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FAIR COMPROMISE OFFERED

Mitchell Republicans Take Steps to Stop the Row in Multnomah County.

PROMINENT MEN COMMENT

The Simon Republicans Have Now No Reasonable Excuse to Give Why They Should Not Meet This (C. F. R.)

The following is the full text of an offer to effect a compromise between the two factions within the republican party in Multnomah county submitted by Hon. Sol Hirsch, chairman of the county central committee of what is known as the Mitchell faction, to Hon. Donald McKay, chairman of the county central committee, of the Simon faction:

Portland, Or., Dec. 27, 1897.
Honorable Donald McKay, Portland, Oregon—Dear Sir: Whereas, unfortunate factional differences in the republican party in this city and county, growing out of the primary election of 1896, culminated in a division of the party in this county, and the organization of two different committees, one composed of yourself as chairman, and six other gentlemen, and the other composed of the undersigned, being one member from each ward in the city of Portland, and two members from the precincts in the county outside of the city, with Honorable Sol Hirsch as chairman, each of which committees claim to represent the republican party of this county and city, for convenience, the former of said committees will hereafter be designated as "your" committee, and the latter as "our" committee.

Whereas, further, it is universally known that leading and influential republicans throughout the state, irrespective of their preferences as to men or factions, or their past or present affiliations, are earnest in the expression of their wishes and opinions to the effect that the republican party of Multnomah county should speedily settle for themselves these factional differences in the party, and thus present a united front to the common enemy.

Therefore, without entering upon either statement or discussion, as to what person or persons, faction or factions, if any, are responsible, either in whole or in part, for the unfortunate state of affairs in the republican party of this city and county, and in the spirit of entire fairness, and solely with the view of bringing about, if possible, unity or organization and action in the republican party, on a basis alike fair and honorable to every republican and all factions, our committee here submit to you for the consideration of your committee the following propositions, having for the sole purpose provisions for a fair primary election to be held at the proper time next spring, in which all republicans may participate, and at which each and every faction of the party in this city and county shall be at liberty to support their own ticket for delegates to the city and county conventions to be held later for the purpose of nominating candidates for precinct, city and county officers, including members of the legislature, and delegates to the state and district conventions, the persons so nominated at such conventions to receive the cordial and earnest support of all republicans.

We propose that there shall be one and only one, republican county and city convention held in the county of Multnomah in the spring of 1898, which shall possess all the powers and discharge all the duties usually pertaining to such conventions in accordance with the time honored usages of the republican party.

That there shall be one and only one republican primary election held in said Multnomah county in the spring of 1898, and it shall be held in accordance with the provisions of an act of the legislative assembly of the state of Oregon, approved February 11, 1891, relating to the primary elections, and known as the Primary Law. At such primary election shall be elected the delegates who, and who alone, shall be entitled to a seat in said county and city convention.

That the annual call shall be issued at the proper time for such primary election and convention, and shall be signed by the chairman and secretary of each of said committees.

There being in the city of Portland 11 wards, numbered respectively and consecutively from one to eleven, and in the county of Multnomah outside of said city, 28 election precincts, numbered respectively and consecutively from fifty-four upward to eighty-one, inclusive, which election precincts are also designated by distinctive names, as follows: St. Johns, No. 54; Bertha, 55; Mt. Zion, 56; Russellville, 57; Linnton, 58; Holbrook, 59; Columbia, 60; Willamette Slough, 61; Montavilla, 62; Williams, 63; Mount Taber, 64; South Mount Taber, 65; Woodstock, 66; Lents, 67; Killgaver, 68; Fairview, 69; Gresham, 70; Powell's Valley, 71; Troutdale, 72; Hordburt, 73; Bridal Veil, 74; Bower, 75; Sylvan, 76; Rockwood, 77; Warrendale, 78; Cornell Road, 79; West Portland, 80; Willsburg, 81.

Our committee propose that the apportionment of the delegates to the county and city conventions, aforesaid, shall be as follows: such of said wards and precincts as cast over 100 votes each in 1896 for McKinley for president, shall be allowed respectively, one delegate for each 100 votes so cast, and one delegates for each 40 or more over an even hundred cast, and each of said precincts which cast less than 100 votes for McKinley in 1896 shall be allowed one delegate.

