

SENATOR FULTON'S REASONS.

"There are 50 reasons," Senator Fulton says, "why members of the legislature do not have to regard that Statement No. 1 pledge." But the only one that he mentions is that "Oregon is a Republican state and Chamberlain is a Democrat."

Party, party; Republican, Democrat. Can't Republicans vote for a Democrat or Democrats for a Republican, if they want to, and have their votes counted? Is it party that elects, that chooses public servants, or the people?

By what authority or right or on what principle are a few members of the legislature not only to foreswear themselves but to disfranchise the 20,000 Republicans who purposely, intelligently and conscientiously voted for Chamberlain?

"I do not believe in statement No. 1," says Senator Fulton. So he said before the primaries last spring, and he knows what happened to him in the primaries. Cake, who announced that he did believe in Statement No. 1, was nominated.

Fulton does not believe in Statement No. 1, but the people do, Republicans as well as Democrats. On that issue they later rejected Cake, who went back on Statement No. 1 after his nomination. On that issue, largely, Chamberlain was elected. And in the same election the Statement No. 1 law was adopted by an overwhelming plurality.

Therefore Senator Fulton's statement that he does not believe in Statement No. 1 is tantamount to saying that he does not believe in the people; he does not believe that they should elect their senators; he does not believe that their will expressed at the ballot box should be observed; he does not believe that they should rule; he believes that a party organization or machine, nay, a mere factional machine, should at its pleasure set aside and hold for naught the people's recorded will. A party, a faction, a factional boss or leader; assumes to say that the people's choice shall be null and void unless they choose to suit him.

To this shape and measure dwindle Senator Fulton's 50 reasons; but if he really had 50 reasons, each 50 times better than this one, all combined would not weigh one-fiftieth part the reason why Statement No. 1 members should keep their pledge—the simple, sufficient reason that not to do so would be dishonest, dishonorable, disgraceful; would be a base betrayal of a sacred trust; would properly consign every man who violated his pledge to lifelong infamy among his fellow men.—Sunday Oregon Journal.

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