Address to the People of the Territory by a Committee of the Late Constitutional Convention.

The Beneficant Provisions of the New Constitution Pointed Out and the People Urged to Adopt It.

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Address To The People of The Territory of Territory

crimination, etc., than in this constitution. We say further to you that should the enemies of statehood succeed in compelling the neople of South Dakota to be consolidated in a state with North Dakota, it will be next to impossible, against the influence of the powerful railroad corporations which control that section, to secure any guards similar to those, in a constitution for Dakota as a whole. We call your attention especially to the Very carefully drawn and closely guarded provisions on these subjects. We know, that to the general popular interests throughout the new state, there is no subject upon which public interest is so alive as upon the subject of proserving the school funds, and the school lands, of the new state from loss, plunder and misuppropriation. We believe that the provisions of this constitution, many of them original, are the best upon stitution, of any state in the Union. We speak advisedly, when we say to you, that in all directions, the sentiment in favor of the admission of this part of Dakota, as a state, into the Union, has grown stronger each year, until the demand from the people of the United States, that this act of justice shall be done, is now almost universal. Almost all the great newspapers of the land, East as well as West, and even in California, are demanding that congress shall admit Dakota. We do not believe that the party now in power can afford to antagonize the sentiment of justice on the part of the American people which is thus voiced by the press. We do not believe that the present national administration will have the dispositions to do. One thing is sure, if the 250,000 people of Dakota by a full vote press. We do not believe that the present national administration will have the disposition so to do. One thing is sure, if the 250,000 people of Dakota by a full vote at the polls this coming November adopt this constitution and elect their state government, and elect such men as will represent their wishes, and if the people of the new state, after electing them, with the temper and firmness of American citizens stand upon their rights under the constitution of the United States, and support their state government, the people of the United States will respect their attitude, and will join with them in demanding their immediate admission. And one of two results will surely follow, either the immediate admission of the State of Dakota, by the next congress at its first session, or the hurling from power of the congress that thus abuses its power and defies the public sentiment of the country. We believe that your admission into the Union is a matter to be determined by you, by your votes at this election. If a full vote is polled, and your constitution is adopted, and your state government elected, no congress and no administration will dare to so far defy public opinion as to deny you admission.

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OIGANIZATION.

Having completed our work and discharged our duty to the b st of our ability, the rest of the work is now committed to you. We recommend that the county boards appointed in the various counties, organize their townships by appointing similar boards in them. The convention has made arrangements to send to your county boards sufficient supply of printed constitutions in the English, German and Scandivavian languages. See that these documents are thoroughly circulated. The form of the ballot prescribed by the convention is printed in these. See that it is correctly printed in each of your counties, and that abundance of tickets are furnished to all localities. For any further information or instruction as to the details of the election, any one can apply to the state executive committee by addressing its president, Hugh J. C. mpb/dl, at Yankton, Dak. A more important election was never held in this territory. You have to select a legislature, your state officers, representatives to congress, and your temporary seat of government. This yote cast at this election will probably determine for all time to come the destinies of this people. You have now the opportunity to secure for yourselves an economical government, and the just control of corporations, by the people, and separation from the disastrous and ruinous influences of a government for the whole

cure for yourselves an economical government, and the just control of corporations, by the people, and separation from the disastrous and ruinous influences of a government for the whole territory, and defeat of the iniquitous scheme to bind South Dakota forever in the chains of the Northern Pacific Railroad company, and commit her people forever to the burdens of taxation, which a legislature, sitting in North Dakota, will impose, and to the payment of taxes for the completion of that monument of extravagance and corruption, the capitol building at Bismarck.

We remind the people here of the fact lately disclosed in the litigation at Bismarck, in which the people of Dakota were defended by their attorney general against a monstrous scheme to swindle the people on the part of the late capital commission. It appears by the facts elicited during this litigation, that over \$40,000 of warrants were issued upon orders of the capital commission, by the late auditor of the territory, Mr. Ordway, and that the warrants are now being presented to the territorial treasurer for payment. Thus a sum of \$40,000, which the legislature never.voted, and which the people in

of property and an increase and stability of state, municipal and individual credit; (12) independent and complete self-government; (13) escape from the enormous taxation that will be necessary to complete the territorial capitol at Bismarck. All of which is respectively sub-

Bismarck. All of which is respectively submitted by order of the convention.

