

FIRST CONVENTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Came Into Existence During Second Administration of Washington in 1796—Reigned Supreme for Over 60 Years—Civil War Changed Situation.

By FRÉDÉRIC J. HASKIN.
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Washington, July 4.—Seventy-six years ago the first Democratic national convention met in Baltimore. The Democratic party was old, even then, but conventions were new. The most remarkable feature of the Democratic party, historically considered, is its vitality. It came into a definite and separate existence during the second Washington administration and placed its first candidate for president in the field in 1796. Four years later it was successful in the election and entered upon a lease of power that was all but unbroken for 60 years. It buried the Federalist party, witnessed the death of the Whigs, smothered a half dozen smaller opposition parties and was supreme until 1860.

Dividing within itself in that year, the party permitted the success of the then four-year-old Republican party. The civil war followed, and for 48 years the Republicans have had practically unbroken control of the government. But despite defeats, despite dissensions, despite disorganizations, the Democratic party still lives and will gather in its twentieth quadrennial convention in Denver this week.

It has been said that the Democratic party is a sentiment, the Republican party an organization. However true such a characterization may be in this day, the Democrats were the authors of the political organizations and methods which are universally practiced, if not approved, in American politics. The first convention held at Baltimore 76 years ago was the beginning of the present era of political procedure.

The honor of holding the first national nominating convention belongs to the defunct anti-Masonic party. That body met in Baltimore in September, 1831, and nominated William Wirt as a candidate to oppose Andrew Jackson for reelection in the campaign of 1832. The Whigs held the second convention, meeting in Baltimore on May 15, 1832, nominating Henry Clay. The Democrats held their meeting on May 21. Thus it was that Baltimore entertained the first three national conventions within a period of a few months. The national convention system dates from this period, although the Federalists did hold a sort of mass convention in 1812, to nominate DeWitt Clinton, a bolting Democrat, for President.

The Democrats at Denver will meet in a great auditorium prepared especially for the purpose of entertaining vast assemblages. The first Democratic convention met in Athenaeum hall in Baltimore, but it proved too small, so the delegates voted to adjourn to the Universalist church, at which the sessions were held.

The first convention was called for the express and only purpose of nominating a candidate for vice-president. Andrew Jackson was to be the nominee for president and nobody questioned it.

There was some dispute, however, about second place on the ticket. Therefore Old Hickory decided to have a convention called to settle the dispute, mace-rate John Calhoun and give the stamp of approval to his own personal choice—Martin Van Buren of New York.

The very first action of the first Democratic convention was to admit a delegation from the District of Columbia, despite the fact that the citizens of the district had no vote. The second action taken was the adoption of a Declaration of Independence, to take a seat in the convention. The venerable patriot declined the honor on account of his physical weakness, but received the delegates in a body at his home. The convention appointed a committee on organization and adjourned until the next day.

That committee on organization was composed of but three men, and their report was less than a hundred words long, but it was a history-making document. The report recommended Robert Lucas of Ohio for chairman and proposed a rule "that two thirds of the whole number of votes given be required for a nomination." This rule was the beginning of the famous two thirds rule which still obtains in the Democratic conventions.

Voted by Ballot.
The delegates voted by ballot, each man having one vote. Those were the days of stagecoach and horseback travel, so that the distant states were not so well represented as the nearer ones. Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania and New Jersey had a vast majority over all the other states. But there was little sentiment of the scheme of apportionment, and the delegates voted by ballot, walking to the secretary's desk and depositing a folded and secret ballot. If that system had obtained until now there is little doubt but that the consequences of many a preliminary presidential race would have been different.

The first ballot resulted: Martin Van Buren 295, R. M. Johnson 26 and Philip B. Barbour 12. The Sage of Kinderhook had received two thirds and was declared the nominee for vice-president, by a resolution adopted unanimously. Another resolution was adopted which declared that the delegates in convention cordially concurred in the repeated nominations of Andrew Jackson as a candidate for reelection, as made by various state legislatures and conventions.

Party in Power.
The convention on the next day laid the foundation of a continuing party organization by creating a national committee. It was called "national committee" and was composed of several men from each state. This committee did not have the authority of the national committee of today, but it was entrusted with the work of pushing the campaign for the Jackson nomination in the various states. Sixty years later the national convention reorganized this committee by limiting its membership to one for each state, giving it the power to fill vacancies and changing its name to the Democratic national committee, which has maintained its organization ever since.

