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TIRED OF DEMOCRACY

The Free Silver Fallacy to Airy For Him.

FORMERLY DEMOCRATIC LEADER

Address of Hon. J. W. Bennett Before the Republican Convention at Coquille City.

Hon. J. W. Bennett, until recently, one of the most prominent and influential democratic leaders of Coos county, and today one of the brightest legal lights of the state, and member of the Flannagan & Bennett banking firm at Marshfield, gave the following logical explanation before the Coos county republican convention, of why he severs his relations with the democratic party and unites with the republicans:

Mr. Chairman, Friends and Fellow republicans: As this is the first time I have had the pleasure of attending a republican convention, and as my name has been mentioned as a candidate for nomination here, I desire to make a few remarks principally of a personal character if you will kindly bear with me a short time.

Four years ago I had the honor to receive at the hands of the democratic county convention the nomination for representative to the legislature of this state, at a time when the democratic party advocated a sound money policy, still a few months later and shortly after my populist opponent, Mr. Buckman, and myself had tied in the count the Chicago convention, by virtue of the influence of Mr. Bryan, abandoned the gold standard policy and championed the free silver cause, attempting to take from us the chief guiding star which was leading us from the uncertainty and disgrace of repudiation, to the present condition of prosperity. About this time the republican party adopted the sound money policy, and it being the principal issue, indirectly adopted me and all sound money advocates. It is generally conceded throughout the country that were it not for the assistance of the sound money democrats Mr. McKinley would not have been elected, and he has on more occasions than one recognized that assistance; and for these reasons whenever a sound money democrat has seen fit to come over into the republican camp he has generally been received with a wedding breakfast smile. [Laughter and applause.]

It is not a pleasant thing for any one who has taken an interest in politics to part with his political associates, and a great many are deterred from standing up in the positions where they belong for fear of adverse criticism, but it seems to me to be far wiser that one's political friends should criticize him than that a sound money advocate should go into the free silver circus and attempt to be one of the reformers, thereby losing his self-respect, by imagining himself a lineal descendant of Annias; and the editor of the Herald last week was about right when he said, in reference to me, that I had better stand up and be counted with the republicans than be in bed with them. [Laughter.]

There is a limit to every man's patience. Bryanism is idolized by his party more today than previously; he is applauded in his efforts to undo the good accomplished by the republicans in the last four years, and the time is here when all good citizens should array themselves on one side or the other, and on the question of delaying action patience has ceased to be a virtue. On prospective issues it would be agreeable to note whether they mean by anti-expansion that this nation cannot reap the fruits of victory, or that it should confine its limits to the original thirteen states of the Union; and if they mean by anti-trusts, anti-monopoly they will find ample protection in the republican party but if they mean the annihilation of our co-operative creameries for instance, or the destruction of the consolidation of

the accumulation of the middle classes or the poor man's savings, which enables them to compete with the rich, then, I believe they will find decided opposition here. In short, feeling entirely in harmony with the present administration, I have decided to cast my lot with the republicans, with the intention of working in the republican field but not under the republican plum tree, and this is why I thought it wise that my name should not be presented to this convention as a candidate for any office. The republican administration is to be congratulated on the general condition of the country, and there is no good reason why every candidate which you place in nomination today should not be elected. Four years ago I addressed the citizens of this county, in the principal towns, and advocated the adoption of a sound money policy, believing that the adoption of the gold standard would bring an era of prosperity upon this country which had not been equalled for many years. The present prosperous condition of affairs of this entire nation is admittedly up to the most sanguine anticipations of the supporters of the present administration. In our own county down here the old, stubborn facts cannot fail to have their effect at the coming election. Four years ago all of the manufacturing mills were shut down, or running on part time; the logging camps were doing but little; the demand for coal was unsatisfactory and miners were working at reduced rates; the country generally was overrun with an army of unemployed. Whereas at the present time the manufacturing and mines are running on full time; the logging camps are busy, winter and summer; the farmer, stockman and dairyman are prospering; and there are notices in many places showing that labor is in demand and wages advancing. Is it possible then that a populist who was so severe in his criticism 4 years ago will be brave enough at this time to vote his former convictions, with the possibility of voting himself out of employment? Can he afford to take the chances of returning to the conditions of but four years ago? Is the stockman and dairyman who four years ago was willing to take as low as \$4 a head for calves, and other stock in proportion, willing to vote himself back to those days, and to the same conditions, when at the present he can double that amount for similar articles? When they look into the causes which produced the present satisfactory conditions will they seriously contemplate doing anything which will disturb the present administration, or even shall we out west here, set a bad example in June to be followed in November?

For these, and many other reasons, the entire ticket nominated here today, and at the republican state convention, next month, should be elected. And as long as the present satisfactory conditions of administration continue I expect to be with you in the McKinley band wagon "tooting my horn" with the rest of the political musicians for prosperity and good government. [Laughter and prolonged applause.]

