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CONSOLIDATED.

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Of Clackamas County.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

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Six months75
Three months35

ADVERTISING RATES.

Standing business advertisements: Per month
1 inch \$1, 2 inches \$1.50, 3 inches \$1.75, 4 inches
\$2, 5 inches (3 columns) \$2.25, 10 inches (5 columns)
\$4, 20 inches (10 columns) \$8, yearly contracts 10 per
cent less.

PATRONIZE HOME INDUSTRY.

OREGON CITY, DEC. 15, 1899.

An American Internal Policy.

First—Public ownership of public franchises. The values created by the community should belong to the community.

Second—Destruction of criminal trusts. No monopolization of the national resources by lawless private combinations more powerful than the people's government.

Third—A graduated income tax. Every citizen a contributor to the support of the government according to his means, and not according to his necessities.

Fourth—Election of senators by the people. The senate, now becoming the private property of corporations and bosses, to be made truly representative, and the state legislatures to be redeemed from recurring scandals.

Fifth—National, state and municipal improvement of the public school system. As the duties of citizenship are both general and local, every government, both general and local, should do its share toward fitting every individual to perform them.

Sixth—Currency reform. All the nation's money to be issued by the nation's government, and its supply to be regulated by the people and not by the banks.

Seventh—No protection for oppressive trusts. Organizations powerful enough to oppress the people are no longer "infant industries."

Direct Legislation—Lawmaking by the voters. The Initiative—The proposal of a law by a percentage of the voters, which must then go to the referendum.

The Referendum—The vote at the polls of a law proposed through the initiative, or on any law passed by a lawmaking body, whose reference is petitioned for by a percentage of the voters.

The Imperative Mandate—Whenever a public official shall be deemed dishonest, incompetent or negligent in his duties, the voters shall have the right to retire him and elect one of their choice. The people alone are sovereign.

POPULIST COMMITTEE MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that the County Central Committee of the People's Party for the county of Clackamas will meet at the office of Judge Schubel in Oregon City at 11 o'clock, Saturday, December 16th, 1899, to transact any business that may properly come before the meeting at that time.

H. THEISSEN, Chairman.
ELMER DIXON, Secretary.

DEMOCRATS, TAKE NOTICE.

That a meeting of the members of the Democratic County Central Committee will be held in Oregon City on December 18th, 1899 at 11 o'clock, a. m., at the office of Robert A. Miller in the Electric hotel building. All members of the committee are earnestly requested to be present as important business is to be transacted.

ROBERT A. MILLER,
Chairman Democratic County Central Committee.

A. W. CHENEY, Secretary.

TO SILVER REPUBLICANS.

Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the members of the Silver Republican County Central Committee at Oregon City on December 16th, 1899, at 11 o'clock a. m., at Room 16, Electric hotel, at which time all members of the committee are earnestly requested to be present.

S. W. MORGAN,
Chairman County Central Committee.

Russia and France, the only two nations that ever helped us when we really needed aid, must think that republicans are ungrateful as they hear of the new triple alliance against them.

The president in his message says that the gold standard should be firmly riveted and the greenbacks retired at this session of congress, because there might be a change in the future, and the republicans believe in making hay while the sun shines. Here is an article from the Oregonian which shows what it is working for:

Now we learn from Washington that there is to be no more flinching or equivocation on the part of representatives from Oregon and other Pacific states on money and currency questions. Which is to say that work like that done by the Oregonian during the past 21 years has not been done in vain.

FARMING THE FARMER.

An interesting table has been prepared by the Democrat, of Bowling Green, Ohio, which is rich in its contrasts. It goes to show that the much vaunted "prosperity" is prosperity for the trusts and for nobody else—certainly not for the farmers. The Democrat advises readers to take no person's word, not even its own, for these figures, but to enquire of local merchants whether or not they are correct.

As the Democrat presents the figures they read as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Item, Oct. 12, 1898, Oct. 13, 1899. Items include Wheat, Oats, Corn, Iron pipe, Iron casing, Sucker rod, Rope and cordage, Wire fencing, Lumber.

If the farmers are any better off this year than last, those figures show that it must be because nature has given them a larger yield, and not because McKinley has given them more of the things they need in exchange per bushel for their wheat.

The Democrat, in the course of a comment, pointedly, puts it in this way.

