

Prohibition Still Leads All Discussions At The Democratic Convention

Tammany Chief and Garter Glass Arrive Today

BOTH SILENTLY BUSY Murphy Center of Speculation on Anti-Dry Plank.

Carter Glass Is Thought By Many to Have the President's Draft of a Platform—Leaders Say There Will Be No Fight on Any Plank on Convention Floor.

(By The Associated Press) San Francisco, June 24.—Preliminaries to the Democratic National convention got into the inevitable period of hurry today with the appearance of one after another of the men who are to play a leading part in the big quadrennial drama.

In the whispering it can be seen that the question of the party's policy on the bone dry question is to be the big theme of agitation with the prospect for a fight on the convention floor growing bigger and bigger.

Arrival of leaders and delegates also added some impetus to the discussion of presidential candidates, but that subject still remained well in the background.

Glass and Murphy Arrive Two important leaders duly arrived on the scene of action today. One was Carter Glass, of Virginia, fresh from Washington and generally reported as having brought President Wilson's own draft of a platform; the other was Charles F. Murphy, New York leader of Tammany Hall, coming directly from the widely heralded conference of the old line party strategists at French Lick, Ind.

Both of them were busy as bees, but as silent and cagey as mice. Privately they took careful stock of the situation and conferred earnestly with other leaders from far and wide. Publicly they refused to talk politics or outline what they hoped to accomplish, or predict what the convention would finally bring forth.

Mr. Murphy was the center of speculation on the subject of the plank on prohibition. The decision of the New York state conference for the repeal of the eighteenth amendment and the widely circulated report of the hatching of anti-bone dry plank at French Lick helped to bolster the impression of many delegates that the Tammany leader was busy in an effort to write such a plank into the platform.

Not only the Tammany chief but all of his lieutenant refused to discuss the subject or say further whether the prohibition question was launched at the conference at French Lick. Thomas Taggart of Indiana, and other principles in the conference are expected late today but it is generally predicted the lines of division on the prohibition issue will not be clearly drawn until the convention is well under way.

One element which tends to keep the prohibition question in flux was the uncertainty of many here regarding the position of President Wilson. The Virginia platform which was given the President's unqualified approval and which the national platform is expected to be modeled after is silent on the subject.

Some of Mr. Wilson's closest political friends are known to have prepared a liberalization plank for which they are ready to make a fight in the convention. This plank is said to have been drafted at a conference in Washington among men high in the party's councils but does not mention beer or wine by name but makes a blanket declaration for a more liberal interpretation by congress of the prohibition amendment. It is expected that strong efforts will be made to have the administration throw its influence behind that proposal.

Many leaders, including Homer S. Cummins, reiterated their confidence that no other plank in the platform will lead to a fight on the floor. The lineup of nations declaration as framed by the administration forces is declared by these leaders to be certain of acceptance after only a nominal squabble in the platform committee.

William J. Bryan, who is expected to lead the attack on the treaty plank, as well as the fight against prohibition liberalization declarations, is still missing from the constellation of leaders here. He will arrive late this week and no one pretends to know what plan of campaign he is contemplating.

PRESIDENT WONT ADDRESS DEMOCRATS (By The Associated Press) Washington, June 24.—Reports from San Francisco that President Wilson would address the Democratic convention over the long distance were denied at the White House.

EXPULSION FROM N. Y. COTTON EXCHANGE (By The Associated Press) New York, June 24.—Allen Ryan, chairman of the Stutz Motor, has been expelled from the N. Y. Exchange, according to an announcement of the Board of Governors.

Women factory workers in Japan outnumber the men by more than 1,000,000.

MAY CALL OFF MORRISON-GARDNER JOINT DEBATE (By The Associated Press) Raleigh, June 24.—J. Crawford Biggs, manager for O. Max Gardner, of Shelby, and Heriot Clarkson, manager for Cameron Morrison, of Charlotte, candidate for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, will meet Governor Bickett in the executive office at 8 o'clock tonight to consider the advisability of calling off the joint debate scheduled for Monday night in Raleigh.

Governor Bickett and other party leaders have urged the cancelling of the debate in the interest of party harmony. Morrison Leaves It to Clarkson Aberdeen, June 24.—Before leaving here today for Jonesboro and Raeford Cameron Morrison, candidate for the Democratic nomination for governor, asked as to what effect the action of Governor Bickett and Robt. N. Page urging against a joint discussion between himself and his opponent, O. Max Gardner, would have on the situation said: "I am ready to meet Mr. Gardner in debate. But in his Charlotte speech last night Mr. Gardner is quoted as saying it was not his intention to force the attack. This being true I don't see what we are going to debate about because I never attacked Mr. Gardner and don't intend to. I welcome the opportunity to make a good Democratic speech to the big audience that would come out to see Mr. Gardner and myself in action.

