

SIoux FALLS CONVENTION.

The South Dakota Constitutional Convention Opens and Emphatically Votes Down a Resolution to Adjourn.

Judge Edgerton President—The Work of Organizing—Representatives of All the Issues on Hand.

Dakota Constitution Makers.

SIoux FALLS, Dak., Special Telegram, Sept. 8.—The South Dakota constitutional convention assembled in Germania hall in this city to-day at 12:20 p. m. It was called to order by Territorial Secretary J. H. Teller. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. Jamison of Sioux Falls. The roll was then called by Secretary Teller, 68 delegates out of the 111 provided for by the original bill answering to their names. The oath of office was administered by Mr. Teller, the delegates all standing. Judge Edgerton, a member of the Yankton county delegation, was elected president by acclamation. After taking the oath of office he was escorted to the chair and delivered the following address:

Gentlemen: I return to you my sincere thanks for this expression of your confidence. This distinguished honor is unexpected and unsought, and I might add undesired. To be a member of a convention called to form the organic law of a great commonwealth is a distinguished honor. To be selected to preside over the deliberations of such a convention requires a peculiar training and experience which I do not claim and I am constrained to accept the place only in consideration of the manner in which it was bestowed and the further fact that the personnel of this body assures me that in the discharge of the trying duties imposed upon me I shall receive your kind indulgence. We have met here under peculiar circumstances. Congress has passed no enabling act. The legislature of this territory last winter authorized delegates elected from Southern Dakota to meet for the purpose of forming a constitution, republican in form, and performing all other things essential to the preparation of the territory for making application to the general government for the admission of such part of Dakota into the union of states. The territory has about 150,000 square miles, and if divided on the proposed line each portion will have 75,000 square miles, or thereabouts. Our growth has been phenomenal in products, in wealth and in population. The number of inhabitants of the territory is now 415,464, as ascertained by the recent census of which North Dakota has 152,149 and South Dakota 263,315. This portion of Dakota has to-day a greater population than any territory ever admitted in the Union. It has greater wealth and pays annually more taxes. It has more organized and equipped public institutions than any other territory ever had since the formation of the government. Under such circumstances, is it not reasonable that our people should desire admission? Our duty here under the circumstances may be a delicate one, but it is nevertheless a plain one, but requiring knowledge, judgment and patriotism in its performance. Our deliberations should, as I have no doubt they will, be characterized by the utmost prudence and discretion. It is said by some that our acts will be useless, from the fact that our enemies will never consent to division and admission. The men who thus prophesy must create a judge as I think, the foremost statesman of the nation. Have that confidence in the patriotism, the justice and the sound judgment which have generally characterized the public acts of these leaders which induces me to believe that they will act wisely when this question is fully presented. But, whatever may be the determination of the president and the congress of the United States, whether in accord with the wishes of our people or otherwise, we shall acquiesce obediently, although, if the decision be against us, reluctantly. Let us bring to the discharge of our duties here all the light which experience can furnish us and all the judgment and wisdom which nature and education have endowed us with. Possibly in the future, when this commonwealth has grown to be great and to be one of the best states of the Union, standing abreast with her sister states on the east and south, it may not be said of us as it frequently is of the framers of the constitution, that they builded better than they knew, but it is sufficient to fill the measure of a good man's ambition to feel assured that those who come after should be able to say "They builded as well as they knew."

The speaker was frequently interrupted with applause, especially when he referred to the increased population of South Dakota and her right to admission to the sisterhood of states. The organization was then completed by the election of the following officers:

Secretary, John Cain, Huron; assistant secretary, H. M. Avery, Sioux Falls; sergeant-at-arms, M. B. Kent, Elk Point. In the election of these officers the convention merely ratified the action of a caucus of a majority of the members, held at 9 o'clock this morning. As to the question of prayers, the president was authorized to invite the different clergymen of the city to officiate in turn as chaplain.

PROPOSED ADJOURNMENT.

At this point a bombshell was thrown into the convention in the form of the following resolution, introduced by Henry Neill of Grant county:

Whereas, The sixteenth legislative assembly of the Territory of Dakota, assumed the right to authorize the calling of a constitutional convention for that portion of the territory south of the forty-sixth parallel, a movement which ought to have its origin from the people themselves of that portion of the territory affected thereby; and, whereas, it is not the desire of the people of this territory that the same should be divided and said southern portion admitted separately to statehood, but that they desire admission as a whole; therefore, be it resolved, That this convention do now adjourn sine die.

