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HARMONY IN PARTY RANKS.

ONLY DEBATES IN CONVENTION OVER LABOR MATTERS.

Two-ring Circus Adopted—Candidates for U. S. Senate and Congress Must Abide Party Platform—Simple Resolution on the Course of McLaurin—Tillman Offered Resolutions as to the Late Gen. Wade Hampton—Adjournment Reached Abruptly, Afterwards the Senator Spoke.

[Condensed from The State, 22nd.]

The State Democratic convention was conspicuous yesterday for harmoniousness. Everything passed off smoothly and quietly, much wire pulling was done by candidates in and around the convention in a quiet way, and those issues supposed to be most productive of discussion created none whatever. Senator Tillman introduced most appropriate resolutions as to the memory of the late Gen. Wade Hampton, and suitable resolutions as to the illness of Chief Justice McIver were presented and adopted.

Absolutely the only subjects brought up in the convention, productive of discussion, were matters relating to the troubles of labor and capital, and the convention expressed itself in no mild way both in regard to the lockout of the operatives of the cotton mills of the Horse Creek district, and as to child labor in cotton mills. There were debates over both these matters, but those wishing to condemn the mill managements for the lockout and those trying to abolish child labor won by decisive votes.

Senator Tillman presented the reports as to the pledge matter and as to the arrangement of the campaign meetings. Both reports went through without a word of debate, and then came the final adjournment with the suddenness of a thunderclap from a clear sky.

The only change in the pledge is that candidates for the United States senate and the United States house of representatives will have to pledge themselves to support the party platform.

The two ring campaign circus plan was adopted, the executive committee being instructed to arrange for a double series of campaign meetings in each county.

The convention unanimously and without debate adopted a simple resolution condemning Senator McLaurin's course. No one seemed to take any interest whatever in this matter.

After the convention had adjourned Senator Tillman was called for and he responded with a vigorous speech, in which he displayed much of his old time fire and energy, dealing with matters of national party policy, and with the course of events in congress. He was most vigorously applauded.

CANDIDATES IN EVIDENCE.

One of the most striking features of the convention yesterday was the fact that practically every candidate for an important office was a member of the convention. It was truly a political convention, and the amount of hand shaking and fence-building was astonishing to some. Several candidates who were not delegates originally came in to fill vacancies on other delegations. In the list of delegates were to be found the names of Henderson, Homphill, Johnstone and Latimer of senatorial aspirations. In the list also were the names of Talbert, Hayward, Ansel, L. J. Williams and Timmerman of gubernatorial aspirations. The only candidate for governor not on the floor was James H. Tillman, and he was elected a delegate. Congressional candidates galore were there also. Mr. Thurmond was heard from in resolutions looking to the mill interests and Mr. Bellinger was in evidence with resolutions against the trusts. And so it went.

O, TEMPORA; O, MORES.

The personnel of the body was far above the average and it was representative of all former party factions. For instance, on the main aisle at the corner of the row sat Senator Tillman; just behind him sat the veteran stalwart, Col. Thomas W.

Woodward; just behind were ex Gov. Mauldin and Col. Hoyt; not far away were McCalla, Bacot, Tindal, J. Tom Austin and scores of others who have figured in party fights. There was a good sprinkling also of young men who have not heretofore appeared in the political arena, but are preparing to shy their castors and "let 'er roll boys."

AN OBJECT LESSON.

The personnel of the body and the character of the members showed plainly that things are running very harmoniously in the democratic party in South Carolina just now. In this respect the convention yesterday was a striking object lesson. There was not even a contest over the selection of the chairman of the convention, Col. Jones receiving the unusual compliment of a unanimous election.

CALLED TO ORDER.

It was 12:00 when State Chairman Willie Jones rapped for order and announced that the convention would be opened with prayer by Bishop Ellison Capers. The hall was filled, both the floors and in the galleries. Bishop Capers made a brief but most appropriate prayer, invoking the Divine guidance upon the body. He asked that all things rest upon the foundation of peace and honor. He concluded with the Lord's prayer.

THE ROLL OF DELEGATES.

The roll was called, having been prepared by the secretary, was read and some substitutions were made.

WILLIE JONES CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Blease, of Newberry, then nominated the Hon. Willie Jones for president of the convention. Col. Crews nominated Gov. McSweeney, who promptly declined the nomination, seconding that of Col. Jones. Mr. George Douglass Rouse, of Charleston, in glowing terms, seconded Col. Jones' nomination. Mr. Blease put the motion and Col. Jones was unanimously elected.

