POPS WANT TO REORGANIZE.

DO NOT PROPOSE TO BE MERGED INTO ANY OTHER PARTY.

Yakima Conference Agrees That a State Convention Should Be Held to Outline a Policy on the Lines of Omaha and St. Louis Platforms.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

TACOMA, Dec. 3.—The Populist meeting, a call for which was made public in yesterday's issue of the Post-Intelligencer, stated to be held in the office of Guvnor Teats, of Tacoma, was held here this afternoon. Strangely enough, the meeting was called to order in the room adjoining the office headquarters of the Doolittle Republican Club, in the old county building on C street, a card on the door of Attorney Teats' office announcing that delegates to the gathering should meet at the above address promptly at 1 o'clock p. m. It was not until after 2 o'clock, however, when the attendance assumed such proportions as to justify a concerted move toward organization. The early afternoon boats and train both brought out-of-town Populists to the place of meeting, and it was Attorney Guvnor Teats who presided temporarily in arranging preliminaries.

J. P. Fay, of King county, was made permanent chairman, and J. R. Ross, of Pierce county, an employe in the auditor's office, was chosen as secretary.

Representatives of the party were present from nearly all the counties in the western portion of the state, including State Superintendent of Instruction F. J. Browne, of Olympia; J. P. Fay, of King county; C. E. Cline, of Whatcom; J. C. Conine, of Thurston; P. P. Carroll, of King; Judge Winsor, of King; Land Commissioner Robert Bridges, of Olympia; Guvnor Teats, J. H. Ross, P. R. Baker, Capt. F. V. Hogan, Councilmen John Hartman and C. F. Owen, all of Tacoma; W. P. C. Adams, of Olympia; "Farmer" Todd, of Mason county; J. O. Couch, of Adams county; J. C. Crosby, of Skagit county; Ernest Burns and Judge Benson, of Clallam county; Judge W. H. H. Kean, of Tacoma; H. W. Boyer, Pierce county; Alexander Jones, J. J. Hohman, E. W. Way, A. P. Tugwell, C. P. Dam, of King county; also Mrs. Annie Abbott, Mrs. Lizzie Boyer and Mrs. Hattie V. B. Belden, of Tacoma, besides numerous lookers-on who were not actively identified with the gathering.

After the selection of officers of the meeting a motion carried to devote half an hour to five-minute speeches. The general trend of all the brief addresses was favorable to middle-of-the-road tactics during the next ensuing campaign. Among those who talked were C. E. Cline, Alexander Jones, Judge Winsor, F. J. Browne, Robert Bridges, "Farmer" Todd and Capt. Hogan.

On motion a committee was appointed by the chair to formulate a report in keeping with the intent of the meeting, as follows: C. E. Cline, chairman; Guvnor Teats, Judge A. P. Tugwell, E. Burns, G. F. Walker, C. P. Dam and Alexander Jones. The report presented an hour later was:

"We, the committee appointed by your conference, submit the following suggestions and recommendations for your consideration:

"First—We repudiate the idea that the People's party of the state of Washington has become merged in or is a part of any other organization. We therefore advise that the organization of the People's party, otherwise known as the Populist party, shall be perfected and preserved throughout the state, independent of any other political organization.

"Second—That we declare it to be the right of the People's party, in its conventions, to determine the question of what shall or shall not be the policy of the party, independent of the dictation of any other organization.

"Third—We recommend that organization be perfected in every precinct in each county in the state, for educational purposes, along the lines of the Omaha and St. Louis platforms.

"Fourth—That in order to meet the changed conditions that confront us, a conference of the People's party be called.

"Fifth—We recommend to the state central committee that it, in the usual manner, call a conference of those who support the Omaha and St. Louis platforms of the Populist party in each county on January 20, 1898. We further suggest that each of said county conferences discuss the future policy of the party, and that each be entitled to elect three delegates, and as many others as such conference may desire to have attend the meeting on the 22d day of February, 1898, for the purpose of determining the party policy in such city as the state central committee may determine. We further suggest that in case either state or county central committees refuse or neglect to call such conferences on or before December 20, 1897, that either this or some other committee of this conference have power to issue such call."

