

TAFT MEN COMBINE AGAINST JOHNSON

California Governor Has Hard Fight Ahead to Control at Sacramento.

BOTH SIDES INDORSE 15

Republican Leaders to Warn Nominees That Desertion of Taft Will Deprive Them of Aid From Regulars in Election.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 28.—(Special.)—Governor Johnson has a hard fight ahead of him to get control of the Sacramento convention, which will name the Republican Presidential electors, according to leaders in the Taft primary fight. Conference at the headquarters of the Taft state central committee yesterday revealed the strong hope that lives in the breasts of the leaders that Taft will win the vote of a majority of the convention.

The Taft people will die in the ears of the successful nominees for State Senate and Assembly that a vote for Roosevelt is a declaration of the Republican party and that no further help in the November election can be expected by such candidates from the regular Republicans. It is asserted by the Taft men that several legislative candidates who have been endorsed by the Johnson organization have pledged themselves to give the regular Republican nominee a place on the Presidential ballot.

At least 15 men, it is pointed out, have been endorsed by both sides, and this alone indicates that the real fight will come at the convention and that the result of the primaries, while showing apparent victory either for Taft or Roosevelt, will be open to change when the final vote comes in the convention.

The Taft people admit that they have an extremely difficult fight on their hands. Their great aim is to drive Governor Johnson out of the Republican party and make him stand or fall by the pure Progressive party strength in the Legislature.

"I am willing to bet \$500," said one Taft man today, "that Johnson does not control the next Legislature."

CURB TRUSTS, IS ADVICE

(Continued From First Page.)

one-half the crude and finished steel business of the United States.

"The average wholesale price of steel products has fallen off since the corporation was organized.

"The corporation and all the independent have an understanding as to prices. The system or interlocking directorates has insidious consequences and facilitates 'inside management' and the stifling of competition.

"The situation as to iron ore supply is grave and may become menacing."

Many recommendations are submitted, although no bills have been prepared. The minority report epitomizes its recommendations as follows:

"All corporations exceeding \$50,000,000 in capitalization or valuation must become United States corporations before entering interstate commerce. For smaller corporations United States charters are voluntary.

Recapitalization is urged.

"All United States corporations must be recapitalized at their actual value.

"An interstate commission of industry, like the Interstate Commerce Commission, to be established. Publicity to be provided for.

"When the price fixed by a United States corporation has been found unreasonable, the Commission of Industry must recommend a reasonable price.

"Interlocking directorates and 'holding' companies forbidden except when permitted by Interstate Commission of Industry.

"If foregoing recommendations shall prove insufficient to meet the trust problem, the Interstate Commission of Industry ought to be given a carefully guarded power to fix maximum prices when necessary.

"Industrial corporations not to own common carriers.

"Unreasonable restraint of trade 'defined' and burden of proof of 'reasonableness' transferred to the defendant.

Political Disputes Avoided.

"Individuals and states to have the opportunity to intervene in Government suits.

"Extensive powers and instructions for courts when combinations are adjudged illegal.

Mr. Gardner and his colleagues refrain from injecting a political dispute into the report and passed over the merger of Tennessee Coal & Iron by United States Steel by saying it has no bearing on the subject.

Representative H. C. Young, of Michigan, in signing the report, said he believed the Interstate Commerce Commission and the State Railroad Commissions are clothed with sufficient power to remedy all evils growing out of ownership of common carriers by the industrial corporations.

In discussing the Tennessee Coal & Iron merger by the Steel Corporation and in the panic of 1907, Mr. Young attaches no blame to J. Pierpont Morgan.

Of the visit of H. C. Frick and Judge Gary to former President Roosevelt, Mr. Young asserts:

"Messrs. Frick and Gary made frank and truthful statements to President Roosevelt of the material-facts of the case. The steps taken by President Roosevelt in the matter were inspired by patriotic motives. They gave the United States Steel Corporation no additional rights nor granted them any immunity from any civil or criminal proceedings, should it later appear that they had in any way violated the law.

YOUNG FINISHES HIS REPORT

Member of Stanley Steel Inquiry Gives Out Conclusions.

WASHINGTON, July 28.—Congressman H. O. Young, of Michigan, a Republican member of the Stanley Steel Investigating Committee, made public today his report on the steel industry supplementary to the report of the minority members of the committee.

Representative Young characterizes the report to be issued by the Democratic majority of the committee as "overdrawn, prejudiced, inaccurate and exaggerated."

After reviewing at length the evolution of the steel industry, he summarizes his findings in part as follows:

"The United States Steel Corporation when organized was greatly overcapitalized, but to a great extent this has been remedied by extensive investments of earnings.

"The Interstate Commerce Commission and the Federal Trade Commission have ample power to correct all practices incident to the ownership of railroads by the corporation which are unfair to competitors or inimical to the general welfare.

CHAIRMAN OF REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE, WHO DEFENDS CONTEST DECISIONS.



CHARLES D. HILLES.

RULINGS ARE UPHOLD

Statement Approved by Taft Reviews Contest Decisions.

