THE FARCE OF FUSION

Defeat Certain, but Silver Parties Unite.

THE LAST FAINT GASP OF POPULISM

Office-Seeking Leadership Delivers the Party Into the Hands of Democracy—Bryan's Visit.

Bryan's visit to Oregon was intended to be timely, and it was timely. It made no votes, but it served to brace up the flagging spirits of his followers, to cement his hold on all silver parties, and to remove all obstacles to a union between them for the coming campaign. There was, of course never any real question that the Populists and Democrats would fuse; but, if he had not himself graciously come in person and pointed to his own star in the political firmament the lustrous fact that he is the sole sun of the fusion universe might have been somewhat dimmed. Colonel Bryan enjoys the singular distinction of being looked upon as a Democrat among Democrats, and a Populist among Populists, and even as a Silver Republican among Silver Republicans. He is the lone sultan of the fusion harem. He has little trouble maintaining his polygamous relations toward his several admirers. His only worries are the jealousies of his happy family within itself.

The course of events in state fusion politics has been along the old downward path. At the conventions of the past week the Democrats trafficked with the Populists for office, and the Populists trafficked with the Democrats for office. They adopted a joint platform, and, with a minor exception, united on joint candidates. There was no question of principle involved in the case where they failed to agree. It was simply a falling out over the apportionment of the spoils. The Populist convention was notable for the unanimity with which the rank and file stayed away and with which the chronic office-hunters came. It was notable, too, for the lukewarmness with which some of its former active leaders, like John C. Young, of Baker, Frank Williams, of Jackson, and W. S. U'Ren, looked upon its proceedings. But it had some active spirits, like King, of Baker, and Kroner, of Multnomah, both of whom had their own special objects to advance. King is a strategist of no small capacity. In his mind offices were made to be sought, and political parties are a convenient device to aid in the hunting. He has variously directed his ambitions in the past, sometimes with success and other times without. The most conspicuous instance of his failure to land was in 1898, when he had the misfortune to run against T. T. Geer for Governor. Now he bobs up serenely with a fusion nomination for Prosecuting Attorney in the Ninth District. To reach that coveted goal, King recently put his residence in a wheelbarrow, and moved on from Baker to Malhuer counties. He was the master spirit of the aggregation of spoils-hunters and assistant spoils-hunters who made up the pitiful convention of 60 or 70 delegates just held in Portland. Kroner, whose Machiavelian hand was united with King's, had greater or less identity with the fragrant bouquet of political flowers that smelled to heaven during the Pennoyer city administration. He is shrewd, active and bold, and he had his way—which was to grease his party and make it easy for the Democrats to swallow it whole. John A. Jeffery, of Marion, who plucked a nomination from the hands of an admiring constituency, was another influential spirit; but Jeffery was in inharmonious company. Professor Jory and others of his delegation who are not Populists fer revenue only, thought the party was being betrayed and debauched, and they quit and went home, convinced that no political organization was ever so much in need of reform as the reformers. Professor Jory is an illustrious example—of a good man gone wrong—politically wrong. When he stops to reflect upon the sad company he has been keeping for a few years, perhaps he may be moved to lead a different life.

From the spectator's point of view, both the Populist and Democratic gatherings were vastly more diverting and instructive than the Republican. Beginning with the Congressional convention at McMinnville Tuesday, harmony pursued its humdrum and lifeless way through the State and Congressional conventions in Portland. That the Republicans are abundantly able on occasion to kick up a spectacular row for the entertainment of all observers was proven four and two years ago, and they seem now content to rest upon their well-earned laurels. Judge O'Day being there, the Democrats had a scrappy time; but on the whole, they managed to get through without great losses. F. V. Holman led a forlorn hope, consisting of himself and his oratory, against the battlements of silver, and retired in good order, having implanted a well-written speech on the breastworks of the enemy.

The convention was largely compensated for his loss by the accession of Hon. E. R. Skipworth, of Lane County, who signalized his return to the fold by making a brisk effort to capture the chairmanship of the platform committee. Mr. Skipworth was suspected of the taint of goldbugism and he was unceremoniously turned down. The things he would have done to that platform if he had succeeded must forever remain a dark mystery, locked up in his breast and Providence's. As it is it is announced to a waiting world that Mr. Skipworth, whose capacity for oratory is reported to be something enormous, has nobly and in a touching spirit of forgiveness resolved to take the stump this Spring and Fall for the ticket.

