

THE OREGON SCOUT.

AMOS K. JONES - EDITOR.

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PROGRESS OF THE CAMPAIGN OF EDUCATION.

The recent state elections in the east show an unprecedented and surprising revolution in public sentiment and demonstrates that the campaign of education inaugurated by Cleveland is progressing more rapidly than his most sanguine friends had reason to expect.

"Taking each case separately there were local issues that might have been held to explain the result, but if local issues alone had been involved the drift would not have been all one way. Some states would have shown republican and others democratic gains.

It would not be fair to compare the vote in an off year like this with that in a presidential contest. Comparing off year with off year, let us see how we stand.

Ohio has given a democratic majority of at least 10,000 and elected a democratic legislature. Two years ago Foraker was elected governor by a majority of 23,329 and the legislature was republican by fourteen in the senate and twenty in the House.

Iowa is democratic by not less than 10,000. Two years ago the republican majority was 16,160.

New York is democratic by about 25,000 and the republicans estimate their majority on joint ballot in the legislature at ten. Two years ago the head of the democratic state ticket was elected by 17,077, and the republican majority in the legislature was twenty-six.

Virginia is democratic by 30,000. Two years ago the democratic plurality on the legislative ticket—the only one voted for—was 426.

New Jersey is democratic by about 10,000. Three years ago the majority was 8,920.

Massachusetts is republican by 7,500. Two years ago a republican governor was elected by 17,606.

Pennsylvania is republican by at least 60,000. This is the only quarter in which material republican gains are reported. In 1887 the majority was 45,254.

Below we give the opinions of the prominent newspapers of the nation in regard to the causes that led to this extraordinary change in public sentiment.

The World attributes the victory to the indorsement given to the democratic demand for tariff reform. This is the World's reasoning:

"In all the states save Virginia, where Mahone was the sole issue, the democratic conventions took the World's advice and nailed to the mast the banner of tax reduction through tariff reform."

"The New York convention reaffirmed the national platform of 1888, and 'steadfastly advocated the principles of tariff reform.' The democratic plurality is 32,000, a gain over 1887 of 6,000.

"The New Jersey convention 'reaffirmed the national democratic platform of 1888.' The democratic plurality is 12,000.

"The Ohio convention 'reaffirmed the national platform of 1888, especially that part demanding the reduction of tariff taxes.' Foraker is beaten; his plurality of 28,329 in 1887 is wiped out, and Ohio is democratic for the first time in six years.

"The Massachusetts convention declared boldly for 'free raw material and lower duties upon the necessities of life.' The republican plurality of 32,000 last year is nearly overcome, and Massachusetts, a former Gibraltar of republicanism, is made a doubtful state.

"The Iowa convention declared itself in 'opposition to the unconstitutional and unjust policy of high tariff taxation which robs the many to enrich the few.' Result, a political revolution. The state is carried by the democrats for the first time in its history."

The Times says editorially: "It was said in private in October, 1888, by a prominent republican politician, who is also a very clear-headed man, that if the canvass could be extended for sixty days Mr. Cleveland would carry at least three Northern states. This

gentleman's opinion is so clearly confirmed by the elections of Tuesday that he must have a peculiar satisfaction in the fact that the president and party, who have since given him a very lucrative Federal office, did not have to face the people for two months longer.

"Republicans will, of course, stoutly deny that it is a sign of the end of public opinion, and will repudiate the allegations that it can be regarded as a popular verdict on the administration. But even they must admit that the coincidence is sufficiently remarkable to demand explanation."

The Herald comments as follows: "It is now eight months since Mr. Harrison assumed control of the Federal government. The elections just over are the first that have occurred during his administration. The fact, therefore, that the democratic vote has increased in nearly all sections, and to such an extent that it may be compared to a tidal wave, is as interesting as it is suggestive."

The Sun says, in a double-leaded leader: "During the late canvass Hon. Frank Hiscock declared that the time was near at hand when the vote of New York, always so difficult of attainment by the republicans, would cease to elect a president. Amid the party re-echoes of this opinion our esteemed contemporary, the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, ventured to the conclusion that the new states have given the republicans a lead which virtually makes them independent of New York in the future. The vision that has for years monopolized republican fancy was to materialize at last. The result of recent elections in other states, however, has been to increase, rather than to diminish, New York's importance as a decisive state in presidential contests and to make her more than ever the great electoral prize.

"The blows to the republicans in Virginia, Ohio, Massachusetts and Iowa show that the pinch of the struggle in 1892 will be here as it was here in 1876, in 1880, in 1884 and in 1888, and it will be fiercer than ever. As for the election in New York it confirms with the emphasis of seven years' uninterrupted demonstrations that by nature New York is a democratic state."

The Tribune says: "As the smoke clears away, the republicans are found to have sustained defeat in important quarters, where the dispatches last night appeared to sustain their claims of victory. They are beaten in Ohio both on the state ticket and on the legislature, according to the latest reports.

