

The Santiam News.

Politically Independent

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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HARMONY PREVAILS.

The much talked of harmony meeting of the p. o. p. occurred as per program, in Portland last week and its hitherto warring factions have resolved to dwell in peace and brotherly love in the future. No more shall knives and hatchets be campaign accompaniments. No matter what kind or class of candidate is placed in the field, provided he is labeled "Republican," every Republican is supposed to walk up to the polls on election day and "vote her straight."

This "Harmony" meeting in Portland partook, almost, of the nature of a convention. A long string of resolutions were passed; and which touched upon such points, only, as were supposed to be common ground and upon which all Republicans could stand.

President Roosevelt was commended for his successful efforts in bringing about peace between Russia and Japan; his Philippine policy; tariff revision and freight rate policies. But never a word relative to his prosecution of the fraudulent element of government land. On this point, the convention left the president groping in the dark.

Now as a matter of fact, the prosecution of these land frauds, is to Oregon, one of the most prominent events that has transpired in her history. The lesson of honesty and integrity that is now being forcibly impressed upon the people will, undoubtedly, have a most wholesome influence in the future acquirement of government lands. Just why the harmonizers should pass by the whole business in absolute silence, is somewhat of a mystery. It leaves the public to conjecture as to what the position of these Republican leaders may or may not be upon land frauds and the prosecution of the thieves. We have a right to infer that they condemn the president for these prosecutions here in Oregon, at least. On other matters they commended the president's course in a copious manner. They did not dare censure the president by a resolution; but, no doubt, nearly every harmonizer, privately, will do so.

This harmony meeting was, also, as silent as the grave in all matters pertaining to the unfortunate condition of three-fourths of Oregon's congressional delegation. Neither a vote of confidence nor of censure was accorded Senator Mitchell nor Congressman Williamson or Hermann. Undoubtedly the former would have been very thankfully received by each and all of these gentlemen; yet these harmonizers neglected to render this small favor to the men they have hitherto delighted to honor.

Senator Mitchell and Congressman Williamson are quite guilty of the crimes for which they were indicted. This was the decision of the juries and most all unprejudiced persons believe the juries decided wisely. Legislation of grave importance to the people will be brought before congress next winter. Oregon ought to be fully represented on the floors of both houses. Her vote may be necessary to secure the enactment of the freight rate and that of tariff revision. Senator Fulton is our only congressman that can appear in his seat. This fact did not seem to have any influence upon our harmony brothers. They would not even request the convicted and indicted congressmen to resign that their seats might be supplied with active members. This neglect approaches very nearly to an insult to the president. He can scarcely look upon it in any other light.

The convention should have commended our president for the effort he has caused to be made, to clear out and punish the grafters and dishonest officials. It should have demanded the instant resignations of Senator Mitchell and Congressman Williamson and Hermann. Then the members of the convention could have returned to their respective homes and say to the people, "We do not justify official corruption. Therefore we compelled Mitchell, Williamson and Hermann to resign. We are ready to help elect men in their places against whom no taint of dishonesty exists." Unfortunately, the convention did not do this. Is a party worthy of public confidence and trust, which thus tacitly refuses to condemn wrong whenever the conviction of the wrong doer is reasonably well established? Are we to infer that so many of the harmonizers were recipients of favors from Mitchell, Williamson and Hermann, that they would not could, not come out boldly for the interests of the state and people?

The harmony that is said to have been brought about can hardly be of the lasting kind. By common consent, all subjects that would generate a difference of opinion were not called up. The ap-

parent unanimity of sentiment seems to have been more to effect outside feeling, rather than to generate genuine harmonious action within the bosoms of the leaders—a sort of armed neutrality, necessary for the self-interests of the hitherto clashing factions. The enforced may last, yet it may not.

LONGER POLITICAL CAMPAIGN.

Political campaigns in Oregon, in state and in county elections have rarely extended over a period of six weeks to two months. The new direct primary law will require somewhat longer campaign. From a rather random reading of the law we gather the following requirements:

Forty-five days prior to the regular election day (the first Monday in June) the law requires the primary election to be held, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the various state and county offices; also candidates for congress, and the peoples choice for U. S. senator as well. The election of senator, however, will not occur until the meeting of the legislature.

Twenty days prior to primary election day, petitions for congressional and state offices, properly signed as by law required, must be filed with the secretary of state by all persons aspiring to stand for office on the state ticket and fifteen days prior to primary day, aspirants for county offices must file proper petitions with the county clerk. The names of all persons presenting valid petitions, will then be placed upon the printed tickets, which will be furnished the various precincts.

It can be seen, then, that the preliminary work of persons who aspire to office must all be done at least two months or more before the general election day.

Even before this time, an active campaign will be on, in the way of aspirants announcing themselves through the newspapers and by personal canvass among the people. So it may be expected that the political ball will commence rolling, sometime in February.

As this will be the first time that all the people will have participated in nominating candidates, it is highly necessary that all should inform themselves as to the requirements of the new law and, when primary day arrives, every one should be on hand to register his choice for the candidate he prefers for each and every particular office.

Therefore, if good, true and competent men are not named for office, the people, themselves, will be to blame. When candidates were selected at nominating conventions, it was often the case, in order to select what was called "A strong ticket," locality had more to do in the selection of the candidate than did his qualifications; consequently men were selected, sometimes, when fitness for office was known to not be of the best. Under the new law, let us hope that locality will be considered the minor and fitness or qualification of the major importance. As winter is now at hand and farmers will have more leisure for reading, the News invites all to subscribe for and read it; as it is our intention from time to time to discuss the new law, men and measures, in a candid, truthful manner for the information of its readers.

