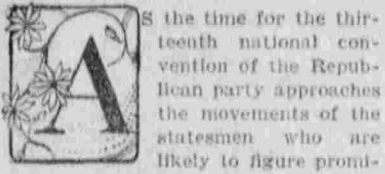


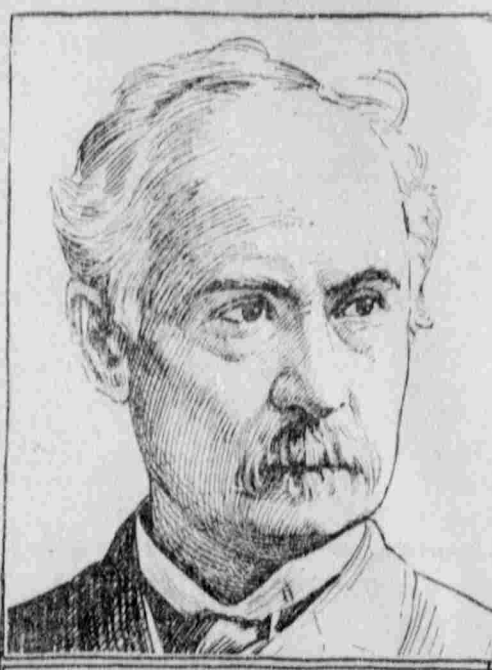
Men Who Will Figure at the Republican Convention



It is the time for the thirteenth national convention of the Republican party approaches the movements of the statesmen who are likely to figure prominently at Chicago become subject to the keenest observation. It is of course apparent that all interest concerning the nomination for chief place on the ticket has become almost quiescent on account of the certainty which attends the candidacy of President Roosevelt. This foregone conclusion robs the political game of much of its fascinating indefiniteness, but it may have the effect of giving the vice presidential nomination an unusual prominence.

The choosing of a candidate for second place has almost always been reckoned as a perfunctory matter. There is more than one instance on record, however, in which the business has been conducted with considerable animation. Such an exception was furnished by the Republican convention of 1858. The convention city that year, as it will be this, was Chicago. By a similar coincidence the nomination of General Grant was as predetermined as is that of President Roosevelt. He was chosen unanimously on the first ballot. Then the actual struggle began. Four candidates for the vice presidency were proposed. They were Benjamin F. Wade of Ohio, Henry Wilson of Massachusetts, Schuyler Colfax of Indiana and Reuben E. Fenton of New York. All at once the office of vice president was transformed into the very ultima Thule of political aspiration. There was poured out in that convention hall a wealth of political oratorical ingenuity that was fairly bewildering. Five ballots failed to do more than bring further chaos. At that stage the convention adjourned its differences and united on Colfax.

There is an impression extant that the choice of a vice presidential candidate is, as a rule, left largely to the nominee for first place and his friends. It is of course reasonable to suppose that an individual who is personally obnoxious to the chief candidate cannot add strength to the ticket. Still it happens frequently that the vice presidential nominee is not precisely at one with his mate in some of the lesser political dogmas. Instead of being a misfortune, this variation is often a positive benefit to the party, because it makes it possible for men of various interpretations of the same political creed, united as they are on essentials, to assemble under the same standard. For this reason, too, the candidates are usually chosen from states widely separated. Not infrequently an aspirant for second place is selected from a state whose political status is a matter of uncertainty and whose coveted electoral votes hang in the balance. This diplomatic procedure has done good service in the past and is likely to continue as an approved expedient. Sometimes,



Robert R. Hitt

also, it has been found good politics to name a man who has achieved little political distinction and is a comparative newcomer. The severest criticism that can be launched against such a candidate is his obscurity, and that may prove less damaging than would the reiteration of his well known weaknesses. In a land such as this the personal element cuts a most conspicuous figure in the presidential campaign. Though a man may be an unknown at his beginning, he is certain to be provided with a reputation at its close.

Occasionally the nomination is conferred as a consolation prize. In such instances, though the disappointment may have been cruel indeed, it is not a matter of record that declinations have been frequent. It may be observed, also, that there is an impression of more or less general acceptance that the office is really of no remarkable significance—hardly worthy, in fact, of the consideration of a man of especial note. Men of national prominence have made a show of desisting. Once named by either of the great parties, however, refusals have been extremely rare.

