

ASKS A QUESTION.

Condon Again Gets Information He Does Not Want.

The Register publishes the following: "The GUARD, at certain times, is very solicitous concerning the old soldiers, but they criticize only others' tickets. Where are the old soldiers on the fusion ticket?"

Mr W F Gray, who was nominated unanimously for representative by the union convention, is an old soldier of the civil war; is an honorable member of Cottage Grove Post, G A R; has the respect of the people generally of the city in which he resides, and has resided in Lane county for a number of years.

Hon H C Huston, Union nominee for state senator is also an old ex soldier, being an Indian war veteran, having served throughout the Rogue river Indian war of 1855 with credit.

NO POLITICS OR RELIGION.

It seems to be a very general impression that the overwhelming majority of the 1245 soldiers who will leave Oregon for the war-front, are Republicans; a fact that speaks in vibrating tones for the patriotism of the party and that, of course, without prejudice to the loyalty of such citizens as do not happen to be in the guard.

Such a claim as the above, which is made clearly for political effect, is not in good taste, says the Salem Journal. The word party or church does not enter into conversation when the Spanish war is discussed.

Mr Bryan and his followers, north, south, east and west, are a unite for the vigorous pressing forward to victory. The same is true of Prohi's and Middle-Roaders.

The National Committee of the Catholic Young Men's National Union express, on behalf of 50 000 young men, their fealty to the flag and their determination to uphold by every possible means your administration in the upright and patriotic course it is pursuing.

THE NAVAL APPRENTICE.

Boy Sailors and Fighters are Made For Uncle Sam's Navy.

BY C. B. PERKINS, YEOMAN, U. S. N. The following letter from a well known Lane county boy will be read with interest, the war fever of the present time rendering it particularly in point:

"There are fully fifty millions of people in the United States who have never been on board an American-man-of-war, and probably sixty million between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts that do not practically know about the men that are necessary for the manning of the modern vessels; our modern ships are wonderful shells of steel and armor, filled with the best and finest guns and appliances than ingenuity of man can produce.

It is only during the last few years that much interest has been taken in the improvement of the navy. One of the most effective steps toward the proper manning of the Man-of-War of the future, was the establishment of the apprentice training system for American boys who wished to become Man-of-War's men.

The training station at Goat Island, Cal, after the receiving ship, is where the boy receives his first lessons in seamanship, gunnery, and what is more important—discipline. He is taught that strict observance of all rules is a virtue on board a man-of-war and such vices as drinking liquor and smoking cigarettes are not permitted.

Senator George C Perkins, of California, introduced a bill for an appropriation to rebuild the old wooden ship, Pensacola, and make a training ship out of her. It is now completed and will be stationed at Goat Island, in San Francisco bay, and accessible to the island for drill ground.

After finishing his course at the training ship, he is sent to sea for a few months making a cruise from San Francisco as far south as San Diego and from there to Sandwich Islands, and from there as far north as Victoria and back to San Francisco.

Every one of our vessels has in her complement a certain number of apprentices of the first or second class, received from the training ships. Some times the number allowed is exceeded as was the case on the Crack Battleship Oregon, a short time ago when instead of 40 allowed over sixty are needed to fill the shortage of men.

Captain Barker of the Oregon complemented the apprentices on his battleship very highly the other day in his report to the Secretary of the Navy. Several years ago the Government became aware of the importance of having a corps of well trained men to handle the modern appliances on board ship and established special training schools at Newport, R I and Washington, D C. These schools are reserved for the ex-apprentice. Upon the expiration of his term of enlistment he

can make application to be sent to these training schools and the Government pays all expenses. At these places the apprentice becomes proficient in the use of modern guns, the manufacture and preparation of torpedos. It is amazing in what a short time a man can get practical knowledge of several subjects in the short time allowed at these training places. On all four ships the electric turret gear, the over running dynamo, the installation of wires and lights, the torpedos, and the many other delicate contrivances are managed by men who have put a year or more in the seamen gunners class. Besides these varied and useful accomplishments, they can bend a topsail or mend a rigging on a sailing ship; they can go down in a diving suit to examine damages to the bottom or recover a lost anchor, they are able to cook, wash and mend their own clothes. Also keep an account of the stores in a satisfactory manner. In fact the seaman gunner is what our new ships need more than the old type of sailor man. The mechanism is so fine now, a person has to be well trained to operate them although they are very simple.

