

Back of the Constitution

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He was quoted in the *Iowa State Register* with the following informative comment:

This convention in the Big Four district is just like the one four years ago. Perhaps I'm able to feel a little more philosophical about it this time, because then I was a candidate for the senatorial nomination. It was the same fight as now, except then O'Brien had a candidate. Frank P. Piper was supported by its ten votes, Lister had the five of Osceola, Hospers the thirteen of Sioux, and the seven of Lyon were for myself. George W. Pitts, who is now chairman of the Sioux delegation, was at the head of Hospers' delegation from Sioux.

In that convention, as in the present one, Sioux and Osceola had just enough votes to nominate if they could get together. Hospers agreed positively that he wouldn't be a candidate for a second term, and this was one of the sources of his strength. They took either 1,767 or 1,776 ballots, I'm not now certain which, before a nomination was made. Then the Sioux county people got tired. A fifteen-minute recess was taken, and they gave it out that they were going to make a break. Then, on reconvening, O'Brien, rather than let the nomination go to Lyon, broke, giving part of its vote to Hospers and part to me; but Hospers got the larger part of it, and enough to nominate him.

Back of the Constitution

We Americans say that the Constitution made the nation. The Constitution is a great document and we never would have been a nation without it, but it took more than that to make the nation. Rather it was our forefathers and foremothers, who made the Constitution and then made it work. The government they constructed did get great things out of them, but it was not the government primarily that put the great things into them. What put the great things into them was their home life, their religion, their sense of personal responsibility to Almighty God, their devotion to education, their love of liberty, their personal character.

—HARRY EMERSON FOSDICK, D.D.

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