

FIRST IN THE FIELD

Socialists Put Forward a County Ticket.

ALL NOMINATIONS GO BEGGING

Gaps in the Ranks of Office-Seekers to Be Filled by the Executive Committee—Campaign Started With \$18 90 in Fund.

State Senator—George R. Cook.
Representative—Chas. H. B. Kuna.
N. P. J. Folen, Dr. W. T. Houser, E. U. Phillips, C. C. Richards, J. W. Fuller, Julian Peterson, G. Sanders, P. Nelson, W. E. Jones, J. Burrows.
County Judge—No nomination.
County Commissioner—S. B. Rowan.
Sheriff—J. N. Hall.
County Clerk—T. J. Williams.
County Treasurer—J. T. Miller.
County Assessor—H. A. Wendland.
County Auditor—O. W. Monroe.
County Surveyor—No nomination.
Coroner—No nomination.
Road Supervisor—No nomination.
Remainder of county ticket to be named by executive committee.

The office sought the man at the Socialist mass county convention last night—and the man dodged it. Lucrative offices for control of which the machine is fighting tooth and nail went begging for a song—and there were few singers. It would have done the hearts of political purists good to witness the modesty of proposed candidates, who stood and expatiated eloquently upon their own defects and liabilities to serve. After a protracted session, part of a county ticket was made up, and the vacancies were left to the executive and advisory committee to fill.

Contrary to expectations, there were no speeches. Nominations were made without other announcement than the mention of the name, and in nine cases out of 10 the man declined almost before a second to the nomination reached the chair. Nearly every man in the room had an opportunity during the evening to refuse to run for a good office, and if any were overlooked, it must have been unintentional. The Socialist party starts out with a campaign fund of \$18 90, which was collected from the following sources:

The morning session was opened at 10 o'clock by President G. R. Cook, of the local Socialist party chapter. Permanent officers were elected as follows: Chairman, J. Frank Porter; secretary, F. J. McHenry; treasurer, John Burrows. The following committee appointments were also announced:
Committee on credentials—E. U. Phillips, N. P. J. Folen, J. N. Hall, H. A. Kern and W. S. Plinn.
Committee on platform—G. R. Cook, G. H. Hetherington, John Hink.
Owing to the fact that less than 100 voters were present, the appointment of a ways and means committee and the nominations for places on the ticket went over until the night session.

Hall Was Crowded.
The entire seating capacity of the hall was taxed when Chairman Porter called the convention to order. The room was packed and even to the sidewalk interested spectators were crowded together. The first action of the night session was to ratify the election of permanent officers at the morning meeting. There was no opposition, and the motion to ratify was carried. G. R. Cook was elected permanent vice-president, and the following were named as a county ticket: Cook, H. A. Kern, Dr. W. T. Houser, C. A. Robinson, Charles Roam and P. Nelson. Previous to the appointment of the members of the committee Chairman Porter asked for volunteers.

"How much is there in it?" asked some one in the audience.
"It depends on how much the ways and means committee can raise," replied the chairman.
The committee on credentials submitted a report recommending that any one registered and in sympathy with the Socialist party be allowed to take part in the convention. C. A. Robinson moved that printing need for the campaign be done at houses employing union labor. William Cantwell opposed the motion on the ground that union men voted with the old parties. An interesting entanglement was abetted by cries from different parts of the house, but the motion was carried against opposition and was going bravely on until Chairman Porter declared him out of order, when he subsided under protest. The motion was finally carried without opposition.

Socialist Party Platform.
The following was reported by the platform committee, and adopted in its entirety by the convention:

We, the committee of arrangement and platform, beg leave to report as follows:
The Socialist party of Multnomah County, State of Oregon, in convention assembled, lay down the following platform:
First—We believe in the principle of international socialism; that the interests of the exploited producing classes of all nations are identical, and reaffirm the platform and action of the unity convention of the socialist parties and factions.
Second—We believe in the principle of the democratic reading of the Socialist platform appended:

The Socialist Party, in 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 concentrating the powers of government and using them for the purpose of transforming the present system of private ownership of the means of production 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 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 upon 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 hostile classes—the capitalists and the wageworkers. 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 pulpit and schools, and enables them to reduce the working class to a state of intellectual, physical and social inferiority, political subservience and vital 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 supremacy 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 wageworkers. 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 propertyed 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 depend upon the stage of 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 office, 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 combinations; no part of the revenue of the industries to be applied to the taxes of the capitalist class, but to be applied wholly to the increase of wages and shortening of the hours of labor of the 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

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REJOINDER BY BUSHEY

AGAIN ASSAILS GEER'S MANAGEMENT OF STATE LANDS.

Definition of Non-Mineral Base—Claims of Large Losses to the School Fund.

SALEM, Or., March 4.—(To the Editor.)—The Governor's "plea for mercy" in Saturday's Oregonian, wherein he attempts to reply to my recent charges of wholesale school-land irregularities on the part of himself and his land agents, B. Geer and W. H. Odell, "requires a little attention, but not much." However much I may regret having been the target for the Governor's blunderbuss loaded with stale jokes, and copied witticisms, in order to secure answers to a few silly

"reserve base" for selection within our state. But it must not be forgotten that over 50,000 acres of "mineral base" have also been selected within the past three years, and I beg to remind the Governor that much of the "mineral base" does not require adjudication, having been reported as such by the Surveyor-General, and that "reserve base," as he calls it, or "non-mineral base," as I call it, requires no adjudication whatever; and the Governor's talk upon the subject of "adjudication" is evidently for the purpose of hoodwinking persons uninformed as to the laws governing the same. The records show the whereabouts of these lands without adjudication; but no index having been kept by the state to such records, and Mr. Odell being the only person supplied with such an index, he is thus able to monopolize the information. This is the reason that individuals have been told, when applying for such "base lands," "that the state had no base."

Can Law Be so Constructed?

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