

STATE CONVENTION FOR MANNING AND WILSON

Tillman Re-elected Committeeman Over Lowndes J. Browning, the Blease Candidate.—McLaurin Can't go Into Primary. Campaign Not Abolished.

Columbia, May 17.—United States Senator B. R. Tillman was re-elected national committeeman over Lowndes J. Browning, of Union, the Blease caucus nominee, this afternoon by the Democratic State convention by the overwhelming majority of 267 to 43. The senior senator was placed in nomination by Senator Nicholson, of Edgefield, and there were several seconds. Mr. Browning was nominated by Mr. Long, of Union, and on the roll call by counties the senator swamped his opponent. The forty-three votes for the Union man were made up of one from Aiken, thirteen from Anderson, one from Barnwell, five from Clarendon, four from Dillon, one from Dorchester, one from Fairfield, one from Georgetown, one from Lancaster, five from Laurens, eight from Newberry, six from Lee, one from Oconee, two from Richland.

The delegations from Newberry, Union and Lee were the only ones voting solidly for Mr. Browning. One from the Anderson delegation and one from the York delegation voted for Senator Tillman, the rest of these delegations going to the Union man. When the solid Charleston vote of eighteen was announced for Senator Tillman the convention broke into applause.

Evans Gets Big Vote.

John Gary Evans was re-elected State chairman over W. A. Stuckey, of Bishopville, the Blease caucus nominee, by the overwhelming majority of 257 to 74, the Stuckey votes coming from Abbeville 1, Aiken 2, Anderson 13, Bamberg 2, Barnwell 3, Berkeley 3, Calhoun 1, Clarendon 5, Darlington 2, Dorchester 2, Georgetown 1, Lancaster 1, Laurens 5, Lee 6, Lexington 1, McCormick 4, Newberry 8, Richland 2, Union 6, York 7. Chairman Evans was placed in nomination by Ex-Governor Ansel and Mr. Stuckey by Mayor Olin Sawyer, of Georgetown.

The Blease caucus nominations were overwhelmed with the same unvarying majority throughout.

On motion of Christie Benet, for the Richland delegation, Gen. Willie Jones was re-elected treasurer of the Democratic party by acclamation.

The first test vote between the Blease and anti-Bleaze factions this afternoon came on the adoption of the majority report of the credentials committee to seat the Christensen delegation from Beaufort. This report was adopted by a vote of 265 to 59, the credentials committee having returned a report, 33 to 9, to seat the Christensen delegation. The negative votes came from Abbeville 1, Aiken 1, Anderson 12, Barnwell 2, Berkeley 2, Clarendon 6, Fairfield 1, Georgetown 1, Laurens 4, Lee 6, Lexington 1, Newberry 8, Union 6, York 7. The credentials committee sat for three hours hearing the evidence from both sides and the report seating the Christensen delegation was presented by John P. Thomas, chairman of the committee.

Suffragettes Heard.

When the convention reconvened at 4 o'clock and before the credentials committee reported, on motion of State Chairman Evans the convention voted to allow fifteen minutes for a committee of suffragettes to present a petition to the convention. A committee, consisting of John Gary Evans, D. S. Henderson and D. R. Coker, were appointed to escort the ladies to the desk, the suffragette committee being Mrs. Harriet Powe Lynch, Mrs. H. V. Murdaugh, Miss Mary A. Brennan and Mrs. Henry Martin. They were received with cheers. Mrs. Lynch said their resolution asked the convention for two things: First, an amendment to the State constitution extending the right of suffrage to women, and, second, instructing the delegates to St. Louis to work for incorporation into the platform of the national Democratic party a declaration favoring woman suffrage without regard to a federal amendment to this end. She called attention to the close vote in the house last year on this subject, and said their petition covered sixteen yards of paper. She did not read it, but asked that it be placed before the proper committee, which was done. She thanked the convention for extending the ladies this privilege and was cheered.

This is the second time woman suffrage has been presented to a Democratic convention, the late Mrs. Virginia D. Young, of Fairfax, having addressed a convention a few years ago on the subject.

Permanent Organization.