The report resulted in a long discussion, in which many in attendance took part. Some objected to dictating to the state central committee; others held it was nonsense to attempt to outline the policy of the party at this time, while still others upheld the report and indorsed the movement toward early agitation of People's party principles. Attempt was made and defeated to take the report up section by section, and then followed one long talk after another, the general tendency being to favor an announcement of principles in the form offered by the committee.

C. E. Cline went into detail in talking on the report. He said that throughout the state there is an evident feeling of unrest among the people; not on account of the principles of the People's party, but for reason of the manner in which the principles are being carried out. He held that if something is not done to bring the members of the party in line no less than from 8,000 to 10,000 voters will affiliate with a Socialist organization of some sort, and that in such event the People's party will be helpless to carry out its work, however it may fuse and combine with others. He denied that members of the state central committee would take offense at the suggestions offered in the report.

The argument was beginning to grow Populistically warm, when the chair interfered to prevent interruptions and loud talk. Cline pinned E. W. Way to the wall while the latter held the floor in opposition to the report, and it was while Way was trying to reply that a concerted demand was made for a vote. An effort was made to adopt only the third paragraph of the report, but came to nothing. The report was finally adopted as a whole with but few dissenting voices, immediately after which adjournment was taken.

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See our goods and get prices before making your Holiday purchases.

GRAHAM & MOORE,

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A pleasure to show goods.

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When you have made your biscuits light with *Schilling's Best* baking powder, and have made *Schilling's Best* tea "exactly right" to go with them, don't—we beg of you—spoil this delicious combination by using poor butter.

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MONTESANO NOMINATIONS.

Proposition to Buy Water Works Will Also Be Voted On.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

MONTESANO, Dec. 3.—At a citizens' caucus held here last night the following named persons were placed in nomination as candidates for the various offices to be filled at the city election next Tuesday:

Mayor—James Smith.
Clerk—D. W. Fleet.
Treasurer—E. Kellerman.
Attorney—J. A. Hutcheson.
Police justice—D. H. Mullen.
Health officer—Dr. F. L. Carr.
Councilman-at-large—F. W. Byles.
Councilmen for two years—H. M. Hollingsworth, William Geissler and H. S. Shorey.
Councilman for one year, to fill unexpired term of F. E. Stevens—J. F. Taylor.

The question of the city buying the waterworks of the Montesano Mill and Water Company will be voted on next Tuesday, and a canvass of the citizens indicates that the majority will be on the side of the noes, unless the purchase price is lowered.

MONTE CRISTO DEPOPULATED.

Only Twenty-five Persons Left, and Some of Them Will Come Out.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

MONTE CRISTO, Dec. 3.—There are not to exceed twenty-five persons left in this town, and this number will be materially reduced within the next few days. The mines are closed, and but two watchmen are employed at the mill. Mr. Roller, formerly of Denver, who came here, accompanied by his bride, a short time since, to take the position of assayer for the Monte Cristo Mining Company, will leave on Monday over the road.

Charles Fornier, of Bessemer, Mich., who had his knee cap broken last summer, will be taken out by his friends on a hand sled.

Mrs. Stamm, a nurse, who broke her leg about six weeks ago, will be obliged to stay here for the winter.

No mails have been received here since the road was washed out.

MOODY HAS ANOTHER CHANCE.

Convicted Chehalis Murderer Saved by the Supreme Court.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

OLYMPIA, Dec. 3.—The supreme court has reversed judgment in the case of the state, respondent, vs. E. L. Moody, appellant, convicted of murder in the first degree and sentenced to death in Chehalis county. The court refused to consider many of the errors assigned, as such that had been already repeatedly passed upon.

