great national leaders of the party that he will retain the district to the independent cause.

ITS FIRST SESSION.

Convention Called to Order and Preliminary Speeches Listened To.

The first national convention of the people's party convened at the Coliseum at 10 o'clock yesterday morning. Long before the hour of gathering the vast convention hall was crowded with visitors and the scene presented all the characteristics of a great national convention. There was one significant difference between the gathering of today and the national conclaves of the democratic and republican parties held a few days ago. There was little of that sharp competition for factional advantage that is typical of all other national conventions. Everybody seemed to be in a congratulatory mood over the large attendance to the convention and there was a general determination that harmony should be preserved on all questions and that the most available man should be selected to lead the fight in the coming campaign.

Appearance of the Convention Hall.

Even in their convention hall the people's party would seem anxious to preserve an individuality and to set at defiance the example of the two great parties whose national conventions have ended for the year. The extensive preparations made by the democrats at the wigwam in Chicago and by the republicans at Minneapolis are noted by their absence from the Coliseum. Nevertheless the building presented a gay and sprightly appearance as the delegates began to assemble, and as the hour for meeting approached an exuberance of enthusiasm was added to the sprightliness which could not be exceeded if the hall could contain 100,000 instead of one-tenth of that number. The circular building had been arranged in terraces with a number of outlets which prevented anything approaching confusion. Flags and bannerettes floated from every pillar and arch; a slight display of evergreens and something in the nature of triumphal arches, not the less inviting because of their scarcity, added a degree of freshness to the scene, while the numerous devices emblematic of the party's principles were not less welcome to the delegates from the artistic character of design than from the sentiment of unity they expressed. The day helped not a little to add spirit to the gathering. The sun shone in through the numerous windows with which the Coliseum is provided, lending its influence to the inspiring scene.

The delegates were slow in arriving. The representatives of Massachusetts were almost the first to enter and were received with a ringing cheer. Delegation after delegation followed and the hall gradually began to fill with industrial leaders in straw hats and breezy attire in keeping with the day.

The most conspicuous banner displayed was one by the Connecticut delegation. On it was the following inscription: "Connecticut delegation, congress (not the people) be damned. Shylock's twins—Grover and Ben." A little cheer greeted the appearance of this banner and a like reception was accorded the Massachusetts banner bearing the inscription—"The Spirit of '76."

Opened the Battle.

There was a slight lull as Chairman Taubeneck of the national committee stepped to the front, and when he announced that the first national convention of the people's party was now convened in regular session there was a burst of applause. Prayer was offered by Rev. Benjamin F. Diffenbacher, chaplain of the last Nebraska legislature and a well known alliance man. "We thank Thee, Father," said he, "for the parties that have had their birth in the past and filled their destinies, great and grand. We thank Thee for this glad day, and rejoice that Thou, ever in wisdom, upon the dying old build the ever living new."

"The next thing in order," said Chairman Taubeneck, "will be an address of welcome by Hon. George P. Bemis, mayor of the city of Omaha." [Applause.]

In response to this introduction Mayor Bemis delivered a short but exceedingly cordial address of welcome to the delegates and visitors.

Mr. Terrell of Texas.

Hon. Ben Terrell of Texas on behalf of the convention responded to the address of welcome of Mayor Bemis, but before he could begin Mr. Washburn of Massachusetts proposed three cheers for the mayor of Omaha, and they were given with good will among cries of "What's the matter with Bemis?"

"Ladies and gentlemen of the convention," said Mr. Taubeneck, "I desire to introduce to you the hero of the alliance movement from its earliest days—Benjamin Terrell of Texas."

Prolonged cheers greeted the appearance of Terrell, who spoke as follows:

Ladies and gentlemen—I wish to state to the mayor of Omaha, as a representative of the people's party, the representatives of that party desire to return to him our most sincere thanks for his welcome. The welcome was honest, in my judgment, and if I had to pronounce judgment upon your mayor I would say that he was a fit candidate for any position on our ticket for which we might see proper to nominate him [applause.] His expressions, the position taken, are such as shows an appreciation of our movement. This convention is indeed a protest against present conditions. It is utterly impossible to stay the movement. If every leader of this movement, I care not who he is—be he Powderly that is loved so well [cheers,] or Weaver that we trust above all men as a patriot and a man [applause] or whoever you may name—if they were today to put themselves in opposition, the movement would sweep over them and their names be forgotten. [Applause.]

Nothing Like it Before.