Having fulfilled the purpose for which it was created, the convention adjourned. It was a small affair, com-

pared to the immense gatherings at Chicago and Denver in the good year 1908, but that first convention was a sample of many which have followed it. In the first place, its actions were dictated from the White House, just as other conventions have been ruled from that mansion in later days. Jackson thoroughly dominated the meeting, and none but tried and true Jacksonians were put on guard. John H. Eaton of Tennessee, Jackson's secretary of war, was in the convention and it was he who pulled the strings, assisted by John Overton, another Tennesseean and a neighbor of Jackson.

The Spoils System.
Jackson had just recently introduced the "spoils system" and federal office holding was beginning to be a prize object of political activity. Just after the civil war the old colonial system of arranging the roll of states was in general use; that is the list was read geographically from the north to the south. Thus Maine had the first place on the roll now occupied by Alabama, by reason of its alphabetical advantage. In the list of delegates to that first convention the Maine contingent comes first. And leading the delegation was "Jeremiah Goodwin, Esq., Postmaster of Alfred."

The opposition papers immediately denounced the convention and the nomination of Van Buren as the work of a handful of office holders who were subservient to the executive. The House tyrant, and whose patriotism had been swallowed up and lost in their greed. Verily, the big stick and the sublimated patriotism of the time were neither new nor strange to the careful readers of political history.

An incident noteworthy incident of this first convention was that it marked the last time the Democratic party used the title "Republican." When the party first came into existence during Washington's administration it assumed the name "Democratic-Republican" as representative of its faith in the dual nature of the government under the constitution, which guaranteed Democratic self-government at the state and established a Republican representative government for the federal union.

Popular Usage.
In popular usage the name was too long, so it became the fashion to use only the latter half, "Republican." This custom prevailed for many years, and while the first Baltimore convention officially convened under the name of the "Democratic-Republican party," it was known by the delegates themselves and by the press as the "Republican convention." Under the Monroe administration the last vestige of opposition to the party had died out; but when John Quincy Adams was elected president by the house of representatives, a division soon took place. The Adams followers assumed the name "National Republican" as the title of their organization which opposed the old party.

The names of the two parties being so much alike, it wasn't long until the people tired of the confusion. In 1822 when both parties held their first conventions they clung to the names "Democratic-Republican" and "National Republican." Before another election came around the old party had dropped the word "Republican" and became known by its present title of "Democratic," while the opposition had discarded the clumsy "National Republican" for the simple title of "Whig."

It is a far cry from Baltimore in 1832 to Denver in 1908. In that interval there have been many battles, many victories, many defeats. But the Democratic party has survived the corruption bred of long-ruled power, the wreck of civil war, the discouragement of repeated defeats, the declination of intestine strife. The Baltimore convention was its first, but whether November brings defeat or victory the Denver convention will not be its last.

Through Sleeper to Chicago.
On Monday morning, July 6, the O. R. & N. will run an additional sleeper from Portland to Chicago, leaving Portland at 8:30 o'clock. This is on the fast train which runs through to Chicago in 70 hours. Reservations for sleeping car reservations can be had at the city ticket office, Third and Washington streets.

NEWS FORECAST OF COMING WEEK

Democratic Convention and the Fleet's Start—Conventions and Sports.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Washington, July 4.—During the coming week a large part of public attention will be absorbed in the proceedings of the Democratic national convention in Denver. The apparent certainty of the nomination of William J. Bryan for the presidency is not expected to lessen public interest in the convention. The completion of the ticket is awaited with eager interest, as is also the construction of the party platform. The sessions will begin Tuesday and probably will continue until Friday.

On the same day that the Democratic convention is called to order in Denver the American battleship fleet will sail from San Francisco for the trip around the world. The first stopping place of the fleet will be Honolulu, which port will be reached July 16.

The battleship South Carolina, now building at the Cramps shipyard, will be launched next Saturday. The vessel is of 16,000 tons displacement and is a sister ship to the Michigan, launched several weeks ago.

A number of large conventions are scheduled for the week, among them being a national good roads and legislative convention at Buffalo, the annual congress of the American Whist league in New York City, the convention of the national Baptist Young People's union in Cleveland, and the annual meeting of the Federation of American Zionists in Atlantic City.

Aboard there will be a number of events of more or less interest to American readers. The international rifle meeting, in which both the United States and Canada will be represented, will begin at Hiesley, Wednesday, and continue three days.