The dominant boss of the Democrats was Jim Townsend. What he said went—or, rather, what he tried to do he did, for he said little, which goes to prove that deeds, and not words, may count for much even in a Democratic convention, notwithstanding the illustrious Bryan precedent. Mr. Townsend was for Sheridan as chairman of the state convention; for fusion; for Pierce and Stewart as electors, and for Daly for Congressman; and all these things came to pass. The Democrats fused on substantially their own terms. All the gold bricks in the way of nominations went to the Populists. They gave the Populists two electors, but they are Bryan men, so there is on this point a distinction without a difference between the parties. They gave up the State Food and Dairy Commissioner, who has not a ghost of a chance of election. They surrendered likewise the Congressional nomination in the Second District, where the sole question is the size of the Republican majority, and a few District and Senatorial nominations; and they kept the First District Congressional candidate, in the person of State Senator Bernard Daly, of Lake. There they think they have a fighting chance of success. Four years ago, the fusion candidate—a Populist, by the way—came near to beating Mr. Tongue. Dr. Daly is not wholly at one with his party on the silver question, but that fact was not prominently brought out at the convention, else the result might have been different. The Democrats kept the Supreme Judgeship, too, and put up a good man, Judge Ramsey, for the sacrifice. Because he is a good man and will not be elected may possibly be the reason he was chosen with such a charming show of unanimity and enthusiasm.

Where were the old-line leaders of the Democrats that the organization should fall in the hands of the Townsends, the Menrys and the Millers? Where were L. B. Cox, George Chandler, C. J. Trenchard, M. L. Pipes, F. A. Seufert, J. H. Albert, A. Bush, W. T. Gray, B. F. Bonham, Benton Killin, L. F. Grover, W. D. Fenton, J. W. Whalley and the old guard that once guaranteed the Democracy's respectability and led it to occasional victory? They were all absent; but some of them were in the Republican convention. Even Pennoyer is now only a memory with the party, and the effort of men like Fred V. Holman to make their influence felt has ended in woful failure. Either Bryan or nothing is their motto, their goal is both Bryan and nothing.

To return to the Populists. Fusion has been their ruin, and they know it. The ultimate of fusion is disintegration and entire loss of party identity and principle. Its progress in Oregon has been its progress in every other state. In 1892, the Populists alone cast 34 per cent of the total vote in Oregon, or 26,965 votes. In that year they joined with the Democrats on one Presidential Elector, and gave him a small majority. It was a fatal example, for the combined parties have not since that time in a single instance been successful in the state or in the Congressional districts; and this, despite a serious schism in the Republican party and the running of an independent Republican candidate in the Second District in 1896. In that year, when silver sentiment was at its height, it is possible that a single opposition candidate might have defeated Mr. Tongue in the First District, and it was that belief that brought about a combination against him in 1898. That it failed by 2000 votes is well remembered. In the Second District the Fusion candidate was nearly 7000 votes behind, and the Fusion candidate for Governor was defeated by more than 10,000. Look at the vote and see what fusion has done for the Democrats and Populists in Oregon during the past eight years:

	Rep	Dem.	Pop.	Fus.
1888—Pres.	31,631	26,522	.....	.....
1892—Pres.	35,002	14,243	26,965	35,813
1894—Gov.	41,131	17,198	26,033	.....
1896—Pres.	48,779	.....	.....	46,662
1898—Gov.	45,104	.....	.....	34,730

With the single exception of 1896, when Republican endeavor was at high tide, the vote of that party has steadily grown. Conditions for fusion were perfect in the same year, but still the apparent majority of the combined opposition was overcome. Between 1896 and 1898 the Republicans lost 3500 votes, and the opposition 12,000. Why? Because fusion does not fuse.

The real object of the two parties in keeping up the farce of fusion is to line up for the Fall campaign. Their experience seems to have taught them that they can get together on Bryan when they can on nobody and nothing else.