The first descent into the lower regions of a modern warship is likely to convince one that business has been overdone; that there are too many engines, dynamos, pipes, wires, fixings generally. The pipes and tubes and wires suggest the veins and arteries in a human body. And they are as familiar to the officers and crew as the veins and arteries of the body to a surgeon; more so because they are studied daily by the crew and their own parts which each individual has to operate are thoroughly understood. All apprentices upon discharge do not go to the gunner schools as the accommodation there is too small for so many. Some prefer to re-enlist with the gun force and before the end of the first year, the boy with his first enlistment stripes if he has shown proper pluck and zeal, performs the duty and receives the pay of a petty officer.

THE OFFICIAL BALLOT.

The Controversy Over Position of Middle-of-the-Roaders on the Ticket.

The Salem Journal has the following succinct comment on the efforts of the Middle-of-the-Roaders to get upon the official ballot, with the exclusive name of the Peoples Party, the result of the bolting 16 of the Middle-of-the-Road men:

All through this controversy Secretary Kincaid has taken the position that it was his duty to enable the Middle-Roaders to get their ticket on the official ballot in a perfectly legal manner. He has shown no disposition to keep them off.

But their demand has been to go on the ballot as the regular and only "People's" party entitled to put up a ticket or call a convention.

The regular Peoples party convention of 223 delegates put up a ticket that goes on the ballot, just as the Bryan electoral ticket went on two years ago, People's-Democratic-silver-ite, publican." Another "People's" party state ticket would confuse the voters.

Confusion is what the Republicans want. It is their only hope. They cannot meet a Union of the Silver and Reform forces squarely as a matter of principle, on the issue of, for or against the gold standard, and win in Oregon.

That is the secret of Judge Hewitt's and ill-considered mandamus decision. It was so full of defects that the attorneys for the state did not care to amend its contradictions for fear of improving its standing in court.

Judge Hewitt's decision will never bear investigation of the higher courts, as it would establish the precedent that any number of delegates rejected by a state convention could put up a state ticket.

As the matter stands the only candidate hurt by the Hewitt mandamus is Hewitt himself. The lawyers for Secretary Kincaid have won every point in the suit so far and Middle-Roaders have no one to blame but Hewitt.

Student Soldiers.

Up to last night the following students of the University of Oregon had enlisted as volunteers from Oregon. A number of others will probably go also: J C Booth, '98, F 2nd, Albany. H Davis, '98, C 2d, Eugene. R L Knapp, F, 2d, Albany. Philo Holbrook, '98, C, 2d, Eugene. M L Applegate, C, Eugene. F E Aukley, C, Eugene. A C Stuenkel, H, 1st, Portland. C E Saunders, G, 3rd, The Dalles. L S Hooper, C, Eugene. E Crawford, C, Eugene. C McCormack, C, Eugene. A Gamber, F, Albany.

Oregon Grape Root.

50,000 pounds wanted. Will pay the highest market price for all I can buy. S H FRIENDLY.

SEMI-ANNUAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

Financial Condition of Lane County.

Table showing financial condition of Lane County, Oregon, for the six months ending March 31st, A. D. 1898. Includes items like Lane County Fund, County School Fund, Fish and Game Fund, etc.

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Total amount claims allowed and drawn \$2266.16 \$2266.16 Total receipts of clerk's office from fees from individuals, including

STILL ANOTHER OLD SOLDIER.

Since yesterday we have learned of another old soldier that is a candidate on the Union ticket. We refer to Mr Frank Kirk, of Richardson precinct, who is a candidate for representative. He wore the gray during the civil war, being a confederate soldier. After the conflict was over he came to Oregon and has since been one of Lane county's prominent and respected citizens. He is a loyal citizen and is proud of Old Glory.

Thus it will be seen that the Union ticket is composed of soldiers that were formerly in the Union, Confederate and Indian armies. It is a "reUnion ticket." All these men are bonded together for one purpose. They are satisfied now to labor for the enfranchisement of their brothers from the Gold plutocracy.

Hon Herbert, why not name some of the old soldiers on the so-called Republican ticket.

THE ISSUE IS PLAIN.

Roseburg Review. The republican state convention at Astoria last week adopted the following plank:

We are in favor of the maintenance of the present gold standard. We are emphatically opposed to the free coinage of silver and to all other schemes looking to the debasement of the currency and the repudiation of debt. We believe that the best money in the world is none to good to be assured by the government to the laborer as the fruit of his toil and to the farmer as the price of his crop.

