

HERBERT HOOVER



Hoover and Curtis Are Renominated by G. O. P.

Convention in Chicago Upholds the Administration in Every Particular—Moderate Prohibition Resubmission Plank Adopted, Repealists Being Defeated—France's Attempt to Nominate Coolidge Foiled.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

Chicago.—The Republican party in national convention in Chicago re-nominated Herbert Hoover for a second term, which surprised no one in all the world unless it might have been Dr. Joseph I. France of Maryland, the only other contender for the high honor.

In the matter of selecting Mr. Hoover's running mate, however, the unexpected almost happened. Many of the delegates had expressed the opinion that Vice President Curtis should be set aside, not because he was not loyal to the party or not able, but because they thought a younger man would be needed in the strenuous campaign ahead. Besides, the aged Kansas was too dry to suit the wets. So, the day the convention opened there appeared a sudden, spontaneous movement that grew rapidly, for the drafting of Charles Gates Dawes, the Chicagoan who has filled many important posts, including the Vice Presidency. It was felt the dynamic banker and diplomat would be a good vote-getter, probably serving to hold in line many dissatisfied Republicans.

But General Dawes, just as he relinquished in Washington his latest position, the presidency of the Reconstruction Finance corporation, informed the press that he would not accept the nomination if it were offered him. At the same time word came from the National Capital, apparently authentic, that Mr. Hoover wished the convention to re-nominate Mr. Curtis.

The anti-Curtis people were not reticent and approached Secretary of War Pat Hurley, but the Oklahomaan turned them away with the statement: "I can't quit Charles Curtis, for he is my friend. I am for him, and will not be a candidate." The same word came from Theodore Roosevelt, governor general of the Philippines, who was mentioned as a possibility, as was Ambassador Walter E. Edge. So, with scattered opposition, Mr. Curtis was re-nominated.

Moderate Prohibition Plank. Transcending in importance the choice of leaders, in the eyes of the nation, was the convention's action Wednesday night in regard to prohibition. The preliminary battle of the wets and the dries had been waged fiercely, and in the end neither side won. For the gathering was sternly ruled by the conservative element and the victory went to the "moist." No one of the practical politicians denied that something must be done in the way of furthering modification of prohibition legislation. The demand for this was too general to be ignored, and then, too, it was certain the Democrats would go a long way in that direction. But the President and his advisers, together with the more conservative leaders in the convention, believed that a plank limited to submission of flat repeal or retention of the Eighteenth amendment would be a political error that would alienate too many votes.

So after long conferences and much warm debate the platform committee prepared a resolution, approved by the White House, the main paragraph of which declared the Republicans "believe that the people should have an opportunity to pass upon a

proposed amendment the provision of which, while retaining in the federal government power to preserve the gains already made in dealing with the evils inherent in the liquor traffic, shall allow states to deal with the problem as their citizens may determine, but subject always to the power of the federal government to protect those states where prohibition may exist and safeguard our citizens everywhere from the return of the saloon and attendant abuses."

Repeal Resolution Beaten. The repealers, under the leadership of Senator Bingham of Connecticut, formulated a minority substitute for this plank, and argued for its adoption with vigor and skill. The majority resolution was supported with equal determination in a debate that lasted two hours, with frequent noisy interruptions from the thronged galleries. Probably not a single vote was changed by the oratory and pleas. The middle-of-the-rovers were in the majority and the plank offered by the liberals was rejected by a vote of 681 to 472.

The Bingham resolution was as follows: "We recommend that the congress of the United States immediately propose an amendment to the federal Constitution repealing the Eighteenth amendment thereto; to be submitted to conventions of the people of the several states called for that sole purpose in accordance with the provisions of Article V of the Constitution of the United States.

"Should the Eighteenth amendment be repealed we pledge our best efforts toward enactment of such measures in the several states as will actually promote temperance, effectively abolish the saloon, whether open or concealed, and bring the liquor traffic itself under complete public supervision and control with revenues properly drawn from legalized sources for the relief of the burdened taxpayers."