Judge Seneca Smith, chairman of the state committee of the so-called Silver-Republican party, was sorely vexed to make up a delegation to the Bryan convention at Kansas City. He had been asked to name 30 delegates, and he responded by selecting 58, the full strength, according to his calculation, of the Silver Republican party of Oregon. But the list includes at least eight Democrats. Francis Clarno is a delegate from the Third Ward in the the Multnomah County Democratic Convention, which has not concluded its labors. C. M. Donaldson, of Baker City, was a delegate to the Democratic State Convention. Dell Stuart was a Multnomah County delegate to the state convention, and is one of the Democratic nominees for Presidential Elector. George H. Thomas sat in the Multnomah County Convention, and in the state convention as a delegate from Multnomah. Ludwig Wilhelm is one of the Democratic nominees for County Commissioner in Multnomah. Richard Lee, of Astoria, is a Democrat. E. Palmer, of Benton, and C. P. Nelson, of Yamhill, were delegates to the Democratic State Convention. Excluding the eight named and assuming that the remaining 30 are Silver Republicans, we have 30 as the total strength of the Silver Republican party in Oregon, and including Judge Seneca Smith, who appointed himself, 31. While there is no difference, politically, between a Silver Republican and a Bryan Democrat, yet the distinction was made in the Democratic State Convention Friday, and it would have been prudence if Judge Smith had adhered to it in making up his delegation. Charles K. Henry, of Portland, who nominated Mr. Stuart for Presidential Elector, put him forward as a Silver Republican. Dr. John Welch, who has been elected a Democratic delegate to Kansas City, and therefore is qualified to speak for the Oregon Democracy, as now constructed, subsequently corrected Mr. Henry. He declared that Mr. Stuart is not a Silver Republican, but a Democrat, and that he made a clean jump from the Republican party into the Democratic party. Dr. Welch implied that Stuart, while in the transition process, did not tarry in the Silver Republican purgatory.

There is no such thing as a Silver-Republican. The term is an anomaly. He who believes in the free coinage of silver belongs in the Democratic-Populist party. He who favors the gold standard is a Reare Democrats in principle, and, be it said Clarno, Donaldson, Stuart and Thomas are Democrats in principle, and be it said to their credit, have became Democrats in fact. They are the natural political bed fellows of the O'Days, the Townsends, the Pierces, the Henrys, the Milners, the Montags, the Burkes and the Foleys. In that camp, also, belong Bishop Barkley, Kincaid of Eugene, Cooper of McMinnville and Seneca Smith of Portland, who still pose as Silver Republicans. There is no room for them in the Republican party unless they accept Republican doctrines; they are not numerous enough to keep up a party organization of their own; there is only one place for them, and that is in the Democratic-Populist camp. In the political upheaval that has taken place in this country in the past four years, the Silver Republicans have dwindled almost to nothing, but apparently they have not lost their capacity of making more fuss to the square inch than any organization in Oregon politics, except the Middle-of-the-Road Populists.

DIVIDED DELEGATIONS.

Differences Between Colleagues in the National Congress.

A Washington letter makes the statement that the division of opinion among colleagues in Congress was never so great as it is today. In the state of Indiana, for example, Mr. Fairbanks and Mr. Beveridge, and in the state of Illinois Mr. Cullom and Mr. Mason agree on scarcely any topic, but they are not half as bad as some of the other Senators. In New Hampshire the Hon. William E. Chandler has been trying to get his colleague, Dr. Gallinger, indicted and sent to the penitentiary for violating the statutes of the United Sates. Mr. Frye of Maine, and Mr. Lodge of Massachusetts are the red-hottest expansionists in Washington, while their colleagues are the strongest kind of antis. It is only recently that Senator Hoar used a page of a popular weekly to prove that the policy of the Administration is wicked and vicious, while Mr. Lodge took another page to prove that it is patriotic and righteous. Senator McComas and Senator Wellington, of Maryland, do not speak as they pass by. The relations between Mr. Tillman and Mr. McLaurin, of South Carolina, are very little more friendly. Mr. Caffery, of Louisiana, is a gold-standard anti-expansion free-trader, while Mr. McEnery is a free-silver expansion-protectionist. The two Senators from Nebraska are about as different as fire and water, while Messrs. Pettigrew and Kyle, who used to go around arm in arm, have only an official acquaintance these days. Mr. McBride, of Oregon, believes in a tariff on Puerto Rican products; Mr. Simon, from that state, is a last ditcher for free trade. Mr. Ross, of Vermont, is an anti-expansionist; Mr. Proctor would annex everything within reach; and so they go. But there is no state in the Union where the harmony between Senators is illustrated in such a beautiful manner as in Michigan. Mr. Burrows and Mr. McMillan always agree on everything, and if they happened accidentally to differ they pitch a penny to see which shall give in.

DEMO-POPULIST CLUBS

FORM OF ENROLLMENT WHICH MR. BRYAN INDORSES.

Jackson County Democrats in Hot Water—Certain of the Reformers Denounced as Ringsters.

During the tour through the State of Washington, Colonel W. J. Bryan and United States Senator Turner, of Spokane, prepared a form of enrollment for Bryan clubs which it is their desire to have organized throughout the Pacific Coast States for the present campaign. The form is as follows:

"We, the undersigned citizens and voters of the United States, believing in and loving every sentiment expressed in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of our country, and having an abiding faith in, and love for, our Republic and its maintenance, deploring the tendency toward militarism and imperialism as manifested by the leaders of the Republican party of today, hereby solemnly pledge ourselves to the principles enunciated by the immortal Jefferson and advocated by William Jennings Bryan for the betterment of mankind, and hereby band ourselves together for the purpose of maintaining inviolate the Declaration of Independence, the financial independence of the Nation and the industrial independence of the citizen."