When the report of the credentials committee was adopted the tempor-

ary organization was made permanent on motion of Mr. McSwain. On assuming the chair as permanent president, Mr. Thos. P. Cothran expressed his appreciation of the honor and praised the personnel of the convention. He reviewed the patriotic record of the Democratic party in years past, and turning to the outlook in the nation, said of the record of the national Democratic party: "We have kept the faith." He called attention to the bloody European war and its terrible slaughter and was tumultuously cheered when he said: "You may thank him who sits in the white house today for being free from the contamination of that kind." Mr. Cothran eulogized President Wilson and the record of the party and termed him "the greatest president of the United States in fifty years."

On motion of Mr. Dominick the rules of the house were adopted as the rules for the convention in so far as they were applicable.

Elections for vice presidents by congressional districts resulted as follows: First, E. J. Dennis, of Berkeley; second, D. S. Henderson, of Aiken; fourth, J. H. Miller, of Cross Hill; fifth, J. L. Glenn, of Chester; sixth, D. R. Coker, of Hartsville; seventh, Adam H. Moss, of Orangeburg.

The 3rd district was passed over to allow the delegates to caucus and make a nomination.

During the afternoon session Dr. Olin Sawyer was the only one of the Georgetown delegation on the floor, the rest having gone home on the afternoon train. Dr. Sawyer was named on the committee on rules.

At 6 o'clock the convention recessed until 8:30 to allow the committees on platform and resolutions and on rules to frame their reports.

Night Session.

The convention reconvened at 9 o'clock. Mr. Cary, of Oconee, announced that Dr. W. A. Tripp, of Anderson, had been nominated as vice president from the 3rd congressional district, and he was elected.

A correction in the vote for national executive committeeman was noted by Mr. Dominick, and was so corrected. The vote was: Tillman 268, Browning 64. An effort by Mr. Fred Dominick to have the delegates at large elected while the convention was awaiting on the report of the committees was defeated after a sharp passage between Mr. Dominick and Mr. Blakeney, of Kershaw. A motion by Mr. Mixson to effect the fourteen district delegates to the national Democratic convention was adopted.

The district delegates follow:

First district—P. H. Gadsden, of Charleston; V. C. Badham, of Badham. Alternates, Huger Sinkler, of Charleston; A. C. Bradham, of Manning.

Second—J. L. Walker, of Johnston; T. W. Davies, of Aiken. Alternates, George W. Beckett, of Beaufort; J. B. Black, of Bamberg.

Third—G. A. Neuffer, of Abbeville; E. P. McCravey, of Pickens. Alternates, J. N. Pearman, of Anderson; J. B. Derrick, of Newberry.

Fourth—David Traxler, of Greenville; S. T. D. Lancaster, of Spartanburg. Alternates, J. M. Grier, of Union; J. C. Owings, of Laurens.

Fifth—J. M. Henphill, of Chester; G. K. Laney, of Chesterfield. Alternates, W. W. Dixon, of Fairfield; W. R. Bradford, of Fort Mill.

Sixth—Bright Williamson, of Darlington; A. C. Hings, of Kingstree. Alternates, J. S. Manning, of Dillon; M. C. Woods, of Marion.

Seventh—John P. Thomas, of Columbia; Robert Lide, of Orangeburg. Alternates, J. H. Clifton, of Sumter; Dr. S. J. Summers, of Calhoun.

Changes in Party Rules.

The committee on amendments to the rules of the party made many suggestions as to changes, all of which were adopted. Most of the changes were to make the rules comply to the State law on primaries, and particularly as to enrolment.

Provision was suggested and made that a committee on credentials be provided this committee to hear and act upon any contest prior to the meeting of the convention. Each county is to elect a member of this credential committee.

Provision was made that upon petition of 15 per cent. of the qualified voters in any town or city petitioning there shall be a municipal primary. The petition is to be filed with the mayor or intendand, and then there shall be organized a municipal Democratic club. This club shall hold primary elections to nomi-

nate candidates for municipal officers. The club is to make the rules and regulations and what municipal officers shall be voted upon.

Recall elections in any such city shall be first determined by a primary under such rules as the club shall provide.

The rule is not to apply to any city with a population of 10,000 or over. This change in the ruling came through Mr. Christensen. The rules of 1914 were reaffirmed except as amended.

Road commissioners were put in the primary where such candidates offered. Amendment was made to the rules to provide for enrolment of men temporarily non-resident and were employed by the State or government only, and who came back to the State to vote.

