

300 KILLED IN STORM

Democrats Turn Down League

Adoption of Referendum Is Indicated

Convention Repudiates Minority Report of Platform Body by Vote of 742 to 363.

Baker Suffers Collapse

By International News Service.
Madison Square Garden, New York, June 28.—Climaxing two hours of fevered debate in which charges and countercharges of "deserting Woodrow Wilson" were hurled heatedly from the speaker's platform and just as heatedly denied, the democratic convention by 742 to 363 voted down in Madison Square Garden tonight, a platform plank which would have pledged the party to carry the United States into the league of nations, and forecast the adoption of a plank which puts the party on record as favoring a referendum by the American people on America's entrance.

The uncompromising league plank was fathered and fought for by Newton D. Baker, secretary of war under Wilson, who made one of the most dramatic speeches ever heard in a political convention in its favor, and then worn out by days of fighting, collapsed exhausted as he finished his historical effort.

The referendum plan was favored by most of the members of the resolutions and was supported by Homer S. Cummings and all the democratic senators on the resolutions committee.

By GEORGE R. HOLMES, International News Service Staff Correspondent.
Madison Square Garden, N. Y., June 28.—The democratic party, in national convention assembled tonight was engaged in one of the most bitter platform fights in its turbulent history—a fight so acrimonious and so heated that party leaders candidly confessed that it may split the party wide open on the eve of the campaign and promote religious antagonism and sectionalism to a point hitherto undreamed of.

The issue was the Ku Klux Klan and whether or not the party, in its platform, should denounce it by name.

A majority of the committee on resolutions said: "No." This majority represented every state south of Alabama—and most of the states of the west and central west save four—Ohio, Missouri, Illinois and Minnesota.

Minority Says "Yes."
A minority of the same committee weary from four days of battling for denunciation of the hooded order specifically said "Yes." In this minority report were the populous states of New York, Massachusetts, Illinois, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, in addition to the above named states, and Maine, Maryland, Rhode Island and Vermont.

All are "Smith states" in the fight for the presidential nomination.

There was another platform fight in addition to that over the Klan. The second battle was over the league of nations, a minority headed by Newton D. Baker of Ohio, attempting to put the party on record as promising to put the United States into the league, a promise that the majority (Turn to Page Two, Column One.)

Geneva Man Leaves 385 Silver Dollars Buried in Tool House for Heir

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.
Geneva, Neb., June 28.—When directions in a letter left by the late Francis E. McCartney of Geneva were acted upon, the result was the discovery of an earthen jar in which were \$385 in silver.

The letter, which had only the name "Alta" on the envelope, instructed the recipient to dig down in a certain corner of the tool house which is located on the grounds of the McCartney home in Geneva.

When this was done, a tile was uncovered and under the dirt placed over it was found the jar in which was the money.

Mrs. Guy Shickley, of Sheridan, Wyo., who is the youngest of the eight McCartney children, bears the name of "Alta."

The will of McCartney disposes of an estate amounting to about \$46,000. The six children, four of whom were bequeathed \$500 each will contest the right of the other two, Alta and William, to bequests which amount to almost half the estate.

Quentin, young son of Mrs. Guy Shickley, the youngest of the McCartney heirs, was bequeathed \$2,000.

The two children, Mrs. Shickley and William McCartney, whose right to bequests is being contested, were named as executors but declined to serve and Len J. Davis was appointed.

Convention Pace Set by Omaha Lions

International Meet 'Put Over' in Grand Style, Showing What Hard Work Will Do.

Many Benefits to City

The rousing success of the recent international convention of Lions' clubs in Omaha is still the talk of the city.

"A wonderful meeting from which Omaha will secure great benefits," says one.

"It shows what Omaha can do when she tries," says another.

The Omaha Lions club requests The Omaha Bee to express its appreciation to the citizens of Omaha for their splendid cooperation in making the international convention a success.

"Why doesn't Omaha get more national and international conventions?" asks another. "Right in the middle of the United States, with ample hotel and railroad facilities, it looks to me like Omaha ought to have a lot of big conventions every year. What's the matter?"

Nothing particular is the matter except—

But perhaps the situation may be best described by allegory.

