

Democratic State Conventions

The Iowa democratic state convention met at Waterloo August 7. In the nomination for governor, the vote stood: Claude Porter, 262; John D. Dennison, 245½; George W. Ball, 231½; H. B. Boies, 130; Donald McRae, 59. McRae and Hall withdrew. In the final ballot Porter received 507; Boies 292; Dennison 132. Mr. Porter was declared nominated. John D. Dennison was then nominated by acclamation as lieutenant governor. The rest of the ticket was as follows:

For secretary of state—J. S. McLuen.

For auditor—C. E. Munroe.

For treasurer—L. F. Danforth.

For attorney general—Fred A. Townsend.

For superintendent public instruction—W. S. Wilson.

For judges supreme court—L. M. Fisher and E. M. Carr.

For clerk supreme court—T. W. Keenan.

For reporter supreme court—H. M. Parker.

For railroad commissioners—W. L. Carpenter and E. K. Stoll.

Following are the principal planks of the platform:

"We believe in tariff for revenue only, and in approaching to that condition of our revenue laws there should be immediate relief granted to the people who are now being robbed by extortionate prices exacted under the shelter of the tariff.

"We demand the enactment of such legislation as will effectually destroy all trusts and the strict enforcement of all laws concerning the same.

"We are in favor of such railroad rate regulation in the state of Iowa as will give equivalent rates and service to that afforded by the interstate commerce act, and we are opposed to the present legislation in force, discriminating as it does against local Iowa industries.

"We demand that our next legislature enact a two-cent passenger fare on railroads.

"We are in favor of a primary law giving to the people the selection as well as the election of all candidates from senator down, so drawn as to protect minority and all parties.

"We favor the election of United States senator by direct vote of the people.

"We are in favor of absolute and unqualified government control of interstate commerce.

"We favor the enactment of such laws as shall give to all manufacturers and jobbers in Iowa the same right to ship their products and goods to all points in Iowa as are now given by the inter-state commerce law to manufacturers or jobbers in similar products or goods in other states.

"We believe the politics of our state should be unhampered by the influence of corporate power, and are in favor of stringent laws punishing all corporations or persons representing them who contribute campaign funds to any political organization.

"We favor a terminal tax amendment to the present railroad property tax in the cities of our state.

"We are in hearty sympathy with the purposes of national labor organizations as set forth in the late address of Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell and others calling labor to assert its political rights at the ballot box and we condemn government by injunction.

"We favor the complete elimination of railway and other public service corporations from the politics of the state.

"We are in favor of such laws as will permit municipal ownership of public utilities."

The platform also made complimentary reference to Mr. Bryan and a message of greeting was sent to him

at Venice. The correspondent for the Sioux City (Iowa) Journal, referring to the democratic state convention, said: "Whatever may be the view of the disinterested observer, it undoubtedly is true that in the breasts of all good democrats tonight there is hope of the most pronounced type instead of the forlorn variety that for years has been their portion. And undeniably it was a great convention. During the afternoon session there were 5,000 people in the magnificent chautauqua coliseum. The faithful, as their enthusiasm grew, instead of referring to it as the greatest democratic convention ever held in Iowa, as they usually did early in the day, pulled the valve wide open and made it a greater outpouring of patriots of any part than ever was dreamed of in the philosophy of Iowans. And again, the very fact of the fight for the gubernatorial nomination going to four ballots was a revelation to the rank and file who have for so many weary years been chasing a barren ideal. They reasoned that there must be something doing when the nomination was worth such a strenuous contest."

A writer in the Sioux City Journal says: "Claude R. Porter, the democratic nominee for governor, was born in Appanoose county, July 8, 1872. He was a graduate from the high school of Centerville and attended Parsons college at Fairfield. Later he went to the St. Louis law school, from which he graduated in 1893. He began the practice of law at Centerville and still is thus engaged. He was elected to the house of representatives in 1895, when F. M. Drake, of his town, was elected governor, and was re-elected in 1897. He also has served as county attorney and though the county is republican from 500 to 1,000 majority he never has failed of election to any office to which he has aspired. Mr. Porter was a member of the legislative committee appointed to investigate the state institutions. Out of the report of this committee grew the present state board of control. In 1898 he was the democratic candidate for secretary of state and in 1899 was sent to the senate from the Davis-Appanoose district. When the war with Spain broke out in 1898 he enlisted as a private and served throughout the Cuban campaign. He is of slight build, thin faced and looks like a student. A somewhat peculiar circumstance is that John D. Dennison, jr., his running mate, is of somewhat similar appearance. Mr. Dennison was born and raised in Wright county and is 33 years old. He is a practicing attorney at Dubuque. Mr. Dennison was graduated at Upper Iowa university, Fayette; also from the law department of the Nebraska state university. He practiced law at Clarion until two years ago, when he went to Dubuque and formed a partnership with Thomas H. Duffy, with the firm name of Duffy and Dennison. He is prominent in fraternal circles; is past head auditor of the Modern Woodmen of America, member of the board of directors of the American Yeomen, a member of the beneficiary committee of the Royal Neighbors of America, and president of the Iowa fraternal congress. Mr. Dennison is one of the ablest speakers in Iowa. He first came into prominence politically in 1900, when he presided as temporary chairman of the democratic state convention."

