

Women Can Vote in Texas in July, 1918

HOW, WHEN AND WHERE THEY CAN CAST BALLOTS

Texas women may vote in the July 27, 1918, Democratic primary election without paying poll taxes, but they MUST REGISTER if they reside in towns of 10,000 or more population. They must be at least twenty-one years of age, and must have resided in the State at least one year and in their voting county at least six months.

The law, as signed by Governor William P. Hobby, is effective June 26, 1918, and provides that registration is to be completed fifteen days in advance of the primary election date, which is July 27. So registration will begin on June 26 and end on July 12.

Women residing in towns of 10,000 or more population will be registered by the State and County Tax Collector at his office within the time mentioned. Those in smaller towns and in the country do not have to register.

The registration form will be as follows:

STATE OF TEXAS, } No. _____
County of _____ }
I, _____, of _____ County, Texas, am _____
years of age; color, _____; race, _____; occupation, _____
residence No. _____ City, Voting Precinct, _____, Postoffice Address, _____
_____ ; have lived at said place _____ years.
(Signed) _____

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this _____ day of _____, 191_____.

Tax Collector, _____ County.

I, _____, Tax Collector aforesaid, hereby certify that the foregoing registrant personally signed and swore to the facts set out in the above receipt before me, showing her to be a qualified voter in primary elections in said County, State and Precinct for the year _____.

(Seal)

Tax Collector, _____ County.

The law requires that each woman registering shall personally fill out the blank form to be given her by the Tax Collector. She may find that the name of the county and the number of the receipt have already, for convenience, been printed at the top. She will keep the original and a duplicate will be retained by the Tax Collector. The law does not say whether a woman shall write her name "Mrs. John So-and-So," or "Mrs. Mary So-and-So." Perhaps she may do as she wishes in this matter; but it has been suggested that whatever name she shall once use for political purposes she should use continuously, unless her name is changed by marriage.

The filling in of the blank is easily done.

Location of voting boxes, election day hours, etc., can be ascertained through public announcements in the newspapers and other channels of information.

Hobby Signed the Law Giving Women this Privilege

Ferguson Fought Woman Suffrage.

Here is what Ferguson did at the Democratic National Convention and what the Convention did to him:

(From the Chicago Herald, Saturday morning, June 17, 1916.)

BY ARTHUR M. EVANS.

St. Louis, Mo., June 16.—A battle came at length among the Democrats, and woman—that is, woman suffrage—was at the bottom of it all.

In the closing session of the National Convention a fight was precipitated over the suffrage plank in the platform on which Wilson and Marshall will run.

TEXAN STARTS FIGHT.

It was started by Governor James E. Ferguson of Texas, representing a segment of the "Southern chivalry," and a group of Andy Jackson hardshells.

Mr. Ferguson, however, was more adept in starting something than finishing it. The only roll call during the entire convention was ordered to settle the dispute. And the champions of the women won by a vote of 888½ to 181½.

At once the platform was put through viva voce, and the Democratic National Convention of 1916 adjourned at 3:12 o'clock.

For a postlude the brass band sped the delegates on their way from the Coliseum with the old battle hymn of the Moose, "Onward, Christian Soldiers."

TRIUMPH FOR WILSON.

Wilson had triumphed, the women had emerged victorious, and the Democrats, aching for one of their customary fights to liven up the harmony, had pulled a fracas.

Better still, they had run true to the traditions of romance and had flashed their blades over women, while in the galleries and the hanging balconies the suffragists waved their yellow flags and ribbons. And everyone was satisfied and contented, even the wounded knight from Texas who fell in the tournament.

The "votes for women" plank was the sole item in the platform over which the delegates fought. The Mexican plank, nailed in at the last minute by the platform builders, did not stir a ripple. It interested the delegates so that part of it was read twice on demand, but it created no surprise or sensation.

The orators, from Ollie James to Bryan, had discussed Mexico yesterday until it had lost all newness in the convention. One Boston delegate made himself the center of a small disturbance by trying to get the delegates to endorse freedom for Ireland, but he got nowhere, and was rewarded by a gale of laughter and good-natured raillery.

APPLAUD AMERICANISM PLANK.

The Americanism plank got a hand and an explosion of "whees" and "hoorays." Bryan got his regular morning ovation from the floor and galleries.

Senator Reed of Missouri got a chance to make a speech, in which he joyously and with all the abandon of a Russian ballet dancer, kicked the G. O. P. elephant in the ribs.

And after the delegates had roared and whooped it up during the battle over the suffrage plank, they gave Wilson a platform that suits him from the initial letter to the closing period.

It's been "Wilson—that's all" from convening to final adjournment.

The suffrage issue, over which the only fight of the convention started, took the following form:

The majority report recommended woman suffrage, and left it to the States.

The minority report—presented by Governor Ferguson—left woman suffrage to the States, and did not recommend it. Immediately after the presentation of the majority report on the platform, through the combined vocal efforts of Senators Stone of Missouri, Walsh of Montana and Hollis of New Hampshire, the excitement started.

READS MINORITY REPORT.

Governor Ferguson of Texas, short and dark, with black hair and black clothes, got to the platform with the minority report on suffrage. It was signed by C. L. Bartlett of Georgia, Stephen B. Fleming of Indiana, James R. Nugent of New Jersey, and the Texan. This is how the two rival planks looked:

Majority Plank—"We recommend the extension of the franchise to the women of the country by the States upon the same terms as to men."

Minority Plank—"The Democratic party has always stood for the sovereignty of the several States in the control and regulation of elections. We reaffirm the historic position of our party and favor that wise provision of the Constitution, the power of the States to prescribe the qualifications of their electors."

Governor Ferguson unsheathed his sword and headed into the fray like a true Texas oratorical hotspur.

"Our purpose," he shouted, "is to prevent suffrage States from undertaking to tell other States what they should do."

"Does anyone believe that Woodrow Wilson can be intimidated by the swish of the skirts of the few hundred thousand militant suffragists in the United States? I, for one, do not."

HALL IN AN UPROAR.

By this time the hall was in an uproar.

E. H. Moore of Ohio arose with a question whether the majority plank did not favor suffrage directly, while the minority plank put it back on the States by inaction. Ferguson assented, and a minute later Senator Stone was on the rostrum combating the Texan's arguments.

"The Governor makes a man of straw and demolishes it," complained Stone. "The question at issue was simply that the party would favor the suffrage right being conferred on women by the States. Does that interfere with State's rights?"

Senator Pittman of Nevada was brought forth by Senator Stone as a reinforcement.

Pittman hardly finished any of his sentences. He was yelled down.

WALSH DEFIES FERUGSON.

Senator Walsh of Montana then arose and stuck his spear into the midriff of the Governor of Texas. He defied the Governor to point out anything in the Federal Constitution of the sort contained in the minority plank.

After this appeal the roll was called and the Texan's plank got only 181½ votes, while 888½ were cast against it.

Illinois cast one vote for the Texas idea. It came from Martin J. Dillon of Galena. The voting was not sectional. Indiana cast as many votes for the Texas plank as did either Alabama or Georgia. All except eighteen of the States voted against the minority proposition.

Then came the adoption of the platform and final adjournment.

Vote for Hobby and you will vote right and for the man who gave Texas Women the Vote.

HOBBY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE