

SKINNER THE CHAIRMAN

Populist Convention Called to Order at Noon.

WORKING RAPIDLY.

Platform Presented and the Convention Preparing to Make a Nomination for Governor—Cy. Thompson for Governor.

Senator Marion Butler called the Populist State convention to order at 12:15 today in Metropolitan Hall. He made only a few remarks and directed Secretary Hal Ayer to read the roll of counties. Every county was represented and there was only one contest. The contestants from the county of New Hanover were accorded five votes and the contestants one.

The hall was taxed to its utmost capacity to accommodate the delegates, many of whom occupied windows and stood around in the aisles. The galleries overflowed with on-lookers. The heat was torrid. Delegates were in their shirt sleeves and a thousand fans were in motion. The convention was composed of rugged faces, which indicated that the delegates were from the rural districts. A sprinkling of several char-coal countenances lent interest to the body. The darkies did little as possible to make themselves conspicuous.

After the calling of the roll Senator Butler again took the floor. He stated that he had the honor of calling the first and second Populist State Conventions to order, and that he felt prouder of being a Populist now than ever before. "I have the honor to announce the temporary chairman, the Hon. L. C. Caldwell, mayor of Statesville," spoke the chairman in retiring.

Mr. Caldwell acknowledged the honor in taking the chair. He stated among other things that Populist blood ran higher than the temperature in August. Continuing he said, "There is no prescription in the Peoples party. I look into the faces of freemen today—into the faces of men who want to give this State a chivalrous ticket. The Populist party is the only party that wants to do right."

Mr. Caldwell declared the convention ready for business after speaking ten minutes.

Mr. Holding, of Chatham, and Mr. Penny, of Wake, were appointed door-keepers.

A roll call was ordered for the purpose of ascertaining the various committees as selected by the districts. They are given as follows:

Committee on Credentials.

J S Mitchell, first district; A L Swinson, second district; Zed T Kivette, third district; J M Williams, fourth district; Dr. Merritt, fifth district; R W Elliott, sixth district; Z F Westmoreland, seventh district; J Y Hamrick, eighth district; W L Hendron, ninth district.

Committee on Permanent Organization.

Harry Skinner, W E Fountain, W H Smith; J L Kelly, T B Lindsay, W A Oldham, G Ed Kesler, S M Asbury, A D K Wallace.

Committee on Platform.

T E McClosky, M L Wood, Dr Cyrus Thompson, A C Green, J A Walker, S A Edmunds, A C Shuford, Frank McDowell, J M Coutner.

The Vice Presidents.

John Brady, J T B Hoover, W K Rickford, P T Massey, Dr Wm Merritt, W R Henry, L C Caldwell, J W Speech and Geo E Boggs.

Senator Butler announced that it was evident that the first work of the convention was over and that the reports of the committees would be necessary before permanent organization could be affected. Therefore he moved that a recess of one hour and a half be taken in order to get dinner and give the committees time to report.

Harry Skinner offered a substitute to Butler's motion for a recess of two hours. A delegate yelled out, "we want to get to work and nominate a ticket."

"We're not going to put out a ticket on the 13th of the month," said Congressman Skinner, but the crowd failed to clutch the force of the remark. Skinner's motion was lost and a recess was taken at 12:45 for an hour and a half.

The delegates were slow in assembling after dinner. Senator Butler did not arrive until after

temporary chairman Caldwell called the convention to order at 3 p. m. The committee on credentials reported through the chairman, J. Y. Hamrick, authorizing Mr. F. White to cast the vote of Chowan county.

It also recommended that proxies be given to the permanent organization reported in favor of Col. Harry Skinner for permanent chairman, Hal W. Ayer, of the Caucasian, J. W. Ramsey, of the Progressive Farmer, as permanent secretaries, and all editors of reform papers as assistant secretaries.

The chairman appointed Messrs. Lloyd and Peace as a Committee of two to escort the permanent chairman to the chair. Col. Skinner was given hearty applause on his appearance.

Rev. H. W. Norris, of Wake, was invited to invoke divine blessing before proceeding to business. At the suggestion of Chairman Skinner the delegations were arranged by counties. After this delay, which occasioned a good deal of confusion Chairman Skinner declared the convention permanently organized and ready for business.

He recited some of the early history of the People's party and declared that it enunciated a second declaration of independence at the convention in Omaha. He declared, but that for the Peoples party, the two old parties would now be clinging to the single standard.