HUGH J. CAMPBELL,
W. W. BROOKINGS,
FRANK GAULT.
THEODORE D. KANOUSE, SAMUEL MILLER, Committee.

reported by the committee reads as follows:
All taxes to be raised in this state shall be uniform on all real and personal property according to its value in money, to be ascertained by such rules of appraisement as may be prescribed by the legislature so that all property of corporations and individuals shall bear an equal proportion of the burdens of taxation, and the legislature shall provide for the assessment and levying of taxes on all corporation property in the same manner and to be performed by the same person or persons, as shall by law be provided person or persons, as shall by law be provided for the assessing and levying of taxes on individual property.

The main point under discussion was whether railroad property should be assessed by a state board or by local town and county boards. The section was finally referred to the committee for further consideration. The report as adopted provides:

The legislature shall provide for an annual tax to defray ordinary expenses not to exceed in any one year two mills on the dollar; the levy for annual tax to pay the principal and interest of the public debt not to exceed the same rate; that the public debt not to exceed the same rate; that the power to tax corporations and corporate property shall not be surrendered by any contract to which the state shall be a party; that all banking property shall be taxed; that state property shall be exempt from taxation; that the legislature shall by general law exempt from taxation property used exclusively for agricultural and horticultural societies, schools, religious, cemetery and charitable purposes and personal property not exceeding \$200 for each individual; that the legislature shall, for the encouragement of tree planting, exempt from encouragement of tree planting, exempt from taxation for eight years not to exceed one quarter section of land to the extent of \$1,000; that the making of profit out of any public moneys be deemed a felony, and punishable by law.

QUALIFICATIONS OF ELECTORS.

The schedule committee, to whom was referred section 9 of the report of the committee on elections and right of suffrage, reported the following, to be submitted sep-

arately: Every person residing in this state who shall Every person residing in this state who shall be of the age of twenty-one and over and not legally disqualified, who shall have resided in the United States one year, in the state six months, in the county thirty days and in the election precinct where he or she offers to vote ten days next preceding any election, or shall be a qualified elector under the laws of the Territory of Dakota at the date of the ratification of this constitution by the people, and who shall be a citizen of the United States, or who shall have declared his or her intention to become such conformably to the naturalization laws of the United States, shall be a qualified elector at all elections in this state. ections in this state.

Resolutions introduced and referred to appropriate committees:

Prohibiting alien non-residents from holding title to more than 640 acres of land; granting the legislature the power to provide for the submis-

sion of any proposition to a vote of the people; prohibiting officers from accepting free passes.

A resolution was adopted that delegates be allowed per diem for each day of actual attendance upon the convention, including Sundays and excluding days on which any delegate has been absent by leave or other-

THE SALARIES.

At the evening session the report of the committee on compensation of public officers was adopted. The provisions with regard to salaries are as follows:

Governor \$2,500 Judges supreme court 2,500 Judges circuit court..... Secretary of state, treasurer and auditor.. Superintendent public instruction..... Attorney general.....Lieutenant governor, salary double that of state senator. Commissioner of school and public lands. 1,800

The legislature is granted power to increase salaries of governor and judges supreme court to \$3,000 and judges circuit court to \$2,500 after the year 1890. The report of the committee on state, county and municipal indebtedness was adopted.

and municipal indebtedness was adopted.

The report prohibits the state from loaning its credit to or subscribing to the capital stock of any corporation; allows the state to incur debts not exceeding in the aggregate \$500,000 to detray extraordinary expenses; prohibits cities, towns and municipalities from loaning their credits; limits county, city, town or school district debts to 5 per cent upon assessed value of taxable property therein; provides for the collection of an annual tax sufficient to pay the interest and principal of debts.

The provisions of the report of the com-

The provisions of the report of the committee on municipal corporations, as adopted, are as follows:

adopted, are as follows:

The legislature shall provide by general laws for the organization and classification of number; no tax assessment to be levied or collected, or debts contracted by municipal corporations, except in pursuance of law; no street passenger railway or telegraph or telephone lines to be constructed within the limits of any village without the consent of its authorities.