Opening of the Convention. With solemnity, considerable dignity and very little enthusiasm the convention was formally opened half an hour late on Tuesday morning. The sections for delegates and alternates were filled, but in the galleries were great numbers of unoccupied seats. The band played intermittently, the news photographers shot their flash lamps continually in front of every notable, and finally Senator Simon D. Pess of Ohio, chairman of the national committee, tactfully stepped to the speaker's rostrum, sternly ordered the flood lights turned down and started proceedings with a little talk in which he called attention to the fact that Flag day was being celebrated. Thereupon half a dozen American Legion flags were brought in and grouped in front of the stand, a huge flag was let down from the center of the roof, the four big batteries of flood lights were turned full on the Stars and Stripes and the band struck up the national anthem as the multitude stood.

Chairman Fess then introduced Silas Strawn, head of the citizens' committee, who spoke briefly, giving due credit to Edward N. Hurley, a

Democrat, who did the chief work in obtaining and preparing for the convention; and following him came Mayor Anton Cermak with a cordial welcome to the delegates and mention of the many attractions offered them by Chicago.

The invocation was delivered by Rt. Rev. James E. Freeman, Protestant Episcopal bishop of Washington, D. C. It was a humble acknowledgment of our sins and faults that have brought us to the present sad condition and a plea for help and guidance in the task of getting back to "honest industry, sound learning and pure manners."

Now came the election of Senator Lester J. Dickinson of Iowa as temporary chairman—a mere formality—and the white-haired keynoter promptly began the delivery of the speech on which he and various party leaders had labored many hours.

Dickinson's Keynote Speech. Senator Dickinson's address was a commendable effort under rather difficult circumstances. Despite the condition into which the country, together with the rest of the world, has fallen, he found many reasons to "point with pride" to the achievements of the administration, and he did not fail to give credit to President Hoover personally for much of what has been accomplished or attempted in the way of restoring economic prosperity. Said he: "Perhaps it was with prophetic vision that the American people elected Herbert Hoover four years ago with the greatest popular and electoral college vote any President ever received. At any rate, he had scarcely taken the oath of his office before economy storm clouds had begun to cast their sinister shadow over the nations of the world.

"His first act prevented a financial panic. Invoking the powers of the federal reserve board, he prevented the effects of the debacle in Wall Street which followed the greatest period of stock speculation the world had ever known.

Social Order Maintained. "With the knowledge that every major economic convulsion in the past has been attended by strikes, riots, bloodshed and death, President Hoover's next concern was to maintain social order.

"To this end he summoned to the White House industrial leaders of the nation and obtained from them a promise to maintain existing wage scales as long as it was possible to do so. On the same day leaders of organized labor, sitting around the same conference table, gave their pledge that there would be no industrial wage disturbances."

The speaker then contrasted the stable social order in America with the chaos that prevailed in many countries abroad, and told of Mr. Hoover's drastic action in proposing the moratorium that averted worldwide catastrophe. He followed with a relation of the creation of the Reconstruction Finance corporation and of other measures initiated by the President.

The Democrats were scored for their alleged efforts to distort every move Mr. Hoover made, and especially for their efforts to inflame the national currency.

Praise for the Farm Board. With considerable addressness Senator Dickinson even managed to defend the federal farm board's doing. On this subject he said: "The farm board has been the butt of much criticism, the greater part of which is unjust. We have heard much abuse of the board's operations in stabilization of cotton and wheat by its financing of co-operatives to purchase these commodities, but we have heard very little of the fact that by its entry into the market in February during the crop year of 1930 and again in November of the next crop year it stemmed the panic which had broken agricultural prices.

"The farm board held prices in each of these two crops above world levels to such a degree that the very moderate estimate of the amount realized by the American farmer over and above what they would have realized otherwise is between \$2,000,000,000 and \$3,000,000,000.

