

DEMOCRATS TAKE FIGHT TO FLOOR

(Continued from page one.)

of sleep since last Tuesday. Chairman Cummings gave a dramatic recital as had ever been heard in a national convention. Explaining the deliberations of the convention and its inability to reach an agreement, he told amid a dramatic silence, how, after an all night session, the committee had gathered around their table in the breaking dawn of the day and recited in unison the Lord's prayer, after which William Jennings Bryan, had raised his voice and spoke a prayer for divine guidance.

Stepping to the front of the platform worn and tired and showing the effects of hours and hours of labor, Chairman Cummings told the convention there was one plank on which a great difference arose. The sub-committee was unable to agree and last night the full committee went into session to discuss the plank dealing with religious freedom.

"We discussed that plank all night until we adjourned at six o'clock this morning. I regret to say that as the discussion went on it became more heated. The discussion became somewhat acrimonious, and when we saw that the committee disagreed in that way, we began to wonder what would happen if the convention itself were asked to discuss the question. In other words we began to think of the democratic part. We thought of all that might be involved, and then we drew closer together around the council table, friends, seeking to find a way so that the country might have the service of a democratic party.

"We concluded we ought to have on that particular subject an opportunity for further conference. "In all the years I have known political events, I have never met one like the one which presented itself in the committee room this morning. "With the feeling of fraternity in our breasts again one of the committee members arose and recited the Lord's prayer and then Mr. Bryan lifted up his voice in a plea for divine guidance.

"At the unanimous request of the committee I ask this great convention in the interest of the party to adjourn until 2 o'clock this afternoon."

There had been a burst of applause when the name of Mr. Bryan was mentioned and an interruption a little later from a delegate who shouted that the speaker was indulging in argument, but not the announcement for which he had been recognized.

On the whole, however, the convention listened with unusual attention and when the question of Mr. Cummings' motion for a recess was put it was adopted with only a murmur of dissent.

Attracted by the prospect of a spectacular fight, the favored thousands who held the tickets for the garden assembled long before the hour set for convening. With them came many thousands more, precipitating a dense crush about the doors of the convention hall and keeping busy the extra police detail assigned in anticipation of such a development.

By 3 o'clock, the announced hour of the afternoon session, the unrevered galleries were packed and nearly all the reserved seats lower down were occupied, only a few of the convention officials were on the platform.

The delegates came in with grave faces. The hour of opening formalities and amenities was over; the convention and the party were facing a crisis; and there was not a man or woman in the quiet, serious assemblage who did not carry on their countenance a visible recognition of the seriousness which the fight would raise in party history.

Continuing conferences among the leaders in a final effort to effect a reconciliation delayed the arrival on the floor of those whose word would go furthest in moulding the decision. The platform committee meeting in a hotel across the street in the garden, also was making another try at a compromise but the rank and file of the delegates appeared convinced that all of these endeavors were bound to be in vain and that the convention itself was in for a battle to a finish.

As three o'clock passed without indications that the session was about to be called to order, a report went about the convention hall that the platform committee might again ask for a delay and that an adjournment would be taken until Monday. No one seemed to know whether that might eventually be the decision.

A few minutes after the hour Chairman Walsh appeared on the platform and became the center of a group of whispering leaders.

On other parts of the big stage several arguments were in progress. Senator Ashburn of Arizona was in the midst of one group loudly declaring his hope that the party would not equivocate in its denunciation of the Klan.

It was much warmer in the garden and floor and galleries again were affluster with fans and newspapers. Meantime squabbles over seats were proceeding freely in the galleries.

At three-twenty Finis Gannett of Tennessee, the democratic leader in the house of representatives sent word to his delegation that it would be at least an hour before the platform committee, of which he is a member would be ready to bring in its report. The officials of the platform receiving similar reports, kept killing time despite the fact that by now nearly all the seats in the delegate section were occupied.

During the wait the Smith people sent scouts among the various delegations friendly to the New York governor to test out sentiments on a proposition to delay action on the Klan plank until after a presidential nominee had been selected. The Smith managers did not expect to present the suggestion formally

unless they found before hand that it would carry and after a canvass of the situation they virtually abandoned the proposal because of the opposition that developed.

Negotiations also were in progress on the floor over the time that should be allowed speakers on the Klan plank. George Brennan of Illinois, Norman E. Mack, of New York and other leaders for an out and out condemnation of the Klan objected to a suggestion made at first to limit former Secretary Colby to 30 minutes for the presentation of his argument on that side of the question and for a similar limit on the opposing speech of William Jennings Bryan. Mr. Colby himself, however, was said later to have agreed to a limit of 15 minutes for his speech. He will be seconded by Francis X. Bush of Illinois, Edmund Moore of Ohio and others.

Brennan sent word to the platform that if there were prolonged gallery demonstrations during the debate, he and the leaders associated with him would insist that the galleries be cleared.

At 3:49 o'clock p. m. the platform committee meeting broke up, its members having agreed to disagree on the Klan proposition and throw the fight into the convention.

Committeemen found difficulty in forcing their way through the dense crowds about the entrances and there was a further delay while the results of the committee meeting were communicated to the Chairman on the convention platform.

As the 54 who sat on the committee reached the convention floor, one by one, each became the center of a serious faced group of his colleagues and efforts of sergeants-at-arms to quiet down the arena and induce the delegates to return to their seats went for nothing. The aisles through the delegates' session were jammed with disputants over the paramount issue of the convention and it seemed almost unbelievable that the throng could be brought to order without much effort and great difficulty.

