lasted perhaps 30 seconds, and when he began his speech, Pennsylvania showed its bitterness towards him with jeers and caustic remarks which went far to discount the cordiality of his reception.

There was one promise of real trouble, when State Senator Flynn compelled the repetition of the call of the Pennsylvania delegates, fighting the vote of one of the alternates, who, he said, was being called out of proper order. The point was that the man who was called and who voted was the second on the list for Root, whereas the man first on the list of alternates from that district would have voted for McGovern.

"If you steal that vote," shouted Flynn, "there will be no roll called in this convention today."

That was all there was to it. The chairman overruled, and the grinding voice of Secretary Gleason went on rolling out the vote.

With few exceptions, the negro delegates from the South, about whose steadfastness there has been much speculation, stood fast for the Taft candidate. Early in the vote William Barnes, Jr., who with Watson of Indiana, watched out for the Taft interests on the floor, said they would have 560 votes. They got two less than that.

When Senator Root began his "keynote speech" people in great numbers began to leave the hall. He announced then that he would suspend until all those who wished to go had retired.

Thousands then left; but nearly all the delegates remained and listened to the speech. Even those who had most bitterly fought his election heard him to the end.

When Senator Root finished, amid long continued applause, pursuant to an agreement between leaders of the factions, the whole business of appointing committees and other proceedings naturally belonging to today's work went over until tomorrow.

Only the national committee's recommendations for temporary officers of the convention was adopted without discussion. Mr. Watson moved the usual procedure for the appointment of committees. Gov. Hadley presented a resolution for the substitution of 92 delegates from the Roosevelt list and the whole matter went

over as "unfinished" business for tomorrow's session.

Chicago, 10 A. M.—Viewing yesterday's proceedings of the convention from an over-night perspective the Taft men are more confident of ultimate victory than ever.

The Rooseveltians plan to begin a desperate fight as soon as convention opens.

Senator Root is beginning to be looked upon as a dark horse candidate.

The Roosevelt delegates, urged on by Roosevelt and his leaders, may hold a separate Roosevelt convention a continuation of their fight on the "stolen roll."

Roosevelt's peremptory order to his leaders is: "Fight to purge the roll. Make the fight regardless of anything else. It is not a question of my nomination. I won't accept the nomination, if nominated by the use of the same roll by which Root was elected through fraud."

Bolt talk is growing feeble. Many think the nomination of either Taft or Roosevelt would be fatal to the party.

Roosevelt Ranks Divided.

Chicago, 12 Noon, June 19.—The Roosevelt ranks are divided. Some are openly for bolting, but it is believed more than half do not want to bolt the party on account of Roosevelt, feeling satisfied with any progressive. Senator Root is looming big as a dark horse, and the feeling just now is that neither Taft nor Roosevelt can win. But despite this general feeling Roosevelt was all smiles when he emerged from his hotel.

The convention doors were opened at 10 o'clock and a large crowd was already waiting outside.

The fight today is expected to center on the plan of the Taft crowd to permit sixty contested delegates to vote on their own eligibility to seats.

The Wisconsin delegation is disrupted, Henry G. Cochems, once La Follette manager is out to lick Roosevelt.

Chicago, 1 P. M. June 19.—The "No Smoking" rule is being rigidly enforced in the Coliseum by fire marshals and policemen.

Congressman Longworth and wife, son-in-law and daughter of Roosevelt, made their appearance on the scene today. They entered the hall quietly and attracted little attention.

The convention was called to order at 11:15 by Chairman Root who announced that ninety minutes would be allowed each side to debate the Hadley amendment, asking that 78 contested delegates be unseated. Gov. Hadley, the first speaker characterized the action of the committee "naked theft," designed to thwart the will of the people. He was repeatedly cheered by the Roosevelt faction. In conclusion he said that "Roosevelt is the greatest power for good in the western world."

For the Taft men W. T. Doyall of Seattle was the first speaker. He plunged immediately into the Washington contest, saying that on the very day the Washington convention was held Roosevelt made the charge that a plot was afoot to steal the State from him. "This charge was outrageously false," said Doyall. "Roosevelt never carried the State." The manager of the Roosevelt faction packed the convention. Delegates interrupt Doyall with questions as to the honesty of election conducted by Taft leaders.

Henry J. Allen, of Kansas for Roosevelt said, "I speak for the Washington delegates ruled out by the National committee without their rights being considered. I have two hundred pounds of evidence that proves statement made by opposition is untrue. This evidence was presented to the committee but was refused consideration." Allen challenged the New York delegation to seat Washington delegates on the merits of the case and received a storm of "yes." Colorado rose up with the question, "Will you support the nominee of this convention?" Allen answered, "I will only if the nomination is gotten honorably, and not by fraud and thievery." The Roosevelt men jumped to their feet with wild yells and Root had to pound with his gavel continually for order. Root ordered demonstration to be stopped, saying that one disturbance leads to another.