"If you are a farmer you will find that on October 13, 1898, you could buy 10 pounds of nails with 2 2-3 bushels of wheat. Today, or just one year later, it requires 5 1/2 bushels of wheat. Last year you could buy 100 pounds of wire fencing for 3 bushels of wheat. Today you must bring 7 bushels to get your 100 pounds of wire fencing."

The total capitalization of street railway corporations in Pennsylvania is over \$103,000,000. On this they have paid a total of more than \$9,000,000 within the year in dividends. The total operating expenses amounted to over \$10,000,000, of which sum \$6,000,000 represented the wages of labor. This, it is stated, is the only line of considerable investment in the state which pays more in dividends than in wages to labor, the proportion in this case being 150 per cent. The total operating expenses, it will be seen, are only about \$1,000,000 in excess of the dividends. These facts have caused the secretary of state at Harrisburg to recommend legislation to prevent the issue of fictitious stock by such corporations. Without doubt the stocks of these street railways has been heavily watered. Still, the ratio of profits to capital invested, even on the fictitious basis, is out of all proportion to the wages of labor and operating expenses of the business. Legislation may here find a legitimate field for interference in business methods, though experience has proved that such interference is generally futile.—Oregonian.

CONSUELA VANDERHELT, duchess of Marlboro, the kaiser of Germany and the prince of Wales have formed an American-German-English alliance, so we are informed by the toady daily press! Just where the American freeman, who has been taught(?) to hate kinglycraft, comes in, is not given in the dispatches. The idea of a republic and kings and emperors going into a combine! and yet it does not seem out of place to the average money-grubber. They would welcome the rule of the Turk or the Pussian Bear if they thought they would have a little better place than the rest of the citizens of this country. We are traveling fast the road that leads to the lair of the crafty rulers of men. Some of these days there will be the deuce to pay and nothing to pay him with.—Appeal to Reason.

The political, not industrial, government which lives in Washington has just shown its ability to do things well—for some people. There are \$25,000,000 of government bonds which are due and should be taken up. They draw 2 per cent interest and sell at par. Banker Gage, whom the republican voters have selected to look after the treasury, wanted to pay out some money to help his brother bankers, and instead of paying off these bonds which are due, he pays off \$25,000,000 that are not due and pays the holders a premium of \$3,000,000. He therefore made the holders of these bonds a present of three millions rather than pay off bonds that were not entitled to any premium. But what does Gage care about what the masses have to pay, so that he and his friends get it?

The chairman of the populist, democratic and silver republican county central committees have each called committee meetings to be held in Oregon City, Dec. 16. It is understood that the object of the meeting so early is to agree on some plan of running a fusion or union ticket next spring. Some populists favor inviting the middle-of-the-roads to join the combination, and hold one set of primaries and one convention to nominate on one platform. Two years ago the populists, democrats and silver republicans nominated a fusion ticket and elected about half of Clackamas county's officers, and a silver republican to the legislature.—McMinnville T. B.

Socialism.

A CANDID and rational inquiry into the truths and merits of socialism is the duty of the American votes today. That we have in the past years been laboring under a great mistake regarding political economic conditions is now almost universally admitted. Though we are a nation of 80,000,000 souls, though we have an estimated wealth of \$85,000,000,000, though our armed military and naval force is such that we are feared and courted by the other nations, who a few years ago looked upon us with contempt and indifference, though in the last generation we have extended our railway and telegraphic system to the Pacific coast, and have added to, or making the attempt in that direction to add enormous areas of territory to our already extensive domains. Though all these supposed blessings are ours, still, as a nation, we are not satisfied, and with good reason. Our cities swarm with poverty, filth, crime and disease on the one hand, when hunger, nakedness, destitution is the enforced condition of millions. On the other hand a few palatial residences occupied by millionaires and their servants, and an uncertain mass of humanity formerly denominated "middle classes," slowly, but surely sliding and sinking to the level of their unfortunate brothers in misery. The idle wealthy at the top, the idle poor at the bottom of the present social condition of the country is what is the problem to be met and the difficulty to be settled.

From present indications, the former class, the idle wealth, has at its command, all that is necessary to insure its continued power and ascendancy over the nation. More than this; it is in possession of means, by which it may intrench itself so strongly in its present position, that nothing short of an armed protest on the people's part will right it, and to prevent this the authorities are already taking the usual means known, so long and so well to tyranny to prevent resistance either of an armed or peaceable resistance.