By this time, too, the spectators who had jammed into the aisles in the galleries had become so numerous that the whole was one solid mass of sweltering expectant humanity. It was one of the largest crowds that ever packed itself into the historic old amphitheatre.

At 3:51 the chairman rapped for order and the crowd quieted down long enough to listen to a routine announcement by the convention secretary when the delegates and galleries realized, however, that the rapping of the gavel did not mean the beginning of the business for which they had assembled, there was an immediate reversion to the disorders of a few minutes before. The crowd growing impatient, broke into applause on general principles and the band kept them cheering by crashing into "Dixie."

Continuing their conferences the leaders began at last that the debate on the Klan plank be limited to two hours with an hour for each side and that a similar allotment of time be given the debate over the league plank.

That was the proposal of the platform committee. A few minutes later William Jennings Bryan who had been working day and night to effect a Klan compromise in the platform committee and its sub-committee came down the center aisle amid a crash of cheering and took a place beside the chairman. It was his first appearance on the platform of this convention, and the delegates gave him a loud welcome.

Just as 4 o'clock, Senator Walsh again rapped for order and this time the session actually was under way. Rabbi Stephen S. Wise of New York, pronounced the invocation, praying that divine providence would "guide the decisions of the convention and help us to be brotherly and kind to each other, but no less courageous for the right."

There was a wave of handclapping after the prayer as Rabbi Wise, who had taken the place on the New York delegation vacated by the death of Charles F. Murphy, of Tammany hall returned to his seat on the convention floor.

Another widespread consultation of the leaders on the platform was in progress. It came on that William R. Patterson of Maine who had seconded the nomination of Senator Underwood had been selected to actually present the minority report of the Klan plank to be defended later by Secretary Colby in debate.

The delay in completing details of the arrangement took so long that the band was given the signal to take over proceedings. It did some good as a soothing melody, as its leader had determined that there should be at least one element of peace and quiet in the convention.

More police were brought into the hall, so that the circular rank of blue-clad rangers from spectators and separating delegates from the officers stood shoulder to shoulder. Others were scattered liberally throughout the galleries and in the aisles of the convention floor.

When things were all set for the big fight, Homer Cummings of Connecticut, chairman of the platform committee, took the speakers' stand and began amid more cheering to read the platform as agreed upon by the committee majority.

"When I have read it," he said, "I shall move its adoption without amendment or amendment."

The platform is an eulogy to Woodrow Wilson and many undisturbed planks at the beginning of the reading of the platform were greeted with applause, but the outbursts were short-lived as the hearers were lured up for the more bitterly disputed party issues and they appeared anxious for the chairman to come to them.

Weak from loss of sleep in his efforts to bring the committee into agreement, Chairman Cummings found the reading of the long document very difficult and when he had been on his feet for twenty minutes he turned the manuscript over to committee secretary, who put on a pair of horned rimmed spectacles and went on with the reading.



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LOCAL NEWS

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HERRIOT MINISTRY IN DANGER FALL

(Associated Press Leased Wire.) PARIS, June 28.—The Herriot ministry was placed in a dangerous position this afternoon when the socialists refused to vote appropriations for the forces of occupation in the Ruhr, whereupon the premier proposed the question of confidence and part of the socialists abstained from voting.

\$5.00 down and \$5.00 a month places a Royal Vacuum Cleaner in your home. Hudson Electric Store.

This is a Studebaker year.

AIR PASSENGERS REASSURED

SANTA MONIC, Cal., June 28.—A total of more than 10,000 airplane flights from Clover Field in 12 months resulted in only three accidents, according to the records, and from this the argument is advanced that flying is safer than automobile riding. The reckless aviator and the stunt flyer are said to be responsible for the prevailing delusions about the danger of flying.

Fill your coal bin now. Page Lumber & Fuel Company.

American fence and barb wire at Wharton Bros.

YOUTHS CHARGED LARCENY

(Associated Press Leased Wire.) SALEM, June 27.—Two Portland youths Clifford Smith, 158 Echo St., and Claude Hendrix, 421 Forest Ave., will go before the Marion county juvenile court here to face charges of larceny.

Yesterday afternoon they were arrested by local police after they had been accused of thefts from two local stores.

An up to date electric water plant at a bargain. Zigler-Fee Hdw. Co.

THREE GERMAN EXECUTIONERS SUICIDES IN AS MANY MONTHS (By Associated Press.) ERKNER, Prussia, June 28.—Executioner Krantz, who recently killed himself in this village, is the third executioner to meet death by suicide in Germany within three months. Krantz had cut off the heads of 125 prisoners, while Schwietz and Spaeth, the two Prussian executioners who ended their own lives, had carried out only 123 and 48 executions respectively. In his last years Krantz wandered about the villages of Prussia, telling stories of the 125 persons he had put to death, and suffered many delusions. He slept with his executioner's hat on his head, and said he was to rest without it. Krantz regarded gallows as art and was always trying to perfect himself in its practice. He had Schwietz executed, a Prussian executioner, at the minister of their craft and letters with him. Cement chimneys and blocks—Page Lumber and Fuel Company. We can furnish canvas tubing sizes for conveying water for fire purposes. Wharton Bros.

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