Allen renewed his speech, charging unfairness by the committee in the Washington case.

Convention hall jammed and interest in the debate is intense.

Roosevelt's evidently prepared to fight fiercely at every opportunity. Allen charges that the State committee packed the roll of the regular State convention and issued tickets to Taft men only. "They were afraid men who believe in righteousness would stampede the convention for Roosevelt, so they would not let our delegates in. I have a picture of the door showing the guard of prize fighters who kept the regularly elected delegates out of the hall."

SCHEDULE CHANGES ON SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

Train No. 113. Leave Columbia 6.00 a. m. Leave Kingville 6.50 a. m., arrive Camden 8.20 a. m., arrive Lancaster 10.05 a. m., arrive Rock Hill 11.10 a. m. daily.

Train No. 114—Leave Rock Hill 1.00 p. m.; arrive Lancaster 2.05 p. m., arrive Camden 3.40 p. m.; arrive Kingville 5.05 p. m., arrive Columbia 6.00 p. m.

Trains 117 and 118 between Columbia and Yorkville will be operated daily instead of daily except Sunday as heretofore.

Train 114 leave Kingville 9.05 a. m. arrive Sumter Junction 9.30 a. m., arrive Sumter 10.15 a. m. Train 140 leave Sumter 6.30 a. m., arrive Sumter Junction 7.10 a. m., arrive Kingville 7.35 a. m., Train 143 leave Sumter Junction 4.55 p. m., arrive Sumter 5.35 p. m. Train 142 leave Sumter 3.10 p. m., arrive Sumter Junction 4.30 p. m.

Train 117 leave Columbia 3.40 p. m., leave Kingville 4.35 p. m., arrive Camden 5.57 p. m., arrive Lancaster 7.48 p. m., arrive Rock Hill 8.55 p. m., leave Rock Hill 9.05 p. m., arrive Yorkville 9.40 p. m. daily.

Train 118 leave Yorkville 6.50 a. m. arrive Rock Hill 7.25 a. m. leave Rock Hill 7.35 a. m. arrive Lancaster 8.31 a. m., arrive Camden 10.05 a. m., arrive Kingville 11.30 a. m., arrive Columbia 12.25 p. m., daily.

Train 113 leave Rock Hill 5.00 p. m., arrive Yorkville 5.36 p. m., arrive Blacksburg 8.40 p. m., leave Blacksburg 7.00 p. m., arrive Marion, N. C., 10.05 p. m. Train 114 leave Marion, N. C., 5.15 a. m., arrive Blacksburg 8.25 a. m., leave Blacksburg 9.05 a. m. leave Yorkville 10.07 a. m., arrive Rock Hill 10.45 a. m.

Effective Monday June 3rd, new train No. 3 leave Columbia 11.50 a. m. arrive Spartanburg 3.45, arrive Hendersonville 6.00 a. m. arrive Asheville 7.00 a. m. New train No. 4 leave Asheville 2.10 p. m., leave Hendersonville 3.10 p. m., leave Spartanburg 5.25 p. m., arrive Columbia 9.25 p. m. The Charleston-Asheville-Waynesville Pullman sleeping car will be handled on these trains, leaving Charleston train 11 at 5.15 p. m. arrive Waynesville 10.00 a. m. Leave Waynesville 12.05 p. m. arrive Charleston 8.15 a. m.

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EXCURSION RATES

Via Southern Railway, Premier Carriers of the South.

AUGUSTA, Ga.—Account Fraternal Order Eagles and Baptist Young Peoples' Union of Georgia. Tickets on sale June 16, and 17; final limit June 24, 1912.

ROCK HILL, S. C.—Account Summer School, Winthrop College. Tickets on sale June 17, 18, and 19., final limit July 2, 1912.

CHICAGO, ILL.—Account Republican National Convention. Tickets on sale June 14, 15, 16, final limit July 5, 1912.

KNOXVILLE, TENN. — Account Summer School of the South, University of Tennessee. Tickets on sale June 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 29, July 6, 7 and 13 1912. Tickets will be limited to reach original starting point returning not later than midnight of the 15th day from but not including, date of sale, unless extended at Knoxville. Extensions may be secured of the final limit to and including September 30, 1912 by depositing ticket and upon payment of \$1. For further information call on ticket agents, or address.

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Notice.

Notice is hereby given that on Wednesday, June 26th, between the hours of 9 a. m. and 5 p. m. an election will be held at the Pleasant Grove school house, Shiloh township, school district No. 20, to add one additional mill for school purposes.

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