Thank Goodness we will not have the rush and hurrah of another Lewis and Clark exposition for 100 years.

That was a curious kind of verdict those judges on county exhibits at the Lewis and Clark made. About the mildest explanation possible is that they have muck, where gray matter was supposed to be. Such a verdict is simply no verdict at all. Counties that made no exhibit are equally as well off, as those that have gone to thousands of dollars of expense to collect and display their products.

The proposed amendment to the constitution which would enable the people to discharge an unworthy or in competent office holder, does not suit the Republican "machine" in any sense. These bosses, who make politics a profession, do not fancy, in the least, giving the power to dispense with the services of an office holder, who attempts by the exercise of graft, to recoup his heavy election expenses. Hence, at the late Harmony convention the fiat quietly went forth that the "Imperative mandate" was to be defeated, at least, in the form in which it is now proposed.

The splendid success of the Lewis and Clark fair, simply shows the power of judicious advertising. The fair management, in a nicely worded circular, express the obligation of the management to press for the part it contributed in bringing about success. Without the liberality of the newspapers in pushing the interests of the fair, first, last and all the time, instead of the handsome surplus of cash now on hand, would have been an ugly deficit for the management to face. The newspapers have, certainly, done well their part in bringing about this almost unparalleled success.

Railroad freight legislation seems sure to be one of, if not the leading question brought before congress at the coming session and the indications are that the fight will be a hot one. The railroads themselves are becoming somewhat alarmed at the prospect of the people through congress, exercising some control over the wealth that they (the people) have created. These railway lords, like the coal barons, dislike, very much, to be compelled to admit that the people have rights that must be respected even by the railway magnate. The idea that rich corporation and multimillionaires must obey law the same as the common ordinary farmer and workingman, is a departure that these proud aristocrats do not like a little bit. Well there is nothing to prevent them from going to U'ope and stay staying there, if they do not fancy Rooseveltism.

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WHAT TO TEACH BOYS

A philosopher has said true education for boys, is to "teach them—what they ought to know when they become men," and he lays down a few precepts for the rising generation which, if heeded, and practiced, would give the world a race of men of which it might well be proud. Boys should be taught:

1. To be true—to be genuine. No education is worth anything that does not include this. A man had better not know how to read—he had better never learn a letter in the alphabet and so true, genuine in intention and action—rather than be learned in all sciences and in all languages, to be as the same time false in heart and counterfeit in life. Above all things, teach the boys that truth is more than riches, more than earthly power or possessions.

2. To be pure in thought, language and life—pure in mind and body. To be useful. To care for the feelings and comfort of others. To be polite, to be just in all dealings with others. To be generous, noble, and manly. This will include a genuine reverence for the aged and things sacred.

3. To be self-reliant and self-helpful from childhood. To be industrious always, and self-supporting at the earliest proper age. Teach them that all honest work is honorable, and that an idle life of dependence on others is disgraceful.

When a boy has learned these four things, when he has made these ideas a part of his being—however poor, or however rich, he has learned the most important things he ought to know when he becomes a man.

Politicians as inclined to guard, what they have come to believe as their particular prerogative, with jealous care. This thing of surrendering up to the people the right of complete self government free from the dictation and manipulation of the political boss, is something not to be thought of for an instant. What? Give up without a struggle a profession selected as a life work? Not, if the cart know herself.

LAND FRAUD CONVICTIONS.

Last Friday was the day set for pronouncing sentence in accordance with the verdict found in the Williamson-Genealog case. When the defendants and attorneys were present in court, Judge Hunt rendered his decision against suspension of judgement, the sentence was pronounced by his honor; Williamson and Biggs were sentenced to ten months imprisonment and to be fined \$500 each; Dr. Gesner, on account of frail health was sentenced to five months imprisonment only, but was fined \$1000. Pending the preparation of necessary papers to carry the case up to the U. S. circuit of appeals, the defendants were allowed their liberties under the same amount of bonds they had given when first arrested.

The jury in the Jones-Potter-Wade case returned a verdict of "guilty," as to Jones and Potter and "not guilty" as to Wade. Notice of appeal was given by Jones and Potter.

The first convictions for land frauds occurred last winter, when McKinley, Potter and Mrs. Watson were found guilty. The Senator Mitchell was convicted in June. Adding the late convictions makes a total of 26 convictions, yet not a fine has been paid nor a term of imprisonment commenced.

Portland merchants are boasting of increased business on account of the fair—the increase being estimated all the way from 30 to 50 per cent. Up the valley the story is different. A great deal of retail trade went to Portland that would have gone to the home trader-people, had it not been for the fair. Another unpleasant feature is: people and everything they could scrape together to advance money to go in the fair, and have nothing left with which to pay their bills at home. Therefore the boosted increase of business in Portland is largely at the expense of other portions of the state. But then there is a future ahead and pay day for the rest of us will come around, by and by.

There is a lull in the land fraud business in Portland, which is expected to last into November. Judge Cunt has returned to his home in Montana to attend to urgent court business and Pres. cutting Attorney Henry has gone to Arizans to look after government legal matters there.

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