Appellant assigned as error the fact that the court denied defendant's challenge for cause against Juror Shafer, who testified that he had formed an opinion in the case which it would take evidence to change, and it was on this assignment, together with the instructions of the court in relation to premeditation and deliberation, the instruction of the court in relation to the dying declaration and the admission of such dying declaration to the jury room, that the judgment is reversed.

NOMINATIONS IN OLYMPIA.

Republicans and Populists Each Put Up a Ticket.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

OLYMPIA, Dec. 3.—The Republican party of this city in convention today nominated the following ticket for municipal officers:

Mayor—George B. Lane.
City attorney—Phil Skillman.
Treasurer—T. G. Lake.
Clerk—John C. Tweed.
Health officer—Dr. Nowell.
Councilman-at-large—C. B. Mann.

The Populist ticket, also nominated today, is as follows:

Mayor—John Byrne.
City attorney—P. M. Troy.
Treasurer—Fred Schomber.
Clerk—J. B. Scofield.
Health officer—Dr. J. H. McDonald.
Councilman-at-large—Allan White.

SQUATTERS' RIGHTS DEFINED.

Commissioner Smith Holds in Favor of First Improver.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

PORT TOWNSEND, Dec. 3.—News has been received here of a rather important land decision recently rendered by United States Commissioner John U. Smith, of Dyea, which determines the question of prior right of squatters to land that is contested for by two or more claimants.

The commissioner holds that any act of ownership in good faith, by a person entitled to land in Alaska, followed within a reasonable time by substantial improvements or inclosures, entitles him to possession against every one except the United States.

FISHERIES CONVENTION CALLED.

The Object Is to See the State Properly Represented at Tampa, Fla.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

OLYMPIA, Dec. 3.—Gov. Rogers today issued a circular, calling for a fisheries convention to be held at Tacoma on December 22, which all persons interested in fisheries are invited to attend. The object is to provide means to properly represent this state at the national fisheries congress to be held at Tampa, Fla., on January 19, 1898.

THE SLOOP PIGEON IS SAFE.

She Arrives at Haines' Mission, From Lynn Canal.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 3.—The sloop Pigeon, reported lost while on the way from Skaguay to Dyea, with twelve passengers, has arrived at Haines' Mission safely.

Judge Anders Not to Resign.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

OLYMPIA, Dec. 3.—The report regarding the resignation of Supreme Judge Anders appears to be without foundation. Judge Anders says he has no idea of resigning. The judge's health was never better and his capacity for hard work is well known by all about the state building.

Homesteads in the Olympics.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

OLYMPIA, Dec. 3.—Gov. Rogers today issued a circular setting forth that good homesteads may be had between Grays harbor and the Straits of Fuca, embracing the west half of the Olympic peninsula.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if fails to cure. 25c. Genuine has L. B. Q. on each tablet.

Sweet pickled spare ribs, choice, 4c, at the Fulton, Yakima and Seattle markets.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

WATSON DEFENDS HIMSELF.

SURVEYOR GENERAL REFUSES TO OBEY COMMISSIONER HERMANN.

A Charge of Gross Irregularities in His Office Results in an Order for the Discharge of the Entire Force—Mrs. Watson a Favored Clerk.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The term of office of William P. Watson, surveyor general for the state of Washington, will expire in the ordinary course of things in March next. He may consider himself extremely lucky, however, if his official head does not fall under the political guillotine within the coming month. Republicans who want the office, and these number more than a few, are already bent upon having a vacancy created; and a combined and somewhat sustained attack has already been made upon him.

An inspector of the interior department has visited Olympia and has made a decidedly adverse report as to the conduct of the office under the present surveyor general. As a result of this, Commissioner Hermann has written Mr. Watson a letter sharply censuring him and calling upon him to demand the resignation of his entire office force. Mr. Watson has replied, politely but firmly refusing to do this. Whether Mr. Watson's resignation will now be called for, or whether his letter will be considered as an act of insubordination warranting his peremptory removal, is so far only a matter of conjecture. That one or the other of these things will happen within a short time is confidently believed by every one in the interior department who understands the stalwart Republicanism of its present executive chief.

