

L. T. SUNOCO BROADCAST

June 29, 1932.

Good Evening, Everybody!! (This Convention is just
as ^{exciting} ~~intriguing~~ ^{political ropesters} as they [^] said it would be. The boys have kept us
on ^{edge} ~~tenter-hooks~~ all day. We expected to see the big fight on
the floor of the convention this afternoon over the platform.
But at 2:00 o'clock the platform committee was still squabbling.
~~There had already been one recess during which the show in~~
~~Convention Hall was carried on by professional entertainers~~
~~instead of by political showmen. When 2:00 o'clock arrived~~
We were all told to go home and come back at 7:00 tonight.)

Along about 4:00 o'clock this afternoon the
platform boys finished their wrangling. But that doesn't mean
it's all over. The Big Fight will still be tonight, one of
those turbulent night sessions for which the democrats are famous.
And there is sure to be a tremendous hub-bub when the platform
reader comes to that plank dealing with PROHIBITION.

(According to an announcement made this afternoon, the WETS, the OUTRIGHT WETS, captured control of the Democratic Platform Committee. In an unexpected upset, they forced through an out and out repeal, beer-and-wine plank by a vote of two to one. A vote of 35 to 17 to be exact. This statement was made authoritatively by Michael Igoe, Democratic Platform Committee member from Illinois.)

If this plank is adopted by the Convention tonight, the Democratic Party will be committed unconditionally to immediate repeal of the 18th amendment, - - - also amendment of the Volstead Act.

This is the big news of the day. The next important information I have for you is that Gov. Roosevelt today said to his delegates: "Vote as you please on the Wet and Dry question." This ~~the~~ information was given out by Mr. Roosevelt's manager after a long-distance telephone conversation with the governor.

Incidentally we learn from Albany that a big tri-motored airplane is being tuned up at Albany Airport to bring the governor to Chicago at a moment's notice. But that may be a tall story.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Seventeen salient points of the platform as adopted today by the Resolutions Committee were made known this afternoon. Be of good cheer. I am not going to tell you all of them. They include a reduction of not less than 25% in Federal expenses, proportionate reduction in the states. Budget balancing by taxation on the principle of ability to pay. Preservation of sound currency at all hazards and a pledge to call a World Conference to consider economic questions. Competitive tariffs for revenue only. Federal loans to states for unemployment relief; shorter hours for labor; protection for the investing public; federal regulation of stock exchanges; quicker liquidation of closed banks; rigid regulations against speculation with bank deposits.

The Committee is opposed to cancellation of foreign debts. They want us to join the World Court. They want independence for the Philippines and statehood for Porto Rico. Also improved credits at low rates for the farmer and every constitutional measure that can aid the farmer. State unemployment insurance and old age insurance.

Well, that ought to hold you. You will read the full details in the morning papers if you have the patience. But it has all got to be thrashed out - at any rate, the Prohibition plank on the floor of the Convention tonight.

But there is also ^a minority report. This will affect only the Prohibition plank. The minority's report while favoring the repeal of the 18th amendment is in effect ~~xxx~~ for a submission plank. But it also favors immediate modification of the Volstead Act to legalize the manufacture and sale of beer and other beverages of such alcoholic content as is permissible.

"RULES"

Talking about the Rules Committee, ~~of the Democratic~~
~~Convention.~~ A Chicago humorist offers some suggestions.

According to a story in ~~Dick Finnegan's~~ ^{the} Chicago Daily Times,
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here are some of the rules the committee should adopt:

The rabbit punch must not be used on women over
55 years of age and children under 12 years of age.

Delegates who have been knocked down must be
allowed five seconds to regain their feet and change their
vote.

Hand grenades, trench mortars, bowie knives and
brass knuckles must be used on the messanine floor only.

Delegates must not attack policemen.

"BRIBE"

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No Convention is complete without charges of bribery of delegates. The first story of that kind at this convention made its appearance today on the front page of the Chicago Daily News. The accusation was made by Frank Scofield of Texas, who is volunteer manager of the campaign for the nomination of Melvin Traylor, the popular banker of Chicago. Mr. Scofield declared that a man representing himself as a Roosevelt worker offered him \$10,000. This \$10,000 was to be paid Mr. Scofield if he would sign a statement announcing that the Chicago banker had withdrawn from the race. It should be added that other leaders scoffed at the story. Jim Farley, the chief of staff of the Roosevelt forces, pronounced it ridiculous.

"ITEMS"

One of the Texas delegates had the surprise of his life. His name is Rea and he used to belong to that formidable band of cops known as the Texas Rangers. Mr. Rea had heard that there was plenty of gunplay in Chicago, so he started to walk into the Convention Hall with his six shooter on his hip.

