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POLITICAL NEWS AND COMMENTS

Republican Campaign to be a Captains' Fight—More Candidates in the Field and Some Decline—Socialists and Local Optionists Open Their Campaign.

Joe A. Thomas, candidate for representative on the Socialist ticket, has evidently heard of the early bird catching the worm, so he is getting afield early to catch the voter. As a campaign opener he is sending broadcast over the county a card bearing his name and the following outline of the principles of the Socialist party: "Well, what do you Socialists want?" "Well, we want to stop dividing up. Can you suggest any way to do so, under the present system of private ownership? In your mind, turn this over. The Plan, Demands and Methods of the Socialists are: Demands—(1) the right of daily labor for every human being; (2) full credit for all that is earned by each human being; (3) a home for every human being. Methods—(1) ownership of the means of production and distribution by the people; (2) management of each industry by the workers therein; (3) credit for hours of labor and debits for supplies drawn. Results—national co-operative conduct of business and economic salvation of the world. There shall be equal opportunities for all and no man shall live by the labor of another and none possess what he has not earned."

There is a strong feeling among Republicans that their candidate for county judge must pledge himself that if reelected he will be at his office during office hours and not at the courthouse but one or two days in the week. The county is now so large and there is such a volume of business to come before the county court that it is imperative that the county judge give his full time to the duties of his office. To have a county judge absent half the time would cause much expense and inconvenience to persons from distant parts of the county coming to the county seat should they not be able to meet the judge promptly. One of Judge Prim's strong points is that he resides at the county seat and is in his office much of the time.

Recent developments indicate that the Republican campaign now on in Jackson county is to be a captain's fight, to use a naval phrase, and no word of command is likely to be heard from the admiral and commodores of the party. Admiral Ankney and Commodores Vawter and Carter are each on self-issued leaves of absence from active campaign duty and are permitting the captains to exercise full control of the party forces and if they fail to lead the ticket to victory they can lay the fault to no one but themselves and not the party leaders as was the case two years ago when half of the ticket was put out of action by the Democrats.

The advocates of the proposed local option law are opening up an aggressive campaign all over the state and the fight between them and the Retail Liquor Dealers' Association of Oregon promises to be a lively feature of the campaign. In this county dates have been fixed for local option rallies at Gold Hill, Friday, April 8; Central Point, Saturday, April 9; Jacksonville, Monday, April 11; Medford, Tuesday, April 12; Ashland, Wednesday, April 13. At these meetings logic is to be united with amusement and the audiences will be entertained as well as instructed. The Eugene Knox Company will be the star attraction of these meetings. This company is composed of W. E. Knox, impersonator and second tenor; H. L. Hockett, first tenor, and E. A. Newby, bass. The address will be by R. W. Kelsey, the well known speaker of Newberg.

The Republican primaries are to be held this Saturday to select delegates to the Ashland convention and who are to be the delegates from the various precincts is giving local politicians considerable concern. Here in Jacksonville but one primary will be held at which delegates will be elected for both the old and the new precinct, four for each precinct. The primary will be at 2 p. m. in the town hall. For North Jacksonville it is understood that Dr. J. W. Robinson, Henry Dox, W. G. Kenney and Samuel De Robaum are to be the delegates, while for South Jacksonville Theo. Cameron, Emil Britt, George Lewis and William Puhl are to be the delegates.

On Saturday of next week will occur the Republicans' convention in Ashland for electing delegates to the congressional convention at Salem, and the state convention at Portland, Jackson county is entitled to 12 delegates in each convention and the apportionment of these delegates to the various sections of the county is now being figured on by the powers that be. The apportionment likely to be adopted for the congressional convention will be to give Ashland 3, Medford 3, Jacksonville 2, Applegate 1, Gold Hill 1, Eagle Point 1, Central Point 1. For the state convention this apportionment will probably be changed if there are demands by other precincts for recognition and to give Talent, Brownsboro, Wellen and other places delegates.

As the Salem convention is on Wednesday, April 13 and the state convention in Portland on the following day it was thought that one set of delegates would suffice for the two conventions but so many desire the honor of the trip, even though they pay their own expenses that it is quite certain that two full delegations will be chosen. Ashland and Medford each have so many candidates that the Sentinel will not attempt to enumerate them least half a dozen be overlooked. Jacksonville is more modest and has but four candidates, Dr. J. W. Robinson, Theo. Cameron, Emil Britt and W. G. Kenney. So far Henry Kubli has the Applegate field to himself. Gold Hill has two candidates, C. Vroman and G. H. N. Allen, editor of the Gold Hill News.