General Miles recommends an increase of the army to 100,000. McKinley has just appointed General Wood governor and master. [I use the language of the Oregonian itself, an advocate of military imperialism,] of the island of Cuba, the conquest of the Philippines will be followed by the appointment of Otis or some other military individual to the supreme command of those conquered inhabitants, and woe to the American citizen, as well as native who dares to assert the rights of free speech, free press or the right to assemble in bodies to demand or petition a redress of grievances.

No, fellow citizens; the attempt to establish imperialism in the United States has partially succeeded, and the colonial policy of the European governments will find apt pupils in the governing classes in this country to follow their example. Commercialism will follow the era of Caesarism, but the power of the first will be lodged in the person of the president of this country, as it has been heretofore, in the supposed sacred person of the kings, queens, emperors, etc., of the later in times past.

There is not one on earth today a greater despot than Wm. McKinley, president of the United States, nor a more irresponsible one. He assumes the government of conquered territories by an act through authority of the people, which they have never granted him. It is always the way with political tyrants that the most despotic measures are undertaken and consummated under the hypocritical assumption of the people's welfare. Sulla and Marius, Caesar, Pompeii and Augustus and the later emperors did it in Rome and succeeded in making the masses believe they were doing them a great political benefit and conferring on them great blessings. The Williams, Johns, Edwards, Richards, Henrys, Marys, Elizabeths, James, Charles. Yes, even the Cromwells in England made the people believe it. The king of France and the First Napoleon and his unworthy relative, the Third, cajoled the people of that country with the same idea, and it has taken centuries for the common people to awaken to a true sense of their condition.

In the United States within a few years the system has established itself very firmly, and is becoming more and more the topic and trend of our political system. Where formerly this was done for personal power and glory today it is done in the name and for the benefit of "commercial prosperity," and a subservient president, who executes the orders of a trust or a money syndicate is in every way as bad for good government and inimical to the welfare and liberties of the people as though he were a Caesar, a king or an emperor. His power is as great, his resources for doing harm as unlimited and unrestricted as though his title were other than president.

The powers of commercialism are the powers of the state. They have at command the army, the navy, the executive, the legislature, and what is stronger than both under our new constitution the courts with a subsidized press that is so servile and truckling in its slavishness that it praises its oppressions, and thanks them for the wrongs they have

Let Us Help You

For many years we have been buying and selling Christmas presents--each year we learn better the wants of our customers; learn better the kind of goods they like; learn where to buy from first hands, and in this we learn how to save our customers many dollars on their Xmas buying.

How It Is Done

This Xmas buying begins with us early in the spring--Long before it is ever thought of by the ordinary merchants. It means many a trip to the sample room filled with hundreds of dollars worth of this class of goods. Many a hard days work picking out this because it is pretty, and the price right, rejecting that, because while it may look well, the price is too high. This is the kind of buying in which we have been engaged for many years --Have made a study of the wants of our particular customers and each year we are in a better position than the year before to help you.

In our previous announcements we have had printed a quarter page of prices and tried to tell you about many of the articles, but now we ask you to come and see for yourself.

You Will be Satisfied

Everything is out on tables, counters and showcases where you can see for yourself; can look to your hearts content, and pass on without buying if you like. The price of every article is marked in plain figures and these prices are very low, as low as early, close, cash buying can make them.

Huntley's Two Stores
OREGON CITY, OREGON

inflicted, and under which the press is suffering.

Opposed to this strongly entrenched evil are the common people who have struggled for years against this impending enslavement. They are slowly awakening to the fact that the remedy for these evils do not lie with their masters. They know that the power entrusted has been shamefully abused and they propose that they, themselves, shall take a hand in shaping the policy of the country and governing the people. There has been too many lawless and bankers in congress; too many gamblers (stock, poker and faro) in municipal boards; too many usurers and note shavers in county court houses, and a change from this class to farmers, mechanics and laboring people generally is the only remedy. While the outrages in Idaho are fresh in our minds, it is useless to talk of "our free institutions" while our governor of Oregon goes unindicted by the grand jury of Marion or Polk counties for crime or misdemeanor, it is folly to talk of justice. While nails, wine, glass, oil, sugar etc., are going up and wheat, corn, oats, cotton, hops are going down or are at best below cost of production, it is useless, may worse, it is an insult to our intelligence to talk of prosperity. There is none for the common people. It is for the banks, the trusts, the exploiters of laborers. Then the only way out is the union of the people of those who produce, those who are the defense and bulwark of the country. Its defenders should be its governors, its laborers mechanics. Farmers and wealth producers should be its leaders and until they are, we will live and die under the present vicious system.

