

COBB STILL IS PUZZLE TO COBB

Divulging of "Great Secret" by Secretary Impresses Writer Strangely.

REYNOLDS' DUTY IS DONE

Then Ensur Other Formalities, and After Them Keynote Is Struck.

Chairman's Physical Proportions Impressive.

BY IRVIN S. COBB. (Copyright, 1916, by the Central Press Association.)

CHICAGO, June 7.—(Special.)—Metaphysically, this Republican convention, which got under way here today, remains a puzzle yet. Its outcome is in the hands of the gods, the little tin gods. But physically I deem it to be worth a passing paragraph or so, for regardless of its merits or its demerits, the spectacle of either of the majority parties in convention assembled is the sight of a lifetime, even though it does not periodically recur every four years.



Irvin S. Cobb.

To get the picture in your mind, you are to create the image of half an enormous sugar-cask. It is the largest sugar-cask that ever was. This cask has been sawed through its middle circumference from end to end, and set on its flat surface with the rounded part uppermost for a roof. Except that the staves run crosswise instead of lengthwise, the resemblance is perfect. The half-moons of the barrel headings form the two ends. The main platform is at one of these ends, the handstands at the other.

Coliseum Semblance Completed. Now then we cut any number of little holes in the sides and ends, close to the earth, and we adorn the interior of our great half-hoghead with flags and favorite sons and other decorative and patriotic objects, and behold! there is your Coliseum all ready for business.

It is the hour of opening the vast building. As yet it is practically empty, being populated scatteringly by neutrals, meaning by that, politicians, early bird correspondents and ushers. It is possible now to get an adequate impression of its main physical features—the low gallery, fronts heavily bandaged with bunting, the clusters of electric lights hanging in clumps like so many big, luminous damson plums, the standards of the various states rising at intervals like leafless saplings in a plowfield, with the rows of vacant chairs below to suggest the surrows.

Only one picture hangs upon the walls. From behind the main platform, high up in the rounded vault, a portrait of Abraham Lincoln gazes down. Viewed from a distance, there appears to be a pendant, indeed a melancholy expression in the face of the great emancipator. Perhaps his painted likeness is reflecting upon the large number of present-day politicians who are engaged in looking as he looked and the excessively small number who are engaged in acting as he acted.

Running lengthwise of the building, following the roof combing and running crosswise of it, following the rafter lines and extending down to where the rafters turn into arched girders, like ribs, are frillings of cloth, the cloth being either red, white or pumpkin colored. The result is the spine of the Coliseum is outlined with a broad, yellow streak, this I take it, being a subtle tribute to the chief characteristic of the average party leader, be his party whichever one it may.

Band Arrives, Crowds Pour In. The bandmen enter, and ascending to a little gallery which clings like an overgrown mud-dauber's nest against the far wall, they begin to earn their pay by playing a medley of popular airs. For a while they perform mainly to the echoing spaces. The sound of their playing rumbles and roars in waves away up there under the dome. But not for long.

Through all the openings the crowds are pouring in, the leaders and the led, the boomers and the boomed; the uncrowned kings and the uncrowned wild asses; the big man that everybody recognized by sight and the little man that got a gallery seat, heaven alone knows how, and every fifth man is a woman.

The balconies cease to be vacant ledges in a cave and they become, instead, long circling strips of honey-comb all around with black and white human bees. The floor spaces sprout up thickly with a close stubble of delegates and the Republican convention reserved for the National committee and for the notables of the party turns magnificently into an enormous hanging garden filled with a growth that appears to waver and nod as those already in their places shift to permit the passage of those who enter the narrow aisles of more belated arrivals.

Quiet Reigns, for Time. Except, though, for the mingling of the thousands of voices, the clatter-clatter of the thousands of feet upon the floors and stairs, and the rustle of restless bodies, the building is quiet with an almost uncanny quiet, in this, the first phase of this, the first day of the convention.

Even the delegates, filling in group by group, as strangely silent, as if descending from them there is mighty little. But, then, we must remember that, politically speaking, the average Republican does his cheering these times on an empty stomach. He has been herded

Be Careful in Using Soap on Your Hair. Most soaps and prepared shampoos contain too much alkali, which is very injurious, as it dries the scalp and makes the hair brittle.

The best thing to use is just plain mulsified coconut oil, for it is pure and entirely greaseless. It's very cheap, and beats the most expensive soaps or anything else you can get. You can get this at any drug store, and a few ounces will last the whole family for months. Simply moisten the hair with water and rub it in, about a teaspoonful is all that is required. It makes an abundance of rich, creamy lather, cleanses thoroughly and rinses out easily. The hair dries quickly and evenly, and is soft, fresh looking, bright, fluffy, wavy, and easy to handle. Besides, it loosens and takes out every particle of dust, dirt and dandruff.—Adv.