SIOUX FALLS, Dak , Special Telegram, Sept. 23.-The feature of to-day's session of the constitutional convention was the consideration of the report of the committee on exemptions, and the section adopted in the following form:

The right of the debtor to enjoy the comforts and necessaries of life shall be recognized by wholesome laws, exempting from forced sale a homestead, the value of which shall be limited and defined by law, and to all heads of families a reasonable amount of property, the kind and value of which to be fixed by general laws. RAILROAD TAXATION.

The committee on revenue and finance, to which was referred vesterday the matter of railroad taxation, reported the following section, which was adopted:

section, which was adopted:

All taxes to be raised in this state shall be uniform on all real and personal property according to its value in money, to be ascertained by such rules of appraisement and assessment as may be prescribed by the legislature by general law, so that every person and corporation shall pay a tax in proportion to the value of his, her or its property. And the legislature shall provide by general law for the assessing and levying of taxes on corporation property as near as may be by the same rules as are provided for the assessing and levying of taxes on individual property.

This settles the question, and leaves the power to assess the value of all railroad property with the local authorities. report of the committee on state institutions as adopted this morning contains the follow ing provisions:

ing provisions:

The charitable and penal institutions of the state to consist of a penitentiary, insane hospital, school for the deaf and dumb, school for the blind and reform school; said institutions to be under the control of a state board of charities and corrections, not to exceed five members, appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate; all state educational institutions to be under the control of a board of regents consisting of nine members appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate; cach institution to be governed by a board of trustees of five members appointed by the regents, said trustees to appoint faculties and provide for management; all removals subject to the approval of the regents; the regents to serve six years and trustees five years. trustees five years.

The report of the committee on mines, mining and water rights was all stricken out with the exception of the section referring to instruction in mining and metallurgy. The report of the committee on banking and currency, adopted without change, contains the following provisions:

SIOUX FALLS, Dak., Special Telegram, Sept. 22.—The report of the standing committee on revenue and finance occupied the attention of the constitutional convention the greater part of the day. Considerable discussion occurred on section two, which provides for the taxation of railroads. The section as reported by the committee reads as follows:

All taxes to be raised in this state shall be uniform on all real and personal property according to its value in money. To be assertiated the following provisions:

All general banking laws hereafter enacted to provide for the registry and countersigning by a security to the full amount thereof in state of United States securities; every banking company to cease operations within twenty years from the time of organization; the legislature to have power to provide for the reorganization of banking corporations to be led individually responsible for all contracts of such company to cease operations within twenty years from the time of organization; the legislature to banking corporations to be led individually responsible for all contracts of such continue for one year after a transfer or saic of stock.

The committee on roads, bridges and other equires.

The committee on roads, bridges and other internal improvements reported that in their judgment the interests of the people do not require any special provisions on the subject, except proper limitations to the power of the legislature to contract debt or expend public funds. The report of the committee on amendments and revision of the constitution was adopted. It contains the following provisions:

Amendments may be proposed in either house of the legislature, and when passed by both houses shall be transmitted to the people, a vote of a majority of electors being necessary to adoption of the same; or a convention for fram-ing amendments may be called by a vote of twothirds of the members of the legislature, subject to a vote of the people.

AN IMPORTANT COMMITTEE. A motion introduced by Moody of Lawrence was adopted, providing for the ap pointment of a commission of fifteen to take into consideration the measures necessary to carry out the law of the legislature and the proceedings of this convention relating to the holding of the election at which the constitution is to be submitted and officers to be provided for be elected. This committee will act until the executive committee of seven provided for in the schedule shall be appointed. Immediately after the opening of the evening session the committee was

announced, as follows: Campbell, Booth, Frank, Grant, Kellam, Ka-louse, Neill, Alexander, Gault, Haines, Brook-ngs, Dollard, Wright of Brookings, Williams and Owen.

A resolution was adopted that when the convention adjourns after drafting a constitution, t adjourn to the first Tuesday in May, the members then convening to have the power to adjourn from day to day or to a day certain. The committee on education and school lands submitted a supplemental report embodying the Iowa plan of investing school funds.