In a nutshell, the germ of the whole trouble is that Surveyor General Watson has appointed his wife, Jessie H. Watson, to a very lucrative position in his office and has permitted her to take office work home and do it in connection with her household duties. This does not appear openly in the inspector's report nor in the letter of the commissioner of the general land office, and is only covertly mentioned by Mr. Watson in his reply to the commissioner. Other charges of a general character are more clearly set forth, but what is considered practically as drawing two salaries himself, by appointing his wife to a clerkship, is the cornerstone of the attempt to remove the surveyor general.

Republicans of Olympia have been bombarding the interior department for some time with letters urging the removal of Mr. Watson and the appointment of a Republican in his place. It is remembered that Mr. Watson in the last campaign forsook his old party. Of course his enemies charge that he did this with the hope of holding office under the Republican administration in the event of its success.

Inspector W. S. Greene, of the general land office, who was sent out to Olympia some time ago to investigate the condition of things there, drew up a report giving a pretty bad account of the office and the manner in which it was conducted. First he reported to the commissioner that the rent paid by Mr. Watson for his office rooms, $60 a month, was excessive, and that these rooms, if the government should vacate them, could not be rented for $30 and perhaps not even for $20. He also strongly recommended the removal of the office from its present quarters to the building of T. M. Reed, who offered to furnish six rooms with a larger area of floor space than the present quarters, well lighted and protected from danger by fire, and with a south and west exposure, for $30 per month. This would be in the same building with the United States land office, and the inspector urges that this proximity would be a convenience to both offices.

Regarding the management of the office, the inspector says the discipline is lax, that office hours are not observed, and that the personal habits of some of the clerks are open to grave censure. He also reports that clerks are allowed to enter the office at night to perform work for individuals for their private gain; that more draftsmen and less clerks should be employed, and that one clerk (presumably Mrs. Watson) is permitted to do her work at home.

In summing up these charges the commissioner of the general land office wrote to Surveyor General Watson as follows:

"In view of the utter disregard of your clerical force as to their official duties, it is believed that the public interest will be best subserved by the discontinuance of all such force, and to that end would advise that their resignations be asked for. An immediate response to this letter is desired."

Mr. Watson looks upon these charges as very grave, amounting almost to malfeasance in office, and says in his reply to the commissioner that, if true, they would warrant his instant dismissal. He denies everything in toto and strenuously objects to his "character being blackened by unfounded and ex parte charges." He appeals to the commissioner personally "as an honorable man not to allow his great office to be used to that end." He then demands that specific charges be made and that he be allowed to answer them one after another.

In regard to the matter of office rent, Mr. Watson says that immediately upon receipt of the commissioner's letter he called upon A. A. Phillips, receiver of the First National bank and owner of the building in which the surveyor general's office is located. Mr. Phillips declined to make a reduction in the rent, since the items of heat, light and water cost over $20 a month, leaving less than $40 a month for the rent alone, not much more than is asked at the Reed block, while the accommodations are better and more suitable. This last factor Mr. Watson urges at considerable length and adds that the protection from fire alone is a considerable advantage, when it is remembered that the records of the office were destroyed in 1889 and replaced at an expense of thousands of dollars. He adds that the present offices were constructed for the purpose for which they are now used, and are consequently worth more to the government than they would be to private individuals. He says the office has little business with the local land office, other than filing plats from time to time as surveys are accepted in the district, so that the proximity would be of no advantage or convenience to either office. He also thinks that the expense of keeping up six fires, since a messenger would have to be employed, would be more than $25 a month, which is almost the difference in price between the present quarters and those recommended by the inspector in the Reed block. The matter of rent, he adds, has been inquired into by other inspectors and the amount paid therefor approved from year to year. Should a change still be deemed advisable, Mr. Watson suggests that bids be called for. He says he has no interest in the matter personally, as both Mr. Reed and Mr. Phillips are his warm friends.