Robert Roberts Hitt, the choice of his state (Illinois) for the vice presidential nomination, was born in Urbana, O., Jan. 16, 1831. At the age of three his parents removed to Ogle county, Ill. He was educated at Rock River seminary and De Pauw university. While still very young he exhibited a building passion for politics, and the genuineness of the vocation has been demonstrated by a half century of political successes. In 1858 he reported the debates of Lincoln and Douglas, those famous exchanges of political wit



Joseph G. Cannon

and wisdom which were molding the faith of the coming generations of statesmen. In 1874, during Grant's second administration, he was appointed secretary of legation at Paris, acting for a time as charge d'affaires. He became assistant secretary of state in



Charles W. Fairbanks

1881. The next year he was elected representative to the Forty-seventh congress. He was returned to Washington at every successive election up to 1893. He was chairman of the committee on foreign affairs in the Fifty-first congress. He has been a great stickler for the improvement of the

diplomatic and consular services. He has opposed anti-Chinese legislation which violated treaties and has advocated reciprocity with other republics.

Charles Warren Fairbanks, United States senator from Indiana, has been persistently mentioned in connection with the vice presidential nomination. Born near Unionville Center, O., May 11, 1832, Senator Fairbanks was graduated from the Wesleyan university at Delaware with distinction. He was Associated Press agent at Cleveland for a year, during which he began the study of law and was admitted to the bar. In 1874 he removed to Indianapolis. There he continued the practice of law and rose speedily to prominence. In 1885 he was the Republican caucus nominee for United States senator, but was defeated by David Turpie. In 1897 he was sent to the senate and was re-elected in 1903, his present term expiring in 1909.

Joseph G. Cannon ("Uncle Joe") will have a warm reception. He is a native of North Carolina, his birthplace being Guilford and the date May 7, 1836. He removed to Illinois at an early age and when he reached manhood adopted the profession of the law. He was member of congress from the Twelfth Illinois district from 1873 to 1891. He was then defeated, but after a rest of one he returned and served the same district from 1893 to 1903. For the term 1903-05 he was elected from the Eighteenth district. Mr. Cannon had the unique experience of being designated as the choice of a majority of congress for speaker before organization had been effected.

Frank Swift Black of New York, in

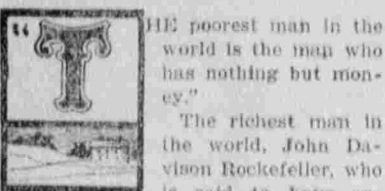
consequence of his intimate connection with party affairs in the Empire State as well as his well known, personal and friendly relations with President Roosevelt, will attract much attention when the New York delegation makes its appearance. Like many another man of note, he comes from Maine, his native village being Limington and the date of his birth March 8, 1853. He was graduated from Dartmouth and spent some time in the study of law, a successful venture. He was a reporter for the Troy (N.Y.) Whig, then a clerk in the Troy postoffice. In 1879 he was admitted to the bar and was successful from the first. He was sent to congress in 1895 and became governor in 1897.

George Bruce Cortelyou, the next chairman of the national committee, will be pointed out as a remarkable illustration of the good fortune which, once successfully invoked, follows obediently in the train of the aspiring politician. He was born in New York on July 26, 1862. He is a diplomat and is the legitimate owner of degrees from several institutions, among them Georgetown university. For two years he was a law reporter in New York and for several years thereafter principal of a city preparatory school. Mr. Cortelyou entered the public service in 1889 and served as stenographer and private secretary to several officials. He became stenographer to President Cleveland in November, 1895, executive clerk the next year and two years later assistant private secretary to President McKinley. From May 1, 1900, until February, 1903, he was named by President Roosevelt as the head of the new bureau of commerce and labor, an office he still holds.

Elihu Root, ex-secretary of war, who will probably be one of the presiding officers of the convention, was born in 1845 at Clinton, N. Y. His father was professor of mathematics in Hamilton college, and Elihu was graduated from that institution in 1864 and began the practice of law in 1867. He removed to New York and soon achieved great success as a corporation lawyer. He was counsel for the sugar trust, for the New York street railways and for many railroad companies. He represented William M. Tweed in the famous trial and was also retained in the Stewart and Payweather will cases. From 1883 to 1885 he was United States district attorney. In 1899 Mr. Root was appointed secretary of war to succeed Russell A. Alger. He distinguished himself at once by planning the war college and by establishing new rules of promotion. He is also responsible for the general staff. He remained in office during McKinley's second administration and continued under that of President Roosevelt until the summer of 1903, when he resigned. Among his greatest public services is to be reckoned his work as a member of the Alaskan boundary commission.

JAMES L. TREVATHAN.

John D. Rockefeller, the Richest Man In the World



THE poorest man in the world is the man who has nothing but money."

