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MONDAY, AUGUST 29.

Call for Republican Territorial Central Committee.

REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE of New Mexico, Santa Fe, Aug. 23, 1898. The Republican Central Committee is hereby called to meet at the office of the chairman in Santa Fe, N. M., at 10 o'clock a. m., on Thursday, the 31st day of September, 1898, for the purpose of fixing the time and place of holding the territorial convention to nominate a candidate for delegate in congress; fixing the number of delegates thereto; and their apportionment among the several counties; and such other business as may come before the committee.

EDWARD L. BARTLETT, Chairman. MAX FROST, Secretary.

As a "ready letter writer," Oliver Lee beats Gaskell's Compendium.

The "Rough Riders," upon their return to New Mexico, should receive a rousing welcome.

Delegate Ferguson is sure of a re-nomination, but not so sure of re-election. Very level headed he in this instance.

As a candidate for governor of New York, Colonel Teddy Roosevelt would make a rough, ready and successful campaign.

New York politics are getting warm. Governor Black declines to accede to the request of Senator Platt to decline a re-nomination.

Bred in the bone. It is said, that ex-Secretary John Sherman is looking for an opening in Ohio politics as an anti-administration candidate.

Carl Schurz doubts the ability of this country to successfully take care of newly acquired territory. As a doubter the aforesaid Mr. Schurz always was a shining specimen.

General Aguinaldo has virtually been retired to private life in the Philippine Islands. President McKinley has issued orders that there will be no joint occupancy of the islands with the insurgents and that lets the man with a gold whistle out of his job.

The announcement comes from political headquarters in Washington that the demand for political literature regarding silver has dropped to almost nothing, and other questions are occupying the public mind. That bit of news will cause genuine grief in Colorado newspaper offices.

Perhaps in the future boards of county commissioners guilty of peculiar transactions where public funds are concerned, will not be so anxious for the records in their offices to be examined. And perhaps the voters will be more careful concerning the men they elect as members of the board of county commissioners.

It has finally been determined who destroyed Corvera's fleet off Santiago. The women clerks in the Navy department, by their enthusiastic and oscillatory greetings of Admiral Schley on Saturday, settled that question once and for all time. After that incident Admiral Sampson will have to content himself with third place along the naval heroes of the war. The rank will be Dewey, Schley, and Sampson.

Upon the urgent invitation of our more or less esteemed contemporary, the Las Vegas Optic and Mr. G. H. Coors, the chairman of the board of county commissioners of San Miguel county, the New Mexican has made some investigations of the official conduct of the board of county commissioners of San Miguel since January 1, 1897, and part of the results is given in an article elsewhere in this issue. Our esteemed friends in Las Vegas may not like this way of handling the case, but they had no business to extend such an urgent invitation in the matter.

Erroneous Impression Corrected

It has been imagined in some quarters that with the settling up of the country and fencing in of the formerly extensive ranges, the growing of cattle will be greatly circumscribed. But a prominent stockman says the reverse will obtain. All the smaller ranchmen and farmers will take to growing stock, so that it will not be confined so largely as heretofore to the few extensive cattle raisers. Then there is sure to be plenty.

This cattle expert called attention to Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, Ohio, Iowa and other states, where so many thousands of cattle and sheep and stock generally are successfully grown and marketed. He also made a special point of the fact for instance, that Ohio grows and manufactures everything consumed in the state, so that practically nothing is imported from outside. This is one explanation of Ohio's remarkable prosperity.

Advices from Albuquerque are to the effect that several Republicans in that city are strongly in favor of the nomination as a candidate for delegate to congress on the Republican ticket of United States Marshal Creighton M. Foraker. Among these, the New Mexican is informed, are E. S. Stover and B. S. Rodey. Candidates for the nomination are on the increase. This paper is for the nominee of the convention.

The Republican territorial convention for the nomination of a delegate to congress should be held about the same time that the Democrats will hold their convention. The Democratic program is all cut and dried and the bosses of that party have made up their minds as to what course to pursue. The Republicans should hold their convention and adopt a strong and sound party platform regardless of Democratic ring policy, go before the people and make their campaign.