"Whatever course my manager, Mr. Clarkson pursues will be final with me," Mr. Morrison said, "and I am willing to leave the matter to his wisdom."

WANT PARTY LEADERS G. O. P. REMOVED Meeting of Missouri Republicans to Take Action Looking to the Unharnessing of Sevier. (By The Associated Press.) Sedalia, Mo., June 24.—Missouri Republicans met here today to take action on a call issued by W. C. Pierce, J. F. Hull and others of northwest Missouri demanding a meeting of Republicans from all sections of the state "to clean house in the party."

In particular they are asked to take action in the cases of Jacob L. Babler, national committeeman from Missouri, and W. L. Cole, state Republican chairman, both of whom admitted before the United States senate committee investigating pre-convention campaign expenses of presidential candidates that they received money from Lowden managers.

A resolution demanding the resignation of Babler and Cole, or in the event of their declining to resign, their removal has been prepared for presentation to the meeting.

Champion of the Drys W. J. Bryan is going to San Francisco with the intention of writing a dry plank in the Democratic platform, if possible. A number of delegates are going to fight him.

Exports Double. England, according to Walsh, is keeping her coal at home, then buying American coal and using it as a medium of exchange for acquiring Cuban sugar, Argentine beef and raw materials from Mediterranean countries.

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Americans who want this coal, but can't bid against the export price, point out that as the coal shortage gets more acute every ton taken from the domestic market and shipped abroad is an increasingly greater drain.

Canada is a big factor in our coal-export market. Her mines supply only 41 per cent of her coal needs, and in about 22,000,000 tons of American coal.

Canada has thousands of American coal cars, which she is holding as hostages until American railroads locate and send home other cars that belong in Canada but haven't been returned to her.

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G. B. AND SESTS LIGHT ON COLOGNE

Germans Are Allowed to Run the City. SHORTAGE OF FOOD

(Special to The Evening Post) Cologne, June 24.—The traveler landing in this mighty city of the Rhinish province of Germany, goes to the big Excelsior hotel in the very shadow of the great Cathedral and finds his way barred by two British Tommies with businesslike bayonets. The hotel has been taken over for the use of the British army of the Rhine. He goes to three or four more leading hotels all in the same neighborhood and likewise finds that bedrooms, restaurants and all have been taken over.

In the midst of a vigorous and exciting chase for a place to sleep and eat, he is very apt to feel that British rule is severe rule. But it isn't.

Germans Run Towns The Briton has been ruling conquered places and peoples for centuries and the job "comes natural" to him. As a matter of fact, the British hand rests very lightly upon this city and the whole British zone of occupation. The government of the town is entirely in the hands of the duly constituted and elected German authorities.

The chief signs of English occupation are helpful ones. Your hotel room has a placard in English, signed by an English army officer, telling how much the hotel can charge you. There are similar English signs in cars and taxis.

British soldiers are as common a sight here as Americans are in Coblenz. They are all over the place, roaming at sweet will—Englishmen, Welshmen and Scots in their kilts. But there is one noticeable thing—in the day time.

No Frauleins By Day In the American zone almost every Yank private and non-com you see has a German Fraulein in his arm. In the British zone, you don't see any such thing.

But at night, it's different. Many of the Britons are billeted in private homes. In the evening they take out the girls of the family. Any many of them will take German wives back home with them some day. Our army forbids marriages between Yanks and German girls. We are still technically at war with Germany. But England and Germany are at peace.

Result is there is no interdict against such marriages. On the contrary, an officer is assigned to attend them. But despite England's light rule Cologne is the most unhappy city I saw in the Rhine provinces. Added to her labor troubles are food troubles. White bread is unknown.

Hard Hit For Food In happier days Cologne used to draw her meat supplies from other parts of Germany. Now those communities hold on to their meat and all that Cologne has is used for the sick and the old. The bulk of the people live on very dark brown bread and potatoes. Even in the high class restaurants I was unable to get red meat. You could have eggs and "chicken" which came from very old fowls. Pastry and milk are almost unknown.

The county meeting of the Patriotic Sons of America will be held with the Mill Bridge camp tonight and a large delegation will go up from Salisbury camp.

Exports Double. England, according to Walsh, is keeping her coal at home, then buying American coal and using it as a medium of exchange for acquiring Cuban sugar, Argentine beef and raw materials from Mediterranean countries.

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This would be at a yearly rate of 48,000,000 tons. In other words, out of every 11 tons of coal mined in the United States, one would be exported.

Americans who want this coal, but can't bid against the export price, point out that as the coal shortage gets more acute every ton taken from the domestic market and shipped abroad is an increasingly greater drain.

