

THE PLAINDEALER.

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THAT COMPROMISE.

The Mitchell republican committee of Multnomah county submitted a compromise proposition to Donald Mackay, chairman of the republican committee. That proposition has been sent out in stereotyped form to the republican papers of the state for reproduction. The PLAINDEALER gives the proposition of the committee and some of the comment to its readers. A couple of columns, however, of the comment of a Portland paper is omitted, because, of the personal knowledge of the writer, much of it is untrue. For instance, there is a statement that the Simon ticket was overwhelmingly defeated at the polls. The fight was on the legislative candidates and the "Simon" ticket was nearly all elected. But the question now is not so much of the past as of the future. It is harmony or defeat, and the PLAINDEALER will favor any reasonable compromise. The compromise proposed is reasonable on its face, but it should have been addressed to the committee, or to Donald Mackay as chairman thereof, instead of to Donald Mackay as an individual. It may have been an oversight, but it looks like a studied attempt to ignore the Simon organization. The two factions were placed on exactly the same footing by the state convention, foolishly, perhaps, but it is true nevertheless, and they should deal with each other as equals. The proposal to make Gen. Geo. H. Williams arbitrator will hardly be acceptable. Mr. Williams is held by the opposition to be the chief cause of the present conditions. They should find some man not identified with either faction.

An apology is perhaps due our readers for giving so much space to this controversy. But the success or failure of the state ticket next June depends upon Multnomah county and that makes the Multnomah quarrel a matter of state consequence.

The PLAINDEALER stated recently that the Dingley law was proving very satisfactory. Some of our democratic contemporaries took exception to the remark and called attention to the fact that there was a monthly deficit. That was true, but no one expected the measure to produce all the necessary revenue at once. Importers had loaded up under the last days of the Wilson bill and these stocks had to be consumed. But now comes the report for December showing that the receipts exceeded the expenditures by \$1,736,494. It is true the expenditures were not quite up to the normal, but it is also true that the revenues showed a decided increase. The receipts for the month of December in 1895 and 1896, under the Wilson bill, were less than \$200,000,000, while in December, 1897, under the Dingley bill, they were over \$27,000,000. The Dingley law is proving very satisfactory.

The first gun of the coming campaign in Douglas county has been fired at Drain. The local club has elected delegates to the coming league convention. The republicans of the north end are alive, and by their action have signified that they intend to be in the forefront of the battle and lined up on the side of good government and sound money. All that is needed to insure success is organization and work. "Our cause is just."

Why Secretary Alger should be so determined to prevent relief from going to Klondike from Portland does not appear. He does not see his way clear to accept, he says. If there is suffering at Dawson City there will be a whole lot more before Mr. Alger and his government relief gets there.

The New Year edition of the Portland Oregonian has the most complete newspaper ever printed in the Pacific Northwest. It will require a week of to read it through. Almost every conceivable subject pertaining to this vast region is discussed therein. It is a mine of information.

It is generally understood that Hon. T. T. Geer will be a candidate for the nomination for governor. If so he will have quite a number of friends in this neck of the woods, and will make a good run if nominated.

The rush to Alaska this year will be something unprecedented in the annals of mining excitement with the possible exception of that to California in 1849.

JOSEPHSON'S



A LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.

In New Jersey, as in Oregon, there is no lieutenant governor, and should Governor Griggs become United States attorney-general, the Hon. Foster M. Voorhees, president of the senate, would become New Jersey's governor. In consequence, Jersey men are talking of amending the constitution of their state so as to create the office of lieutenant governor. Georgia a few years ago adopted a constitutional amendment creating the office. Oregon has managed to worry along very well without it. In this state the constitution provides: "In case of the removal of the governor from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the duties of the office, the same shall devolve upon the secretary of state; and in case of the removal from office, death, resignation or inability, both of the governor and secretary of state, the president of the senate shall act as governor, until the disability be removed or a governor be elected."—Oregonian.

A lieutenant governor in Oregon might be a very handy official sometimes, and his cost to the people would be practically nothing. Merely \$120 once in two years. He could be president of the senate and draw the pay of that office, \$200 for the session, and all the state would have to pay would be \$120 to the senator who would otherwise be president. That is all. Now, if by any chance the secretary of state should become governor he would be a veritable pool-bag. He would be a majority of the several boards of which he and the governor are ex-officio members, and all the machinery of the state government would be in the hands of one man; and there have been occasions when that would be a calamity. A lieutenant governor is an emergency man. It is not often that he is called upon to assume the executive office but when he is needed he may be needed real band, as the Texan needs a gun.

STANDING ALONE (?)

"What is the matter with the greenbacks?" asks a democratic contemporary, and then proceeds to answer its own question thus: "They will stand alone if they are 'let alone.' They have the best security in the world behind them. They are as good, based on the taxing power of congress, as they would be if the treasurer of the United States held \$316,000,000 in gold at all times sacred to their redemption."