The Anderson delegation wanted a rule adopted allowing withdrawal by card from one club to another within sixty days before the primary. This was lost.

The committee report submitted by Mr. John J. McSwain, of Greenville, was adopted without any objection with the understanding that the amendments suggested should all be adopted as reported, with the exception of the matter of letting the warehouse system figure in the primary.

The First Fight.

The first fight came over the majority and minority report of the credentials committee on the resolution putting the warehouse commissioner in the primary. The majority returned an unfavorable report and a minority favorable report was made by John K. Aull, W. R. Koon, J. R. Dingle and J. B. Lane. W. S. Hale, of Cherokee, moved the adoption of the majority report. W. W. Dixon, of Fairfield, wanted the warehouse commissioner put in the primary. Fred H. Dominick, of Newberry, floor leader of the Blease forces, joined Mr. Dixon, and in a speech reviewing the warehouse legislation, supported the minority report.

Mr. Graydon, of Abbeville, said: "If you want to kill the warehouse put it in the primary and you will kill it so effectively that even Mr. McLaurin, with all his plausibility, won't be able to resurrect it." He vigorously assailed the resolution and belittled the warehouse system.

Senator Banks, of Calhoun, said the warehouse was worthy of every one's support and reviewed it and the insurance on cotton.

"If Mr. McLaurin wants to tackle Andrew Jackson Bethea let him do so," said D. S. Henderson. "We have not forgotten that the man who wanted to put this system in politics in 1902 wanted to introduce commercial Democracy in South Carolina, and let us not forget the warning voice of this chief."

The "previous question" was ordered and the roll was called by counties, after nearly two hours of speech-making. The majority report was adopted, 255 to 74, and the resolution to put the warehouse commissioner in the primary overwhelmingly killed.

How the Vote Stood.

Abbeville 4 against, 2 for; Aiken 7 against, 1 for; Anderson 1 against, 13 for; Bamberg 5 against, 1 for; Barnwell 5 against; Beaufort 6 against; Berkeley 6 against; Calhoun 3 against, 1 for; Charleston 18 against; Cherokee 6 against; Chester 6 against; Chesterfield 6 against; Clarendon 3 against, 5 for; Colleton 4 against, 2 for; Darlington 5 against, 1 for; Dillon 5 against, 1 for; Dorchester 3 against, 1 for; Edgefield 6 against; Fairfield 1 against, 5 for; Florence 8 against; Georgetown 2 against, 1 for; Greenville 13 against, 1 for; Greenwood 8 against; Hampton 4 against; Horry 6 against; Jasper 3 against; Kershaw 6 against; Lancaster 6 against; Laurens 7 against, 1 for; Lee 6 for; Lexington 5 against, 2 for; McCormick 2 against, 2 for; Marion 6 against; Marlboro 8 against; Newberry 8 for; Oconee 5 against, 1 for; Orangeburg 12 against; Pickens 6 against; Richland 9 against, 2 for; Saluda 6 against; Spartanburg 16 against; Sumter 8 against; Union 6 for; Williamsburg 8 against; York 1 against, 9 for.

An effort by Senator Christensen to put in a resolution to ask each county chairman to allow any State officer to speak at the close of the campaign meeting was lost, the convention refusing to allow the motion.

The convention at 11:35 recessed to await on the report of the committee on platform and resolutions.

Wilson Endorsed.

The committee reported at midnight through Ex-Governor Ansel.

The first part of the report commends and endorses the national Democracy, and especially President Wilson and national preparedness.

On State matters the platform says:

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(Continued on page 6, column 2)