This platform was framed by men who are bitterly opposed to anything that is not mono-metallic in the strictest sense, Judge M L Pipes [gold democrat] being one of the platform committee. It has the merit of directness and does not equivocate, making the leading issue of the campaign so plain that no one need mis-understand it.

Republican simply means GOLD STANDARD, and under this banner are arrayed all the followers of the money power. On the other side are the common people including all who believe in the money of the constitution—gold, silver and paper. The masses do not desire to see the Gage plan of currency "reform," meaning the retirement of all legal tenders except national bank notes, consummated and fastened upon the people. Could the issue be plainer?

A UNION SOLDIER.

Cottage Grove Messenger: "W F Gray of Cottage Grove, nominee on the Union ticket for representative, is the only candidate on the legislative ticket who served in the Union army during our late unpleasantness. He voted for McKinley two years ago, but says he can no longer follow a party which secured votes by deception and now declares absolutely for the single gold standard. Mr Gray will get a large vote in this end of the county where he is well known."

"Bob" Veatch is making a very commendable departure from usual campaigning methods. He is paying a good deal of attention to outside precincts that seldom have an opportunity to hear political speakings. And he is getting large audiences. The crowd at Elmira yesterday was larger than many we have seen assembled in Eugene, even when men of state and national reputation occupied the forum.

The Oregonian quotes Calhoun as authority on the financial question. Maybe Calhoun was no sounder on finance than on the secession-slavery issue. Anyway 1834 was a long time ago and the conditions of that formative period in our national existence, compared with the present, are as the child to the man. What might have answered then may not answer now.

Spain must let go her hold on Cuba. The handwriting is on the wall.

Crecent Bicycles now \$35 at F L CHAMBERS.

Two Sides to Fusion.

EUGENE, April 25, 1898. EDITOR GUARD:—In an editorial of the 23d inst you say "Fusion in Oregon is complete, the gold democrats, or rather the Cleveland democrats and the McKinley republicans have fused and will support the ticket nominated at Astoria." News indeed. From whence did you get your information—information that no one else possessed? Again, when and how did a certain "class" of democrats and a certain "class" of republicans fuse? The national democrats you designate "Cleveland democrats" disclaim any such bargain. Have you, Mr Editor, heard one claim any such bargain as you charge exists? I have conversed with quite a number of national democrats during the present month and have found only one who expresses a purpose to vote the Astoria ticket. The position of national democrats seems unmistakably to be, that they will select from the fusion and republican tickets such men as they desire to vote for, for the respective offices. And further, national democrats generally express themselves as favoring a majority of the fusion candidates. I had the honor to occupy a seat in the state convention of national democrats at Portland April 18, and there many expressed their views respecting political parties and political issues and, save one exception, the McKinley administration was condemned and rather than vote for a continuation of such a policy and the perpetuation of Mark Hanna republicanism, they referred the success of the regular or "Bryan democratic" organization. One of the platform declarations of the national democrats was as follows: "We charge that the republican party, locally and at large, is now, as in the past, the party of extravagance and corruption. It is growing more and more the party of wealth and special interests, not the party of the people, and is accumulating the country to the wholesale and hardly disguised purchase of elections and public positions."

And again, the same platform declares "that the republican party has been grossly derelict in the matter of currency reform." Does this look like fusion? I think not. I wish further to add that the decision of the national democrats to make no nominations was not in the interests of any party, but simply that it would result in no practical good to the National Democrats as a party, and therefore no peculiar obligation rested on the convention to make nominations. It is not amiss for me to say that the hope was expressed on every hand in the convention that at no distant day all democrats might unite on common ground and fight for time-honored democratic principles under one flag. It will be noticed that the National Democrats in their platform distinctly recognize the "Bryan Democrats" as democrats. While it is true that the National Democrats did not deviate one iota on national questions from the platform adopted at Indianapolis in 1896, the hope was freely indulged that the money question would prove ephemeral and be speedily settled, and that there might once more be a united democracy, fighting the battles of the people and of free and popular government, as in days gone by. I say unhesitatingly, Mr. Editor, in the light of recent events in this State, your editorial is misleading and unwise. Such sentiments as you express are not calculated to unite a party.

Before the campaign ends I shall probably ask space in your paper to present my views on the political situation.

E R SKIWEORTH.

All kinds of "Creek" printers at Griffin Hardware Co.