Never before in this country has such a convention been assembled. You have your delegates and you have your corporals' guards whom you will receive into your ranks when you make a platform based upon the fundamental principles of government—land, transportation and finance. [Cheers.] I believe there is no man here seeking position. I believe there is no man here who, when a deep representation is made to him that a better man than he can be selected for any position, would not yield and give the flag to him who he believes can carry it to success. I have never before attended a convention where every man desired success to everything and was perfectly willing to lay down personal ambitions to secure it. There will not be a single jar to mar its proceedings. There may be differences of opinion, but when the nominee is made and the ticket is out, you will find every man shoulder to shoulder, a nero in the strife for the right against the wrong. [Cheers.]

Spirit of the Southland.

As to the south, I want to say it is imbued with the same spirit as you are. [Cheers.] The south will vote for the man who stands upon the St. Louis platform, be he who he may, and the man from the south who does not share that spirit had better leave the hall. [Cheers.] I defy any one to point to a part of America which is more enthusiastic in the movement than the south. In the Lone Star state of Texas the people's party is only three months old. The district was carried two years ago for the democratic party by 16,000 majority. It is in doubt today. The reason for the change is to be found in the principles adopted in the democratic platform in Chicago.

The speaker then declared that the people's party had ended sectionalism and for that alone was entitled to the everlasting gratitude of the American people. The campaign would be one of principle, of justice and right and not one of vilification and blackmail like those of the great campaigns of the old parties for many years. The principles of the party were summed up in the declaration that patriotism had a higher place than party.

He concluded by returning thanks to the mayor, and to the convention for the honor it had conferred on him.

Ellington's Eloquence.

Chairman Taubeneck announced the list of temporary officers selected by the national committee, and those officers were selected by acclamation. In introducting Temporary Chairman C. H. Ellington of Georgia, Chairman Taubeneck said: "Allow me to congratulate you upon being the unanimous choice of the committee to preside as temporary chairman over the first national convention of the people's party. [Applause.] You have been selected to this position on account of your loyalty to our cause, the work which you have done in the past; and let me assure you that even if you were a total stranger here, any man who has the recommendation of Thomas E. Watson and brings credentials from the state of Georgia would receive a hearty welcome here. [Cheers.] Use this gavel, Mr. Chairman, so that everything may be truly cut and dried, so that in next November we will be able to cut out the republicans and make the democrats dry up." [Prolonged applause.]

Mr. Ellington's Speech.

Chairman Ellington's speech was received with much enthusiasm, and was as follows:

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. The human tongue is a small instrument, but it is one for the use of man. Its capacity for good or evil no finite mind can calculate, and yet, with all its stupendous power, it seems to me inadequate to express the interest of this occasion. Language fails me. It is absolutely impossible to tell with my feeble tongue my high appreciation of the honor this greatest of conventions has placed upon me electing me to the temporary chairmanship. But when my mind turns to the great purpose for which we have met together—its mighty depth, length, breadth, its wonderful conception, its vastness of search, all that is wrapped up in it, what it means to us, to ours, to be defeated, and what it would mean should victory crown our efforts—when all these things crowd upon me I long for the tongue of a Gabriel, whose trumpet-tones should reach to the farthest end of the globe, arousing and convincing the people wherever its sound should fall upon the human ear.

Fighting in a New Campaign.

In all the history of this country, which should be "the land of the free" and is "the home of the brave," there never has been another such gathering of the people. [Applause.] North, south, east and west are today mingling their hosts together in a sense and for a purpose never before realized in this country. [Applause.] When in the early days of this new country our forefathers fought for their liberties and won, it was with a different foe and by use of different means. The battlefield which settled the fight was a long and bloody one, and again, when we fought in the late civil war, the fight, though between brother and brother, between those who were bone of the same bone and flesh of the same flesh, was a bloody one. And now for the first time the classes in these United States are marshaling their armies for the greatest struggle the world ever saw. [Cheers.] A mortal combat is on, and the ballot will be the weapon of war. [Cheers.] And here in Omaha, a new city in a new state, a state which had no existence when first the clamor of war was heard in this land, a portion of the people of this great republic, the representatives of the industrial classes of every name and type and from every state in this union, are assembled in august convention. [Applause.]

An Appeal for Harmonious Action.

No grander cause ever occupied the minds or thrilled the hearts of any people or class of people on this globe than that which has drawn us here today—[cheers]—and fellow patriots, brethren, while that is a fact, there is another fact that we must not lose sight of, viz: The eyes of the whole country 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 dicker 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.] Let us lay aside all selfish individual feeling, all personal ambition, that may by any possibility tend to disharmonize it, and coming together in the spirit of pure unadulterated cordial fraternal brotherhood be determined that whatever else animated men so situated in times past, that whatever else may animate men so situated in time to come, that now and here the dominant principle governing and controlling each one of us shall be patriotism pure and simple, shall be the desire for the general and permanent prosperity of the people—[Cheers.]—all the people of this great country. I believe it is possible for this representative body to meet, counsel, deliberate, perform its entire work and adjourn without one single word of discord, one atom of hateful strife to mar and deface its glorious record. To this end I am absolutely, untiringly at your service. All of the powers of my being are concentrated to this work. [Applause.] We have reached the crisis in our history and this meeting will show whether or not we measure up to the responsibilities of the hour.