The international convention of Sunshine Extractors From Cucumbers is to meet in Boston next August. "Monty" Tancock, who presides over the publicity department of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, knows that this is a big convention, drawing thousands of delegates from all over the United States and Canada, and naturally he would like to bring it to Omaha. So he called on the officers of the local club of Sunshine Extractors From Cucumbers and suggested that it co-operate with the Chamber of Commerce in bringing the international convention to Omaha.

Co-Operation? No!

Does he always get the co-operation?

"No, we don't want it. Of course it is a big convention and would advertise Omaha to beat the band, but to (Turn to Page Three, Column One.)

Put the "It" in Prosperity

Ak-Sar-Ben was the tonic that started the sluggish blood of Omaha to flowing freely. As a gloom buster it never had an equal. Its splendid work is evidenced by the development of Omaha and the splendid territory round about. Ak-Sar-Ben has been the potent factor in maintaining confidence and in increasing friendships.

Walter S. Jardine, president of the Omaha Merchants Express, is one of the original incorporators of Ak-Sar-Ben. He is still going strong in the organization. If a big business man like Walter Jardine things Ak-Sar-Ben worthy of 30 years of effort and loyal service, why not you?

"It has been a joy, a privilege and a duty to work for Ak-Sar-Ben," says Mr. Jardine. "I know what the great organization means for Omaha and the middle west. I do not keep up my interest for the benefit of Ak-Sar-Ben; I keep it up for my own benefit. We ought to have 10,000 members. In fact, we ought to have a long waiting list."

Tax Repeal on Luxuries Big Savings

Removal of Federal Levy on Toll Phone Calls, Jewelry, Autos Effective July 4.

Phone Tax Here \$57,750

Enormous savings to Omahans will result from the removal of federal taxes on telephone toll calls, jewelry, automobiles and accessories, beverages, candy, theater admissions, promissory notes and time drafts.

Taxes on these things will cease to be collected after July 3 by virtue of the fact that the revenue act of 1921 is repealed by the act of 1924, which was signed by President Coolidge on June 2.

In order to afford an idea of the savings resulting from the removal of these federal taxes, telephone officials have computed statistics which show that Omaha telephone users alone will be saved more than \$57,000 a year.

The elimination of the tax on all long distance calls of 15 cents or more will result in a saving of 5 cents on each long distance telephone message for which the charges are between 15 and 50 cents, and 10 cents on every message for which the charges are more than 50 cents.

Omaha Phone Tax \$57,750.

During 1923 the telephone users of Omaha placed 448,331 long distance calls on which a tax of \$57,750 was collected. In Council Bluffs 122,915 calls were placed, and the telephone company collected \$6,800 in federal taxes from that city.

Throughout Nebraska there were 3,466,541 long distance calls made, for which \$120,750 was paid in taxes, and in Iowa there were 3,211,573 calls and \$229,800 collected by the company in taxes during 1923.

These figures pertain only to taxes on long distance calls.

Taxes on nonalcoholic beverages, which cease to exist July 3, one day before the taxes on most other articles are lifted, amount to 2 cents a gallon.

5-Cent Beverage Tax.

The federal taxes on nonalcoholic beverages amounted to 2 cents a gallon on cereal beverages, unfermented fruit juices, carbonated beverages, still drinks and mineral waters and 9 cents a gallon on finished or fountain syrups.

On theater admissions the tax was 10 per cent. The tax is abolished on any admission sold for 50 cents or less, but on admission charges of more than 50 cents the 10 per cent tax still remains.

Special taxes imposed on theaters and circuses, based on seating capacity, will go out of existence on July 1, according to provisions of the new act. Promissory notes and time drafts become exempt from tax on July 4.

Fugitive Halted in Liberty Dash

by Sleuth's Shots

"Dancing Dane" Makes Dash for Manawa; Misses Douglas Street Bridge; Held Held for Forgery.

John Spare Peterson, 25, was writing a check for a new suit which he had just purchased at the Wardrobe, 1411 Douglas street, early Saturday evening when Police Detectives Trapp and Munch spied him, stepped in and escorted him to the police station, where investigation and forgery are booked with his name.

It was about the sixth suit the "Dancing Dane from Denmark" had bought within a week.

Proprietors of the Fair, 1121 Farnam street; Bond's, 1514 Farnam street; Palace, Fourteenth and Douglas streets; D. & M. and other clothing stores were looking for the dapper young man. He had purchased a suit in each place and paid with a check which came back. Cost of the suits ranged from \$39 to \$41 each.

