

Tillamook Headlight.

D. DeK. Rawman, Ed. and Mgr.

Official Paper, Tillamook City and County

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The city election is over, and the officers for the next year will soon be in the positions to which they have been chosen. Let us stand by them, and help to make their administration a success.

If the last city campaign was a sample of Tillamook city campaigns, we would suggest a change in the length of terms of city officers from one year to fifty years. The last campaign was a disgrace to the town.

The San Francisco Examiner and the Oregonian are engaged in a wordy war over some statements made in the latter concerning the morals of Californians in general, and San Francisco in particular. The statements made by the Oregonian are rather severe, and, we think, to a large extent incorrect, but such as they are, the San Francisco newspapers are entirely responsible for them. Scarcely an issue of those papers comes out but some mole-hill of wrong doing is magnified into a mountain of vice, and every possible means of the printer's and illustrator's art is resorted to, to give publicity to every filthy detail of such crimes as do occur.

After a residence of many years in California, we think we are competent to judge, and we do not believe that Californians, as a rule, are either worse or better than other people would be under similar circumstances or environment.

It requires an enormous amount of gall on the part of the free trade democrats to argue that President McKinley ought not to call an extra session of Congress to act upon the tariff, but should allow the matter to go over to the regular session in December, 1897, and when they try to strengthen their argument by trotting out the assertion that an extra session will upset business they only make a bad case worse. For the republican party to defer action upon the tariff for nine months after it has the power to act would be like sending for a doctor and after having his prescription for the patient filled to put the medicine away for nine months and let the patient worry along as best he may. The voters have prescribed a protective tariff for Uncle Sam and the task of administering the medicine has been entrusted to a republican President and a republican Congress, and it will be faithfully performed. It is nonsense to talk about an extra tariff session of Congress hurting business. Failure to hold one would be more likely to hurt business, as the boom which started the day after election was based largely upon the belief that tariff legislation would at once follow the inauguration of the new administration.

A Plea for Unity.

The last city election has taught us one lesson, and that is, that there is a sad lack of harmony and unity of action amongst the different elements in this city.

Much of this, of course, to be expected. In every town there are diverse interests and diverse

elements, and between these elements there is bound to be more or less conflict; but there is no reason why this conflict should partake of the nature of personal vituperation and spleen, and why it should be waged unceasingly, in season and out of season, *ad infinitum ad nauseum*. But there are many reasons why it should not.

New communities, more than old established ones, need to be united in everything tending to build themselves up and advance all their various interests.

The new town has little use for selfish, narrow-minded business men, men who do not interest themselves in the welfare of the town, but who are in it simply as leeches, to fatten themselves at the expense of its life-blood. Such men are a curse to any town, and the less business they receive from the public, the better. The kind of men a new town needs is men who are not only ready to make money, but ready to spend it to build up the town, and ready to unite with other business men to advertise their towns and the resources of the surrounding country. Take this town and county, for example. There is no valid reason why the county should not have twice its present population. It simply has not been properly advertised. If the people generally knew the advantages of Tillamook county, its wonderful resources, the fertility of its soil, the salubrity of its climate, together with all its other natural advantages, there would be such a rush of immigration as has never before been witnessed in the United States. But there has been no unity of purpose or action, and consequently about the only new settlers we have are those who have been induced to come here by their friends, or who have read the local papers, the outside circulation of which is necessarily quite limited.

And in the matter of internal improvements, new communities especially need to be united. In the country, roads and bridges are to be built, and in towns side-walks and sewers need to be constructed, and water works built. In other communities, as in this, appropriations need to be secured from the general government; and all these things require that men forget their personal spleen, spites, and differences, and act together.

No one cares to live in a divided community, and a desirable class of immigrants avoid it as they would a neighborhood infected with a contagious disease. No divided community has ever prospered. Our country is dotted over with towns that to-day are mere villages, when they might just as well have been populous cities—only they got to wrangling and fighting. The man who foments strife and discord between neighbors is a public enemy and a nuisance, of whom the sooner the town rids itself, the better. The town and county of Tillamook have a grand future before them, but the present generation will not live to see it unless we act unitedly.

