

News Review of Current Events the World Over

Hoover and Curtis Stand on Platform Calling for Modification of 18th Amendment—Would Let State Decide for Themselves.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

LET each state decide for itself whether it will be wet or dry. That, briefly, is the prohibition plank adopted by the Republican national convention in Chicago. It was dictated by President Hoover, and the administration forces, in complete control of the convention, put it over after one of the most uproarious sessions in twenty years of Republican conventions.

The plank is not pleasing to the very wet Republicans and is completely obnoxious to the dry ones. Under the Republican plan congress will at all times be in general control of liquor law enforcement in those states that elect to remain dry. Also, congress will control the manufacture, sale and distribution of liquor within the borders of the wet states.

With the platform out of the way the convention proceeded to do what had been whispered in some quarters they might do. They renominated Herbert Hoover for President and Charles C. Curtis for Vice President.

The debate on the prohibition plank was the only thing that saved this convention from being a complete flop as far as thrills and excitement are concerned. In all other respects it was about as tame as a town meeting, the selection of standard bearers being a foregone conclusion. James R. Garfield, chairman of the resolutions committee, led the fight for the Hoover plank, while Senator Bingham and Nicholas Murray Butler headed the forces demanding a plank insisting on the repeal of the Eighteenth amendment.

Senator Bingham's plank was defeated by a vote of 681 to 472. An analysis of the vote shows that the Republicans in the south swung the balance against the northern, eastern and middle western states which furnish the bulk of the electoral votes for the election of Republican Presidents.

The Hoover plank as adopted reads in part as follows:

"We do not favor a submission limited to the issue of retention or repeal. For the American nation never in its history has gone backward, and in this case the progress which has been thus far made must be preserved, while the evils must be eliminated.

"We, therefore, believe that the people should have an opportunity to pass upon a proposed amendment the provision of which, while retaining the federal government power to preserve the gains already made in dealing with the evils inherent in the liquor traffic, shall allow states to deal with the problem as their citizens may determine, but subject always to the power of the federal government to protect those states where prohibition may exist and safeguard our citizens everywhere from the return of the saloon and its attendant abuses.

"Such an amendment should be promptly submitted to the states by congress, to be acted upon by state conventions called for that sole purpose in accordance with the provisions of Article V of the Constitution, and adequately safeguarded so as to be truly representative."

The entire platform, as submitted by the resolutions committee, was adopted by a viva voce vote. Some of the high lights follow:

Approval given an emergency relief fund for loans to states in need. No direct federal relief to individuals.

Shorter work week, shorter work day, legislation to stimulate home building, continuance of restricted immigration.

Prompt and drastic reduction of public expenditure urged. Further aid pledged through federal farm board, protective tariff duties, assistance to solve problems of controlling production.

Full protection to incapacitated veterans pledged. Cash payment of bonus not mentioned.

Favor extension of tariff protection to natural resource industries.

Committed to maintenance of navy on basis of parity with any nation. Opposed to further army personnel reduction.

American entry into league court favored. Settlement of international difficulties without "alliances or foreign partnerships" pledged.

Rigid laws favored to stamp out activities of gangsters, racketeers and kidnapers.

Relentless warfare pledged against narcotic traffic. Need cited for revision of banking laws on sounder basis.

Retention of gold standard pledged. Participation in international conferences on monetary questions.

Existing status of government in

Hawaii should be maintained. President's "constructive program" lauded as an attack on the depression with "far-reaching objectives, but entailing no danger to the budget."

Republican control of the federal government will "insure the orderly recovery of the country."

WHILE the Republicans were busy in Chicago, the Democrats made small progress in settling their pre-convention squabbles. One development was the rumor, originating in Chicago, that Melvin A. Traylor, the banker who is one of the dark horse possibilities for the Presidential nomination, might be put on the Roosevelt ticket in second place. It was said the New York governor would welcome this move. The Traylor campaign managers seemed to think the better ticket would be "Traylor and Roosevelt."

Support of the nominee, whoever he may be, was pledged by leaders of the party in a united appeal for completion of the party's \$1,500,000 victory fund before the opening of the national convention on June 27. The message to the rank and file was signed by Alfred E. Smith, Gov. Franklin Roosevelt, Jonett Shouse, Owen D. Young, Newton D. Baker, former Gov. James M. Cox, John W. Davis and 54 other leaders.

TRAGEDY stepped in to halt the debate on Representative Wright Patman's soldier bonus bill when Representative E. Eslick (Dem., Tenn.), dropped dead on the floor of the house while making an impassioned plea for the immediate payment of the \$2,400,000,000 bonus.

Shocked by the dramatic turn of events, the house adjourned immediately as a mark of respect.

Mr. Eslick had about half completed a ten-minute speech in behalf of the bonus. Picturing the World War army as "the flower of the country's manhood," he waved aside questions of finance and said:

"Mr. Speaker, I want to divert from the sordid—"
He never finished the sentence. As he collapsed, he clutched at a table and partially broke his fall. Dr. George W. Calver, Capitol physician, said he had died before he struck the floor. Mrs. Eslick was in the members' gallery at the time.

Tragedy added to futility is the history of this bonus bill. Hours of debate, largely for home consumption, wasted on a measure that was foredoomed before it was presented.

Though it passed the house by a vote of 211 to 176, there was no possible chance that the senate would pass it, and President Hoover had announced that he would veto it if it should be passed.

