

THIS MEANS BUSINESS

Why the Republican Nominees Should Be Elected.

ALL POSSESS SPECIAL ABILITY.

Frank D. Black's Business Career and Manly Independence.

Where Brown Learned His Law and Stewart and Meacham Received Their Training—The Candidates for Fire Commissioners All Athletic Young Men, With a Thorough Knowledge of Military Discipline, of Mechanics and Supplies and of Insurance Matters.

Below are given the portraits of the leaders on the Republican ticket, and as portraits they will no doubt be subjected to the severest kind of criticism, as is always the case whenever a portrait is attempted of men thoroughly well known. And all these men are thoroughly well known, but not equally well in all the walks of life of the city. The nominee for mayor, for instance, is best known among the business world, where his activity



FRANK D. BLACK.

and sterling probity, and the success it has brought to him, have made him a prominent figure. While the Republicans of the party were discussing the most available man to whom to intrust the city government, and half a dozen of its active members were found to possess all the qualifications for an office of such high consequence and confidence, the citizens who take little part in politics, except to vote according to their best convictions, were giving consideration to the same question. This consideration was all from one point of view—that in view of the financial situation a thorough business man to conduct his affairs was an absolute necessity. In this connection Frank Black's name was on every lip, but he was not a politician, had never expressed any ambition for public honors, and it was doubtful if he would care to leave his successful business to devote himself to the somewhat thankless task of conducting the affairs of the city. When he was approached upon the subject he modestly shook his head, and the consideration drifted to other candidates. Mr. Black was not a candidate before the convention, but there was a feeling that no other selection would present exactly the same claims of popular support, and although he was not formally nominated, yet after the first solitary vote for him gradually the conviction grew that Mr. Black was the strongest in personal popularity, that he possessed in a larger degree than other candidates the qualities sought in the city's executive, and the vote for him grew and grew until it became enthusiastically unanimous. No one was surprised at the result except the recipient of this high honor.

Frank D. Black has the athletic build, the bronzed face and the well-groomed air of a cavalry officer, yet no one would mistake him for anything but what he is, a hard working business man. There is an air of irrepressible about him, and something of business bustle. He is not much of a conversationalist. He looks you straight in the eye and is ready with his reply before you finish your speaking. It is the natural result of his training in business methods, in which a great deal can be said in very few words. He is from McConnsville, Ohio, the city of Republican presidents and office holders, and yet he himself has never had an idea of holding office, possibly because he left Ohio so young that the appetite for office had not developed, and went to Detroit, Mich. He first started in the wholesale grocery trade, but after a time changed into the whole retail business, and built up a large connection. At the time of the fire here his firm was invited to Seattle, and he and his brother came in 1880 and merged their business in that of the Seattle Hardware Company. His father is dead, his mother he brought to Seattle with him. He is married and has three children under five years of age. This is the first time that Mr. Black has run for any public office. He claims to have said to himself, as indeed, he has said to others, "If the people really want me they will elect me, and not looking at it, but if the honor is conferred upon me I shall do my utmost to prove myself worthy." He did intend to be present at the ratification meeting on Wednesday evening, but was prevented, and with the thoughtful kindness of lessening the disappointment of those who expected to meet him, he wrote a letter, "This mainly, masterly, patriotic and honorable letter," as the Hon. John B. Allen appropriately describes it, shows how strong the candidate is in his individuality, with business directness and bluntness he states his position as follows:

"To the Republican Meeting Wednesday Evening—Gentlemen: Anticipating that I may not be with you at your meeting, I beg your indulgence in presenting to you in this manner my good wishes for the success of the Republican party. Naturally feeling complimented in the manner in which my nomination for the office of mayor came about, I had hoped that I would be warranted thereby in abstaining from personal participation in the discussions of the campaign, but so many false rumors have been persistently and deservingly circulated in regard to my position upon matters which would appertain to my administration of the office of mayor of the city of Seattle, that I should be elected, that I have concluded to set them all at rest by the following brief statement of what my ideas are thereon:

"I regard the incorporation of the city of Seattle an immense business undertaking, and consider that business methods should be pursued in conducting its affairs. If I should be so fortunate as to be the choice of the people for the office of mayor, I shall use my influence persistently to secure a fair, conservative, business-like administration of the city's affairs for the benefit of the community. Naturally, the rights and interests of the people, and all the people.