At Bristol King Edward will attend the formal inauguration of the new Royal Edward dock, which has been constructed by the corporation of Bristol at a cost of about £2,000,000.

The automobile grand prix is to be run Monday and Tuesday over the Dieppe circuit in France. Germany, France, England, Belgium, Italy and the United States will be represented in the contest.

The so-called Lambeth conference of Anglican bishops will be in session in London, with delegates present from all parts of the world.

Emperor William will depart Tuesday on his usual summer cruise in Norwegian waters. It is understood that his majesty will, during the cruise, have a meeting with King Haakon.

Hon. W. A. Carter, formerly of Gold Hill, Jackson county, but now residing at Salem, who has opened law offices at 601 and 602 the Corbett building, Mr. Carter comes well recommended by both bench and bar as an attorney of unquestioned integrity and splendid ability. He has been prominently identified with the business and professional interests of Gold Hill for the past 12 years, and is an ex-member of the Oregon legislature. He is prominent in political and fraternal circles and has a very extensive acquaintance throughout the state. Mr. Carter will move his family to Portland as soon as a new home can be built, plans of which are now being prepared. He will be associated in the practice of law with ex-Senator E. B. Dufur, formerly of The Dalles, Or., but now a practicing attorney of this city.

A skin cream secured using Satin skin cream and Satin skin face powder. See.

EAGLE IS SCREAMING IN THE CANAL ZONE

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Ancon, Canal Zone, July 4.—Americans in the canal zone are celebrating Independence day with all the enthusiasm of a 10-year-old boy "back home." Practically every American on the Isthmus is here today witnessing the amateur races, which began at 9 o'clock this morning, and are scheduled to end at 5 o'clock this afternoon. The celebration today is the most successful event of the kind ever held on the Isthmus, more than \$1,500 having been expended by the committee on arrangements. The program includes races, wall scaling contests, tests in marksmanship, a run by the fire department, broncho busting and hurdles.

VESSEL NOT HEARD OF SINCE THE COLLISION

(United Press Leased Wire.)
San Pedro, Cal., July 4.—It was reported here today that the steamer Saginaw is believed to have been badly damaged and possibly sent to the bottom in a collision with the steam schooner Zampa in a dense fog off San Pedro harbor yesterday afternoon. The Zampa collided with a strange steamer in the fog, and was so badly damaged she had to signal for help.

Klamath Tennis Tournament

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Klamath Falls, Or., July 4.—A tennis tournament known as the Middle Pacific tournament is now being held here. Several out-of-town players are participating. Henry Crosby seems to be the strongest player. The Klamath agency has sent down six players. A silver cup will be presented the winner, and other silver pieces will be awarded the winners of the individual games.

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OUR BEST PLAIN PLATE \$5.00
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Teeth extracted free when other work is ordered. Nervous people and those afflicted with heart weakness need have no fear whatever. Our method, too, of filling teeth robs dentistry of all its terrors and makes the filling of a tooth absolutely painless.

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If you do, have us make them over and reset the teeth on a new plate, that will give your mouth and face natural expression.

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We Believe That Millions in Gold Will Yet Be Milled From the Monster Quartz Deposits in the Poticie Mines!

They are of marvelous richness. We have proven this by actual tests of ore. Assays running at \$23.62, \$46.56, \$62.23, \$108.56 and \$240.71 ought to satisfy the most voracious commercial or monetary appetite. When it is considered that the ore is free milling, save from \$8 to \$12 per ton as compared with smelting, it is easy for the mining man to see that our claims are almost as full of fortunes as the sky is of stars.