"In Iowa the belief that the country would overcome the large democratic gains in the cities has proved fallacious. The Farmers' Alliance evidently cast a heavy vote against the entire ticket because of their hostility to the republican candidate for governor, whose course in the legislature on the anti-railroad measures had displeased them. The republicans have saved the legislature in Iowa and New York, and gained the senate in New Jersey and carried the state tickets and legislatures in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Nebraska. But indisputably the tide ran strongly in favor of the democrats."

The Staats Zeitung, in a long editorial on the significance of the Ohio and Iowa elections, attributes much of the republican defeat to the independent German vote. The Zeitung admits that local questions played some part in the affairs, but over all the dissatisfaction with Harrison and the non-fulfillment of his promises was the most important factor. In Ohio, defeat was almost certain, owing to the offensive position assumed by Foraker on the Sunday question and on the prohibition issue.

"Still," remarks the Zeitung, "the general policy of the government and tendency of the present administration was felt to be quite in accord with the general sentiment voiced by local candidates in both states. Both local and national issues entered into the campaign, and in a manner to insure a still more severe republican defeat at any subsequent election."

The following simple method for prospectors to ascertain the amount of gold contained in quartz is from the San Francisco Mining Review: First weigh the quartz dry. Then weigh it in water, suspending the quartz by a thread. Next divide the dry weight by the difference between wet and dry (adding decimals if necessary.) Subtract from this result the weight of quartz (usually 210 or 261 for free gold, but 265 to 270 if filled with sulphurets.) Multiply this result by the weight of gold, viz: 128. Then multiply this amount by the result of subtraction of wet from dry. The result will be, after pointing off all decimals that have been added, the exact weight in gold.

FREE TRADE NATURAL TRADE.

The Cleveland, Ohio Union says: "The tariff is the greatest commercial enemy that assails this country. It has driven American ships off the seas and reduced trade to foreign ports to comparatively nothing. Our natural growth and prosperity has been made in spite of the tariff, not by reason of it. We have had free trade across three thousand miles of territory abounding in natural riches. An artificial wall separates us from equally boundless resources across the Canadian line, which might be developed to natural advantage were it not for the illogical reasoning which stops short of respect to tradition. With free trade over the whole continent north of the Rio Grande, does any intelligent citizen doubt that the whole people would be the gainers? Does it not follow logically, that if this be true, that the wider the area covered by free commerce, the better it would be for all? Freedom to trade without paying toll for the privilege, is all that the people of this country need in order to make it a commercial giant among the powers of the civilized world. We have coddled and nursed infant industries and loaded our people with taxes that the few might grow fat at public expense, while contiguous countries pour their riches by thousands of tons daily into foreign vessels, and millions of wealth are diverted yearly from our own people. The right to trade freely is a natural right, the denial of which is responsible in one way or another for our industrial disease. The artificial prosperity bolstered up by the tariff system is rapidly collapsing. In freedom there is strength."

CLEVELAND'S POPULARITY.

The Examiner mistakes the influence of the Chicago Herald and the New York Sun when it treats their imical actions as conclusive of Mr. Cleveland's future. No man who identifies himself with a vital idea can be set aside by two newspapers, nor by two thousand. If the country recognizes the need of sustaining the inspiration of the idea, the man who more than all others represents it need not concern himself about his future, for he cannot change nor avoid it. So far into the first year of his retirement from power Mr. Cleveland remains the most conspicuous and certainly the most respected leader in the union. Other names command the applause or disfavor of factions, but his grows in the esteem of the people. At the recent meetings of the democratic clubs of Pennsylvania, presided over by the son of Jeremiah Black, the following scene occurred:

When the chairman mentioned Cleveland's name the scene was in striking contrast to the previous one. Randall and anti-Randall sentiment was forgotten, and, as if by one accord, the entire assembly arose en masse. With some on chairs shouting and others waving the small flags used for indication purposes, the delegates went wild with enthusiasm, and the shouting and cheering continued until through sheer exhaustion many of them were forced to quit.—S. F. Alta.

OREGON SCHOOL LANDS.

Assistant Commissioner Stone recently rendered a decision in a case which involved the question of proof in the school indemnity sections in Oregon. Oregon was granted every sixteenth and thirty-sixth section of land for school purpose. The law also provided that, in case of any of these lands were entered under the public land laws prior to the date of the grant, the state should be entitled to indemnity therefor and might make indemnity selections from any unoccupied public lands. In pursuance of this authority the state it appears, selected in the aggregate a large tract of land upon which expired pre-emption filings were on record. The question at issue was whether the burden of the proof of the fact that the filings had expired rested with the state or with the parties who made the filings. The assistant commissioner holds in favor of the state, and has directed that in such cases the pro-emptor shall be required to appear before the local land office within twenty days after receipt of the notice and show cause why the entry has not been cancelled, thus throwing the burden of proof upon the entryman. It is said that there are a large number of cases in the general land office to be disposed of thus.

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