GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:

Wasn't that a fine song recital the G.O.P. staged this afternoon? The Convention was called to order, and the Star Spangled Banner was sung. Then there was a resounding rendition of Glory, Glory, Hallelulia, and the Bells of Saint Mary -- with evangelical fervor. After which the session was adjourned till tonight.

That was a shock of disappointment to the delegates who had assembled in high expectation of big doings. An old lady delegate from Iowa was heard to exclaim in deep disgust that she hadn't come to Cleveland to attend a revival meeting.

She could go to all the revivals she wanted back in Iowa.

The surprise adjournment was caused by a rumpus -two of them. The Resolutions committee drafting the platform
got into one -- with the Nominating Committee. Which should
come first, the chicken or the egg? I mean -- the platform or
the nomination? The nominators wanted to nominate first, and

let the platform come second. The platform builders wanted to have their handiwork of planks to take precedence on the program. The Platform Committee believes, it is said, that if the grand acclaim of nomination came first, the platform, their own artistic creation, would be lost in anti-climax.

However, the platform committee was not ready to go to bat this afternoon. They were all tangled up in a last-minute battle over a couple of planks. And here we find a theatrical flare-up.

The platform dramatics began early today -- before

the break of dawn, in fact. Casey Hogate of the Wall Street

Journal tells me the dopsters and prognosticators are so

interested in political aspects, that they have missed some of the
sheer theatrical quality of today's Republican doings. All

along the name that had the platform carpenters scared was -
Borah. But finally Borah was satisfied. The platform committee

pacified the Idaho statesman by taking some of his pet ideas and

nailing them firmly in place as planks. For example - Borah's

Commonly, you don't expect a prospective candidate to get into any platform fights and free-for-alls until he has the nomination in his pocket. He doesn't jeopardize his chances by creating ax new enemies and enmities. Even Landon with his huge lead might have been expected to keep out of the platform rumpus -with an easy slide into his own nomination. But not at all. And that takes us to the dim hours me of this morning. In a room in the Executive Mansion at Topeka ke a man is sitting at the telephone, the receiver glued to his ear. Long minutes tick by, almost as long as those three years. He listenes patiently, he asks questions. He speaks deliberately, with mx determination. It's a history-making telephone call.

The man is Governor Landon, the hundred-percent certain

nominee. Here in Cleveland the platform committee has come to an all-around agreement, with the planks all nicely in place. But Governor Landon is concerned about the platform. Hence the telephone call; he's inquiring about it. And the planks are being read to him over the phone. His disagrees with some of them demands that they be changed. Wise old Guard Easterners putting something over on the in-experienced Westerners. Landon intervened. So there it was: platform business tossed back into the whirlwind of discussion.

That's why the Convention met so expectantly and adjourned so swiftly today. That's why the platform committee is wrangling, trying desperately to get straightened out for the session tonight. The report is that the bulk of the contention concerns two planks. And they're about what you'd expect. Each brings up the mention of a fighting word. One says -- Constitution. The other says -- Gold.

Governor Landon is said to be demanding that the platform

States to regulate the wages and work of labor. We've been told that the Kansas Governor has been in favor of such an amendment ever since the Supreme Court knocked out the New York State law regulating work and wages for women and children. The more conservative platform makers don't want any suggestion of changing the Constitution. They advocate the labor plank as the committee wrote it -- with the expression that work and wages can be regulated by the States under the Constitution as it now stands.

Now about that other word -- gold. The gold plank
which the committee drafted, omits any mention of that phrase
hitherto sacred to Republicanism -- the Gold Standard. Theplan
The plank is a compromise between the hard manner money and the
soft money attitudes. The rumor is that Governor Landon wants the
platform declared for an ultimate return to gold. That's what
they're scrapping about. It's only natural that ever since the

days of Bryan and free silver, the Republican platform without a Gold Standard decoration would seem like the Gospel without the Sermon on the Mount.

With the wrangle breaking out anew Sen. Borah would have to get into it. He objects to the monopoly plants of the revised platform.

WHAT LANDON IS LIKE

While this afternoon's fight was going on behind closed doors, I spent considerable time trying to find out just what this man is like who is to be nominated for the Presidency by the Republican party tonight. One of the wisest men in the state of Kansas is Charles Sessions. He's the editor of Senator Capper's paper "The Topeka Capital." Editor Sessions has known Mr.Landon all his life. He said to me:- "The American people are tired of smiles and showmanship. Governor Landon of Kansas," he added, "is just a straightforward, plain American, not very imposing to look at, but he has wisdom and he's stubborn as a mule."

This prominent Kansas editor added that Governor

Landon would turn down his best friend if necessary, if it was

for the public welfare.

"But", I said, "President Roosevelt has immense personal charm, great powers of persuasion. Two of the principal mediums for reaching the nation now are the screen, and the radio.

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President Roosevelt is considered to be as nearly perfect in handling these mediums as any man alive. What kind of a spectacle will Governor present as the opposition candidate?"