Mr. Skinner declared that the People's Party had swallowed the Democratic party. He said that the Democrats had named a candidate whom the Populists would have been glad to nominate. "Mr. Bryan was elected to Congress by Populists votes and he is more of a Populist today than any Populist in the State. I am surprised at the North Carolina Democrats. The State has always been true to duty. It has always been patriotic. I would have expected that the Democrats of this State would have come to us after our convention and said, 'God bless you, we'll help elect Tom Watson.'" Congressman Skinner announced that the purpose of the Populists would be to corral all the silver forces for Bryan. He said that Watson would never be taken down.

"We had co-operation in North Carolina in 1894 and we put ourselves above every other Southern State, because we know that our vote both black and whites will be honestly counted. [Loud applause.]

"If we have got to co-operate with the Democrats to obtain free silver, let us do it; if we have got to co-operate with the Republicans to secure good local government and a six per cent interest law let us do that. [Loud applause.]

Col. Skinner declared that he was a friend of the colored man, believing in extending the education of the race, but that the colored man could not expect to govern the white race.

The Committee on Platform submitted its report at 4 o'clock. Dr. Cyrus Thompson was the chairman of the committee. The platform endorses the Populist platform enacted at St. Louis. It favors the election law of the last Legislature as well as the county government system and the six per cent interest law. A reformatory for young criminals is advocated and the non-partizan judiciary endorsed. The State Democratic administration is condemned for failure to execute the anti-trust laws. The lease of the N. C. railroad is condemned. The removal of cases from State courts to Federal courts is also condemned.

A resolution was offered to fill in the Republican skeleton ticket which received only about three votes. The convention then went into nomination for Governor, and the call of counties began for candidates.

"Forced Fusion" the New Idea. The policy of a number of the leaders of the Populist party which at one time favored the nomination of a straight ticket by the convention has been entirely changed, and it now seems that what is termed as "forced fusion" will be the result of the convention's action in putting forth a ticket.

The Russell-Pritchard element of the Republican party is not to be taken into account into this forced fusion arrangement. The plan is to nominate a Populist for Governor, Col. O. H. Dockery for Lieutenant Governor, Zeb Vance Walser for Attorney General with possibly one or more Republicans and then complete the ticket with Populists. It is said that Ruf Henderson is to be given the marble heart and a "silver" Republican put in his place.

It is stated on high authority that

Butler has given his consent to this policy and that he, with several other Populists, has further agreed to comply with the Republican Executive Committee's ultimatum, allowing that party to name Senator Pritchard's successor. No exactions are to be made of the Republicans in supporting the National ticket.

Butler's idea last evening was to put out an electoral ticket composed of silver Republicans, Democrats and Pops to support Bryan and Watson. This scheme failed, because Col. Dockery and Zeb Walzer, who had been selected to represent the Republicans declined to separate themselves from their national organization. It looks like three electoral tickets in the State.

Cy. Thompson's Boom. A Russell boom was turned loose last evening but it is meeting with scant success.

The political sensation today was the launching of the Cy. Thompson gubernatorial boom. His speech last night made him popular with nearly all the delegates, many of whom think he has been snubbed by Butler and other leaders. He has strong support so it is said, but he can't overtake Guthrie's strong lead. Judge Whitaker will place Dr. Thompson in nomination.

Jno. B. Lloyd will present Maj. Guthrie's name to the convention.

The Caucus Last Night.

The Republican party is the exponent of gold and stands for the yellow metal, while the Democratic party has thrown itself on the principle of free coinage of silver and is the champion of the white metal. There was a caucus of the Populists in this city at Metropolitan Hall last evening and a number of the leaders of the party spoke. Not one word was heard in opposition to the Republican party, whose principals are diametrically opposed to those of the Populist party. The Democratic party, whose standard-bearer has been endorsed by the Populists, was denounced, vilified and abused. Cy. Thompson raked and rasped the State organization in his satirical tirade. But the man made a great speech, such as few men are capable of making. He caught that crowd of bewhiskered Populists and carried them off their feet. When the delegates had almost been worked into a frenzy, Senator Butler stepped forward and in a few words adjourned the caucus. There was not a murmur.

The Democrats who favor fusion with Populists should have been present and heard their proposition for fusion spurned and repudiated. It was nearly 9 o'clock when Senator Butler called the caucus to order. He spoke very indistinctly at first, but finally warmed up and made one of his earnest, forcible addresses. His hearers listened eagerly. The Senator said virtually nothing. He ran shy of North Carolina and dwelt upon generalities. In part he said:

"The executive committee passed a resolution today inviting the delegates to join them here in caucus. The caucus is not secret. There are those here who are not Populists. Possibly they come to get inspiration. They are welcome to the seats. We hope they will continue with us.