A Tribute to Polk.

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, has been taken from us just when we needed him most. Just at the supreme moment, the time, it appears to us, when, of all others, his wise, loving counsel is most needed, 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 that 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! Who did more than almost any other man in this country to bring into existence cordial fraternal feelings between the states? Polk. Then I call on you today in his name, that if there be a single vestige, an iota, of sectional feeling, of prejudice, left in the hearts of any of us, to wipe it out. I charge you sacredly that while we stand in the shadow of Polk's great love we reconsecrate ourselves to the great work of reforming this government, and that every 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 vast convention with one accord arose and the scene was one of belitting reverence to the memory of the great leader.

An Historic Gavel.

At the conclusion of the chairman's speech Mrs. Todd of Michigan stepped to the front of the platform to present Chairman Ellington with a gavel, to which she explained, in words of fervor, a history attached. The gavel was carved, she said, by the wife of Ben Terrell. It was carved from the tree planted by Washington at Mount Vernon, an announcement which was received with an enthusiastic chorus of cheers. With the presentation she recalled some patriotic incidents of the past, such as the gathering of the small body of merchants and farmers determined to shake the shackles of British tyranny, and these incidents gave rise to the greatest outbursts of enthusiasm of the day. Then she declared that the constitution of the country had become as inanimate as the lifeless figure of the goddess of liberty, and that the birth of the people's party was the first step toward the new declaration of independence.

Chairman Ellington appropriately replied.

The Gavel Not Muscle-Proof.

At the conclusion of this pleasant little incident the chairman directed the roll of states to be called and the various states to report their members of the committee on credentials. When rapping for order in this connection he had occasion to use the gavel just presented him, but with the first rap it fell to pieces, and the mallet flying off the handle rolled down to the foot of the stage. There was a little burst of laughter, but the occasion was too reverent to cause general merriment. After the announcement of its membership the committee on credentials was requested to meet immediately after adjournment in order that its report might be facilitated.

The Blue and the Gray Will Meet.

A brief discussion took place as to the time of adjournment, but it was decided to announce some of the committees before taking a recess. While the committee on credentials was meeting announcements of various kinds were made. Paul Vandervoort, ex-grand commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, announced that a reunion of the veterans of the blue and the gray would be held tonight at 8 o'clock and that the gathering would be the greatest that had ever taken place in the state of Nebraska. The task of announcing committees was then begun, and as the roll of states was called the committees on permanent organization and rules were announced.

During the call for the members of these committees a delegate paraded the hall with a banner bearing the following inscription: "Volunteer State of Tennessee; the Blue and Gray. People's Party, 8,000 Votes for the Ticket." The appearance of the banner provoked loud cheers.

Previous to the adjournment, for the first time during the day, music added its inspiring effect to the proceedings. The music was supplied by a quartet 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 till 3 o'clock.

Credentials Committee.

The committee on credentials organized by electing John S. Dore of California chairman and A. E. Cole of Michigan and E. S. Peters of Texas as secretaries. Several delegations had not arrived and others known to be here were not reported to the committee, but it is known that most of the states are represented. The committee adjourned to 2:30 to receive other credentials. No contests are reported.

James C. Boyd of Springfield, Ore., was admitted as a delegate from Alaska, on credentials from the miners association of Sitka.

Permanent Organization.

The committee on permanent organization will not be able to report till shortly after the reassembling of the convention at 3 o'clock. The two names being considered for the position of permanent chairman are Loucks, president of the farmers alliance, and T. V. Powderly, grand master of the Knights of Labor, the feeling being strongly in favor of the latter.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Proceedings of the People's Party in Convention Assembled.

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."

The reading of the following communication from Washington, D. C., provoked great applause:

The subscribers here desire to tender to you our warmest greetings. Nothing would please us better than to meet with you that we might clasp hands and exchange with you words of encouragement as co-workers in the great struggle now going on between the people and those who live and fatten through class laws and the violation of trust, but however pleasant it might be for us to meet and enjoy a general handshake, yet, in our opinion, those of us who are not delegates should remain here to watch over the work which the people have given us to do.

The two Wall street parties have held their conventions. They have nominated their candidates and are marshalling their hosts. One side is engaged in "putting the rascals out," the other in "keeping the rascals out." They have no aims or objects but the spoils of office, while the people are sinking from affluence into penury and labor in the cities, factories, shops and mines is dying of starvation and by Pinkerton bullets.