That the chairmen respectively of said

committees shall each appoint from the committee of which he is chairman a sub-committee of three, which sub-committee, at the proper time, select and procure the use of a place in each ward in said city and a place in each of said precincts in said county, outside of said city, for a polling place for such ward or precinct. That each of said committees shall pay one-half of the expenses necessarily incurred for such polling places and a publication of the call for said primary election.

That the judges of said primary election shall be selected as follows: In wards numbered respectively one, three, five, seven, nine and eleven, that is, in all the odd-numbered wards in said city, one of such sub-committee, or its representative, having first choice, which choice is to be determined by lots as hereinafter provided, shall select two judges for the primary voting places in each of said wards, and the other of such sub-committee, or its representative, shall select one judge in each of said odd-numbered wards; while in wards numbered respectively two, four, six, eight and ten, that is to say in all the even-numbered wards of said city, said sub-committee, or its representative, having second choice, shall select two judges for each of said even-numbered wards, while the other sub-committee, or its representative, shall select one judge for each of said even-numbered wards.

And the question as to which sub-committee or its representative shall have first choice, as aforesaid, shall be determined by lot as aforesaid, on or before the 10th day of January, 1898, in the presence and under the direction of the arbitrator hereinafter named, and said judges shall be named at the time of preparing the call for said primary election.

The judges of election in the 28 election precincts outside of the city, numbered respectively and consecutively from 54 upward to 81, inclusive, as aforesaid, shall be selected as follows: The sub-committee, or its representative, having first choice, shall select two judges for each of the 14 of such election precincts as are designated by odd numbers, while the sub-committee, or its representative, having second choice, shall select two judges for said primary election in each of the 14 of said election precincts designated by even numbers, while the other sub-committee, or its representative, shall select one judge for said primary election, in each of said election precincts designated by even numbers.

And the question as to which committee, or its representative, shall have first choice shall, unless sooner mutually agreed upon by said committees, be determined by lot on or before the 10th day of January, 1898, at the same time as casting lots for first choice in said city wards aforesaid; this also to be done in the presence and under the direction of the arbitrator hereinafter named. And said judges for said precincts respectively, outside of the city, shall all be named at the time of preparing the call for said primary election.

That the judge or judges of said polling-place, who shall have been selected by our committee, or its representative, shall be permitted to select one person for clerk for such polling-place, and that each of the judge or judges, for each polling-place, who shall have been selected by your committee or its representative, shall be permitted to select one person for clerk for such polling-place, and the persons so selected respectively shall be duly appointed and qualified and act as such clerks.

That in addition to the two poll books of said primary election required by law to be kept by the judges and clerks, there shall be kept at each polling-place by such judges and clerks, an additional poll book, to be in all respects a duplicate of the other poll books kept as required by law, and that one of said three poll books so kept shall be delivered to your committee, one to our committee, and one to the clerk of the county court of Multnomah county at the close of said election.

That Hon. George H. Williams, of Portland, Oregon, a gentleman of unquestioned integrity, a republican of undoubted loyalty, a statesman of great ability, and a judge whose actions cannot be improperly controlled, influenced or biased by any person or persons, faction or factions, shall be arbitrator for the purposes herein named. That the said arbitrator shall have power and authority from the time of the acceptance of these propositions by your committee to the time of holding such primary elections, to decide all questions with reference to which said committees or sub-committee shall disagree, and to call meetings of said sub-committee, and his decisions thereon shall be final and binding on all concerned.

That the said arbitrator shall also call the aforesaid county and city convention to order, and be temporary chairman thereof; he shall appoint two from each of the contending factions therein who, with himself as chairman thereof, shall constitute the committee on credentials for such convention.

That no proxies shall be used in said convention except that in case of the absence of any delegate a person to act as proxy in his place shall be selected by the delegates from the ward for which said absent delegate was elected, and in case such absent delegate as elected by a precinct, the proxy for him shall be selected by the convention.

That both our committee and your committee shall pledge themselves to abide by the results of such primary election, and to loyally support the entire ticket which shall be nominated by said county and city convention, and that we shall further pledge our united efforts to secure reforms in both city and county governments in all respects and especially by reduction of taxation and in the expenditure of public moneys.