It is to be hoped that the commissioners who go to Cuba and Puerto Rico to arrange for the removal of all Spanish troops from those islands will make short work of the matter. The Spaniards on the islands do not seem to realize that the war is over, and the native people are not in much better condition than they were before war began. There will be no peace so long as a company of Spanish troops remains on this side of the Atlantic, and the objects for which American soldiers died in the trenches before Santiago will not be accomplished until the last transport bearing Spanish soldiers has sailed for Cadiz.

Nation Disgraced by Scandal.

The United States is in a fair way to lose all the respect which has been gained through the war with Spain among the European nations. No country across the water can question the bravery of the American soldier and sailor, the efficiency of the navy, the fighting ability of the volunteer army will never again be sneered at by other powers for the reason that the magnificent showing by the American land and sea forces has forever silenced foreign ridicule of the "Yankees," but the scandal charged against the War Department will furnish the theme for many articles calculated to bring disgrace upon this country.

The American people had hoped that in the future foreigners would be compelled to accord to them the respect which is rightly due, that the worth and honesty of the nation had been established beyond any shadow of doubt, and that the sneering epithets of "pigs," "shop keepers," "corruptionists," and others equally as expressive would no longer find a place in the vocabularies of European nations, when referring to the United States. But it seems that the hope was based upon the sands of politics and was washed away with the first wave of peace.

Only 16 days have passed since peace was formally declared, and the country is plunged into a scandal which is a disgrace to the nation, disgusting to the men who so willingly entered the armies to fight for freedom, and those who gladly paid the expenses of the war. Charges and counter charges are flying from one army officer to another, and high government officials are openly charged with gambling with the lives of soldiers in order that profits of enormous proportions might be made out of contracts taken to supply food and medicine and clothing to the unfortunate men in the ranks.

How true the charges are no one knows, but the condition of the men returning to their homes from Cuba certainly gives color to them, and it is very evident that some one has blundered, to say the least. There might be some excuse for the incapacity of officials who have been placed in positions of responsibility unwittingly, but as the transport ships reach the camps established in the north it becomes more evident every day that favoritism, that curse of the country, has played a large part in the selection of men as officers in the service of the government by the War Department.

There is one reassuring feature in the situation, and that is thousands of the men who have suffered from sickness, starving and insufficient clothing belonged to the volunteer service and will soon be mustered out. Once free from the restrictions and regulations of army life they will tell the truth in the matter and an investigation will follow which will place the blame on the officials who are responsible for the scandal, and in the end well merited punishment will be meted out. The charges that have been made can not be allowed to go unheeded. Wars have not ended, and should another one occur the men in control must understand that if offices of public trust are prostituted for the purpose of gaining wealth, they will have to answer to an outraged nation for their crimes.

President McKinley has determined to probe the charges made and iterated and re-iterated in the newspapers to the very bottom and it is certain that even-handed and impartial justice will be dealt out as the result of the investigations. If the charges are unjust and untrue, the country will know it. If true, the guilty will receive prompt and deserved punishment.

The matter is safe in the hands of the president and the country will abide the action of the president.

RECORD AND BRIEF WORK.

Transcript, record and brief work for attorneys at the New Mexican printing office for the approaching session of the Territorial Supreme court, printed at the lowest possible figures and in the neatest, best and most acceptable style. Patronize the New Mexican Printing Co., and you will get first-class work, besides supporting an institution that is at work daily for this city, this county and the entire territory of New Mexico.

Official Malfeasance In San Miguel County

Records Examined and Numerous Cases of Incapacity and Corruption Discovers--A Few Instances.

SO-CALLED UNION PARTY CARRIES MATTERS HIGH HANDED

Gross Violations of the Territorial Law Established--Corporations and Wealthy Citizens Favored at the Expense of Poor Taxpayers.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PAID FOR WORK WHICH WAS NEVER PERFORMED

Henry G. Coors, Chairman, and the Other Members of the Board of County Commissioners Compromise Their Own Taxes and Pay Them With Script.

During the past six months charges concerning the actions of the board of county commissioners of San Miguel county have reached Santa Fe, and as they came from good authority, the NEW MEXICAN has referred to them at times in a manner which has not met with the approval of the powers that be in the Meadow City. Not long since an invitation was extended to the NEW MEXICAN, through the Optic, for a representative of this paper to visit the court house in Las Vegas and make an examination of the records of the proceedings of the county commissioners, and on Tuesday, August 23, an opportunity presented itself for such a trip, and the records in the county clerk's office of San Miguel county were examined. The results of that examination would fill a much larger paper than the NEW MEXICAN, but enough can be given in the limited space available to satisfy every one in New Mexico that the San Miguel county officials have a peculiar idea of what constitutes the duties of a public servant.

When an official has been well paid, the official is entitled to the commendation of the taxpayer. When official duties are neglected; when private individuals, through some means past finding out, except by the way of the grand jury, can procure a license and under circumstances which conflict with the laws of the territory; when the laws are scrupulously disobeyed rather than carried out; when those in a position to buy up county floating indebtedness, large quantities of which have been issued through fraud, connivance and under circumstances which mark the act as criminal, can do so and use this evidence of indebtedness in the payment of taxes which the law says distinctly must and shall be paid in cash; when public officials, regardless of the law, act upon the opinion given by the chief justice of the Supreme court, not given in his official capacity nor in any judicial proceeding pending in his court; when the rich, who have the cash on hand to buy up script and are able to pay their full taxes with that script, avoid the burden and make it fall heavier upon the poor and needy; when rich corporations, capitalists, money-lenders and financial schemers can buy up fraudulently issued evidence of county indebtedness; when the very office holders themselves have the tendency to pass judgment upon their own taxes and violate the law in so doing, without regard to the consequences, and relying upon the opinion of a judge, whose knowledge of the statutes of New Mexico is equalled only by his willingness to ignore them, then it would seem that it is high time that the people of San Miguel county should know what the officials of the county are doing, officials who have been put in power by a single individual, who, while not guilty of any violations of the law himself, so far as ascertained, has the strings and his puppets dance to his bidding.

Such were my reflections as the records of the county were examined, and not only these, but also that the so-called Union party and its aiders and abettors, made up of Democrats, Populists, disgruntled Republicans and all the elements of the people who are opposed to good government, are men who are afraid to open their mouths about the conduct of the county's business for fear it might possibly injure their business, agents and employees of corporations who fawn around the "boss" because they know that what he says is law with the board and other officials; banks and corporations that get hold of county indebtedness as collateral for loans and then "fix it with the boss" so that they can use that indebtedness in the payment of taxes which the law says must be paid in cash. This so-called Union party is in truth an annex of Democracy and all times with a leader who is a political boss and always on the lookout for the main chance for himself, has had things its own way, and all because there has never been a newspaper in the Meadow City with the courage to show up the condition of county matters in its proper light. At present the "boss" has the papers in the city "grabbed" and there can be no hope for an exposure in San Miguel county of the doings of the board of county commissioners and their political favorites.

Another Violation of Law.

On the same day and at the same meeting the board of county commissioners directly violated the law of this territory in passing the following resolution:

"Whereas, the board of county commissioners of San Miguel county, New Mexico, is indebted to the Las Vegas Light & Fuel Company for lights furnished during the years of 1896 and 1897, in the amount of \$1,892.66 to the 1st day of January, 1897; and Whereas, the Las Vegas Light & Fuel Company is indebted for taxes for the year 1896 in the sum of \$736.67, in the said county of San Miguel, including therein the town taxes due the city of East Las Vegas of \$250, leaving a net amount of taxes due for said years, exclusive of said city tax, of \$484.67; and It is therefore ordered by the board of county commissioners that the taxes on the sum of \$484.67, being exclusive of the tax of said city of East Las Vegas, and the same is hereby abated and the amount thereof so abated be deducted from \$1,892.66 aforementioned due and owing by the board of county commissioners to the said Las Vegas Light & Fuel Company, to January 1, 1897, and the collector of said county is hereby authorized to enter and abate the tax herein ordered."

