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WEST SIDE APPOINTMENTS.

The disposition of the powers that be to recognize the West Side in the distribution of certain federal offices will be cordially appreciated by republicans. A fair distribution of the legitimate rewards of victory among men whose loyalty and unselfishness are beyond question reflects credit on the appointing power as well as the appointees.

In the matter of the federal marshaling which for the past term has been accorded to the East Side there is a strong probability of a change to the West Side, although the present incumbent has made a most efficient and satisfactory public officer. In response to general republican sentiment not only in the West Side counties, but all over the state, it seems certain that Col. C. F. Lloyd will be offered the appointment of United States marshal. He has always been a good citizen, whose business habits and personal character are beyond criticism. He has ever been a republican in principle. That he possesses courage and patriotism was abundantly proved when at the outbreak of the Spanish war he sacrificed his business interests and volunteered for service for which, by previous experience, he was thoroughly adapted. On his return from military duty he resumed his labors as a private citizen, facing without a murmur the financial losses he had sustained, and content to share the fortunes of his fellow-citizens.

The appointment of Colonel Lloyd as United States marshal for Montana will be most pleasing to the people of Butte, regardless of occupation or politics. The next appointment likely to be made is that of postmaster of Butte. An Inter Mountain special dispatch from Helena states that the subject of Mr. George W. Irvin's application, with the indorsement of the business men and other leading citizens of Butte, has been forwarded from Washington to the republican state committee for recommendation, in accordance with regular party usage. What the result will be the Inter Mountain is not authorized to anticipate, but should any doubt exist as to the merits of Mr. Irvin's candidacy or the unanimity of his fellow-republicans on the subject of his entire fitness for the position, it is suggested that the committee, or some members of it, come over to Butte and discuss the subject with the people. While there was some talk of the candidacy of a number of other well qualified and loyal republicans, it is not believed at this time that there is any opposition to Mr. Irvin's appointment, all other possible candidates joining heartily in the hope of his success.

THE CITY CAMPAIGN.

The municipal campaign in the city will soon open up, and it is well for republicans to begin preparations for the contest. The people of Butte remember what the democratic administration promised, and they know what it has performed. If they are not satisfied with its record, the opportunity to bring about a change will soon be open. It is for the people and not the politicians to decide. The people pay the taxes, and either enjoy the benefits of good government or endure the ills of bad government.

It is possible for the republicans of Butte to carry the city at the next election. Honest men for office, and harmony in the ranks will insure republican victory. No party can hope to put up untried or unfit men and elect them to office. The candidates must be such as to command public respect, and the campaign must be placed in the hands of a committee devoted to the cause of good government. Under such conditions the republicans can win. Are they ready for the starting flag to fall?

A POLITICAL MERGER.

The esteemed Benton River Press, in an article which appears in another column, pays its respects to Governor Toole in effective style. It points out that in the mind of our excellent governor there is a wide difference between a railroad merger and a political merger, though in reason and reality there is none. Clearly it is no more criminal for two political parties to merge their interests than for two railroads to do the same thing. Politics is business quite as much as railroading, and there may be quite as many trades and combines in one as in the other. Candor compels the statement that Governor Toole has often opposed political mergers, but as he sacrificed his convictions in the last state campaign on the altar of expediency, it must be apparent that the River Press has struck him fairly between wind and water.

THE REPUBLICAN STRENGTH.

With harmony and enthusiasm in the ranks, the republican party can carry the state at the next election. The friendly attitude of the president towards Western interests has won the admiration and allegiance of every man who intelligently concerns himself in the natural results of wise legislation.

For years the republicans of the West have asked for legislation to promote Western interests. For years the sons of labor in all parties have asked for reforms needed on their own behalf.

The president in his message on behalf of the republican party pledged himself and his party to the accomplishment of such reforms and the enactment of the legislation demanded on the public behalf. These pledges contemplate:

- Protection to American labor. Reciprocity. Exclusion of Chinese. Expansion of trade relations. A Pacific cable. Encouragement of labor organization. A cabinet department of labor. Irrigation.