Canada is a big factor in our coal-export market. Her mines supply only 41 per cent of her coal needs, and in about 22,000,000 tons of American coal.

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EUROPE BIDS COAL PRICES SKY HIGH

Cream of American Mines Products to Tidewater. U. S. FACES FAMINE

While the Best Coal is Being Shipped to Ports to be Sent to Europe American Consumers Are Charged Exorbitant Prices for Cheap Grades.

EDITOR'S NOTE:—The Evening Post's coal investigators already have revealed the prospective \$1,000,000,000 profit in coal, and the famine threatening, particularly for the northwest. Tomorrow's report will touch another vital spot, the car congestion causing it all.

(Special to The Evening Post) \$6 A TON MORE. Coal jobbers say consumers will pay at least \$6 a ton more for their winter's coal, if present alarming conditions continue.

Coal operators, whose production cost by federal trade commission figures was \$2.32 a ton in January, are now paying their miners 45 cents a ton more, making the cost 2.77.

But some coal operators actually are charging two and three times this price, with bidders scrambling for the meager supply at any price.

There are 5000 operators, with about 7000 mines. Many of these are getting no cars, and making little or no profit.

Others, favored by the railroads, and getting some cars, are taking profits in a few weeks that reach, in extreme cases, as high as 75 to 100 per cent of their total capital invested.

Hampton Roads, June 24.—Practically the entire output of Pocahontas, West Virginia Splint and Kentucky Block coals is flowing east for export through Hampton Roads and other Atlantic ports.

The movement is so great that these three, the highest grades of American domestic coals, have virtually disappeared from the domestic market and cannot be bought by Americans at a price within reason.

No matter how big the American retailer bids, the exporter goes him a dollar better—and gets the coal.

The export drain is particularly strong on the output of Pocahontas mines and the mines around Fairmont and New River, W. Va. To get this cream of American coal, exporters are paying as high as \$11.50 a net ton, with correspondingly higher prices for Pennsylvania anthracite.

Coal jobbers say that if this price were cut in half, the operators would still be getting a fair price.

The heavy export demand sets the price pace for the American who buys in the domestic market.

Americans either pay the export price or don't get their orders filled at the mines, for the demand for coal at Tidewater is now unlimited. Exporters are taking every ton they can get.

No matter how scarce coal is, no matter how scarce coal cars are, the exporter's order is filled first.

These export shipments, as they flow east, have clogged the railroads so that New England mills have run up an S. O. S. signal. They want some of this coal. They want Hampton Roads and other ports and hauled into New England.

Senator Walsh of Massachusetts, is demanding embargo of some from on coal exports. He points to England, which has recently clamped on the lid by limiting coal exports to 10 per cent of her total production, though in 1913-1914 England exported 34 out of every 100 tons of coal from her mines.

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CITIES NEED MORE REVENUE

More Than Ten Per Cent Increase, Mayors Say. URGES SPECIAL RELIEF

Law Limits Cities to Not More Than Ten Per Cent Increase on Funds Available for Preceding Year Which is Not Enough They Say—Gas. Co. Ask Increased Rate.

(By MAX ABERNETHY) Raleigh, June 24.—That quite a number of North Carolina cities will be seriously handicapped for revenue during the coming year unless the special session of the legislature affords some measure of relief was the opinion expressed by a number of the mayors and finance officers of cities in cities in Raleigh this week for a conference on municipal finance and other matters. The ten per cent limitation provided in section three of the revaluation act prevents municipal authorities from getting more than ten per cent more revenue than was collected last year.

The cost of municipal living, like the cost of individual living, has refused to respond to the onslaughts made against the high cost of existence in this country, and when the municipalities are prevented from collecting more than ten per cent over the revenue available last year, it leaves the finance officers of cities and towns up against one of the worst situations ever faced in North Carolina. The cost of labor, coal, and all kinds of materials, have increased many times ten per cent, and it is not only impossible for the average city or town to make needed improvements, but for the most part it will be impossible for them to pay their debts during the coming year.

In the face of this situation there is a general demand of the teachers of the state for more pay, which has to be met or the teachers go to some other city or to some other state for work. The state of course, furnishes a part of the money with which teachers salaries are paid, but the city has to make up the difference by local assessments.

In view of this situation the mayors have appointed a committee to confer with the tax commission and with the members of the legislature for the purpose of providing some relief. It is suggested that the revaluation law be amended so as to allow municipalities to collect more than ten percent by levying special taxes after the matter has been referred to the people. Another suggestion was that bonds be sold below par, but that met considerable opposition. In order to help work out this and other problems, the old Municipal Association was revised this week, and Mayor Gallitan Roberts of Asheville, was elected president of the organization.

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OPPOSES ALLIES

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