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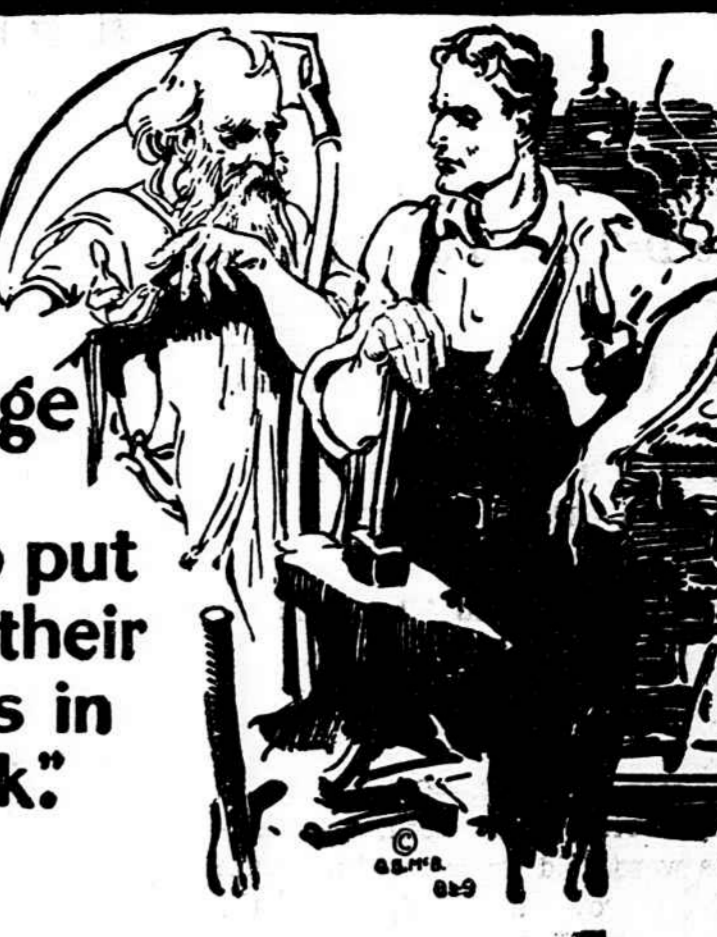
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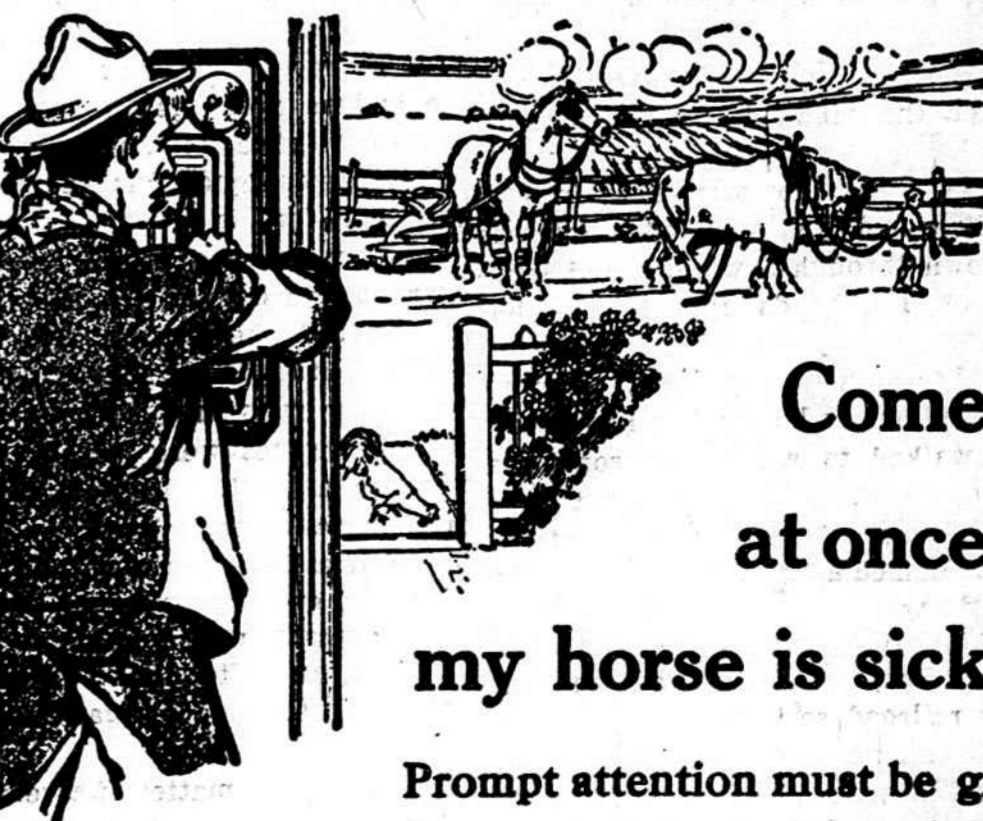
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