"It matters little if the government loses \$150,000,000 for the savings it made to homes of farmers throughout this whole land. It was throwing a regiment into the front of the battle to lose, but saved millions.

"Directly and indirectly, the federal government has, during the last three years, poured into the agricultural industry nearly one billion dollars. Grievous as his suffering may be, no farmer can deny the undervalued friendship of the Republican party."

The keynoter spoke long and fluently, but said not a single word about the prohibition problem.

Early in his address Senator Dickinson mentioned President Hoover, and the delegates and alternates rose en masse, cheering and shouting, while the band broke out in a patriotic tune. But the demonstration was a feeble effort and did not last long.

Bertrand Snell Talks Command. Wednesday's first session was given over to the permanent organization of the convention and reports of several committees. Representative Bertrand H. Snell of New York was elected permanent chairman and on receiving the gavel from Senator Dickinson he launched immediately into his lengthy address. He declared the future of the country was safe only if the Republicans are again entrusted with its management, and he pictured the tragedy that would result if the Democrats win control.

"Victory has come to the Republican

High Spots of the Platform

For reorganization of government bureaus in the interest of economy.

For an emergency relief fund to be loaned to any state temporarily for emergency relief.

For public economy and balancing of governmental budgets.

For reduction of public expenditures.

For adherence to the gold standard and against currency inflation.

For revision of banking laws to protect the depositing public.

For an international conference on monetary questions, including the matter of silver and commodity prices.

For a home loan discount bank system for the benefit of home owners.

Pledge to the party to the principle of assisting co-operatives through the farm marketing act, which it says will be amended as necessary.

For revision of the tariff to put farm and factory on equality of protection.

Pledge itself to support any plan to help balance production against demand and raise farm prices, if it is sound, and not productive of bureaucracy.

Call for tax relief.

For a flexible tariff and for adequate tariff protection as essential to national welfare.

Against transference from the President to congress of the authority to put into effect findings of the tariff commission.

Favoring extension of tariff protection to natural resource industries—farms, forests, mines and oil wells.

For full and adequate relief for disabled service men and their widows and orphans.

Indorse Hoover's foreign policies.

For adherence to the world court.

For reduction of armament, but not for reducing our navy defenses below those of any other nation.

On wages and working hours labor planks favor the shorter work week and shorter work day, restriction of immigration, collective bargaining, freedom of speech, press, and assembly.

As to public utilities the platform is for giving the federal or commission authority to regulate the charges for electric current when transmitted between states.

The platform also stands for: Regulation of common carriers by rail, highway, air, and water to let them operate under conditions of equality.

The St. Lawrence seaway.

For the maintenance of federal policy of state aid in building roads.

Rigid penal laws to stamp out gamblers, racketeers, and kidnapers.

Conservation of natural resources from monopolistic control.

Equal opportunity and rights for negroes.

party because victory has been earned," Mr. Snell said.

"The nation has been safe when the Republican party has been in control of the government. It has never been safe when Republicans were not on guard.

"Everywhere, outside of the Republican party, is confusion and chaos. The only sound and united public sentiment of the United States is represented in this convention.

"The Democratic party is fatally weak because it does not command the support or confidence of the nation and because it is utterly lacking in team work. The Democrats have a minority complex which they cannot change. As a fault-finding, caviling minority opposition they are 100 per cent perfect. As a driving, constructive majority they are a 100 per cent failure."

Listing the Hoover achievements, the chairman declared that the President had: "Solidified labor and capital against the enemy (the ghostly pestilence of world-wide depression); he avoided the deadly pit of the debt; he rescued the drought victims; he bent off the attacks upon railroads, agriculture, banks and public securities; he mobilized the world's financial resources; he preserved the integrity of the gold standard, and averted off the stealthy approach of panic by way of Germany."