Used It Dancing.

Most forgers pay for goods with checks of large size so that they get some cash in change. Not so Peterson, police say. He gave checks for the exact amount, then took the garments to a pawnbroker where he received \$6 to \$10 for brand new suits.

"What did you do with the money?" he was asked.

"Used it dancing at Krug park, Manawa and other places," said the "Dancing Dane."

The young man seemed much dejected at his arrest. It was Saturday night, the big dance night at the pleasure parks.

The two detectives turned their backs a moment, preparatory to booking and searching him at the police station.

In a flash he was out of the back door. Detective Paul Haze saw him first and dashed in pursuit, drawing his gun and crying "Halt!"

Overpowered by Haze.

The "Dancing Dane," dashed down Douglas street. He seemed to be headed straight for Manawa park. But he missed the bridge and Haze caught up with him underneath the structure after firing several shots in the air. Peterson resisted arrest until he was overpowered by the detective.

Peterson has been in this country about two years. On January 18, 1924, he was paroled by District Judge Goss. The charge against him then was also forgery.

He is also said to have passed checks at the Rent-A-Ford company, 218 South Nineteenth street, and the Goldstrom Auto Sales company, 2112 Harney street.

WHOLE TOWN IN OHIO WIPED OUT BY CYCLONE; 1,500 REPORTED HURT

Terrific Tornado Sweeping Over State; 25 Persons Reported Killed at Sandusky; Relief Train With Doctors and Supplies Dispatched to Stricken Area.

Hundreds Injured When Lorain Theater Collapses

Cleveland, Ohio, June 28.—Three hundred are dead and at least 1,500 are injured in Lorain alone as a result of today's tornado, according to reports reaching Col. D. H. Pond, director of Red Cross civilian relief here early tonight.

Colonel Pond announced he had arranged for tents for 1,000 people, to be shipped directly to Lorain from Camp Perry.

The Elyria fire department, which succeeded in reaching Lorain, sent out a frantic appeal for help, reporting that several hundreds were injured when a theater collapsed.

Father-in-Law Is Sued for \$75,000

Son-in-Law Charges Alienation of Wife's Affections and Slander.

Harry H. Wolfenson, 22, 142 North Thirty-fifth street Saturday filed suit in district court for \$75,000 against his father-in-law, Rubin Finkelstein, retired junk dealer and oil man, 911 North Nineteenth street, charging alienation of his wife's affection and slander.

In his petition, Wolfenson declares that in December, 1923, he met Esther Finkelstein. A few months later they were married and he went with his wife to the home of her parents to live.

A short time later, Mrs. Wolfenson filed suit for divorce. Finkelstein took the stand as witness for his daughter and charged Wolfenson with being not a fit husband for his daughter.

Wolfenson asks \$25,000 for damages suffered because of the alleged slander and \$50,000 for alleged alienation. He further declares that from the time of his entry into the Finkelstein household, Mrs. Katie Finkelstein, his mother-in-law, and Goldie Finkelstein, his sister-in-law, together with his father-in-law, conspired to separate him and his wife.

Mrs. Wolfenson was granted a divorce by Judge L. B. Day, Wolfenson then filed an appeal, but withdrew this appeal when the judge, on reviewing the case, reversed his decision and set aside the divorce. Later, however, the judge again pronounced the divorce in effect.

Wolfenson protests that before he withdrew his appeal he was threatened with criminal prosecution.

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FLYING SQUADRON ADDRESSES HERE

HUSBANDS SPEND \$3 ON FAMILIES

Flying squadron foundation speakers will speak July 5 and 6 in Omaha as follows:

July 5 at 8, in First Christian church, Dr. D. Leigh Colvin, political science specialist; July 6 at 11, in First Christian church, Oliver Stewart, president of the foundation; July 6 at 11, in Northside Christian church, Rev. Norma C. Brown, who, though but 24 years old, has delivered 1,600 addresses in the last two and a half years; July 6 at 7, Mr. Stewart and Miss Brown will speak in Hanscom park and at 8 they will speak in the South Side Christian church.

Rev. Miss Brown's subject will be "Prohibition and Law Enforcement."

