

THE ARGUS

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LUCIUS A. LONG, EDITOR.

County Official Paper.

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY

— BY —

The Argus Publishing Company.

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Opposed to Gold Mono-metallism. Believes in the Bimetallic Standard. Thinks we Ought to Take Care of our own People Before Annexing Hawaii. Has no use for Marcus A. Hanna.

MR. GAGE WILL STAY.

Mr. Gage will not go out of the cabinet. He is the man selected by the money mongers who put up the "stuff" to elect the president. The president has no policy on the money question. He simply acquiesces, or rather, has obligations to pay. He has no protest to make. Having fooled the republican bimetallicists to vote his ticket the president allows those who control him to flaunt their folly in their faces. This is well. It will have its results. The people must expect to pay the fiddler.

Mr. Gage is the man for the place. He has the nerve to force the republican house, where a republican secretary might have listened to policy and allowed financial matters to drift as they are. There are but two sides to the money question and a positive man at the head of the treasury is a jewel to be admired. Either the people want the gold standard or the bimetallic. If the people would not listen to last year's repeated warnings that the McKinley candidacy was backed by every syndicate in the land, when they knew this to be true, let them not complain if Secretary Gage gives them money so honest and enlightened that vulgar commerce will not see it. Bimetallicists are glad Mr. Gage will remain. He will not shuffle and that is one thing to his credit. He is not a hypocrite on the money question. Dearest money is better for him and his class and he has the courage to espouse that which will redound to his own peculiar benefit. A republican secretary would have faltered and beat around the bush. Secretary Gage will take and has taken such a position that the issue of the future will not be fogged. He will make bimetallic votes, to be true, but straightforwardness in this public officer's action is a shining parallel to the attitude of the president, who seeks to hold bimetallic votes by dishonest pretensions and sham sympathy.

BREAKERS AHEAD.

There are breakers ahead for Mr. McKinley. The president might have expected this when he appointed a secretary of the treasury who was a Cleveland democrat from heel to crown. For three years—ever since the repeal of the Sherman law—the republican papers of the south, west and middle north were condemning the Cleveland financial policy, which embodied the retray of the greenbacks and other contracting ideas, in terms of no uncertain meaning. They—these little sheets and big ones too—"viewed with alarm the intent of Mr. Cleveland to turn the government over to gold monometallism," and they were sincere in their expostulations! Mr. McKinley filled the treasury portfolio with an out and out goldite, and every move by him made has tended towards monometallism. The "international" plank caused these silver republicans like the Inter-Ocean, of Chicago—and the Independent and Hatchet of Oregon—to support McKinley. They evidently knew that if McKinley favored international money he could get it—all he had to do was to inform England that her co-operation would be quite agreeable but if she withheld such, we would go it alone. But history tells us that McKinley's commission had no more than reached London than the president sent to Congress a message clearly showing his predilection for the gold basis thus slapping his creature, the commission, in the face. Now there is trouble coming. Republicans are holding everywhere—and in the whole east as well as in other sections. A policy of duplicity can no

longer prevail in a republican form of government. A man must be for one or the other both before and after the election if he expects after election support. Wolcott and Chandler, two senators, will leave the party, and the rank and file of republicans who have been partisans because they believed the g. o. p. honestly represented the public view, will go with them to a party or parties which stand for something positive and are not ashamed to acknowledge policies.

THE WHEAT PROBLEM

Wheat is lower to day than it was one year ago notwithstanding there is the greatest known shortage in production and the smallest visible supply known to the wheat situation for years. How it must hurt the average gold standard spell-binder to have this fact thrust before him!

For two years there has been foreign shortage, this year the foreign crop being even less than last years. As drouth and shortage rarely follow three years in succession, the next year's crop will doubtless prove a bountiful one and then we shall again get down to the forty-five cent wheat basis. Cotton now is even lower than it has been for years. Growers cannot keep up the business at the present scale of prices, and as for wheat raising, farmers cannot keep up improvements on forty-five or fifty cent wheat. With a constantly contracting system of currency we shall see still as low, if not lower, prices for our grain as in the last two or three years—as soon as the supply again reaches the normal point. The farmers, of course, can continue to hug the gold standard and hope against hope, but the sensible thing for him to do is to get into a movement that, as compared with the trend of the present age—means dearer product instead of cheaper product, or if he so wills it, "cheaper money instead of dearer money." He is numerically strong enough to more than hold his own, and as out of him must come the profits which build cities and pay municipal, state and county debts, it is time that he exercised his vote so as to leave him a margin for his toil. As it redounds to the betterment of those who have large money wealth to have money grow dearer, this percentage of betterment must naturally come out of those who have the production properties and commodities which must be measured against such money. This year those farmers who raised wheat have made a profit, but, in the past such shortages of the cereal have given \$1.50 and \$1.75 per bushel.

