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NO 88

WILSON IS INDORSED

RESOLUTION IS PASSED BY OVERWHELMING VOTE.

BOUND TO VOTE AS UNIT

This Will Give the Delegates to Wilson, as a Large Majority of Its Members Are For Him, and Under the Unit Rule Will Vote It for Him.

The South Carolina Democratic convention, after a long and interrupted session, late Wednesday night adopted a resolution indorsing the candidacy of Gov. Woodrow Wilson, of New Jersey for president, elected vice-presidents and then turned to the election of delegates. The principal fight on the floor of the convention was on the question of instructing delegates.

The sentiment of the convention was very largely in favor of Gov. Wilson, as evidenced in the vote on the resolution of indorsement, but the Wilson force were unable to muster a majority when it came to a question of instructing the delegates lacking only sixteen votes. Long and warmly the contest was waged, with speeches and points of order the ammunition, and with frequent bursts of applause puncturing the deliberations.

Meeting at noon Wednesday the convention organized by the appointment of the credentials, with Wendell L. Smith of Kershaw in the chair. The credentials committee appointed, the convention took a recess to allow the committee to proceed with its work, the most important feature of which was the decision of the contests from Charleston and Georgetown.

In the former case the Barnwell delegation, proponents of J. Elmore Martin for sheriff of Charleston county, was seated by a vote of 36 to 0. In the Georgetown case the "court house club," representing the forces of "Old Georgetown," was seated by a vote of 36 to 4. The convention reconvened at 8 o'clock and Thos. G. McLeod, former lieutenant governor, was elected permanent president. M. M. Mann and James A. Hoyt, temporary secretaries, were made permanent officers.

Then, with the convening of the regular session of the convention came the opening fight. The first clash on instruction came on the floor. It having been decided that the presidential fight should be made in open convention, without reference to committees, John P. Thomas, acting for the Barnwell delegation, precipitated the fight, offering a resolution instructing for Woodrow Wilson.

D. S. Henderson for the Aiken delegation, offered a resolution against instruction for any candidate. This resolution was finally adopted. Before either the Henderson or Thomas resolutions came up for adoption H. D. Calhoun of Barnwell, offered a substitute for instruction. This was beaten, 218 to 122.

Then the Henderson resolution was adopted, 178 to 122. This forbade instruction. Unfettered, the Wilson forces, through J. W. Ragsdale, offered a resolution of indorsement. This was adopted, 241 to 97. Cheers greeted the announcement of the vote. Then, with the most serious deliberative functions of the convention disposed of, the convention proceeded to the election of delegates at large.

John P. Thomas of Columbia, opened the fight offering resolutions indorsing Wilson and instituting the delegation for him.

D. S. Henderson, on behalf of the Aiken delegation, offered resolution favoring an unrestricted delegation. He said that he was an advocate of Woodrow Wilson, but that the party was above the candidate. He said Democrats should reserve their decision on a candidate until the Republicans had put their nominee in the field.

M. L. Smith, of Kershaw, said that he was in favor neither of instruction nor indorsement for any candidate at this time. He, too, said Woodrow Wilson was his first choice for president. He discussed the probable Democratic nominees.

"If you have confidence in the loyalty of those you send to Baltimore, why instruct?" asked Mr. Smith.

H. D. Calhoun, of Barnwell, said that the convention should go on record in some shape or form for Woodrow Wilson. He offered a substitute for both the Thomas and Henderson resolutions.

W. F. Stevenson, of Chesterfield, read an amendment to the Calhoun resolution providing that the South Carolina delegation might change to some other candidate than Woodrow Wilson by a two-thirds vote.

By a vote of 218 to 122, the convention rejected the Calhoun substitute resolution indorsing Wilson and allowed the South Carolina delegation to decide by a majority vote on another candidate should they find it expedient.

The question recurred upon the Henderson substitute resolution, which declared against instructing the delegation to vote for any candidate.

By a vote of 178 to 122, the convention agreed to the Henderson sub-

WILSON MEN PLEASED

DELEGATION PRACTICALLY INSTRUCTED FOR HIM.