It is the mission of our new party to restore to the people their God-given rights and the scepter of the government. To restore to the people their alienated lands and their confiscated highways, and to wrest from corporations and money kings the control of the people's money and all the other public appliances of commerce and of our Christian civilization.

We have full faith in your united wisdom. We believe that you will select for our great party of the people standard bearers worthy of the occasion, and that you will arrange all the necessary details for a vigorous and successful campaign.

The times are ominous. Yet the blind and aggressive enemy is breaking the repose of society as never before. Men are everywhere surrendering their party prejudices and trampling under foot old party lines. They are crying out on all sides—north, south, east and west—"What must we do to be saved?"

Let us on with the work so nobly begun by our patriot fathers, that a government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth.

Accept, gentlemen, our fraternal regards, and may the great ruler of nations guide your councils.

The communication was signed by W. A. Peffer, United States senator from Kansas; James H. Kyle, United States senator from South Dakota; John Davis, member of congress from Kansas; O. M. 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.

Ignatius Donnelly Speaks

After the reading of these messages and while awaiting the report of the committee on credentials Hon. Ignatius Donnelly of Minnesota was introduced and spoke at length on the issues of the people's party:

"My friends," said Mr. Donnelly, "I am of the opinion that bodies like this are intended rather for action than for speech and I hesitate to trespass upon your time and attention save at the request of the executive committee. They assure me that, pending the reports of the committees, nothing will be done and they are inclined to think that a speech by me may be a good substitute for nothing. [Laughter.] That being the case I will trespass on your attention for a few moments. I do not intend to indulge in any words of idle compliment, for the dignity of the occasion forbids it, when I say that no greater body of men has ever assembled upon this continent than that which sits here today, since those men who formulated the immortal Declaration of Independence. [Loud cheers.] It is in many respects the most astonishing gathering this continent has ever seen—a convention without a single tool or instrument of a monopoly or robbery in its midst, a convention where every man has paid the expenses of his journey hither and return, or where they have been paid by a man as poor as himself. [Cheers.] There is not in this gathering a single president of a railroad corporation. [Cheers.] There is not a single representative of any of the rings which are robbing and sucking the lifeblood out of this American people. [Cheers.] I cannot help but think what an astounding contrast this body presents to the conventions which have recently met in Minneapolis and Chicago. One little point emphasizes the difference, and should be sufficient in itself to show the American people who are its friends.

Paid for Their Transportation.

"There are in this convention delegates from the distant state of California and they could not obtain the same railroad concessions that were granted to the two national conventions. They are here at a cost, as I am informed, of $150 to each of them. I am told that there are delegates here from Wyoming who traveled 300 miles in farm wagons to reach the nearest depot where they could take the train for Omaha. [Cheers, and cries of "Hurrah for Wyoming."] I see yonder hoisted banner of the great state of Massachusetts, and we might say in the words of Webster, "There is Massachusetts, she speaks for herself." [Cheers.] On your banner I see the words 'Spirit of 1776.' This is the spirit that animates this august gathering; we are the lineal representatives of those men in homespun and deerskin, those hunters, fishers and farmers who founded this nation—a nation without a millionaire and without a pauper. [Loud cheers.] One hundred and sixteen years of national life under the management of the two great parties has given us, according to the different estimates, from 8,000 to 30,000 millionaires, and one and one-half million tramps, while the whole land is blistered with mortgages, and the whole people are steeped to the lips in poverty.

Concentrated Excellency.

"My friends, every great fight that was ever made in the past for right and liberty culminates in this present gathering. Every battle field of the past, fought to make men more free, more happy, and more prosperous, has shed the fruits of victory upon this great assemblage. [Cheers.] What a contrast to that Minneapolis convention. The leading man of that body, the man most petted and dined, and wined was Chauncey M. Depew, twenty times a millionaire, president of two railroad companies, and representative of the Vanderbilts $200,000,000, and the members of that convention wriggled upon their vest buttons in base subservance. [Cheers.] Why, he could not sneeze but the republican papers had pictures of him in every point of the process. [Laughter and cheers.] I had a debate the other day in Minnesota, with a representative speaker of the republican party, and I challenged him to point to a man in that great convention who could be mentioned in the same breath with the great philanthropist and humanitarian who founded the republican party. Where is Horace Greeley, your Charles Sumner, your Wendell P. Phillips, your Abraham Lincoln? I asked him to point me out a single friend of labor in the convention, a single friend of the poor, a single friend of the mechanic. What was the answer? I was given as the example of the philanthropist Fred Douglass. [Cheers.] 'Why,' I replied, 'you have had to go out of your own color to find an example,' [cheers] and when I asked for another name I was given the name of William McKinley, jr., [laughter] a man who put up the tariff for the benefit of the protectionist manufacturers to increase the burdens of the people. That is republican philanthropy. It would be a miracle if the American people had not by this time appreciated Bill McKinley's philanthropy.