As to the charge of the office being ill-managed, he says it is so general he can only answer by a reference to its standing before the department. He attacks Inspector Greene for his "cursory examination," declaring that, although he was in the city some six days, he was not in the surveyor general's office more than half an hour during the entire time, and, though invited to look into the character and efficiency of the office, made practically no examination thereof.

Mr. Watson says he himself informed Inspector Greene that more draftsmen and fewer clerks should be employed, and that since September, 1896, Edward B. Graves, classed and paid as a clerk, has been working as a draftsman, and that in every one of his annual reports he has recommended an increase in the drafting force.

In regard to clerks being allowed access to the office after office hours, Mr. Watson says that he found this practice prevailing when he became surveyor general. He curtailed it, however, to a certain extent, by permitting a clerk admission only to his own particular room. He calls attention to the fact that by law surveyor generals are allowed to copy notes and charge therefor if done after office hours. If clerks are not permitted to do it, it would be to the pecuniary advantage of the surveyor general himself.

Concerning the charge of one clerk being permitted to do her work at home, Mr. Watson says that this clerk, Mrs. Jessie H. Watson, examined and marked for correction and transcribed each day a task of twelve pages of notes, the highest average the records of his office show any clerk to have made. He says he considers such permission was fully within the discretion of his position, provided the public interests did not suffer. It was given, he says, as she was the only woman in the office and they were short of desk room. He then furnishes a report showing that in the first ten months of this year Mrs. Watson transcribed 2,756 pages of field notes, making the cost for the work about 7 cents per folio, or less than one-third of the sum allowed surveyors generals. However, Mr. Watson says, since the commissioner disapproves this practice, he will discontinue it immediately.

As to the charge of the utter disregard of the clerical force of their official duties, Mr. Watson appeals to the record of the general land office in proof of the efficiency and ability of the work done under his supervision, and to the previous reports of every inspector since he took the office.

His peremptory refusal to ask for the resignation of the entire force is couched in these words:

"This I will not do, for though I wish to hold the office, I do not wish to do so through injustice to any one. I consider the charges made by the inspector as false and malicious, and to ask for their resignations would be a practical admission of some foundation for the charges."

In conclusion, Mr. Watson asserts his belief that Inspector Greene came there predisposed to find fault with the office, or that after his arrival there he was so influenced by those having a personal grudge against him as to make his report wholly ex parte.

"I feel confident," says Mr. Watson, "that the information from which Inspector Greene drew his deductions for the wholesale condemnation of this office was given by a person or persons in this town who, I can show you from indisputable evidence, the records of your own office or other statements, are unworthy, corrupt and malicious."

Surveyor General Watson secured his appointment from Mr. Cleveland principally through the influence of Senator Bate, of Tennessee. He was also strongly indorsed by Judge Burke, of Seattle, and by James J. Hill, the president of the Great Northern Railway Company.

It is understood from private letters received here that if the commissioner of the general land office decides against him, he will appeal on civil service grounds to the secretary of the interior, and, if need be, to the president himself.

No one can say yet who will succeed Mr. Watson as surveyor general. Gen. McMicken, of Olympia, who held the office under President Harrison, expects to get it again, but Olympia has received so many places, notably the appointment of Mr. Scobey as register of the local land office, Col. Huestis as collector and Mr. Gowey as consul general to Yokohama, it is now thought the office will be given to Maj. Cole, of Whatcom.

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Sarsaparilla Sense.

Any sarsaparilla is sarsaparilla. True. So any tea is tea. So any flour is flour. But grades differ. *You want the best.* It's so with sarsaparilla. There are grades. You want the best. If you understood sarsaparilla as well as you do tea and flour it would be easy to determine. But you don't. How should you? When you are going to buy a commodity whose value you don't know, you pick out an old established house to trade with, and trust their experience and reputation. Do so when buying sarsaparilla.