To this the elderly Kansas editor replied: "True,

Mr. Landon's words are somewhat fuzzy when he speaks over the

radio. I know, because I have a radio station, and he often

speaks there". But, he added, "Governor Landon, I believe, has

been taking some special training in public speaking. His skill

has been improving during the past year."

Just some sidelights on the man to be nominated tonight.

The man to nominate Landon, of course, is John. Hamilton, his manager, the brilliant young lawyer from Kars as City who will mot certainly play a dominant part in American political life -- if the Republicans happen to win next November. At any rate, as things worked out this afternoon, the nomination speeches were not made, we will hear them this evening. Hand here is a bit of inside dope: When John Hamilton gets through nominating his man for President, the seconding will be done by Colonel Frank Knox, Senator Vandenberg, Senator Steiwer -- in fact by all the other men who were supposedly in the race, except maybe Borah.

The yes and on Saturday you will learn that John Hamilton is the new national chairman of the Republican party.

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LANDON HEADQUARTERS

Between the morning and afternoon sessions I spent considerable time with an old schoolmate, Preston Burtis, a Kansan. We roamed around the Hollenden Hotel corridors, chatting with Landonites. Most of them were talking about who the Governor's running mate is likely to be.

say he should get the number two plum. Governor Nice of

Maryland is mentioned. I have it on the best possible

authority that Robert Taft of Ohio would like to be the

second man on the ticket. This came as a surprise to me,

because I'd been hearing that Mr. Taft was an aspiring young

man who might be built during the next four years, built up as

presidential timber.

Governor Bridges of New Hampshire is mentioned, but only in a whisper, As for Congressman Jim Wadsworth of New York, who was often referred to as a Vice-Presidential possibility until a few days ago, his name is no longer in evidence.

I suppose the person who knows as much about all that

Martin from Massachusetts, floor leader for the Landon crowd. His job is to keep in touch with every situation.

I spent part of the afternoon with him. He assured me that even now no man knows who the Vice Presidential nominee will be. But, he said he could see no reason why Colonel Frank Knox wouldn't be okay even if Illinois and Kansas are neighboring states. For after all, Colonel Knox, although now a Chicago publisher, is a New Englander, still has a home in New Hampshire, and is the publisher of a New Hampshire paper.

Many of the Landonites are saying that George Peek might make an ideal running mate. Although a Republican, he was associated with the present New Deal administration until he repudiated it, therefore he might help pull the anti-Roosevelt Democratic vote.

As for Senator Steiwer, the talk all along has been that he stood a grand chance of at least being the Vice-

Presidential nominee, if he didn't win first place on the ticket. But Senator Steiwer assures me that he doesn't max care to be Vice President. In fact he may not run for the Senate again in Oregon. Feels that he owes it to his family to get out of politics and spend a few years in the worls of commerce, and earn a larger income. But as Frazier put it the Steiwer keynote speech the other night was like a man shooting his horse from under him.

But how about Senator Vandenberg of Michigan? He has stated emphatically that he will not run for the Vice-Presidency; made that flat statement a number of times.

But, here's a little inside information: The Landonites feel confident Senator Vandenberg will be the man. They think iw it will be impossible for him to avoid taking it when it is offered to him.

VICE PRESIDENT DAWES

How about asking a former Vice President of the United States who he thinks will be nominated for the Vice Presidency? When the afternoon session took that sudden recess, I walked uptown with one of the Elder Statesmen of the Republican party, as picturesque a vice-president as this country has ever had, of Hell-and Maria, and under-slung-pipe-fame -- General Charles Dawes.

The General says that Senator Vandenberg will not be the Vice Presidential candidate. And, he's equally positive as to who will be. His name is Colonel Frank Knox. After I had left former Vice-President Dawes I scouted around and found that a number of large state delegations have today committed themselves to back Colonel Knox. So it laoks to me as though the situation is this: There may still be time for Senator Vandenberg to change his mind. If so, he'll get the second position on the slate. Otherwise it will go to Colonel Knox.

Former Vice President Dawes assured me that we are going to have a Republican landslide in the election next November. He said he's been making a careful analysis of the situation, and that all the signs point to a change in

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national administration.

I asked him -- why this tremendous Landon popularity?

His answer was: "For two reasons -- a balanced budget, and common sense!" General Dawes says that's what Landon stands for.

no danger of any more embarrassing interruptions.

The mechanical end of this convention has certainly

been causing plenty of headaches. As a result of the long break

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This afternoon I heard John Kennedy, NBC news man make an ironic quip. "This," jibed John, "is the most amateurish national convention I ever attended. It should be run by a Major Bowes."

But that Kennedy quip may not be as sarcastic as

John meant it. Maybe the flavor of Amateur Hour can be

traced to the fact that younger men are in charge. Youth

often lacks the experience for smooth manipulation. But

youth is also a great power in politics. A young Republican

party - that may be the answer.

How are convention speeches written? Are they written by the man who delivers them? For instance, did Senator Steiwer write his own keynote speech? Here's a little side remark that may give you some idea about that:

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