The richest man in the world, John D. Rockefeller, who is said to have acquired recently control of the steel trust, once used this as a text for a newspaper homily. It was not, of course, original with him, having appeared long ago in the Veda, the Talmud, the Sagas, the Koran and in the teachings of Confucius and Zoroaster, not to mention its constant reiteration

under various forms in the Bible. Nevertheless it lost nothing of its force upon the lips of the Midas of the twentieth century. Since there is nothing to show that Mr. Rockefeller considers himself a poor man of any description, the inference is that he has laid up treasures of greater value than money.

It is true that a man of unlimited resources may make as much of a mystery of himself as he chooses. He may transform his personality into a veritable sphinx and make his daily walk as hidden a thing as is the lama at Lassa. But he seldom chooses. It detracts from the value of his accomplishment to turn his face against publicity. It is not on record that Mr. Rockefeller has ever made a well-organized attempt to keep mankind in absolute ignorance of his efforts to provide against the proverbial rainy day. It is not unlikely that his disinclination to discuss his methods arises from the magnitude of the undertaking; he knows best of all the hopelessness of the attempt.

It is a stupendous achievement for a man to heap up treasures without looking up from the earth where he stands, the value of the mountain he has raised becomes speculative even to himself. Such enormous accumulations are for the most part intangible and invisible to the human conception. Mr. Rockefeller's power to grasp details and hold them may be unique, but he must have lost the power of keeping count. Several years ago he declared upon the Chinese standard that he was unable to gauge his holdings within several million dollars. In view of the constant tendency of these holdings to expand, it is not likely that he has acquired since then a new capacity for keeping track of them.



JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER.

goodly quantity of the stocks of systems like the New York Central, Pennsylvania, Lake Shore, Chicago and Northwestern, St. Paul, Union Pacific, Burlington, Rock Island, Santa Fe and many others that he might make any one of them his plaything if the whim should seize him.

Since the problem of his riches cannot be solved nor the secret of their accumulation be transmitted, there remains only the absorbing study of the magician himself. Is there, then, in the story of his life thus far lived any marked deviation from the normal man—anything that may explain in a human way and from a material standpoint why this man has been able to set himself so apart from his fellows?

John Davison Rockefeller was born in 1839 at the little village of Richford, Tioga county, N. Y. His parents were in comfortable circumstances, owning a farm and getting a living by tilling it. Mr. Rockefeller regards this feature of his early life as important, since it has been stated persistently that he was born in poverty. His boyhood was singularly free from pronounced symptoms of coming pre-eminence. According to his own statement, life was divided into two grand divisions—work in summer and school in winter. He did summer and school in winter. He did not at this period manifest any tendency to create values where none had previously existed. He was not even credited with phenomenal shrewd-

ness. He has declared frequently that at this time he possessed no distinguishing virtue except frugality.

When John was about ten years of age the family removed to Owego. Here in due time the Rockefeller children—there were six of them—entered the academy, which was an excellent school. The future Colossus was a good student, but not as promising as his brother William. Both were graduated, William with high honors. These boys had at the academy two schoolmates who have achieved distinction—Thomas C. Platt and Benjamin F. Tracy. Both of these embryonic celebrities vied with John D. Rockefeller in respectable mediocrity.

It was at home that John received his most valuable business training. His parents wisely began to teach him self reliance at a very early age. He takes pride in relating that when he was seven his father taught him to milk a cow. At the age of eight he could drive a horse as well as a man. To accustom him to the feeling of responsibility he was charged with various commissions. Among other things, he was sent to buy cordwood for the family. After he had become older his father entrusted him with some undertakings that were a severe test for any lad, one of them to build a house. Then he was provided with considerable sums of money to invest in loans and other interest bearing security. It was about this time

he made the discovery that he was able to secure as satisfactory results from a sum of money invested at a good rate as he could from a much greater expenditure of time and strength at potato digging. The scheme of making money perform the service which must otherwise involve great manual labor has never been forgotten by Mr. Rockefeller.



INVESTIGATING OIL FIELDS.

In 1851 the Rockefeller family removed to Cleveland. After a few years divided between the public school and a business college young Rockefeller made up his mind to shift for himself. His first essay was at the grocery business. He secured the position of assistant bookkeeper in the house of Gordon, McMillan & Co., one of the largest firms in the country. His record in this branch of industry was respectable, but not brilliant. At the end of the second year he was able to command a salary of only \$700. He resolved to go into the commission business for himself. He had saved \$800, and with that and a few thousands which he borrowed from his father at 10 per cent interest he formed a partnership with a young man named Clark. They prospered from the first. The profits for the first year were \$4,400. But better things were in store for John D. Rockefeller.