We understand from good authority that the HEADLIGHT was, by certain parties, severely criticised for the kindly mention made of certain candidates for city offices voted on last Monday. We do not know who the parties making the criticism were, and we care less. We supposed that the people of Tillamook knew their own minds when they called a convention and nominated the men in question. They had been introduced to us by prominent citizens here as good men—as amongst the best men in the town, and we fail to see how nomination to a city office could have turned them suddenly vile.

We would have given equally kindly mention of the worthy men on the other ticket, had we known who they were in time to do so. The candidate for mayor on the opposition ticket had positively stated to the editor of the HEADLIGHT that he would not be a candidate. Of course he had a perfect right to change his mind if he desired, but the editor is not a mind reader, and did not know of it until it was too late to give the kindly mention which he would have been glad to give. As to the other candidates, we received their names after our forms were ready to lock up and were

going to press, and we crowded other matter out to make room for the ticket. And yet forsooth, we must be accused of being the organ of a certain faction. The editor of this paper knows little of the political factions that, unfortunately, exist here, and cares less. He can neither be allured into them by bait nor frightened into them with potato-pops.

He has a mind of his own and proposes to speak it whenever he feels called upon to do so, the wheezy whine of a sour-stomached cotemporary, and the carping criticism of those who insist on thinking for themselves but who are not willing to give the same privilege to others, to the contrary notwithstanding.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

The industrious gentleman who are writing and talking about alleged dissension in the republican party are merely showing that they do not know the difference between a variation in the individual opinions of republicans and party dissension. The republican party is not, never has been, and never will be an organization of cuckoos, willing to accept and echo opinions given by any one man. One of the party's strongest elements of power has always been the encouragement of individuality on the part of its members in the expression of opinions as to party policy. Republican Senators and Representatives who have come to Washington to attend the session of Congress have, as has always been usual, expressed their opinions on what should be the party policy at the short session, and because those opinions have not all been alike, a set of poorly informed democrats have tried to create the impression that dissension was rampant in the party. They are in a sense excusable. They are bound to say something, and as there is nothing good they can say for the democrats they have, like a shyster lawyer with a bad case, taken to lying about the other side. The republican party was never free of dissension than at this time. While expressing their individual opinions of what the party in Congress ought to do this winter nearly every Senator or Representative invariably adds, "but the policy of the party will be determined by a caucus to be held as soon as we know the recommendations of Mr. Cleveland and Secretary Carlisle," or words to that effect. Those who are hoping that talking about dissension will really make it in the republican party are doomed to disappointment, as will be seen as soon as Congress meets and the republican caucus decides upon the party policy. Then they will see that the republicans in Congress, excepting, of course, those who bolted the St. Louis convention and supported Bryan, who still call themselves republicans but are not so considered by the republicans, will act as a unit upon all questions affecting that line of policy.

While making no pretense to know in advance of the republican caucus what will be determined upon, your correspondent is confident that the feeling that an early extra session of Congress will be called by President McKinley for the purpose of passing a general tariff bill is so prevalent that one of the decisions will be that it is unnecessary to attempt tariff legislation at the short session, especially when it is a matter of doubt both as to whether even so moderate a bill as the Dingley emergency measure, passed by the House, could be passed by the Senate or would be signed by Mr. Cleveland. Even if Mr. Cleveland would promise in advance that it should become a law, either with or without his signature, and a sufficient number of Senators would pledge themselves to make its passage certain, it is doubtful whether the Dingley bill would be pushed in the Senate. Last winter it would have been a good bill to pass, but with the prospect of a genuine and general republican tariff bill in four or five months it is different now.

Whether there will be any attempt at financial legislation at the short session will depend largely upon the condition of the Treasury. Senator Chandler thinks the Secretary of the Treasury ought to be authorized to borrow the money needed to make up the deficit in receipts as long as it exists, and he may try to push the idea in the Senate, but it hasn't the ghost of a show, because it would be opposed by all the silver Senators regardless of party and by a number of republicans who are opposed to further bond issues. It is probable that Mr. Cleveland's message will renew his recommendation that the green-backs be retired, but it will not be acted upon.

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