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19th YEAR, NO. 43

SOCIALIST COUNTY CONVENTION.

Enthusiastic Mass Meeting, and County Ticket Selected—Young Men Put to the Front.

THE TICKET.
State Senator—Fred J. Meindl, of Abernethy.
Representatives—Robert Ginther, of Beaver Creek precinct; A. J. Maxville, of Canemah; Walter F. Pruden, of Springwater.
County Commissioner—George Lazelle, of Canemah.
County Judge—Charles E. Spence, of Carus.
Sheriff—D. M. Klemson, of Canemah.
Clerk—Gilbert H. Robbins, of Killin.
Recorder of Conveyances—Franz Kraxberger, of Macksburg.
Assessor—William Beard, of Maple Lane.
Treasurer—N. W. Richards, of Maple Lane.
Coroner—Dr. W. F. Pruden, of Springwater.

One hundred and ten socialists from various precincts signed the following test credential or pledge, at the socialist county convention held at Willamette hall last Saturday:

"We hereby pledge ourselves to support the constitution and platform of the socialist party and to sever all connection with all other parties."

There were probably 20 or 30 socialists, who came in late and did not sign the pledge. It was announced however, that the pledge did not bind them to vote for all the candidates nominated, unless they so desired.

The mass convention was called to order at 10 a. m., by Fred J. Meindl, chairman of the county central committee. W. W. Myers was elected temporary chairman, and Robert Ginther, temporary secretary. Chairman Myers made a few preliminary remarks, before the regular business of the meeting was begun.

The following committees were appointed:

Platform—George Lazelle, Fred J. Meindl, William Beard, Charles Moran, Franz Kraxberger.
Order of Business—J. D. Stevens, A. J. Maxville, Robert Ginther.

The remainder of the forenoon session was taken up with addresses by W. W. Myers and J. D. Stevens. Among other things the former said that the lodges and churches represented the principles of socialism, but the ministers preached against socialism. State Organizer Stevens told of finding enthusiastic socialists in Eastern Oregon, who owned 600 and 1000 acre wheat farms.

At the afternoon session Fred J. Meindl was elected permanent chairman, and Walter F. Pruden, permanent secretary.

The committee on platform reported the following, which was unanimously adopted:

THE PLATFORM.

1. All officers shall be put on a flat salary.
2. Reduction of passenger and freight rates.

3. We favor precinct assessors, each precinct to elect their own assessor.
4. We reaffirm the principles of the national socialist platform, as follows:

The socialist party, in national convention assembled, reaffirms its adherence to the principles of international socialism, and declares its aim to be the organization of the working class, and those in sympathy with it, into a political party, with the object of conquering the powers of government and using them for the purpose of transforming the present system of private ownership of the means of education and distribution into collective ownership by the entire people.

Formerly the tools of production were simple and owned by individual workers. Today, the machine, which is an improved and more developed tool of production, is owned by the capitalists and not by the workers. The ownership enables the capitalists to control the product and keep the workers dependent on them.

Private ownership of the means of production and distribution is responsible for the ever-increasing uncertainty of the livelihood and poverty and misery of the working class, and divides society into two classes—the capitalist and wage-workers. The once powerful middle class is rapidly disappearing in the mill of competition. The struggle is now between the capitalist class and the working class. The possession of the means of livelihood gives the capitalists the control of the government, the press, the pulp and schools, and enables them to reduce the workingmen to a state of intellectual, physical and social inferiority, political subservience and virtual slavery.

The economic interests of the capitalist class dominate our entire social system; the lives of the working class are recklessly sacrificed for profit, wars are fomented between nations, indiscriminate slaughter is encouraged and the destruction of whole races is sanctioned in order that the capitalists may extend their commercial dominion abroad and enhance their superiority at home.

But the same economic causes which developed capitalism are leading to socialism, which will abolish both the capitalist class and the class of wage-workers. And the active force in bringing about this new and higher order of society is the working class. All other classes, despite their apparent or actual conflicts, are alike interested in the upholding of the system of private ownership of the instruments of wealth production: The democratic, republican, the bourgeois public ownership parties, and all other parties which do not stand for the complete overthrow of the capitalist system of production, are alike political representatives of the capitalist class.

The workers can most effectively act as a class in their struggle against the collective powers of capitalism, by constituting themselves into a political party, distinct from and opposed to all parties formed by the propertied classes.

While we declare that the development of economic conditions tends to

the overthrow of the capitalist system, we recognize that the time and manner of the transition to socialism also depends upon the stage development reached by the proletariat. We, therefore, consider it of the utmost importance for the socialist party to support all active efforts of the working class to better its condition and to elect socialists to political offices, in order to facilitate the attainment of this end.

As such means we advocate:
1. The public ownership of all means of transportation and communication and all other public utilities, as well as of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts and combines; no part of the revenue of such industries to be applied wholly to the increase of wages and shortening of the hours of labor of employees, and to the improvement of the service, and diminishing the rates to the consumers.

2. The progressive reduction of the hours of labor and the increase of wages in order to decrease the share of the capitalist and increase the share of the worker in the product of labor.

3. State or national insurance of working people in case of accidents, lack of employment, sickness and want in old age; the funds for this purpose to be collected from the revenue of the capitalist class, and to be administered under the control of the working class.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Friday, March 7.

Senators A dispatch from Washington states that there is no danger of a Nicaragua canal bill ever building in the United States senate. The great majority or nearly all the United States senators are railroad corporation attorneys. The bill might pass the house, and yet be delayed in many ways in the senate. The senators might apparently be working to the end that operations may be commenced on the great thoroughfare, yet at the same time putting obstacles in its way. The fact that Nicaragua now wants a big price from Uncle Sam to put the canal through that country may be the outcome of some scheme hatched in the United States.

Senator Hanna spoke for the ship subsidy bill. The house will vote today on the rural classification bill. Prince Henry spent yesterday at Boston and Cambridge. He received the degree of L. L. D. at Harvard, and was banqueted by Massachusetts citizens. Today the Prince will be at Albany and West Point. The revolutionary movement is spreading in Russia. The West Indies cession treaty is in the Danish Folkething. A brutal murder of native by marines is reported from Samar. Machinists, who go on strike in San Francisco, gain but little by making peace. Oregon Agricultural college forbids students to play billiards. George W. Dorwin, the pioneer assayer of Oregon, died at Ashland. February customs receipts average over \$1500 per day at Portland. Lewis & Clark fair committee plans canvass for \$200,000.

Saturday, March 8.

Fraud Circumstances attending Charged. and autedating the application of Governor Geer to select as lieu land the tract in Tillamook county previously entered by Eugene Jenkins in the United States land office at Oregon City as timber land, led to the presumption that persons charged with fraud are attempting to get through the state land department some 14,000 acres of timber land now under contest for fraud. The same oath (respecting contract and speculation) must be made in application to purchase from the state as in application to purchase from the United States, so that the allegation of fraud in one case is deemed to apply equally to the other. An interesting bit of history leads up to this action.

A train wreck on the Southern Pacific near Sanderson, Tex., resulted in the deaths of 15 persons and injuries to 23 more. The train was west-bound, and most of the victims, aside from the crew were, immigrants going to California. The wreck caught fire, and many of the passengers, pinned down in the broken coaches, were cremated. A broken rail caused the disaster. Prince Henry and his party have returned to New York. The capitol at Albany and the military academy at West Point were visited. The Prince will remain in New York until Monday, when he goes to Philadelphia. The Spanish regency may be prolonged, owing to King Alphonso's incapacity. Cecil Rhodes is critically ill. President Roosevelt will not permit his daughter, Alice to accept the invitation to attend the coronation of King Edward. W. J. Furnish, republican candidate for governor, carries the Umatilla primaries. Kittitas valley, Wash., company organized to irrigate 30,000 acres. Great Waldo copper mines in Southern are to be developed extensively. Heavy shipments of wheat and flour are being made from North Pacific ports to South Africa. Portland teachers receive eight per cent increase in salaries. The Multnomah county republican convention will be held March 19.

Sunday Morning, March 9.

Prince Henry's democratic ways cause surprise and his sense and good tact are praised by the residents of Germany in connection with his trip to America. A progressive Berlin newspaper that usually is not a particular admirer of monarchy finds compliments for the way in which Prince Henry has ruled the Americans. Dr. Barth of the Nation, says: "He has acted as a free, modern man among free men, without a trace of that narrow haughtiness which junkerdom regards as the indispensable etiquette of rank." Funston says the Tagal leaders are murderers, not patriots. Chaffee and Wright report the Morong trouble to be insignificant. Taft says the commission may be released in two years. Prince Henry yesterday sent a wreath to be placed on General Grant's tomb. The Prince was the guest of the German Society of New York at its annual meeting. Prince Henry's tact and good sense please Germany. The President signed the Philippine tariff bill. A message is expected from the President on the Cuban question. Debate closed in the house on the rural delivery classification bill. Senator Turner will try to get more money for upper Columbia improvements. Moody controlled Wasco county republican convention. Great building boom on at Vancouver, Wash. The Eastern owner of the Iron Dyke mine, in Eastern Oregon, sends \$125,000 for its development. Seventy-five cargoes of wheat from Portland now await for Europe. The neglect of Portland police to enforce city ordinances discussed by civic improvement association. Five hundred settlers a day come into Oregon.

Monday, March 10.

Prince Henry was serenaded by the Arion Club, Henry, dined with the Vanderbilts and attended a reception at the New York Yacht Club. All arrangements are complete for the homeward journey. The Prince will go to Philadelphia today.

The senate this week will take up the subsidy bill and the bill for the protection of the President. The house will defeat the free delivery bill. The Tien Tsin mission trouble will be settled by the French and American ministers. Russia takes advantage of the Bandit trouble north of Peking to send troops. The republican primary fight in Marion county will be between Simon and Mitchell people. Deschutes irrigation projects may be postponed one year by state land board's delay.

Tuesday, March 11.

General Lord Methuen has been captured by the Boers, and is now held a prisoner. His forces were badly cut up, and three officers and 38 men killed, five officers and 72 men wounded, while an officer and 200 troops are missing. News of the battle created a great stir in London, and a marked feeling of depression pervaded the house of commons.

Prince Henry finishes his American tour in Philadelphia. He returns to New York and gives banquet on Deutchland, and will sail for home today. The house passes bill regulating free rural delivery and carriers' salary. Secretary Long, of the navy, resigns. The United States supreme court declares Illinois anti-trust law unconstitutional. The Portland library opened its doors free to the public.

(Continued on page 7.)

Homeseekers' Rates

This paper has been advised by Mr. A. D. Charlton, A. G. P. A. at Portland, that in connection with the homeseekers' rates from Eastern points to the Pacific coast for March and April, it has been decided by the Northern Pacific Railway Company to extend these rates through to all points on Southern Pacific lines between Portland and Ashland.

For instance the rate of \$33 from Chicago and \$25 from St. Paul and Minneapolis will apply via S.P. line to any point on main line or branches of the Southern Pacific between Portland and Ashland. This will undoubtedly result in a very material increase in our population, and the N. P. Company will do everything in its power to aid in the securing of a large number of people who now have their eyes cast on the west with the intention of permanently locating among us.

These rates will be placed in effect on March 1st and continue daily until April 30th. Tickets will be sold from all Eastern points basing on these rates from Chicago, St. Paul and Missouri river points and as a result, judging from the great number of settlers secured in previous years when these low rates were applied up to Portland only, it will undoubtedly add many settlers to the Willamette valley.

Voters Again Must Register.

The revised election laws of Oregon provide, among other things for the registration of all voters before they shall be qualified to vote at the coming county and state elections to be held on June 2, 1902. The principal sections of the law on this point follow:

"Section 5. It shall be the duty of every elector in the state of Oregon between the first Monday in January, 1900, and 5 o'clock p. m. of the 15th day of May, 1900, and between the same dates and hours biennially thereafter, to register with some notary public or justice of the peace, or with the county clerk of the county in which the elector resides, in accordance with this act."

The law further provides: "If the clerk refuses to enter the name of any qualified elector, such elector may proceed by mandamus to compel him to do so." Also that every elector may be registered without charge by personally appearing in the office of the county clerk and after being sworn properly, stating the facts as to his name, age and occupation, state or county of his birth, and whether naturalized, and if so, the place or court and papers relating thereto also the exact place of present residence, giving section, township and range, or by specifying the name of town, with street and location of dwelling or boarding house, also his ability to write his name or mark his ballot. If an elector is unable to register in the office of the county clerk "he may register without charge before the notary public or a justice of the peace in the county in which he resides by using one of the blanks designated blank 'A' in section 3, of this act, filling out the blank in such a way as to afford all the information which he ought otherwise give to the clerk."

It should be remembered that all voters must register if they wish to vote, whether they have registered at previous election or not. Former registrations are now void by limitation.

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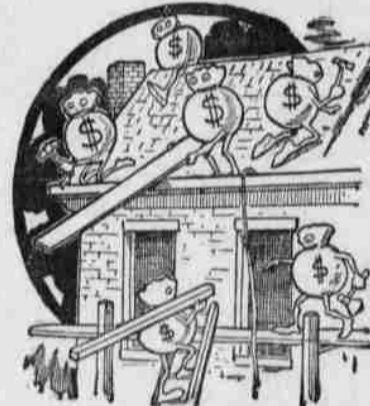
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