This authorizes the state to lend the public school funds to the several counties, the amount apportioned to each county to be in proportion to population; counties to pay 6 per cent interest for the use of the funds and to have authority to invest the same in farm mortgages, state or United State bonds at a rate of interest not to

exceed 7 per cent. The report was adopted, and section 7 amended so that that the rate of interest on

per cent. The report of the committee on the rights of married women, recommending that all property, real and personal, held in title by women before marriage continue so after marriage, was adopted. A resolution was adopted extending the thanks of the convention to Territorial Secretary Teller and Auditor Caldwell for courtesies ten-

Sioux Falls, Dak., Special Telegram, Sept. 24.—The convention spent the greater part of the day in consideration of the report of the committee on schedule. A long discussion occurred over section 9, relating to the counting of votes cast at the election to ratify the constitution. The report by the committee provided for a ballot, containing the words, "For the constitution," and "Against the constitution," as well as "For the article," and "Against the article," to be the article," and "Against the article," to be used in voting for an article separately submitted; also blanks for the insertion of names of persons to be voted for for state officers. In counting the votes, judges, according to the report, were authorized to count for the constitution all votes upon which neither the words "For," nor "Against," should be erased, the same rule to apply in counting votes cast for articles separately submitted. The discussion called out opinions from nearly every member of the convention, numerous suggestions being offered vention, numerous suggestions being offered as to the proper adjustment of the matter. The section under discussion was referred back to the committee with instructions to back to the committee with instructions to revise the same and report to the convention. At 5 o'clock the committee returned, and reported that she ballots contain the words: "For the constitution, Yes—No"; "For minority representation, Yes—No." The report was adopted without debate.

representation, Yes—No." The report was adopted without debate.

The report, as adopted, provides for the election and qualification of state officers, election and meeting of the legislature, election of representatives and United States senators. It provides further for an executive committee of seven, to be chosen by the convention, said committee to have full power to perform all things necessary to carry into effect the provisions of the schedule, to issue instructions and regulations as to elections, to fill vacancies in their own number, and to provide funds necessary to defray all expenses connected with the performance of their duties; the president of the committee to appoint in each county a county board of three members to exercise the powers and duties prescribed in the schedule. The president of the executive is to act with the territorial secretary and chief justice as a canvassing board, the first named to issue certificates of election to all state officers. The governor, representatives in concress and United States senators, together with two other persons selected by the executive committee, are created a commission in the event of a ratification of the constitution to present the same to the president and congress and request admission to the Union.

The report, with the exception of the sections referred back to the committee was a committee and the president and congress and request admission to the Union.

The report, with the exception of the sections referred back to the committee, was adopted with but few changes.

PRESIDENT EDGERTON OBJECTS.

When the question came for final adoption, President Edgerton called Owen to the chair,

took the floor and said:

While he had no desire to interfere with the work of the convention, yet he was opposed to certain sections of the schedule, and begged leave to state his reasons for voting against the report. He objected to the state officers taking the eath of office and proceeding with the performance of the duties until the state shall be admitted. The executive committee, in his opinion, was given too much power, and the legislature was allowed to convene in session for a term longer than sixty days, or until the state is admitted, or until their term of office expires.

The motion to adopt was carried by a vote took the floor and said:

The motion to adopt was carried by a vote of 33 to 29. Late in the afternoon the same matter came up again in the form of the fol-lowing resolution, introduced by Haynes of

Turner county:

Nothing in this constitution or schedule container shall be construed to authorize the logislature to exercise any powers except such as are necessary to its organization to elect United States senators, to provide and past means and measures necessary, preliminary and incident to admission to the Union, and to assemble, reassemble and adjourn from time to time; neither, to authorize any officer of the extime; neither, to authorize any officer of the ex-ecutive or administrative department to exer-eise any powers of his office, except such as may be preliminary and incident to admission to the Union; nor, to authorize any officer of the judicial department to exercise any of the duties of his office until the State of Dakota shall have been regularly admitted into the Union.

ADOPTED.

An adjournment will be reached to-morrow, or Saturday at the furthest. The executive

or Saturday at the furthest. The executive committee, as elected by the convention, to-night stands as follows:

Trist judicial circuit, Maj. J. K. Hansom, Yankton; Second circuit, E. P. Beebe, Sioux Falls; Third circuit, S. G. Updyke, Watertown; Fourth circuit, Join Caine, Huron; Fifth circuit, James A. Ward, Pierre; Sixth circuit, Audrew J. Simmonds, Rapid City; at large and president of the committee, Hugh J. Campbell, Yankton.