No sooner had the resolution been read than Kanouse of Sanborn county jumped to his feet and moved to lay on the table. The motion was seconded in the twinkling of an eye. A roll call was demanded, and the vote stood 59 to 12. Judge Moody of Deadwood then arose and moved to reconsider and to lay the motion to reconsider on the table, in order, as he stated, to dispose of the question once for all. His motion was carried unanimously amid great applause. The delegates who voted against the motion to lay Neill's resolution on the table were: Andrews, Hamlin, Cranmer, Edmunds, Dow, Mason, McLeod and Leybourne, Brown, Gault, McPherson; Lowther and Neill, Grant; Potter, Walworth; Tousey, Lincoln; Westfall, Goddard.

Westfall explained his vote by stating that he thought the supporters of the resolution ought to have been given an opportunity to state their reasons for their action. The motion to adjourn sine die was not wholly unexpected by the opposition, but up to a late hour last night it appeared as though it would not be made. This morning, however, the friends of the movement, headed by the Brown and Grant county delegates, got together and decided to push it for all it was worth. They estimated their strength at about twenty votes in the convention, but the result showed that they reckoned without their host. The reason assigned by the delegates from the counties supporting the movement is that in the event of the formation of a state in South Dakota they would be too

near the boundary to suit them. The Brown and Grant county delegates claim that their constituents desire admission as a whole or division north and south, with the Missouri as the dividing line. Either measure they say would be perfectly acceptable to their people. The McPherson, Edmunds, Walworth, Lincoln and Goddard counties delegates assign about the same reason for their action. The twelve recalcitrant delegates claim to have scored a victory to-day, but others fail to see it in that light. They state, however, that they will turn in and work heartily for the constitution, leaving the question of its adoption to the people. The general opinion among the other delegates is that the twelve took the action they did to-day merely to place themselves on record as carrying out the instructions of their constituents.

THE PERSONNEL OF THE CONVENTION is considerably above the average of the last legislature, the delegations from Yankton county and the Black Hills district being particularly strong. All evince a desire to get at the work before them and adjourn at an early date. The principal questions that are liable to produce spirited discussion are prohibition, woman suffrage and Dakota's chronic ailment, the location of the capital. The prohibitionists are represented in force in the convention and will insist upon the insertion of a prohibition clause in the constitution. There are also a few woman suffragists who will demand recognition. When the capital question comes up there will probably be music, inasmuch as there are several aspirants for capital honors, among the more prominent being Pierre, Huron and Redfield. The question of railroad taxation will be also productive of considerable discussion. Some favor the taxation of gross earnings and others taxation upon the assessment plan, as in the case of other property. At the afternoon session to-day the following report of the committee on rules and order of business, recommending various standing committees and the number of delegates on each, was unanimously adopted:

Judiciary, 13; executive and administrative, 7; legislative, 7; bill of rights, 5; elections and right of suffrage, 7; name, boundaries and seat of government, 7; federal relations, 5; education and school lands, 9; municipal corporations, 5; corporations other than banking or municipal, 13; county and township organizations, 7; state, county and municipal indebtedness, 9; revenue and finance, 7; public accounts and expenditures, 7; state institutions and public buildings, including penitentiary and other reformatory institutions, 9; congressional and legislative appointments, 13; mines, mining and water rights, 7; roads, bridges and other internal improvements, 7; exemptions, real and personal, 9; rights of married women, 7; military affairs, 7; banking and currency, 7; amendments and revision of the constitution, 9; printing, 5; seal of state, coat of arms and design of same, 7; schedule, 13; miscellaneous subjects, 7; compensation of public officers, 7; arrangement and phraseology of the constitution, 9; manufactures and agriculture, 9; expenses of the convention, 5; engrossment and enrollment, 5.

Judge Edgerton is at work on the committee to-night, and will probably have the list ready to report to-morrow afternoon. The following chairmanships have been decided upon:

Judiciary, Moody of Lawrence; executive and administrative, Kellam of Brule; legislative, Kanouse of Sanborn; schedules, Campbell of Yankton; education and school lands, Moore of Beadle; congressional and legislative appointment, Dallard of Bon Homme; mines, mining and water rights, Booth of Custer; rights of married women, Coffin of Beadle; military affairs, Taylor of Lincoln; printing, Neill of Grant; compensation of public officers, Brookings of Minnehaha; bill of rights, Owen of Kingsbury.

