

THE FOURTH DISTRICT UNANIMOUS FOR BRYAN

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Committee, a position of great responsibility filled by a North Carolinian for the first time in fifty years; a position coveted by every Democrat in Congress. He congratulated Mr. Pou, and the Democracy on the brightness of the future, that it was to meet a party that no longer had a "right to rule." "All things fail," he said, "Toddy, the terrible in charge there is now a day of the empty dinner pail and manufactory closed. The Democratic party stands for principles and the Republican party for pie."

The roll call showed all the counties represented and no contests, and after the report of the convention, a vote was made permanent. The delegations of the various counties sent forward their selections for the various convention officers and those were elected as follows:

Vice Presidents: Chatham, A. H. Pymum; Franklin, P. G. Alston; Johnston, W. E.; Johnston, Nash, T. M. Armstrong; Vance, Thad E. Manning; Wake, Ed. Chambers Smith.

Credentials Committee: Chatham, Spence Taylor; Franklin, J. B. King; Johnston, E. L. Hinton; Nash, Dr. M. R. Braswell; Vance, W. E. Gary; Wake, W. B. Snow.

Platform and Resolutions: Chatham, L. M. London; Franklin, R. B. White; Johnston, C. F. Kirby; Nash, J. B. Ramsey; Vance, A. J. Harris; Wake, John W. Hindle Jr.

Organization: Chatham, Jacob Thompson; Franklin, L. L. Joyner; Johnston, J. F. Lee; Nash, T. M. Armstrong; Vance, E. A. Powell; Wake, Fred W. Habel.

Executive Committee: Chatham, F. C. Poy; Franklin, J. A. Thomas; Johnston, T. H. Allred; Nash, J. P. Dunn; Vance, H. T. Powell; Wake, W. S. Turner.

The vice presidents, by invitation of the convention, "to add to the good looks" at the chair, a remark that provoked much humorous comment took seats with the presiding officer, and during parts of the convention Vice President Thad E. Manning occupied the chair.

Strong Endorsement of Bryan.

At this juncture Mr. Charles F. Kirby, of Johnston, was recognized, and he offered strong resolutions endorsing and instructing for Bryan, these being adopted unanimously after being seconded by Mr. F. W. Habel. The resolutions adopted read as follows:

Resolved, By the Democrats of the Fourth Congressional District in Convention assembled, that we heartily endorse to the National Convention at Denver, Col., he and they are hereby instructed to vote for the Hon. W. J. Bryan for nomination for President of the United States as the candidate of the Democratic party;

Resolved Second. That we hereby express our continued confidence in Mr. Bryan, he is the most distinguished private man in the land, and that we can greater in defeat, because of his inherent justice and righteousness which he has lived to see his principles advanced by his political adversaries. He is the unrelenting foe of criminal monopoly, the friend and leader of the plain people.

We again declare our love for this man and an unshaken confidence in him, and insist that our delegates before us shall use all honorable means to secure his nomination.

The cheers that greeted this resolution were especially enthusiastic, and the reading was interrupted with great applause as Mr. Bryan was referred to as "the unrelenting foe of criminal monopoly."

Nomination of Hon. E. W. Pou.

The convention then entered into the nomination of a candidate for Congress. Chatham was called and gave way to Nash. Mr. John B. Ramsey being recognized. In a most eloquent speech, delivered in a much earnest manner, he placed Hon. Edward W. Pou in nomination, paying tributes to his ability and worth, and saying in part:

"Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:

The period for holding a new election is almost at hand, and the hour actually arrived when the Democrats of this District in convention assembled have met to nominate for Congress the person whom we would clothe with that important trust.

"Vouchsafed by a Republican plan of government and guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States, this is privilege that comes to us once too often. For this privilege, this liberty of self government, along with other inalienable rights, political and religious; denied them in the mother country our pilgrim forefathers came to this new land to build homes and seek new fortunes."

"With what difficulty they carved from the forests rough logs with which to build rude huts, scarcely more than a 'shed' from the wind and a cover from the tempests of life they underwent; what hardships they endured, the perils of the sea, the dangers of the land—what success they finally achieved—the character of the government they evolved are matters of history and need not be recounted today. I but mention them to remind you how dearly our fathers prized the liberty of self government, the priceless heritage they left us, the very privilege we have met to enjoy."

"There is a kind of philosophy that teaches that for every pleasure there comes some corresponding pain. Whether that be true or not, this I know, that with every great privilege there comes its attendant responsibility. In this instance the responsibility of naming one for Congress, the responsibility of the care and comfort of his people—which in itself solution is the test of every ideal representative, the responsibility of naming the man in all this district best qualified by reason of heart, mind, and experience to represent our people at Washington, the responsibility of nominating one who will be a credit to himself and an honor to those who thus will honor him."

"Since the days of our first Congress, our National Assembly has been represented only by the greatest representative body in this country, but in the world. It is noted not so much for its inherent character as for the character of those who compose it. To its halls have been sent the very highest types of our citizenship—the very flower of our land. Into the care and keeping of our representatives we commit our peace, our prosperity and our plenty. To them we trust the welfare of eighty millions of people—the destiny of a nation."

"Never before in the history of our country have we been so much in need of straight-forward men; never before in the history of our politics have we been so in need of sound Democrats. Governed by a Republican President and a Republican majority—misguided, misdirected and benighted, we have waited far and long for the machinations of our others. The Republicans have brought the Monroe doctrine into disrepute—they have embarked us on a policy of empire which, if continued, must in the end spell ruin—they have carried the flag where, in consequence no Democrat can follow. Even now there is an effort being made to cut down Southern representation in Congress—thus reviving those things which we had hoped were buried and which plunged this country into civil warfare the most terrible in all history."

"We have at last been sent to Congress one who will solemnly protest against these things. My friends, The time demands strong minds, great hearts, true faith and willing hands."

"Men whom the lust of office does not kill."

"Men whom the spoils of office can not buy."

"Men who possess opinions and a will."

"Men who have honor, men who will not lie."

"Men who can stand before a demagogue, and damn his treacherous flattery without winking."

"Tall men, sun-crowned, who live above the fog."

"In public duty and in private thinking."

The first ballot recorded as follows:

Hayes, McCain, Douglass.

Chatham 32

Franklin 43

Johnston 17 1-3

Nash 10

Vance 21

Wake 75

Totals 59 1-3 91 1-3 166 1-2

On the second ballot Hayes and McCollum each increased five, and Douglass lost ten votes from Nash, these being divided with the others. The third ballot was sent to escourt Mr. Pou to the court-house, the committee being composed of Messrs. R. E. Jones, T. M. Arrington, R. E. Jones, R. B. White, of Franklin; R. S. McCain, of Vance, and R. H. Hayes of Chatham.

The Election of an Elector.

The convention then went into the election of a Presidential elector for this district. Mr. R. B. White, of Franklin, nominated Mr. R. S. McCain of Vance; Mr. W. B. Jones of Wake, nominated Mr. J. A. Harris of Vance, seconded Mr. B. M. Gatling, of Wake, did the same for Mr. Douglass. Mr. A. H. Bynum, of Chatham, nominated Mr. R. H. Hayes of Chatham, and Mr. R. Y. Young urged the nomination to be given to Mr. McCain, of Vance.

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