We deem each and all the parts of these propositions absolutely fair and honorable, and such as every republican can agree to without any sacrifice of principle, and all of which we now tender in good faith in the spirit of compromise, looking solely, not to the candidacy or promotion of any man or men, but to the unity and welfare of the republican party in this city, county and state.

Assuming that you and your committee,

in view of the existing conditions, will promptly accept these propositions, we in the event of such acceptance in writing, within 10 days from the receipt by you of this communication, pledge ourselves in advance to give loyal support to the entire ticket which shall be nominated by said county and city conventions, and, unless your committee shall so accept in writing, we shall understand that you reject these propositions.

SOL HIRSCH, chairman, 4th ward.
W. T. HILME, secretary, 2d ward.
P. L. WILLIS, 1st ward.
JAMES LUTAN, 3d ward.
W. F. MATHEWS, 5th ward.
CARL A. BRANDIES, 6th ward.
H. M. BUSH, 7th ward.
JOHN WOOD, 8th ward.
JOHN M. LEWIS, 9th ward.
D. A. MORRIS, 10th ward.
W. H. MOORE, 11th ward.
HENRY CHAPMAN.
D. C. POWELL.

VIEW OF PROMINENT REPUBLICANS.

Judge Williams is favorable to the scheme of harmony that is presented by the united republican county committee. "I believe in harmony," said he last night, at his residence, "and will do all in my power to bring it about. The matter was explained to me today by a few gentlemen, and I agree with the proposition as described by them. The course may be more full which requires alteration, but the general proposition is very fair, and I hope that the other side may see fit to accept it."

"I belong to no faction; I am identified with neither, but I hope to see the republican party succeed in the coming election. The factions must get together if they expect to win."

"The use of my name as arbitrator is wholly unauthorized. No one has consulted me upon the subject. I cannot say whether or not I would accept the responsibility until I have fully examined the matter. I desire to understand the terms of the arbitration."

Joseph Simon, who is the leader of the opposing faction, was not ready to express an opinion upon the subject. "I have heard of the paper," said he, "but I have not had time to examine it, and I am therefore not in a position to discuss it."

A copy was offered Mr. Simon for perusal, but he said that he was too busy with legal matters to study it. "The proposition will doubtless receive consideration from the county committee," said he, "and it will take whatever action it may see fit. A meeting will probably be called to consider the subject. Just now I am very busy preparing a case for tomorrow, and I shall not have time to investigate the subject."

Notwithstanding Mr. Simon's disclaimer, it seems very evident that he has given the paper some thought. Mr. Hume, the secretary of the Mitchell-Republican county committee, served the notice upon Chairman Donald McKay, of the opposing faction's county committee, at about 9:30 yesterday morning. An hour afterward, Mr. McKay went to Mr. Simon's office, carrying the paper in his hand.

When Chairman McKay was asked for his opinion he had none to offer. "The proposition will have to be considered by the county committee. As yet I have not called a meeting of the committee, and do not know that it will be held this week. I have just received the document and have not had time to thoroughly examine it."

"Has Mr. Simon seen the proposition yet?" was asked.
"No, he has not seen it yet," replied the chairman.

Ex-Senator John H. Mitchell as seen, and this inquiry made of him:
"Have you seen and are you familiar with the written proposition submitted today by the republican county committee, of which Hon. Sol Hirsch is chairman, to the republican county committee of which Hon. Donald McKay is chairman, and if so has it your approval?"

"Yes, I am cognizant and perfectly familiar with the proposition submitted today by the republican county committee of which Mr. Hirsch is chairman, to the republican county committee of which Mr. McKay is chairman, having for its purpose the unification of the republican party and its representative organization in Multnomah county," said he.

"The proposition has my unqualified approval, and as a member of the republican party I have labored assiduously during the past month to bring it about. In my judgment it presents a means absolutely fair whereby the party can be united, without any sacrifice of principle or humiliation upon the part of anyone, and it is, therefore, one which should receive the cordial endorsement of every true republican."

"I cannot but have implicit faith that a proposition so eminently fair in every respect will meet with acceptance from Mr. McKay and every member of his committee."

