

Convention Sidelights

By ROBERT T. SMALL
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Cleveland, O., June 13.—The ladies, God bless them, of the G. O. P., are having their very first meeting with the men members of the Republican national committee today. That is to say, it is the first meeting, as equals. The Democratic women have been attending their Republican sessions for the last three or four years. They did not win this complete recognition from their party. Now the G. O. P. ladies may point with all sorts of pride and no longer sit by the wayside.

Their first act will be to select William M. Butler, of Massachusetts, as chairman of the committee to conduct the Presidential campaign. This is fitting, for it was Mr. Butler, acting on and in behalf of President Coolidge, who blocked all efforts to sidetrack the enumeration proclamation for the women. No inconsiderable number of the "old timers" in the convention and on the old National Committee were opposed to the idea of having two Representatives from every state. They insisted it was just as logical to have a man Senator and a woman Senator, a man governor and a woman governor, and in the last analysis, a man President of the United States and a woman President. They argued that if a woman is entitled to one office just because she is a woman, she should have an equal claim to every office in the land.

The various state delegations already had met and elected the men members of the new national committee when the convention adopted the rule giving the women equal representation. Then they had to meet all over again to choose the ladies. Inasmuch as there is no "color line" drawn in the Republican party there was some speculation at first as to what complications might ensue in the South where a state might select a negro man as a member of the national committee. It was explained, however, that this bridge already had been crossed. For a number of years Georgia has been represented by a negro, Henry Lincoln Johnson. When the national committee adopted the policy of permitting women to become "associate" members of the committee, without a vote, the committee from Georgia named a negro woman to the place. This precedent apparently will be continued now that the women have full powers on the committee.

When a brief telegraphic dispatch appeared in the Cleveland papers announcing that President Coolidge had been meeting with his cabinet in Washington, everybody in Cleveland wondered what was meant by "Cabinet." There are ten members of Mr. Coolidge's official family. Exactly eight of them have been in Cleveland this week. So if he really wanted to meet his Cabinet, the President should have come to the

convention city. The cabinet members in Cleveland were the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Mellon; the Postmaster General, Mr. New; the Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Work; the Attorney General, Mr. Stone; the Secretary of Labor, Mr. Davis; the Secretary of War, Mr. Weeks; the Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Willbur; and the Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Wallace.

This left only two Cabinet members for the President to play around with in Washington, to-wit: the Secretary of State, Mr. Hughes, and the Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Hoover. Even Mr. Hoover was present in Cleveland in spirit, for his Vice Presidential boom was one of the very first to arrive.

The new Attorney General, Mr. Stone, was recognized by comparatively few of the lobby crowds. On one occasion he shook hands warmly with a Senator. When he had turned away, the Senator asked a newspaper man who the "stranger" was. When told it was "just a Cabinet member," the Senator remarked, "Oh, yes," and nonchalantly let it go at that.

Will H. Hays finally arrived at the convention Wednesday evening and was among those present on the very front row of the stage. As a former chairman of the national committee, Mr. Hays was entitled to the privileges of the convention and all the free entertainment he desired. He appeared happy to be just an onlooker this time. Four years ago he was spreading the gospel of the G. O. P., with all the vim and vigor of a Billy Sunday, plus a college cheer leader.

William Metcalf, the blind organist of the convention, complained bitterly today that he had never played to such unresponsive audiences in all of his life. "No snap to 'em," was the way he expressed it. At the first evening session, which was decidedly a gala occasion to the thousands of spectators, Mr. Metcalf strutted all of his best stuff. He put more jazz through the pipes than any one ever thought an organ capable of. He even played "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here" which sounded awfully funny coming out of an organ. He also played the "Side-walks of New York," but that's a Democratic song and it didn't get a hand. "Dixie" found a couple of Southerners somewhere in the galleries willing to give vent to their approbation, but the rest of the selections "ran for Sweeney."

Great applause greeted the first announcement by permanent Chairman Mondell that President Coolidge was listening in at his radio set at the White House. This is the first time in history that a President, or anybody else for that matter, could do that sort of thing. Every one wondered if the President stuck to

the ear phones all the time Representative Henry Allen Cooper, of Wisconsin, was reading the LaFollette platform to the convention and moving its adoption as a substitute for the one Mr. Coolidge himself had approved. If he did continue to listen in and didn't get too much interference or static, the President must have been fairly startled by some of the radical proposals. Perhaps he enjoyed the laughter which greeted some of the proposed planks, and perhaps he approved of the applause which was given the venerable Mr. Cooper at his conclusion.

The LaFollette party could not have picked a better spokesman for its convention work. When Mr. Cooper arose to read the delegates of all the states and territories except Wisconsin "out of the party" he immediately won the respect and sympathy of the galleries and that was a great victory for a man in his difficult position. Already there had been plenty of calls to "throw 'em out" every time there was a reference to the Wisconsin delegation. There were a few cat-calls at Mr. Cooper, but he soon caught on and whenever Phil Campbell, of Kansas, the parliamentarian of the conven-

tion, tried to "shoo" Mr. Cooper closer to the radio microphones so his stuff would get across, the crowds mistook the move for an attempt to tell the speaker that his time was up. The galleries immediately demanded that he be allowed to go on. Henry Allen Cooper is the patriarch of the House of Representatives at Washington. He is one of the old timers, ranking in service with Uncle Joe Cannon and Speaker Gillett. When the latter leaves the House to run for the Senate, Mr. Cooper will be the oldest man in point of service as well as in years, left in the legislative chamber at the South end of the capitol. He holds the respect and friendship and the good will of all his fellow members, especially those who have served longest within. It was certain that he was to receive every consideration in a convention presided over by his old friend and former associate, Mr. Mondell.

Mr. Cooper took occasion publicly to thank "Frank" for his courtesy. Miss Mary Franklin from the Goldsboro Orphanage has returned after visiting Miss Sallie Cobb, who is ill at her home on South Road street.

Sunday Is Dad's Day

YOU KNOW DAD. He's the boy who foots the bills.

Directly or indirectly he'll foot the bill for the gift you give him Sunday. He won't care. That's what he's there for—to produce the bankroll when the money's needed. He usually makes good, too.

No, it isn't your GIFT that's going to make dad happy. It's your LOVE and APPRECIATION.

The "old man's" hungry for you. You've left him out of the things for so long that he's almost forgotten how to play. He's LONELY in the midst of his own family. It HURTS all the more in that he keeps his disappointments to himself.

After all, dad's the BEST PAL YOU'VE GOT, just as Mother is your best friend. Dad works for you, continually worries about you, his whole ambition is in you, and he would cheerfully die for you.

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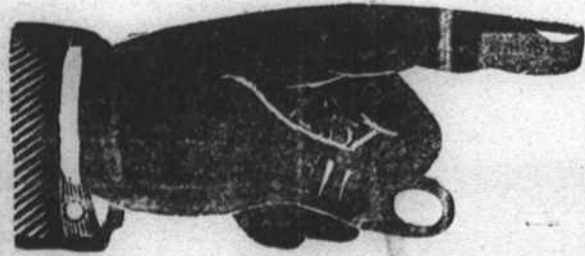
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