Recalled a Debate in the Senate.

"I saw a report of a debate the other day in the United States senate. A democratic senator charged that the man who had been put at the head of the national executive committee was a tool of monopoly, the attorney for the great cattle combine which has put into the hands of the Big Four of Chicago an immense fortune by breaking down the price of cattle from one end of the land to the other, while maintaining at the same time the prices of meat on the mechanic.

"What did the republican say in reply? He said that the chairman of the democratic national committee was the representative of the Standard Oil company, a bigger rascal than the other man. [Cheers.]

"I want it understood that I am not saying anything against the rank and file of either of these parties. [Cries of 'Good.'] The whole American people have been in one or the other of these parties, and as the American people are in my judgment the best and noblest people on the face of the earth it would not become me to accuse either of them, but the leaders, the policies and the conventions of these parties are legitimate subjects for comment. They point in the direction of this terrible power of plutocracy that has got the whole country by the throat. Upon every bushel of wheat sold in Minnesota the farmers are defrauded of 33 cents by gigantic combinations reaching from Liverpool to the Red river valley. In the south I learn that you are suffering as much, and that the cotton crop does not pay the cost of production. You will find that the cause of the depreciation in prices is to be found in worldwide combinations. This battle in which we are employed is the battle of mankind. [Cheers.]

The Last Great Camping Ground.

"This continent is the last great camping ground of the human race. If liberty fails here, it fails forever. Every oppressed nation of the world is looking upon this convention to discover whether the star-spangled banner and the stars and stripes shall float across the country, steadily rising generations after generations to higher levels of culture and civilization or if it shall float in solemn mockery above a land cursed as Europe is cursed, the middle classes driven off the land while concentrated in the hands of a few is the wealth provided by the tillers." [Cheers.]

Having quoted figures to show that the possession of wealth in the hands of the farmers had decreased from five-eighths in 1850 to one-fifth in 1890, he declared that no man could fail to see the dark and terrible future into which they were avancing. Where were their posterity to find land? The great army of the dispossessed had already reached the Pacific coast. They looked out over the blue waters of that mighty ocean, and saw India, China and Japan so densely populated that the loss of a single crop brings to millions starvation.

Sectional Differences.

"There are," he continued, with growing earnestness, "but two views before us; one of the great evils which has cursed our country has been sectional differences. I am glad to know that this party proposes to wipe out those differences forever. [Loud cheers.] Have you forgotten that the two old parties have been holding their conventions ever since the war closed, but never has either of them dared to place in nomination for either president or vice president a citizen of either of those southern states? I am willing that the southern delegates to this convention should meet and agree upon a candidate for president, and I will pledge for the man so nominated the unanimous support of Minnesota. I can promise you the solid electoral vote of Minnesota for the people's party. I believe I can promise that Nebraska will go the same way, and North and South Carolina and Georgia. I know that we can count on Kansas. I tell you there is no such word as fail, so far as this movement is concerned. Gentlemen, I thank you."

Alabama's Orator.

After Donnelly's speech a Minnesota delegate insisted that Alabama's eloquent boy orator, J. C. Manning, should be heard from, and the dark haired southern youth was applauded as he stepped to the platform. He said that the people of his state had been fed with democratic promises, but had only received outrayal and denial of their demands. Both of the old parties, he said, were identical so far as the interests of the people were concerned; their promises were links of sausage from the same dog. The new party was the true friend of the colored man, although the movement did not favor nigger supremacy. They did not promise the whites office, much less the nigger. He thought that the trouble with the country was an overproduction of demagogues, mugwumps and hoodwinking politicians. The speaker said he appreciated the motive that induced the followers of the movement to devote their time to it. "It is not office," he declared. "That is not what they are after, but even if it was, my God, aren't we entitled to an office one in a while, when the other side have had all for so many years." He said in conclusion that if the movement continued to grow as it had for the past few days the people's party in Alabama would elect every congressman and every member of the electoral college from that state.

The "Original Greenbacker."

Mr. Norton of Chicago asked permission to present a gentleman whom, he was sure, the convention would be glad to see and in response to a murmur of assent led to the platform Alexander Campbell of LaSalle, Ill., who supported himself on a cane and walked with evident effort.

Mr. Norton introduced Mr. Campbell as the original greenbacker, who had attracted attention as far back as 1861. Mr. Campbell was a member of congress in 1872, and was known among politicians as "Old Greenbacks." Mr. Campbell sat well forward on the platform during Mr. Norton's eulogistic speech, and at its conclusion was raised to his feet. He waved his hand in recognition of the compliment and was cheered lustily.

