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HAS THE REPUBLICAN PARTY AN EXISTENCE IN OREGON, HAS IT AN ORGANIZATION, AND HAS IT A FUTURE?

The assertion is made every day by a newspaper at Portland, which has nominally had the press leadership of the Republican party in its hands for 50 years, that the Republican party of Oregon is dead, THAT IT HAS NO LEADERSHIP AND NO ORGANIZATION.

To the writer it appears that some there are not as many Republican lest they may be believed by Repubs one should answer these assertions. We have no reason to believe thatleans themselves.

volers in Oregon today AS EVER BEFORE IN THE HISTORY OF THE STATE.

Under the primary law and election and ballot laws there is a perfect political organization for all legal and legitimate purposes.

A law should be enacted providing for a convention of Republicans PRIOR TO THE PRIMARIES TO DRAFT A PARTY PLATFORM.

That convention should be composed of the legally chosen committeemen and county, state and congressional chairmen, in all, over 100 members of the party chosen by the Republicans of each county.

If these committeemen have not brains enough to come together and frame a declaration of Republican principles ON WHICH ALL REPUBLICANS CAN STAND they should resign and let some one occupy their positions who can frame a platform.

But this writer believes the state central committeemen, the county chairmen, and the congressional committeemen of each county, together with the state and national committeeman, and the congressional chairman of each district, ARE TRUE REPUBLICANS WHO WOULD HAVE IT IN THEIR HEARTS to make a platform on state and national issues that would unite and harmonize the Republican party of Oregon.

They should meet before there are any primaries held, hold a love feast, make a platform, and adjourn, recommending that all Republicans uphold the laws, AND SUPPORT THE NOMINEES MADE UNDER THE LAWS

There is as much of a Republican party in Oregon as there has ever been but it is not so completely boss-ridden and machine-dominated.

The freedom of both houses of the present legislature from bossism is apparent. Speaker McArthur and President Bowerman BOTH RE- FUSED MACHINE DICTATION AS WAS UNDERTAKEN.

In the next election if the Republicans nominate candidates for governor and state offices who stand up for the laws they can be elected.

If men are nominated to overthrow the primary law and opposed to direct election of U. S. senators, and who stand for a return to the fleshpots of old they will be defeated and deserve to be.

HAS THE REPUBLICAN PARTY ANY ORGANIZATION?

It has. It has a state chairman and State secretary, and a state central committee and county chairmen and county central committees.

WHAT MORE DOES IT NEED IN THE WAY OF AN ORGANIZATION?

What we started out to say was, the Republicans of Oregon have an organization.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IS NOT DISRUPTED AND DISORGANIZED UNLESS IT WANTS TO BE.

We have national and state chairmen, district and county chairmen, two congressional chairmen, a congressional committeeman in each county, a state central committee, all elected by the people and ACCORDING TO THE LAW ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE and which no one believes will be repealed or changed.

Shall we as law-abiding citizens accept this organization and work under it, respect it and the Republican rank and file back of it, or shall we accept bossism and dictation from the machine which seeks to enthrone itself above the party and its legal organization?

Which shall it be? SHALL WE ACCEPT THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE OR THE WILL OF THE MACHINE?

The people have shown that they have more brains and better leadership in Oregon than the machine.

The people's measures have not only superseded the system built up by the machine but they have used that system TO BEAT THE MACHINE ON ITS OWN GROUNDS.

The efforts of the machine to build itself up by breaking down the laws enacted by the people will fail.

The Republican party of Oregon will never as an organization or by a popular vote sanction the policy of breaking pledges MADE AND ACCEPTED BETWEEN THE PEOPLE AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES

The people will not surrender the right to accept pledges made to them voluntarily to secure their franchises, especially when they are made in good faith for a good cause and to put an end to a corrupt system.

THE OLD TORY-CONSTITUTED UNITED STATES SENATOR HAS GOT TO GO.

Does it need a machine outside of the legal state organization? The people have repudiated the machine and will not stand to have

another machine imposed upon them from WITHIN THE STATE OR FROM OUTSIDE OF THE STATE.

The primary law does away with nominating conventions, and they should not be revived unless by the voice of the people.

The bawling of the bosses, the howling of the hurt, the shrieking of the suffering down-and-out creatures of the machine will NOT REVIVE NOMINATING CONVENTIONS.

Oregon never had more competent or faithful state officials than have been nominated and elected under the direct primary laws.

There never was a better organized or cleaner body of men sitting as a legislature THAN THE PRESENT GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

We know not what they may become before they are through, but so far they show no signs of being corrupt or imbecile in any respect.

We do not know of any corrupt or incompetent county officials in any county in the state, and they have all got their places under the direct primary law BY THE DIRECT VOICE OF THE PEOPLE AND WITHOUT CONVENTIONS.

So far as we know there are more Republicans holding county offices and state and district offices than ever before, and there are less local factional dissensions than ever before and all these conditions prevail UNDER THE HATED AND ABUSED DIRECT PRIMARY LAW.

Was the Republican party ever stronger on national and state issues than at present, or for the past two elections under the direct primary law?

There would not be a Democrat in the present national delegation if the old machine had not wrecked its vengeance on the direct primary law BECAUSE IT HATES THE NEW ERA OF CLEANER POLITICS

Shall this decadent remnant of machine politics, that plays politics as in the days of Quay, Platt, Depew, et al, that is Bourbon to the core and will not learn the music of progress, be called Republicanism?

In the state of Washington the Republican party, as in Oregon, enacted a direct primary law and nominated and elected an United States senator without "protest."