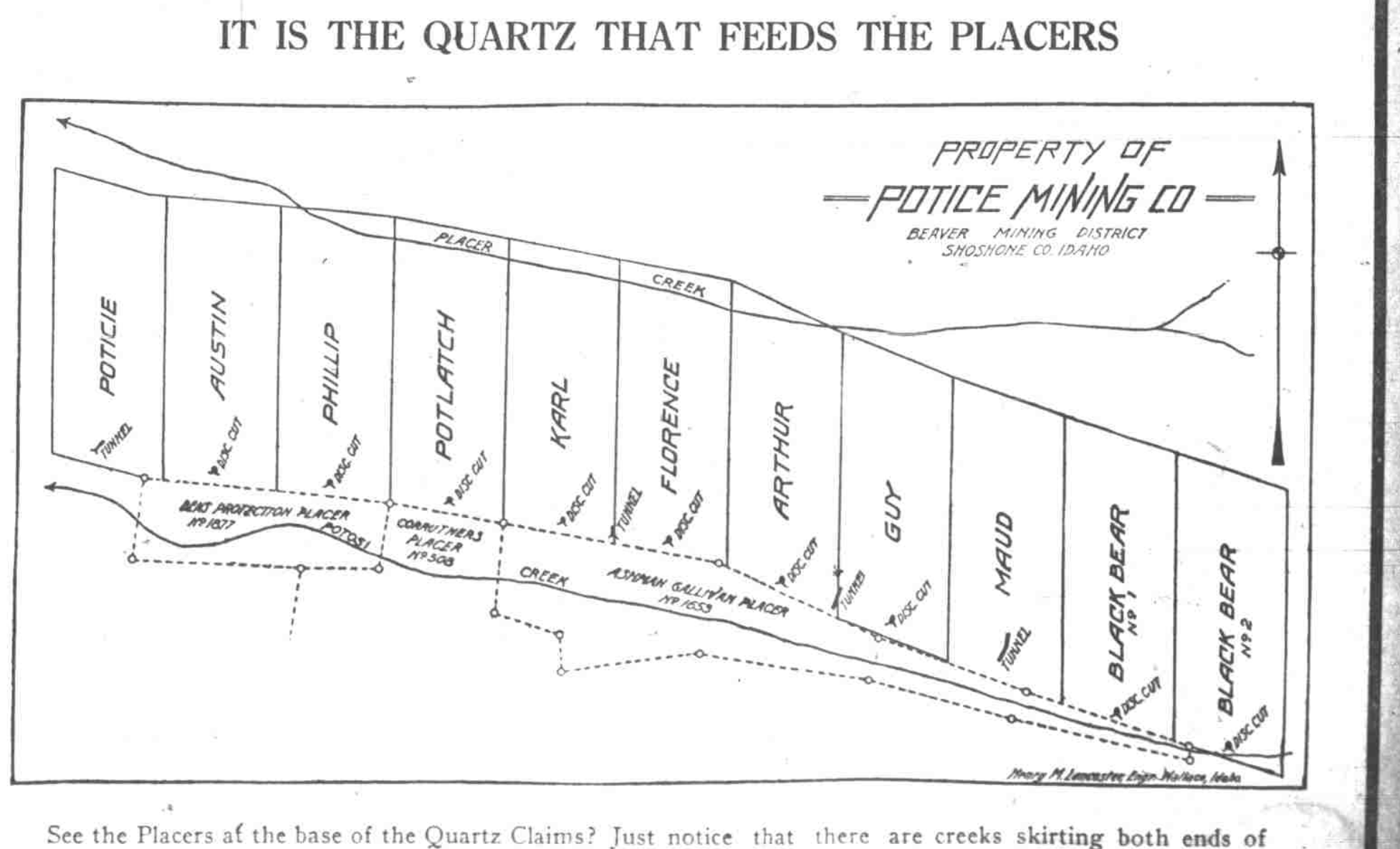
But These Prices and These Terms Will Not Last Long, We Can Tell You That.

Yet there are some who will not believe this. Every gold mine proposition yet placed upon this market has had the same experience. Warning has been given that prices would be raised or stock taken from the market, and some intending to buy "later on" would comfort themselves with the reflection that "they don't mean it—I'll wait a while." They waited—and lost. WILL THE READER OF THESE WORDS BE ANOTHER OF THESE?

PRICES OF SHARES AND TERMS OF PAYMENTS

\$ 25 buys 250 shares	\$ 2.50 down and \$ 2.50 monthly.
\$ 50 buys 500 shares	\$ 5.00 down and \$ 5.00 monthly.
\$ 60 buys 600 shares	\$ 6.00 down and \$ 6.00 monthly.
\$ 70 buys 700 shares	\$ 7.00 down and \$ 7.00 monthly.
\$ 80 buys 800 shares	\$ 8.00 down and \$ 8.00 monthly.
\$ 90 buys 900 shares	\$ 9.00 down and \$ 9.00 monthly.
\$100 buys 1000 shares	\$10.00 down and \$10.00 monthly.

The same proportion of payments will prevail on larger amounts of stock purchased. Five per cent discount where purchases are made on the all-cash basis. These prices are subject to increase without notice, but will hold stock a reasonable time upon receipt of letter or wire.



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