Well, it seems who ever else carries guns it is not expected of delegates. The first thing Mr. Rea knew ~~was~~ a Chicago copper was taking his gun away.

Another interesting delegate is Governor Sennett-Conner of Mississippi. In fact, he heads the Mississippi delegates and they tell me when Governor Conner says shush, he means shush. They had a caucus of the Mississippi boys ~~last night~~ and some turbarlent delegates got out of order.

The Governor sent out ~~for~~ ^{for} a fence rail. When he got it he brought it down on the gavel block with a loud bang.

"If anybody starts anything he gets this on his own block", threatened the Governor.

After that there was peace among the Mississippians.

~~The biggest need of this Convention is about a dozen dogs trained to lead blind folks around. So far the chairmen~~

"JOE"

In the lobby of the Palmer House today I bumped into Governor White of Ohio, and Joe McKee, President of New York's Board of Aldermen. I wonder who is running New York with both Jimmy Walker and Joe McKee in Chicago. Joe usually steps to the bat in Jimmy's stead.

But Joe McKee, although from New York City, is not voting with John Curry of Tammany, Mayor Jimmy and the other Manhattan delegates. Judge McKee is from the Bronx, and the Bronx County delegation is for Roosevelt.

MRS. TRAYLOR

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At luncheon with Mrs. Traylor, wife of Melvin Traylor, and when we were on the way to the Convention Hall she told me that she is not eager to live at the White House. Mrs. Traylor is ■ simple and straight-forward, just as her husband is direct, straight-from-the-shoulder. Fine people, representative of the best this country produces.

While waiting for the Convention to come to order, several of us looked around to see who was the most beautiful woman in the Stadium. That's always an interesting thing to do. We decided that the palm, today, went to Mrs. Edward F. Hutton, a lady from the East. Mrs. Hutton told me she had come just to enjoy the show.

"HOOEY"

I found it ~~very~~ interesting ^{watching} ~~to get my first sight of~~
the much advertised Kingfish of Louisiana. Yes, I mean Senator
~~Huey P. Long.~~ His enemies insisted it should be pronounced
"Hooley" ^{Long}.

Huey, or "Hooley" made ^{quite a personal hit with the} ~~a profound effect on the~~
Convention ~~yesterday afternoon~~ when he won his fight to be
seated ~~in the Convention~~. He is a fellow of medium height,
with rusty hair and prominent features, including a ^{sharp, bird like} ~~big~~ beak.
He was frequently interrupted and had to implore the delegates
not to deprive him of the time allotted to him. While he was
talking Tom Lyons, a delegate from Oklahoma, remarked to me
in a loud aside,

"You know this guy Long comes from Louisiana.

Well, what is the principal product of Louisiana? Treacle
and that is what this ^{Hooley} ~~guy~~ is feeding us - treacle, molasses."

But all the newspapers hereabouts are tremendously
excited over Huey. Personally, it seemed to me the Kingfish
is a magnetic fellow. Several ladies agreed with me, even
though they disapproved highly of the Kingfish's politics.

"EUROPE"

Germany demands a revision of the Peace Treaty of Versailles. She makes this an essential condition of any future payment of reparations of any type. According to a United Press despatch ^{to}~~in~~ the Louisville Times, this was made known today in Lausanne through an official announcement.

The demand was presented to Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald of Great Britain by the German Chancellor. The German delegation had previously issued a statement in the German language declaring plainly that Germany does not intend to pay any more reparations.

There was ^{the French} a conversation between ~~France~~ and the German delegations. ^{They}~~who~~ were trying to ~~make an~~ end ~~of~~ the deadlock on the reparations question, ~~were~~ trying to arrive at some sort of a compromise. France wants ~~some sort of an~~ economical or political compensation in ~~return~~ return for cancelled reparations. That led the way for the demand of the Germans ^{to}~~for~~ ²~~eliminating~~ the provisions of the Versailles Treaty, which they called discriminatory. Germany also wants the clause about war guilt stricken out.

The Germans now announce that if the Treaty is revised Germany will pay reparations in the form of a cash contribution

"EUROPE"

toward the reconstruction of Europe. It is understood that this reconstruction plan will be similar in scope to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation of the United States.

The representatives of six Great Powers are meeting today in a castle near Lausanne. It is believed to be an important encounter and the outcome may settle the fate of the reparation^s conference.

The ~~Great~~ Powers represented are: Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium and Japan. There are rumors of everything, from a complete breakdown to a last minute compromise.