Mr. Lewis W. Parker, of Greenville, Who Wants Underwood, Considers Himself Bound to Vote for Wilson.

Mr. Francis H. Weston, senator from Richland County and one of the most prominent advocates of Woodrow Wilson for president in South Carolina, who was elected an alternate delegate at large to the national Democratic convention, said Wednesday night that he was pleased with the results of the State Democratic convention.

"Of the 18 delegates to the Baltimore convention elected by South Carolina, 14 are Wilson men of the first water," said Senator Weston. "The convention expressed its preference for Wilson by an overwhelming individual vote and adopted a resolution requiring the delegates to the national convention to vote as a unit. This to all intents and purposes amounts to sending a delegation to Baltimore instructed to vote for Woodrow Wilson."

"I intend to introduce in the next session of the general assembly a bill which will give the people of South Carolina the right to express their preference for president of the United States much more definitely than they have been able to do for the last several years," declared Senator Weston.

Mr. Lewis W. Parker, of Greenville, elected a district delegate to the national convention, who first preferred Oscar Underwood for president, declared Thursday morning that he considered the indorsement of Wilson by individual vote of the State convention and the passage of the resolution requiring the delegates to vote as a unit equivalent to instruction for Wilson. Mr. Parker said he considered himself bound to vote for Wilson.

Mr. Parker said he was willing to change the wording of the indorsement resolution if it savored too strongly of instruction.

Mr. Clifton said that the Ragsdale resolution was entirely different from the Calhoun resolution, since it simply indorsed and adopted the unit voting rule.

Mr. Pollock made the point of order that the Ragsdale resolution was contradictory to the Henderson resolution which had been adopted.

Mr. Clifton said the fight on the Ragsdale resolution was an attack on the right of the people of South Carolina to express their preference for president.

President McLeod ruled that the Ragsdale resolution was in effect the same as that of the Thomas resolution and ruled it out of order.

Panemonium reigned for a few minutes.

Mr. Ragsdale announced that he had another resolution.

"Resolved, That this convention indorse Woodrow Wilson for president without instruction," shouted Mr. Ragsdale. "They can't quibble over that!"

"I move to table the motion," said M. L. Smith.

"I move that the convention vote as a unit and no as individuals," said G. W. Sullivan.

Mr. Sullivan's motion was carried.

Mr. Smith withdrew his motion to table the Ragsdale resolution and moved the previous question.

The roll was called and each member of the convention voted aye or no. The Ragsdale resolution was passed by a vote of 241 to 97. Mr. Ragsdale put on the "cellar."

John C. Sellers, of Marion, made the point of order that no vice-presidents had been chosen. He was sustained.

The following vice-presidents were elected from the congressional districts:

First district: T. W. Williams, Berkeley; Second district: J. W. DeLaughter; Third district: M. F. Ansel; Fourth district: M. F. Ansel; Fifth district: C. E. Spencer; Sixth district: J. B. Green; Seventh district: B. H. Moss.

B. R. Tillman was elected a member of the national executive committee. He was nominated by W. N. Graydon.

Elected State Chairman.

Thursday morning the State Democratic executive committee elected John Gary Evans of Spartanburg chairman; Col. D. J. Griffith, of Columbia, vice chairman. The chairman elect was empowered to select a secretary at a salary of \$150 each election year. Gen. Willie Jones was elected treasurer.



Governor Woodrow Wilson Indorsed Overwhelmingly by the State Democratic Convention Wednesday.

CHARGE OF ARSON

MELLENDAAR GOSNELL LODGED IN JAIL AT LANDRUM.

Follows Investigation of Burning of W. J. Gibson's Home When His Four Children Lost Their Lives.

Following an investigation by P. A. Wharton, inspector of the State insurance department, on the burning of the home of W. J. Gibson, of Landrum, charged with arson.

The insurance inspector has been conducting an investigation into the burning of the home of W. J. Gibson, of Landrum, on the morning of February 28, and has unearthed sufficient evidence to cause the arrest of Gosnell.

