

The Weekly Chronicle.

Table of County and State Officials including Governor, Secretary of State, and various judges and commissioners.

ITS RECORD FOR TWELVE YEARS

In the house Tuesday Mr. Barrett, Republican, of Massachusetts, declared that the civil service law was a Republican measure, passed by Republican votes, and that the party was irrevocably committed to the policy of civil service reform.

Proof of this statement is found in the national platform of that party. "The civil service law was placed on the statute book by the Republican party," declared the platform of 1896, "which has always sustained it, and we renew our repeated declarations that it shall be thoroughly and honestly enforced and extended wherever practicable."

Yet in the face of that declaration, says the Spokesman-Review, Republican spoilsmen are asserting upon the floor of the house of representatives that it never was the intention to extend the civil service beyond a narrow and inefficient range.

The people will not be gulled. They will know the motive which spurs the spoilsmen on in their fierce attack on civil service reform. The fight is made by spoils politicians like Senator Wilson, who care nothing for party principle or party declarations. If they can break down the civil service, they will be able to appease in part the angry clamor of supporters whom they have deceived with promises of place. Hence their active onslaught upon the law.

The government, according to the resolution which passed the senate yesterday, will spend \$250,000 in sending food to the miners at Dawson City. It seems generally conceded that this is the proper thing to do, yet in the end it would have proved cheaper to have subsidized the steamship companies that worked up the rush of last summer, and thus kept the adventurers at home. Next winter will have a sorer tale to tell than this. Through the strenuous advertising and urging of the steamship companies, aided by the agents of the various railroads leading to the coasts, an immense crowd of people will probably be in Alaska by the end of the summer. Many of them are improvident by nature, and the force of circumstances will hinder proper preparation. Scattered along the frozen valleys of Alaska, they will be objects of pity when winter's lock is put upon the country. But the transportation companies will have made their money out of it, and the government forced to again step in and aid. Not all that glitters is gold, especially along the banks of the Klondike.

Astoria is taking up a contribution to advertise that town in the East. It is expected several thousand dollars will be expended in this way. The plan of flooding the country with printed matter has been tried at various times by all the Oregon towns with indifferent success. The Dalles has had its turn and will probably be called upon again. The best way to attract attention is to do something which will be noticed among the class of men whose consideration is worth having. If this town were to have a woolen mill established in it, it would be the best advertisement it could obtain. Just as the woolen factory at Pendleton has pushed that place forward, so it would at The Dalles, only in larger degree, for our advantages are so manifestly more than Pendleton's that the results would be greater.

This is the age of young men. Charles G. Dawes of Illinois, who yesterday was appointed comptroller of the currency is but thirty-two years of age, having been born in 1865. It is an index of how time is flying when one thinks that a child

born since the surrender at Appomattox and after Lincoln was assassinated, should have time to mature and succeed to one of the most important offices under the administration. The beginning of the century will see the country run by men to whom the great civil strife is but a memory.

IS THE CIVIL SERVICE SYSTEM IN DANGER?

We would not willingly underrate the strength of the movement in opposition to the civil service law. Evidently a determined attempt is to be made in both houses of congress either to modify or to repeal it. An organization was formed some time ago in Washington for the purpose of destroying the system. We know that there are men of both parties in the senate and in the house who are outspoken in their denunciation of the law, and would do anything they could to break it down. But, after all, there is no occasion for great alarm, for ever since the law was placed on the statute books it has had its opponents in both branches of congress. Attempts have been made to repeal it and to starve it out by refusing to make the necessary appropriations for the work of the civil service commission. We have seen these attempts come to naught, and in the face of them we have seen the classified system expanded until it includes nearly all branches of the public service. Both parties have commended it in their national platforms, and declared that it ought to be maintained. Last year, when the Democratic party departed so widely from its traditions, it went on record against it, while the Republican convention at St. Louis commended it in stronger terms than usual. All the presidents for the last four quadrenniums have been true friends to the system; and the members of the cabinets, with very few exceptions, have given warm tributes to its effectiveness.

What has happened to change public opinion? Admitting that the Democratic party is not at present friendly, is it to be inferred from the remarks of Congressman Grosvenor and others that there has been a revulsion of sentiment in the Republican party since the convention at St. Louis last year? We do not believe it. The whole trouble lies here: Since then the Republican party has come into power, and Republican congressmen find they have little patronage to dispense. There are many thousands who want offices and cannot get them. Our national legislators wish to pay off their political debts in the cheapest way they can. For this reason they want more public patronage at their disposal. They find many Democrats in office, and they would like the opportunity of turning them out so there will be vacancies to be filled by Republicans. This is why we hear so much clamor in Washington about the inequities of the civil service system.