BUSINESS FIRST, IS REPUBLICAN PLAN

Convention Quick to Dispatch Preliminaries and There Are No Outbursts.

OLD LEADERS UNNOTICED

Many Who Once Formulated Party Policies Are Unknown to Majority of Delegates—Temporary Organization Permanent.

CHICAGO, June 7.—The Republican National Convention assembled in the Coliseum today, heard a keynote speech delivered by Senator Harding, of Ohio, perfected an organization and adjourned until 11 o'clock tomorrow. It all took two hours and in its lack of demonstration or outbursts and its strict attention to the business in hand was reminiscent of the Philadelphia convention of 1900 that nominated McKinley and Roosevelt.

For an hour and twenty minutes Senator Harding, the temporary chairman, delivered a carefully prepared speech, punctuated in the telling points with brief periods of hand-clapping and applause. At no time did a demonstration occupy more than half a minute by the watch.

Old-Time Leaders Unrecognized.

The convention was 25 minutes behind the hour arranged for its assembly, but when Chairman Hillis, of the Republican National Committee, brought down his gavel at 11:25 o'clock events moved quietly and with precision until adjournment at 1:25. Those of the old-time leaders present who used to march down the aisles to their seats to the tune of an up-tempo march in today almost unrecognized. W. Murray Crane, Senator Lodge, Reed Smoot and a lot of the others came in unnoticed, probably because a majority of the delegates did not even know them by sight. Chauncey Depew was surrounded by a small admiring group, Senator Penrose got a reception from his own delegation. Governor Whitford was recognized by some, but on the whole the convention was more occupied with wondering what was going on in the Auditorium than it was in the arrival of the men who hitherto have decided what the convention should do with itself.

Opening Is Uneventful.

The hour for assembling was set for 11 o'clock but there was no semblance of order at that time and no one made any pretense of securing it. The delegates stood about the floor and talked, the spectators overflowed into the spaces reserved for the delegates and hundreds of seats on the floor and in the galleries were empty. Finally Chairman Hillis gave the signal for the convention to order and the uniformed police began moving about, urging the delegates into their places.

Finally Chairman Hillis brought down the gavel with three resounding whacks and quiet settled down over the big hall.

The hour of 11 o'clock having arrived and a quorum being present, said he, "the convention will be in order. The first order of business is the reading of the report of the late President McKinley, this is a year—whatever may have been true of past years—when politics is patriotism and patriotism is politics. Therefore the audience will please rise and sing two verses of America."

Formalities Are Completed.

The band leaped into the air and led by a quartet, the floor and galleries joined in a mighty chorus that swept through the big Coliseum. There was a moment of confusion at the end of the singing as the delegates found their seats again, and then Rev. John Timothy Stone, of Chicago, read a prayer. The big audience remained seated at his request. Secretary Reynolds then read the call for the convention, which was published last December, and was only a formality. None of the delegates wanted to hear it, so they talked and moved about while Mr. Reynolds was on. That over, Chairman Hillis presented Senator Harding, of Ohio, as temporary chairman and put the question of adjournment.

A rolling chorus of "ayes" swept the hall, and ex-Senator Crane, Senator Borah of Idaho and ex-Representative McKinley were appointed delegates to escort Mr. Harding to the platform. The Idaho delegation announced that Senator Borah was unavoidably absent, so Mr. Crane and Mr. McKinley marched up with Mr. Harding. His appointment was the signal for the first genuine outburst of applause, but not so loud and he plunged into his prepared speech, appealing for harmony, counseling the delegates that it was not a

CONVENTION QUICK TO DISPATCH PRELIMINARIES AND THERE ARE NO OUTBURSTS.

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DR. ANDERSON SEEKS CHAIR

Father of Dry Law Is Campaigning for 1917 Speakership.

THE DALLES, Or., June 7.—(Special.)—Dr. J. E. Anderson, the author of the Anderson bill, which formed the foundation of the present state-wide prohibition law, has announced his candidacy for the speakership of the 1917 Legislature.

Dr. Anderson, following out the idea of R. N. Stanfield, of Umatilla, has inaugurated a state-wide letter-writing campaign. He is writing to nominees, warmly congratulating them and asking their support for the speakership. The advent of Dr. Anderson in the field gives Eastern Oregon and Central Oregon each a candidate. R. N. Stanfield, of Umatilla County, and L. E. Bean, of Lane County, previously had been announced. It is said here that George C. Brownell, of Clackamas, also will be a candidate.

RIVAL TICKETS PROBABLE

(Continued From First Page.)

all delegates instructed for others. They became eager to go to him as soon as they could secure release from their pledges. The Hughes managers tonight reiterated their assertion that he will have about 300 votes on the first ballot. Frank H. Hitchcock said there would be no contest for the speakership on the first ballot and that it was their desire to have all the favorite son delegates deliver their complimentary votes. He said, however, he would vote to such proportions that his nomination would almost certainly be made on the third ballot. Many of the Hughes supporters were even more optimistic and said they thought that before the result of the second ballot was announced the drift would be apparent to all delegates and there would be enough changes of votes to bring a nomination on the second ballot.

Contingency Not Considered.

When the Hughes tide became apparent late tonight many inquiries were made of those who are supposed to speak for him as to whether his acceptance in case of a nomination would be in any sense contingent on a third party nomination by the Progressives. The answer was that such a contingency would in nowise be taken into consideration by Mr. Hughes.

It seems practically certain that the Progressive convention will again nominate Colonel Roosevelt as its chief standard-bearer, and it is not at all unlikely that Governor Johnson also will be nominated. The more conservative will be the same as in 1912—Roosevelt and Johnson.

Many of the Progressive leaders argue that they have no course other than to name their former ticket, as efforts to reach an agreement with the Republicans for a return to the older party have failed. The more conservative representatives of the Progressive party hope to forestall action in the convention until Friday. The convention today having gone over until 3 P. M. tomorrow, they plan to occupy the entire afternoon session, if they can, with a discussion of a platform and other questions. The effort to delay making a nomination is because a few of the leaders still profess that there is some prospect of reaching an agreement with the Republican managers.

Conference Plan Opposed.

Neither the Republican nor Progressive convention appointed committees today to confer with each other respecting peace plans, as had been expected. They may do so tomorrow, but there is opposition in both conventions to such a course. Both feared difficulty in selecting the personnel of any conference committees.

Before the demonstration for Colonel Roosevelt in the Progressive convention today it was suggested that the party might name a candidate other than Colonel Roosevelt and that later, if the Republicans named Justice Hughes and his letter of acceptance proved satisfactory, the Progressive candidate could withdraw in the interest of harmony and a united front to the Democratic party at the polls would be presented. This plan, however, has been abandoned.

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TICKET OFFICES

ARIZONA WILL REED

GOVERNOR WHITMAN TO PLACE HUGHES IN NOMINATION.

Ex-Senator Fulton, of Oregon, Gets Honor of Making Only Seconding Speech for Justice.

CONVENTION HALL, Chicago, June 7.—(Special.)—By common consent of the Hughes delegates, including those from Oregon, Governor Whitman of New York, will make the speech placing Justice Hughes in nomination before the Republican convention and by the same consent and agreement ex-Senator Fulton, of Oregon, will make the only seconding speech. For the time the Oregon delegation contended that by reason of its unique position in the convention one of its members should nominate. Delegates of this idea was abandoned when it was found that Hughes supporters generally held to the view that the New York delegate should be named by a delegate from his own state.

As a majority of the Alabama delegation is not now favorable to Hughes, the plan is to have Alabama pass on the call of states and Arizona, the second state, will yield to New York. Whitman, as chairman of the delegation, will be recognized. There has been considerable clamor from various delegations for recognition that they might second the nomination of Justice Hughes, but it was agreed this afternoon that only one seconding speech would be made, and by practically unanimous consent this honor was accorded ex-Senator Fulton, in recognition of Oregon's part in furthering the Hughes candidacy.

It also was decided today by the Hughes delegates that no attempt will be made to force the nomination of Hughes in the second ballot. Delegates favoring Hughes, but pledged or instructed for other candidates, will cast their first ballots for those candidates but with the complimentary vote out of the way, the Hughes procession is scheduled to start. It seems possible that Hughes may be nominated on the second ballot; his nomination on not later than the third ballot is predicted by prominent members of his following here. In fact, there is no expectation among Hughes men that the balloting will go beyond a third ballot.

Reward Offered in Idaho.

GRANGEVILLE, Idaho, June 7.—(Special.)—Governor Alexander today offered \$100 reward each for the capture of the two convicts who escaped from the convict camp at White Bird Sunday.

Measure your gasoline cost not only by gallons put into your tank, but by the miles registered on your speedometer.

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