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W. R. KING ON THE SITUATION.

(CONCLUDED FROM LAST WEEK.)

If the gold-standard party have one hundred and fifty votes and the forces opposing the gold standard have three hundred votes, or twice the opposition, and we divide into three parties of one hundred votes each can we win? No. We simply through our love of "party names" permit the minority to rule. Whether you think the financial question "ought to be" the issue or not makes no difference, you cannot escape from the fact that it is and will continue to be the issue until financial reforms are obtained. We should take conditions as they are and make the best of them, and not as the minority think they "ought to be" and lose by advocating something the people are not ready to accept as the issue.

As was said in your paper recently: "The republican party and national (Gold) democratic party stand today committed to Gage's plan; all other parties are opposed to every feature of it. That issue will be fought out in the coming two campaigns. In national politics all other issues will be subordinated to the financial question. It will be the issue. No handful of statesman can stem the mighty tide of public opinion and public impulse." This is not all. Today we find the gold power has a large majority in the lower house of congress, it has the President and with two more U. S. Senators it will have the U. S. Senate. When this is accomplished, Gage's plan will be put in force. All paper currency will be retired and interest bearing gold bonds issued to redeem them. No paper currency will be issued by the Government, but that function will be transmitted to national banks. Our interest bearing debt will be increased at five hundred million dollars. Money will be scarcer and therefore higher and commodities and wages proportionately lower. Your ability to pay your debts will be proportionately weakened—National banks will be re chartered for perhaps fifty years; and more than likely all bonds now payable in both silver and gold be converted in to fifty year gold bearing bonds. I fear that few realize how nearly these conditions are of realization—that only two more U. S. Senators are needed.

ected? The campaign for principal alone, without the means to put them into operation, can be advocated as well without parties as with them. The Prohibition party is the best illustration of middle-of-the-road tactics in existence. Their principals are right, but the civilized world can be sunk into oblivion by the gold standard forces before they can win on that question, unless conditions are ripe for it, or unless people are prepared to take that up as a leading issue. The constant cry of the middle-of-the-road crew is that all who want union of forces are "pie hunters," "traitors," "bolters" and other like terms. They substitute abuse and hard names for argument. It is indeed strange that populists favoring union should be called office seekers, or "pie hunters" when they propose to divide the offices with democrats and silver republicans, while the middle-of-the-road element want all the offices and will divide none. Who is the "biggest pie hunter," the party wanting all the offices or the party asking for a portion only. Which party is the party of principal, the party wanting to take a course that will bring to us, as allies, a force that will place men in office in favor of these principles, or the party taking a course that means defeat of the cause for which we have long been fighting and success of the party which is now an open enemy to all three forces? Who are the traitors and bolters, the party that stands by the national and state organizations or the party that proposes to go it alone if everything does not go to suit them?

When you that differ from us say we are not populists, do not overlook the fact that we are in harmony with our national chairman, our national committeemen, our state committeemen and nearly every county that has acted on the question, so far as heard from; and also that we are in harmony with every populist U. S. Senator and Congressman in the nation.

You cannot escape the fact that to run a middle-of-the-road ticket is breaking away from our national and state organizations and abandoning your national leaders; and further, to indirectly become an ally of the gold standard party—whether intent or not—as the middle-of-the-roads did in Ohio last fall.—Some say they will vote the republican ticket if things don't go to suit them.—Can such men be standing for "principle" when they say they will vote for the gold standard if everything in detail is not as demanded by them? Men of that principle can do us no good in our ranks for they are against us. They must be converted first. No true convert to our principles can ever have so little regard for the welfare of the masses as to vote for the gold standard simply for revenge.

CONTINUED ON EDITORIAL PAGE.

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