

BREAK FROM ISSUE

Fitness Alone May Count for Legislative Offices.

INITIAL STEP IS TAKEN

Departure of Multnomah Members From Statement Lines Accepted as Strengthening Candidacy of McArthur and Bowerman.

The action of six statement members of the Multnomah County delegation yesterday in voting for an anti-statement candidate for chairman of the delegation is the most significant development politically in many days. It is construed to signify unmistakably that statement lines will not be followed in the organization of the Legislature next winter.

Six of the 16 statement members in this county having abandoned statement lines in the organization of their delegation, they are expected to meet with equal independence in the coming session of the Legislature. This such has been intimated by some of the statement members in this county who do not hesitate to predict that when the line-up on speaker is announced, representatives-elect Abbott, Clemens, Brady and McDonald, and possibly Davis will be found supporting McArthur, leading candidate of the anti-statement people.

Other Counties to Follow.

Now that the Multnomah County delegation has broken the ice, statement members-elect from other counties, it is said, will recognize the fact that the organization of the Legislature is concerned. A number of such legislators have intimated that they would join in any movement looking to the election of both houses, regardless of the position of those candidates on statement No. 1. Now that the game has been set, it is reported they will fall in line.

So far as the speaker is concerned, McArthur, being the leading candidate, probably will be elected. The statement members of the delegation already has 12 members signed up, and he needs but six more to insure his election. It is expected that the statement members will support McArthur, and he will stand by him either in caucus or out. With an additional half-dozen votes, McArthur will have the nomination as speaker clinched in a Republican caucus.

Representative John C. McCoy, of Clatsop, anti-statement candidate for speaker, reported that he has been induced to give up the race. He insists that he has a satisfactory following and promises of further support and declares that he will remain in the contest until the election. The third anti-statement candidate for speaker, L. E. Bean, of Lane, has lost ground during the last few days.

Bean Has Lost Support.

Bean was supposed to have been assured the support of the statement members from this county should it be impossible for them to elect a statement speaker. But since that alleged deal was made, ten of the pledged members of the Multnomah delegation have signed an agreement by which they are pledged to support only statement No. 1 for speaker. This agreement will now be given general circulation among the other statement legislators-elect throughout the county. It is expected that the statement members are supposed to be Ben Selling for President of the Senate and Jim Campbell of Clatskanie, for speaker.

Bowerman Busy in Portland.

Senator Bowerman was in Portland yesterday, where the Multnomah County delegation was effecting an organization at the Commercial Club. He was receiving callers at his room in the Imperial Hotel. Through his thoroughness in informal conferences were held between the Eastern Oregon Senator and various members of the Legislature from throughout the state. In the event of the game ending as the others have, it is probable that the Irvington boys will accept the cup and allow Stephens to take the truck for the light-weight championship.

Coffey Chosen to Lead

briefly stated the objects for which the gathering had been arranged. He explained that it was the desire of the delegation to get together, eliminate all controversy, and to the organization of the Legislature and the Senatorial fight, and give attention solely to matters of legislation which directly concerned the constituents of the organization.

PREPARE TO MEET CORVALLIS

Multnomah Holds First Practice Since Game With Oregon.

The Multnomah Amateur Athletic Club football players yesterday morning held their first practice since the Thanksgiving day game. All of the members of the squad were out and the work was highly satisfactory to Manager Pratt and Captain Stott.

Moved to Secure Harmony.

"In the interest of harmony, I take pleasure in recommending to the organization of Mr. Coffey," followed Mr. McDonald. This was the means of bringing a sarcastic filing from Mr. Kellaher, who

WARRANTED TO CITY

Council Has Power to Operate Lighting Plant.

PROVISIONS IN CHARTER

How Municipality May Proceed if People Should Decide to Acquire or Build Electric Station.

Legislation to Be Considered.

In assuming the chairmanship of the delegation, Mr. Coffey thanked the delegation for the honor and reminded them of the object of the delegation. He expressed the belief that the matter of electing a United States Senator probably would require but a small part of the time of the Legislature, leaving the greater part of the 40 days session for the consideration of legislation. It was in this important duty, he said, that the members of the delegation should begin to devote their attention.

The plan of the anti-statement men, it is reported, was to elect Abbott for City Council, but the programme was not carried out. Mahone defeating Abbott by one vote. When the election of a speaker was taken up, Senator Brady, seconded by Mr. Farrell, nominated Mr. Jaeger for the office, but the statement man firmly declined. Senator Brady then nominated Mr. Coffey, and Mr. Bryant named Mr. Mahone. The ballot resulted in the election of Mahone by a vote of 2 to 1. On motion of Mr. Abbott, the vote was made unanimous by his opponent.

After organization had been effected, Dr. Owens Adair appeared before the delegation and requested its support of a bill to amend the charter of the Legislature this winter, by which it is proposed to prevent the propagation of the criminal and the insane.

Statement Men in Session.

Later in the afternoon the seven statement members of the delegation held an executive session in the office of Secretary Mahone, in the Board of Trade building, where the result of the organizational meeting was discussed. The result of the conference was not given out, but it was announced by one of the seven conferees that the statement people had decided to renew an attempt to amend the charter of the Legislature by both branches of the Legislature in both houses.

SCHOOLS WILL END SEASON

STEPHENS AND IRVINGTON TO MEET TOMORROW.

Winner Will Then Play Shattuck and Victor in That Contest Will Oppose Holladay.

With two teams, Holladay and Shattuck anxiously waiting to finish their championship of the grammar school league, all proceedings are at a standstill in the league pending the outcome of the fourth attempt, which will be made tomorrow at 2:30 o'clock, on Multnomah field, to settle a three-game tie between Stephens and Irvington. The result of the game will determine which is to meet Shattuck for the championship of the light division. Holladay has already won the heavier class honor and is ready to meet the winner in the lighter division for the championship of the entire body of grammar schools in the city.

FANDOM AT RANDOM

BY W. J. PETAIRIN.

THE admission of Portland into the Northwest League seems to have caused a change of heart on the part of some of the Northwest League advocates. In times past the Pacific Coast League has been all kinds of a robber, as it has been a cheap circuit. Now it is admitted that "if" certain arrangements are made it is "quite possible" that Seattle will again be in the Coast League. Can it be possible that Seattle is thinking of 1909?

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ALBINA TEAM WINS CONTEST

St. James College Meets First Defeat of Season.

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TO OLD MEXICO.

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