The democratic state convention for Idaho met at Coeur d'Alene and nominated the following ticket:

United States senator—Fred T. Dubois, Bingham county.

Member of congress—Rees Hattabaugh, Idaho county.

Justice of the supreme court—Stewart S. Denning, Lath county.

Governor—C. O. Stockslager, Blaine county.

Lieutenant governor—George C. Chapin, Bingham county.

Secretary of state—Flourney Galloway, Washington county.

The convention remained in session two days and newspaper dispatches say that "anti-mormonism is the keynote of the platform." The platform pledges the enactment of legislation necessary to make operative the "test oath" provided by the constitution of Iowa.

The platform declares for the enactment of an employers' liability law and for an eight-hour law applicable to all men employed underground, in smelters, concentrators and ore reduction works. It declares for the appointment of an insurance commission which will "see to it that the so-called 'six-bit' insurance companies shall be prevented from doing business in Idaho until they pay their honest debts." It favors the enactment of a primary election law.

Another plank says: "We deplore the untimely death of our honored citizen and ex-governor, Hon. Frank Steunenberg, by the hands of an assassin and we demand that the person or persons responsible therefor, whomsoever they may be, be punished to the full extent of the law."

The platform also declares: "We are heartily in favor of municipal ownership of public utilities. We believe that the time has come when there should be a revision of the present tariff to meet the conditions of the country today."

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WHETHER COMMON OR NOT

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that he is deficient in the sense of humor.

The architect expects to be here another week and will write again. He may be here longer. It depends upon circumstances. It might be necessary to await a communication from the "office downstairs" before he and "his'n" can start back. Such things have happened.

An effort will be made in the next letter to describe some of the scenes and incidents of the convention together with some "old time printer" stories that even the laymen can enjoy. In the meanwhile a pair of lungs accustomed to the heavy air of the lowlands will endeavor to get along with air that seems to be as thin as a "sweat shopper's" religion.

If anything goes wrong with a tourist here he is told that it is "all on account of the altitude." We saw one this morning that seemed to be suffering from the "high" altitude. But it must have been "high balls."

Wonder if the "altitude" excuse goes here like the "lodge night" excuse does 'way down east? W. M. M.

NOT HIS FAULT, THOUGH

"It is a very fine thing to be brave and generous and noble," said Bliss Perry, the noted writer, editor and teacher of Harvard, "but sometimes we are generous and noble against our will. Then, of course, we deserve no credit.

"Of this type was a young married man whose father-in-law, a reputed millionaire, burst in on him one day and groaned:

"All is lost! I am utterly ruined!" "Ahem," said the son-in-law; "then I married for love, after all."—Minneapolis Journal.

RELIGION NO EXCUSE

A certain theatrical manager of Chicago tells of an Irish policeman in that city possessing Dogberry-like traits.

On one occasion, at midnight, the custodian of the law overhauled a

sleep walker who was promenading a principal thoroughfare clad only in his nightrobe. When the officer had awakened the unfortunate man, placed him under arrest and was hustling him off to the station the sleep walker exclaimed with indignation:

"Surely you are not going to lock me up?"

"Surest thing you know!" airily responded the bluecoat.

"Why man, I can't be held responsible for the predicament you find me in! I am a somnambulist!"

"Sure, it makes no difference what church ye belong to," sharply returned the officer, "ye can't parade the streets of Chicago in your nighty!"

THE POLITEST MAN

The politest man has been discovered. He was hurrying along the street the other night, when another man, also in violent haste, rushed out of a doorway, and the two collided with great force.

The second man looked mad, while the polite man, taking off his hat, said:

"My dear sir, I don't know which of us is to blame for this violent encounter, but I am in too great a hurry to investigate. If I ran into you, I beg your pardon; if you ran into me, don't mention it."

And he tore away, with redoubled speed.—Chicago Journal.

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