So they "stand alone" because they are based on the taxing power of the government. Then it must be this taxing power which the merit resists and not in the greenback itself. For what use is this taxing power but to redeem its promises and pay its debts? Why tax the people at all if a greenback can stand alone and perform the functions of money? Let the government issue greenbacks in unlimited amounts, and make them payable for all private debts—there need be no public debt—irredeemable and full legal tender. The greater the volume might be the better so that a farmer could bring in a load of hay and take home a load of greenbacks in payment therefor. The greenbacks cannot stand alone. To be kept at par with money it must have behind it the promise to redeem in money.

"Bimetallism must mean one of two things; Either it is two kinds of money of unequal value circulating side by side by reason of the exchange of the side value for that of greater value, or else two kinds of such intrinsic equality of value that they will circulate naturally side by side. We have a bimetallic currency in the United States now. A firm establishment of the gold standard with such interchangeability with silver as will make it acceptable on an equality with gold will maintain this bimetalism, the same as it has existed for the last eighteen years."—Secretary Gage before House Committee on Banking and Currency.

The Mitchell people have obtained control of the Morning Tribune, published at Portland. If it is proposed to make it a newspaper under the theory that there is room enough for another big daily, it may succeed; but if its chief business is to abuse its competitor, it will soon discover that there is no such "long felt want."

Gen. Compton is looming up as a candidate for the democratic nomination for governor. If nominated the General would make a stubborn fight. Several of the newspapers of his "persuasion" are advocating his candidacy. Penoyer and his "push" are against the old soldier.

Hon. Rufus Mallory's letter in Wednesday's Oregonian reviewing the "Mitchell Republican" address is a "hot number," and indicates that no attention will be paid to it in its present form at least.

BLANKETS.

As the weather grows colder we wish to draw your attention to our line of Blankets and Comforters, in which department we show values which allow no competition. They must be seen to be appreciated.

CLOTHING.

In this department are assembled the combined products of the best manufacturers in the United States, including the old reliable Salem Woolen Mill Goods.

CAPES AND JACKETS.

We show a line of Capes and Jackets which exceeds anything ever shown here heretofore, from the very cheapest to the very best, including the best values in Plush Capes in the country.

We have other goods which we have no space to speak about in, but if you don't see what you want, ask for it. It is here.

The no-called union silver party of Oregon, now beginning to stir for the political campaign, says its object is "bimetallism." That is what the Bryanized democratic party also says is its object. Bimetallism, on their scheme, consists of two kinds of dollars, one kind worth only half as much as the other kind; and it is to be exemplified by taking half a dollar, calling it one dollar by act of congress, and paying your debts with it. And still again, by taking a gold eagle, cutting it in two, and calling each half ten dollars. "Bimetallism" is a great scheme of making money by juggling.

Free silver coinage, as a national issue, is dead beyond the hope of resurrection; but there may be enough life left in it here in Oregon to beat the republican tickets next June, if all opposing forces combine under its banner, providing the republicans allow themselves to be divided into factions by warring bosses. It would be a pity to have Oregon heralded to the world as a free silver state after her splendid achievement of the fall of 1896, when she stood out proudly as the only purely white spot in all the black background of the far West.—Statesman.

NEWS NOTES.

Congress reconvened yesterday. It looks a little sealy for Mark Hanna. Durrant is scheduled to hang tomorrow. Germany and China have settled their differences.

China is applying to England for a loan of \$50,000,000.

Senator Chandler, a "bimetallist" has come out for silver.

France has hoisted her flag over Hainan, a Chinese island.

The Daily Capital Journal of Salem has shrunk back to its original size.

Cal Cooper's "union" party is to have a conference in Portland on Saturday.

The republican state and district committees will be held early in February.

Home rule has been granted to Cuba, but the insurgents have to be reckoned with.

Twenty-five persons were killed and many injured by the collapse of a building in London, Ontario.

A possible future alliance is that of Russia and China. That would come very near including half the world's population.

An old man named Sager, living on the Willamette near Dayton, was stabbed to death a few days ago by unknown parties.

Dawson has had two fires, and much provision and some whiskey was destroyed each time. Snow prevented the spread of the fire.

The steamship La Bretagne, from Havre, brought \$300,000 in gold, in transit to Cuba. The next steamer will carry a similar consignment.

It is estimated that fully \$1,000,000 damage was done the northwestern railroads by the floods last week which were the worst in ten years.

The state central committee of the populist party will meet on the 15th to ratify or amend the action of the executive committee, had last month.

The only industry that does not appear flourishing is that of the cotton ginners of New England. The competition compels a reduction of wages.