All "Demonstrated" Except Oregon. The delegates had taken to heart the comments in the press on the sudden change in the program of the first session, so when Mr. Snell named the President there was a great whoop of joy. Standards were pulled up and waved and the cheering continued for perhaps fifteen minutes while everyone stood. No, not quite everyone. In the front center of the hall a little group of men stolidly retained their seats and remained silent. They were the delegates from Oregon and they were under instruction to vote for Dr. Joseph I. France of Maryland. Deeming it their duty to sit steady, they did just that, forming a small, quiet islet in a stormy sea.

Secretary Gleason stepped forward as Chairman Snell concluded his speech, and announced that the committee on resolutions had completed its draft Hoover prohibition plank, copies of which would be delivered to the state delegations at two o'clock so they might consider it in caucuses. To give time for this operation the convention was then adjourned until eight o'clock in the evening instead of four o'clock as had been the plan. Delegates thereupon hustled away from the Stadium to their state headquarters in the loop hotels, eager to get at that all-important resolution.

Battle Over Prohibition Plank. Anticipating the prohibition plank fight, the gallery ticket holders crowded into the hall in the evening long before most of the delegates arrived, and the affair took on more of the appearance of a real national convention from which excitement and pleasure might be derived. The inevitable delay in starting proceedings was mitigated for the spectators by the tireless efforts of the man at the pipe organ who played all the

popular airs he knew. At last Chairman Snell obtained order and introduced James H. Garfield, chairman of the committee on resolutions, to submit the platform.

The document was long, as always. The introduction was the usual laudation of the doings of the party and the administration during the past three and a half years, and then came thirty-eight planks covering a wide range of subjects. Mild demonstrations of approval from various delegations marked the reading of resolutions in which they were especially interested, but everyone in the Stadium, delegates and spectators alike, was waiting eagerly for the prohibition plank.

At last Mr. Garfield, pausing a second, uttered the words: "The Eighteenth amendment," and instantly a roar of joyous anticipation broke out. The preamble displaced no one, until the speaker read the sentence: "We do not favor a submission limited to the issue of retention or repeal." Then came applause from the conservatives that was utterly drowned out by the angry boos and jeers of the occupants of the galleries. The uproar continued until Chairman Snell was forced to appeal to the audience to "pay attention to Mr. Garfield and not to partisanship."

When the clamor was stilled Mr. Garfield hurriedly completed the reading of the platform and moved its adoption.

Bingham Offers Repeal Substitute. Then stepped forward Senator Hiram Bingham, protagonist in the flat repeal movement, to present the minority substitute for the prohibition plank. White haired, lean, and right on edge, he looked every inch the fighter as he looked out over the house with a grim smile. The repealers among the delegations and in the galleries—the latter appeared to be unanimous—instinctly started a tremendous demonstration, the standards of many of the wet states being carried through the aisles, together with collections of beer steins and "growlers." The repeal plank being modeled on that adopted the previous week by the Indiana Republican convention, the Hoosier delegation paraded behind a huge banner lettered

with the words "Indiana Demands Repeal" and "Indiana Leads the Way." Dry delegates of the state of Washington fought hand to hand with their wet colleagues to keep their standard from being added to the procession, and won the battle with the aid of the police.

Response to Senator Bingham's arguments was so fervid and loud that one might have thought his cause was won, if it were not for the knowledge that the contest had already been decided in the caucuses of the state delegations.

Galleries Boo Garfield. Garfield took the floor again to defend, needless, the majority report, and in opening he deplored the fact that in the midst of a great economic crisis, with problems of vast import pressing for solution, the party should be compelled to spend so much time on the prohibition question. Then he accused the repeal advocates of offering no constructive substitute for prohibition.

"They ask us," said Garfield, "to go back to those conditions of which the younger people of our generation know nothing."

The speaker was cut short by an outbreak of bohemian. It began with some scattering hoots and then, gathering volume, burst into a deafening tornado of derision, dying down as quickly as it rose.

"Yes, my friends, I repeat," Garfield resumed.