Col. Jones thanked the body for the honor in a brief speech.

Col. T. C. Hamer was nominated for one of the secretaries of the convention and was unanimously elected. Mr. J. T. Parks, of Orangeburg, was elected the second secretary.

Col. F. M. Mixson was made sergeant at arms.

PERMANENT ORGANIZATION.

The temporary organization was made permanent and the vice presidents were chosen as follows:

First District—J. W. Dunn.

Second—W. C. Smith.

Third—J. A. Sligh.

Fourth—W. L. Mauldin.

Fifth—J. E. McDonald.

Sixth—A. H. Williams.

Seventh—W. D. Scarborough.

The rules of the house of representatives were adopted to govern the body.

Senator D. L. Henderson, of Aiken, introduced the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to be known as the committee on resolutions and constitution to whom shall be referred all resolutions without debate, and that said committee in reporting on said resolutions shall have leave to report any special matter. It shall consist of one from each county delegation to be chosen by the delegation and reported to the chair.

Mr. W. D. Evans offered as a substitute to the above the following, saying there ought to be two committees:

Resolved, That two committees be appointed—one on platform and resolutions and the other on constitution and rules, said committee to be composed of one member from each delegation. All resolutions to be referred to appropriate committee without debate.

Mr. Henderson said the committee he had proposed would be sufficiently large.

Mr. J. J. Hemphill of Chester wanted a committee on platform only.

Mr. Blease favored Mr. Evans' substitute. There were two separate and distinct committees needed, and the party would be represented by two members from each county.

Congressman Talbert thought one committee dividing up into sub com-

mittees was amply sufficient and would avoid complications.

Mr. Blease insisted upon the appointment of two committees which would be more representative and Democratic.

Mr. McKeown of Chester followed and agreed with Mr. Blease.

Senator Robert Aldrich thought one committee all that was necessary. He moved to table the substitute, but withdrew for the time being.

Mr. Evans of Marlboro said that now there was much discussion of proposed changes in party platform, rules and constitution. It was most important that these matters should be handled with judgment and care. All candidates would be bound by the action of this body.

Mr. Josh Ashley said all the reports would have to come back to the convention. "Whatever the committee done and ought'er done" would have to be passed upon. One committee was enough.

Mr. Evans of Marlboro again stated the provisions of his substitute. The substitute was then adopted in short order.

The committees were then elected.

OTHER MATTERS.

Senator Gruber called attention to the fact that there was no treasurer. Mr. J. E. Boggs of Pickens was elected while he was asking what the question was.

The roll of the members of the State Democratic executive committee was then called and the elections made by the county conventions were confirmed, on motion of Mr. Brist of Charleston.

Resolutions were then called for and a number were presented and several were read from the desk before being referred to the proper committees.

RECESS TAKEN.

Senator Tillman was designated to act as chairman of the committee on constitution and rules and Col. J. A. Hoyt to act as chairman of the committee on platform and resolutions. It was announced that both committees would meet in the afternoon. The convention then took a recess until 8:30 p. m.

THE CONVENTION REASSEMBLES.

At 8:30 o'clock the convention reconvened and Col. W. J. Talbert got the floor and offered the following preamble and resolutions:

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE MCIVER.

Whereas Hon. Henry McIver, at the bidding of the democratic party, has served the whole people of South Carolina for 25 years, first as associate justice and latterly as chief justice, with distinguished fidelity and ability, having in his first opinion in 1877 settled finally, and properly, as is now universally conceded, the question of the receptive rights of D. H. Chamberlain and Wade Hampton as to the governorship of this State, and having once for patriotic reasons declined the office of chief justice, his lifelong ambition, to which after years of patient service as associate justice, he was finally elevated by unanimous vote of the general assembly, and

Whereas he is now suffering from disease which prevents at present the active service which he has been accustomed to render, and inflicts acute suffering upon him; now be it

Resolved by the democratic party of South Carolina in convention assembled:

1. That it hereby desires to express the debt of gratitude of the people of this State to the distinguished chief justice and to assure him of its warmest affection and sincerest sympathy in his affliction, and to express the hope that he may long be spared to counsel and guide the great court of which he is the ornate head; an example of industry, learning, probity and patriotism which should be both an example and an inspiration to the men who are to assume from time to time the burdens and responsibilities of political and professional life in this State.

These resolutions were presented by Col. Talbert with appropriate remarks. He spoke feelingly and effectively.

Col. Brooks seconded the resolutions.

Mr. Bacot of Charleston seconded the resolutions earnestly and hoped that the vote would be a rising one.