It is doubtful whether another county in Maryland can equal Worcester in the size of a family. Near Bridgeport lives a colored family, consisting of Aaron Quail, his wife and 24 children. When the meals are served two tables are used, 14 sitting at one table and 12 at the other, to avoid the unlucky 13.

The books of the United States branch mint at Denver for the year 1897 are now closed. The deposits of gold are the largest ever received. The total will slightly exceed \$12,500,000 and a conservative estimate made by the mint officials places the entire output of Colorado at \$22,000,000 in round figures. The great increase in the Colorado output last year will send the total for the United States to the \$70,000,000 mark.

The money issue is the only one before the country today. The great parties have made their records and it is not going too far to say that there is no room in the republican party for silver republicans nor in the democratic party for a gold democrat. Such appellations are misnomers.—Guard.

Dr. Harry Lane is saying some pretty hard things about Mayor Penoyer and the worst of it is that he seems to be proving it. Either Penoyer ought to send Lane to the penitentiary for criminal libel or he ought to resign his office as mayor or retire forever from the public gaze.—Yamhill Record.

An eastern man shot off his wife's nose so that her beauty might not attract admirers. A Kansas City man cut off his wife's ears, with a view to keeping her at home. A Pittsburg woman shot her husband in the leg, to keep him from going out of nights. No man knows what affection will do.

The protestations of diplomats cannot overcome two things—the necessity of Europe's commercial nations acquiring a weakness of China. Such helplessness cannot stand before such consuming ambitions, or such impetuosity against such impelling vigor. That is the manifest outcome of the Oriental situation, however peaceably minded the powers may regard themselves.—Oregonian.

The Mexican coffee planters are very cute. They pay their laborers in depreciated silver and sell their coffee for gold. That was the scheme of the silverites like Senator Stewart to enable the United States to compete with Japan. To pay on a silver instead of a gold basis would cut wages 50 per cent. Unfortunately for the silverites Japan has adopted the gold standard, doubling the purchasing power of wages. The silverites are in very hard luck.—Ohio State Journal.

The republican party's position today resembles the leading characteristics of the jack rabbit. It is scared at every noise, and can turn quicker and jump further and faster from one position to another than any other animal, but its most distinctive trait, whether turning or jumping, is to show the white feather in exhibiting its tail.—Cottage Grove Leader.

The editor of the Leader undoubtedly thought he said something witty when he got that off. Yet how far from the truth he is. Every forward movement the country has made during the past 30 years has been under republican leadership. The republican party, like the wise man, does change its position once in a while. A man cannot climb a hill unless he steps forward and upward. A party to be progressive must march with the march of events. The changes of the republican party were to meet changed conditions. It always was and always will be a party of progress, and as to showing the white feather? Well, that's puny. It stood once against slavery sentiment North and South, and did not hesitate to fight to preserve the national life. It stands today as a rock wall against the forces of nullification, lawlessness and discontent, and for the preservation of the national honor. It is a party of deeds; it is the friend of all the people.

The anti-Hanna republicans in Ohio, have captured the organization of the legislature by combining with the democrats. These republicans will henceforth be politically dead, but it will not make much difference if a sound money republican is sent to the senate.

Bro. Campbell of the Eugene Guard is mad because the PLAINDEALER said a man may be almost anything and be a democrat. Perhaps we ought to have said a "fussionalist." Don't get mad about little things like that neighbor; life is too short.

President McKinley has given strong evidence recently that he is a man of determination and strong conviction.—East Oregonian (Dem.).

Fusion is probably a good thing for the hungry politician to ride into office on, but it is mighty poor politics to say the least.—Brownsville Times.

Marion county republicans are not seriously cup up into factions. There is no reason why we may not have harmonious party action next year.—Statesman.

They are taking steps to reorganize the republican league club at Newberg. This is what should be done in every precinct in the county. Thorough organization is what insures success.—Sheridan Sun.

The disagreeable feature of it is that Gage disgraced himself by noticing him at all. When will our politicians in high places cease trucking to every small politician who claims to control the labor vote.—Telegram.

There is no division in the republican ranks outside of Portland, that amounts to say nothing. But there are evidences growing apace, that even in Portland the gap will be healed by the common sense of the best element in our party lines.—Republican.

It is suggested that when Mr. Bryan gets through studying finances in Mexico, where the dollars are only worth 40 cents, he take a post-graduate course in Corea, where the most popular coins are of so little value that it takes two thousand of them to equal a dollar.

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DRESS GOODS.

Although the tariff has advanced Dress Goods from 20 to 40 per cent, we have maintained our old figures with the exception of one or two items. We show the largest selection in the city.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

We make a specialty of our Boots and Shoes, and we sell the old reliable Hamilton-Brown Shoe, which is guaranteed to give satisfaction.

MILLINERY.

In the Ladies' Department we present a line of the latest styles in Hats. In the Trimming Department we have able workers who guarantee style and quality.



ALEXANDER & STRONG'S

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