Here again is found no pretense of an excessive valuation; nothing but a clear violation of official duty for which there is no possible excuse in law.

Thus are other corporations favored by this board of county commissioners.

Tender Care for Corporations and Money Lenders.

On March 8, 1897, another instance of the tender care extended to corporations and money lenders by the board of county commissioners is found in the following: "The following abatements were ordered made: "To the San Miguel National bank, D. T. Hoskins and J. M. Cunningham the sum of \$1,159.82, which said amount was cancelled from the accounts of John Pace, ex-assessor, against the county."

Here the taxpayer and citizen finds an evidence of unusual thrift on the part of a national bank and prosperous corporation. The borrower can almost see "Honest John" Pace take his cer-

tificate to the money lender as collateral for a loan. The collateral is finally absorbed and is made good by its use in the payment of taxes at 100 cents on the dollar. In this simple way the taxpayer is caught "go in and come out."

On March 11 the good work is proceeded with, as will be seen by the following order: "Browne & Manzaneros' taxes cancelled from their judgments against the county in the sum of \$617.77."

The convenience of having a judgment against the county is clearly shown in that order. All that is necessary is to be rich, buy up accounts from the poor people who have earned their money from the county, put them into judgment and then trade off the judgment in lieu of taxes.

The board it is found ought to have known that at the time this judgment was accepted in lieu of taxes the taxpayers of the county were trying to raise the money to pay this very judgment.

More Official Corruption.

But the capshod of official corruption and disregard of public duty is found on page 41 and 42 of the record, where it appears that the following order was entered by this very efficient board of county commissioners: "The following abatements were allowed: "To Coors Bros., P. 29, 1896, account over assessment, \$2,500."

"To H. G. Coors, P. 29, 1896, account over assessment, \$1,425."

"To R. A. Kistler, P. 29 for 1892-3-4-5 and 96 was abated the sum of \$268 and his accounts against the county cancelled for that amount. The clerk is ordered to issue the order to the collector when ever Kistler gets ready to pay his taxes."

The above is an exhibition of what can be done when a man tries. The chairman of the board of county commissioners votes to cut down his assessment and then chooses off the press by abating the taxes of the editor of the Optic "whenever he gets ready to pay his taxes."

On May 10, the desire to still favor corporations seems to continue, for at page 60 of the record of the proceedings for that day it is found that the Agua Pura Company settled its taxes for 1896 by surrendering \$504.21 of accounts against the county.

The Chairman Getting to Know His Business.

The chairman of the board of county commissioners, on the 12th day of May, 1897, beginning to learn what it really is to be chairman and not wishing to allow all the favors to go to corporations and other wealthy individuals, came to the conclusion that it was high time to get some of the pickings himself, so he had passed, and approved himself, the following order found on page 65, of the record: "It was abated one-fourth of all taxes due for the year 1896 by Henry G. Coors of precinct 29, the said one-fourth amounting to \$180.85, being an excessive and erroneous assessment, the said amount having been paid with county script."

Mark the words! "Being an excessive and erroneous assessment," and yet the chairman pays it, not with cash, but with script probably bought at 50 cents on the dollar. Thus the chairman pays taxes at one-half the cost to other and less fortunate taxpayers. It is plainly to be seen how he pays to be a member of the board of county commissioners of San Miguel county, and particularly chairman of the board.

And There Are Others.

But there are others. At page 76 of the record it is found that on June 8, 1897, Mr. Meyer Friedman, who is not slow to take advantage of any snags of this kind with other citizens, as appears by the following order of the board: "Amount of account of Vidal Ortiz, assigned to Romero & Romero, abated on the taxes of Meyer Friedman & Bro., \$100.00, 1896, P. 26 and 64."

And on June 14, at page 81 of the record, it is found that Mr. S. A. Clements, appearing before the board, not with any claim of his own against the county, but as a sort of a collector for Dr. Milligan, and secured the following order: "Two hundred and thirty-six dollars and thirty-nine cents abated on taxes of S. A. Clements, he having surrendered the equivalent in this county script belonging to and transferred to him by Dr. Milligan, which amount has been charged to his original bill."