The make up of the commission on name, boundaries and seat of government is causing considerable trouble, owing to the fact that so many towns are desirous of capital honors. The policy of the president will be to select men for this commission, who are from localities not interested. In addition to the towns named that wished the capitol are Chamberlain, Mitchell, Watertown and Yankton.

SIoux FALLS, Dak., Special Telegram, Sept. 9.—The first contribution to the constitution literature of South Dakota was made to-day in the form of the following resolution, introduced by Delegate Owens of Kingsbury county at the request of the Kingsbury Temperance union:

Resolved, That no person or corporation shall manufacture for sale any intoxicating liquor or shall keep for sale such liquor as a beverage. The legislature shall by law prescribe regulations for the enforcement of the provisions of this section, and provide suitable penalties for the violation thereof. The resolution followed a motion made by Owens for the appointment of a standing committee of nine on prohibition, and was referred thereto by common consent. The president will announce the committee to-morrow. From conversation with delegates it appears that there is a strong sentiment among them in favor of prohibition. If the question were put in the form of inserting a prohibition clause in the constitution, it would probably be carried by a majority. The leaders of the movement, however, have had several consultations, and decided the better course to be to adopt a distinct article providing for the submission of the question to the people. In this form the question will pass by nearly a unanimous vote.

THE WOMAN SUFFRAGE QUESTION will also be disposed of in the same manner. THE COMMITTEES.

The committees as announced by the president are as follows: Judiciary—Moody, Kellam, Campbell, Brookings, Dallard, Lichtenwaller, McCollum, Taylor, Carson, Haynes, Owen, Wright, Fowler. Executive and Administration—Neill, Weedon, Mason, Ryan, Walton, Grant, Gault. Legislative—Kanouse, Hanson, Jones, Lowther, Snow, Maynard, Grant. Education and School Lands—More, Ward of Yankton, Udyke, Owen, Phillips, McLeod, Miller, Myers, Haynes.

Congressional and Legislative Apportionment—Dallard, Fisher, Frank, Baker, Wright, Mason, Gregory, Bowen, Lowe, Lichtenwaller, Tousey, Goddard, Schultz.

Seal of State, Coat of Arms and Design of Same—Cleveland, Ward of Yankton, McCollum, Blair, Miller, Westfall, Gray. Printing—Neill, Gunderson, Tousey, Cranmer, Jessup.

Bill of Rights—Owen, More, Craig, Gifford, Goddard.

Elections and Right of Suffrage—Westfall, Dow, McCollum, Ward of Hughes, Parker, Campbell, Lansing.

Name, Boundaries and Seat of Government—Frank, Patten, Fisher, Blair, Reed, Lovethan, Murphy.

Federal Relations—Fowler, Ashton, Andrews, Baker, Bellon.

Municipal Corporations—Wright, Buechler, Murphy, Tychsen, Beebe.

Corporations Other Than Banking or Municipal—Ward of Hughes, Brookings, Britton, Hanson, Jessup, Lansing, Laybourne, Coniff, Eifes, Ryan, Gcnou, Gray, Gault.

County and Township Organizations—Allen, Coffin, Berkahl, Brown, Buechler, Churchill, Rose.

State, County and Municipal Indebtedness—Corson, Tyngsen, Andrus, Baker, Beebe, Bellon, Churchill, Cranmer and Dow. Revenue and Finance—Reed, Allen, Churchill, Crose, Goddard, Potter, White. Public Accounts and Indebtedness—Williams, Huntley, Kendall, Laybourne, Maynard, Oaks, Ryan.

State institutions and public buildings, including penitentiaries and other reformatory institutions—Fisher, McLeod, Walton, Ward of Yankton, Oaks, Cleveland, Fellows, Wright and Kanouse. Mines, mining and water rights—Booth, Hanson, Gifford, Frank, Grand, Fowler, and Phillips.

Roads, Bridges and Other Internal Improvements—Blair, Craig, Weedon, Pendleton, Patten, Weatherwax, Crose. Exemptions, Real and Personal—Bellon, Allen, Craig, Dahl, Eifes, Gehou, Gray, Gunderson, Wright.