Hon. Sol Hirsch, chairman of the committee which made the proposition, did not care to discuss it. "The paper speaks for itself," said he. "But you may say that I hope that it will be accepted. That the republican party, to be sure of victory, should be united, and all factional differences should be settled."

Charles H. Carey, chairman of the republican congressional committee for the second district, had this to say when asked concerning the proposition:

"So far as I am personally concerned it is a matter of entire indifference to me whether the proposition is accepted or rejected. I am always and at all times in favor of the settlement of party differences within the party ranks, and I believe that the committee has done a very proper thing in trying to arrange for but one set of republican primaries."

"At the same time it seems to me that the overtures for peace should rather have come from those who have been at fault. We are all partisans, and it is hard to be a good party man and yet be perfectly fair, but it must be manifest that the cause of all the trouble has been in the refusal of some prominent members of the party to stand by the principle of rule by majority. The majority of the county convention in the last campaign put up the ticket, but the minority put up another and compelled the majority to resort to the indirect method of naming the Mitchell-Republican assembly,

schemes to get their ticket printed on the ballot.

"The majority of the legislature agreed upon Mitchell for senator, but the minority went in with Bourne and the populists to defeat the will of the party. The majority of the congressional convention nominated Ellis for congressman, but the minority brought out an independent candidate."

"So, as I look at it, the committee has been very good natured to those who have been out of harmony with the party, though I must say that I would like to see the party united and fighting their natural enemies rather than among themselves."

"The party should be greater than its individual members, and if we can ever get back to the old-fashioned plan of letting the neighborhood voters nominate viva voce and elect their delegates to the county and city conventions, instead of having the whole list of delegates as well as the whole ticket prepared in advance in somebody's office, it will be better for the party and everybody will have a fair show."

Charles F. Lord, when seen and asked his opinion of the offer of compromise, said:

"I can scarcely conceive of a reasonable objection to the offer of compromise made by the republican central committee to the so-called Simon faction of the republican party. It is certainly very unfortunate that any misunderstanding should have arisen; and the interests of the republican party of this county, and, in fact, of this state, it seems to me, should be considered before that of the ambitions of any person or persons. This can only be accomplished by a full and fair settlement of the two factions in this city and county."

"By the terms of the compromise the so-called Simon faction is allowed the choice of any course it may desire. If any objection is raised it can only be that they dare not submit to an honest vote of the people of this city the various propositions which they have so often claimed as their own."

"This is a government by the people, and the majority should always rule to the exclusion of any bosses. It is an honest offer to heal the differences in the republican party, and I sincerely hope that an agreement may be reached between the two factions, as it would materially conduce to the future success of the republican party in the county and state."—Portland Tribune.

SIMON METHODS SHOWN UP.

A most important move was made by the regular republican party organization of Multnomah county, yesterday with a view to securing harmony between the factions. The republican city and county central committee submitted to the Simon-Corbett manager as fair proposition to hold the primary election, at which delegates to the city and county conventions will be selected in a fair and honest manner in accordance with the requirements of the primary law which regulates primary elections in Multnomah county.

This is the shrewdest political move of the season, and indicates not only that the regular party committee is confident of having a majority of the republicans in accord with its anti-Simon views, but also that it does not fear to use its power magnanimously, and often generously to procure party unity.

As is well known, there is a division of the republican party in this county due to the outrageous attempt of Simon, McKay and of others, supported by Scott and certain local moneyed interests, to forcibly seize the control of the party convention and to retain the organization of the party for the purpose of engineering a new charter bill for Portland through the legislature and, incidentally, to secure the defeat of Senator J. H. Mitchell.

The Simon people had a majority of the city and county committee two years ago and refused to allow the minority to participate in the selection of judges or clerks in the most reputable dives in the city for primaries. A written request by Mr. D. M. Dunne and Mr. David Morris, members of the committee, that none but republicans of high standing be selected as judges of the primary election was refused, as was also the request that the minority be allowed to name one judge of the three.

Simon was chairman of the committee, and without a meeting of the committee and in spite of protests, he issued the call for the primaries, selecting in some cases the most disreputable dives in the city for polling places and naming among the judges a number of persons to be depended upon to count in the Simon ticket, win or lose.