Such are the pledges of the republican party, some of which are already in effect.

What record and what pledges can democracy offer in its appeal for the support of intelligent citizens? What is the democratic policy? Who are the democratic leaders? Is it any wonder that in Montana the democratic party is hopeless of success on its own merits and that its sole aim and purpose is to divert the campaign to personal lines by creating jealousy and division in the republican ranks? Of course that scheme will fail. It is too thin. If the esteemed enemy have no record to defend, no leaders to champion, no principles to expound, they must take the consequences and either fly into the arms of the populists for protection or take a position "away back" on the mourners' bench.

HARTMAN IN THE EAST.

Says the Washington Post of the 4th instant:

Mr. Charles S. Hartman of Bozeman, Mont., one of the attorneys who opposed Senator W. A. Clark in the senate investigation two years ago, was a guest at the Raleigh yesterday, having come to Washington on personal business. He will be a visitor at the national capital for ten days or two weeks.

"I'm out of politics for good," said Mr. Hartman last evening. "I've washed my hands of everything pertaining to politics, and am now in business for the benefit of Charles S. Hartman."

"I can tell you something about the copper business in Montana, though. The state has suffered terribly, especially that portion of it around Butte, by the closing down of the three big copper mines. There are, normally, about 11,000 or 12,000 men employed in those copper mines, and I have been informed by persons I consider reliable that about 85 per cent of them have been thrown out of work."

"There was no excuse in the world, as every one—at least every one in Montana—knows, for the closing down of those mines. Demand for copper was good, and the ore was being mined without difficulty. The property was making money too. All of a sudden, however, without any apparent reason, three of the biggest mines were closed. I must give them credit, though, for having reopened some of the closed property. A few men have been put back to work. "And, after all, the conditions which make it possible for a few men to preside over the destinies of so many are in existence because of the woeful lack of sense on the part of the masses themselves. If they know how to vote—how to pound sand into a rat hole—things would be different."

Why Mr. Hartman should find occasion to wash his hands at the end of his political career is his own business; but if he had retired from the business of being interviewed at the same time he quit politics, it would have been much better for his reputation. If he knew no more about politics than he does about copper, the cause of his present obscurity requires no explanation. The talk about 85 per cent of the miners of Butte being out of work is grossly inaccurate. As to the cause of the depression he is silent, though he professes to know all about it. The mines were not making money, as he declares. They were making copper they could not sell, and so were compelled to restrict production for a time. What the Bozeman sage means by the last paragraph of his interview would puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer. He may mean that the mines would all be open had he been re-elected to congress the last time, for he plainly says the trouble would not have occurred had the people known how to vote. This is a new explanation of the copper problem, but there are men in New York and Boston, and, mayhap, in Montana, who will not agree with the retired statesman. It really seems a great pity that he has mixed himself up in this copper business.

IRRIGATION.

The Eastern press, which prates of sectionalism in the South, is itself guilty of sectionalism towards the West. Regardless of the fact that the West has enriched the East and has never before asked a dollar from congress for public improvement, the Philadelphia Press is out with a mean article against government aid to irrigation, of which the following is a part:

Leaders of both parties have not hesitated to call the river and harbor bill which Senator Carter talked to death in the last hours of the former congress a gigantic steal, and let in the fifty-odd millions which it sought to appropriate, fully two-thirds of the items were genuine and meritorious. There is now before congress the irrigation scheme. The value of irrigation has been carefully emphasized in the newspapers, the magazines, and the department reports. We have seen a picture of the barren desert, and then we have gazed upon the same land turned into bloom and beauty,

WHAT OF EX-PRESIDENTS?

[New York Tribune.]

This has long been a much-discussed question. John Quincy Adams solved it for himself, for, after his term as president, he re-entered congress two years later and served with distinction until his tragic death there in 1848.

Andrew Johnson likewise returned to the senate after his accidental occupation of the White house, during which this same senate tried him on the impeachment of the house.

These are the sole exceptions in the long list of those who built up political reputations or had sought actively to do with politics after having attained the presidency.