In Umatilla County, the Pendleton East Oregonian says that local supporters of Mr. Bryan are planning for the organization of such a club, and the matter will be taken up when the delegates to the Democratic and Populist State Conventions return from Portland.

IN JACKSON COUNTY.

Lively Times in Prospect for the Democratic Convention.

Medford Enquirer.

The Democratic convention, so-called, which met in Jacksonville Saturday last (to choose delegates to the state convention), demonstrated thoroughly that a few self-chosen leaders can, under the proxy system, stifle any spirit of Democracy which may be left among the Democrats of Jackson County. Not being a candidate for any office or position of political preferment, and having only the desire to advance the true principles of Democracy, we shall, without fear or favor, denounce any and all actions of a few men to establish gang rule in the interest of a chosen few as against the rank and file of the majority of the Democrats of Jackson County.

Ten years ago the Democratic party was the dominant party in Jackson County by a large majority, and its position today has been caused, not by a lack of believers in those principles, but by a policy of narrow-minded, selfish interests which have said "We will rule or ruin."

It is not because we hold any personal animosity towards Messrs. Neil, Nickell or Soliss that we point to them as examples of ring politics, but it is because the time has come when the tinsel of generalities should be laid aside, tna cant and hypocricy shall be buried, and plain facts and honest expressions shall take their place, and that the Democracy of Jackson County may be given no more such examples of minority—by proxy—rule, as were given in the Jacksonville convention on Saturday last.

A "proxy convention" was held at Jacksonville on Saturday last. Mr. Charles Nickell seemed to be the "Joss" of the occasion, with Judge Neil and Mr. Soliss "shinnin' around" as cherubs to the Joss.

J. R. Neil announces that he is the "logical candidate" for County Judge. We presume he means that he is the logical candidate of the Southern Pacific, but of the Democratic party, never. The S. P. knoweth its own, and the ass its master's crib. So it is apparent where the "logical" comes in.

The primaries for the election of delegates to county convention at Jacksonville on April 28, to nominate a county ticket, will be held at the usual places, Saturday, April 21.

COMBINATIONS IN POLITICS.

An Ethical Essay on the Method of "Working" Conventions.

No Democrat should enter into a combination to force himself in nomination, for by such action he makes it plain that he seeks office for personal ends, not to serve the people, or for what there is in it, and thus drags down the banner of Democracy and makes of public office a private snap, declares the Pendleton East Oregonian. All of the powers, influences and resources of the individual can be properly exerted for himself under a democracy, but when individuals combine to stand in and promote one another's interests at the expense of their fellows, they step beyond even the broad liberties of democracy, and become enemies of it, rather than friends to it. Democracy is attacked and destroyed in just the proportion that the units composing it solidify to promote their selfish ends. The man who believes this is his privilege is not in good standing in a party whose corner-stone is equal rights.

Under democracy the maximum of liberty with the minimum of restraint is guaranteed to every individual. Under this guarantee the individual can undertake and carry forward anything that advances his interests that does not attack the same right which the guarantee confers upon his fellows. Democracy cannot be fruitful of result if the individual is permitted and encouraged to sacrifice his individuality by combining his rights with those of another, or others, which is the first step towards forming clans and classes and bringing out a solidification of interests, until the individual finds himself without rights of any kinds. The solidifying of units—the making of men's interests one—has a tendency to make men alike, and so far as this is accomplished all that is best in life is destroyed and universal chaos comes.

UMATILLA POPULIST DEFECTION.

It Is Not So Great as at First Reported.

Pendleton Tribune.

In the midst of the excitement at the Democratic convention, when the Populists entered the courtroom, it was announced that there were 52 of the penitents, and that 57 had refused to join with the Democrats. It has since developed that only 23 Populists with 10 or 12 proxies had followed their leader, J. M. O'Brien, to the Democratic fold. It was also moved in the Democratic convention that the names of the 52 be printed at the head of the list of delegates of the combined conventions, in honor of their efforts in behalf of union of the parties, but no such printed list has yet appeared. The real facts in the case appear to be that the 52 mentioned were the votes cast in favor of the resolution sent to the Populist convention. It was supposed by the Populists and Democrats that these men would all unite with the Democrats, but such appears not to be the outcome. They went home or some place else. The 57 who voted against the resolution sent by the Democrats, and many others who abided by the vote of the majority, adjourned subject to the call of the chairman of the Populist convention, and may meet again in the near future to nominate a county ticket.