FRANZ VON PAPPEN, Germany's new aristocratic chancellor, held several conferences with the premiers of the states and the German agricultural council and succeeded in part in allaying their fears that his government intended eventually to overthrow the republic. He assured them solemnly that his rule would be "based entirely on the constitution of the reich," and denied that his cabinet was unsocial or reactionary. The dissolution of the reichstag and the calling of elections were thought necessary, he said, to a new unified expression of the national will, and it was his belief "that a new parliament will more readily produce a clear-cut majority for a policy of spiritual and ethical rehabilitation and an economic orientation that shall rest on Christian, national and social foundations."

WITHOUT debate the senate adopted a resolution presented by Senator Joe T. Robinson, Democratic floor leader, calling on the President to specify how and where additional savings were to be accomplished. The resolution was introduced in answer to President Hoover's demand that congress save \$150,000,000 to \$200,000,000 more.

In some quarters, the prediction was made that the need for additional budget balancing funds will serve to revive the sales tax, notwithstanding the fact that the billion dollar tax bill already has been enacted into law. The conference committee, still wrestling with the economy bill, has come to a virtual agreement on the plan for enforced furloughs for federal employees, instead of the 10 per cent pay cut plan.

STANISLAUS FELIX HAUSNER, the aviator, who attempted a flight from New York to Poland, was rescued by the steamship Circle Shell after drifting eight days on the Atlantic on his wrecked airplane. Hausner was completely exhausted when rescued and literally fell into the lifeboat that was lowered to pick him up. The captain of the ship reported by radio that Hausner had received only minor injuries and was progressing satisfactorily.

FOLLOWING the abortive attempt of three young Cubans to assassinate President Machado by throwing a bomb at him, the police of the island republic made a series of raids on the homes of prominent persons and asserted they had uncovered three separate plots against Machado's life. Nearly a hundred leading citizens of Havana were put in prison, and arms and explosives were seized. Capt. Miguel Calvo, chief of the police expert bureau, said: "Cubans have turned to terrorism in a desperate effort to oust President Machado dead or alive. I am convinced that Havana's leading men and women have gone crazy. The revelations are astounding and most disappointing for the future of Cuba and the Cubans."



President Machado.

The "society terrorists" belong to the ABC organization which sought to overthrow the government on May 20, Independence day, but were foiled by the discovery of their plot. Police say that other government leaders besides Machado are "marked for death."

CARLOS DAVILA apparently was not sufficiently radical in his policies toward foreign interests in Chile, so he was forced by the military and socialistic junta to resign as provisional President. Col. Marmaduke Grove, who had a great deal to do with the ousting of President Montero, remained in control, but there were rumors that an army group was plotting to bring ex-President Carlos Ibanez back from exile and form a new junta with Davila's aid. Capt. Alejandro Lazo, an intimate associate of Davila and of Ibanez, was arrested.

Extremist sentiment against Davila's continuance in the junta arose as a result of attacks against him by the leftist newspaper Opinion, which has led efforts of certain elements in northern Chile to force dissolution of the \$375,000,000 Cosach organization.

IT LOOKS as if Gaston B. Means, one of the slipperiest individuals in America, would have to spend another term in a federal penitentiary. A federal jury in Washington found him guilty of stealing \$104,000 entrusted to him by Mrs. Evelyn Walsh McLean for the purpose of ransom Col. Charles Lindbergh's baby, the court inflicted a sentence of 15 years' imprisonment and a fine of \$2,000. He was acquitted on two embezzlement charges. His attorney moved for a new trial and gave notice of appeal, and meanwhile Means was put back in jail.

POLICE action in the Lindbergh case is being attacked on both sides of the ocean, following the suicide of Violet Sharpe, English maid in the service of the Morrow family. The young woman had been questioned repeatedly by the police, and many persons in America and in England believe she had been so persecuted that she was driven to self-destruction, although it appears she was in no way implicated in the kidnapping. State Senator E. L. Richards of New Jersey attacked the administration of Governor Moore as responsible for blunders in the case and said a legislative investigation was "virtually certain."

In London a member of the house of commons brought up the matter by asking the foreign office if the government had its attention called to the suicide of Miss Sharpe and if it would make representations to the Washington government suggesting an inquiry as to what responsibility the police had for the girl's death.

WITH the avowed purpose of finding some formula to replace the expiring Hoover moratorium, the reparations conference opened Thursday in Lausanne, Switzerland. In preparation for this meeting, Prime Minister MacDonald went to Paris and conferred with Premier Herriot, and the result was, according to one dispatch from Paris, that the two statesmen "constituted themselves a ways and means committee for saving Europe by presenting a united front against Germany." Other correspondents thought the most likely outcome of the confab of the premiers would be an agreement for a new moratorium for Germany.

The Franco-British project is believed to include a temporary renewal of the moratorium which expires June 30, together with the appointment of a commission to study means of prolonging the moratorium indefinitely and the establishment of an equalizing system which eventually would annul both debts and reparations. This temporary solution, it is felt, would permit watching for a propitious moment to spring a new cancellation scheme on the United States.

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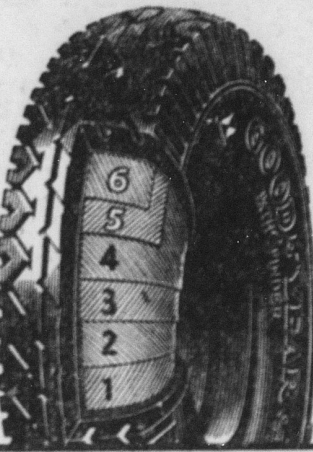
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ter will never compete with horse labor again; the cyclists, considerably knocked about, had to find refuge behind a stiff three-railed fence while the infuriated animal—obviously a cavalry brigadier's charger at one period of his existence—told them what he thought of them from the other side.—The Bulletin, Sydney.

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