THE PENSION QUESTION.

Last fall, all throughout the campaign, as well as this year pending the state elections, the gold press had nothing to say derogatory to the present pension system. As soon, however, as these elections were past, the great gold dailies, which supported Mr. McKinley, have been urging that the pension list must be published and pension frauds unearthed. While throughout the campaigns you could not hear one word about pension abuses for fear they would drive away votes, these organs now fearlessly pretend that the people are being robbed through a pension system unequal and unscientific. When Mr. Cleveland sought to correct the now acknowledged evils, the republican press jeered him; tutted him with having sent a substitute to the service, and abused him for a "southern sympathizer." But now that these same papers are following Mr. Cleveland's footsteps, we should hear no complaint from the country republican press.

The greatest scheme yet brought to the public is the bill now being prepared to fund the entire pension list; that is to say, to compute what the average pensioner would receive during the supposed future of his life, and then bond wherewith to pay him this in one lump sum. This would let the Dingley bill supply sufficient revenue for the other needs of administration and prevent an inevitable deficit under present conditions of law. This scheme at first blush would appear to be a very popular measure and it would put into circulation millions of dollars, but the great drawback would be that frauds would thrive under this measure as they do under the present system. The chief part of this proposal, as it comes up to many, is to establish a perpetual government debt under

which financiers will gain a greater hold of governmental power. Bondholders can then more and more dictate our monetary law and it will be easier for them to clinch gold monometallism upon us.

It must be quite gratifying to old veterans to see all the prominent McKinley organs crying against pensions, considering the solicitous welfare these same papers exhibited for them last fall.

THE GREAT WEEKLY CRAWFISHES.

During the latter part of Mr. Cleveland's "reign," the Independent was editorially opposed to the retray of greenbacks and other paper money. It specifically enlarged upon this in its attacks upon the late Senator Dolph, even going so far as to say that Mr. Dolph's policy would reduce "from one half to two-thirds the price of everything Oregon had to sell." But the Independent is consistent for once, that is, it is consistent in being inconsistent! It has seen a light. It now falls into line and wants the greenbacks retired. It has arrived at the conclusion that, after all, Senator Dolph was right and that the farmers should have the price of their products decreased; they are getting rich altogether too fast; they are becoming monopolists and should be shown their proper place.

TRYING TO UNITE.

The Mitchell republicans of Portland have, through the county central committee, sent a message to the Simon republicans, asking that the party unite for the spoils of the next election. The move is made in the interest of "harmony," this harmony meaning a deal that will give the John H. people control of the state party machine. It is expected that the Simon-Corbett people will bite at the bait—but they may not. It was a very politic move for the defeated senator lacks only Portland to give him unanimity's support. Portland he must have, for Portland's strength throughout the state would defeat his aspirations.

Every county outside of Portland will send Mitchell delegations, but this is not enough. Portland must be corralled so if a bolt occurs Portland and her Oregonian cannot cause a sufficient defection to defeat the cause. Corbett people are rather inclined to eye the compromise with suspicion while tried and true goldites are noncommittal. It begins to look as though a love feast is imminent and that the lion and lamb will lay down together—but, as yet, no one can say if the lamb shall be within the capacious "innards" of the lion.

SECRETARY ALGER does not want the donated supplies of Portland for the Klondikers. He says the supplies shall be bought and sold. Of course, Mr. Alger does not necessarily desire to have the government run that company out of business—that company now selling goods in the Klondike. Alger Jr. is somewhat interested in that company. Consanguinity often covers a multitude of whys and wherefores.

THE Polk County Observer says that the democrats are attacking the Dingley bill, founded on falsehood. This is rich! When a little two by four republican editor gets to telling the truth in a manner so refreshing, then is yet some hope in a "republican form" of government.

LET US MAN THE PUMPS.