"The People's Party today, though a young party, occupies the most commanding position of any of the parties in America. The proceedings of our recent convention in St. Louis were watched with more interest than those of any of the other national parties. The People's party came into existence to condemn trusts, to condemn and right the wrong. That party is based on fundamental principles, which Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson and Abraham Lincoln advocated."

"We have gone forward advocating the principles that have split the two old parties. The people's party is the only party in existence today that has not been split; our party cannot split or die so long as it is true to the principles, which split the other parties. The party bug is more dangerous than any other factor in politics. I think we have met to preach the funeral of the party-bug. We have liberated the people of America and they are free today than they have been in a quarter of a century. It is easy to become a Populist now. In fact the Populist party is so respectable that all the politicians will be hopping into it."

Senator Butler closed by stating that the People's party was in the majority in this State and nation. Nat. Garrett, of Vance, was introduced by Senator Butler. He told all he knew about the St. Louis con-

vention. Mr. Garrett said: "If Bryan is defeated it will be because the Democrats have refused to take Sewall down. If they favor free silver they will agree to put out a clean cut silver ticket with Bryan at the head of it. If the Democratic party is true it will deliver its vote for Bryan and Watson."

Comparing the State Democracy to a turtle with his head chopped off he said the party was as dead as it ever was, but wasn't sensible of it. There were loud calls for Skinner and Guthrie.

Walter Henry was called and made a splendid speech which took with the delegates immensely: "Mr. Henry said the Democrats stole the platform and then stole Bryan from the Populist party."

"Bryan," he said "was nominated with the understanding that Sewall was to be taken down and Watson put in his place. Sewall is a railroad King and monopoly prince."

"We will say to the Democrats that if they do not take Sewall down, we will put out a straight ticket." The convention went wild, at this statement. Senator Butler sat perfectly still and did not join in the applause as he formerly had.

DENOUNCES THE LEASE

Resolution Passed at the Meeting of the N. C. State Farmers' Alliance.

The following is the resolution introduced by John Graham at the session of the N. C. Farmers' Alliance and unanimously passed:

"Whereas, Attorney General Osborne did in a letter dated February 22, 1896, refuse the representative of a special committee of Alliance men, acting upon their own responsibility as citizens, permission to bring suit to test the validity of the lease of the North Carolina Railroad to the Southern Railway in accordance with the permission granted him by the Supreme Court of North Carolina, to-wit: 'Leave to bring action in the name of the State for the purpose of vacating the charter of the North Carolina Railroad or for such other relief as the court may see fit to grant in the premises, and did threaten to dismiss the action unless confined to the vacation of the charter of the North Carolina Railroad.'

"Now, be it resolved by the Farmers' State Alliance in convention assembled at Hillsboro, N. C.:

"1. That we denounce this action of the Attorney General as unworthy of the great office he holds.

"2. That while we recognize the great benefits conferred upon the commonwealth by railways, as servants of the people, we dread the consolidation of our commercial highways in the hands of any one corporation as subversive of the liberties and rights of the people.

"3. That to prevent this overwhelming calamity to North Carolina we urge all citizens of our beloved State to unite regardless of party ties in demanding the amendment of the lease of the North Carolina railroad to the Southern railway company.

"4. That we favor a constitutional prohibition of the purchase, lease, or rental of competing or parallel lines of railways, and that the North Carolina Railroad, the Southern Railway, the Atlantic Coast Line, the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railway, and the Seaboard Air-Line be defined as competing lines.

"5. That we pledge ourselves as Alliance men and urge all citizens, regardless of party ties to refuse to vote for any candidate for governor, attorney-general or member of the legislature who will not pledge himself to use his best endeavors to secure the enactment of the sentiment of these resolutions into laws."

Mr. Bryan Ready for Work.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.—Candidate Bryan was about early this morning and ready to continue the program of speech making. He had early breakfast and at nine o'clock entertained such callers as presented themselves among whom were Father Ducey, Senator Tillman, Treasurer St. John dispatched a note to the proprietor of the Hotel Windsor stating Mr. Bryan would receive on the balcony or stoop with Mr. Sewall and later he would receive members of the committee only. Mrs. Bryan, Mrs. Bland and Mrs. Stone will hold a reception for women only at four o'clock in the ladies parlor of the hotel which was decorated early this morning in anticipation of the reception.

There was a jail delivery at Henderson this afternoon and 3 prisoners escaped, so says a telegram sent here to Sheriff Smith who is visiting in Raleigh.

ONLY A PARTIAL ANSWER

To Butler's Proposition for Fusion With Democrats.

POPULISTS REPLY

In a Letter Addressed to Chairman Manly. —The Proposition the Same as Printed in the Press-Visitor.