A resolution was adopted to the effect that when the convention adjourn at the close of the afternoon session it was to meet again at 2:30 Sunday afternoon to participate in the memorial services for the late Colonel L. L. Polk of South Carolina and the late Rev. Gilbert Delamater of Cincinnati, and that the doors be thrown open to the general public.

T. V. Powderly was called for, but excused himself on the plea that his lungs were not equal to the task of speaking to so large an audience.

Committee on Resolutions.

The members of the committee on resolutions were then announced as follows: Alabama, John B. Ware; Arkansas, B. Sutler; California, Thomas V. Cator; Colorado, D. H. Wake; Connecticut, George W. Griffiths; Delaware, Chauncey Baker; Florida, R. W. Storrs; Georgia, M. I. Bryant; Idaho, E. J. Geffley; Illinois, John P. Stelle; Indiana, Joshua Strain; Iowa, A. J. Westfall; Kansas, L. Brown; Kentucky, A. J. Oglevie; Louisiana, I. J. Milies; Maine, A. A. Beaton; Maryland, N. A. Dunning; Massachusetts, Nathan A. Green; Michigan, Charles E. Barnes; Minnesota, Ignatius Donnelly; Mississippi, J. W. Copeland; Missouri, L. Leonard; Montana, Daniel McCain; Nebraska, W. A. McKeighan; Nevada, J. A. Plummer; New Hampshire, L. B. Porter; New Jersey, Joseph R. Buchanan; New York, C. B. Matthews; North Carolina, Thomas B. Long; North Dakota, W. T. McCullough; Ohio, Hugh Cavanagh; Oregon, Nathan Pierce; Pennsylvania, H. S. Ayers; Rhode Island, W. A. Arnold; South Dakota, F. F. Myer; Tennessee, John Jellicoe; Texas, Ara Tracey; Virginia, H. H. Pierson; Washington, M. F. Knox; West Virginia, J. H. Basell; Wisconsin, Robert E. Schilling; Wyoming, H. B. Breitenstein; Alaska, J. C. Ward; District of Columbia, H. J. Shulties; Indian Territory, D. H. Lewis; Oklahoma, S. D. Decher.

Howls of Calamity.

After the announcement of the committee on resolutions there were loud calls for Cyclone Davis, and the hall was soon ringing with Davis' penetrannt voice, proclaiming the results to humanity which must follow the success of the independent party. He painted in vivid colors a picture of the condition of things as they existed today in this country. On the one side they saw beneath the stars and stripes the emblem of freedom and liberty, 20,000,000 of landless people in a homeless land. They heard the cry of the widow and the orphan, and mingling with that piteous wail of the downtrodden they heard the songs of revelry among the greedy and the oppressor, until the sounds became hideous and freedom became a mockery. Corporations, he declared, were formed by the mathematical and legal structure of government process—[cheers]—and these corporations were sending out notices that they will not employ men who belong to labor organizations. What are the conditions to which the working masses were being subjected? To the condition of serfs, to the system in vogue in crowded countries. When their forefathers created the government of this country they declared against the laws of monopoly, against the laws of perpetuity. They saw that wealth accumulated by a few while the many were left to want became a menace to the empire.

Legalized Robbery.

Next the speaker directed himself to a denunciation of what he described as legalized robbery as represented by corporations. For ordinary robbery a man was sent to the penitentiary; but not for legalized robbery. "No," he said in caustic tones, "If I become rich by robbing others under the guise of law, I am described as a genius, the papers insist on it, and the first thing I know I am made president of a bank; I am run for congress by one or the other of the old parties." [Laughter and cheers.]

Next he pointed out the reduction in the wealth of the country by the farmers from 60 to 20 per cent in thirty years, and asked how long it would take to deprive them of the other 20 per cent under the system which had robbed them of 40 per cent already.

After another attack on monopolies, he abruptly concluded, when the committee announced itself ready to report.

There Were No Contests.

The committee on credentials presented its report, showing that there were no contests and that there were 1,336 delegates present. The report was adopted amid applause and the sitting delegates declared entitled to their seats.

At the suggestion of Mr. Schilling of Wisconsin, Hon. J. Jaxon of Chicago was invited to address the convention. Mr. Jaxon is representative of the Metas council of the northwest, a mixed race of Indians and Frenchmen. He himself is only five-sixteenths Indian, and, but for his long black locks, his features, though slightly of aboriginal cast, would hardly betray his race to the ordinary observer. He was a participant in the Riel rebellion in Manitoba and crossed the line just half a day ahead of the pursuing British soldiers.

