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SATURDAY - - - MAY, 18 1895

### THE MEETING OF REPUBLICAN CLUBS.

The meeting of representative republicans in Portland will most likely be the largest meeting of the lay members, so to speak, of the republican party ever held in the state, and if properly conducted will no doubt be of great advantage to that party; but if it is to be managed in the interest of any particular scheme, as we are inclined to think it is, it may have the contrary effect. If it is the intention at that meeting to pledge the republican party of Oregon to the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the 16 to 1 ratio, we are of the opinion that so far as the republican party is concerned the meeting had better not have been called. We are confident that a majority of the delegates elected will be in favor of free silver from the fact that those favoring that policy are very aggressive, and as delegates are elected they see to it that those favoring the policy will go as delegates. The same spirit that dominated the last legislature and forced the defeat of the people's choice for senator, is at work today, and expects, by pledging the party in this state to free silver, to solace themselves for their previous acts and claim an endorsement by the people. Knowing Senator Mitchell's popularity with the people they wish to put themselves in the attitude of his special champions.

One year ago not one republican out of fifty in this state but that thought Senator Dolph would succeed himself. The same feeling, with equal unanimity, exists today with reference to Senator Mitchell. But if those who were so conspicuous in defeating Dolph assume to themselves to dictate the policy of the republican party, there will be resentment on the part of many conservative republicans in Oregon. Oregon republicans, and, we might say, Oregon people generally, are conservative. Senator Mitchell is not so popular in Oregon, because of his views on the silver question. We might say he is popular notwithstanding his views on that question, and very many who hold to different views to him would willingly see him re-elected to the senate so long as the fight on the silver question is not forced to the front. But once make silver the issue in our politics, men will take sides according to their convictions and vote and act accordingly, regardless of former friendships. If the republicans adhere to their platform of '92, there is little doubt of success in '96. If our country is to adopt the policy advocated by the populist party; if we are to come to the silver standard and follow in the lead of Mexico and China, we want the result brought about by the populist party. We are of the opinion that it would be difficult to bring a greater calamity on our people, and no party can survive that adopts it.—Arlington Record.

### GOLD BOND SPECULATIONS.

The New York World of the 16th says: "Another chapter was added to the big syndicate's history yesterday. A notice was sent to the bond banks interested in the gold deal, requesting the deposit by the banks of a large quantity of gold in the sub-treasury here. The explanation of this last move lets a bit of light on the bargain which the syndicate made with the government. Most of the banks which co-operated with the bond syndicate were members of the original pool which subscribed for the last bond issue at about 104. It is estimated that the banks will now deposit about \$13,000,000 additional gold in the sub-treasury, raising the reserve to about \$111,000,000. In addition to this call the syndicate is rushing forward foreign gold to complete that end of the contract. Some apprehensive operators see in this activity of payment a probability that the syndicate will complete its contract with the government so soon that there will be time for another 'scare' and the need of another bond issue before fall, when the heavy exports of grain usually bring a natural flow of gold from Europe to this country."

Few people know that the estimated cost of the Nicaragua canal is \$100,000,000, and that it will take six years to build it, and that the estimated traffic through it at the opening will be 5,000,000 tons, but such is the case. The canal in excavation is 2.68 miles in length; the length of basins is 21.6 miles; the length of the San Juan river 64.5 miles; Lake Nicaragua, 56.5 miles. Few also, perhaps, know that the distance from Liverpool to San Francisco, via the Nicaragua canal, is only 7,694 miles, or a saving of 6,996 miles, or that the distance from New York to San Francisco, via the Horn, is 14,840 miles, and the distance between the same points by the canal route is only 4,946 miles, or a saving of 9,894 miles. The completion of this canal means to Oregon a thirty-day service by steamer between Portland and New York and New England; it means that the products of the forests of the West will be laid down in the markets of the East at living prices, and that staple commodities will be brought to this coast at the minimum cost.

The dispatches state that hundreds of young women, moved by mandarin sentiment, crowd to the jail in San Francisco for the purpose of seeing Durrant, and manifest a desire to lavish their sympathies and bouquets upon him. It might be well to teach this class of people something to send Durrant back to be confined in Emannel church, and then allow the young ladies to call on him one at a time. The lesson would probably be lost on them, since dead people do not talk, but in course of time when it became well known that, like the gates of Castle Garden, the doors of Emannel church "swing only inwards" that the maudlinly sentimental female might take a tumble to herself.

It is a question whether the meeting of the republican clubs in Portland next Wednesday will be beneficial to the party or otherwise. We fancy it will be otherwise. Naturally there will be a clash between those holding opposite views on the silver question, and if it does not end in open rupture, it will do better than most thinking persons expect of it. We remember the meeting of the democratic clubs here nearly two years ago, which was a regular parrot and monkey blow out. If we can guess at all, there is going to be some very warm debates, and, metaphorically speaking, some hair pulling.

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