On Saturday of next week the Democrats will hold their primaries and on the following Saturday their county convention at Medford. The Democrats content themselves with one set of primaries and one county convention. On the surface all is as quiet as a Quaker meeting in Democratic circles, but it is not the stillness of inaction, but quite the reverse for the Democratic leaders are doing some adroit scheming to enable them to win out in the coming campaign against a Republican plurality of 250.

The lateness of the date on which the Republican county convention is to be held at Gold Hill is giving serious concern to some of the Republican leaders, they fearing that it may be the means of the party losing some of its nominations. The convention is to be held on Friday, May 6, and election is to be on Monday, June 6, leaving an interval of but 32 days between the two dates. The law is imperative that all nominations must be filed with the county clerk not less than 30 days prior to election. As their conven-

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tion is on Friday the Republican nominees would have but one day, Saturday, in which to file their nominations, for Sunday would be illegal and Monday too late. A nominee delayed one day by sickness, distance from county seat, or other causes would be out of the race. Persons who would be at the convention would be able to get their acceptance filed on time, but candidates who were not present and were at a distance awaiting a notification of their nomination would be likely not to get their names upon the ticket.

The Socialists have their ticket filled out ready to begin the campaign in earnest. Saturday their county committee met at Medford and selected candidates for the vacancies left by their convention. These are R. C. Messner of Gold Hill, for representative, vice Anson M. Ford of Central point, resigned; Chas. Gerow, of Ashland, recorder; M. C. Hartley, of Medford, for treasurer; Harvey Richardson, of Trail, for sheriff, vice G. C. Culy, of Steamboat, who declined; R. W. Kennedy, of Ruch, for surveyor; Geo. W. Howard of Soda Springs, for assessor; Mrs. Elizabeth L. Reame, of Medford, for superintendent; Dr. E. Kirshgessner, of Medford for coroner. E. P. Hammond, of Medford, was named for district attorney subject to the endorsement of the other counties in this district. No nomination for circuit judge was made the Socialists, like the Republicans and Democrats, being evidently satisfied with Judge Hanan and will put up no candidate against him. The remainder of the ticket which was named at their county convention in Medford the last Saturday in

February is D. M. Brower, of Ashland, and Joe A. Thomas, of Medford, representatives; S. H. Holt, Ashland, for county judge; Matt Calhoun, of Phoenix, for commissioner and J. D. Williams, of Ashland, for clerk. For justice of the peace and constable for Medford F. J. Herbage and Chas. M. Pfeister were made the candidates.

Neither the Republicans nor the Democrats are likely to have a dearth of good timber from which to select candidates and the list is steadily increasing. D. H. Jackson of Ashland, mentioned for representative on the Republican ticket declines that honor, but would take the assessor. W. A. Patrick of Ashland, is a candidate for recorder on the Republican ticket and C. Owens, of Pleasant Creek, is being pushed by Republicans in the north part of the county as a candidate for commissioner. Fred Wagner, of the Ashland Tidings, is having his slumbers disturbed by visions of the glories and pleasures of holding down a seat in the representative hall at Salem and it is possible that he may yet get his consent to come before a Republican convention for its endorsement of his youthful ambition. Ashland Democrats are pushing the candidacy of ex-Mayor Provost, of that city, for commissioner.

Hon. E. B. Dufur of Gold Hill, says that while he appreciates the mention of his name as a candidate on the Democratic ticket for representative, yet he cannot accept the nomination. He was in politics once up in Wasco county and knows the financial demands and detraction from business on a candidate and on a legislator and as he came to Southern Oregon to follow his profession and not to engage in office holding he considers himself but a worker in the ranks of his party. And Horace Pelton of Sams Valley, declares that he in no wise is seeking legislative honors and while thanking his friends he must decline their offer of a place on the Democratic ticket. T. J. Williamson of Jacksonville, another Democratic whose candidacy would be an honor to his party, announces that his time is so taken up with his business that he cannot possibly make the convass in the campaign and so must, while thanking his friends, decline a place on the Democratic ticket.

The Republican primaries for Josephine county are to be held on this Saturday and their convention will be held at Grants Pass on Thursday of next week. The Josephine county Democrats will hold their primaries Saturday, April 9, and their convention in Grants Pass on Saturday, April 16. The Republicans will have 48 delegates and the Democrats 45 delegates in their convention.

Prof. B. F. Mulkey has announced to those who have been urging him to enter the race for congress from this district, that while he is grateful to his friends who have been kind enough to think of him in connection with the high position, he must decline to mingle with politics directly or remotely. Prof. Mulkey, when asked about it a day or two ago, said: "I am taking no interest in the congressional campaign at all. My professional work absorbs my energies quite fully and I have no time nor desire to engage in politics, although I have been urged by some powerful influences to enter the congressional contest."—Tidings.

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