"If I go into office I shall do so without having promised a single office to any man or set of men; without having promised to

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retain in office any man or set of men, and otherwise absolutely untrammelled in the exercise of the policy of my administration of the mayor's office.

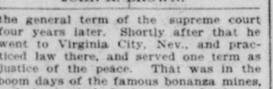
"I am a believer in the doctrine of non-partisanship in municipal politics, but having been nominated by the Republican party, and, if elected, having been elected largely by the votes of the Republicans, I shall expect to favor Republicans for office—all other things being equal, notwithstanding, however, business qualifications for municipal office to be superior to political qualifications.

"My belief that in administering office the official should best subservise the wishes of the people of the city will prompt me to endeavor in my appointments to comply with the wishes of the whole people so far as such a thing is possible.

"The question of the ratification of the proposed new charter I regard as one of individual opinion. If it be of interest to you to know my views upon the matter, I say that I intend to vote for the adoption of the new charter. I have the honor to be, yours respectfully,

"FRANK D. BLACK."

Of the other Republican candidates that for the office of corporation counsel comes next, and for this also a well-known man and prominent figure in legal circles was selected. John K. Brown has conducted considerable litigation in connection with the grade tax suits, and in doing so gained an experience that will be of value to him as the city's counsel. He also defended the unfortunate crazy man Burton who was sentenced to death, without hope of a fee, taking the case to the supreme court, and by hard work and ability saving the man's life. This humane conduct for Mr. Brown many warm friends. He is a home man, is married, and has a son 15 years old who is attending the High school. Mr. Brown was born in Buffalo, N. Y., in 1852, and graduated from Yale college in 1872. He studied law in his native city and was admitted to practice in



JOHN K. BROWN.

the general term of the supreme court four years later. Shortly after that he went to Virginia City, Nev., and practiced law there, and served one term as justice of the peace. That was in 1880, and the justice's business was brisk and had to be "handled with care," when every witness testified with one hand on his six-shooter.

Mr. Brown returned to Buffalo, but he had imbibed a taste for Western life, and in 1888 he came to Seattle. It is a coincidence that Virginia City was burned just before he went there, and when he came here the ashes of the great fire were still smoldering.

Robert Finley Stewart is too popular to need a word of introduction. He was nominated for his present position as city clerk on the first ballot, and was elected by a plurality of 1,675 votes. This shows his popularity two years ago, and since then his official position has made him more widely known and more thoroughly respected. He was born in the central part of Pennsylvania, a few miles from the native place of Gen. Beaver, Gov. Hastings, and other famous men. He first came to Tacoma to settle, but in a month changed his mind and made Seattle his home. That was in 1883. He only had one fire insurance office of Hartford & Beach, and in 1884 Mr. Beach retired and young Stewart took his place in the firm, and it has remained Hartford & Stewart ever since. He is married, has one child, and a pretty home on Seventeenth avenue. That he will succeed himself as city clerk is beyond the shadow of a doubt, not only on the score of his immense popularity, but because of the care and diligence he has shown in the office. The records have never before been so well kept, and the conduct of his office has been marked by the smoothness and efficiency born of executive ability and diligence.

The office of clerk of the board of public works is in reality one of the most important in the municipality, as the clerk is really the purchasing agent, with the concurrence of the board, of the vast supplies of the city. A man occupying such a position should be a ready mathematician and possess all the shrewdness and probity of a successful merchant. George F. Meacham, who now holds that office, received just the training best calculated to fit a man for such a position, and the manner in which he has fulfilled his duty increased the confidence of his friends in his business ability and trustworthiness, and led them to place him before the people as a candidate for the more responsible office of city treasurer. In his early days he taught school for four years, and at the same time pursued his studies into the higher branches of education. But when old enough to take an estimate of himself he found the best of his mind was really in the line of mercantile pursuits. At the age of 26 he started in business at Portland, and in a couple of years built up a large grocery trade. Then a better opportunity seemed to present itself at Walla Walla, and he opened a large store there for the sale of hardware and farm machinery.

In the year 1888 he came to Seattle to engage in the real estate business, and the capital education that he had received at Williams college, and his genial, gentlemanly manners, soon made him a host of friends. He built up a steady business and gained confidence by the fact

that he never handled any of the wild-cat schemes or "additions" that were proposed to fleece the unwary and those of small means. But there came a time when the real estate business in this city has become unremunerative, and two years ago he offered himself before the convention as a candidate for city treasurer, the office for which he is again a candidate. He then polled a very large vote, but his popularity in the recent Republican convention was a surprise both to himself and his friends.