The burning of the home and the death of the four children was one of the most shocking tragedies in the history of this community. Mr. Gibson is a prominent farmer, a former member of the house of representatives, and one of the most widely known residents of this section of the State.

The children who lost their lives in the fire were: Hoch Gibson, 16 years of age; Annie Thomas Gibson, 14 years of age; Laura Gibson, 10 years of age; James Gibson, eight years of age.

Walter J. Gibson had gone to Greenville to attend the funeral of a kinsman leaving the four children at home. Their mother had died several years before and their stepmother the previous winter. The children spent the Sabbath with their sister, who lived a mile from their home, but had returned home at ten o'clock Sunday evening.

Neighbors were aroused by the roar of the flames in the early morning and when the first to reach the scene arrived at 1 o'clock the large two-story building was a mass of flames. The screams of the children were heard by those first on the scene.

Belton Reid dashed in amid the flames in an effort to save the children. As he entered the house James Gibson, the youngest child, fell from the second story to the floor beneath where Mr. Reid grasped him and carried him out. The child died that night.

The only origin of the fire that could be volunteered at the time was the possibility of a coal from a grate having started the blaze. Council was a former tenant of Mr. Gibson's plantation. He is a young man about 25 years of age.

Three Killed in Wreck.

Engineer E. P. Smith and an unknown negro girl were killed, and three others injured, when Southern Railway passenger train No. 11, running between Salisbury and Asheville was wrecked near Connally Springs shortly after noon Wednesday.

Tussle Ends in Tragedy.

H. H. Gibson, aged 16, was shot and instantly killed in Atlanta on Thursday by his brother, aged 19, in what is said to have been a friendly tussle for the possession of a rifle.

DELEGATES ELECTED

TILLMAN AND SMITH NAMED WITHOUT OPPOSITION.

Other Two Big Four and the District Delegates.

The State convention Wednesday elected Senator B. R. Tillman, of Sumter, and John Gary Evans, of Spartanburg, as delegates at large to the national Democratic convention.

Mr. Tillman was nominated at large by F. H. Dornier, of Sumter, and received 66 votes. The result of the balloting was: Manning, 207; Evans, 188; M. F. Ansel, 89; L. J. Browning, 68; C. E. Spencer, 62; E. H. Weston, 62. The following delegates were elected from the seven congressional districts:

First district—R. S. Whaley, of Charleston; Carlton Durant, of Manning; Alternates: A. G. Padgett, of Walterboro; H. H. Gross, of Orangeburg.

Second district—W. W. Williams, of Aiken; B. W. Crouch, of Saluda; Alternates: B. E. Nicholson, of Marlboro; Neils Christensen, of Orangeburg.

Third district—H. L. Watson, of Irwood; E. C. Doyle, of Easley; Alternates: R. F. Smith, of Pickens; B. B. Gossett, of Anderson.

Fourth district—Lewis W. Parker, of Greenville; S. T. D. Lancaster, of Spartanburg; Alternates: W. Mills Mornly, of Greenville; Ben Hill Brown, of Spartanburg.

Fifth district—W. M. Dunlay, of Rock Hill; J. W. Glenn, of Chester; Alternates: W. P. Pollock, of Cheraw; J. J. O'Beary, of Winnsboro.

Sixth district—W. T. Bethea, of Dillon; S. A. Woods, of Marion; Alternates: T. B. Gibson, of Marlboro; R. B. Scarborough, of Conway.

Seventh district—W. A. Sturkey, of Bishopville; A. B. Wingard, of Lexington; Alternates: J. P. Thomas, of Columbia; B. H. Moss, of Orangeburg.

This Is Political Year.

This is political year the country over, as well as in this state and county. This is not the first political year we have had, and will hardly be the last. Let us therefore, be careful not to say anything that will cause coolness between friends, or that will be regretted after the excitement has died away and every day existence is gone back into its normal, candid, but enthusiastic, if needs be, but do not let anything lead to vituperation and wild and unwarranted charges of a personal nature. Above all, keep cool.

WAS A JONES BODY

STATE CONVENTION CONTROLLED BY HIS FRIENDS.