No factional internecine warfare was carried on within the party LED BY THE GREAT LEADING PARTY NEWSPAPERS AS IN OREGON.

No one in either state is proposing to repeal or amend the direct primary law and go back to the old way of packed, log-rolling conventions.

In Oregon all the troubles of the Republican party of late years sprang from the packed log-rolling unit rule convention when Furnish, an ex-Democrat, was forced upon the Republicans as their candidate for governor.

That was not done under the much hated primary law TO WHICH ALL THE DEMORALIZATION OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IS ASCRIBED.

Exactly that has happened under the direct primary law which it was intended should happen—the downfall of the machine and the bosses.

"Mr. Hopkins, people's choice for senator in Illinois, continues to be shy about fifteen votes at Springfield. In these days of Statement No. 1, and the like, it is well enough not to overlook the legislature"—Portland Machine Organ.

The above is a sample of what would be taking place in Oregon today but for the provisions of the much hated primary law and Statement No. 1.

The machine is willing the people should nominate senators, is willing the people should even have a vote on senators, BUT THE MACHINE DEMANDS THE RIGHT TO OVERTHROW THAT VOTE IF IT SEES FIT.

Illinois is in the throes of a deadlock, with money poured in there by the corporations to influence the result this way or that, but most of all to see to it that the people's choice is defeated.

MEN OF OREGON, REPUBLICANS, IT IS UP TO YOU TO SAY WHETHER YOU WANT THE DEADLOCK SYSTEM RESTORED.

The machine continues to "protest" against the direct primary law. It continues to "protest" against Statement No. 1.

It is upholding the members of the legislature who entered a "protest" against keeping their pledges.

It is advising that the Republican party further protest AGAINST DIRECT ELECTION OF SENATORS AND DIRECT NOMINATION.

Speaking seriously, "It doth protest too much." It does not protest against the deadlocks in other states where they have no Statement 1 provision in the law.

We all know what would have become of the people's choice senator IN THE ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC AND BINDING PRE-ELECTION PLEDGES.

We all know what became of the pledge made in the campaign to elect Geor senator, when there was no primary law.

The machine would even prefer the deadlock that is now tearing the Republican party of Illinois to pieces over electing a senator.

The writer of these editorials holds no brief for the Republican party. He occupies no official position and is only one of the COMMON SENSE AND FAIR, UNOFFICIAL-CITIZEN CLASS OF REPUBLICAN VOTERS.

He did not support the primary law when it was enacted, but seeing no disposition to repeal or amend it accepted its provisions as the political law of nominations and has worked under it.

With this preliminary he proposes to say what he thinks to the Republicans of Oregon as to the future organization of the Republican party, AND ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD THE LAWS ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE

He believes those laws have come to stay, and told the Republicans so in Marion county and advised them to obey the law, and for this was read out of the party with other Statement men.

Their reading out did not prove fatal to his Republicanism, for HE SUPPORTED THE REPUBLICAN NOMINEES REGARDLESS OF THEIR OPINIONS AS TO THE STATEMENT.

When the battle was over he crawled out of the debris with four Statement One Republican votes for senator out of seven votes in the county.

Those who went into the fight to disregard the primary law, to overthrow its provisions in regard to electing United States senators DID WHAT THEY BELIEVED RIGHT.

But results have proven that they did not give Mr. Fulton and others a good bright hunch, because the people have not behind the law and its opposition will not be abandoned by the people.

The farmer and the laborer, the business man and the clerk and professional man WHO DO NOT FOLLOW POLITICS FOR A LIVING, will never let go of a system that gives them a right to have something to say.

They are as competent to say things right and do things right as any big political boss who is not always unselfish or spiritually inspired.

The sober, thinking citizenship of a country is a safer guide than THE INTOXICATED, CONCEITED SPOILSMONGER OF THE POLITICAL MACHINE.

The great serious, sober, patriotic, thinking class of Republicans and citizens generally will not surrender the primary law nor the right to exact pledges from those who want to represent them.

It is useless to attempt to argue with machine politicians broadly about the welfare and interests of the Republican party in Oregon.

Its organ is the only morning paper in the only city of any metropolitan proportions in the state, and has a monopoly of opinions.

IT HAS SO LONG LAID DOWN THE DICTUMS THAT IT IS NOT ACCUSTOMED TO TREATING MEN AND IDEAS POLITICAL IMPERSONALLY.

It is useless to tell it that it has not the ghost of a show to escape responsibility for the bad mess in which Republicans find themselves. It will continue to print its own utterances as political pabulum for its readers, AND NEVER PERMIT CONTRADICTION OR CORRECTION. Its word and its arguments and its presentations of things are law and gospel to its readers or nothing, and to many they are nothing. It palms off on the Republicans of Oregon the editorials of the stall-

fed and corporation-owned Pioneer Press of St. Paul AS STRAIGHT PUBLICAN ADVICE.

That St. Paul paper has worn the corporation collar so long it has cost the Republicans of Minnesota governor after governor, and other state and county officials.

It is when the Republican party is hitched up with such close corporation management and made alien to the interests of the masses of the important question, THAT IT GETS TURNED DOWN AND DISMANTLED TO BE.

We hope the reasonable and thinking Republicans will realize it is not treason to the Republican party to differ from the Oregonian although there are persons who hold its opinions sacred.

The Oregonian is right and fearless on many questions, and is able of doing great good in many directions, but as Republican members of the party have got to do some of their own thinking would crawl out of the political predicaments into which the lack or lack of leadership of the Oregonian has plunged them.

An enthusiastic person is seldom a favorite. Don't admire anything always, look as though you had better at home.

Few people are miserably happy. Keep their troubles to themselves.

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