

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

POPULIST PARTY ABSORBED BY NEW DEMOCRACY.

General Warren, Democrat for One Day Only, Welcomes the Visitors—Contest on But One Office, That of Commissioner—Sumpter Man Won—Harmonious From Start to Finish.

The most important thing accomplished at the democratic and populist conventions held here Saturday, was the complete union of the two parties, under the old, honored name of democracy. It was not fusion—that con game was always a transparent trade for political pelf—but the absorption of the people's party by the democrats.

It came about in this way. The democratic convention was in session in Ellis opera house; the populists in Fraternal hall, adjoining. On motion a committee was appointed by the democrats to invite the people's party delegates to seats in their convention. This committee consisted of F. W. Saxton, C. W. James and G. H. Foster. The invitation was accepted without a dissenting voice—there was no "middle of the roaders" there. William Smith, D. S. Littlefield and A. B. Combs constituted the populist committee, the duty of which was to notify the democrats that their invitation had been accepted. This was done by reading a set of resolutions adopted, the meat of which, stripped of the usual convention verbiage, was that they consider the love of country and the welfare of all classes should be stronger than party ties; that the new democracy is all right and that they accept the good fellowship tendered and unite with it.

A large crowd of citizens met the train which brought in the delegates from Baker City and eastern portion of the county. A procession was formed, headed by Captain Muir's Rough Riders and the band, which paraded around town a while and proceeded to the opera house, where a reception was held, Hon. C. M. Donaldson being master of ceremonies. General Warren, in behalf of the citizens of Sumpter, welcomed the visitors. The gist of his remarks was about as follows:

"Gentlemen of this convention, for 364 days in the year I am a republican, but today I am a democrat. Like the Arab of the sun baked desert, whoever is in my tent is my friend, but when you strike the trail you are my enemy and then I will steal your horse if I can. You are now in my tent and we are friends. The pleasant duty has been assigned me by the citizens of Sumpter, not to deliver to you the keys of this city, but to inform you that the gates of the city have been wrenched from their fastenings and thrown into Powder river—this camp is yours; if you don't see what you want, ask for it. Around the building here, somewhere, you will find about a carload of Grambinus' amber fluid, home made and said by those who care for such kindergarten beverages, to excel the Milwaukee product. I don't know just where it is, for I don't care for the stuff myself—would just as soon stand with open mouth and let the moon shine down my throat. But if there are any old time Jeffersonian democrats here, let them follow me and I will produce 'some of the most wonderful whisky that ever drove a skeleton from a feast, or painted landscapes on the brain of man. It is the mingled souls of wheat and corn. In it you will find the sunshine and the shower that chased each other over the billowy fields, the breath of June, the

carrol of the lark, the dews of night, the wealth of summer and autuns' rich content, all golden with imprisoned light. Drink it and you will feel within your blood the star-led dawns, the dreamy, tawny dusks of many perfect days.'

"I now wish to present to every member of this convention a little souvenir of this convention, a union of the palmetto and the pine, suggestive of Fort Sumpter in 1861 and the Johannesburg of America in 1900. But remember, when the sun sinks behind those hills of green and gold today, I am a republican once more; so put on your war paint and keep it there."

Then General Warren and Colonel Burk, the one a Union veteran, the other an officer of the lost Confederate cause, shook hands over the bloody chestnut, called the scrap off once more and adjourned to discuss the "mingled souls of wheat and corn."

Senator William Smith, of Baker City, responded for the visitors in an appropriate speech, paying Sumpter a neat compliment and thanking its citizens for their hospitality.

There had been no time for caucussing and combines and jobs, so when the convention was called to order by George H. Foster, chairman of the county central committee, at 10:30 every thing moved along without a jar. J. E. McKinnon, of Huntington, was chosen temporary chairman; J. H. Graham, of Baker City temporary secretary and G. F. Johnson, of Baker City, assistant secretary. The following committees were appointed:

Credentials—J. H. Robbins, of Sumpter; William Green, Haines; J. G. Canada, White Swan; M. D. Fleming, Baker No. 4; J. P. Hannon, Huntington.

Order of Business—Sam White, Baker No. 3; I. H. McCord, Baker No. 2; Jed Ballentyne, South Baker; Asa Brown, Rock Creek; George Hodkins, Wingville.

Resolutions and Platform—W. F. Butcher, Baker City; C. M. Donaldson, Sumpter; I. B. Bowen, Baker City; W. G. Baird, Huntington; J. H. Inghram, Haines. This committee was instructed to act in conjunction with the populist committee appointed for the same purpose.

A recess was taken until one o'clock. At that time the committees reported. There were no contests.

The committee on resolutions handed in a hot document; reaffirmed the party's allegiance to the Chicago platform, expressed sympathy for the Boers, condemned the financial and the Puerto Rican bills recently passed by congress, favored an income tax and the initiative and referendum; declared its belief that the constitution should follow the flag; opposed the conquest of the Philippines and the policy of the administration in seeking entangling alliances with foreign powers; denounced trusts and placed the stamp of its approval on the management of the financial affairs of this county by the present democratic treasurer.

At this point of the proceedings, the interesting performance of wiping the populist party off the political slate was enacted.

The following county central committee was appointed: Alder, John Hansen; Baker No. 1, F. P. Bodinson; Baker No. 2, I. H. McCord; Baker No. 3, W. A. Weatherby; Baker No. 4, M. D. Fleming; South Baker, J. E. Hyde; Depot, L. Crabb; Bridgeport, James Richardson; Virtue, B. R. Mead; Rye Valley, J. M. Brown; Sumpter, J. F. Shelton; Unity, James Payton; Willows, A. G. Gampbell; Wingville, G. R. Hodkins; Weatherby, Thomas Roach; Virtue, E. J. Gannon; Connor Creek, James Grant; Cleary, Charles Fleetwood; Bourne, A. C. Johnson; Express, C. V. McKinney; Haines, W. A. Green; Huntington, J. P. Hannon; North Powder, W. B. Powers; Pocahontas, M. Carpent; Parker, D. C. Prichaux; Rock Creek, Asa L. Brown. I. H. McCord was elected chairman and

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