Dec. 4. J. D. STEVENS,
Canby, Or.

The Proposed Union

IN the excellent communication of Mr. King's in your last issue, complaint is made that no plans of union have been outlined. Perhaps this is timely criticism, yet I had supposed that the vital question at present was one of principles rather than details. It was first necessary to feel the public pulse and ascertain if a union under any circumstances was desirable or whether each faction wanted to "go it alone" and allow the republicans a walk-over. My observations and all communications to the Courier-Herald lead me to

believe that a union is desirable, not a fusion, but a new organization, perhaps only for this campaign, perhaps for all time or until our demands become the law of the land. This much being agreed on, as signs portend that it will be at the coming meeting at Oregon City, Dec. 16th, the matter of detail then becomes of vital importance.

One principle should be insisted on at the coming meeting, viz.: that no final decisive action be taken until approved by the people at the primaries; simply an application of the referendum in our own ranks. As Frederick U. Adams once said, "We will never have a government where the people can rule till we have a party where the people do rule."

If the committees can agree upon any plan of organization and platform it is a simple matter to refer the final decision to the primaries, as was done in the matter of fusion two years ago. If the people veto the plan then of course the movement is off. If they approve it then let them (all forces of each precinct meeting in one primary) elect delegates to a county convention to meet at a time set at the coming meeting. In the meantime let the county chairman of all other counties be notified of the action taken at the coming meeting (in case union is decided on) and invited to organize in a similar manner and to delegate power to committees to arrange for a state convention. Of course, if union carries the three-committee system should be abolished and one committee for each precinct, county and the state be elected.

We should all take more interest in our primaries and, if the county were not so large that the majority of the people have no chance to become acquainted with the merits and demerits of proposed candidates, the nominating power should be taken out of the hands of county conventions and lodged in the primaries, but at present the feasibility of this plan is doubtful. And, by the way, not only our own primaries but those of the republicans should be watched in order that a repetition of the disgraceful scenes of weak-kneed populists and democrats voting in republicans primaries may be avoided. That absolutely unprincipled Simon (ex-Mitchell) grafter Brownell will no doubt attempt the same tactics again. This can be forestalled by making it known that the republican primaries will be

watched and that the name of every man generally known as an opponent of the republican party who votes therein will be published and held up to the contempt of his fellow citizens. Eternal vigilance is the price of clean politics as well as of liberty. With a progressive platform and clean candidates we should win against that once great party, now degenerated to mean Hannahism in the nation, Simonism in the state, and Brownellism in this county.

Let us have common honesty as opposed to the grafting, vote buying system of "practical politics" that is corrupting the morals and subverting the will of the people.

Molalla, Ore. GEO. OGLE.

The Baker City Democrat makes the following pertinent observations: "Silver bullion has fallen to the lowest price of the century, and wheat, which has never failed to accompany silver in the market quotations, during normal crop production years, is even below the price of its running mate. The gold dollar of the British importers buys more wheat than ever. Our wheat-growers should be proud of that 40-cent-a-bushel gold price. Wheat-growers of silver countries, freight rates proportionate, are getting 80 cents in silver."

The democrats of Denver went in to the campaign with a demand for the city ownership of the water system of the city. Though the city has always been about 5000 republican majority the democrats carried it by 6000! Maybe you think municipal socialism is not popular.

The meeting of the democratic, populist and silver republican committees on December 16th, in Oregon City bids fair to be quite an event in county politics as a great many of the faithful are planning to come to town on that day. In view of this fact the respective chairmen of the three committees have asked a number of prominent speakers from a distance to be present, and it is proposed to have a rally in the evening. Judge O'Day and Judge DeL. Stuart, of Portland, have already signified their willingness to come on that occasion.

The Racket store also carries a fine line of ribbons, the Kid-fitting corset, flannellette wrappers and gowns, gloves, underwear and hosiery and other articles too numerous to mention.