Rights of Married Women—Coffin, Gault, Fellows, Westfall, Haynes, Goddard, Cranmer. Military Affairs—Taylor, Weatherwax, Tousey, Huntley, Jones, Sheets, Buechler.

Banking and Currency—Beebe, Jessup, Andrus, Goddard, Stone, Cramer, Alexander. Amendments and Revision of the Constitution—Dow, Carson, Ashton, Britton, Reed, Stone, Gifford.

Schedule—Campbell, Mellam, Dollard, Ward of Hughes, Booth, Kanouse, Neill, Lansing, Patten, Coffin, Huntley, Coniff, McGrath.

Miscellaneous Subjects—Alexander, White, Mason, Brown, Eifes, Schultz, Gunderson. Compensation of Public Officers—Brookings, Snow, Laybourne, Phillips, Taylor, Cleveland, Lowther.

Arrangement and Phraseology of the Constitution—Ward of Yankton, Moody, More, Lichtenwaller, Myers, Neill, Walton, Williams, Wright. Engrossment and Enrollment—Potter, Pendleton, Sheets, Dahl, McGrath.

Expenses of the Convention—Fellows, Murphy, Snow, Weatherwax, Gregory. Preamble—Udyke, Parker, Berdahl, Williams, Britton. Manufactures and Agriculture—Myers, Gregory, Brown, Kendall, Coniff, Berdahl, Stone, Pendleton, Snow.

The committee on prohibition to be announced by the president to-morrow, will be as follows: Owens, of Kingsbury; Goddard, of Minnehaha; More, of Beadle; Jessup, of Faulk; Walton, of Brookings; Dow, of Brown; Lichtenwaller, of Hughes; Phillips, of Lawrence; Gault, of McPherson.

OTHERWISE AND PERSONAL.

FRED ARCHER, the English jockey has this season ridden fifty-seven winning and ninety-five losing horses.

THE wife of the secretary of state has gone to the Bayard home in Delaware. She was accompanied by a portion of the family.

GEN. SHERIDAN has added to his fame by inventing a new dish which epicures are said to like—a young pig-tail fried with oil, seasoned with cayenne pepper, and trimmed with grated celery.

MR. MOTOR KEELY has discoursed to a select assemblage of Philadelphians on "wave plates," "disintegrators," "etheric vapor," and "fiddle-bows," and his auditors patiently heard him through and silently went away without killing Keely.

LORD CAIRNS' possessions consisted entirely of personal property. He did not leave an acre of land, and it is a remarkable circumstance that no chancellor has left any large territorial estate since Lord Eldon. Modern chancellors have preferred what Lord Beaconsfield termed "the sweet simplicity of the 3 per cents."

LORD WARWICK is one of those English landlords who are suffering particularly from the land depression. He has for some years been living in the quietest way. But his son's marriage with a great heiress will enable Warwick castle to be well maintained in the future. Lord Leigh, whose heir was killed last year in the Rocky mountains, is said to get about half the income he got some years ago from his great estate in Warwickshire.

WHEN Mr. Fawcett, the late postmaster general of England, returned to health after lying a time at death's door, he stated that his illness had at least freed him from the fear of death. In the most serious part of his trouble he felt no anxiety, and did not fear as he had in health, that the end would be preceded by great pain or a severe struggle. He felt that his heart would slowly, and without his knowledge cease to beat.

It is said that John Wesley was once walking with a brother, who relates to him his troubles, saying he did not know what he should do. They were at that moment passing a stone fence to a meadow over which a cow was looking. "Do you know," said Wesley, "why the cow looks over the wall?" "No," replied the one in trouble. "I will tell you," said Wesley, "because she cannot look through it; and that is what you must do with your troubles; look over and above them."

MARK PATTERSON, the distinguished Oxford professor and literary man, lately deceased, gave this account of his meeting an American young lady at a foreign table d'hote: "She was only 19, but she knew everything. She told me the exact amount of affection which the Princess C— has for her future husband, and she gave me a full account of the divorce laws in all the states of America. She appealed to me sometimes; of course I agreed. At last she asked whether I did not think she could write a book, and I told her that she was the most ignorant girl I ever met! But I took care to say so in such a way that she couldn't mind it."

DAKOTA TERRITORIAL NEWS.

GOVERNOR PIERCE.

His Speech in Chicago to the Army of the Tennessee.