Grover Cleveland affords a partial exception, in that his two terms of office were separated by the incumbency of Harrison.

With a cessation of the presidential office comes the question: "What is the ex-president to do?" If he be possessed of slender means, and many of them have been, necessity will compel him to seek employment to increase his income. For a man to have occupied the chief office of such a government as ours renders a re-entry into the business of life a hard and generally an unwelcome task.

The light that beats on an ex-president is by many degrees fiercer than that which shines on an ordinary man, and when a president again becomes a citizen his acts and motives are subject to almost as much comment or criticism as when he held the executive office.

Besides and beyond these drawbacks there is the feeling that an ex-president should not be compelled to engage in business. If he wishes to do so, well and good, but if he is forced to it simply to increase his means of livelihood, the bill recently introduced in the house of representatives by Mr. Lovering of Massachusetts to grant to ex-presidents \$25,000

the miracle having been performed by irrigation. In the dissemination of these pictures the government has been wonderfully kind, and we must discredit the testimony of our own eyes if we doubt them. We do not doubt them—not in the least. Irrigation is, indeed, a wonderful thing, and great benefits are to be got by it.

So, with all this accepted fact it was quite easy for the senators and representatives of the Greater West to get together and agree on their plans to tap the national treasury. This they have done, and their bills are in both branches of congress, and are being urged with all the skill and vigor known to accomplished legislators. The first amount asked is wisely moderate, but it is only a beginning. There are in the West 600,000,000 acres of arid land, and if a national system of irrigation should be begun it will take literally tens of millions of dollars a year to keep it going. The river and harbor bill will be small in comparison with the ultimate cost of national irrigation.

This is distinctly one of the measures which must be handled carefully at the start. The new land is not absolutely needed. There are millions of acres which are utilized, and the United States can easily support five times its present population on the arable land it possesses without bothering about the deserts until forced to do so. Irrigation is fine, but just now it is not god business for the government.

Why shouldn't senators and representatives of the greater West get together to promote Western interests? Do not senators and representatives of the great East do the same thing on behalf of their own states? Is an irrigation bill intended to create homes for the people any more objectionable than a ship subsidy bill intended to increase the business of a few seaports? The Times confesses that the friends of irrigation ask but modest aid, but it fears greater future demands, though the same objection might be raised against the ship subsidy bill.

The lesson the East received last year in the defeat of the appropriation bill for the distribution of "pork" in the East was thought to be sufficient to insure fair treatment to the West hereafter. If it were not, another lesson may be necessary, and it may be given by another Montana senator.

Madison county's towns are in the throes of municipal elections. Virginia City recently worried through a city campaign, and now Sheridan approaches the ordeal as if it were going to the brink of destruction. Really there should be nothing about a city election to make it such an unwelcome event. If Butte can stand the campaign into which it will soon be ushered, other cities should welcome pre-election incidents and endure them with complacency.

The disagreement at the state assessors' meeting at Butte promises to extend over the state and render nugatory the efforts of assessors to fix a scale of valuation which would be observed in every county. Stock valuations seem to be the bone of contention, and there appears to be fear that several counties in the state will drop back to a lower class if the valuations of the assessors' meeting are adhered to.

Last year the United States paid \$463,000 to foreign steamships for carrying the mails. Not a penny was paid American owners for carrying foreign mails. Those who oppose the ship subsidy bill and say its provisions cover a "steal," evidently want the present state of things to continue.

The blizzard that threatened to seize Montana in its grasp Saturday seems to have had his hands full avoiding an encounter with a warm wave from the coast.

If the pursuit of the Cree Indians continues it may be necessary to bring them under the protection of the game laws to prevent extermination.

a year for the term of their natural lives will, if passed, remove that necessity.

An ex-president, no less a man, is set apart from other men, and the nation, if it will make no further use of him, should at least give him the means to end his days in dignified retirement.

But, as it has always seemed to us, the natural and obviously proper thing is to give him a seat in the senate (with or without a vote), as a senator-at-large for life. The strict constructionists have claimed that this would violate the constitutional requirement that nothing should be done to impair the equal representation of the states in the senate.

