

DEVISING PLATFORM SEEN AS HARD TASK FOR G. O. P.

FOUR GROUPS WITH DIFFERENT APPROACHES WILL ASSIST IN FORMING POLICY, FLYNN SAYS

Constitutional Amendment Clamor, Backed by White and Fish, Changes Color of Republican Picture.

BY JOHN T. FLYNN
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CLEVELAND, June 8.—The men tackling the job of building a platform for the Republican candidate to stand on are having one of the most difficult tasks that ever faced a G. O. P. convention.

For instance, only a few weeks ago the Constitution was the floating log in the stream to which all factions of the party seemed to be able to cling. Senator Borah and Senator Dickinson seemed to be able to get together on defending the Ark of the Covenant of the Republic against the artfully concealed schemes of Roosevelt to amend the Constitution. But suddenly a demand—a demand supported by powerful voices such as those of William Allen White and Hamilton Fish—takes shape to have the Republicans attempt to beat the Democrats to a clamor for constitutional amendment.

The decision of the Supreme Court outlawing the New York minimum wage law may be a turning point, if not in this election, at least in American party policy. Republicans have been denouncing Roosevelt for attempting to set up a powerful central government controlling subjects which belong to the states. Then the Supreme Court says that even a state can not regulate the lives and health of its women in industry. Many Republicans are demanding that the convention beat the Democrats to a demand for a constitutional change which will correct this. Nothing may come of it. But it illustrates the formless, indefinable state of party policy out of which these platform carpenters have to fashion a party creed.

Four Groups Present

On the whole there are four groups here with differing approaches to the platform. One is the Borah element which wants some forthright declarations about big business, the money power, the utility interests and the Constitution. The other might be called the Vandenberg element which, while taking the traditional Republican position, is for a fair dilution of progressive measures.

The third is the extreme Old Guard position of the Senator Dickinson type which would blame the New Deal for everything from the weather to the loss of the Davis Cup matches. The Landon crowd represents the fourth, and it is tolerated by the practical minds of the Old Guard. This element is for generalities as far as possible and as few commitments as possible. It is not improbable that in its final content this group will have its way.

The difficulties of the platform committee make this a normal escape. Take, for instance, the agricultural problem. The Democrats have practically stolen all of the thunder of the Republicans.

Face Difficult Decision

The AAA act was in reality little more than a collection of various Republican devices offered at different times, including subsidies to offset tariff differences between the farmers and the factory, and crop restriction. It will be difficult to denounce all these things without also denouncing ancient Republican beliefs.

The platform probably will resort to two things in the farm field. One will be a promise of a subsidy, say about 42 cents on wheat, though the amount will not be named, to protect the farmer from tariffs he must pay on what he buys. The other will be a denunciation of the New Deal's "betrayal of the farmer" and a demand that his problem be dealt with by "constitutional" methods.

This will satisfy the angry East and will enable the Western congressmen who are forced to be for the AAA to explain that the Republicans will do as much for the farmers as the Democrats, only they will do it "constitutionally."

It also will call for a restoration of the foreign markets of the farmer. How this will be accomplished will not be suggested.

Democrats Steel Thunder
The tariff offers another thorny subject. For in 1932 the Democratic platform raised the wind against the wicked "Hawley-Smoot" tariff which was destroying our foreign trade. But the Democrats did nothing about this tariff after they got in.

Instead they added a few more courses of brick to our tariff walls. One was the devaluation of the dollar, which amounted to a 40 per cent increase in duties. The other was the adoption of the nationalist theory in toto with the NRA and the AAA.

This forces the Republicans to adopt the slogan of "revive foreign trade." Hoover first swung to that idea when he decided that the depression was due to foreign influences—depressions abroad and the collapse of our foreign trade with its repercussions here. It has been a handy idea.

Also the large banking interests are for a development of foreign trade since that is essential if we are to revive foreign financing. All groups, of course, favor the "balance-the-budget" plank and this will be given great prominence. Hoover's failure to balance the budget will be blamed on the Democrats in Congress. And Roosevelt will be roundly denounced for his attack on the nation's credit by building a great national debt. However, Landon's backers may force a little modification into this. Landon keeps saying that he favors balancing the budget "as quickly as possible." But how quickly does he mean?

The committee will be a unit on

state administration of relief. It will call for drastic cuts in expenditures, but it is doubtful if it will specify that the cuts be made in relief. This plank will be in very general terms—balance the budget as rapidly as possible by trimming government costs, studying relief problems and raising taxes to meet it, if necessary, but with a suggestion that this will not be necessary.