The consequence was that public indignation was aroused and the Simon ticket was overwhelmingly defeated at the polls. The Simon people had their ticket printed on striped paper, so that the judges could recognize them at a glance. The judges accepted and counted these tickets and refused the others. They denied well-known residents and citizens the right to vote and sustained challenges against those known to be against the gang. On the other hand, repeaters, thugs and gamblers in the employ of the Simon-Oregonian combination, backed by a large force of deputy sheriffs sworn in for the purpose, had free license. Colonies of tramps were brought into the city and stationed in convenient localities, as in the notorious Larry Sullivan's sailor boarding-house where one of the polling places were established, and in a cot lodging hall, openly conducted for the purpose by the unsavory Sandy Olds and his partner, Barrett, the sure-thing gambler, now in the county jail under indictment for murder.

The citizens insisted on a fair count, and in wards where this was denied,

filed contests on the ground of fraud.

The consequence was that there was a strong anti-Simon majority in the convention; but the gang was not yet ready to acknowledge defeat, and the meeting of the delegates in the A. O. U. W. hall was made the occasion of a scene of disgraceful riot and disorder in the attempt of Simon and his friends to steal the chairmanship of the convention.

The majority, however, not to be intimidated by deputy sheriffs or by actual force, selected the chairman and elected delegates to the state and congressional conventions, and subsequently put up the full regular republican city and county ticket and selected the county and city committee in accordance with the party practice.

The minority, however, true to their boss, remained in the hall after the convention adjourned and went through a pretense of putting up a ticket and naming a city and county committee, of whom Donald McKay, D. M. McLaughlin, H. H. Holmes and S. Farrell, were also members of the central committee of 1896, which was really responsible for the outrages above mentioned.

Donald McKay is nominal chairman of this committee, and Joseph Simon is the whole committee. The Simon people controlled the county clerk, so that they had the advantage of having their ticket printed as the republican ticket on the Australian ballots, and the regular organization, after having been denied by the county clerk the right to have their ticket printed as the republican ticket, were compelled in order to get the names on the ballot at all to convene an "assembly" under the Australian ballot act, after the adjournment of their convention, and have the nominees of the convention renominated by the assembly under the temporary title of the Mitchell-Republican ticket.

The Oregonian, of course, made great capital out of the fact that the ticket was dubbed the Mitchell-Republican ticket and misrepresented the facts to the public in such manner as to give out the impression that the regular organization was under the control of Simon instead of in the hands of the anti-Simon republicans.

The contest was carried into the congressional and state conventions where the two delegations representing the two county conventions applied for seats. Although the regular delegation was clearly entitled to the sole right to represent Multnomah county in the state and congressional conventions, the Simon people had been practically the only means by which the delegates to those conventions representing other counties could gain information as to the facts. Scott was a tool of his masters, and in his usual violent and abusive style misrepresented the facts and threatened the convention with the loss of the ticket at the polls unless the "Simon delegation" was recognized. The convention finally decided in the interest of harmony, and to prevent the defeat of the party on election day, to seat both delegations, dividing the vote of Multnomah county between them.

Both Simon and Scott were members of the state and congressional conventions, and according to all party usage and as honorable men they should have abided by the ticket elected at the convention. Dead to honor or sense of shame, they and their associates on the adjournment of the convention put up H. H. Northrup as an independent nominee for congress in the second district, with the hope of dividing the vote of the regular republican nominee, Hon. W. R. Ellis, and thus throwing the district to Quinn, the populist candidate.

In the first district, the attempt was made to defeat Tongue and to elect Vanderburg, a populist. The effort was in both cases almost successful, but, fortunately, the republican candidates were elected, notwithstanding the attempt to defeat them.


The recent example in the legislature of the lengths to which this gang will go in their effort to destroy, is fresh in mind. By a combination of a few republicans under the Simon-Scott influence, with some of the populists, the legislature was held up for the full constitutional term of forty days. By the most shameless methods the regular republican caucus nominee, Senator J. H. Mitchell, who also had a majority of all the votes of the legislature pledged to his support, was cheated out of the election, and by a corrupt bargain with the chief executive of the state, Mr. H. V. Corbett was given pretended credentials as the governor's appointee to fill the vacancy occasioned by the failure to elect. Mr. Corbett is still seeking admission to the senate on these credentials, and the indications are that he will not be recognized as entitled to a seat.