SALMON FISHING ON THE COLUMBIA.

L. F.—"The fish don't seem to run your way, Tom."

—New York Commercial.

PUERTO RICAN BILL.

Senator McBride Justifies His Vote On the Measure.

A few days ago The Dalles Chronicle contained the following:

Senator Simon says the overwhelming sentiment of his people compels him to vote against the Puerto Rican tariff bill. Malcolm A. Moody voted for the bill. Since then Republican conventions have been held in 10 counties out of 16 in his district, and if from these one single vote will go to the congressional convention against Mr. Moody, there is not a man in Oregon knows it. The Senator had better put his ear to the ground again.

Referring to the above, the paper at The Dalles publishes the following telegram to its editor, from Senator McBride, under date of April 10:

I am gratified to learn that Republicans of Eastern Oregon sustain the vote of an overwhelming majority of the Republican Senators and Republican Representatives in Congress on the civil government and revenue bill for Puerto Rico. I voted for the bill because it is right. It removes 85 per cent of the duties now in force and empowers the Puerto Rican Legislature to substitute its own system of revenue for the temporary measure provided in the bill. I cannot believe the people of Oregon desire me to vote against the only practicable measure of present relief for the distressed people of Puerto Rico, nor to impose upon these impoverished people the burdens of our own internal revenue and war revenue taxes instead of the very low tariff left in effect by the bill supported by the Republican majority. I am not disposed to accept the advice nor to follow the leadership of the Democratic party either on constitutional or economic questions.

GEORGE W. McBRIDE.

Moody Expects Public Will Approve.

The Dalles Chronicle publishes the following telegram in its issue of the 12th inst.:

Washington, April 11.—The House passed the Puerto Rican bill today by eight majority, nine Republicans voting against it and three Democrats voting for it. I confidently expect the public will ultimately approve the wisdom of the measure. MALCOLM A. MOODY.

For Governor of Washington.

Goldendale Sentinel.

It is generally conceded by the Republicans of the state that the nominee for Governor will be a Seattle man, and that gentleman we predict will be Mayor Humes of that city. Mr. Humes is of Irish descent and a veteran of the Civil War, having lost one of his arms in the defense of his country's flag. He is an orator of ability and possesses much magnetism. Attorney Humes is no blathersKite or demagogue, but says what he believes to be right. He believes that the vices of the "Queen City" should be under police control. He uses neither intoxicating liquors nor tobacco. Being an Irishman, it is not necessary to say he is an ardent Boer sympathizer.

Salaries of Prosecuting Attorneys.

Corvallis Union-Gazette.

If the people think it proper to cause the District Attorney's salary of the Second Judicial District to be reduced from $4000 per year they should make a strenuous effort at the next legislature to have it so reduced, for the reason that those interested in keeping the salaries of public officers high, claim that the incumbent elected to an office when the salary is at a certain figure has some kind of a vested right in the salary whereby it would be bad faith to reduce the salary during his term, which claim exists in imagination, but not in law; yet the same parties never think it improper to raise a public salary to take effect during the term.

A Proverb Rewritten.

Condon Globe.

It seems that certain members of the Montana Legislature sold Clark a seat in the Senate, but they have failed to deliver the goods. A millionaire senatorial aspirant and his money are soon parted.

A Specimen Campaign Brick.

Klamath Falls Express.

The platform, if such may be its dignified appellation, adopted by the Klamath County Republican Convention Saturday, rather tends to elucidate some of the features which animate the halter-broken Republican, born with the G. O. P. harness on and the breeching crowding him into the collar. In 1896 many delegates to the Republican National Convention, including, no, doubt, William McKinley, believed in the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold—or, in other words, bimetalism. But when the gold-standard platform was enunciated, nearly all the delegates walked right onto it, being well broke to the harness and too calloused for collar gall. The Klamath Republicans are all ready on any platform that may be enunciated at the National Convention, and are apparently ready to swallow trusts or to be swallowed by them, ready for gold or silver, paper or adobe currency, estheticism, asceticism, cannibalism or McKinleyism. Thus they are as glorious as Jonah—ready to be swallowed by the whale (before taking), or vomited up by him (after taking).

The Fusion in Marion.

Salem Journal.

Some of the prominent Populists who on Monday were seriously objecting to the way the citizens' ticket was put up, are said to be willing to support it if the indorsement of the People's Party county central committee can be secured. That committee meets on April 21 at Salem. The main objection is raised to Finzer for Clerk (who is practically placed on the Republican ticket by the Statesman), and Hobart for Assessor, who received one vote for that office before the Republican County Convention. It is possible that the Populists will demand to put straight Populists on the ticket for one or both of these.