The platform makers are going to have trouble on the money plans. Of course the party of sound money will be for sound money. But there are silver states to be placated and some of them are states which are sorely needed. The platform, of course, can not call for a revaluation of the dollar in its old terms. It will therefore demand immediate steps to stabilize the dollar.

Will it call for a resumption of gold redemption? This is certainly a hot one to handle. Here again the difficulties may be side-stepped behind some generalities about an American dollar worth its full face value, etc.

The anti-trust law is one which will bring trouble. Here is another Republican position which Mr. Roosevelt has made off with. The NRA gave to business the modification of the anti-trust laws they wanted. The Guffey Act did the same.

The politicians may make faces about it but the fact remains that self-interest in industry is one of those things big business wanted and the Republicans have smiled upon. Now Roosevelt has almost wiped out the anti-trust act. Borah will clamor for its restoration.

Will it call for a new social security law? The East will want to get a few weasle words into this declaration. And there will probably be a plank about social security for the first time in a Republican platform.

ATTACK CHARGE BRINGS PROTEST

Committee Reported Ready to See McNutt on Alleged Beatings.

Protests were made today by Indianapolis liberals and by Communist Party leaders against the alleged sluggings of two men in Terre Haute Friday night.

Arthur Zinkin, of Indianapolis, said he would accompany a committee before Gov. McNutt to protest the alleged sluggings. The Governor's office said that no arrangements had been made to hear a protest from the committee.

The men, who alleged they were beaten by three men, one of whom they claimed were a policeman's uniform, were Sol Laska, state secretary of the Communist Party, and Herbert Kaufman, 31, temporary chairman of the Vigo County chapter of the party.

Charges Kidnaping
Mr. Kaufman charged he was kidnaped and beaten earlier in the week by three men, one of whom he charged then also was in a policeman's uniform.

Following Kaufman's charges last week, the American Civil Liberties Union protested to Mayor Samuel Becher of Terre Haute.

Police Chief James C. Yates of Terre Haute, scoffed at the new slugging charges today and said his department had received no official report of the occurrence.

"My patrolmen don't go around beating people up," he said. "If we want to take a man in we arrest him. They're circulating those stories because they know how I feel about agitators and radicals."

Mr. Zinkin said today that he believed the alleged sluggings were instigated by some Terre Haute business men and city officials.

WAR DEBT REMINDER BRINGS BRITISH REPLY
U. S. Is Told Situation at Present Unfavorable for Settlement.

By United Press
LONDON, June 8.—Great Britain has replied to the recent reminder from the United States of the war debt payment due June 15, reaffirming the British view that the circumstances do not warrant the presentation of proposals for a settlement at present.

However, it was understood the note reiterated Britain's willingness to resume discussions as soon as the situation is suitable.

CONSTITUTION IN LANDON'S PATH

Followers Demand Change at Risk of Wrecking Party 'Issue.'

(Continued from Page One)

ing out the plans, heedless of their paroled campaign song.

"Alf Landon learned a thing or two, he knows the right solution. And in the White House he will stay, within the Constitution."

The Kansas men's reasoning is that if Landon is nominated, and they are confident of it, he ought to have a Kansas platform. The Prairie Staters feel that the Liberty League's "Save the Constitution" issue will bring no answering heart-throbs in the farmer's breast. And on the other hand, without Federal co-ordination and direction, such an amendment would be only a remote danger to industrialists who contribute to the party and hate government interference in their business.

Strange Spectacle

Even some of the New Englanders are climbing on the Landon bandwagon, heedless of the demand of their textile manufacturers for national legislation to prevent low-wage Southern mills from exterminating them.

There is thus presented the strange spectacle of Rep. Bert Snell, House Republican leader and ex-powder magnate, Senator Jim Davis of Pennsylvania, the ex-steel pud-dler, and young Teddy Roosevelt, all plugging for an amendment that has not yet been defined. Some of them are not saying whether they are for minimum wages for women only, or for all persons.

Now the anti-Landon groups, led by Borah, Vandenberg and Steiwer, are wild-eyed radicals on economic matters, with complete contempt for the party. They smell a rat. Their opposition to Landon has been solidified noticeably since White and his amendment showed up. There is promise of a bitter battle here. Borah may choose it for his own version of "Custer's Last Stand" against the marauding Kansans.

Seen As Democratic Weapon
These people feel that Landon is offering a strong weapon to the Roosevelt Democrats. For one thing, the Democrats would say:

"Who's attacking the Supreme Court now?"

If the Democrats could persuade the voters that the proposed amendment wouldn't meet the situation, the kickback might be disastrous. For another, the way would be wide open for the Democrats to propose an amendment like this:

To authorize both state and Federal legislation covering the specific points needed to be covered—probably labor laws, farm and factory regulation within specified limits, and social security—with the Federal government empowered only to set a bottom standard below which no state might slash in competing with its neighbors.