Mr. Stevenson spoke eloquently for Chesterfield county.

Gov. McSweeney also warmly seconded the resolutions.

Then they were adopted by a rising vote.

THE PLATFORM.

Col. James A. Hoyt then presented the report of the committee on platform and resolutions as follows:

Resolved, by the democracy of South Carolina in convention assembled:

1. That we reaffirm and endorse the platform of principles enunciated by the State democratic convention of 1900, with especial stress upon the following sections:

"That we view with alarm the power which the trusts through the republican party are exercising over legislation and national politics and their ability to control the prices of the necessities of life without regard to the law of supply and demand. We condemn the hypocritical attitude of the republican leaders who abuse trusts and combines, while they use the money obtained from them and extorted from the people to debauch the ignorant voters of the country.

"That we denounce the imperialistic policy of the republican administration as contrary to the letter and spirit of the Declaration of Independence and the constitution of the United States, and as dangerous to the liberty and freedom not only of the people of the Spanish islands, but of the citizens of this country as well." The benevolent assimilation "of the Filipinos has proven to be the benevolence of murder and the assimilation of robbery. We denounce it as an outrage upon the consciences of liberty-loving Americans. Our free institutions cannot long survive the destruction of those principles upon which they rest, and the spectacle of subject peoples being held down by the bayonet and robbed by the carabaggers, but foreshadows the fate of our country unless the people are aroused to our danger. The unjust and cruel war of subjugation now being carried on in the Philippines should be ended at once, with definite and specific declarations to the natives as the intentions of this country to aid them in the establishment of a free government of their own choice under a protectorate by the United States."

That we reaffirm and endorse the correlated sections of the Kansas City platform upon the subject of trusts and imperialism as follows: Private monopolies are indefensible and intolerable. They destroy competition, control the prices of material and of the finished products, thus robbing both producer and consumer. They lessen the employment of labor and arbitrarily fix the terms and conditions thereof, and deprive individual energy and small capital of their opportunity for betterment. They are the most efficient means devised for appropriating the fruits of industry for the benefit of the few at the expense of the many, and unless their insatiate greed is checked all wealth will be aggregated in a few hands and the republic destroyed. The dishonest paltering with the trusts evil by the Republican party in State and national platforms is conclusive proof of the truth of the charges that trusts are the legitimate products of Republican policies, that they are fostered by Republican laws and that they are protected by Republican administration in return for campaign subscriptions and political support. We pledge the Democratic party to an unceasing warfare in nation, State and city against private monopoly in every form. Existing laws against trusts must be enforced and more stringent ones must be enacted providing for publicity as to affairs of corporations engaged in interstate commerce and requiring all corporations to show, before doing business outside of the State of their origin, that they have no water in their stock and that they have not

attempted and are not attempting to monopolize any branch of business or the production of any article of merchandise, and the constitutional power of congress over interstate commerce, the mails, and all modes of interstate commerce, shall be exercised by the enactment of comprehensive laws upon the subject of trusts. Tariff laws should be amended by putting the product of trusts upon the free list to prevent monopoly under the plea of protection.

We are opposed to private monopoly in every form, and view with apprehension the increasing power and disregard of the interests of the people by the combination of corporations, especially of those chartered by other States. It is the duty of the general assembly of this State to pass more stringent laws for the control of all corporations, domestic and foreign, and for the prevention of all trusts and combinations between corporations carrying on competitive business. We claim the right on the part of the State to control all corporations, whether domestic or foreign, engaged in business with her borders. We deny that congress has any legitimate power to regulate corporations except as they may be engaged in foreign or interstate commerce; and demand that the national government confine itself in bestowing corporate existence to such agencies as are required to exercise such functions as the constitution specifically confers upon the United States. We are unalterably opposed to any amendment of the federal constitution looking to any enlargement of the powers of congress in relation to the regulation of contract by citizens of the State, or in relation to the corporations, and we demand that laws be enacted further restricting the power of federal courts to interfere with the internal affairs and administration of justice in the State. We condemn the Dingley tariff law as a trust breeding measure skillfully devised to give the few favors which they do not deserve, and to place upon the many burdens which they should not bear.

We reaffirm our belief in a tariff for revenue only, and that taxation should be so regulated as to meet the needs of an honest and economical government. We condemn all class legislation, such as the ship subsidy bill, which we believe to be a rich man's raid on the public coffer, and we also condemn all sectional legislation, such as the Crumplecker bill, which we believe to be intended to arouse sectional animosities.