Keep the Blood Cool.

St. Helens Mist.

In stirring political times it is not wise to get overheated. A man gains nothing for his candidate, friends or party by unnecessarily exciting the opposition in useless gabble. It has but a tendency to make the enemy work all the harder, and while hurting the prospects of friends who are aspirants to office, engenders ill feeling that in some instances never wears away. There is more profit in calmly discussing controversial points than by bellowing at each other, and in imagining that the very life of the nation depends upon getting the better of the other fellow in an argument over political questions.

"Interesting to Know."

Weston Leader, April 12.

It would be interesting to know what the Republican State Convention, in session at Portland today, will have to say concerning the Puerto Rican question. With Senator Simon, who is right in this instance, on record against the bill, and the rest of the delegation opposing it, the convention is left in miserable uncertainty. It hasn't even the alternative of a graceful straddle.

The Defenders of Riot and Murder.

The Dalles Chronicle.

The sight of the Sulzers and Lentzes storming heaven and earth to make political capital out of the suppression of riot, anarchy and murder by the Democratic Governor of Idaho is one for gods and men to gaze at in astonishment and awe.

Advice of the Season.

Woodburn Independent.

Don't shake hands; somebody will take you for a professional office-seeker.

IN THE POLITICAL ARENA

VARIETY OF NEWS ITEMS FROM MANY SOURCES.

Senator McBride and Representative Moody Expect Oregon to Approve Puerto Rican Bill.

Opposition to Goebelism in Kentucky is understood to be an offense not admitting of bail.

The New York Times thinks "a Democrat of brains and character" could carry the state in November.

The long-lost Silver-Republican party of Oregon is found. After sitting in a Democratic convention, Judge Seneca Smith admits that he is it.

Senator Blackburn has ceased his speech-making in support of Goebelism. Evidently he is afraid that his title to a Senatorial seat may be questioned.

The Jefferson Review says the placing of Dr. J. N. Smith on the Marion County Republican Legislative ticket is regarded as a hard slap at the Geer administration.

On the Lakes, ships worth $9,000,000 are under construction, an increase over last year of $5,500,000. Water transportation is keeping pace with the progress of the world.

A Bryan paper at Pendleton declares that the Colonel "had an oration all through the Northwest." The compositor's error is excusable. It was the same thing, at all points.

As an unanswerable argument for fusion, a Roseburg paper says: "It is William Jennings Bryan's wish that every supporter of his in Douglas County vote the union ticket."

Colonel Bryan's tour of Oregon brings to mind the Colonel's remark after his defeat in '96 that he had lost nearly every state where he made speeches and carried all that he kept away from.

A Linn County paper announces that it is "politically for principal." Candidates who put up the principal of their promises will have no interest taxed to them for running their cards in its columns.

The Union County fusion Populist convention is reported by La Grande Journal to have been "characterized by faint-heartedness and lack of organization among the delegates," less than half of whom attended.

At the Republican county convention for Wahkiakum County, Wash., held last week, the only resolution passed by that body was one favoring the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people.

The Columbia County Republican platform gives nearly twice as much space to praise of Senator McBride as to all other matters, and pledges the county's one Representative to "continue to support his re-election to the end."

The Atlanta Constitution says Georgians have sold their cotton at from $5 to $10 more a bale than they expected, and then forgets to repeat any of its old arguments showing the utter impossibility of an advance in cotton under the gold standard.

Eugene Skipworth, Gold Democrat of 1896, is back with the Bryanites. Charles H. Baker, Silver Republican of 1896, is back in the Republican ranks. Both sides in Lane County are reported to be satisfied with the swap.

A Georgia paper says the trouble in Kentucky is "the lawlessness of Southern Republicans." The St. Louis Globe-Democrat remarks that it is a favorite device of the Goebelites to charge all that goes wrong upon their victims.

Hon. H. R. Kincaid's nomination for Judge of Lane County, on the fusion ticket, prompts a fellow newspaper man to predict that "the estates of decedents and property of widows and orphans will find a safe guardianship at his hands."

Discussing the tour of William J. Bryan through Washington, the Spokane Outburst says: "Trimmed of the foliage of diction and flower of imagery Mr. Bryan's appeal is like that of Jim Corbett after the Fitzsimmons victory at Carson City—'Give me one more chance.'"

The money circulation of the country, which was $1,509,725,200 on July 1, 1896, had increased to $2,002,931,791 on March 1, 1900. This was a gain of nearly $500,000,000 in three years and a half. Of this increase $295,150,584 was in gold coin and gold certificates.