~~Two committees are being formed. One will discuss Reparations; the other is a commercial committee which will prepare a report for the World Economic Conference to be held in London next Fall.~~ Meanwhile at Geneva Uncle Sam was doing his utmost to prevent the adjournment of the conference on armaments. Our ambassador Gibson told John Bull's representative that the United States would not consent to any immediate adjournment of the Conference.

"SIAM"

Siam changed today from an absolute monarchy to a limited monarchy. According to a United Press despatch ~~to~~[^] the Pittsburgh Press, King Prajadhipok has signed the Constitution giving the people a share in the government.

The news was loudly cheered in the streets of Bangkok. It has been remarkable that the ^{revolution} ~~revolution~~ that brought it about resulted in only two casualties.

The Constitution provides for a temporary dictatorship under the People's Party which engineered the revolution. ~~It~~ does not mean that the people are really going to have anything to say about their government. That does not mean ^{Siam to have} ~~that is really~~ ^{as we understand the term.} a popular government. A senate is to be formed. One half of its members will be appointed by the Executive Committee of the People's Party. The other half will be elected by the people.

4 As for the people themselves, they will not get a full franchise until they are considered better educated in self government.

" LINDBERGH "

Meanwhile in Flemington, N.J. they have been continuing the latest episode of the tragic death of the Lindbergh baby. It was the third day of the trial of John Hughes Curtis, the boat-builder of Norfolk, Va., who is charged with obstructing justice.

According to a U.P. Dispatch ^{to} ~~in~~ the ^{Brooklyn} ~~Louisville~~ Times, the first witness was a newspaper man, Wm. E. Haskell. He testified that Curtis had tried to collect \$25,000 from the New York Herald Tribune. He had asked this sum for an exclusive story of his negotiations with the kidnappers of the Lindbergh baby.

In his testimony Mr. Haskell told the court that Curtis had convinced him that he, Curtis, was in contact with the kidnappers of the baby.

Curtis also told him that he at one time had to restrain Col. Lindbergh from jumping off the yacht and swimming in a rough sea to a vessel where he believed his baby was being held.

Mr. Haskell was called by the prosecution but his testimony was quite friendly to the defense. He said he was positive in his own mind that Curtis had actually been in communication with the kidnappers of the baby. He said there was no possible way Curtis

could have got any money out of the New York Herald Tribune unless the baby was returned. It was the only possible basis on which he could get a penny.

Haskell also told of the conversation he had with Curtis after the confession of his hoax was made public. He said that Curtis told him he would have signed anything in order to get some sleep.

"ADD ?LINDBERGH"

And by the way, the suicide of Violet Sharpe, the maid who had been questioned in this case, was not caused by police violence. This announcement was made in the British House of Commons to-day.

Miss Sharpe, who was employed in the home of Mrs. Dwight Morrow, of Englewood, had been under questioning after the kidnapping of the baby. The London Press had insinuated loudly that she had committed suicide because of the third degree methods of the American police. But the British ~~Comans~~ Counsel General in New York made a thorough investigation into the case. He reported he was satisfied that no physical violence or other so-called third degree methods have been employed in the questioning of Miss Sharpe.

"MONEY"

Here's a bit of news that's really encouraging.

Next Friday, which is the first of July, is also settlement day for American corporations. It is figured that three hundred million dollars in dividends will therefore be paid out on Friday to holders of stocks. This, in spite of the fact, that some corporations have either passed or reduced their dividends.

But in addition to these dividend payments American corporations will distribute in interest to bondholders no less than five hundred million dollars.

That makes a total of eight hundred million dollars that will be handed out. And that ought to help somebody.

"BASEBALL"

What about a bit of baseball news? It concerns our old friend Babe Ruth, the Bambino. The "Sultan of Swat" has issued a brave statement. He thinks the Yankees have, as he puts it, just about won the American League pennant already.

That is a daring thing to say so early in the season. Some ball-players might consider it a jinx. The Babe modestly credits the success of his team to excellent pitching.

"N O A H "

An American expedition has just set forth on its way to the home town of good old Noah! Yes! Noah! the original yachtsman who finally landed on the summit of Mount Ararat!

The expedition sails under the auspices of the Geographic Society of Chicago.

Now! --- just who would you expect to be on his way to check up on Noah's Ark and pay a visit to a town whose inhabitants all claim direct descent from old man Noah himself. --- Carveth Wells of course! Charter member of the Tall Story Club. Carveth and his new bride are leading this expedition with the assistance of the Soviet Government. They will land in Leningrad and then travel to the region between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea where they will climb Mount Ararat and film Noah's Great great great great great grand children. And I'm going out with some more of Noah's great great great grandchildren now at the big night session of the Dem. Convention so, s-l-t-m.

July 4 1932.

LT at
Chicago
Dem.
Conventions.