Strange, Indeed.

Up to this time the record shows that the regulation abatement had been equal to 25 per cent of the amount due. Very strange that the excessive and erroneous amount should have always been 25 per cent. But on June 17, 1897, the board appears to have been influenced into the belief that a 25 per cent reduction and abatement was insufficient in some cases. This is shown by the record of the proceedings on June 17, for on that day Hon. Felix Martinez appeared before the board and convinced the members that although he had made out his tax returns for the years 1894, 1895 and 1896, and had sworn to them, still the assessment was erroneous and excessive, and in the interest of justice and consistency, Mr. Martinez artfully suggested to the board the following resolution which was passed: "In the matter of the settlement of the taxes of Felix Martinez, the board allowed an abatement of 50 per cent of the taxes due the county by them, the said amount above stated to be surrendered to the county board for taxes due for the years 1894, 1895 and 1896, in precinct 29."

It does not appear from the record just what was surrendered, but an examination of the collector's books shows that the taxes of this gentleman were abated 50 per cent on the amounts due the county for those years.

Other People Catching On.

Little by little other people ascertained that there was money to be made in working the board of county commissioners, and on June 21, 1897, at page 89 of the record, it was found that Captain L. C. Fort, having an old account against the county, finally succeeded in getting full value for \$150 of the account, as the following order shows: "An order from L. C. Fort was received for \$150.00 in favor of Wise & Hoggsett, which said amount to be deducted from the total amount due him from the county."

And on June 24, page 92, E. Rosenwald's assessment was fixed up to the tune of \$276 and he surrendered that amount of script to the board.

In July, page 97, Dr. Olney gets a reduction of \$119.45 in the same manner, and the board on the same day thought best to help out another taxpayer and citizen, Mr. Hugh Loudon, so the following remarkable order, found on page 102, was passed: "Order was given to the collector to accept in payment of taxes to be paid by Hugh Loudon, an order of abatement formerly given to F. H. Pierce for the sum of \$100.00."

Not content with helping out Brother Pierce, they took up Brother Loudon and contributed to his satisfaction of mind and convinced him that there are advantages in living in America, particularly in San Miguel county, when there are laws to pay.

(Continued on Third Page.)

HOTEL WELLINGTON. Formerly Welcker's. American and European Plans. 15th Street, Near U. S. Treasury, Washington, D. C. European Plan, \$1.00 per day and Upward. First Class Restaurant and Cafe. American Plan, \$3.00 per day and Upward. Transient and Permanent Guests. L. M. FITCH, Proprietor.

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SOCIETIES.

Montezuma Lodge No. 1, A. F. & A. M., Regular convocation every Monday at Masonic Hall at 7:30 p. m. J. B. BRADY, Secretary.

Santa Fe Chapter No. 1, R. A. M., Regular convocation second Monday in each month at Masonic Hall at 7:30 p. m. JAMES R. BRADY, Secretary.

Santa Fe Commandery No. 1, K. T., Regular convocation fourth Monday in each month at Masonic Hall at 7:30 p. m. MAX FROST, E. C.

ADDITION WALKER, Recorder.

I. O. O. F. PARADES LODGE No. 2, I. O. O. F., meets every Thursday evening at Odd Fellows' hall. Visiting brothers always welcome. S. L. LEWIS, N. G.

H. W. STEVENS, Recording Secretary.

CENTENNIAL ENCAMPMENT No. 3, I. O. O. F., Regular convocation second and fourth Tuesday of each month at Odd Fellows' hall; visiting patriots welcome. THOS. A. GOODWIN, C. P.

A. F. EASLEY, Scribe.

MYRTLE REBEKAH LODGE, No. 9, I. O. O. F.; Regular meeting first and third Tuesday of each month at Odd Fellows' hall. Visiting brothers and sisters welcome. THERRA NEWELL, Noble Grand.

HATTIE WAGNER, Secretary.

AZTLAN LODGE No. 3, I. O. O. F., meet every Friday evening in Odd Fellows hall, San Francisco street. Visiting brothers welcome. W. J. TAYLOR, N. G.