Last evening the Populist Executive Committee appointed a sub-committee to frame a reply to the proposition made by the Democratic Executive Committee through Chairman Manly for fusion on the electoral ticket in this State.

The committee's reply is given in full below. It is a complete confirmation of the story published in the Press-Visitor Tuesday afternoon.

RALEIGH, N. C., August 12, '96.

Hon. Clement Manly, Chairman State Democratic Executive Committee.

Dear Sir:—Your communication of yesterday addressed to Marion Butler, Chairman of the People's party State Executive Committee, enclosing copy of a preamble and resolution dated August 11th, 1896, passed by your committee, and which you requested to have submitted through our Chairman to the Executive Committee of the People's party, has been received, and at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the People's party held this day in the city of Raleigh your letter, with enclosure, was submitted to our committee, and the undersigned were appointed as a special committee to comply with your request to give you a reply to your communication expressing the sense of our committee. For the information of our committee our chairman stated to our committee that you had, on August 1st, submitted to him, pursuant to the authority of your committee, a written proposition for fusion between the Democratic party and the People's party on the electoral ticket by dividing the eleven electors by giving to the Democratic party six electors, and to the People's party five electors. Our chairman further stated that he expressed to you at the time of receiving your communication of August 1st an unwillingness on his part to recommend to our committee the acceptance of the proposition contained in your communication standing by itself, but that he promptly on August 1st, submitted to you as a counter-proposition a written memorandum embracing your proposition, and also other matters contained in said memorandum, as follows, to-wit:

COUNTER PROPOSITION

ELECTORS—Democrats 6, Populists 5.

STATE OFFICERS—Populists: Governor, Treasurer, Superintendent Public Instruction. Democrats: Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor, Attorney General, U. S. Senator, or Democrats: Governor, Attorney General, Superintendent Public Instruction, Populists: Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, Secretary of State, Auditor, U. S. Senator.

CONGRESSMEN—Populists: 1st, 4th, 6th and 7th districts. Democrats: 2d, 5th, 8th and 9th districts. 3d district to be left open for a free fight.

JUDGES—Each party one Supreme Court Judge.

COUNTY OFFICERS—The two executive committees to use their good offices to secure a fair and honorable division of county and legislative candidates between the two parties in an equitable ratio similar to the above division of State and Congressional offices.

Our committee being thus fully informed by our Chairman as to the antecedent facts in relation to your proposition and the above counter proposition, seeing that the matter contained in the above counter-proposition are not even referred to in your last communication of August 11th, and not knowing from your communication whether the same has been acted upon by your committee, and if so, what action was taken thereon on their part, and as your last communication is only a repetition in substance of your first communication of August 1st, it is the sense of our committee, and by their direction you are so advised, that your committee having ignored the counter-proposition which was submitted to you through our chairman for the consideration of your committee, we are left in the position of having no reply to make to your last communication other than that already made by our chairman.

MARION BUTLER, A. SHAW, JAS. H. SHERRILL, Com.

TODAY'S MARKETS.

New York, August 13 Cotton quotations furnished by E. B. Cuthbert & Co., 56 Broadway, New York, and 305 Wilmington street, Raleigh, over their special wire:

Table with columns: MONTHS, OPENING, HIGH, LOW, CLOSING. Rows for January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December.

New York opened 3 points up, advanced sharply, eased off again and declined 5 points below yesterday, owing to reports of rain from Texas which checked buying.

Later on the market advanced again closing finally steady 15 to 16 points higher than yesterday. Sales 213,400. Reports from Mississippi and Louisiana say the crops have been damaged from 25 to 50 per cent.

Spinners are apparently not disposed to buy at present prices.

New York Stock Market.

The following were the closing quotations on the New York Stock Exchange today:

Table with columns: Name, Price. Rows for Missouri Pacific, Union Pacific, Rock Island, St. Paul, General Electric, Tennessee Coal and Iron, Manhattan, American Tobacco, Burlington and Quincy, Western Union, Louisville and Nashville, United States Leather, Southern Railway, Southern Preferred, Chicago Gas, Sugar, Reading, Des. and C. & O. Feed, Atchafalaya, D. L. & W., Jersey Central, Erie, Silver.

Liverpool Cotton Market.

Liverpool opened 3/64th lower and declined 2/64 more, closing barely steady at bottom prices. Spot sales 8,000 bales, moderate demand, middling 49/32. In Manchester gains were strong but cloth dull.

Table with columns: Month, Price. Rows for August, August-September, September-October, October-November, November-December, December-January, January-February, February-March, Receipts, Spots, American.