A QUESTION OF EXPENSES.

The committee of fifteen amendated last

The committee of fifteen appointed last evening to carry out the details of the work preliminary to the appointment of the executive committee, submitted the following recommendations:

That accounts for necessary expenses of the convention, including expenses for holding an election for the adoption of the constitution and carrying into effect all the purposes of the convention, be allowed and ordered paid as follows: Printing and distributing a hundred thousand copies of the constitution and address to the people, including form of ballot, as supplement to newsjapers, \$500; printing 5,000 copies of the constitution in pamphlet form, to be eigenfacted with a memorial to congress, \$500; printing and distributing 10,000 copies of the constitution in German, \$125; printing and distribution in Pamphlet form, together with the address to the people, and for printing the latter, \$375; compensation of clerk for compiling and preparing the troccedings of the convention for publication, and other necessary work, \$500; printing blanks for use at the election, and for distribution of the same, \$1,025; for precenting documents and statistics from territorial officers, \$75; for presenting the constage. torial officers, \$75; for presenting the constitu-tion to congress, \$100; stationery and postage, \$100; printing ballots, \$375; total, \$4,150.

\$100; printing ballots, \$375; total, \$1,150.

To offset Neill's resolution, instructing the schedule committee to provide for polling places in the counties of Emmons, McIntosh, Sargent, Dickey and Richland, McCollum moved the reconsideration of the motion, which, upon being carried, he moved that the polling places be ordered only in that section of the counties named lying south of the forty-sixth parallel. The motion passed without opposition, and this probably settles the question finally. The committee on miscellaneous subjects made the following report, which was adopted:

The powers of the government of this state.

The powers of the government of this state are divided into three distinct departments—the legislative, executive and judicial—and the powers and duties of each are prescribed by the

CLOSE OF THE CONVENTION.

Sioux Falls, Dak., Special Telegram, Sept. 25.—The work for which the convention was called together is finally ended. The constitution is completed, adopted, signed by the members and president, and ready to be bound and transmitted to the proper authorities. The little flurry caused by the discussion of Haines' resolution last evening passed over, and the proceedings of the last day were characterized by the utmost harmony The convention assembled this morning at the stated hour, 9 o'clock, transacted some unimportant business, and then took a recess to allow the committee on arrangement and phraseology to prepare their report. They had been hard at work nearly all night, lands sold shall be fixed at 6 instead of 4 2 large force of clerks being employed to

transcribe the document. At 10:30 a m. Rev. Joseph Ward of Yankton, chairman of the committee, appeared in the doorway, carrying in his hands a large roll of manuscript which every one recognized as the organte law of the coming State of Dakota. As he entered the hall he was greeted with prolonged applause. The convention was called to order, and precisely at 10:39 Secretary Cain began the herculean task of reading the lengthy document. Chairman Ward held in his hand an exact transcript of the copy used by the secretary, while the other lelegates referred to the original printed reports of the committees. Everybody settled

A LONG. STEADY PULL. and as the reading progressed, kept close watch for any accidental errors that might be found. But so we'l had the committee performed their work that the document remained substantially as it was placed before the convention. All day long the reading continued, the convention adjourning at 12:30 for dinner and reassembling at 2 o'clock. During the afternoon Neill of Grant county relieved Secretary Cain for an hour. Shortly after 5 o'clock the secretary completed his work and the convention took a rest for a few minutes. Then Campbell of Yankton moved that the constitution be adopted, signed by the president and members of the convention and attested by the secretary, properly bound and placed in the president's hands to deliver at the proper time to the proper authorities. Precisely at 5:17 the motion was put and carried unanimously, every delegate voting. There was no need to announce the vote. All felt that the great work had been accomplished, and immediately applause, long and loud, made the hall resound. The delegates present then advanced to the secretary's desk and affixed their signatures to the constitution. those who had left previously having done so before going. The committee on expenses of the convention then submitted the following report, which was allowed and ordered

The following members of county boards were appointed:

The following members of county boards were appointed:

Aurora, J. B. B. Jenkins, Henry Davlin, G. A. Grover; Beadle, A. Davis, J. W. Dove, E. C. Issenhuth: Brown, George H. Johnson, C. W. Sterling, Dr. Pettingill; Brookings, William Fisher, D. J. Darrow, U. D. Palmer; Buffalo, S. K. King, A. H. Orris, C. A. Osman; Brule, C. M. Gregory, T. B. Wetherell, S. W. Duncan; Bonn Homme, T. O. Bryant, Joseph Stowe, J. H. Turner; Butte, H. J. Grant; Bowman, Henry Chamberlain; Custer, S. I. Starkland, A. D. Clark, A. T. Feary; Campbell, William Matteson, E. H. McIntosh, William Owen; Clark, John E. Bennett, E. T. Conklin, Capt. Berry; Coddington, J. M. Westfall, R. B. Spicer, E. D. Wheelock; Clay, N. C. Hanson, Judge Coperland, Hans Myron; Deuel, B. A. Wade, H. H. Gurnsey, F. A. Brochter; Faulk, F. F. Hughes, James W. Johnston, F. A. Pangborn; Grant, A. M. Hogan, F. A. Elderidge, W. S. Crawford; Hutchinson, M. Schninger, William Baldwin, J. Shlavber; Hughes, McNanina, Luther Schlosser; Hyde, W. C. Wooley, Eli Johnson, T. H. McGuire; Hand, John C. Cogan, John Pyle, C. E. Cost, Hamilin, J. P. Cheever, H. M. Gilbertson, J. C. Springer; Hanson, John Foster, J. C. Gregory, R. F. Wickhen; Jerauld, H. M. Rice, M. J. Hournis, A. Gunderson; Kingsbury, John A. Owen, H. H. Sheets, J. C. Southwick; Lake, C. B. Kennedy, R. R. Wochken; Jerauld, H. G. Moulton, Frank Warren Hunt: Roberts, Edmund Cook, David Eastman, G. W. Lewis; Sully, J. A. Meloon; Spink, F. J. Fisher, Jonas Bushnell, George Jarvis; Sanborn, C. E. Hinds, S. J. Mitchell, Judge Church; Turner, A. Peterson, R. C. Tousley, Chris Olson; Union, A. O. Ringsrude, W. M. Williams, Frank Wade; Walworth, Ton Orr, H. H. Potter, Dr. Edwards, The vacancies will be filled as soon as possible. The executive committee will meet

The vacancies will be filled as soon as possible. The executive committee will meet to-morrow, and transact any important business that may come before it. At a caucus of the Republican members of the convention held this morning, it was decided to call a convention and put candidates for state offices in the field. A. C. Mellette, chairman of the Republican territorial committee, presided. Later in the day a circular was issued calling a meeting at Huron on Tuesday, Sept. 29, of those members of the central committee who live south of the forty-sixth parallel, the object of the meeting to make arrangements for calling a con-

vention to nominate state officers. ADJOURNED WITH GOOD FEELING. At the evening session of the convention nothing was done of importance. Short addresses were made by Maj. Kellam, Col. Parker and Judge Edgerton. Each speaker expressed satisfaction with the work done, and pledged himself to work for the success of the movement. The conventhen adjourned to meet at the

## ITEMS OF INTEREST.

provided for in the schedule.

An oyester 86 years old is announced as a venerable specimen among bi-

A new colony called Chicago has been started in San Diago county Cal-

Patent-medicine pictures framed in mica are notable evidence of culture in North Carolina mountains.

The smallest salary a minister in the Presbyterian church of Australia is permitted to receive is \$1,500. A ship is called "she" because it al-

ways has the last word. A ship is bound to answer its helm every time.

Several of the aristocratic pet dogs at senside resorts have their own maid who do nothing but feed and attend to them.

"No. sir. my daughter can never be yours." I don't want her to be my daughter," broke in the young ardent. 'I want her to be my wife.'

"See, papa, see!" exclaimed a little prattler, pointing to the moon, which had for some time been hidden by a cloud; "the moon is open again.

Will some of our brother agricultural writers please inform us why it is that the biggest potatoes always grow on top of the peck measure?

Garfield county, Ohio, is "669 girls short," according to the local report, and an urgent plea for female immigration is raised by the desolate bach-