

DISCORD OVER TREATY AND JOHNSON MARS HARMONY OF G. O. P. CONVENTION

G.O.P. LEADERS CONFRONTED BY SORRY CHOICE

Lowden and Wood Bear Handicaps and Johnson Is Most Undesirable.

FEAR OF BOLT GROWS

By WILLIAM PHILLIPS SIMS.
CHICAGO, June 8.—A titanic question mark seemed suspended over the Coliseum as it opened its doors here today to receive the republican hosts come to nominate their candidate for the presidency. And the query of all who entered was:

Who will it be?

Gov. Frank Lowden seemed, on paper, to lead the field, with Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood and Senator Hiram Johnson neck and neck close behind, as the various delegations met and held their vest pocket caucuses, but even over this seeming impending victory of Lowden hangs the biggest question of all.

Would the republican guard leaders, without whose aid his nomination would be well-nigh out of the question, dare take the risk after the revelations before the Kenyon committee in Washington?

The answer is said to be ready and the understanding is that it will be "No."

Johnson's supporters today appeared unusually confident. They insist he is far from being out of the race. They cite such instances as the Colorado delegation's vote as a sample of what is going on. Colorado, on the first ballot, gave Wood 6, Lowden 4 and Harding 1. On the second ballot she gave Lowden 1 and Wood 1. Several other such were cited.

Former Postmaster General Frank H. Hitchcock appeared at the coliseum for the opening session today wearing a poker player's expression which caused those who knew him well to shake their heads in wonder.

"Frank knows that either he has the thing already won or that he knows its already lost."

Wood supporters were immensely cheered by the reports from states like Michigan and Wisconsin which ultimately give him the entire delegation. A similar report came from New Jersey, it was said.

The Johnson camp the situation is something else again. Today there is considerable uneasiness in republican circles as to what will be the result of the differences between the old guard and Johnson will be. Before Boise Penrose left Washington for Florida the word went out that he, as leader of the "regulars," would not have Johnson, and since he returned from the south he took occasion to issue a statement particularly irate to Johnson, which, in effect, was that Johnson might do for a vice president.

Johnson has gone on accumulating strength. From a shoestring he has built up a pile of political capital, and since he arrived here last Wednesday he has kept his rivals busy watching him and the demonstrations carried out in his behalf.

The last was the big mass meeting at the Auditorium theater here last night. One of the biggest theaters in the country, it was packed to the ceiling with a mob, which yelled for twenty-five minutes when he came on the stage. A crowd nearly as large filled the streets outside.

But this was not what had the old guard guessing today. It was something he said in his speech. To many it sounded threatening. Said he in his generation:

"With no American people today we are at the starting of the way. Within the next few days it will be decided whether the republican party founded by Lincoln to vindicate the liberty of the common people, is in its hour of full grown power, to drive the common people from its ranks."

Johnson, who three days declared he would not bolt the party. But "practical" politicians declare political promises are made to be broken.

Will Johnson keep or break his?

CONVENTIONALITIES

Mayor Ralph of San Francisco is picking up pointers on how to entertain a national convention. The democrats go to his city in two weeks.

Benjamin C. Marsh, here representing the farmers' national council, probably holds the record as a witness before committees of the house. But besides a short notice on nearly any subject, but his specialties are railroads, merchant marine, agriculture, packers, taxation and fiscal policies in general. His chief recreation is saying mean things about "Wall street."

Aside from "Who is going to be nominated," the biggest mystery here is where "Uncle Joe" Cannon keeps himself. Usually "Uncle Joe" can be traced by the trail of his black stooges, but he appears to have discovered a smokeless-scentless brand because nobody is known to have seen the veteran ex-speaker since he landed.

Nicholas Longworth, son-in-law of the late Theodore Roosevelt, doesn't hanker to run for the presidency. "I only a congressman, but I've shaken hands so much my fingers are numb," he said. He hopes a new form of greeting is in use before he is a presidential candidate.

There was not the helter-skelter rush for the coliseum today that was seen in former years. People in the knowledge that the precious were safe and protected, the delegates and visitors took their time at arriving.

The assault on the coliseum pie counter began early. Two thousand pies were ready for the hungry throng.

All the old dodges and same new tricks were tried by ticketless ones who wanted to see the convention. One chap sprained his ankle on the coliseum steps and then naively suggested that he be taken to the emergency hospital just inside the door. He got a laugh.

Wets Forlorn Hope Lies in Congress

WASHINGTON, June 8.—The last remaining hope of the wets "today rested with the Senate." That this hope was slight and might yet be cut off by later court action was claimed by the drys and ruefully admitted by the anti-prohibitionists.

Congress, it was pointed out, under yesterday's supreme court action, has the right to set the alcoholic content of beverages and may be able to raise the one-half of 1 per cent limit established by the Volstead act.



LODGE DEFINES OPPOSITION TO WILSON AS PARTY ISSUE

Prefacing his speech with a vituperative misrepresentation of President Wilson, which two years ago would have brought out a fair bucket and a rail Senator Lodge, as temporary chairman, pleased the great assemblage of partisans. He said in part:

"In order to render to our country the service which we can accomplish in large measure, at least, if we undertake it with all our ability and in a disinterested public spirit, we must have the opportunity for service. That opportunity can only come through our being entrusted by the people with the power to control the executive authority. To this end Mr. Wilson and his dynasty, his heirs and assigns, or anybody that is his, anybody who with bent knee has served his purposes, must be driven from all control, from all influence upon the government of the United States. They must be driven from office and power not because they are democrats or progressives. Mr. Wilson stands for government which is not American. His methods, his constant if indirect assaults upon the constitution and upon all the traditions of free government, strike at the very life of the American principles upon which our government has always rested. The return of the democrats to power will Mr. Wilson or his dupes still be the leaders and masters of a great party, which before his advent possessed both traditions and principles, would be a long step in the direction of autocracy, for which Mr. Wilson yearns, and a heavy blow to the continuance of free representative government as we have always conceived and venerated it. The most essential reason for high costs of living is the attempt to increase production and particularly should every effort be made to advance the productivity of the farms. Just how much the government can do in this direction is uncertain, but it can aid and support and cannot be overlooked. We are also able to reduce the amount of the circulating medium in the form of federal reserve bank notes, the authority having been given during the war to increase the issue of these notes from two billions to four billions. It should be one of the first acts of the new administration to do with this essential point and it would have a marked effect in reducing prices by steady the advances of prices by law. We can provide for the control of credits in such manner as to give preference to the production of products. We are also able to reduce the amount of the circulating medium in the form of federal reserve bank notes, the authority having been given during the war to increase the issue of these notes from two billions to four billions. It should be one of the first acts of the new administration to do with this essential point and it would have a marked effect in reducing prices by steady the advances of prices by law. We can provide for the control of credits in such manner as to give preference to the production of products. 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