

WEAVER AND FIELD

NOMINATED BY THE PEOPLE'S CONVENTION AT OMAHA

A STRONG PLATFORM ADOPTED.

Gresham Positively Declines - A General Gathering Around Weaver - The Ballot Results: Weaver 995, Kyle 265 - The Convention Adjourns Sine Die at 3 a.

OMAHA, Neb., July 3.—When the national convention of the People's party of the United States opened in this city at 10 o'clock this morning, every person present seemed to be in a congratulatory mood over the large attendance, and there was a general opinion that harmony should be selected to lead the hosts in the coming campaign.

The Coliseum presented a gay and sprightly appearance. Flags and bannerettes floated from every pillar and arch, and a slight display of evergreens, something in the nature of triumphal arches, added a degree of freshness to the scene.

The delegates were slow in arriving. The representatives of Massachusetts were almost the first to enter and were



CHAIRMAN TAUBENECK. "Connecticut Delegation—Congress (Not the People) Be Damned. Shylock's Twins—Grover and Ben."

There was a slight lull as Chairman Taubeneck of the national committee stepped to the front and announced that the first national convention of the People's party was now convened in regular session. Then there was a burst of applause.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Benjamin Diffenbacher, chaplain of the last Nebraska legislature and a well known Alliance man.

Mayor Bemis then welcomed the delegates on behalf of the city of Omaha, and was given three cheers. Ben Terrell of Texas, on behalf of the convention, responded to the address of welcome.

Chairman Taubeneck announced the list of temporary officers selected by the national committee and those officers were selected by acclamation.

C. H. Ellington of Georgia was introduced as temporary chairman and in his speech of acceptance said:

"Ladies and Gentlemen, Fellow Countrymen, Brethren: I salute you. From far off Georgia, the great empire state of the South, I come to greet you. Language fails me. It is absolutely impossible for me to tell my high appreciation of the honor this greatest of conventions has conferred upon me by selecting me to the temporary chairmanship. But when my mind turns to the great purpose for which we have met together—its depth, length, breadth, its wonderful conception, its vastness of search, all that is wrapped up in it, what it means to be defeated and what it would mean should victory crown our effort—when all these things crowd upon me I long for the tongue of Gabriel whose trumpet tones shall reach to the farthest end of the globe, arousing and convincing the people wherever its sound should fall upon the human ear. In all the history of this country, which should be 'the land of the free' and is 'the home of the brave,' there has never been another such gathering of the people. [Applause.] North, South, East and West are to-day mingling their spirits together in sense and for a purpose never before realized in this country. [Applause.]

The eyes of all the world are upon us. Some are looking at us with hate and fear in their hearts, while others are watching us prayerfully, anxiously, hopefully. Nothing would give greater joy to our opponents than to see this vast assemblage of the people's representatives disagree. They want us to bicker and wrangle. Hundreds of pens stand ready to note the first sound of discord, and in every direction the wires are waiting to transmit the hoped for news that we are in turmoil and strife. Brethren, friends, let us disappoint them; let us at the very beginning shake hands upon this one point, that harmony, unity and good will shall prevail. [Cheers.] I believe it is possible for this representative body to meet, council, deliberate, perform its entire work and adjourn without one single word of discord. To this end I am absolutely, untriflingly at your service.

We are here today with the shadow of a great trouble resting upon us. He whom our hearts delighted to honor, our leader, the true, the tried, the honest Polk, is dead and has been taken from us just when we needed him most. Our hearts mourn his loss. No nobler soul ever breathed, none worked harder, suffered more, spent more than he did. He gave his life to our beloved cause and we do not believe it was given in vain. Oh, shade of the loving, kind hearted, great Polk, may the mantle of thy spirit fall upon us today in our deliberations to the end that we may be like minded. I call on you today in His name that if there be a single vestige, an iota of sectional feeling, or prejudice left in the hearts of any of us to wipe it out. I charge you that while we stand in the shadow of Polk's great love we reconcile ourselves to the great work of reforming this government and the man who honestly desires its reformation is our brother. And I want to say that we can reform it. I believe that we will reform it.

The chairman's reference to the deceased president of the great farmers' organization was received with cheers, and when the picture of President Polk was handed to him by Chairman Wilson of the North Carolina delegation and hoisted into view the convention, with one accord, arose, and the scene was one of befitting reverence to the memory of the great leader.

At the conclusion of the chairman's speech Mrs. Todd of Michigan, presented Chairman Ellington with a gavel carved by the wife of Ben Terrell, from the tree planted by Washington at Mount Vernon—an announcement which was received with an enthusiastic chorus of cheers.

Music was then supplied by a quartette of People's party enthusiasts who rendered a new song expressive of the coming triumph of the independent body which will have its first presidential candidate in November.

The convention then adjourned until 3 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At the opening of the afternoon session messages of congratulation were read from various party leaders. One from Virginia ran: "Hold the fort, Virginia is coming."

One was received signed by W. A. Pfeffer, United States senator from Kansas; James H. Kyle, United States senator from South Dakota; John Davis, member of congress from Kansas; O. N. Kem, member of congress from Nebraska; B. H. Clover, member of congress from Kansas; Thomas E. Winn, member of congress; K. Halvorson, member of congress; John G. Otis, member of congress; William Baker, member of congress.

After the reading of these messages and while awaiting the report of the committee on credentials Hon. Ignatius



JERRY SIMPSON.



W. A. PFEFFER.

Donnelly of Minnesota was introduced and spoke at length on the issues of the people's party.