It is significant that the attacks upon the system do not come from cabinet officers who are at the head of departments, and have many thousand clerks under them; not from those who administer and who know the results, but from congressmen and politicians who have no such responsibility. Those who hold positions of great trust, with thousands of clerks under them, are entirely satisfied with its workings; they believe it is far more effective and economical than the spoils system, and they know that it saves a great deal of the time and worry formerly given to applicants and of applications. Secretary Long, of the navy department, declares that it is infinitely better than the old system, not only for the appointing power, but for the congressmen themselves that the latter used to dispense the offices freely, and where they pleased one, they made enemies of ten. He thinks congress ought to let the law alone, and we trust that congress will let it alone.

Our source of security lies in the fact of President McKinley's devotion to the system. It is well known that any bill which proposes to lead a retreat will be vetoed by him. He will not allow the law to be crippled. He has indicated that he is in favor of certain modifications, which the

friends of the system are not induced to oppose. If congress goes further than this, and we do not believe it will, we may count on the interposition of the presidential vote.

THE ABUSE OF A GOOD THING.

The necessity for reform in pension legislation is becoming every day more apparent, and for the first time the abuse of the laws, passed in gratitude to the nation's defenders, seems to receive general recognition among our national legislators. The annual sums spent for pensions amounts to \$141,250,000, and unless some measures are taken looking toward curtailment, it promises to go even higher. The money spent for pensions is almost a third of our aggregate national expenditure.

Pensions are a burden left by the great civil war, which we cannot expect to get rid of for many years. In so far as they are just and necessary the people want to bear them and would not evade the responsibility if they could. The obligation is an honorable one, and it is the abuse, and not the debt itself, which arouses criticism. No one is willing to forget the services which the men of '61 rendered the union, and as long as there remains a dollar in the national treasury, no needy veteran should be allowed to be in want. But in this, as in everything else which pertains to our national welfare, we should be courageous enough to look at things squarely, and not condone flagrant violations of the law's intent, either through too much sentiment or through fear of being unpopular.

The pension system is peculiarly liable to abuse, and perhaps some degree of fraud would evade the strictest administration. But it is possible that several avenues of fraud can be closed, and to this end the attention of congress should be drawn.

One of the best suggestions yet proposed is that of publishing the list of pensioners, so that they may be known in every community. This would tend to bring many frauds to light. Where a man whose claim to a pension was founded on deafness is discovered to be a competent manager of a long distance telephone, as is reported in a New York paper, somebody will be sure to see that this knowledge reaches the pension office.

An amendment such as the pension commissioner suggests, refusing pensions to widows who marry old soldiers after their pensions began, would also be a helpful reform. Then let congress be chary about passing private pension bills, except in known meritorious cases, and much headway will have been made.

The country is not forgetful of her defenders, but, as has been aptly said, "We must see that our roll of honor does not become one of scandal."

The Oregonian, in referring to the Mitchell-Simon fight in Multnomah county, a year and a half ago, when the contesting delegates appeared at the state convention, says: "A great majority of these (meaning Republicans outside of Multnomah county) freely admit that an injustice was done at the last state convention, when the Multnomah delegation, fairly elected, was cut in two and one half its strength destroyed."

Which delegation does it mean was fairly elected? By implication we are led to believe the one headed by Joe Simon, yet such a statement is far from the truth. The facts are that both sides were much to blame for practices at the polls which should not be countenanced. Yet if the responsibility is to be fixed, Simon and his crowd are the greater sinners. The Republicans of Multnomah county were tired of being under the absolute domination of one man, and that man Simon, so a revolt was decided upon. When the matter was left to the decision of the delegates outside of Multnomah county, it was seen that to decide which was wholly wrong or wholly right would be impossible, and a compromise was all that could be done. If Multnomah county persists in her political warfare and the decision is left to the country delegates, it is probable she will be left out entirely, and that will be bad,

very bad, for Mr. Simon, as the rest of the state has little use for him and his practices.

Senator Wolcott, the head of the monetary commission, recently sent to Europe in the interests of international bimetalism, hopes "sooth to make a statement concerning the work of the commission." It will be easier for the senator to relate what was not done than to point out what was accomplished. His statement will have a considerably negative character.