Married life was not fraught with great expense in the case of two husbands whose wives obtained divorces Friday in domestic relations court.

Rosamond D. Young, 2310 Douglas street, testified that she wedded William H. Young September 2, 1923, and they lived together just two days during which he expended nothing. Then he left the city and she hasn't seen him since. She is 19.

Emily Viola Allen, 1510 Lecest street, testified that Oscar Allen, whom she married March 24, 1923, gave her just \$3 during their married life. She said he didn't work a great deal.

Babies Suffer in Hot Weather

Free Milk and Ice Fund Is Your Opportunity to Help.

Waves of heat. A little baby unable to express its misery except by crying. A hovel where the babe's mother struggles against adversity, and where there is no father.

That is the scene. Imagine yourself in that baby's place.

The Free Milk and Ice fund comes to the rescue, saves the helpless miles from illness and from worse.

Many cases are now awaiting for money to come into the fund so that they may share the blessings of pure, nourishing milk.

That is where you can do great good. It is your duty, your opportunity.

Send what you can to The Omaha Bee's fund checks may be made out to Free Milk and Ice Fund. Do it right now because there are hungry babies waiting for it. They will owe you thanks. (Council Bluffs.)

Previously acknowledged \$48.50
Mrs. A. T. Kluft 5.00
Barclay W. Spangier, Council Bluffs 18.00
V. P. S. 5.00
Total \$86.50

Married in Council Bluffs.
Walter H. Sweeney, Lincoln 27
Elizabeth Sennner, Brighton, Okla. 59
August Lena, Omaha 21
Ben G. Dewey, Omaha 21
Dorothy Fern Davis, Council Bluffs 17
Harold W. Spangier, Council Bluffs 18
Margaret Steele, Omaha 45
Raymond B. Lidwell, Council Bluffs 22
W. S. Palmer, Council Bluffs 21
Peter Senner, Lincoln 59
Elizabeth Sennner, Brighton, Okla. 59
Dorothy M. Miller, Omaha 17
Ludvik John Prala, Omaha 22
Marie A. Schelling, Council Bluffs 21
Fred Hudson, Lincoln 42
Jessie Saunders, Lincoln 40
R. S. Palmer, Council Bluffs 21
Viola Duncan Hicks, Neola, Ia. 21
John Nenes, Omaha 26
Anna Schelling, Council Bluffs 21
Lester R. Smith, Dunbar, Neb. 22
Dorothy M. Miller, Omaha 17
Harold W. Spangier, Council Bluffs 18
Lola Virginia Cary, Council Bluffs 19
Ashley W. Conger, Grand Island 21
John Nenes, Omaha 26
Harry Glover, Omaha 28
Nellie Jennings, Omaha 25
Edna Larsen, Herman, Neb. 22
Eugene Spencer, Council Bluffs 21
Jane Murphy, Council Bluffs 22
Edgar Fisher, Omaha 25
Hazel Eaton, Grandview, Neb. 25

Phone Wires Torn Down by 51-Mile Wind

Long Distance Service Crippled in Every Direction; High Winds General Over Iowa and Nebraska.

Omaha's week of storms ended early Saturday morning with a high 51-mile an hour wind which shook houses, tore down trees, delayed trains and ruined telephone and telegraph service both in the city and in Nebraska and Iowa. It made the third damaging storm in the city since Sunday night.

The worst damage was reported at Des Moines where four were injured and heavy damage done to property. Scores of plate glass windows in the business section of the city were blown to bits and the streets were littered with sign boards. Trees were uprooted and telephone poles blown down in the residence section of Des Moines.

James Mackey, Kansas City salesman, was struck by bricks which fell when lightning hit St. John Lutheran church. He was taken to a hospital with a possible fractured skull.

Blown Through Window.

Harry Levich, bondsman, was blown through a plate glass window at the municipal building and was seriously injured.

The wind in the other two Omaha storms reached a velocity of 52 miles an hour, a higher velocity than the storm of last night. However, rain fell during the progress of those storms while last night there was little rain and dust filled the air. Telephone and telegraphic service weakened as a result of the other storms was nearly paralyzed following Saturday morning's wind.

The Northwestern Bell Telephone company reported that 500 subscribers' lines were out of service in the (Turn to Page Two, Column Five.)