Mr. Jaxon said he was proud to attend a convention where an Indian might shake hands with a white man on an equality, and because this people's party had a platform on which an Indian was not ashamed to stand. He believed the delegates sincere because they had buried old animosities and were demanding one man from the north and one from the south for their ticket. This movement gives the aboriginal race hope that it will receive justice. The Indians believe they have their own peculiar faculties as well as the white race. Their work is not done, and they propose to stand on their own bottom. While pursuing a nomadic life the Indian kept alive certain virtues which the white man has lost and is just regaining.

Many of the movements now agitating the white race were anticipated by the Indian, and the speaker proceeded to tell of simple habits of red men to prove his assertion. For illustration, when an Indian wants money he does not go into the mountains to dig gold or silver. He goes to the nearest lake to gather shells, or into the brush to cut sticks. Those shells and sticks are used as a medium of exchange, and there is the germ of the greenback idea. He closed with the assurance that if it became necessary to meet oppression with the rifle the Indian will not be found shrinking.

Filled a Waiting Void.

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 retire at once and begin its labors.

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

A motion was adopted that when the convention adjourned it be until 8 o'clock Monday morning.

A motion prevailed to call the roll of states for the naming of members of the national committee, but several delegates objected that the temporary organization had no authority to organize a permanent body that should last four years.

The motion was reconsidered and tabled, and at 6:30 the convention adjourned with a whoop until Monday morning.

WOMEN IN CONVENTION.

Nebraska Equal Suffragists Adopt Resolutions Demanding Their Political Rights.

PENDER, Neb., July 2.—[Special to THE BEE.]—Yesterday's session of the Nebraska Woman Suffrage association completed the hearing of unfinished business and reports. At 10:30 a. m. the annual election of officers occurred and resulted as follows: President, Clara Bewick Colby, Beatrice; vice president, Mary Smith Hayward, Chadron; recording secretary, Getty W. Drury, Pender; corresponding secretary, Helen M. Goff, Minden; treasurer, Stella Groves Freese, Pender.

In the afternoon the report of the resolution committee was the first business to come up. Among the resolutions were the following:

We, the Nebraska Woman Suffrage association, in convention assembled, do hereby adopt these resolutions as an expression of our convictions and reaffirm our allegiance to the objects for which we are organized, and pledge ourselves anew to obtain for the women of Nebraska "equality before the law" by all legitimate means in our power.

Whereas, We believe that we are entitled to the full suffrage as citizens of the United States according to the constitution thereof.

Resolved, That we favor any measure that shall give women partial enfranchisement, and we urge upon the coming legislature of Nebraska to give municipal suffrage to women and the congress of the United States to pass the bill now before it giving women the right to vote for members of the house of representatives.

Resolved, That while we recommend that the woman suffragists of the state use their influence to secure the election to office of men who are favorable to woman suffrage of whatever party, yet as an association we remain strictly non-partisan.

When the hour appointed to hold memorial services for Mrs. Jennie F. Holmes of Tecumseh arrived, a sketch of the deceased's life was read by Helen M. Goff. Tributes of affection and appreciation of Mrs. Holmes' work were given by Mrs. Clara B. Colby, Mrs. Henrica Hoffan and Rev. J. W. Miller. A touching poem, "In Memoriam," by Miss Carrie Renfrew, closed the memorial service.

Impromptu speeches were made by Mrs. Higley, Rev. J. W. Miller, Prof. Martin, Judge Abbott, Mrs. Hoffan and Mrs. Groves. The latter gave an interesting account of the "Farmers' Wives," a club which has been in existence seven years and comprises eighty-five members. It has been a great influence in making the country intelligent.

The convention adjourned with hearty resolutions of thanks to the citizens of Pender who had generously met all the expenses of the occasion and had contributed to its success in every way.

The executive committee has planned vigorous work for the ensuing year and the next annual meeting will be held in Lincoln next January.

GRESHAM REPLIES.

He Positively Declines to Accept a Third Party Nomination.

NEW ALBANY, Ind., July 2.—Judge W. Q. Gresham arrived here this morning on his way to Lainesville, where he is called by the death of his brother, Colonel Benjamin Gresham. While in New Albany he received a telegram from Hon. Jackson Orr regarding his acceptance of the nomination for president by the people's party. In reply he sent the following:

"Hon. Jackson Orr, Omaha, Neb.: In view of the friendly manner in which my name appears still to be considered at Omaha it is due you and your fellow delegates to say that I do not desire to be the standard bearer of the people's party, and could not accept the nomination if unanimously tendered."

W. Q. GRESHAM.

Orr is an old schoolmate and friend of Judge Gresham and a delegate to the Omaha convention.

PROHIBS WANTED GRESHAM.

They Tried to Get the Judge to Accept the Cincinnati Nomination.