W. H. WOODWARD, Secretary.

SANTA FE LODGE No. 2, K. of P., Regular meeting every Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock at Castle hall. Visiting brothers given a cordial welcome. J. L. ZIMMERMAN, C. P.

LEE MUEHLSTEIN, Chancellor Commander. K. of R. and S.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS. CHAS. F. EASLEY, (Late Surveyor General.) Attorney at Law, Santa Fe, N. M. Land and mining business a specialty.

E. A. FISKE, Attorney and Counselor at Law, P. O. Box 27, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Practices in Supreme and all District Courts of New Mexico.

T. F. CONWAY, W. A. HAWKINS, CONWAY & HAWKINS, Attorneys and Counselors at Law, Silver City, New Mexico. Prompt attention given to all business entrusted to our care.

A. B. RENEHAN, Attorney at Law, Practices in all Territorial Courts, Commissioner of Claims, Collections and title searching. Rooms 3 and 5 Spiegelberg Block.

INSURANCE. S. K. LANKARD, Insurance Agent, Office: Griffin Building, Palace avenue. Represents the largest companies doing business in the territory of New Mexico, in both life, fire and accident insurance.

DENTISTS. D. W. MANLEY, Dentist, Office, Southwest Corner of Plaza, over Fischer's Drug Store.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW. MAX FROST, Attorney at Law, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

CHAS. A. SPIESS, District Attorney for the First Judicial District. Practices in all the courts of the Territory. Office—Griffin Block, Santa Fe, N. M.

GEO. W. SNABRELL, Office in Griffin Block. Collections and searching titles a specialty. EDWARD L. BARTLETT, Lawyer, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Office in Catron Block.

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Colorado Tourist Rates. Commencing June 1st, 1898, the Santa Fe Route will place on sale tickets to Denver and return at rate of \$23.50, Colorado Springs, \$23.85, Pueblo, \$21.00, these tickets will be on sale daily until October 15th, 1898, final return limit, October 31st, 1898, for particulars call on any agent of the Santa Fe Route. H. S. LUTZ, Agent, Santa Fe, N. M. W. J. BLACK, G. P. A., Topeka, Kas. Cheap Rate to Indian Pueblo. At any time a party of five or more desires to visit the San Ildefonso Indian pueblo, a rate of one fare for the round trip will be made to the Rio Grande station. Tickets limited to date of sale and one ticket to cover entire party. T. J. HELM, General Agent, R. G. & S. F. F. R. Commencing June 1st, 1898, the Santa Fe Route will place on sale tickets to Denver and return at rate of \$23.50, Colorado Springs, \$23.85, Pueblo, \$21.00, these tickets will be on sale daily until October 15th, 1898, final return limit, October 31st, 1898, for particulars call on any agent of the Santa Fe Route. H. S. LUTZ, Agent, Santa Fe, N. M. W. J. BLACK, G. P. A., Topeka, Kas. Pecos Valley Railway Time card in effect January 31, 1897, (Central Time): Leave Pecos, Tex., daily at 7:30 a. m., arriving at Roswell, N. M., at 5:15 p. m. Leave Roswell daily at 9:25 a. m., arriving at Pecos at 7:10 p. m., connecting with the Texas & Pacific R., for all points north, south, east and west. Stages for Lincoln, White Oaks and Nogal leave Roswell on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7 a. m. For low rates and information regarding the resources of this valley, and the price of lands, or any other matters of interest to the public, apply to E. O. FAULKNER, Receiver and General Manager, Pecos, N. M. The New Mexico Railway & Coal Co. CONSTRUCTING The El Paso & Northeastern R'y AND The El Paso & Northeastern R. R. To accommodate the public will carry freight and passengers on its construction trains to and from the end of its track (80 miles). Daily Except Sunday. Commencing June 15, trains will leave El Paso at 7:30 a. m., and returning leave Alamoquero at 1:30 p. m. Connection can be made at Alamoquero with stages for La Luz, Tularosa and the White Oaks country. A. S. ORRIS, General Superintendent.