We hold with the United States supreme court that the Declaration of Independence is the spirit of our government, of which the constitution is the form and letter.

We declare again, that all government instituted among men derive their just powers from the consent of the governed; that any government not based upon the consent of the governed is a tyranny, and that to impose upon any people the government of force is to substitute a method of imperialism for those of a republic. We hold that the constitution follows the flag, and denounce the doctrine that the executive of congress, deriving their existence and their powers from the constitution, can exercise lawful authority beyond it or in violation of it. We assert that no nation can long endure half republic and half empire, and we warn the American people that imperialism abroad will lead quickly and inevitably to despotism at home.

We condemn and denounce the Philippine policy of the present administration. It has involved the republic in an unnecessary war, sacrificed the lives of many of our noblest sons, and placed the United States, previously known and applauded throughout the world as the champion of freedom, in the false and unAmerican position of crushing with military force the effort of our former allies to achieve liberty and self government. The Filipinos cannot be citizens without endangering our civilization; they cannot be subjects without imperiling our form of government; and as we are not willing to surrender our civilization to

convert the republic into an empire, we favor an immediate declaration of the nation's purpose to give the Filipinos, first, a stable form of government; second, independence; and third, protection from outside interference. We are not opposed to territorial expansion when it takes in desirable territory which can be erected into States in the union, and whose people are not willing and free to become American citizens. We favor expansion by every peaceful and legitimate means. But we are unalterably opposed to the seizing or purchasing of distant islands to be governed outside the constitution, and whose people can never become citizens. We are in favor of extending the republic's influence among the nations, but believe that influence should be extended not by force and violence, but through persuasive power of a high and honorable example. The burning issue of imperialism growing out of the Spanish war involve the very existence of the republic and the destruction of our free institutions.

We regard it as the paramount issue of the campaign.

On motion of Mr. Stevenson the platform was adopted.

THE HORSE CREEK TROUBLE.

The Blense resolution relating to the Horse Creek trouble, as given above, was taken up, with the favorable report, and Senator Gruber asked for the minority report. The minority report was read as follows:

We, the undersigned members on the committee on platform and resolutions to whom was referred the resolution of Mr. Cole, L. Blease with reference to a certain lockout of cotton mill operatives in Aiken County, beg to submit this as a minority report: That we cannot concur with the views of the majority report, as we have not sufficient information to form a correct opinion and because we believe Mr. Blease's resolution to be extreme.

George R. Rembert.
James Norton.
Altamont Moses.
D. R. Cooper.
R. T. James.
J. H. Lossano.
Chas. H. Henry.
J. H. Tribble.

Mr. Blease's resolutions were adopted. The vote standing 182 to 72.

CHILD LABOR.

The child labor matter was then taken up. Mr. Dorrah moved to strike out the resolving words. The convention exceeded its authority. The legislature composed of democrats should settle this issue.

Mr. Thurmond said democrats, of course, differed about many matters, but they never failed to act. This is an important matter, a policy that should be adopted. He discussed some of the reasons and pictured the conditions of the children of the mills.

Mr. R. B. A. Robinson thought that the people of the State had a right to say how they would work their children. He wanted peace in the party.

Mr. Harrison of Fairfield spoke earnestly in favor of the resolution. It was wise in this convention to express itself in this matter.

Senator Raysor of Orangeburg moved that the resolution be indefinitely postponed for the reason that the matter should be discussed by the general assembly.

After several had tried to get the floor the vote on the motion to indefinitely postpone the whole matter was taken. There was a bad tangle, which carried Senator Tillman to his feet for the first time. The motion was lost, 81 voting to indefinitely postpone, 145 to the contrary.

MILL LABOR PROBLEMS.

Mr. G. W. Croft of Aiken offered the following:

Resolved, By the democratic party of South Carolina in convention assembled, That it is the sense of this convention, that the general assembly of this State, should and ought to pass an appropriate law prohibiting the employment of children of

tender years in the manufacturing establishments of this State.

This resolution was adopted with the following amendment: Strike out the word "tender" and insert the words "under twelve years of age."

CONDEMNING M'LAURIN.

Mr. T. L. Rogers of Marlboro offered the following:

Resolved, by the democratic convention of South Carolina, That the course of J. L. McLaurin as senator from this State in the United States senate, is hereby condemned.

There were several other resolutions presented to the committee that were laid upon the table for the reason that the subject matter is embraced in those that were recommended for adoption.

THE PLATFORM ADOPTED.

On motion of Mr. Stevenson the platform as read was adopted.

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