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SUITS —FOR— $8.50 Worth $12.	OVERCOATS —FOR— $7.50 Worth $10 and $12.
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SUITS —FOR— $12.50 Worth $15 and $17.50.	OVERCOATS —FOR— $12.50 Worth $15 and $17.50.

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Strongly sewed Working Pants At	$ .75
Eastern Cashmere Pants, the $2 grade	$ .85
The $2.50 grade	$1.05
Fine Imported Cashmere and Worsted Pants, highly tailored, worth $5 and $5.50	$2.25
Boys' Overcoats, worth $3 and $3.50	$1.45
Men's Overcoats, fine beaver or melton, worth $7.50, $8 and $9..	$4.75
Men's Cashmere Suits, in plaids, checks or plain colors, sold everywhere for $7.50, $8 and $8.50, for	$3.65

Hats, Hats.

A large line of Men's Fedora Hats, in brown or black, worth $2, $2.50 and $2.75, for	95c
Boys Felt Turbans, very neat, worth 50c and 75c.....	25c
Boys' Fine Caps, in eight different styles, worth 50c, 75c, for..	35c

Shoes. Shoes.

Men's Fine Casco Calf, in Yale or French or coin toes, a very select and durable shoe, worth $2.75, for	$1.45
Ladies' Nova Scotia Seal, absolutely waterproof button shoes for dress, worth $5, for	$1.65
A special lot of Slippers in odds and ends, worth up to $3, for..	$ .35
A lot of Ladies' Good Quality Rubbers for	$ .16
A line of Children's Chinchilla Jackets, worth $2.75, for	$1.15
A line of Ladies' Fine Jackets, including Buckley, in green and navy blue, velvet trimmed and braided, tan colored jackets, varying in prices, $8.50, $9, $9.50, all go on this special day for..	$5.45
A line of Ladies' Beaver Jackets, in navy and black, worth $7.50, for	$2.45
Boys' Good Percale Waists, At	12c
Men's Outing Flannel Shirts, At	18c

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DOLLS, DOLLS.

1,000 Dressed Dolls, regular price 15c, will be sold at	9c Each.
700 Dressed Dolls, regular price 25c, will be sold at.....	19c Each.
500 Dressed Dolls, regular price 50c, will be sold at	33c Each.
500 Dressed Novelty Dolls, Africans, Cubans, Circassians and Hottentots, worth regular 75c, will be sold at	49c Each.
500 12-inch Undressed Dolls, Kid Body, Bisque Face, regular price 25c, special at	19c Each.
500 15-inch Undressed Dolls, Kid Body, Bisque Face, regular price 85c, special at	43c Each.
300 20-inch Undressed Dolls, Kid Body Bisque Face, Jointed, regular price 75c, special at	49c Each.
200 24-inch Dressed Dolls, Natural Hair, Silk Dress, Trimmed Hat, with Plume, regular price $5.00, special at	$3.25 Each.
Don't forget it—Dolls from 3c each	Up to $20.00.

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The Night Before Christmas, Our Four-Footed Friends, Little Red Riding Hood, A Visit From St. Nicholas, Ten Little Niggers, Mother Goose, Cinderella, Santa Claus, Robinson Crusoe, Puss in Boots, Jack the Giant Killer, ranging in price from ..... 5c up to $1.50 Each.

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Games and Block Pictures, both useful and amusing; Bicycle Race, Steeple Chase, Parlor Football, Yacht Race, Brownie School Puzzle, Pom in the Corner, Hide and Seek, Lotto, Wild West, Fish Pond, Mail and Express, Backgammon, Dissected Map of the United States, Checker Boards, etc., etc.

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Paint Boxes for Children, at 13c, 19c, 23c each.
Water Colors in Better Grades, at 49c, 73c, 98c, $1.49 each.

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