The objection seems to us without basis, since when the nation has taken a man out from the state and put him at the head of the government of all the states, it is unreasonable to insist that, on laying down his office, he necessarily reverts to his old state and must be counted in the senate as giving it a third representative, even if he continue to reside in the District.

No man living can have such intimate and valuable knowledge of public affairs, important for the senate to profit by, as the man who has held the chief executive office, and it is a great waste of valuable material not to utilize it.

Proposing and Disposing.

[Buffalo News.] It will be found, probably, that Holland proposes and England disposes in the matter of the Boer war peace plans.

Soap the Soaps.

[Chicago Record-Herald.] A white murderer down in Tennessee protests against "being hanged on the same scaffold and on the same day as a negro." This is drawing the color line right up to the choking point.

The average annual exports of sugar from the Danish West Indies aggregate 14,000,000 pounds, and 1,000,000 gallons of rum is sent away each year. The annual revenue has averaged \$135,000, and the expenditures \$190,000. There has been a deficit in the revenue nearly every year during the past three decades, and the country is heavily in debt.

President Palma of Cuba says it will be impossible for him to successfully manage the island's affairs unless tariff concessions are granted by the United States. And yet there were some who believed it to be the part of wisdom to cut Cuba adrift as soon as her independence from Spain was assured and let her people go it alone.

Ex-Warden Soffel, whose wife aided the escape of two notorious criminals from the Pitsburg, Pa., jail, has employed counsel to defend the erring woman. It will be hard for the discriminating public to resist the conclusion that the members of the Soffel family that don't get into jail will eventually wind up at the asylum.

The sympathy of the entire country has been given President Roosevelt during the illness of his son. The touch of nature that unites the world is supplied by the father's concern over his sick boy, and his anxiety is shared by the people throughout the nation.

Dispatches from London indicate that the deals put through the British war office to provide supplies for South African troops were based on wholesale corruption.

THE SNAP EXPOSED

[Yellowstone Journal].

James Neill, actor and "serious-minded gentleman," as he aptly describes himself, has had his amour propre jostled with a stuffed club. That James is a fine actor is no news to theatre-going people and as such he has had a great many admirers and quasi friends among this same gang who must now judge him from a new point of view.

The grounds for review are these. A short time ago James was a candidate for Elkdom and was scheduled to matriculate at Spokane. He had professed a consuming desire to be an Elk but stipulated with a friend in the order that he was not to be treated rudely, and of course his friend promised him that he would not be. It was suggested that he might get his hair mussed or his high starched collar bent over a little, but he was reminded that these things occur at the most exclusive cotillions, and James was reassured and betook himself to the rendezvous of the B. P. O. E. arrayed as if for a pink tea.

Some misgivings assailed him when he was directed to submit to "blinders," and while temporarily deprived of his sight he was impressed with the belief that an attempt was being made by the attendant to envelope his faultless form in a Mother Hubbard, which indignity he was successful in resisting. But there was more to come.

While reflecting bitterly upon the duplicity of his friends, James—so he alleges—was assailed "from behind" with a weapon particularly distasteful to serious-minded gentlemen—To-wit, a stuffed club.

To certain fine organisms there is no "weapon" so repugnant as a stuffed club. Its impact leaves a mark of familiarity that is crushing to the truly refined, its name is a by-word in slang, and its most frequent use is in connection with the "knock-about" vaudeville acts, that actors like James can only regard with aversion. Hence to be assailed with a stuffed club while in a blindfold condition marked the full limit for James. As a candidate for Elkdom he

THE GOVERNOR ON GREGRIOUSNESS.

[Benton River Press.] Among the speeches delivered before the Western woolgrowers' meeting in Helena was an address by Governor Toole which abounded in sarcastic humor at the expense of trusts and combinations. The governor's bright and witty remarks were highly appreciated by his audience, but many of them are inclined to put a political interpretation upon this portion of his address:

"I would say, in all soberness and earnestness, that the unqualified tendency of the times toward large herds, large flocks, large farms, and combinations in general, is not a consummation devoutly to be wished. What this country needs, in my humble opinion, is more individualism and less gregriousness; more competition and less of that 'community of interest' which is struggling for supremacy."

