

March 4, 1914

INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE IN MOUNTAIN

Nominee Pledged to Total Prohibition.
Direct Legislation and Universal
Suffrage—Enthusiastic Meeting
(Winnipeg Tribune, Feb. 25, 1914)

At a convention of independent electors of Mountain, held at Glenora a few days ago, forty delegates from far and near parts of the constituency were present. Considering the inclemency of the weather such a large turnout shows that a determined band have taken this movement to heart, and indicates that thinking, conscientious men will no longer passively submit to the degrading of their franchise, nor countenance the deplorable conditions prevailing in politics.

Shortly after 2 o'clock the convention opened up for business with H. A. McFadden, presiding, and V. L. Cooper, secretary, pro tem. After the reports from members of the standing committee of meetings, held thruout Mountain during the preceding two weeks, had been given, a motion to the effect that this convention resolve itself into an independent political association was carried unanimously. Immediate organization took place, with election of the following officers: President, R. M. Wilson, Marringhurst; first vice president, T. Caughlin, Mather; second vice president, G. Playfair, Baldur; secretary, V. L. Cooper, Marringhurst; treasurer, J. M. Cruickshank, Marringhurst; associated committee, A. D. Craig, D. A. McKinnon, F. Balfour, Chas. Watkins, N. Connibear, T. Graham, R. Gallaway, and A. Svenson.

The question of a political platform was then dealt with. It was agreed that as neither party at present in the House had a monopoly on good legislation, the nominee of this convention would be at liberty to support righteous legislation introduced by whatever party.

Special planks laid down for platform were: Unswerving fidelity to the British flag and constitution; total prohibition; direct legislation; universal suffrage; proportional representation; single tax, and an equitable and proportionate rate of interest.

Considerable discussion then ensued as to a feasible plan for holding a candidate to his pledges, and it was finally decided by a unanimous vote on a motion by E. Ventriss, seconded by A. D. Craig, that the nominee of this convention must place his resignation of seat in the House in the hands of the association.

The Nominations

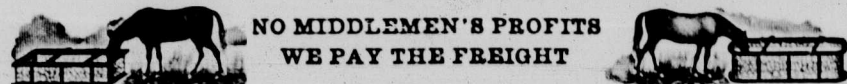
The nominations for a candidate were now in order, and the names of A. D. Craig, of Clearwater, and R. M. Wilson, of Marringhurst, were proposed, the former by G. Simpson, of Glenora, and the latter by A. D. Craig. Altho each of the proposed gentlemen advanced strong arguments why his opponent should be the unanimous choice, the chair had no other alternative than to call for a ballot. The vote gave a majority of three for A. D. Craig. At the request of Mr. Wilson, the choice of Mr. Craig was made unanimous.

Mr. Craig thanked the convention for the honor they had bestowed upon him, and briefly but strongly and eloquently spoke of the high and sacred duty that lay before them.

Mr. Wilson then traced the long struggle for an independent stand in Mountain, and rejoiced in the strength of the movement of today. Years ago they had begun to prepare the soil and plant the seed, and now it had germinated and grown to something formidable. Sacrifices had been made all along the line and would still have to be made. Money would be needed, and he would recommend the opening up of a list for contributions to an independent campaign fund. The suggestion was acted upon and over \$200 resulted.

The convention, which had continued thruout five hours, closed with the singing of the National Anthem and three cheers all round.

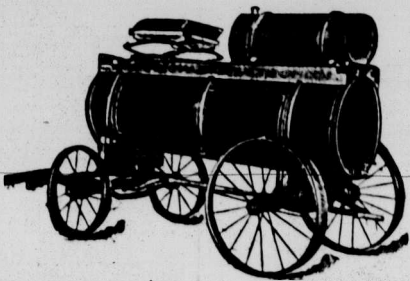
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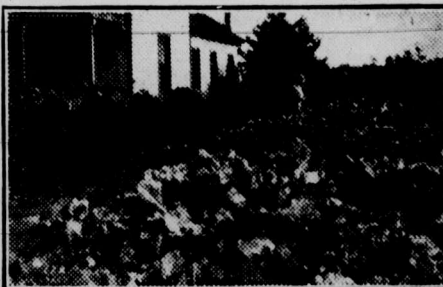
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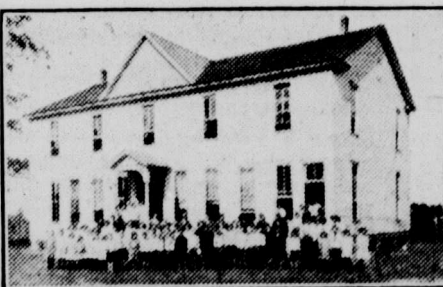
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