In 1859 the first oil well in Titusville, Pa., was opened. At the close of that year men in the contiguous territory were discussing the possibilities of fortune making in the exploitation of petroleum for commercial purposes. In time the excitement reached Cleveland, and young Rockefeller became interested. Although but twenty years of age, he had gained a reputation in Cleveland for shrewdness. A party of capitalists decided to send him into the oil regions to investigate. He went to the oil country and returned advising against investment. The risk seemed too great and the tendency to deal in speculative values too prominent. It seems, also, that he had made another discovery—that a great fortune might be made in refining the crude petroleum. He did not, however, include this discovery in his report to the capitalists who had sent him. With his weather eye open, he awaited his opportunity.

It came the next year, Cleveland in 1860 gave faint promise of the refining center it was destined to become. A few crude refineries made their appearance along Walworth run in what was then known as Ohio City. One of them, the smallest perhaps, bore the sign of Andrews, Clark & Rockefeller. Rockefeller and Clark had managed to put \$4,000 into the business, and Andrews was a practical distiller and had been given a share in the enterprise on

appearance alone. Walworth run in what was then known as Ohio City. One of them, the smallest perhaps, bore the sign of Andrews, Clark & Rockefeller. Rockefeller and Clark had managed to put \$4,000 into the business, and Andrews was a practical distiller and had been given a share in the enterprise on



PARTNER IN FIRM.

created after twenty odd years of constant oversight could rest secure in its supremacy. Rival interests had long dreamed of the construction of a pipe line from the producing regions to the seaboard. In the course of time this gigantic scheme was accomplished. It was a serious matter for the Standard. Oil could be carried by pipe to the seaboard at a cost of 16 cents, while the dominant railroad rate was 35 cents. The dominant genius of the Standard met the crisis promptly. He organized the National Transit company and became absolute master of the oil traffic in America.

The history of the rise of Standard Oil, marvelous as it is, makes it possible to understand how the creation and absorption of trusts became one man's master passion.

GEORGE H. PICARD.

HOME AND ABROAD.

It has been proved by instantaneous photography that a horse at full trot sometimes has its four feet off the ground at once.

A wire cask has just been built in California to hold 97,000 gallons. Its iron hoops weigh 40,000 pounds.

The Chinese are perhaps the most lightly taxed people in the world. In China all the land belongs to the state,

and a trifling sum per acre is paid as rent. This is the only tax in the country, and it amounts to about 36 cents per head yearly.

Dr. Cecilio Baez, the newly selected minister from Paraguay to the United States, is the first minister that country has had here in fifteen years.

Landowners in California expect to irrigate sections along the Rio Grande

by a novel and inexpensive method. A wheel placed between two boats that rise and fall with the waves will, it is expected, operate a series of pumps.

Japan has only half as many miles of railroad as New York state, although it is three times as large and has six times its population.

The royal Prussian state railroads have recently been giving a new steam locomotive speed trials on the stretch of track between Gottingen, Hanover, and

Kreinsen, Brunswick. The new locomotive attained a speed of 127 kilometers (78.8 miles) an hour.

The largest loaves of bread baked in the world are those of France and Italy. The "pipe" bread of Italy is baked in loaves two feet long, while in France the loaves are made in the shape of very long rolls, four feet or five feet in length and in many cases six feet.

An eagle recently attacked a peasant who was driving to Bouleu, near the

Swiss border. The fight lasted ten minutes and ended in the eagle being hit on the head with the butt of the man's whip.

A London medical journal says that slaves of alcohol and narcotics run great risks of being buried alive, especially in hot countries, where interment soon follows death.

In selecting a name for its Louisiana Purchase exposition flier from the 11,339 suggestions offered for a fifty dol-

lar prize the Pittsburgh and Lake Erie railroad chose "Loupureux Limited."

The navy department exhibit in the Government building at the world's fair occupies 15,500 square feet. The central figure of the exhibit is an exact full sized reproduction of that portion of a man-of-war from the bow to a point amidships. All compartments are accessible to visitors.

The area of the Philippine Islands is 140,000 square miles, about the size of

New York, New Jersey and the six New England states.

Being hard pressed by his creditors, Lieutenant von Voss, a German officer, deserted his regiment and sought refuge in the Salvation Army, whose barracks he refused to leave.

At Dresden a few days ago a blind man crossing the street was struck on the head by a cart. It has now been found that the shock has restored the man's sight.