In conclusion permit me to add that this district owes a debt of gratitude to one of its citizens for the remarkable energy and ability which has been displayed in providing for the improvement of our rivers and harbors. Every citizen in this county, and in many counties throughout the entire state have felt the benefit of the marvelous influence of one of our citizens in procuring the improvement of this great state. Down here, in this county, the navigation of the bay and the Coquille river have been so much bettered by these improvements that the exports and imports have immensely increased, and the continued development of this section has been largely stimulated by the fruits of these efforts. It is safe to say that any one who will give the matter any consideration will not fail to conclude that for the efforts which brought about these satisfactory results, a debt of gratitude is due. It is hardly necessary for me to say that the one person to whom I refer as having been most active in bringing about these benefits, is none other than our friend and fellow citizen, the Hon. Blager Hermsun. Tremendous applause.

Apologizing for occupying so much of your time I will conclude by thanking you very much for your very kind attention.

TONGUE RENOMINATED

On The First Ballot at McMinnville.

FULLY TEN VOTES TO SPARE.

G. A. Steel and J. B. David for Delegates to Philadelphia—Harmonious Convention.

McMINNVILLE, Or., April 10.—The county courthouse was prettily decorated for the convention, and the seating arrangements reflected much credit on the judgment and taste of the local committee. The delegates came to the convention with the usual diatribes, and it was 10:20 before Chairman Hendricks, of the Congressional District Committee, rapped for order. The call was read by the secretary, R. A. Booth, of Josephine, and then L. A. Macrum, of Washington, was unanimously chosen as temporary chairman. Mr. Macrum made some appropriate remarks referring to the convention as a happy family of republicans, who would get in and work for the election of their candidate, whoever he was.

C. F. Herbut, of Lane, was named for secretary, and George Love of Jackson, assistant secretary.

The following committees were named:

Credentials—Captain Henry Ankeny, Jackson; J. P. Tamiesie, Washington; Rufus Moore, Klamath; T. W. Harris, Lane; O. V. Hurt, Benton.

Permanent organization—Dr. J. N. Smith, Marion; L. F. Conn, Lake; S. A. Dawson, Linn; A. W. Severance, Tillamook; G. S. Wright, Yamhill.

Resolutions—Lot Pearce, Marion; R. Scott, Clackamas; A. H. Crook, Curry; R. A. Booth, Josephine; G. W. Riddle, Douglas.

Committee on credentials reported 163 delegates entitled to seats in the convention, which report was adopted. The delegates and proxies, from Douglas county, were as follows: W. B. Clark by J. T. Bridges, C. E. Wade by Frank H. Rogers, A. E. Nichols by J. B. Riddle, H. Mooney by J. T. Bridges, S. L. Dillard by J. T. Bridges, J. H. Booth, G. W. Riddle, J. L. Chapman by J. T. Bridges, A. G. Young by J. T. Bridges, C. E. Franklin, J. L. Stratford by E. D. Stratford, W. C. Conner by J. T. Bridges.

Two reports on order of business were submitted, a majority report recommending the adoption of resolutions after the nomination of congressman. A minority report was submitted recommending that the resolutions be made the order before the nomination of congressman. The majority report was adopted by a vote of 101 to 62. This was a test vote on congressman, as the opposition to Mr. Tongue supported the minority report, and it showed that Congressman Tongue had more than a majority of the convention.

Two delegates to the national convention were elected as follows: J. B. David, of Yamhill and Geo. A. Steel, of Clackamas.

J. A. Wilson was elected alternate. J. B. Eddy of Forest Grove, then in an eloquent speech of half an hour placed in nomination Thos. H. Tongue for congressman.

P. R. Kelly, of Albany, in an eloquent speech of 15 minutes, nominated Judge H. H. Hewitt, of Linn.

G. W. Swope of Clackamas county, nominated Geo. G. Brownell.

E. D. Briggs, of Jackson county, named E. V. Carter.

Carlton E. Fox of Albany, was appointed as one of the tellers.

The ballot stood: Tongue, 93; Gatch, 27; Brownell, 17; Hewitt, 14; Carter, 11. Mr. Tongue was accordingly declared the nominee.

On motion of Mr. Gatch seconded by Mr. Brownell, the nomination was made unanimous amid much enthusiasm and music by the Tongue band, of Hillsboro.

PLATFORM.

The committee on resolutions submitted

ted the following report:

"Resolved, That we affirm our unswerving fealty to the gold standard, as the only unit of value, and instruct our delegates to the National Republican Convention to support an unequivocal statement on this line as a part of the National platform; that we heartily endorse the wise and patriotic administration of our National affairs, and we declare the policy of expansion as essential to our National growth and greatness, and we believe that the blessings which accrue to those where our flag is once established should forever remain.

"We believe that the best interests of our country will be subserved by the reelection of William McKinley as President, and the delegates to the next National Convention elected by this convention are hereby instructed to vote for his renomination."