REMARKABLE GATHERING

The Blease Faction Was Completely Overwhelmed at the Meeting, the Governor Having About One-Sixth of the Delegates With Him on a Vote for Delegate.

The Columbia correspondent of The News and Courier says the State Democratic Convention was one of the most remarkable gatherings that has been held in this State in many a year. It was conspicuous because of the unusual evidence of interest in the political situation and the high character of the delegates. Men who have not for years taken any part in political affairs made the sacrifice of attending the Convention and the personnel of the Convention was decidedly above the average. It appeared that people throughout the State realized that assertive action should be taken and on that account the conspicuous features of the Convention were.

The absolute and entire control, in every essential, by the friends of former Chief Justice Ira B. Jones, in his candidacy for Governor. The overwhelming sentiment in favor of Governor Woodrow Wilson for the Presidential nomination of the Democratic ticket.

The sympathy for United States Senator Benjamin R. Tillman and the evidences of the continued hold that he has on the affections of the people. The utter demoralization of the friends and supporters of Governor Blease at the Convention.

The suggestion has been made that there was a "steam-roller" at work during the process of the Convention, and that this "steam-roller" was marked "Ira B. Jones," and that it was in charge of "Engineer" J. William Thurmond. "Steam-rollers" are not new things in politics and if a faction or a party has things "going" their way to keep them "going" and that there is no political cause in giving quarter in a fight in which there is but one ambition, and that is to win.

There is no question whatever but what the Jones forces had the Convention in control in the minutest detail on such subjects or public issues as they cared to exert their influence. In other words, there were certain questions that the managers of the Jones forces did not think it was prudent for them to make any contention about, but wherever it had been determined to act it was accomplished, and this was from the moment that Mr. Thurmond nominated Speaker Mendel L. Smith, as temporary chairman of the Convention.

Every official and every delegate and every issue in which the Jones people were involved had to have the imprimatur of Jones, and there was no middle ground. Those who were not outspoken for the candidacy of Mr. Jones were not given the rewards of the occasion.

Twenty years ago, when the great reform movement was at its zenith, the cry was that measures had to be considered above men, and if a man did not advocate the reform measures, no matter who he may have been there was no demand for his services. Later on, when the Alliance was in its glory, the Alliance "yardstick" was applied and if candidates did not measure up to the Alliance "yardstick" they were ready for the junk pile. And so, on Wednesday, the password was "Jones" and if that could not be given with perfect willingness there was someone in waiting who was ready to give it. The fact of the matter is that there was no desire to coerce anyone, because the great majority of the members of the convention came first, last and all the time for Jones.

There were 240 delegates in the Convention and the only test of the strength of Governor Blease was on his vote as a delegate to the National Convention, when he received 66 votes, and of this number 11 came from Orangeburg, where the Convention had adopted a resolution that the delegation cast its vote for "Governor of the State" as delegate to the National Convention. The significance of the vote is all the more emphasized when, early in the roll call Colleton was called upon for its vote and the spokesman for that delegation announced "Colleton casts its vote for the Governor of South Carolina." It will be interesting to note where the strength of Governor Blease came from. Out of 340 delegates, 66 voted for him, and Aiken 1, Bamberg 1, Barnwell 1, Beaufort 1, Berkeley 2, Calhoun 2, Charleston 2, Colleton 4, Dorchester 4, Fairfield 1, Jasper 4, Kershaw 5, Laurens 8, Lee 5, Lexington 3, Newberry 8, Orangeburg 11, Pickens 1, Richland 1, Saluda 1. Total 66.

In this same ballot Mr. Richard I. Manning received 207 votes and Mr. John Gary Evans 188 votes.

One noticeable feature of the Convention was the absolute vice-openness of everything. There was no disposition to do anything under cover. The contests were all made in public and the hearings by the com-

THEY MADE RICH HAUL

MASKED BANDITS HOLD UP AND ROB EXPRESS TRAIN.

Said to Have Gotten As Much as Two Hundred Thousand Dollars from the Company's Safe.