The Republicans of Rufus have adopted a method of increasing their numbers that is unique. They have organized a Republican Club that gives dancing parties to its members only, and now all the young people are joining regardless of former political affiliations.

Kentucky's abominable Goebel election law, with its entail of chaos and crime, has received its first shaking up in Congress. A statute so vicious will ultimately draw the wrath of the Nation and have to go. So will the Nesbit law in Missouri and similar measures for cheating voters.

The Salem Journal says that "Senator McBride's patent medicine testimonials from his friends in the Senate are not complete. They should have been accompanied by pictures of the men who have been cured, accompanied by a statement of the disease, sworn to before a notary public."

Kansas Populists have just turned against a member of their party because he developed a case of gout. A Chicago paper declares that "a case of appendicitis in their ranks is the only thing that is now necessary to complete the disgrace of the Kansas Populists and disrupt the party forever."

Lane County unionists instructed their delegates for Hon. J. C. Booth for Joint Senator in Lane, Douglas and Josephine, and Josephine Republicans instructed for Hon. R. A. Booth for the same office. The latter was successful, but R. M. Veatch secured the nomination at the hands of the fusionists.

The Tacoma News, a Democratic paper, announces that it will support Congressman Cushman, a Republican, for re-election, and will do everything in its power to help re-elect him. An exchange observes that whether a man hails from Tacoma or Seattle is of far greater importance to those towns than his politics.

This is the view that the editor of The Dalles Times-Mountaineer gets of matters in Marion County: "The Democrats, Populists and Silver Republicans have nominated a citizen's ticket, and it has already developed such strength that even the Salem Statesman, one of the most radical Republican papers in the state, indorses some of the nominees."

The Director of the Census notifies Congressmen that he wants 1500 women this year to operate tabulating machines. He says they do far better work than the men. Republican Representatives are to be allowed to name six and other Representatives three each for the work. This, however, does not content Congressmen, who retort that women have no votes, and that this is a campaign year.

Arthur Hodges, who has been nominated by the Republicans of Crook County for County Clerk, is the present incumbent. He has been a life-long Democrat, though he wandered away from the fold two years ago and ran for County Clerk on an independent Gold Democratic ticket. The Republicans of Crook evidently expect him to add strength to the ticket.

The Eugene Register makes this reply to an esteemed contemporary: "The Guard calls us an ex-Populist. We don't care. We are prouder of the 32 of 34 years we have lived as a Republican than if we had a thousand years of Populism to our credit. And our four years of Republicanism under the McKinley Administration is better and more satisfactory than all other years of our life, politically, combined."

Mr. Cleveland has just remarked that he detests jingoism, yet has "as great a disgust for the namby-pamby dwarfs who are afraid to face the lion of war when that war is just." Mr. Cleveland bearded England on the Venezuela question and his own party on nearly everything. His militant qualities are not disputed by his brother Democrats, even if he did hire a substitute in the Civil War.

A paper at The Dalles learns that "tons of campaign literature are stacked up in the Democratic headquarters at Portland. The literature consists of extracts from the Congressional Record, and treats upon imperialism usually. It is mailed under the frank of Senator Jones. Copies of the registration books are on file at the headquarters, and every man who has registered is sent a few samples of 'anti' documents. Another 'campaign of education' is on."

The delegates to the Baker County Democratic convention were furnished a neat and unique badge by the citizens of Sumpter. Its subject was the meeting of the Palmetto and the Pine. The design consisted of a rosette made of palmetto leaf. In the center was a painting of Fort Sumter, S. C., in a frame of braided palmetto. Pending from the rosette were two streamers of the same leaf, on one of which was written "Fort Sumpter, S. C., 1861," and on the other, "Sumpter, Oregon, April 7th, 1900." Worked into the fringe of the rosette was a spray of needles from the native pine. Many of these were distributed to outside visitors not delegates, and one sent to The Oregonian.

A correspondent of The Dalles Times-Mountaineer writes as follows from Southern Oregon: "In Jackson County the Middle-of-the-Road Populists have combined with Republicans on their local ticket for the purpose of defeating the Democrats. Owing to this and to the fact that there is a split in the Democratic ranks in that county, Jackson will go Republican in June. This, however, will have no effect on the November election, for the Jackson County Democrats are united on Bryan, and will give him 1000 majority in the Fall election. In Douglas County the Democrats are well organized, and the Populists are co-operating with them, so the prospects are very favorable for success there."

"A MECCA FOR GRAFTERS."