Town Wiped Out

Ames, Ia., June 28.—The town of Ames, Ia., 30 miles north of Des Moines, was wiped out by last night's cyclone, according to reports reaching here today.

GOOD TEETH BLOCK PATH OF BULLETS

Arkansas City, Kan., June 28.—Because she had good teeth, Elsie Farver, 10 years old, is alive today. Elsie was shot in the face by a .38-caliber revolver with which her playmate, George Seipp, Jr., 10 years old, was demonstrating what he would do to burglars.

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Woman Hurt in Crash

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Mrs. Michael Keegan, 3811 South Thirty-fourth, suffered a sprained back Saturday morning while riding in an automobile driven by Mrs. Charles Willey, 4362 Pacific, which collided with a car driven by Henry W. McDonald, 1226 South Ninth street.

The accident occurred at Thirty-third and Harney streets. No arrests were made.

Sugar Magnate Dies

San Francisco, Cal., June 28.—Adolph B. Spreckles, nationally known sugar magnate and manufacturer, died at his home here today.

The Weather

For 24 hours, ending 7 p. m., June 28.
Temperature.
7 a. m. dry bulb, 67; wet bulb, 62.
8 a. m. dry bulb, 70; wet bulb, 64.
9 a. m. dry bulb, 73; wet bulb, 67.
10 a. m. dry bulb, 76; wet bulb, 70.
11 a. m. dry bulb, 78; wet bulb, 72.
12 m. dry bulb, 79; wet bulb, 73.
1 p. m. dry bulb, 80; wet bulb, 74.
2 p. m. dry bulb, 81; wet bulb, 75.
3 p. m. dry bulb, 82; wet bulb, 76.
4 p. m. dry bulb, 83; wet bulb, 77.
5 p. m. dry bulb, 84; wet bulb, 78.
6 p. m. dry bulb, 85; wet bulb, 79.
7 p. m. dry bulb, 86; wet bulb, 80.
8 p. m. dry bulb, 87; wet bulb, 81.
9 p. m. dry bulb, 88; wet bulb, 82.
10 p. m. dry bulb, 89; wet bulb, 83.
11 p. m. dry bulb, 90; wet bulb, 84.
Total since January 1, 1924, deficiency, 48.

Hourly Temperatures.
5 a. m. 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
6 a. m. 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
7 a. m. 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
8 a. m. 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
9 a. m. 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
10 a. m. 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
11 a. m. 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
12 m. 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
1 p. m. 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
2 p. m. 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
3 p. m. 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
4 p. m. 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
5 p. m. 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
6 p. m. 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
7 p. m. 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
8 p. m. 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
9 p. m. 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
10 p. m. 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100
11 p. m. 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100

Arthur Brisbane, at Convention Ringside, Writes "Patriots Have to Make a Little Something Out of War"

By ARTHUR BRISBANE, Written Especially for Universal Service.
Convention Hall, Madison Square Garden, New York, June 28.—This written at the afternoon session after the story of Bryan praying for assistance on the Ku Klux Klan plank had been told by Mr. Cummings. Prayers and tears accompanied the struggle on the platform. A huge crowd has come this afternoon, expecting to see a fight when the Klan plank is read.

It is said that the plank, as adopted, but not unanimously, will not mention the Klan by name. That may satisfy adherents of the Klan, of whom not a few sit among the delegates. Whether it will satisfy Klan opponents that demand a "show-down" remains to be seen.

It is believed that with the huge and inflammable crowd here, the plank on the Klan.

The intention is to adjourn until this evening, and then read the Klan plank—only delegates and newspaper

men present—all the galleries and other seats being cleared of spectators, to avoid trouble.

Meanwhile Commissioner Enright, head of New York's police, has sent 1,000 extra police to the hall to stop fighting, should it start.

There is material for a thousand fights in the hall now, and after spectators are driven out, if they are driven, there will be a few hundred possible fights left.

You notice in the aisles two or three hospital workers in their white uniforms. If a fight must come, the management is ready. Usually the watched pot doesn't boil—you'll know later.

Reading of the platform began just after 4:30. It promises to put "only honest men in office," which is quite a big promise in these days.

The republican tariff is denounced. If the democratic party does get in it will think hard, before making too drastic tariff changes. This is a day country can't compete with \$2 a day

Europe in general, \$1 a day Germany, or 25 cents a day Asia.