A rich haul, variously estimated at from \$35,000 to \$200,000, was made by two masked bandits, who early Wednesday morning held up the Queen and Crescent New York Limited train No. 2, near Oklahoma, a flag station eight miles south of Hattiesburg, Miss., and blew open the safe of the Southern Express car.

Express company officials deny that the sum obtained aggregated anything like the latter figure, but declined to make any estimate of the loss. The bandits, who are believed to be the pair who held up the Mobile and Ohio train, at Corinth, Miss., in February, made their escape and are still at large.

When Sheriff Bennett of Perry County, reached the scene of the hold up with bloodhounds about day light, the trail of the robbers was taken up by the dogs. This led them to the junction of the New Orleans and Northern Railroad and a lay line road, where the trail was lost. It is believed the men boarded a freight train at this junction. Four men are reported to have been seen leaving the freight train when it arrived at Hattiesburg a few hours after the hold-up, but the authorities have been unable to locate the suspected quarry.

The hold-up of the train was effected in a true wild Western manner, but notwithstanding a generous flourishing of weapons, not a shot was fired. The passengers were not molested.

When the train was passing the flag station, Oklahoma, the two masked bandits climbed over the tender, and with drawn revolvers, called out to engineer Maher and his fireman, "Obey orders." The engineer immediately threw on his brakes, saying, "I'll stop right now."

"No," said one of the bandits, "pull on around the curve and stop when I tell you to stop." After the train had turned the curve above Oklahoma, the engineer was given the command to stop and complied very promptly.

With guns pointed at their heads, the engineer and fireman were then marched back to the baggage car and the former was ordered to call the express messenger. When Messenger D. A. Gray, of Chattanooga, stepped to the door of his car he looked into the muzzle of a pistol and did not hesitate to obey the orders to get down.

LAST HOPE IS GONE.

Gov. Foss Refuses to Enter into Death Sentence.

Clarence V. T. Richeson's last hope of escaping the death chair next week for the murder of Avis Merrill, of Hymella, expired Thursday night, when Governor Foss, at Boston announced that he would not refer Richeson's petition for commutation of sentence to the executive council. The statement from the Governor followed closely the filing of the reports of the special insanity commission, which declared the condemned man sane, although subject to fits of hysterical insanity. The commission found that Richeson was sane at the time of the murder and that he is sane at present.

Approves Conventions Course.

Senator Tillman said Thursday, in reply to an inquiry as to his opinion of the action of the South Carolina Democratic Convention: "I have not seen the full report of the proceedings of the Convention in the State papers, but from what I see in the Washington papers I regard the course of the Convention as satisfactory."

Chinese Roasted To Death.

Victoria, B. C., May 11.—Many Chinese in Lassa, capital of Tibet, were roasted alive during an attack on their quarters by angry Tibetans. In the fighting many were killed on both sides the rioting grew out of the declaration by the Llama who said the Chinese were destined for divine punishment.

President Bar Association.

The Hon. D. S. Henderson, of Aiken, was on Wednesday morning elected president of the State Bar Association, to succeed the Hon. Knox Livingston, of Bennettsville, deceased. This action was taken at a meeting of the vice president of the State Association.

Committee on credentials was about as largely attended as the Convention itself, and even the voting on the seating of the contesting Charleston and Beaufort delegations was open and direct and the record of this Convention is as open as that of any political gathering can be.

The overwhelming sentiment of the Convention, as has been said, was in favor of the nomination of Woodrow Wilson. The Convention expressed itself to that effect by overwhelmingly endorsing his candidacy.

GIVEN THE SEATS

BARNWELL DELEGATION FROM CHARLESTON SEATED

GRACE FACTION OUSTED

The Credentials Committee Heeds and Decides an Important Matter, Incidentally Straightening Out an Important Contest from the City of Charleston.

Thirty-six of a possible forty-two members of the credentials committee of the State Democratic Convention, in session Wednesday in Columbia, voted to seat the delegation from Charleston, headed by the Hon. Joseph W. Barnwell, and none voted to seat what became known as the Sinker delegation, that one headed by Major Daniel L. Sinker. Two members of the committee voted to seat neither delegation and four members did not vote.