There is no doubt of his Republicanism. It comes to him by heredity. His parents moved from Solano county, Cal., into Oregon in 1863, where his father and uncle, under the firm name of Meacham Bros., built the Meacham toll road across the Blue mountains to the then famous Boise mines. Meacham's father was a presidential elector of Oregon when Grant was elected president, and subsequently became superintendent of Indian affairs of the state of Oregon.

Mr. Meacham was appointed clerk of the board of public works in May, 1894, and the management of his office is a part of the excellent record made by the Republican party in the administration of municipal affairs. He has in particular taken care to see that the records of local improvements shall be scrupulously kept, in regard to which there has been so much litigation in the past. He is a resident of the Seventh ward, where Meacham twelve years ago, and has two sons and two daughters.

Had there been a public examination, with the doors thrown open to everybody in the country, and the offices to go to those proving special fitness and ability, no better candidates for the office of fire commissioner could have been obtained than those placed before the people by the Republican nomination. One of the essential requisites in such a department, and properly placed first, is discipline. A fire department should be disciplined to the highest degree. On this, to a great ex-

tent, depends its efficiency. Frank E. Adams, of the Republican party, who is a candidate for the position as fire commissioner, has not only made a study of discipline, but has proved himself a past master of the art of drilling men.

Five years ago Adams entered the National Guard as a private in Company D. He served in the Gilman mining riots, and also in the Northern Pacific strike, east of the mountains in 1884. He was very severely appointed sergeant in 1882, and two years later saw him at the head of Company D as its captain. Since that time everybody knows of Company D. It has forged to the front as the crack company of the city and of the state. It is, in fact, the only company in the state militia that has a full company of sixty-three men. There is no other company that turns out on parade as it does, no other company so active and so thoroughly enthusiastic and proud of its showing. Its captain could very properly claim a large share in the honors won by the company that he has disciplined to such perfection. But he has himself as an officer won high honors. At the examination of National Guard officers last summer he passed with the highest percentage of any officer in the state's service, his record being 88 1/2 out of a possible 100.



GEORGE F. MEACHAM.

Not only in the matter of discipline is Frank Adams calculated to make an efficient fire commissioner, but he spent four years in the machine shops of the North Star Iron Works, Minneapolis, learning thoroughly the business of a machinist, and had graduated at the University of Minnesota, and after having mastered the practical application of mechanics for four years he went into business for himself as a mechanical draftsman and designer. He came here six years ago to engage in this profession, and among the many important mechanical improvements in which he has been employed are the vertical sawing machine of the Seattle Cedar Lumber Company, and a wonderful contrivance for wrapping and mailing newspapers. He is married and has one daughter.

All the Republican nominees for fire commissioners are young men, are all over six feet tall, without any indication of aldermanic suifness of girth, all are energetic, and all, as before stated, possess some special fitness for the office to which they were nominated by the Republican party. Charles Watson, the last named, is recommended for his record as a disciplinarian, and his practical knowledge of mechanics.

George Hood has a thorough knowledge of the trade values of such supplies which will be needed by the department. He came here in 1889 and was with the Seattle Hardware Company for three years, and is now with the Schwabacher company in its large hardware store. He was born in Glover, Vt., educated at the public schools and afterward obtained a thorough knowledge of machinery and mechanical appliances. He married shortly after coming to Seattle.

So that, if the Republican ticket is elected, the city will have one fire commissioner who is a past master in the art of drilling men, and has a thorough technical knowledge of machinery that may develop certain improvements in fire-fighting apparatus, and another fire commissioner who will be qualified as an expert to pass on all bids for department supplies. The third candidate will also bring to the board a special expert experience. Charles Watson has had good opportunities for learning all the ins and outs of the insurance business. He was born in Hudson county, N. J., and first started with the Appleton publishing house, of New York, but later embraced an opportunity to engage in the insurance business. He came here in 1892 as manager of the Fidelity and Casualty company, of New York, for the states of Washington and Oregon. He also has had a taste of the discipline necessary to the best working of a body such as the fire brigade. He served his five years as a member of the Twenty-second regiment of New York state militia. Since his residence here he has come into contact with our fire ladders, for it was he who selected and trained the department's tug-of-war team that won the Post-Intelligencer trophy.