"CRADLE SONGS OF NATIONS."

Everyone Delighted With the Pleasing Program.

The performance of all who took part in the entertainment "Cradle Songs of Nations" Saturday night was sufficient to convince anyone of the amount of home talent that can be brought forth by our town people, not only among the older people, but the children as well.

The evening's program was opened with a well rendered piano duet by Georgia Sampson and Clara Nickelsen. The Reuben trio sang one of their songs in a way that made all think how inappropriate their nom de plume is. They also answered to an enthusiastic encore with a catchy selection.

"Jes' 'Fore Christmas" was recited by Miss Georgia Sampson in a very creditable style, after which the ladies sang a beautiful quartet and were vigorously encored, but modestly refused to appear the second time.

The three new Coons were well received, and in spite of the fact that they were Coons, seemed to receive a liberal amount of pleasant smiles from every one in the audience, especially the younger element of the masculine gender.

The lullaby chorus and nightcap drill by thirty little girls was very pretty, and was executed without an error, while Constance French's recitation, "Dreamland," would have done credit to a girl of more mature years.

"In Winter I Get Up at Night" was sung by fourteen little girls in costume, carrying candles, after which the Scotch, Russian, Japanese, German, Spanish, Italian, African, Indian, French and American mothers sang their babes to sleep in their respective ways.

As each nationality succeeded in putting their babies to sleep, they stepped back on the stage, and at the close all joined in the chorus "Sleep, Baby Sleep," and at the same time formed a very pretty tableau, which closed the entertainment.

Day Bros. Come Out on Top.

In the case of Hery Smith vs. Day Bros., a verdict was brought in in favor of the defendants.

The Oregonian says: "During the progress of the trial, Judge Bennett, of The Dalles, one of the attorneys for the plaintiff, attempted to cross-examine Colonel Day in a rather unceremonious manner. In return, the latter fired back such a volley of technical questions that the guns of the cross-examiner were promptly silenced. Judge Bennett was unusually severe in the examination of the witnesses for the defense, and Colonel Day made the experiment of having the judge take a little of his own medicine, knowing full well that the retaliation would come when it came to addressing the jury."

In his peroration to the jury, Judge Bennett had his turn, and pictured the main plaintiff as occupying a high perch in the glorious hereafter, pendant upon the bent end of a fleecy cloud, while the colonel was way down in the basement directing the operations of the stokers of that department.

Colonel Day, after the verdict had been rendered, said that when he had assumed control of the thermometer business in the lower region, he would have the satisfaction of having a Wasco attorney realize there was a hot time in the old town that night.

"Hazel Kirke."

At the Vogt opera house on Saturday (Christmas) night, the Excelsior Dramatic Company will produce the beautiful drama "Hazel Kirke." This play is the most perfect piece of play writing of the modern drama. The characters are so widely different from one another, yet so perfect in their characterization that the grave and the gay run most harmoniously side by side. Mr. Duggan's rendition of the character "Dunstan Kirke" is pronounced a masterpiece of acting, while Miss Morey, who interprets the title role to "Hazel Kirke," has received the greatest praise through the South. Miss Bengue Harrison is with this company, playing the soubrette character. She has established a great reputation wherever she has performed for her wonderful mirthfulness. The whole company is composed of finished performers, and it is the intention of this company to periodically play The Dalles on the circuit they are establishing through the Northwest, so this in itself assures us that a treat is in store for us on Christmas night.

Notice.

All persons having claims against the tournament committee must present them to me before Wednesday, the 22d inst. Judd Fish.

A Child's Recovery

FROM PARALYSIS AND SIX YEARS OF CONVULSIONS.

Little Fannie Adams, of Umatilla, Cured of a Dreadful Malady A Cure of Unusual Interest—A Reporter Investigates.