Levi Ankeny Is Learning That Calumny Is the Price of Eminence.

Walla Walla Argus.

Walla Walla has become a Mecca for hungry political grafters from all over the state. Nearly every day three or four men arrive in the city to interview Levi Ankeny, who is now supposed to be in control of the party machinery in this state. These fellows are all after oil to grease the machinery in their respective counties.

Before the late Republican primaries throughout the state there was a great rush of county chairmen to Walla Walla to get the munitions of war. Among those were Scott Swetland, of Vancouver; Schofield, of Chehalis County, and the chairman of the Whitman County central committee. They all got what they wanted, and from the results there is no doubt they put it to good use in working up a "spontaneous" Ankeny boom.

If this rush for oil keeps up till 1902, when Senator Turner's successor is to be elected, the aggregate cost of running the machine will almost equal the figures set by Clark, in Montana, and perhaps with the same result.

Hon. J. M. Church.

J. M. Church, of La Grande, who is the Republican nominee for joint Senator of Union and Wallowa Counties, receives this high praise from the Journal, of his home city:

For almost a third of a century Mr. Church has been a part of the industrial development of this section. In that time he has been miner, merchant and banker, and has accumulated some wealth, but not once in all this time has he been rightly accused of dishonor or disloyalty to his friends. More than one man in the county has he carried to business success, and none has he ever oppressed. His business and political methods have always been direct, fair and open.

As a political leader Mr. Church deserves great credit. To him more than to any other, with the possible exception of his friend and co-worker, Mr. M. Baker, belongs the credit of having held this county for the Republicans, and, not only for the Republicans, but for the best element of a divided party. Unlike some of his political enemies, he has not been a Republican for revenue. In all the years of this political activity he has never before permitted his name to come before a convention. On this occasion he has appeared, not through the solicitations of these two home counties alone, but of the whole state, throughout which he has a broad acquaintance.

A Caucus Nominee Defeated.

Klamath Falls Express.

It is seldom that any political convention commits so dishonorable an action as that perpetrated by the Republican convention of Klamath County last Saturday. An honorable man was betrayed and rightfully embittered with his fellow partisans. At the caucus Saturday morning, Captain J. W. Siemens received 23 votes and A. Kershner 15 for Sheriff. The former having received a majority, was the caucus nominee, and by every code of honor should have been the convention nominee. However, before 2 o'clock that afternoon the "job" was done, and to the dishonor of the convention Mr. Siemens was sacrificed, receiving but 19 votes as against Mr. Kershner's 22. We have no desire to cast any aspersion upon the gentleman nominated, or the majority of the delegates, but a grievious wrong was done to Mr. Siemens, who without solicitation on his part was the avowed favorite candidate of the convention.

Multnomah's Indorsement of Simon.

The Dalles Chronicle.

The compliment to Mr. Simon's "ability and energy" is deserved. But what is meant by indorsing the Senator's "official career" and pointing with pride to his "courage" if it does not refer to the most important act of his "official career," his desertion of the party that made him all he is politically and going over to the free-trade Democracy? It doubtless takes "courage" of a certain kind to do a thing like that. But if this is the import of the resolution, then Multnomah Republicans, in order to honor a man who has done more to corrupt the Republican politics of this state than any other man living or dead, in order to honor him, that is to say, for taking his stand with free-trade Democracy, are willing to slap in the face the three other members of the Oregon delegation, who had, each of them, a far higher type of courage, the courage to do right as God gave him to see the right.

Judicial Positions in Washington.

Chehalis Nugget.

It is reported that Judge A. L. Miller, of Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania and Klickitat Counties, will be a candidate for the Republican nomination for Supreme Judge this Fall, to succeed Judge Gordon, who has declined to accept the office again. Attorney W. B. Presby, for four years past chairman of the Republican Central Committee, will be presented by the delegates from this county as their candidate for the Judgeship of this district at present so ably filled by Judge Miller. As this gentleman is now a candidate for Supreme Judge, it is expected he will put forth his best efforts in behalf of Klickitat's choice.

Wants to Drop Silver Issue.

St. Helens' News (Dem.).

Why shouldn't the Democrats be content with a simple affirmation of the Chicago platform without laying any particular stress on silver? If they do this, it is certain that they will win this Fall. If they do anything else, the situation will be far more doubtful. Democracy was never more needed in the White House and at the Capitol than now. Why expose the country to the danger of further imperialistic and monopolistic rule by taking any avoidable chances?

Why and Wherefore?

Woodburn Independent.

Linn County Democrats and Populists want another trial with a Populist County Judge, but we notice that they did not re-nominate Judge Barton.