SOME POINTED CARTOONS. Will Carson Ridicules the Demo-Pop in Picture. A pointed and vigorous set of cartoons has been drawn by Will Carson on the political situation in the city, causing by their exhibition not only a flood of merriment among those with any appreciation of the humorous, but also a chorus of cheering among the Populist factions who are divided in their estimate of the work, and among those who hold the respective views. To such a pitch did their demonstrations run yesterday morning that the four drawings exhibited at the Globe Art store had to be withdrawn for a time until the combatants dispersed. The cause of

the excitement included a pen and ink drawing of the "Populist party," represented as a mechanic who has been enticed into an opium joint, where he "hit the pipe" labeled "Golden Promises," and he lies dreaming of unlimited wealth and leisure, rise "out of the smoke from the pipe. At the feet of the sleeper stand the "Miscellaneous Company," Ah Sin and the father of sin, conspiring his ruin. The dialogue is not given, but the artist has the gentleman, who is nameless in polite society, reply to Ah Sin's solicitous inquiry about the latter's probable election as follows: "My son, in confidence, I may tell you that my best-laid plans sometimes miscarry, as you might have known had you ever read a certain Book, happily now obsolete, wherein I am spoken of in malicious disparagement. But you know how it is yourself. "Great reformers" like you and me are ever thus maligned." Upon a Chinese lantern suspended above the victim are the words quoted, with the exception of the last clause, from newspaper advertisements: "Consultations free; prescriptions absolutely free; votes solicited and paid for."

In another drawing the Populist party is represented as a beautiful young woman reclining upon a grassy knoll, in shame, nakedness, disgust and despondency. With her left hand she covers her forehead and eyes, the feathers shown being eloquent with emotion, sickness and premature age. Her right hand and arm are extended as though to thrust aside a snake, which is looking backward with exultation and amusement as he slowly crawls away. By her side is a pill box, labeled "Food for the brain; miscemetic fruit (pills) gives wisdom and wealth. Consultations free; prescriptions absolutely free. Eat and drink." The work is entitled the "Temptation and Fall."

The center figure in a third drawing represents the Populist candidate for mayor as "Turk Jay," in a fit of impotent wrath demanding the delivery into his hands of the queen by those who sold her, namely, the Gin Miller, the Gambler, the Populist and Democratic Party. The Populist is being fittingly portrayed with the head of a blind ass, and the only empty-handed one of the trio, who sold the queen into slavery. The others have a tight hold of the swag in their pockets.

The fourth cartoon pictures a scene in the "Bachelor Quarters of the Unspeakable Turk," suggested to the artist by an article in the West Coast Populist. In the foreground are two Oriental dancing girls, who impart life and action to the scene, while another languidly reclines upon the bosom of the Turk in the background. An affecting contrast is obtained by a marginal sketch of "his lovely and neglected wife" in a garret, the furniture and empty dishes of which bespeak extreme poverty.

Two cartoons are in one of Stewart & Holmes' show windows. One represents an ape in the guise of Napoleon. He is resplendently adorned in the regalia of royalty, and is waving aloft a banner with this strange device: "Don Quixote vas von little potato beside myself, de augustus, de magnificent. I am von vindmill myself—de greatest on earth, by gones! I manufacture ze cyclone and ze hurricane to order. Behold me! I point vus pride to my record of war, when two years ago, as doctor and generalissimo supremass of de greatest army ze world have ever see, I, ze vindmill, slew ze whole world, single-handed, mit myself alone!" This is an

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allusion to this bombastic proclamation occupying two or three columns of the defunct Telegraph, then in existence. The artist shows him still "Aping Napoleon." But the catastrophe is at hand. A companion drawing shows the rider thrown from a blooded horse, the "popular vote." Falling in a heap upon a drum he bursts it. A duck, startled by the uproar and confusion, flies in mad haste and fright from an adjacent pond. The bird's wide-open eyes and mouth, and fluttering aspect make its exclamation easily interpreted. The ape's hat, with its demolished peacock feathers, falls upon and crushes a lily, a moral in itself, trifling as the incident is. The touch of pathos so closely linked to highest humor pervades all of the artist's work, which tends strongly to the launching of the pretentious and vain ambitions of the person treated into innocuous disrepute.

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