The Landonites are due for a jolt when the A. F. of L. hits town. The A. F. of L. is on record for a constitutional amendment to authorize Federal legislation on minimum wages and maximum hours, and is virtually certain to oppose the White plan when the resolutions committee holds hearings tomorrow and Wednesday.

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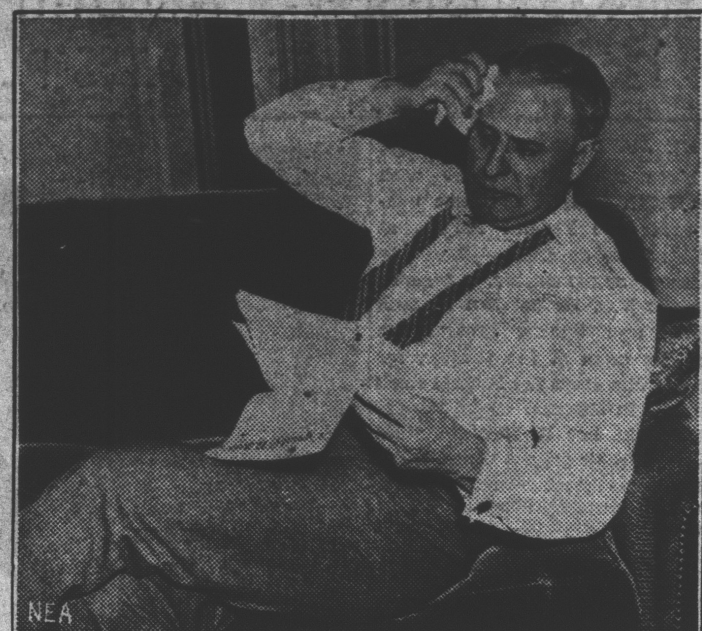
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Flee Bankruptcy Papers
A petition of voluntary bankruptcy was filed today in Federal Court by George Pandell, 1701 N. Capitol-av, who formerly operated a florist shop at 54 Monument Circle. Pandell's assets were listed at \$17 and his liabilities at \$500.

Republican Leaders Reach Cleveland for Convention



Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, left, who has announced that he would not accept the vice presidency, with the indication that only the presidential nomination would be satisfactory, is shown in a gay mood as he confers with George F. Getz, treasurer of the Republican National Committee, in Cleveland.



Senator Frederick Steiwer of Oregon in his hotel room in Cleveland putting the finishing touches on the speech he will deliver as key-note of the Republican national convention. He is prominently mentioned as a possible choice for the vice presidency.

JAMES WATSON FACES BATTLE

Opposed for Chairmanship Following Dispute on Committeewoman.

(Continued from Page One)

the waning power of Watson in Indiana G. O. P. politics. He likely will be elected delegation chairman at the pre-convention organizing meeting tonight, but he can not control the delegation.

A conflict has developed between former Gov. Goodrich and the veteran Republican leader, Henry Marshall, Lafayette, for the Indiana membership on the National Platform Committee.

Having held the position during the last two or three conventions, Mr. Marshall feels he has a sort of vested right in the job and the delegation may approve his stand. But Mr. Goodrich is reported to want the post to halt, if possible, any attempts at constitutional amendments recommendations.

Mr. Watson reported them in a room to settle their difficulties yesterday afternoon, but they emerged with the statement that they will take the matter up at the meeting tonight.

Mild-mannered George A. Ball, Muncie multimillionaire manufacturer, is slated for re-election as national committeeman. He has provided the delegates with the most palatial headquarters in the city, the Terminal Club in the Cleveland Hotel.

This was the private club rooms of the famed Van Sweringen brothers, whose railroad holdings Mr. Ball inherited on the auction block. Three hundred Hoosiers are expected to be permanent guests here throughout the convention, according to Secretary Harry Fenton. As many as six hundred to one thousand are expected at various times.

In addition to the hotel and club rooms, two lake steamers and an apartment house have been rented to accommodate them with sleeping quarters.



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LANDON BACKERS POSING AS AMATEURS, BUT KNOW THEIR WAY AROUND, CLAPPER FINDS

Managers Refuse to Be Concerned With Ballyhoo; Calmly Proceed to Engineer Kansan Into Nomination.

BY RAYMOND CLAPPER

CLEVELAND, June 8.—Part of the psychology of the Landon folks is to insist that they are novices in national politics—just a handful of country boys trying to get along.

Most of them are new in the big league. Yet, as will be seen, they are anything but novices. Most of them have had years of training in the most politically minded state in the prairie-state league.