It necessarily follows that he who understands what constitutes popular government, is for direct legislation. That the initiative and referendum would be practice tending against the state being governed by monopolies is enough to recommend it. But there are some economic laws that can be enacted under a representative form of government, and which laws are imperative. We have had so much class legislation the last 30 years that one nearly despairs of righting about the ship of state. But every citizen zealous of the welfare of his country will work for one reform to be brought about at once—the nationalization of the money question. We can get the initiative and referendum only after constitutional amendment. Shall we age premium money system fast—then sit idly by and allow a brokered on us, simply because we have a representative form of govern-

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ment? Patriots, especially those who have no political ambition except to see their principals enacted into law, will therefore work to control representative government in the interests of the great masses. "Self-sustaining institutions," as the East Oregonian would say, who are not looking for office, will work with people in those ranks in life where common instinct demands a cessation of class legislation for bankers and foreign bond holders. The control of representative government at this hour would prevent the prostitution of our country to financial lust. To work to gain this control will in no way militate against working for direct legislation.

GENERAL WEAVER

Writes a Letter to the
National Knight Watchman.

General James B. Weaver, who has some intimate friends in Hillsboro, and who has spoken twice at this point, recently wrote a letter to the Silver Knight-Watchman, Senator Stewart's paper, and we give an extract below. General Weaver is one of the ablest economists of the age. He left the republican party of Iowa at a time when he was its state leader and when he could have received any honor from it he might have asked—left it because it would not openly espouse the cause of common justice. General Weaver, in his letter, said:

The American people have already had a prolonged struggle against plutocracy of more than a century in duration, and this since the revolution in which it was supposed we had gained a final victory over this vicious influence. This includes the thirty-two years battle to preserve the war-scarred greenbacks. McCulloch opened fire upon them in 1865. Sherman led in the assault upon silver soon after, and the contest has raged fiercely ever since. The result was really against the Constitution and free government. The Chicago convention of 1896 gave unmistakable evidence that the people had at last opened their eyes to the dangers which confronted them. The triple alliance between the Bryan Democrats, Populists, and Silver Republicans which followed, inspired confidence of ultimate success. That we shall soon realize complete triumph is now the well-grounded faith and hope of the people, and as we close our lines and strengthen this alliance in every precinct of the republic. The Ark of the Covenant of our fathers is in its keeping. There is neither time nor occasion for the slightest dissension in any quarter of the field. Let us clasp each other's hands in brotherly affection everywhere, and let party spirit perish, and give place to a lofty and self-sacrificing effort. Our forbearance, love of truth, and our good judgment will all be fiercely tested in the Congressional struggle next year. We must have the next house of representatives; and to secure it we must be united, bold, charitable, tactful and at all times alert. Let every man remember that 1898 will witness the initial mobilization of our forces for the grand engagement of 1900. I trust there will not be a single populist or other member of the alliance in hospital, or absent when the drum beats and the bugle calls. Meantime let us hold up the hands of our great leader, Bryan, by every means within our power. He is at war with the classes and the common people love him. His heart is as true as that of Old Hickory, and his head is as clear as that of the immortal Jefferson. He will neither lower our standard, shrink from the post of danger, nor suffer his columns to retreat. Let us, close the nineteenth century, and open the twentieth as our fathers closed the eighteenth and opened the nineteenth—with a sublime and heroic effort for human rights which shall again set this old world ablaze with hope and courage.

WILLING THAT THE PEOPLE

Shall Decide What They
Want for Government.

George W. Kelley writes THE ARGUS a letter this week which is given below and which manifests the true spirit. The man who is will-

ing that the people shall decide what they want is the proper kind of citizen. It is with pleasure the following is published:

EDITOR ARGUS: With all due respect for your favor of last week, December 22nd, the same appearing in the local, I would say that I might convey the idea to my populist brothers that I had abandoned all ideas of populist reform for the free and independent coinage of silver, alone. While I may have said that I was willing to accept any proposition that the people could be united upon against the common enemy (the goldites) whether that issue be the bimetallic or any other issue, or set of issues that would point to good government for the common people; let the conversation be what it may have been I shall give Mr. Long credit for stating it as he understood it, and that my position may be clearly before the people. I beg to say, through your paper, that I have no proposition to make the people in their interest, more than any other ordinary citizen. While I may present my ideas in the form of resolutions at your conventions, this is the right of every lawful voter and if he does not exercise these rights it is his own fault, not mine. It matters not how my individual ideas may suffer at the hands of the people, or their representatives assembled in conventions, I shall respect their demands as supreme, and they shall have every effort in my power to bring their requests to a successful issue. Respectfully yours, G. W. KELLEY, Chairman Populist County Central Committee. Dated this Dec. 24th, 1897.

Real Estate Transactions.