Another avalanche of derisive yells. "I repeat—"

Another torrent of howls.

Chairman Snell hammered and hammered until he almost broke his gavel, and finally, reminding the galleries that they were the guests of the convention, he threatened to have them all ejected, which would have been some job for the sergeants at arms. Mr. Garfield was reasonably patient and at last was allowed to finish, though he was heartily booed as he stepped back to his chair.

Blat From Butler. Next came Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, the militant president of Columbia university, and a leader of the nation's wets. He described the majority plank as "the worst proposition almost that has been made," a misleading proposal that would give us years of litigation, and he contradicted Mr. Garfield's assertion that the repealers offered no substitute for the prohibition amendment in the way of national control of liquor. He lauded party loyalty but shouted "What comes first is party honesty and courage."

Secretary of the Treasury Ogden Mills, speaking presumably for the administration, ably supported the plank that had been drafted with his assistance. His most striking assertion was: "The submission of the question 'Shall we repeal or retain?' leaves it to the people to make the choice of whether to endure the evils of today or to return to the evils of the old saloon and the old liquor traffic. The minority report gives the choice between the speakeasy and the saloon and gives no other choice. It returns to the conditions before the Eighteenth amendment.

"The difference between the two proposals is this: The minority report holds a promise and hope that the saloon will not return. Our proposal is such that nowhere can the saloon come back as an American institution again. We propose to protect the nation against the return of conditions which Americans never want to see again."

These big guns were followed in rapid succession by others of considerable caliber and some who were more like popguns. Col. Ambrose Kennedy of Rhode Island, Walter S. Fenton of Vermont, Mrs. Agnes Jones Gifford of New Jersey and Governor Palmer of Nevada were among the supporters of the minority report.

The allotted time having expired, Chairman Snell ordered the roll called on the motion to substitute the minority plank for that offered by the majority. The result was that the repealers were defeated by 681 to 472. Their vote was really considerably larger than they had expected. Many of the delegations were split.

Hurriedly the chairman put the motion to adopt the majority report as a whole, and declared it carried by a viva voce vote. By this time it was after one o'clock and the weary Republicans were glad to adjourn and get a little sleep.

Herbert Hoover Nominated. Every one stood up and sang a stanza of America to open the final session at 11:30 o'clock Thursday morning. The call of the roll was ordered for nominations for the Presidency. Alabama yielded to California, and Joseph Scott took the rostrum to present the name of Herbert Hoover. The distinguished lawyer and eminent Roman Catholic talked eloquently and at length about California and the West generally, and then pronounced the necessary eulogy on Mr. Hoover. As he uttered the name the band in the gallery blared forth, another hand entered playing and the stated demonstration began. Nearly every state standard was carried in the procession through the aisles, together with some huge banners and other devices, and from nets in the ceiling hundreds of toy balloons, each bearing the word "Hoover," were released to float down among the delegates and guests.

Even the most ardent Republican could not claim that the demonstration was a real success. It was kept going for thirty minutes, but only with the help of the hard working bands and the vociferations of a few enthusiasts. However, it sufficed.

No other state offered a candidate until Oregon was reached. Then a Mr. L. B. Sandblat of Portland stepped forward and told of the many reasons why, in his opinion, the convention should select former Senator Joseph I. France of Maryland for the party's standard bearer. Mild applause.

France's Scheme Squelched. "The secretary will proceed with the roll call," said Chairman Snell.

But Doctor France had another idea. Pushing his way onto the rostrum, he demanded a chance to speak, and when the chairman refused, he shook his fist in Mr. Snell's face. Half a dozen officials and one policeman hastened to the rescue and France, still protesting, was hustled back. It was generally supposed at first that he had desired to speak in his own behalf, but the truth was he intended to withdraw his own candidacy and put Calvin Coolidge in nomination for the Presidency. This did not accord at all with the plans of the managers of the convention, so he was squelched.