That is why the Landon people are taking the convention-eve tantrums of their exasperated rivals with the calm tolerance of a seasoned parent who knows how to handle a fit of temper. They waste no time worrying over stop-Landon headlines, or over the public and private wisecracks about their candidate, or the mysterious young men who stand at hotel doors and distribute anonymous circulars reading, "So Landon Won't Talk, Eh?"

Although there is no hope of stopping Landon, the stoppers persist. Senator Vandenberg, who a few weeks ago gave the country to understand that he was not a candidate, is here, bitterly intimating that the reason Landon doesn't say more is that he doesn't know the answers.

Col. Knox' spokesman, former Senator George Moses, who gained fame in the prairie states by describing the Senators as "sons of the wild jackass," is exercising his bright vocabulary in accusing Landon of having given aid and comfort to the New Deal.

Dickinson Wants 'Fighter'
Senator Dickinson of Iowa—hell-raising Dick—after a bad scare as to whether he would be re-nominated, has come in, flushed with an unexpectedly large primary victory, full of vim, vigor and whimsy, demanding, sir, a presidential candidate who will fight. He wants a man—like himself—who is daring to eat raw dog-meat.

All of this makes the Landon folks smile. It's familiar stuff. They remember when their late Charley Curtis announced in 1928 that he didn't want Hoover because the party would have to apologize for him and then promptly accepted Hoover's vice presidential nomination.

They have heard about the praying women who held non-day prayer meetings at Houston in 1928, seeking divine intervention to save the Democratic Party from the curse of Smith.

Small Roosevelt Attacks
They remember that in 1932 Democrats were warning against Roosevelt's nomination, publicly stating that if nominated he couldn't carry a state east of the Mississippi, that he was weak, vacillating, and hadn't declared himself on anything.

Also the Landon folks remember that in each of these cases the target of these solemn warnings was easily nominated. So they recognize that these tactics are part of the

game, practically harmless, and they don't take them seriously. After Landon is nominated, leaders who now denounce him will be invited to send their best men into the Landon campaign organization, which will be done. All will be forgiven. Every one will agree that with Alf the party can not lose, and sweet harmony will flutter down to roost over Topeka. That's politics.

Worried by Borah
But one thing does worry the Landon folks—Senator Borah. Up to now Borah has resisted all of their blandishments. They wanted him to take charge of the platform, but he refused. So, they are going to try to box him in.

The plan is this. Landon managers hope to put an old Idaho buddy of Senator Borah's in charge of the convention platform committee—former Senator John Thomas.

He served until 1933 as the other Senator from Idaho. Born in Kansas, where he taught school, Thomas went to Idaho and became a banker and sheep raiser. He is a westerner, therefore reasonably progressive. He is a banker, therefore presumably sound.

Campaigns for Thomas
Borah campaigned for Thomas in 1932. Thomas will campaign for Borah in Idaho this year if the Senator wants to stand for reelection.

Senator Borah will have to be a contortionist to kick up much of a fuss over a platform which his old ally, Senator Thomas of Idaho, brings into the Republican convention.

Landon's friends are now working on delegates to have Thomas head the platform committee. Unless they run into trouble, he will. Even if they fail, the gesture won't have been wasted.

Offer Reward for Arrests
By United Press
PORTSMOUTH, O., June 8.—A reward of \$300 was offered today for the arrest and conviction of persons guilty of the recent bombings of homes of officials of the Portsmouth plant of the Wheeling Steel Corp., where a strike has been in progress three weeks.

For a crowd of amateurs, the Landon people get along very well.

Enjoy comfort in your kitchen this summer. You can cook a whole meal in an ELECTRIC Range without any appreciable increase in kitchen heat. Just place the food in the oven, turn the switch, and forget it until meal time.

The large oven is so well insulated that the heat is KEPT INSIDE—is not wasted in heating the kitchen. Even when baking, the oven top stays cool.

You are invited to attend ELECTRIC COOKING CLASSES 2:00 p. m. every Tuesday and Friday in the 6th floor auditorium (Home Economics Department) Electric Building.

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United States Weather Bureau

Summit 10:00 a.m. 61° Sunset 7:15

TEMPERATURE

June 8, 1936

7 a.m. 57° 10 a.m. 60°

1 p.m. 62° 4 p.m. 65°

7 p.m. 60° 11 a.m. 72°

1 p.m. 75° 4 p.m. 78°

7 p.m. 72° 11 a.m. 77°

1 p.m. 79° 4 p.m. 82°

7 p.m. 76° 11 a.m. 81°

1 p.m. 84° 4 p.m. 87°

7 p.m. 81° 11 a.m. 86°

1 p.m. 89° 4 p.m. 92°

7 p.m. 86° 11 a.m. 89°

1 p.m. 92° 4 p.m. 95°

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