John Armstrong to Jennie and Elizabeth Armstrong lot 1 and 2 blk 26 P G \$1000. Wm Stager and wife to Julius Estell lot 46 and 47 Taftin Gardens \$600. J. H. Lambert to F. H. Grismacher tracts 38 and 40 Peachville, \$500. The same to Elizabeth Grismacher tract 31 Peachville, \$500. State of Oregon to Thos H Brinson lots 7, 8, 9, and 10 sec 4 T 1 S R 6 W, \$200. Chas F Tigar and wife to C B Bunnell 43 & 44 Hillside d. l. c. \$250. Henry Watenmaker and wife to Sol Premier 20 & Edwin B Comfort d l c \$750. Geo T Hollister and wife to Samuel D Clark 1/2 n e 1/4 and 1/2 s e 1/4 sec 13 T 2 N R 4 W, \$2425. Thomas Hollister and wife to Susan D Clark 15 a sec 13 T 2 N R 4 W, \$75.

Tomorrow will be a day of good resolutions.

All persons indebted to the firm of H. Wehrung & Sons, by note or account, are requested to make settlement by December 1st, 1897.

Bridge Notice.

There will be let to the lowest bidder on Wednesday Jan 5th, 1898, at 2 o'clock p. m. at the county court room at the court house of Washington county, Oregon, a contract for building a bridge across Day Creek at or near the Carstens Bros saw mill in said county. Specifications can be seen at the Clerk's office on or after January 1st, 1898. The commissioners' court reserve the right to reject any or all bids. Dated this Dec 22nd, 1897. By order of commissioners' court. B. P. CORNELIUS, County Judge.

Administratrix Notice of Final Settlement.

Notice is hereby given that I, the undersigned administratrix of the Estate of John Forrester, deceased, have filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Washington County, my final account as executrix of said estate. And that said Court has set Monday the 10th day of January, 1898, at the hour of 10 A. M. of said day, as the time of hearing objections to said final account, and the settlement of said estate. Dated this 7th day of December, 1897. LINA FORRESTER, Administratrix of the estate of John Forrester, deceased.

Notice to the Public.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned farmers and residents at Mountandale and vicinity will prosecute to the full extent of the law, for such offenses prescribed by said statute. And that said persons who trespass upon the farms of said undersigned.

Dated at Mountandale, Washington Co. Ore., this 29th day of September, 1897. H. Taylor Hill, C. E. Shorpy, John Smith, Geo. Harris, I. L. Northrup, J. C. Crocker, M. M. Rowell, M. W. Hahn, J. C. LaFerty, S. J. Rafferty, C. B. Taylor, Geo. B. Armentrout, John Jacob, A. C. Wirtz, W. A. Montgomery and W. N. Haynam.

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SHERIFF'S SALE.

By virtue of an execution, decree and order of sale, issued out of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Washington County, in favor of J. F. Schock and against Anton Pfanner, Samuel Hughes and A. Hinman, Assignees of Anton Pfanner and Charles Jesse for the sum of \$3043.50, U. S. gold coin, with interest thereon at the rate of ten per cent per annum from the 22nd day of November, 1897, Attorneys' fees and for the costs and expenses of said sale and of said writ. Now, therefore, by virtue and in pursuance of said judgment, decree and order of sale, I will, on Monday the 24th day of January, 1898, at the south door of the Court House, in Hillsboro, Washington County, Oregon, at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M. of said day, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, the following described real property, to-wit:

Commencing at the center post of Section 29, running thence west on half section line 140 rods; thence north 80 rods; thence east 140 rods to 1/2 section line; thence south 80 rods to place of beginning containing 70 acres all in section 29 T 2 N R 3 W of Will Mer. Also the following Commencing at quarter section post between sections 29 and 30 running thence east on half section line 40 chains to center of section 29; thence south 40 chains to quarter section corner between sections 29 and 32; thence west on section line 10 chains to a point at south east corner of a tract of land sold by J. Unshad and wife to A. Ennis, thence north westerly to place of beginning containing 100 acres all of said land being in section 29 T 2 N R 3 W of Will Mer, all situate in Washington County and State of Oregon; this decree is for the sale of the 170 acres herein described to satisfy the heretofore named sums, and for the costs and expenses of said sale.

Said property will be sold subject to redemption as per statute of Oregon. Witness my hand this 22nd day of December, 1897.

W. D. BRADFORD,

Sheriff of Washington County, Oregon

LANE & SON, Attorneys for Plaintiff.

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