PARTY LAW IS FOLLOWED

Declaration Made That Each Contest Was Settled Logically and on Basis of National Committee Rules in Force Since 1880.

(Continued From First Page.)

to abide the state-wide election, while the Republican National Convention has insisted upon the unit of the district since 1880. That has been the party law.

Law of the Party Recognized.

"This convention recognized the party law and held it to be more binding than that of the state law, and allowed the two delegates who had received in the fourth district a vote larger than their two opponents assigned to that district, to become delegates in the convention. This was clearly lawful, for a state has no power to limit or control the basis of representation of a voluntary National party in a National convention. The fact that President Taft by telegram approved all the 36 delegates as representing him is said to be an estoppel against his claiming the election of two of those delegates in their fourth district. What is there inconsistent in his approving the candidacy of all his delegates and the election of two of them? Why should he be thus estopped to claim that part of the law was inoperative because in conflict with the call of the convention?"

"The call in Washington turned on the question whether the Taft delegates appointed by the county committee in King County, in which Seattle is situated, were duly elected to the convention, or whether a primary which was substantially held, and at which Roosevelt delegates were elected, was properly called, so that its result was legal.

Seattle Council Causes Mix-Up.

"Under the law, the county committee had the power to decide whether it would select the delegates directly or should call a primary. In some counties of the state, one course was pursued, and in other counties the other. In King County the committee consisted of 259 men, the majority of whom were for Taft, and that majority, acting through the county committee, selected the Taft delegates to the state convention. Meantime the City Council of Seattle had restricted the city. It before had 259 precincts. Now substantially the same territory was divided into 281 precincts. The chairman of the county committee was a Roosevelt man. He had been given authority by general resolution to fill vacancies occurring in the committee. A general meeting of the committee had been held after the City Council had directed the restricting of the city, in which it was resolved, the chairman not dissenting, that representatives could not be appointed to fill the 281 new precincts until an election was held in September, 1912.

"Thereafter, and in spite of this conclusion, the chairman assumed the right by his appointment to add to the existing committee 131 precinct committee-men, and with these voting in the committee, it is claimed that a primary was ordered. There was much controversy in the meeting that this is doubtful. However, the fact is that the Taft men protested against action by a committee so constituted, on the ground that the chairman had no authority to appoint the 131 new committee-men. They refused to take part in the primary, and so did the La Follette men.

Vote at Primary Light.

"The newspapers reported the number of votes in the primary to be something over 3000. The Roosevelt committee showed by affidavit the number to be 6000 out of a total of 10,000. The action of the chairman in attempting to add 131 precinct men to the old committee was of course beyond his power. The resolution authorizing him to fill vacancies of course applied only to those places which became vacant after they had been filled, and clearly did not apply to new precincts. It could not, in the nature of things, apply to a change from the old system to a complete new system of precincts created by the City Council, because if they were to be filled, the entire num-

ber of 381 new precincts different from the old must be filled. One system could not be made into the other by a mere additional appointment of 131 committee-men. No lawyer will say that such action by the committee thus constituted was legal. Therefore the action which the lawful committee of 259 took in electing Taft delegates who made a majority in state convention was the only one which could be recognized as valid."

As an appendix, the statement carries in detail the vote in the National committee in each of the contests and a statement of the date of the Taft and Roosevelt conventions in contested states. The object of the latter is to show that the Roosevelt delegates were chosen after the regular conventions had named Taft representatives.

Roosevelt Committeemen Answered.

Another appendix is the report of the credentials committee to the convention, in which the statement issued by the Roosevelt committeemen attacking the majority of the committee was answered. In discussing the charge, the report said:

"The statement as a whole in its insinuations of combination of unworthy motive, in its recital of alleged facts, is grossly and maliciously untrue. It was intended to convey the impression that the time for hearing cases was so limited as to prevent their being properly presented to the committee. The untruthfulness of this statement is clearly shown by the records of the committee and the newspaper reports of its deliberations. Not only did the rules make liberal provision for time in presenting the cases, but in every instance of the parties presenting the cases, where any member of the committee asked for an extension of time, it was granted."

The statement of the Roosevelt members of the committee asserted that the committee had been "made it evident that the reports had been prepared beforehand to suit the case."

Advance Preparation Denied.

"In regard to the assertion that reports were prepared in advance of the action of the committee on credentials, no one of the gentlemen who makes this statement will state of his own personal knowledge that any reports were thus made."

In concluding, the majority of the credentials committee, defending its decisions, said:

"As to the merit of these contested cases upon which the committee passed, it should be remembered that the National committee was for 12 days hearing evidence and argument upon them. Out of a total membership of 53, only 12 members of that committee objected to the findings and decisions, and they only with regard to a part of the cases, the action of the committee being unanimous with regard to a majority of them. The convention declined, by a substantial majority, to reverse the action of the National committee, and it referred the contested cases to the committee on credentials. When our committee met rules were adopted by unanimous vote for 12 days hearing evidence and argument upon them. Out of a total membership of 53, only 12 members of that committee objected to the findings and decisions, and they only with regard to a part of the cases, the action of the committee being unanimous with regard to a majority of them. 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