Favor "graduated income tax, favored in proportion to the ability to pay, all taxes are too high, further reduction promised." But "multi-millionaires" will have to pay some of the multi-millions.

Then comes the plank on agriculture, something about migratory birds, Muscle Shoals, waterways, and all usual things, with which there is much talk in conventions and not much action afterwards.

All that you will see in the platform which you will probably not read through.

There's a plank on mining, of course, and you learn that it comes next to agriculture in value. Also you learn that mining and agriculture have suffered because of republican wickedness.

This hall would not be a safe abode if anything serious happened, such as a big fight or a little fire. The fire laws are all broken already, the pack-

ed hall being at least 30 per cent overcrowded. Who the extra ones are or how they got in, only some part of the management could tell. The gates have all been closed, by order of the police and fire departments, to minimize danger, and thousands are clamoring outside with perfectly good tickets for seats.

The democratic party denounces the republicans for their vacillating policy in regard to ships and praises the shipping record of the democratic administration. It won't say much, you may guess, about the \$700,000,000 or \$800,000,000 thrown away on wooden ships that cannot be given away, or the record-breaking waste and graft in other shipbuilding. However, that was war and such can be forgiven. You can't expect patriots not to make a little something out of war.

On national ownership of boats, the platform "teaches flat and round" like the school teacher, anxious to please, fundamentalists and modernists on the school board, in his teaching of the geometry.

Mr. Bryan, after the resolutions committee had finished its work, wrote for the early evening papers that he had delightful news for his readers but could not tell it then. Undoubtedly that means he thinks that his prayer was answered in a Ku Klux plank that won't start any fighting, in which case it means that the Klan is not to be mentioned by name. But the crowd knows nothing of that yet.

The first real applause for the platform comes with the announcement that the democrats will give postoffice employees enough pay to live decently. That ought to bring some votes. Why President Coolidge vetoed the bill to give better pay to postoffice workers, it is hard to understand.

He said that the country could not afford it. But if the country can afford a private yacht with a big crew for its president, it ought to afford decent pay, food and clothing for its humble workers. That is to say it ought to do that, assuming that this is an absolute democracy, which it is not.

The labor plank, very short, was applauded because it says that "labor is not a commodity." These are nice words, although labor is a commodity and has been for 50,000 years. It is the only commodity that 75 per cent of the people have to sell. Its price varies like prices of other commodities and is more sensitive than any other to the law of supply and demand.

The democrats want the elections "kept free from the poison of private contributions."

How much has been privately contributed for candidates that will never see daylight in this convention would make a good story.

But at least the democrats want to be virtuous and that is something. Probably our ancestors tried to give up cannibalism and boasted that they had given it up, for centuries before they really stopped eating each other.

There are about 10 policemen standing in each of the aisles. "Lead, kindly Light!" is not the tune for this gathering.

Asia will be interested to know that the plank promising exclusion of Asiatic immigration is well applauded. Congress, however, has already done that.

The democrats promise the Filipinos that they shall have their independence immediately. That will console the Japanese for Asiatic exclusion. It won't take them long to spread out over the Philippines, once Uncle Sam gets out.

At least it is to be hoped that when the democrats evacuate the Philippines they will not try to conscript any American young men to fight for those interesting island gentlemen. Since they want to manage themselves, they should do it all, including the fighting against Japan.

In the next war the democrats will draft capital as well as men. Too bad the democrats did not think of that when they had the chance to try it out. That was the time, but you heard nothing about it then.

And unless you get some government different from any kind you

have had in the last 50 years, you won't hear of capital conscription in the next war.

Lincoln came nearest to it, when the richest men of New York called at the White House, demanding extra battleship protection for their treasures in New York.

"If I had as much money as you gentlemen have," said Lincoln, "I'd build a ship or two at my own expense."

But the Lincolns are not plentiful. And if there were one in this convention his chance of being elected would be about one in 112,000,000. In other words, he would not be nominated.

It is possible now to give you definite information about the Klan plank while they are carrying on a little league of nations demonstration. The majority report, by a vote of 34 to 18, will bring in a religious plank with no mention of the Klan by name. The minority report, signed by 18 delegates, will name the Klan, and that explains the 10 policemen in each aisle and the doctors in readiness.