It will be remembered that Governor Toole was a prominent figure in the political merger of two years ago, when Montana democrats, populists and the labor party pooled their interests in a fusion ticket and thereby benevolently assimilated all the state offices in sight. Hon. Joseph K. Toole was at the head of the combination, and so far as known has not yet resigned from that position. It appears, however, that the governor years for "more individualism and less gregriousness," a state of feeling to which he has doubtless been assisted by enforced and unpleasant relation with his political bedfellows.

The tendency toward combinations, according to the governor, is not a consummation devoutly to be wished, and as a party to the political merger in Montana the state executive will be recognized as an authority on the subject. It has been rumored for some time past that Governor Toole is heartily sick of the fusion contract into which he entered two years ago, but this is the first public intimation of his disgust over "aregriousness" and a desire for more "individualism."

While Governor Taft speaks pleasantly of the Filipinos, his remarks are not in the nature of taffy. He advocates a vigorous prosecution of military operations.

MONTANA CURRENT NOTES.

Great Falls—Mrs. R. T. Gorham, a pioneer to the Chestnut valley, is dead at Cascade.

Livingston—Joseph Stanley, who was convicted Wednesday of assault in the second degree, was fined by Judge Henry \$200.

Billings—Burglars entered the saloon of Frank Rademaker Saturday morning, securing only \$4 in cash and one bottle of hot stuff.

Miles City—Special dispatches from Washington, D. C., set at rest all rumors of the discontinuance of Fort Koehg. It will be retained as a permanent post.

Big Timber—The big sheep firm of Norton & Lyons are disposing of their holdings of sheep and may go into the cattle business. This has been one of the biggest woolgrowing concerns in the state.

Helena—Section Director E. J. Glass is receiving his snow reports from the observers in the mountains. Everything indicates a good supply of water for next summer.

Bozeman—P. T. Morris, president of the city council, has been chosen mayor by that body, to succeed Dr. Foster, deceased. The men were opponents for the mayoralty in the last campaign, the latter being a democrat.

Fort Benton—Everyone is giving a wide berth to the old grader's camp about 15 miles below town, as it is now said to be tenanted by a wild-looking crazy man. His name is not known, but he is supposed to be one of the laborers who assisted in constructing the Verona cutoff.

was "all in" and indignantly tearing off his blinders he so announced and took himself away from the sacred precincts. Later his choler increased and he unburdened himself in a letter to his friend which was published and which—as far as it goes—constitutes the only published expose of the awful fate that befalls a novitiate in Elkdom.

Of course James didn't get in very far and thus didn't see much. In fact, it is alleged by those who know, that the blinders and the Mother Hubbard are common accessories of all secret societies and that the stuffed club or something akin to it, hangs on the wall of every paraphernalia closet, so at best there is not much of an expose.

We are somewhat surprised, however, that such a miscarriage should have occurred in a large city like Spokane, where they are supposed to do everything according to Hoyle. Why, here in little and relatively insignificant Miles City, such a thing could never happen. To begin with, we have the subject under thorough control from the turn-loose, by giving him a swift punch in the solar plexus, and before he gets the use of himself again he is made up for the market. Then the "brethren" proceed to "do things" to him at their leisure.

It is a great mistake to allow a candidate the use of himself as was allowed Mr. Neill at Spokane. The first thing he sees after he comes to, after the solar plexus tap, is liable to prompt or induce murder, and good men are too preclous to subject them to such danger as this. James says at the conclusion of his letter that when he can go into a lodge of Elks with his eyes open and in full control of himself, he will be glad to finish his initiation rudely interrupted by the stuffed club. So he will, but it won't be in Miles City. We value our privileges too highly to discount them one fraction.

Bearing Gifts.

[Washington Post.] When Prince Henry comes that familiar legal line, "know all these men by their presents," will be quite significant.



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