At the banquet of the Army of the Tennessee in Chicago, the toast list was a long one, and the responses generally were in a happy vein. Col. Gilbert A. Pierce, governor of Dakota, responded to "The Nations;" Col. D. P. Dwyer of St. Louis spoke to the sentiment "The President of the United States;" Gov. Oglesby spoke upon "Our Boys;" Gen. Belknap responded to "The Memory of the Campaign;" Gen. M. M. Bane of Washington Territory spoke upon "The Army of the Tennessee," and Gen. Logan spoke upon "The Statesmen and Law Makers of the Civil War."

Col. Pierce said: I am free to confess that this subject is too large for me. Away back in the forties or even in the fifties, a man of ordinary intelligence might hope to respond fittingly to the toast of "The Nation," but the days of small things is past, since we have grown to be a union of thirty-eight states, each state an empire in itself, and more to follow soon, I hope. [Applause.] Since we have grown into the business of raising giants—giants in finance, giants in statesmanship, giants in war, why the nation has outstripped enology. The day of laudation has passed. The nation speaks for itself. [Applause.] It toots its own horn, as it were, and in the blast of that trumpet, so long and so musical, the voice of individual mortality may well be silent. Some one said a short time ago that England has dethroned her Stuart after revolutions lasting through centuries; France has established a republic from her grasp and quenched in the gaudy, dazzling despotism of the empire; Mexico, as we all know, has had twenty revolutions and enervating wars, sloth in the mart, schism in the temple, a foreign army on her shores, a foreign prince in her palaces and her noblest sons murdered or driven into exile. Republicanism is still an experiment with her, but America, after passing through the greatest war of modern times, came out of it calm, peaceful, secure, the law supreme and the public virtue unimpaired. [Applause.] Let the nation that aspired to greatness be sensible of wrong, my friends, increase and multiply almost as fast as the population. The wrongs that afflict this government, I am prepared to say, are for instance these: A man who is not fit to govern himself is apt to govern others worse. There are wrongs growing out of our legislation so far as relates to our states. I do not know where the fault is or where lies the remedy. But then, comrades, I do know that there is something radically wrong in our legislative bodies or why at the close should it be for them to adjourn and a general rejoicing? I do not now attempt to enumerate the serious wrongs that threaten our country. You understand the need of battling for right. You saw an individual wrong right when the great man that was shattered and abused stood on that memorable Fourth of July morning as the conqueror. I have now a souvenir of that day in the shape of a dispatch, and it reads in this way: "Vicksburg will surrender today at 12 o'clock. Conditions signed and surrender expected. Do not go off at half-cock. [Signed] J. A. Rawlins, adjutant general." A gentleman said to me this morning that we were growing old, that our ranks were being thinned, and that soon there would be none left of the army of the Tennessee. Well, it is true. We are growing old, to be sure when you look at the heads that are here to-night, but I have information that this gentleman himself is preparing to go to a minor in order to escape marriage. But there are many of the army of the Tennessee still in middle life. They are scattered all over this land. Last fall I stood before an audience of 2,000 men in Southern Dakota, composed of veterans of the war from the army that fought in the Rebellion. I asked them if they were men that fought with Grant at Shiloh, Fort Henry and in the Wilderness when patience so faithfully waited for final triumph. I asked if they were the men who marched with Sherman to the sea, and who were in their pride when M'PHERSON'S SWORD DROPPED FROM HIS HAND and Gen. John A. Logan took it up. You should have heard the answer. You should have heard the cheers that came from the hundreds of throats when I asked that, my friends. That is patriotism. They bore their great load with no help but faith and love for their country, that has never decreased by the lapse of years, for their soil has been enriched by the blood of its people. One of the most impressive sights to me is that which is represented by the manner guided by a friendly light, and by the rock that rises in massiveness to heaven. This rock with us, is the constellation that typifies the nation. Men may sin, as they have hitherto, but the rock will stand still illuminated by the great declaration that gives us life as a beacon light for civilization, and of that time mentioned by Abraham Lincoln when the mystic chords of love will give to us a blessed type of a renewed and happy union.

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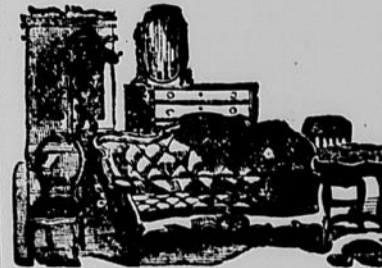
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