After hearing testimony and arguments for two hours, the credentials committee refused to go into executive session or to even debate among themselves the merits of the contesting claims, but immediately called for a vote by roll-call. With the result that the committee's recommendation to the Convention is that the delegation from Charleston headed by the Hon. Joseph W. Barnwell, together with the various officers elected by the Convention presided over by Mr. Barnwell, are the legally elected delegates and officers, and that the "Barnwell" delegates be seated as members of the State Democratic Convention.

This recommendation was adopted unanimously by the Convention and the Barnwell delegation was seated. The vote on the recommendation to seat one or the other of the Charleston delegations was as follows:

Those voting to seat the Barnwell delegation: W. P. Green, Abbeville; George L. Toole, Aiken; M. L. Bonham, Anderson; W. L. Riley, Bamberg; W. A. All, Barnwell; R. R. Leasure, Beaufort; R. G. Causey, Berkeley; W. S. Hall, Cherokee; J. Lyles Glenn, Chester; J. C. Rivers, Chesterfield; O. C. Scarborough, Clarendon; H. A. Willis, Colleton; D. R. Coker, Darlington; E. R. Hamery, Dillon; J. A. Hiers, Dorchester; A. E. Padgett, Edgefield; J. E. McDonnell, Fairfield; A. H. Williams, Florence; H. J. Haynesworth, Greenville; W. H. Nicholson, Greenwood; J. W. Manuel, Hampton; J. O. Norton, Horry; W. R. Hough, Kershaw; D. R. Williams, Lancaster; D. M. Croson, Lexington; George R. Reeves, Marion; D. D. McCall, Marlboro; C. M. Walker, Oconee; Jas. L. Sims, Orangeburg; E. P. McCraw, Pickens; W. W. Rye, Richland; J. M. Forrest, Saluda; S. T. D. Lancaster, Spartanburg; Richard D. Lee, Sumter; L. J. Browning, Union; LeRoy Lee, Williamsburg.

Those voting that neither delegation be seated were: B. Frank Kelley of Lee, and C. E. Spencer of York. Those not voting at all were: H. C. Paulding, Calhoun; E. F. Hammond, Jasper; John M. Cannon, Laurens, and A. H. Hawkins, of Newberry.

The credentials committee, constituted by a member of each uncontested delegation, named by that delegation, took up the contest from Charleston County at three o'clock and at five o'clock the vote was taken. The Convention proper taking a recess twice in order to give time for the arguments by representatives of each side. Consequently, the greater part of the day's session was consumed by the Charleston contest.

It was the absorbing feature of the day's session, and the climax of the whole proceedings came just a few minutes before the vote was taken, when Mr. M. Rutledge Rivers, attorney for the Barnwell delegation, read a letter from Senator Benjamin Ryan Tillman, assuring him of his support in the present Convention and denouncing the tactics of the opposing faction in Charleston.

Appeal had been made by Mayor Grace. In his argument before the committee, to the attitude of Senator Tillman as against Mr. George Von Kolnitz, a member of the present Barnwell faction, conveyed in a letter dated July, 1902. Reserving Senator Tillman's letter to Sheriff Martin, of Charleston, written a few days after the recent County Convention, Mr. Rivers introduced it at what was regarded by all keen observers as the psychological moment, and its reading called forth prolonged cheers from both the galleries and members of the Convention who were present in the hall at the time, and it may be stated that the Hall of the House of Representatives was crowded.

Observers of contests of various kinds pronounced the conduct of the case at this particular point a master stroke on the part of Mr. Rivers, and one of the very neatest of all time for an argument. The letter read by Mr. Rivers, in reply to a statement that had been made with reference to the attitude of Senator Tillman, was read only because of the name of Senator Tillman. Mr. Rivers was aware of the use of the letter and feeling it worthy for publication, even in the case of a contest, he read it.

When urged that it was a committee's prerogative to seat the delegation from Charleston, the credentials committee refused to do so.