The county and city committee has held several meetings, and after careful consideration decided to make an attempt to bring about party harmony. It was decided to prepare a plan for holding the republican primaries which would be fair in every particular, but would be so designed as to prevent the Corbett-Simon ring from repeating their shameful practices of two years ago. There is no doubt that if Simon accepts the proposal he will be defeated, for the people will embrace the opportunity to rebuke the gang for their actions both at the last election and at the legislature.

The propositions is, in brief, to draw lots for the naming of the majority of the judges in each ward at the primaries, the wards to go alternately to each side, and those naming the majority judges in one ward naming the minority in the next ward, and so on.

Hon. George H. Williams, an eminently fair and impartial republican, is selected as referee to overlook the drawing of lots and to preside

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MEDITERRANEAN HOUSE RENTS.

Highest at Gibraltar and Lowest on the Island of Malta.

In no place on the surface of the globe is rent so high as at Gibraltar, the reason being, says the Philadelphia Inquirer, that the geographical position of the town precludes the possibility of its being extended in any direction. A long, narrow strip of what was once sea beach is alone available for building purposes. All the rest is precipitous rock.

Upon this narrow parapet, in some cases less than 100 yards in width, are crowded the homes of 25,000 people. As much as ten dollars a week is asked and obtained for the use of one small room, and this, too, in a place where the normal rate of wages is quite ten per cent. less than in America. Naturally, the overcrowding is fearful, and the water supply being scarce and intermittent, cleanliness of living, as we understand it, is almost impossible.

No wonder that in the old days the plague and the cholera ravaged the filthy and pestilential cities of the far east.

In Malta, on the other hand, house rent is ridiculously cheap. Anywhere outside of Valetta an excellent seven-room house can be had for \$15 a year, while rates and taxes are unknown. The houses are built entirely of the cream-colored stone of which the island is composed, and which is so soft that it can be cut with a saw into blocks or slabs of any desired size or shape. So, while the Maltese builder is digging up his foundation, he is at the same time getting out the material for his walls, his flooring and his roof.

WORKED AN OLD TRICK.

The Deaf and Dumb Man Had to Speak.

"In my time," said a broker to his friends at Delmonico's the other day, according to the New York Times, "I have observed many sad and touching scenes, but never one which affected me as much as the one I witnessed last week."

"Passing along a busy thoroughfare, I paused for an instant in order to read and reflect upon the miseries of a man who bore the legend 'Deaf and Dumb,' picturing to myself my own condition under like circumstances, when the following remark somewhat startled me: 'Say, Jimmie, here's a poor deaf and dumb man. Father gave me five cents to spend, but I think I'd rather give it to him. He needs it more than I do.'"

"This was followed by the chink of a coin in the tin cup.

"Instinctively I turned to the boy who had made this remark to his companion and said: 'Noble boy, I overheard your generous words. You shall not want for the money. Here is a dime.'"

"With a curtsey and 'Thank you, sir,' he fled.

"I turned to the deaf and dumb man. The muscles of his face seemed to be working to a degree rarely seen on a man bereft of those important senses. Unable to contain himself longer, he blurted out: 'Say, you're dopey. That kid has worked that racket before. That fi-pence is made of lead!'"

"I went home and communed with myself."

Ring Made of Diamonds.

A ring recently exhibited at Antwerp was the admiration of diamond cutters and merchants, because it was the first successful attempt to cut a ring out of a single stone. There are a great many difficulties in this method of cutting diamonds, as the stones have a certain cleavage and particular veins, all of which have to be carefully studied in order to prevent splitting just as success seems within reach. After several years' labor the feat has been accomplished by the patience and skill of M. Antoine, one of the best-known lapidaries of Antwerp. The ring is about six-eighths of an inch in diameter. In the Mariborough cabinet there is a ring cut out of one entire and perfect sapphire.

According to an eminent Italian hygienic expert, official medical returns show that in Italy 200,000 persons die every year from infectious—that is, from preventable—maladies, most of them being young, "the hope of families."