CHICAGO, Ill., July 2.—Now that the prohibition convention is over and General Bidwell is the nominee, it has transpired that an effort was made to get Judge Gresham to agree to accept the prohibition nomination. He was visited by an Illinois delegate three or four days ago, and urged to come over to the prohibitionists and become its nominee. Judge Gresham declined, however, to consent to the use of his name, and was not converted by the prohibition delegate.

J. G. Evans, an Illinois delegate, said today that something was said to Judge Gresham about becoming the nominee at Omaha. The decided impression received was that Judge Gresham would not consent to run, but he could not say what might yet happen. There was a decided hostility to fusion and the obliteration of the prohibition party entertained by the prohibition convention, but a willingness to receive with open arms all the parties or persons who would aid them was very manifest. The object of the visit to Judge Gresham was to have him first made the prohibition nominee, it being expected that his nomination by the people's party would follow, and thus it was argued the prohibition party would be the dominant one in the combination, and as a political organization would receive an immense boom if the Gresham ticket secured the large vote at the polls generally predicted for it. A split in the two old parties, it was figured, would then be brought about.

A COMPOSITE OF THE CONVENTION.

How the Great Gathering Appeared to the Observing Platform Spectator.

Could a composite photograph have been made of the delegates in convention hall when Chairman Taubeneck called the first national convention of the people's party to order at ten minutes after 11 o'clock, the pronounced characteristics of that picture would have been a superabundance of hair on the face, strong aquiline nose, prominent forehead and close drawn lips with here and there lines of care and maybe hardness about the mouth.

The scene was a picturesque one. A warm summer sun shone through the paned windows of the Coliseum building and fell benignantly upon the uncovered heads of the hundreds of delegates and spectators in the hall. Bunting in profusion was brightened by the sunlight and the faces of the men and women who are to assist in naming the candidate of the people's party for its president shone with a self-reflected light as they listened to the prayer of Rev. Mr. Diffenbacher, the soul-stirring address of welcome made by Omaha's mayor and the response by a man famous among the leaders of the "new idea," Ben Terrell of Texas.

The hall was by no means crowded when the convention was called to order, the seats reserved for spectators being thinly occupied.

One could not look over the hall and remain enthusiastic as to the ample, nay excellent facilities made for the purposes of the convention. Compared with the wigwam at Chicago the Coliseum in its present dress is a temple, while the republican convention hall at Minneapolis only exceeded this Omaha building in its larger and more ample space. The acoustics, too, are thoroughly acceptable, and everywhere only the most laudatory expressions were heard for the people of Omaha and the men who have so excellently planned for this national convention of the people's party.

Handled the Crowds Well.

The street car service too is to be commended, for the crowd was capitally handled by the company, although the crush it is well known will be on Monday, when the convention will name its leaders for the November battle. Some of the delegates were somewhat loth to take the cable fearful that the rope might break and a general smashup occur, but in the main the crowds were anxious only to get to the convention hall and were soon re-assured by conductors that cable and electric cars were part of a good metropolitan service and that there was little more danger in their running than using a steam plow to overturn the virgin soil.

When the Kansas delegation arrived at the hall they were refused admittance because they had not been provided with the necessary tickets of admission and a courier had to penetrate through the labyrinth of chairs to the president's stand and secure his signature to a general admission ticket before the implacable gatekeepers would cease their vigilance long enough to allow the shadows of the Coliseum to swallow them. The Kansans after taking the seats allotted to them right underneath the platform unfurled a beautiful silken flag at whose apex a bunch of grasses was artistically tied and the unfurling brought out the first real, genuine applause of the morning. Hardly had the applause ceased when the Connecticut delegation entered the hall bearing at its head a big banner with the following words thereon: "Congress, not the people, be damned! Shylock's twins—Grover and Ben." Again the hall resounded with cheers, while the "rebel yell" cleft the atmosphere.

CAME IN CROWDS.

Morning Trains Loaded to the Guards With Delegates and Visitors.

Most of the morning trains arriving at the union depot were behind time, and any of the arrangements which may have been made for the reception of delegates were confused. As it was, the visitors, a large proportion of whom were not used to traveling, found themselves unloaded on the platform among half a dozen moving trains and several hundred people and left to shift for themselves.

Each train contributed its quota to the crowd filling the city. At 7:35 a portion of the Iowa delegation, with a number of visitors, arrived. At 9:35 the Wisconsin people came in over the Northwestern and were directed to the headquarters uptown.

At 10 o'clock representatives from the states of Pennsylvania and Florida were brought in by the Burlington. And at 10:45 a special train of four cars, with decorations showing the effect of the rain, pulled in and deposited a section of the population of the state of Kansas. The delegation was headed by Boyd of Belleville and had with them the George E. Smith