This platform was unanimously adopted:

The following central committee was chosen, P. R. Kelly being selected by the Linn county delegation; Benton, O. B. Hart; Coos, J. W. Bennett; Clackamas, G. C. Brownell; Curry, E. A. Bailey; Douglas, J. T. Bridges; Jackson, H. E. Ankeny; Josephine, B. G. Smith; Klamath, H. H. Murdoch; Lake, J. P. McGary; Lane, T. W. Harris; Lincoln, Ira Wade; Linn, P. R. Kelly; Marion, Geo. P. Hughes; Polk, R. E. L. Steiner; Tillamook, A. W. Severance; Washington, W. N. Barrett; Yamhill, G. W. Eibes.

The convention was most harmonious, the contest for the congressional nomination being a friendly one, and each contestant will accord Mr. Tongue his hearty support.

DEWEY HAS CHANGED HIS MIND.

Will Withdraw His Name From the List of Candidates for Presidency.

NEW YORK, April 10.—A Washington special to the Evening World says: It is asserted this afternoon, on what seems to be good authority, that Admiral Dewey has decided to withdraw as a candidate for the Presidency, and that within a few days he will formally announce his decision. His brother-in-law John R. McLean, is alleged to be responsible for this latest move.

Within 48 hours, Dewey has been in consultation with democratic leaders and others antagonistic to President McKinley, and the opinions they expressed, together with the unfavorable views voiced by the newspapers, decided him, it is asserted to withdraw from the contest.

Dewey now denies that he has any intention of withdrawing as a candidate for the presidency. Mrs. Dewey is also out with an address insisting that it was against her wishes that the admiral consented to become a candidate for president.

Baden-Powell Dead.

LONDON, April 11.—It is reported that Colonel Baden-Powell is dead. The sad news creates the greatest interest, and an anxious public feverishly awaits further and more detailed news. At the war department a large crowd has congregated, and bulletins will be posted immediately on the receipt of more information.

Since the beginning of the war the British army has suffered a total loss of over 23,000, and this promise to be greatly increased before the close of the campaign.

Canyonville Fire.

By special report to PLAIN DEALER, we learn that the store of Wollenberg Bros., at Canyonville, was destroyed by fire Tuesday night. J. D. Mitchell occupied the building with a stock of furniture. It was supposed the fire caught from a defective flue. Loss \$800, insurance \$590.

The Portland University is to be consolidated with Willamette after being separated from it several years. This is proper. It was small business when it was divided in the first place, displaying a spirit that should not prevail in educational matters.

A TERRIBLE DEFEAT

British Suffer a Loss of Over 1000 Men.

BOER LOSS REPORTED SLIGHT.

Battle Is Said to Have Taken Place North of Bloemfontein—Report Not Fully Confirmed.

LONDON, April 11.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Brandfort dated Sunday, says:

"Yesterday General De la Ruyter inflicted the third defeat on the British within a week at Merkatfontein, killing and wounding 600. He captured 1000 with 12 wagons, losing five Boers killed and nine wounded."

The Daily Mail publishes the following dated April 10 from Lourenço Marques: "The Netherland Republic Company professes to have received a telegram reporting a Boer victory at Kroonstad, the Boers capturing 900 British."

Commenting upon this, the Daily Mail remarks: "There is a Merkatfontein about five and one-half miles southeast of Kroonstad, but if the report be true this can hardly be the place."

The Daily news has the following from Pretoria, dated Monday, by way of Delagoa Bay:

"It is officially announced that a battle has been fought south of Brandfort, in which 600 British troops were killed and wounded and 800 taken prisoners.

"Lord Roberts is declared to be finding great difficulty, owing to the scarcity of water."

NEW YORK, April 11.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says: The seventh month of the war in South Africa opens with reports from Boer sources of another British disaster. If the news can be trusted, a terrible reverse has been inflicted upon the British arms.

According to an official announcement in Pretoria, telegraphed by the News correspondent, a battle has been fought south of Brandfort, in which the British suffered a loss of 600 killed and wounded in addition to 800 captured by the Boers.

This intelligence is amply confirmed by the Mail's correspondent on the Boer side, who reports from Brandfort that General Dewet on Saturday defeated the British for the third time within a week, the scene of this last engagement being Merkatfontein.

No confirmation has been received from British sources of the reverse and it would be advisable not at once to give to statements of British losses their face value.

Anxiety in London.

LONDON, April 11, 5 a. m.—But that the War Office has issued no news from Lord Roberts during the last three days there would be little disposition to place any credence in the Boer reports of another British disaster. The unexpected rallying of the Free State commandos, however, leaves the public in a nervous condition, fearing everything. Dispatches from Pretoria so late as Monday did not mention any further Boer victory. On the contrary, they said all the commandos were quiet and, as Lord Roberts had hitherto never failed promptly to report misadventures, as well as successes, or to allow the newspaper correspondents to report them until some confirmation is received there is justification for regarding the Merkatfontein rumor as only an exaggerated account of the Reddersburg affair. At the same time, Boer reports have so often proved correct that the greatest anxiety is felt.

DALLAS, Or., April 9.—The Polk county mohair or wool trust refused 25% cents per pound for mohair and will hold for a higher price. The state hop trust or combine is also securing better prices for hops for the farmers. Now there happens to be as many populist and democrats in the trusts as republicans, but Bryan in his speech bitterly denounced all trusts.

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