Dr. Houghton of Connecticut filled another waiting spell by reading an original poem entitled "Omaha."

Schilling of Wisconsin called attention to the fact that the business of the convention

was blocked because the committee on credentials was not ready to report, and the committee on resolutions was directed to report at once and begin its labors.

The convention became restless under the wearisome delay and threatening to adjourn.

A motion was adopted that when the convention adjourned it be until 8 o'clock Monday morning, and at 6:30 the convention adjourned until Monday morning.

The Second Days Session.

OMAHA, July 4.—The convention was called to order at 8:45 this morning. The credentials committee reported that there were no contests. The report was received and it was decided that the persons whose names were on the rolls should be declared entitled to seats.

The committee on permanent organization now announced its readiness to report, and submitted the following:

For permanent chairman, H. L. Loucks South Dakota. For permanent secretary, J. W. Hayes, New Jersey. For assistant secretaries, S. S. King of Kansas; George Wilson, Michigan; G. W. Denmark, South Carolina; D. W. Monroe.

Following this was also a long list of vice chairmen, each state being represented in the distribution of this honor. The report was unanimously adopted amid applause and Temporary Chairman Ellington at once introduced his successor.

CHAIRMAN LOUCK'S ADDRESS.

"Gentlemen of the convention—The time has arrived when we must begin the serious business of this convention. I believe that we have had a sufficient amount of oratory as a preliminary to our work and we can dispense with it until we finish our business. Therefore, I have no speech to make to you this morning, but I would be less than human if I did not extend to you my sincere thanks for the honor conferred upon me of presiding over this, the grandest and largest convention that has ever been held in the United States of America, or I believe anywhere in the civilized world. [Applause]. I cannot resist the temptation of saying a very few words to congratulate you on the success of this magnificent convention. It is a grand tribute to the civilization of the present century. In the past ages when great revolutions were in progress they have been brought about as a rule by the sword. This, the greatest of all revolutions, is being propelled by that silent power of education, the ballot.

"I want to congratulate you on the harmony that has prevailed all through. There are a great many delegates here from all parts of the country and they did not know who their candidate was to be. States have not been fixed up by this convention and we are all at sea, but the result undoubtedly will be that the choice of the people will be nominated by this convention—and not the choice of machine elements of the nation. You hear talk in the other conventions about nominating certain men because they can carry certain states. We do not hear of that in this convention, by the delegates at least. The question is, who represents our principles? More than that, there is a spirit abroad here that the man who is nominated by this convention must not only stand firmly and squarely upon our platform of principles but he must have burned the bridges behind him. We are at a critical period and we can't afford to take any chances. We want no doubtful men to lead this movement. We don't want to have to inquire how any man stands on our platform of principles. We must know that he has been with us long enough to have been found true or he will find no place here. I believe in your selecting a man for the hour—a man who will meet the approval of the people inside

the party. Do not be afraid of what the opposition may say. You bring up a man here and say he has not made enemies in this movement and I say he is not worth that (with a snap of the fingers) in this movement. We want a man who has made enemies for this cause and will go forward and make more enemies in the future. Such a man I am satisfied you will nominate today.

"All over the United States are thousands who are willing. They are waiting until the telegraph ticks the news of the nominee of this convention. I do not want to disappoint our friends all over this nation. I know you do not want to, so let us proceed to business and as soon as possible send out over the wires the name of the man who we hope will occupy the white house for the next four years."

Chairman Branch of the resolutions committee called attention to the fact "that probably through some oversight" the ticket agent in Washington and in other states on the line of the Union Pacific railway did not receive instructions to allow the delegates to the convention the usual reductions in fares and appointed a committee of three to communicate with the railroad officials to have "the mistake rectified." A delegate moved that the Northern Pacific and Great Northern be included in the resolution. Marion Cannon of California arose to protest against the resolution as exhibiting a want of independent spirit in the convention.

"I want this convention to understand," he said, "that it is not by an oversight the Pacific coast delegates have been overlooked. Our request for customary courtesy was denied deliberately and with insolence. I do not want this convention, so far as California is concerned and so far as I am concerned, to go back to that railroad, cap in hand, and ask for any privileges whatever. We can tell those railway companies that the people will own and operate these roads yet."

The Montana and Oregon delegations endorsing the sentiments of Mr. Cannon, the resolution was withdrawn.

The committee on resolutions was still working on the platform and on a statement that it would be two hours before it could report a recess was taken until 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session was called to order at 2:07. The tickets which had been withheld early in the day had evidently got into the hands that would use them, for the immense hall was almost completely filled. It was very sultry and fully a third of the delegates were in shirt sleeves.

After a speech by Brown of Massachusetts the preamble to the platform was read by Thomas V. Cator of California and adopted by a unanimous rising vote.

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

Assembled upon the one hundred and sixteenth anniversary of the declaration of independence, the people's party of America, in their first national convention, invoking upon their action the blessing of Almighty God, put forth in the name on behalf of the people of this country the following preamble and declaration of principles:

Corruption Widespread.

The conditions which surround us justify our co-operation. We meet here in the midst of a nation brought to the verge of moral, political and material ruin. Corruption dominates the ballot box, the legislatures, the congress and touches even the ermine of the bench. The people are demoralized. Most of the states have been compelled to isolate the voters at the polling places in order to prevent universal intimidation or bribery. The newspapers are subsidized or muzzled, public opinion silenced, business prostrated, our homes covered with mortgages, labor impoverished, and the