From the Lake Region, Estus, Fla. For some time past the Lake Region has been receiving reports from Umatilla, Fla., of an almost miraculous cure that had been effected in the case of Fannie Adams, a daughter of A. J. Adams, of that place, and last Saturday a representative of this paper made a trip to Umatilla for the purpose of determining the authenticity of the same. The family live a short distance from the village, where it was found that the people were cognizant of the cure which had been effected, and were rejoicing with the family in their new found happiness. The father, A. J. Adams, is a hard-working honest farmer from east Tennessee, and the family came to Florida four years ago in the hope that a change of climate would be of benefit to their afflicted child. Much of their earnings have gone for doctors' bills, whose services proved unavailing. The representative was greeted by Mrs. Adams, from whom he gained the story of her great trial. Fannie, the youngest child, was born in east Tennessee, and was seven years old on the third day of February, 1897. When ten months old she was stricken with paralysis, which affected the entire left side. This stroke of paralysis was followed by convulsions, and from the time little Fannie was ten months old until February, 1897, there was not a single day or a night that she did not have spasms of the most distressing nature. Not a single convulsion, but always three or four, and sometimes as high as ten in one day. The family was all broken down with care, and Mrs. Adams states that for one year she did not go into her kitchen to superintend her household work. All the fingers of the right hand of the little girl are enlarged and misshapen, caused by her biting them during the fearful suffering. The case baffled the skill of the best physicians, and they were frank to say that they could not determine the cause, or prescribe a remedy to aid the afflicted child. But what a change now in that household; for little Fannie has recently been released from her six years of agony, which brings the light of happiness to the faces of the parents. In January, this year, Mrs. Adams, who had purchased some of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People for her fourteen year old daughter, determined to try their effect upon little Fannie. After three or four doses, she noted an improvement and she then told the father what she had done. He at once went to the village and bought another box, and up to this time six boxes have been used. The first pills, Mrs. Adams states, were given in January, the latter part, and certainly not earlier than the fifteenth or twentieth, and the child had her last convulsion on February 8d, nearly three months ago. Her general condition has improved in every way, and it was not a month after the first pills were taken when she began to walk without assistance. The pills were bought at the drug store of Dr. Shelton, in Umatilla. In answer to the question, did he, to his personal knowledge, know that the remedy had benefited Fannie Adams, as was stated by her parents, the doctor said that he was a regular practicing physician, and as such was loth to recommend any proprietary medicine, but still he was ready to do justice to all men, and he did know that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People had benefited Fannie Adams, and also volunteered the information that he knew of other children in the village who had been benefited by their use. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People are sold by all dealers, or will be sent post paid on receipt of price, 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50 (they are never sold in bulk or by the 100) by addressing Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y.

Setting Out in Life! As well as in the thick of the battle, is a time when a man should be careful about neat and correct dressing. First impressions are half the victory. Who has a better chance, even in looking for a situation, than the young man whose attire is an evidence of taste, thrift and judgment? Young men who wish to prosper should order their Suits and Overcoats from M. BORN & CO., The Great Chicago Merchant Tailors, Now over 30 yrs. at the head of the Custom Trade. All ages can be suited. Style, fit and workmanship are guaranteed. The world's best looms supply the material. The Best is always The Most Economical. 800 NEW SELECTED PATTERNS TO ORDER FROM. CALL ON A. C. GIGER & CO., NEW YORK CASH STORE

Three Trainloads of.... STEEL SUPERIOR RANGES Have been sold already this year. All prices, From \$30.00 up. Eighty styles, from small family size to as large as wanted. There are more Superior Stoves and Ranges in use in this territory than all other makes of Stoves combined. This is conclusive evidence of the superiority of Bridge & Beach Co.'s celebrated Superior Stoves and Ranges. On sale at MAIER & BENTON, Sole agents for SUPERIOR Steel Ranges. THE DALLES, OREGON.

She Knows Better. "I read in the papers that bananas were wholesome food," said Mrs. McSwilligen to Mrs. Squibb, "but I don't believe it. I ate some before going to bed last night and I have felt sick ever since." "How many bananas did you eat?" asked her friend. "Not many. I don't think I ate more than six or seven."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph. Taking Things Good Naturedly. "Confound you, what are you grinning at?" asked the man who was getting himself held up. "Oh, well," chuckled the footpad, "I never was a man to take things seriously."—Cincinnati Enquirer. Taken Up. Came to my place on 3-Mile, about the 25th of November, a straw-hay roan mare, branded V P on the left shoulder, about 5 years old. Owner can have same by paying charges. M. S. EVANS, The Dalles, Or. dec22-1m. Subscribe for THE CHRONICLE. TILLET & GALLIGAN, WM. TILLET, H. GALLIGAN, Sole Proprietors of the CELEBRATED KANIMA APPLE. Hood River Nursery, TILLET & GALLIGAN, Props. First-class Nursery Stock a Specialty. B. S. HURTINGTON, H. S. WILSON, HUNTINGTON & WILSON, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, THE DALLES, OREGON. Office over First Nat. Bank. FRED. W. WILSON, ATTORNEY AT LAW, THE DALLES, OREGON. Office over First Nat. Bank.