Chicago Grain and Provision Market.

The following were the closing quotations on the Chicago Grain and Provision market today:

Table with columns: Commodity, Price. Rows for Wheat, Corn, Oats, Pork, Lard, Clear Rib Sides.

HEAT CAUSES MURDER.

William Zeemba kills his best friend and takes his own life.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

New York, Aug. 13. The fierce heat of yesterday bred a double tragedy, a probable murder and a suicide, over in Jersey near the Kingsland station on the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western road.

William Zeemba and Otto Senda were employed as track walkers, and were next-door neighbors in Passaic.

Senda was at work near the Kingsland station at 5 p. m., when Senda came staggering along the track. His face was livid and he waved his arms like a madman.

"It's hot, oh, how hot!" he shrieked, as he approached his astonished friend. An instant later he drew a revolver and blazed away at Senda.

The bullet struck Senda in the breast. He turned and fled, only to be brought down the next minute by a second bullet in the back.

Zeemba staggered up to the unconscious body of his friend, fixed his blood-shot eyes upon him for an instant, then fired a bullet through his own head.

He fell dead. Senda was removed to St. Mary's Hospital, in Passaic, where his injuries were pronounced fatal. The closest friendship existed between the two men, and the only explanation of the tragedy is furnished by yesterday's terrible heat.

Populist Committee to Meet.

Senator Butler has called a meeting of the national Populist committee to be held at Washington next Tuesday to decide on the immediate opening of headquarters at Washington.

SHORT STATEMENTS.

Minor Matters Manipulated for the Many.

AROUND THE CITY.

Post-Office of the News Placed on Paper-Points and People Perennially Picked and Pithily Put in Print.

The sheriff's force is busy copying tax books for township deputies. County warrants are being offered at a discount on the streets. This should not be so.

The eastern part of Wake county had splendid rains yesterday evening. No wind or hail.

Mrs. R. G. Dunn, wife of cotton weigher R. G. Dunn, Esq., is quite ill at her home just east of Raleigh.

"Those luscious grapes at Whiting Bros. are delightful," remarked Miss S. to a friend. Have you tried them?

Efforts will probably be made to establish a waif-saving station in Raleigh. Certain good women of the city are considering the matter.

The work on the new bridge which will replace the old covered one over Crabtree on the Louisburg road is being pushed forward by Mr. McMaekin.

Go to rest early tonight. Arise early in the morning. Be at the Raleigh and Gaston Relief Association excursion train at 6:30 a. m. tomorrow and get on board with a 16 to 1 silver dollar and take a whole day of pleasure by a trip to Littleton. Now don't miss this opportunity of spending a day with a clever lot of workmen and the next Governor of North Carolina.

It is said on good authority that Mr. W. B. Tarkington will resign the position of editor of the Orphan's Friend, the organ of the Masonic Orphanage at Oxford. A few weeks ago he denounced certain institutions of vice in Oxford. He was requested to give his evidence to the grand jury, but it failed to make out a case. The citizens of Oxford were very indignant, and it is said Editor Tarkington was hissed on the streets.

A SAD ENDING.

Mr. W. R. Hobgood of Oxford Accidentally Shot While Bat Hunting.

William Royall Hobgood, his elder brother, Frank P. Hobgood, Jr., and of Oxford man, Mr. Howard, all of Oxford, went out near the town yesterday afternoon bat hunting. By an accident, Mr. Howard's gun went off unexpectedly, and the entire load took effect at very close range in Mr. W. R. Hobgood's cheek, reaching the brain. He died in a few minutes.

Young Mr. Hobgood was a member of the rising senior class at Wake Forest College. Before entering that institution he had occupied with great credit a position in the Oxford bank. At college he was an excellent student. He will be remembered here by many, having spent his early years in this city, when his father was president of the Baptist Seminary, the Park Place now.

Expressions of sorrow on our streets this morning were general. The distressed family has the sympathy of the large number of friends over the state.

When the accident occurred the young man's father was attending a Baptist meeting at Stovall, ten miles from Oxford. He did not hear the sad news until he reached Oxford, having started home through the country before the news reached Stovall.

Relief at Last.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

New York, Aug. 13.—A fifteen mile breeze came this morning giving New York much relief. The thermometer is several degrees lower with humidity still high. This morning there were thirteen deaths from heat and fifteen prostrations. The streets are still strewn with carcasses of horses which died in harness from the heat, the sanitary department being only able to remove a small percentage of the animals with added help and continuous duty. The stench from carcasses on the main thoroughfares is sickening. It will require several days of cool weather to enable the department to catch up.