It is needless to give the details of the vote for the Presidential nominee. Suffice it to say that Mr. Hoover received 1,120 1/2 votes, the rest of the 1,154 being scattered among Coolidge, Dawes, Wadsworth, France and Blaine of Wisconsin. On motion of a gentleman from Oregon the nomination was made unanimous.

Vice President Curtis was proposed for renomination by Mr. Scott of Kansas. Iowa, through Darling the cartoonist, offered the name of Hanford MacNider. New York put forward Gen. James G. Harbord, and Florida asked consideration for J. Leonard Replegle. All these gentlemen got some votes, but Mr. Curtis was an easy winner.

Notification committees were named, thanks voted to Chicago and other formalities carried out, and then in mid-afternoon the Republican national convention of 1932 came peacefully to an end.

Nine delegates from Wisconsin who belong to the La Follette faction incurred the wrath of their colleagues on the opening day because they failed to rise when Temporary Chairman Dickinson first mentioned the President, and again kept their seats when the flag was unfurled, rising only as the national anthem was played after Mayor G. W. Meade of Wisconsin Rapids had cried shame at them. The conservative delegates from the Badger state held a special caucus on this matter and denounced the La Follette men bitterly. Many of them favored asking the credentials committee to unseat the La Follette, but this, it was decided, might make them martyrs.

(WNU Service)

Charles Curtis

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Motortrucks Aid Railroads in Short Hauls

Retail Dry Goods Men Hear of Developments at Pittsburgh Parley.

Pittsburgh.—Use of motortrucks by railroads in efforts to increase short-haul business was explained to the traffic group of the National Retail Dry Goods Association by Mr. Donald Moore, traffic manager of the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Moore cited use of demountable trucks as a recent development in railroad efforts to increase business and said in many cities the roads make pick-ups at stores.

Mr. T. D. Shapleigh, controller of Gladding's Inc., of Providence, R. I., pointed out dangers of too hurried acceptance of new ideas, and of refusal to accept suggestions which might increase expenditures but which would bring just returns.

Problems of department stores in all divisions are on the program with experts leading discussions. Concurrent gatherings of the controllers' congress, store managers' division, personnel group, traffic group and the Retail Delivery Association are being held.

Mr. A. H. Burefield, Sr., president of the Joseph Horne Company of Pittsburgh, welcomed delegates at the general session yesterday.

A warning that the public is tiring of "unloading interior goods" in efforts to increase sales volume was given by Mr. P. A. O'Connell, president of the E. T. Slattery Company of Boston and president of the retailers, yesterday. He urged consideration of concentration of better quality and higher-priced goods to obtain higher gross sales and a more stable profit.

Stores are faced with the same problem that confronts the Government—balancing of budgets. Mr. Ernest Katz, executive vice-president of R. H. Macy Co., Inc., New York, said. He said department stores must be held together because they must go on with their functions of distributing producers' goods and supplying consumer needs.

Prof. Malcolm P. McNair, managing director of the bureau of business research at Harvard University, was assigned to analyze 1931 statistics with the view of pointing out significant features in operating expenses and where savings might have been made.

Successful efforts to gain co-operation of employees in cutting expenses and wages were described by Mr. O. G. Drake, store manager of the Herpolshelmer Company of Grand Rapids, Mich., in an address before the store managers' division.

Mr. R. E. Vogt, assistant controller of the Boston Store, in Milwaukee, told the controllers' congress of detailed work in study of gross profit control. He indorsed the "retail inventory method" and showed that all phases of merchandising costs could be ascertained through its use, and that a closer and more accurate check of activities also could be made.

Olympian Beauty

Pretty señoritas of the Los Angeles Mexican colony are doing their bit for the "old country" by displaying the official Mexican Olympic seal, sale of which in stamp form will provide funds to bring their athletes to the games. Above, Señorita Josephina Oles M. is shown with one of the striking designs, the work of Robert Silva, noted Mexican artist.



Josephina Oles M.